

## CALENDAR

### Sunday, April 1

Class of 2012 harbor cruise, 6-9 p.m.

### Tuesday, April 3

Middle School science fair, Saval Auditorium, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Varsity baseball at Gann Academy, Waltham, 4 p.m.

Elementary School concert, Brener Building gymnasium, 4:30 p.m.

### Thursday, April 5-Sunday, April 15

Pesach vacation.

### Sunday, April 15

Varsity baseball at Cristo Rey Boston, McConnell Park, Dorchester, 3 p.m.

### Monday, April 16

Classes resume.

### Tuesday, April 17

Softball at Pope John XXIII High School, Lynde Street Park, Everett, 4:15 p.m.

### Wednesday, April 18

Varsity baseball vs. Millis High School, Cabot Field, Newton, 4:30 p.m.

Softball at St. Clement High School, Columbus Park, Medford, 4 p.m.

### Thursday, April 19

*Yom HaShoah* programming.

Varsity baseball vs. South Shore Christian Academy, Cabot Field, Newton, 4:30 p.m.

## MAZAL TOV TO...

Dr. Sharon and Dr. Ravid Straussman on the birth of their daughter.

## MAIMONIDES SENIOR *ULPANIADA* FINALIST

Maimonides School senior Gabriela Mizrahi-Arnaud has qualified for the final round of the *Ulpianiada*, an international problem-solving competition for Orthodox Jewish high school girls. The contest is scheduled for Wednesday, June 6 in Yerushalayim. The competition is sponsored by Michlalah Jerusalem College, and finalists will have the opportunity to spend several days at the Michlalah campus. The *Ulpianiada* focuses on math and logical reasoning skills. Gabriela and other Maimonides competitors took part in two preliminary rounds at the school, administered by long-time teacher Michael Schockett, coordinator of competitive math.

## GRADUATE TO PRESENT ON *YOM HaSHOAH*

Maimonides 1967 graduate Mark Blechner will present his family's incredible 20<sup>th</sup> century history as the anchor of Maimonides School's *Yom HaShoah* observances Thursday, April 19. Mr. Blechner's father and his three brothers grew up in Munich. The family represents a living history of the period, experiencing escape, survival and renewal. The story can be found at [www.blechner.com](http://www.blechner.com), which states that "the overriding view of the family is...the past must not be allowed to obstruct our view into the future." Mr. Blechner plans to present his family's story throughout the day, adjusting for the age of his listeners.

## CHAMETZ DRIVE TO BENEFIT THE HUNGRY

Odeya Durani of the Class of 2013 is coordinating a drive to collect sealed packages of non-perishable *chametz* next week. Drop-off boxes have been placed throughout the school. Food will be donated to programs that feed those in need.

## M-CATS ARE SARACHEK TIER III CHAMPS

The intrepid Maimonides School M-Cats, down by seven points with only a few minutes to play, outscored Or Chaim of Toronto 15-6 down the stretch to win the Tier III Championship of the Red Sarachek Memorial Basketball Tournament, 54-52 Monday afternoon in New York. The annual four-day tournament and Shabbaton at Yeshiva University is the showcase of North American Jewish day school basketball, with 20 teams participating.

Sophomore Yoni Klausner (12 points) tied Monday's title game at 52 with 30 seconds remaining, sinking a three-point field goal. Then Or Chaim, trying to set up the winning basket, was called for traveling. At the other end of the floor, Maimonides senior point guard Elie Sundel drove the lane and dished off to junior Yosef Vaitsblit, who laid it in over the defense with 2.5 seconds on the clock to clinch the victory.

The M-Cats had a terrific run in the tournament. After defeating Yeshiva of Virginia in the Tier II qualifying round March 22, the M-Cats lost a tough battle to Cooper of Memphis the next morning. The loser of that game automatically drops to Tier III. On *Motza'ei Shabbat*, Maimonides, led by junior Moshe Beiser (16 points), raced to an insurmountable early lead to defeat Fuchs Mizrahi of Cleveland, 57-41, setting the stage for Monday's climactic Tier III finals.

Menachum and Yoel Polack, Adin Liss, Klausner and Beiser were interviewed on streaming video after the game, and they dedicated the win to the memory of Mrs. Pearl Kessler, z"l, grandmother of teammate Joseph Solomont.

## STUDENTS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT SCIENCE

Students in Grades 3-5 demonstrated this week that science plays a role in choices made in their everyday lives. The annual science fair in the Brener Building gymnasium addressed topics that included bubble gum, scented candles, orange juice concentrate and pets' eating habits.

For the past month, participants have been working individually or in teams of mostly two. They followed the steps of the scientific method: posing a question, conducting research, constructing a hypothesis, following up with experiments and tests, analyzing and recording data and presenting their conclusions. The steps and results were shared on three-panel display boards at the science fair. Students had the opportunity to explain their work to parents and friends as well as to kindergarteners and first and second graders. They also visited each other's displays, several of which were interactive.

"It was an exciting atmosphere to see the students explaining their discoveries to visitors, demonstrating their experiments and answering questions," said science teacher Katie Muratore, science fair coordinator. "On one side of the room was a student testing whether age affects your jump and he had many parents, students and teachers testing this for him. On another side of the room were students seeing whether you could tell the difference between natural and artificial smells. Even though the projects were all different, the one thing that was the same was the enthusiasm from the students that kept people coming to their booths for more." Ms. Muratore also helped students generate ideas and questions.

## FIRST ELEMENTARY MATH FAIR A SUCCESS

Administrators, faculty and students were pleased with the first math fair for students in Grades 3-5, which took place Monday afternoon in the Brener Building. The focus was on measurement, and students rotated among 12 stations staffed by teachers. Parents were invited to see math in action. The event was organized and coordinated by Debra Shein-Gerson, Elementary School math specialist.

## STUDENT-TEACHER PILLO-POLO SHOWDOWN

The Elementary School Pillo-Polo champions from Grade 4 will face off against a team of faculty and staff in the annual culmination of winter sports at Maimonides School Tuesday at 12:50 p.m. in Fox Gymnasium. The Grade 4 Super Bowl Munchers won the student championship Friday with a 2-1 upset over Grade 5. Team members are Ilana Leybzon, Eytan Pomper, goalkeeper, Batya Rose and Daniel Solouki. (Daniella Bessler filled in for Batya on Friday.)

## REGISTRATION OPEN FOR SPORTS CAMP

Registration is underway for the annual M-Cat Sports Camp, scheduled for June 25-July 13 at Maimonides School. The program, for boys and girls who have completed Kindergarten through Grade 7, features a variety of games and clinics, as well as arts and crafts and field trips. There is an emphasis on *middot* and sportsmanship. The camp originated five years ago and always has been staffed by former, and a few current, Maimonides student-athletes. Director for the second summer is Rubin Yarmush '00, former assistant boys' basketball coach. He can be reached for further information at (339) 364-9672 or [mcatsportscamp@gmail.com](mailto:mcatsportscamp@gmail.com). The link for registration is [www.maimonides.org/content/summer-camps-2012-maimonides](http://www.maimonides.org/content/summer-camps-2012-maimonides).

## MS. MURATORE'S SCIENCE CAMP RETURNS

Maimonides School science teacher Katie Muratore is planning her fourth summer science camp for June 25-July 13 at the school. The program is open to students who have just completed Grades 2-6. Each week will feature a topic not covered as part of the regular curriculum (engineering, environment and chemistry). Several field trips are planned, with destinations including the Museum of Science and MIT. Other details and a registration form can be accessed through the following electronic link: <http://www.maimonides.org/sites/default/files/pdf/scienceCamp2012.pdf>

## GRADES 6-12 RECITAL PLANNED FOR MAY 13

A music recital is being planned for Sunday evening, May 13, in Saval Auditorium, open to all students in Grades 6-12, individually or in ensemble. There will be no auditions and no rehearsals; this simply will be an opportunity for Maimonides School to showcase its talented student-musicians. However, it is important for organizers to know the number of participants and what they plan to perform. Participants should contact Jeremy Fisher '13 at [jerfish1@gmail.com](mailto:jerfish1@gmail.com) by the end of April. This event was originated by Yoni Nouriel '12 and reignited by Jeremy.

## ANNUAL VISITORS DAY MAY 11 FOR K-8

Invitations are being mailed for *Yom Orchim*, scheduled for Friday, May 11, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for Kindergarten through Grade 8. *Yom Orchim* (Visitors Day), formerly known as Grandparents and Special Visitors Day, includes opportunities for guests to shadow students through their daily schedules, visit the PTA book fair, and sample the expertise of some teachers at afternoon mini-lectures. A luncheon for all guests will feature the Maimonides Jazz Band and Elementary School performing groups. Please contact the Institutional Advancement Office ([info@maimonides.org](mailto:info@maimonides.org), 617-232-4452, ext. 405) with names and addresses of prospective visitors.