

# The Hillel Herald



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Hillel Day School of Boca Raton

Home of the Hillel Lions

Spring/Summer 2013/5773  
Vol. VI ~ Issue No. 3

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<b>Editor's Note: All items in green type are Midot related.</b>	

## A Message from the Head of School, Rabbi Samuel J. Levine



Dear Parents,

We are pleased to announce that Hillel Day School is the recipient of a \$50,000 Jewish Education Innovation Challenge Grant, which is an initiative of the **Mayberg Family Charitable Foundation**. Hillel is one of two schools nationwide to receive this prestigious award. The grant results from the innovative work of **Rabbi Mordechai Smolarcik**, who, for the past two years, has been creating an iPad-based curriculum and textbook for the study of Gemara. Rabbi Smolarcik, who recently received his Psy. D. and who is an expert in the use of technology in instruction, has spent countless hours developing both a curriculum and a methodology that maximizes the acquisition of the reading and thinking skills necessary to read a page of Gemara while, concurrently, extracting the relevance from each topic studied. Rabbi Smolarcik reports that a pilot project conducted at Hillel this past year showed that students retained the skills studied and also absorbed the relevant life lessons from the material covered. Most importantly, the greatest gains were observed in the affective domain, where students demonstrated significantly increased enthusiasm for the study of Gemara, an important factor if learning Gemara is to become a lifelong pursuit.

Instruction, using technology, is fast becoming the hallmark of 21st century education. School districts and publishing companies are expending massive resources to create technology-based learning materials. It is exceedingly difficult for Torah schools to keep pace with the advancements in education evolving in the secular world. It is for this reason that our work here at Hillel becomes so vital. Rabbi Smolarcik's project will recruit educators from across the world to contribute content which will then be transformed into interactive textbooks for use on the iPad. The project's initial goal is to produce 40 mini-textbooks over the next two years that can be shared with other schools and students through Apple's iBook store. Phase two of the project, which is already being planned, will extend the iBook curriculum to Chumash and Navi as well.



This grant will benefit every Hillel student and, G-d willing, will enhance the Torah education of thousands of day school students around the world.



Congratulations to Passover Card Design winners **Rebecca Wirtschafter**, 1st place (pictured at top), and **Daniel Gross**, 2nd place (pictured at bottom).

**Congratulations, Kindergarten and 8th Grade Graduates!  
HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!**

The Hillel Day School Emergency Hotline number has changed. **The new number is 1-888-943-3212.** Please keep this number handy so that you can access school opening or closing information in the event of any emergency, weather or otherwise.

## HDS Happenings

### STAINED GLASS WINDOW DEDICATION

Middle School students, Capital Campaign donors, and members of the PTA and Hillel Board of Trustees attended an educational program on March 13, where the artist of the four beautiful stained glass windows in the Beit Midrash, **Crys Soderholm**, explained their meaning.



Thank you to our Capital Campaign donors, who enjoyed a reception afterward and were able to view the brand new donor recognition wall that has been installed in the lobby of the Middle School Building. Also thank you to **Lea Saida** and **Gail Marcus** for their assistance at the reception, **Leonardo Moran** for his photography, and **Joe Sharp** and **Victoria Martinez** for their help with preparations.

Thank you to our Capital Campaign stained glass window donors:

**Anonymous** - Chevron  
**Mark & Helen Cohan** - Yerushalayim  
**Merv & Elaine Jacobs** - Teveria  
**The Muller Family** - Tzfat

And thank you to our additional Capital Campaign Phase II donors to date:

**Isaac & Ilona Grynshstein** - 2 Classroom Mezuzot  
**The Haar Family** - Upper School Principal's Office and Haar Athletic Field  
**Hillel PTA** - Apple-Mac Computer Lab and Haar Athletic Field Scoreboard  
**The Markowitz Family** - Main Entrance Mezuzah  
**Leonard & Eunice Rose** - Rose Middle School Conference Room  
**Martin & Edith Stein** - Classroom Mezuzah  
**The Tripp Family** - Aron Kodesh  
**Michael & Risa Zimmerman** - Ner Tamid

*If you, or someone you know, may be interested in one of our Capital Campaign opportunities, please contact the Development Office at [suzanner@hilleldayschool.org](mailto:suzanner@hilleldayschool.org) or call 561-470-5000 ext. 225.*

## Duke TiP

### TALENT IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM

### HDS STUDENTS QUALIFY FOR DUKE TIP PROGRAM

*By: Ellen Nadler, School Psychologist*

We are very excited to announce that of the 12 seventh graders who qualified to participate in the Duke University Talent Identification Program (TiP), six students took the Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT), and one student took the ACT exam, and of those, six students qualified for summer programs sponsored by TiP and/or State Recognition. Congratulations to **Max Abramovitz**, **Noa Grunhaus**, **Ty Kay**, **Gabrielle Pomeranz**, **Rebecca Rosen**, and **Jonah Tripp** for their high achievement.

### HDS RECEIVES GRANT TO PARTICIPATE IN LEADERSHIP & FUNDRAISING ACADEMY

The Partnership for Excellence in Jewish Education (PEJE) announces the awarding of a generous grant from the Legacy Heritage Fund to expand PEJE's signature Leadership and Fundraising Academy (LFA) into two new communities.

PEJE has selected South Florida, as one of the two communities, for its new Legacy Heritage Leadership and Fundraising Academy. The South Florida cohort will partner with the Center for the Advancement of Jewish Education (CAJE), a subsidiary agency of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation. The program launched on May 28.

PEJE's LFA is consistent with the mission of the Legacy Heritage Fund to support Jewish education. The LFA is designed to advance a school's financial sustainability by creating a holistic development effort that combines best practices in governance, professional leadership, and fundraising. The initiative's 18-month curriculum engages the head of school, development professional, and lay leaders in communal workshops and individualized coaching. The result is transformative cultural change towards sustainable financial growth.

"As funding sources get scarcer, it's critical for Jewish day schools to adopt a more strategic, long-term approach to achieving financial sustainability," says PEJE Executive Director, Amy Katz. "The Leadership and Fundraising Academy will serve as a model to improve schools' capacity to engage donor support over time."

The 20 participating South Florida schools include: David Posnack Jewish Day School, Donna Klein Hebrew Academy, Gordon Schools of Beth David Congregation, Hebrew Academy (RASG), **Hillel Day School of Boca Raton**, Hochberg Preparatory, Jacobson Sinai Academy, Lehrman Community Day School, Scheck Hillel Community School, Temple Beth Am Day School and Toras Emes Academy.



HDS **EMET** CLUB WINNERS

MAZAL TOV!



**E**xcellent  
**M**idot  
**E**very  
**T**ime

Jolie Aloof	Sarah Cohen	Rebecca Freedman	Miriam Marcus	Mayrav Saketkhov
Noa Amiel	Sam Cohen	Shira Goldberg	Ariella Mayer	Akiva Scher
Sarah Amiel	Tamir Cohen	Jacob Greenbaum	Liora Mayer	Eliana Shapiro
Ben Beim	Leora Cohn	Lleyton Gumpper	Dassie Mergui	Sruli Sharp
Matthew Beim	Tamar Cohn	Shira Grunhaus	Adi Nadav	Amit Sommers
Batya Belizon	David Dahan	Naomi Haik	Sapir Nadav	Shoshana Stadlan
Jessica Berger	Nava Davis	Shuey Kahan	Meira Pickholtz	Lilly Stern
Nava Berkeley	Shai Deichman	Eitan Kaminetzky	Gila Pilichowski	Leora Tripp
Uriel Berman	Ezra Dimont	Talia Kodsi	Tova Pilichowski	Ethan Wirtschafter
Ahava Bernstein	Orly Dimont	Zvi Landes	Naomi Reichenberg	Daniel Yudewitz
David Bernstein	Eliyah Ehrlich	Meir Lanner	Noam Rindsberg	Yoni Yudewitz
Hila Blanka	Yigal Eisenberger	Andy Levontin	Nachi Rosen	Jacob Zucker
Mali Blanka	Haim Elmakies	Aden Light	Simcha Rosen	
AJ Broide	Noa Elmakies	Daniel Lugassy	Jonah Sacher	
Haley Cohen	Rivka Englander	Alex Lurie	Jonas Saida	



## Meet Oscar O'Hara, HDS Bus Driver

**Oscar O'Hara** joined HDS in February 2013 as our new school bus driver. Oscar has many years of experience as a school bus driver. Prior to moving to Florida, he drove in the community of Chappaqua, New York. He was born in Lima, Peru, and has lived in the U.S. for 30 years, and in Florida for over a year.

Oscar is married to **Nadine**, who is from Russia, and they have 3 children, **Valentina** (4), **Isabella** (2) and **Kate** (5 mos.). Oscar is also an avid soccer fan. He loves to work with children and is happy to have the responsibility of transporting our most important and precious cargo, our students, always emphasizing safety comes first. Oscar will return to HDS for the new school year in August 2013.

## March Madness: Super Sunday



Thank you to everyone who volunteered for the Jewish Federation's Super Sunday this past March. The Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County allocates funds annually to Hillel Day School of Boca Raton and other beneficiaries and agencies.

**CHESED DAY** This year, students in Grades 1-5 participated in Chesed Day on February 27 at Zinman Hall. Students from Donna Klein, Torah Academy, Weinbaum Yeshiva High School and Hillel Day School gathered together to learn about the importance of Chesed. Students from Weinbaum Yeshiva High School created a video for the students to launch the day. After the introduction to the program, students in Grades 1-3 were divided into groups where they worked on projects to send to soldiers of Beit Halochem in Israel. Students in Grades 4-5 painted caps to be delivered to hospitals for ill children receiving treatments for prolonged illnesses. Over 1,000 students gather together on this special day each year to be inspired with the lesson that every person can be involved in doing Chesed, at home, in school, in the community and beyond.



**Camp Ruach, Hillel's new summer camp, makes its debut!** The 8-week program is available to children in EC2 through 5th grade and includes swimming, arts and crafts, davening, learning, Zumba, yoga, field trips, computers, wacky science, sports drills, games, and so much more. Contact Rachel Yudewitz, Camp Director, at [ryudewitz@campruach.com](mailto:ryudewitz@campruach.com) for more information. Please note that there is currently a waiting list for this summer's session.





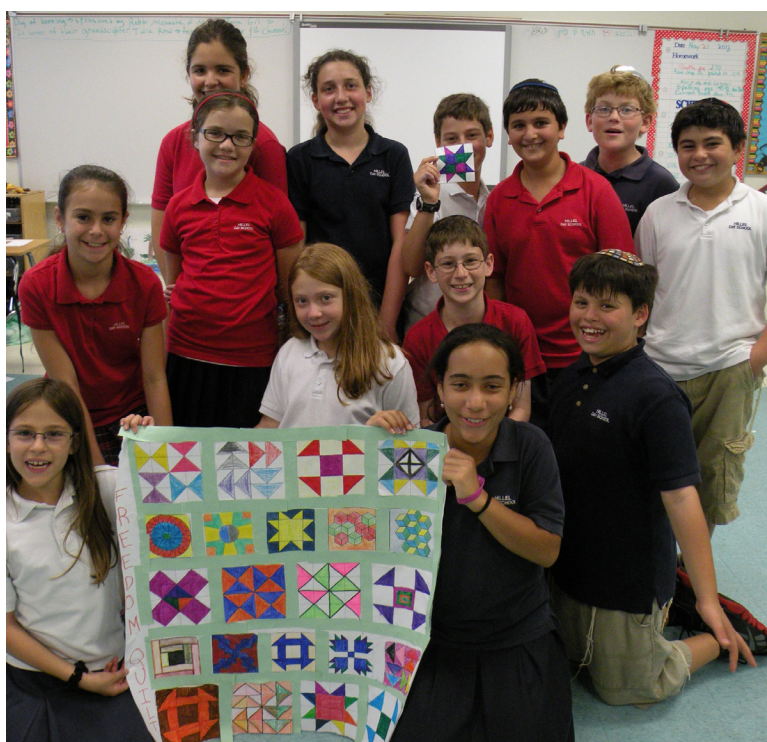
### GREEN SCHOOL OF PROMISE

**Karen Berman, Batsheva Klein and Jodi Deichman** receive the Green School of Promise Award on behalf of Hillel Day School. This award is given in recognition of the many green projects taking place on the Milton B. Katz campus involving both students and faculty.



### EVERGLADES PROJECT

Mrs. Deichman's 5th grade classes wrote and recited poems in English and Hebrew about plants or animals in the Everglades that they researched. The students also dressed in creative costumes and shared their poems with other students in the room, which was decorated with "sawgrass."



5th graders design a quilt related to the Underground Railroad in Mrs. Berman's class.



The 3rd Grade State Fair.

### HILLEL ALUMNUS WINS FIRST PLACE IN ISRAEL VIDEO CONTEST

Mazal Tov to **Simcha Stadlan** (HDS Class of 2012) for his first place winning Israel video. His video was entered in a contest sponsored by the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County for high school students to produce a 3-minute video in honor of Israel's 65th birthday. To view the video go to: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iBIPbcdEOOk&sns=em>



### THIRD GRADE BOOK CLUB

Inquisitive minds and hungry bellies were fed this year at the meetings of the Third Grade Book Club, and whether their tastes ran to classic literature or cookies n' cream, all members concluded the term happy and sated. From January through April, the Book Club met on several occasions to discuss different novels -- from the works of Roald Dahl to David A. Adler -- to engage in related activities -- from making slime to testing their photographic memories -- and to indulge in dessert. And while they proved that a spoonful of sugar -- or ice cream -- does indeed make the medicine go down (as in the novel *George's Marvelous Medicine*), all those involved came to appreciate the books for being their own sweet reward. Many thanks to

all those who attended regularly: **Lily Herman, Devorah Lome, Yosef Marcus, Simcha Rosen, and Atara Tripp**, as well as to adult coordinators **Jackie Lome, Rachel Tripp** and the indefatigable **Ms. Rebecca Gross**. To the Book Club members: may this early experience *foreshadow* a life-long love of reading.







### 1st GRADE CHUMASHIM PRESENTATION

Students in 1st Grade celebrated and received their first Chumashim during the annual Mesibat HaChumash, held on Tuesday evening, May 21. Many thanks to **Drs. Jeffrey and Naomi Gross** for sponsoring the Chumashim each year in loving memory of **Tobie & William Wiener, z"l**. **Morah Tova Gil, Morah Hana Marin, Miss Pam Gene** and **Mrs. Samantha Witztum** worked together to create this beautiful program. Mazal Tov to the entire 1st grade!



### EC Pesach Programs



### BRACHA BOWL

"Bracha Style!" Who can forget "Hege" (AKA **Rabbi Eisenberger**) and "Phin" (AKA **Rabbi Drang**) as they made their appearance at Hillel in order to introduce this year's Bracha Bowl. What an amazing and exciting program coordinated to help students familiarize themselves with the correct Brachot before and after partaking of foods. Each Friday for the month of February, students were treated to Mr. Hege and Mr. Phin as they sang this year's unique and creative "Bracha Style" Song -- it nearly brought the roof down in the Cafetorium as the kids excitedly participated in singing and dancing!!!! This year the winners were **Aiden Smolensky** (1st grade), **Racheyl Drang** (2nd grade), **Arielle Gross** (4th grade) and **Aaron Gross** (5th grade). To view the video, "Bracha Style," go to: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zBAARmmbgk>.

### The Matzah Factory







Another fantastic year of learning, growth and excitement has come to a close. The Middle School, in particular, has enjoyed numerous new and enhanced programs. Our Color War, Shabbaton, holiday programs and trips to Sea Camp, Washington D.C. and Israel were better than ever! Our KAR<sup>2</sup>E program (Kindness Always, Respect and Responsibility Everywhere) was more diverse than before and included numerous hands-on activities. The popular electives

saw new offerings such as Garage Band on the iPad, guitar, art, iPad animation and Zumba! We also heard from inspiring and engaging speakers on a wide variety of topics including the Holocaust, American politics, Israel and needy families in our community. Be sure to look back at the weekly Torat M.S. e-mail newsletters that detailed the extraordinarily well-rounded experiences our children were blessed to have here at HDS. My best wishes for a healthy, relaxing and growth-filled summer!



**Congressman Ted Deutch** visits HDS Middle School students.



The 7th graders dissect a sheep eye as they continue their studies in anatomy and physiology.



**Mr. Leslie Schwartz** shared a movie about his experience during the Holocaust with Middle School students. Most importantly, his message about the importance of rebuilding and continuing on despite challenges inspired all who were present.



The 6th graders observe the external anatomy of fish in preparation for their upcoming Sea Camp trip! (See Sea Camp photos on page 9.)



**Dr. Marc Feinberg** spoke to our 7th graders about his career as a neurologist. The 7th graders are studying the nervous system and enjoyed learning more about the brain and relevant disorders. Some students even volunteered for some simple neurological demonstrations! We are thankful to Dr. Feinberg for coming in to share his time!





I'm happy to reflect on the 5772-5773 school year and say point blank: what a great year! Jam-packed with educationally exciting student activities, 2012-2013 may have been our best year yet!

The Fall semester began with balloons dropping from the cafetorium to launch our inaugural Read-a-Thon. Who would have believed our students were capable of reading a *quarter of a million pages*!

Just a few months later, we celebrated Thanksgiving in a fresh way, by transforming our campus with life-sized, colorful tee pees and a Pilgrim log cabin. We even taught our kids how to shoot bows and arrows!

The arrival of our new music teacher, Nikki Lynch, added a new note to our music program, in addition to encouraging students to participate in a very successful Hillel Band!

How often does a helicopter land on the Hillel campus?! Kicking off our annual Transportation Day, the chopper, as well as many other new vehicles—including a segway—were a great thrill, giving students new ways of exploring transportation of all types.

Using creation as the theme to this year's Art Night proved to be a real "draw" to parents, who not only got to take home their children's paintings, but also experienced the painting process with attached QR codes, which illustrated videos of the kids creating and talking about their masterpieces!



EC2 received a visit from **Gabi Glaun**, HDS Alumnus '05 and son of EC2 teacher **Lauren Glaun**. Gabi taught the children about ice hockey and showed them all of the components to his uniform.

Twelve new Hillel-ites "hatched" their way into our hearts as the Science Room introduced the egg and candling process. We watched in awe as eggs became baby chicks pecking their way into the world! A Live Cam added a unique peek at this amazing life process.

Students in Grades 1-4 amazed parents and friends alike as they explored a new world of experimentation and hypotheses. The result was an unbelievable Science Fair night.

Finally, our brand new Pitgam Program was a great culmination to the school year, imparting students with new ways to think about Midot.

Have a great summer! I look forward to even more new and exciting programming next year!

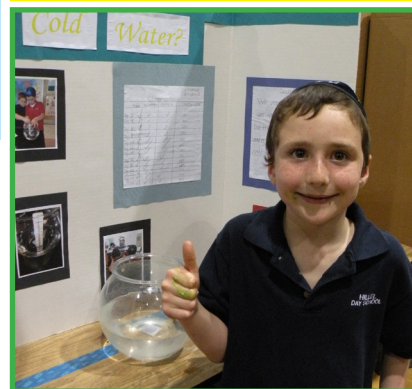
### PITGAM PROGRAM

The time between Pesach and Shavuot is a time to reflect upon our relationships with those around us, and to be introspective. In order to bring that to life for our students, a Pitgam Program was created and presented to the students before Shavuot. Each Friday, during Oneg Shabbat, the children (Grades 1-5) were introduced to a new Pitgam via a short skit. During the course of the week both Judaics and general studies teachers reviewed the concept of that Pitgam through a story, classroom discussion, writing assignment, or examples using Torah personalities. Additionally, children were asked about the Pitgam throughout the week. If they stated it correctly (in either English or Hebrew), they received a "coin" to be brought down to the office and placed in a special Pitgam Bucket. When the bucket became full, the children received a popsicle party. The "coins" also represented real money, as a 25-cent donation will be made to Tomchei Shabbos for each "coin" added by the children to the bucket.



Mazal Tov to **Aiden Smolensky** on her winning EMET logo design. Look for her design on posters for the 2013-14 school year.

### The Science Fair was Awesome!



**David New** visited the 2nd grade class and explained to the children how technology helps him with his blindness. David is pictured above with his mother, **Charlotte**, **Jill Gumper**, **Rebecca Gross**, **Cindy Zemel**, and **Carmichael**, David's guide dog.

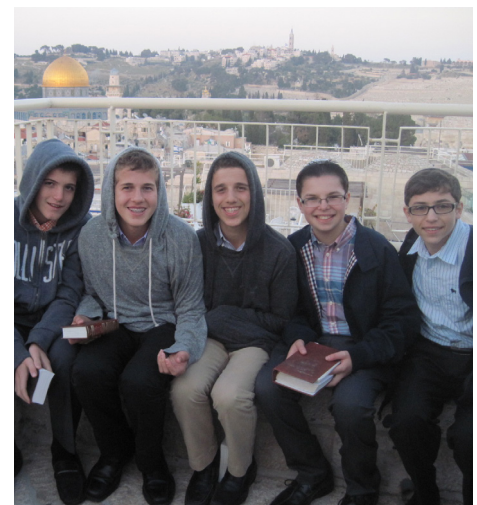


## EIGHTH GRADE ISRAEL TRIP

### HDS RECEIVES GRANT FOR 8TH GRADE ISRAEL TRIP

Hillel Day School received a grant for its 8th grade graduation trip to Israel. The grant, funded by the **Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County** and the **Jacobson Jewish Community Foundation** through the **Jules L. & Dorothy M. Kamsly Teen Program**

**Grant**, will help subsidize the school's financial aid budget earmarked for those students who can't afford the trip. This year, thirty-three 8th grade students embarked on the ten-day class trip, which took place during Israel's Independence Day (Yom Ha'atzmaut) and Israel's Memorial Day (Yom HaZikaron). Students experienced breathtaking tours of our homeland including historical sites, both ancient and modern, and were introduced to Israelis involved in many different aspects of religious and cultural life. Students also had the opportunity to participate in public service and Chesed on an almost daily basis, and experienced firsthand what they have learned in the classroom during their journey at Hillel Day School.



Photos above courtesy of Chaim Dovid's Kabbalat Shabbat.

Photo Credit: Kyra Firestone



## SIXTH GRADE SEA CAMP TRIP



## SEVENTH GRADE WASHINGTON, D.C. TRIP







## ISRAEL TURNS 65: Yom Ha'atzmaut and IsraelFest 65





## With Praise, Thanks & Admiration...

The PTA expresses its gratitude to **Pita Pan Bakery** for its generous weekly donation of delicious fresh challot for our Early Childhood Shabbat program.

Thank you to **Dvorah Eisen** for arranging the sale of *Enjoy the City* coupon booklets, featuring coupons and great deals for South Florida attractions.

Kudos to **Cara Beim** for undertaking the challenging task of cleaning and organizing the PTA room.

Thank you to **Liora Adler** for purchasing and organizing snacks for our teachers during Parent-Teacher Conferences.

The PTA commends **Tzippi Rosen** for coordinating the sale of books for summer and school year reading, and overseeing distribution.



### BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Congratulations to the **Eisen and Klein families**, our recent Rosh Chodesh Box Tops raffle winners, who each received a \$10 gift card donated by AspaClaria Boca Judaica. Please remember to save your Box Tops labels and bring them to the school office during or after the summer break. To be entered into our first 2013-2014 raffle, simply write your name on the back of each Box Top you submit.



### RIGHT ON TARGET

Thanks to all of the families who registered for and use Target® credit cards. With a Target® card, shoppers get 5% off all purchases. Even better, if your card is linked to HDS, the school earns 1% on all purchases (in addition to your 5% back). HDS also receives 1/2% of purchases made elsewhere using a Target® credit card. Please be sure to visit [www.target.com/tcoe](http://www.target.com/tcoe) to designate HDS as your school of choice. Questions? Please contact **Sharona Kay** at [sharonakay@mac.com](mailto:sharonakay@mac.com).

### ONGOING PROGRAMS

#### Bar Mitzvah Suit Gemach

If you have a suit for a Bar Mitzvah boy that you would like to donate, please drop it off at the front desk. Suits are available to rent for just \$25. All suits must be returned dry cleaned. If you have any questions, please contact **Dvorah Eisen** at [contact@chayas.com](mailto:contact@chayas.com) or **Sharona Kay** at [sharonakay@mac.com](mailto:sharonakay@mac.com).

#### B'nai/B'not Mitzvah Fund

Do you find it hard to select the perfect Bar or Bat Mitzvah gifts? The B'nai/B'not Mitzvah Fund enables parents to provide Bar/Bat Mitzvah presents that benefit tzedakah and HDS. That means you save time on shopping and support a valuable cause. A variety of gifts are available to choose from, and you designate any of several charities as the recipient of your donation. Thank you to **Jamie Gurvitch** and **Liz Stadlan** for organizing the gifts.

Visit [www.hilleldayschool.org/PTA.php](http://www.hilleldayschool.org/PTA.php) to learn more about the PTA's exciting programs!

### TEACHER APPRECIATION BREAKFASTS

Sponsoring a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast is a great way to recognize our HDS teachers and staff. For information on sponsorship opportunities or to volunteer to help with the breakfasts, please contact **Cara Freedman** at 561-750-3132 or [carafreedman@yahoo.com](mailto:carafreedman@yahoo.com). Special thanks to **Cara Freedman** for coordinating this program, as well to **Lea Saida** and **Sydney, Jacob, and Rebecca Freedman** for all their recent help setting up and cleaning up the breakfasts. This year the PTA also hosted an Appreciation Luncheon as a special end-of-the-year treat for our HDS faculty and staff.

### SCHOOL SPIRIT DAYS

Students showed school spirit and team pride wearing their ROAR T-shirts on School Spirit Days. Thank you to **Dvorah Eisen** and **Keri Greenfield** for organizing the T-shirt orders and distribution.



For a special School Spirit Day on May 8 in honor of Yom Yerushalayim, students wore Israel bracelets in addition to their ROAR T-shirts. The PTA thanks **Dvorah Eisen** for ordering and distributing the bracelets.

### Perfect Presents

Tired of shopping for last-minute birthday party gifts? You can save time, money, and energy with the PTA's Perfect Presents program. For a one-time fee, your child receives a generous gift for his/her birthday and giving gifts to your child's friends is effortless. You no longer need to shop for presents! For more information, please contact **Cara Beim** at [carabeim4@gmail.com](mailto:carabeim4@gmail.com) or **Naomi Katz** at [nweisel@gmail.com](mailto:nweisel@gmail.com).

### Tribute Cards

Honor someone you know with personalized Tribute Cards from the PTA. For more information, please contact **Dvora Scher** at [dvora@dwpalaw.com](mailto:dvora@dwpalaw.com).

### Birthday Book Club

Celebrate your child's birthday with a gift to the class, which can be opened again and again. For further details about the Birthday Book Club, please contact **Lisa Friedman** at [nycrangers@comcast.net](mailto:nycrangers@comcast.net) or **Tzippi Rosen** at [Lrosen1@hotmail.com](mailto:Lrosen1@hotmail.com).

## SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP



The PTA's Uniform Shoppe on May 6-10 was a great success, with 10% discounts offered on all Hillel Day School tops and bottoms. The PTA expresses its appreciation to **Dvorah Eisen** for leading the sale, and is grateful to our parent volunteers: **Naomi Abramovitz, Brenda Arshawsky, Zipora Rindsberg, Tzippi Rosen, Lea Saida and Deborah Young.**

Because the PTA is responsible for storing, managing inventory, and ordering and selling the shirts, we are also able to provide students with wholesale prices on a regular basis.

## ANNUAL FACULTY & STAFF GIFT

HDS teachers and staff were excited to receive their end-of-the-year polo shirt gift from the PTA. Special thanks to **Sara Goldberg, Susan Herr, Dvorah Prince, and Deborah Young** for taking the time to distribute the shirts, and to every member of the HDS community who participated in this fundraiser, making the quality gift possible.



## HDS FOOD DRIVE BENEFITS FAMILIES IN NEED

HDS was proud to once again lead an annual food drive to benefit families in our community in need. This year, HDS donated a total of 1,485 pounds of food items to the Ruth Rales Jacobson Family Food Pantry. We applaud **Keri Greenfield** for coordinating this effort, and also thank **Cara Freedman, Susan Herr and Lily, Eytan and Coby Greenfield** for their support. We also appreciate the efforts of the many HDS families who donated items!



## PRE-HOLIDAY SHOPPING SPREE

On the evening of March 13, the Boca Raton Synagogue bustled with excitement as shoppers took a break from their busy schedules to attend the HDS PTA's Pre-Holiday Shopping Spree. The semi-annual event raised funds for HDS, while bringing business to our community vendors and providing one-stop shopping for our patrons. Many vendors participated, selling clothing, hats, housewares, jewelry, Judaica, paper goods, toys, children's accessories, chocolate baskets for the holidays, and so much more—often at discounted prices. The PTA commends **Orlie Cohen** and **Rachel Harow** for their outstanding work in coordinating and organizing the shopping spree and also thanks our parent volunteers: **Sharon Fein, Chani Katz, Sharona Kay, Hillary Krawatsky, Larry Pomeranz, and Andrea Zucker.** We also express our gratitude to **Matthew Hocherman** and his staff for their help setting up the event.



## RECYCLING PROGRAM

Remember to drop off your used printer and inktoner cartridges at the front desk. The PTA receives \$2 for each cartridge delivered to stores for recycling. Thank you to the many families and businesses who are already participating in this important recycling effort and to all of our volunteers! With your help, HDS raised over \$2,000 during the 2012-2013 school year.



## GET INVOLVED

With summer approaching, the PTA is already thinking ahead to fun and exciting initiatives and activities for the 2013-2014 school year. If you're looking for an easy way to get involved with HDS, consider enlisting in the PTA Troopers—and find the type of volunteer opportunities that are just right for you! Please email [sharonakay@mac.com](mailto:sharonakay@mac.com) today to join and learn more!

**The 2012/2013 PTA Board thanks PTA President, Sharona Kay, whose outstanding leadership, boundless capabilities, remarkable creativity, and kind spirit have made the PTA an invaluable organization within the HDS community.**



### PTA ANNUAL LUNCHEON HONORS FOUR OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS

By: Sara Goldberg

Despite South Florida's incessant Spring rain, the JARC auditorium was filled with warmth and laughter on May 29 at the PTA's Annual Luncheon. This year's luncheon honored four outstanding volunteers for their significant contributions to the PTA: **Dvorah Eisen**, **Cara Freedman**, **Lea Saida**, and **Dvora Scher**. Although Master of Ceremonies **Naomi Abramovitz** had a last-minute emergency that precluded her attendance at the luncheon, she did not disappoint her fans. Like Michelle Obama at the Oscars, Naomi delivered her remarks via video. PTA President **Sharona Kay** also spoke about each of the awardees and presented them with a gift from the PTA in recognition of their service to the school.



**Dvorah Eisen** was recognized for her willingness to tackle big projects, such as launching PTA's uniform shop, which has given parents convenience and lower prices in purchasing school uniforms. She has also coordinated the Chanukah Scholastic Book Fair for the past few years. Naomi and Sharona cited Dvorah's humility and quiet nature in carrying out all of her responsibilities.

Sharona praised **Cara Freedman** for her tireless work organizing the monthly Rosh Chodesh teacher appreciation breakfasts and the end of school teacher's luncheon, the Chanukah gift collection for the staff, and the pre-Pesach food drive. Sharona explained that when Cara takes on a job, she knows it will get done, and get done right!

**Lea Saida**, grandmother to two HDS students, is always the first to volunteer. She has distributed fliers during carpool, sold Spirit shirts, picked up challahs for our EC classes, assisted with every teacher appreciation breakfast, and volunteered at PTA boutiques and book fairs. In so doing, she has enriched the school experience for her grandchildren as well as their classmates. As Sharona remarked, we all hope one day to be a grandmother like Mrs. Saida.

There is no project too daunting for **Dvora Scher**. Her leadership roles include chairing the PTA's annual directory project, which is PTA's second largest fundraiser, and personally garnering the most ads for the directory, running the annual school supply sale, and administering the tribute card and Purim card sales. It is difficult to find anyone as organized and hard working as Dvora Scher.

The appreciative crowd enjoyed the presentations and a delicious brunch catered by JARC. The PTA also welcomed six new members and thirty-seven returning members to the Guardian of Learning program. Spearheaded by **Caroline Katz**, the Guardian of Learning program is the PTA's largest fundraiser of the year. Thank you to all members for their commitment and dedication to PTA. New Guardians of Learning will receive pins, and renewed members will have a diamond added to their pins. The PTA thanks **Salomon and Sabrina Romano** for producing the pins and diamonds each year at cost.



~New Guardians of Learning~  
**Mindy Berlin • Chayi Cohen • Keri Greenfield •  
Meira Gross • Ellen Nadler • Rachel Rudensky**

~Renewed Guardians of Learning~  
**Leslie Abady • Naomi Abramovitz • Liora Adler •  
Elana Belizon • Lisa Bensmihen •  
Rebecca Berkeley • Batzi Berman • Mirta Brown  
• Helen Cohan • Orli Cohen • Anne Deakter •  
Michele Dimont • Shira Englander • Ileana Flics •  
Cara Freedman • Lauren Glaun •  
Yocheved Goldberg • Laura Greenbaum •  
Simone Griff • Ilona Grynstein • Caroline Katz •  
Jean Katz • Sharona Kay • Bruria Kodosi •  
Beatrice Levine • Linda Levy • Suri Markowitz •  
Jill Rose • Dana Schechter • Dvora Scher •  
Naomi Shapiro • Hadassah Smolarcik •  
Phyllis Struhl • Robin Struhl • Rachel Tripp •  
Deborah Young • Risa Zimmerman**

Thanks to **Naomi Abramovitz**, **Sara Goldberg**, **Sharona Kay**, **Tzippi Rosen** and **Deborah Young** for their work coordinating this event.





By: Maia Shaffer,  
Athletic Director

With another school year wrapping up, Hillel's sports program has once again gone above and beyond. Even though we faced some real challenges this year compared to last, we have many significant moments of which to be proud.

Our Girls Volleyball, Basketball and Softball teams improved their individual skills tremendously, and the coaches and I are very proud of how hard the girls fought to win each game.

The Girls Soccer team had another stellar season even though we fell short of the championship. In the semi-finals, we played a good game, but lost to our rivals St. Marks.

Our Boys Soccer and Boys Basketball teams spent this season rebuilding and focusing on individual skills and strategy.

The Girls and Boys Tennis teams, led by **Coach Art Snow**, had another exciting year. The Girls and the Boys made it to the playoffs but, unfortunately, lost in a very tough competition against Sagemont and DKJA.

## GO HILLEL LIONS!

The Boys Flag Football team, led by **Coach Zack**, was the highlight of the year, finishing the season undefeated and qualifying for the Championship game. Despite losing in the end, the season was the highest achievement yet for the Boys Flag Football team at Hillel.

The basketball, soccer and volleyball clinics, which were offered this year by **Coach Zack**, **Coach Moishe** and **Coach Samantha**, have been a very positive force for our future athletes.

I would like to thank our coaches, **Coach Samantha**, **Coach Maggie**, **Coach Moishe**, **Coach Nadav** and **Coach Art**, for their hard work with our teams.

Also, I would like to thank **Rabbi Levine** and **Rabbi Englander**, for their support, and, of course, **Sharona Kay** and **Greta Baum**, for all their help with the Athletic Department.

Special thanks to all the parents for supporting our athletes at practices and games. I am looking forward to another exciting and competitive year!

**Mazal Tov**  
**to the**  
**Male and Female**  
**Athletes of 2012-13**  
**School Year:**



**Sammy Baum**  
**and**  
**Kyra Firestone**

### BOYS & GIRLS TENNIS

By: Coach Art Snow

This was the 3rd year fielding a tennis team. The last 2 years we were league champions and the league was co-ed. This year the program grew to boys and girls teams. Both teams qualified for the league playoffs. Our program is growing and the future looks bright!



### GIRLS SOFTBALL

By: Coach Samantha Witztum

Hillel Day School Girls Softball Team finished their exciting season 2-4. Throughout the season, the girls worked on a lot of the basic skills and steadily improved in all areas. At least half of the team will be returning next year, and their enthusiasm is incredible. We are looking forward to improving our record with these veterans and any new players next year. Go, Lions!







## GOLF TOURNAMENT RAISES NEEDED FUNDS FOR JEWISH EDUCATION

Mazal Tov to **Ted Struhl** and **Michael Zimmerman** for their



efforts once again in co-chairing an extremely successful Golf Tournament, held on May 6 at Stonebridge Golf & Country Club. In addition, thank you to the leadership and collaborative efforts of **Sal Abady, Avraham Belizon, Orlie Cohen, Rabbi Adam Englander, Daniel Katz, Rabbi Samuel J. Levine and Gil Stein**. In addition, this event would not be possible without the help of the following awesome volunteers: **Orlie Cohen, Naomi Cohn, Jill Kaminetzky, Caroline Katz, Alan Linker, Trevor Meyerowitz, Larry Pomeranz, Joe Sharp and Deborah Young**. Special thanks to **Jeremy Lurie** for his help once again on securing a portion of the raffle prizes and to **Orlie Cohen and Jeremy Lurie** for their efforts on this year's *Savings Booklet*.



And the Golf Tournament winners are....

1st Place Gross:  
**Sal Abady, Steven Cohen, Rabbi Efrem Goldberg & Rabbi Philip Moskowitz**

1st Place Net:

**Rabbi Brian Galbut, Eric Galbut & Eric Pinkis**

2nd Place Gross: **Alan Berger, Jim Plotkin, Martin Schandelson & Rabbi Josh Spodek**

2nd Place Net: **Rabbi Josh Broide, Jerry Cohen, Sheldon Hills & Daniel Katz**

Longest Drive: **Rabbi Efrem Goldberg**

Putting Contest: **Sal Abady**

Closest to the Pin: **Alan Berger**

Closest to the Line: **Alex Gomez**

Thank you to our sponsors, supporters and everyone who participated by either golfing or purchasing raffle tickets. We could not have raised over \$63,000 without your support!

**And the Annual Raffle Winners are...**

**Sal Abady:** Grand Prize - \$2,000 towards HDS tuition

**Julie & Richard Ehrlich:** Three-night deluxe stay at the Omni Championsgate, Orlando (value \$750) provided by Omni Hotels and Resorts

**Gabrielle & Trevor Meyerowitz:** Flat Screen TV (provided by Best Buy)

**Shira & Joe Sharp:** 4 Disney One-Day Hopper Passes (value \$496) provided by Walt Disney World Community Relations

**David Fischberger:** 4 SeaWorld Orlando Tickets (value \$379) provided by SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment

**Rebecca & Steven Berkeley:** Wine Gift Basket (includes 6 bottles of wine)

Thank you to our Golf Tournament Sponsors:

Presenting Sponsors: **Daniel & Caroline Katz and Family**

Lunch/Dinner Sponsor: **Bruce Gendelman Insurance Services**

Hat Sponsors: **Butters Construction & Development** and **Dr. Barry Schechter/Florida Eye Microsurgical Institute**

Italian Sausage Shack Sponsor: **Jerry Cohen**

Scottish Watering Hole Sponsor: **Risa & Michael Zimmerman and Family**

Hole-In-One Sponsors: **Phyllis & Ted Struhl (Boca Executive Realty), The Harris Family, Anshei Chesed Congregation of Boynton Beach and New Wave Surgical**

Tee Sponsors: **PBC Dermatology - Charles & Simone Griff; Guardian Sports Group, LLC; Haar Capital Management; Sheldon Hills; Kosher Marketplace; Privcap Companies; The Wirtschafter Family, Dr. Joshua Stern - South Florida GI Associates; Anonymously sponsored with gratitude to this year's B'not Sherut, Avia, Na'ama and Doreen, for enhancing our children's HDS experience; A and L Medical; Brian H. Galbut, MD FACC Cardiology, Medical Specialists of the Palm Beaches; Evan Landau, MD, Radiation Oncology 21st Century; Dr. Daniel Lindenberg, MD, and Dr. Ringelheim & Family; Donna, Ben, Rachel and Jackie Tripp, Jackie Tripp MD PLC and South Florida Medicine**

Our Community Rabbis:

**Rabbi Adam Eisenberger, Rabbi Adam Englander, Rabbi Shimon Feder, Rabbi Joshua Flug, Rabbi Efrem Goldberg, Rabbi Meir Kessler, Rabbi Chaim Lanner, Rabbi Samuel J. Levine, Rabbi Philip Moskowitz and Rabbi Mordechai Smolarcic**

Thank you to **Ted & Warren Struhl of Successories**, for producing and generously donating the award plaques.

Thank you to **Dr. Eli Cohen, M.D., P.A.**, for donating sunscreen.

Thank you to **Michael Zimmeman's Court Liquors**, for donating the cigars.

Thank you to our gift card sponsors:

**Asia and Boca Pita Express.**

Thank you to **Golish Financial Group**, for donating a portion of the giveaways.

Thank you to **Isaac & Ilona Grynsztein**, for donating the Swatch watch.

Thank you to **Amazing Savings Kosher Supermarket**, for donating the Psagot wine.

Thank you to **Five Star Golf**, for donating the 2 Toski wedges.

Thank you to **Stonebridge Golf & Country Club**, for donating a foursome of golf.

This annual major event raises funds for HDS Scholarship Aid and those families who otherwise could not afford a quality Jewish education.







The Annual Author's Tea took place on May 24. Mazal Tov to all of the authors on their presentations!



Mazal Tov to **Tani Gross, Max Frohlich, Yosef Scher** and **Alex Lurie** for being inducted into Mrs. Weinstock's "Above and Beyond" Wall of Fame.

### With Thanks...

To **Michele Dimont** for proofreading every issue of the *Hillel Herald*, *Weekly Sha'vu'on*, and countless other projects!

To **Meira Gross** for compiling and organizing the 'PTA Pages' section of each *Hillel Herald* issue.

Your time and talent are greatly appreciated!

### Teacher of the Month



**Rabbi Gershon Eisenberger**  
May 2013



**Mrs. Batsheva Klein**  
June 2013

If you have information to include in a future *Hillel Herald*, please e-mail [suzanner@hilleldayschool.org](mailto:suzanner@hilleldayschool.org).  
Editor: Suzanne M. Rice 561-470-5000 x225

**Hillel Day School of Boca Raton**  
21011 95th Ave. S. Boca Raton, FL 33428  
P: 561.470.5000 F: 561.470.5005 • [www.hilleldayschool.org](http://www.hilleldayschool.org)

## MAZAL TOV TO OUR RETIRING FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBERS



**Jo Felman**



**Dianne Groendyke**



**Ellen Nadler**

**We will miss you!**  
**Thank you for your**  
**many years of service!**



**COMING IN THE 2013-14 SCHOOL YEAR**  
**Hillel Day School's 25th Anniversary!**

**Look for a recap of Kindergarten and 8th Grade Graduations in the 2012-13 Annual Report.**

Hillel Day School is a "Makom Torah," a place where Torah is studied. As such, dress should conform to what would be appropriate when visiting a synagogue.

