

CALENDAR

Monday, April 10 - Wednesday, April 19

No School (Pesach break).

Thursday, April 20

Classes resume.

Softball at St. Joseph Preparatory, Brighton, 3:30 p.m.

Baseball vs. St. Joseph Preparatory, 3:45 p.m. (field to be determined).

Sunday, April 23

Softball vs. Cathedral High School, Pine Manor College, 400 Heath St., Chestnut Hill (time to be determined)

Baseball at Millis High School, 2 p.m.

CONDOLENCES TO...

The family of Michael Maleson, מ"ר, who passed away this morning. Mr. Maleson, director of the Maimonides Jazz Band since the fall of 1998, was a versatile and knowledgeable musician, admired and beloved by not only jazz band players and alumni but also hundreds of other students and teachers. A memorial service is planned for Sunday at 2 p.m. at Stanetsky Memorial Chapel, 1668 Beacon St., Brookline.

MAZAL TOV TO...

Maimonides School senior Simon Kangoun, who won the Maccabi USA Junior National Wrestling Championship in the 84-kilogram weight class Sunday at the University of Pennsylvania.

FACULTY PREVAILS IN PILLO-POLO THRILLER

"Launch to the Win," the fifth grade Elementary School pillo-polo champions, battled the faculty team down to the wire in the annual showdown Tuesday, with the teachers prevailing 6-5. "It was an exciting, entertaining, back-and-forth pillo-polo thriller," said physical education teacher Ernest D'Agnelli, who supervises the tournament with his colleague Deborah Caban. Members of "Launch to the Win" were Capt. Alex "Big Al" Lederman, Lior Baker, Ariel Freedman, Jonathan Greenberg and Tara Sanieoff.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS TO SPEAK HERE

One of the nation's leading experts on Jewish priorities and directions in the United States is scheduled to speak at Maimonides School Sunday evening, May 21, on "The Six-Day War: 50 Years Later." Dr. Steven Bayme, director of the Contemporary Jewish Life Department and the Koppelman Institute of American Jewish-Israeli Relations for the American Jewish Committee, is a 1967 Maimonides School graduate. He will be in Brookline earlier on May 21 to participate in the 50-year reunion of his graduating class.

"EXTRAVAGANZA" FOCUSES ON *KASHERING*

Ninth and 10th grade students culminated their learning of *Masechet Chullin* Wednesday by traversing eight stations focused on ensuring the kosher status of utensils and appliances. The first Pre-Pesach *Kashering* Extravaganza challenged the students to apply their knowledge to actual issues of *kashrut*. The areas addressed included boiling (*hagalah*), light burning (*libun ka*), burning (*libun chamur*), sharpening (*neitzah*), and rinsing (*hadacha*). There were also questions about microwave ovens and sinks. Students worked in teams and received scores based on their depth of knowledge. Rabbi Noah Cheses '03 of Young Israel of Sharon introduced the exercise, explaining that the details of *kashering* are not only a useful life skill for the educated Jew but also have a moral component. The purification of vessels represents the introspection and self-improvement that are appropriate as the holiday approaches, he said.

Other rabbis from local synagogues who staffed the various stations were Rabbi David Hellman of Young Israel of Brookline, Rabbi Gershon Segal of Congregation Beth El-Atereth Israel, Newton, and Rabbi Simon Taylor of New England Region, NCSY. Faculty members joining them were Rabbi Eliezer Bercuson, Rabbi David Ehrenkranz, Rabbi Baruch Goldman and Rabbi Dror Saadia. Also assisting with the stations was Mervin Alge, director of operations. Scott Mattoon, general studies principal, was in charge of the *mechira* station, where students offered to sell pots, knives or other utensils that could not be made kosher. Mr. Mattoon asked each visiting team to explain why its efforts were futile. Rabbi Dov Huff, Judaic studies principal, oversaw the entire program.

PLANNING UNDERWAY FOR YOM ORCHIM

Invitations have been mailed to grandparents and other special relatives and friends for Maimonides School's 21st annual Yom Orchim. The visitors' day is scheduled for Friday, May 19. Participants shadow the students they are visiting through classroom and playground schedules. If you know of grandparents or other special relatives or friends who did not receive an invitation, contact the Development office (info@mamonides.org).

NEW CARDS GENERATE FUNDS FOR SCHOOL

The Development Office encourages all friends of Maimonides to extend messages of congratulations or sympathy through donations. The office has newly-designed cards that it sends or sells. Recommended donations are \$18 per card processed and sent by the staff (\$10 per each additional card) and \$5 per blank card with envelope.

COLLEGE ADMISSION TIMETABLE NEARS END

Almost all Maimonides School seniors have received much-anticipated acceptances from colleges and universities. According to Tami Gelb, director of college counseling, more than 80 percent of the seniors were "either admitted to their top choice school or are making a choice of where to attend from among their top choices." One or more students in the Class of 2017 have been admitted to each of the following schools:

Barnard College, Bentley University, Binghamton University, Boston University, Brandeis University, University of Colorado, University of Connecticut, Cornell University, Curry College, Drexel University, Emerson College, Goucher College, Hofstra University, Ithaca College, Lesley University, University of Maryland -- Baltimore County, University of Maryland, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, University of Massachusetts, Boston, and University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth.

Also, McGill University, University of Michigan, Muhlenberg College, New York University, Northeastern University, Northwestern University, Pace University, University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University, Rutgers University -- Camden, Rutgers University, Simmons College, State University of New York at Albany, Syracuse University, Tel Aviv University, Temple University, Washington University, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Wheelock College, Williams College and Yeshiva University.

PURCHASES AT NEWTON MODELL'S HELP PTA

Another merchant has joined the list of businesses supporting Maimonides PTA. Modell's Sporting Goods will donate 5 percent of all purchases if the cumulative total exceeds \$500. Use the special coupon attached to this link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BwONC1RSo78cVWVqaktIUTNEaHY2UkhfeGVKQIBoUGVWbXRN/view?usp=sharing>. Only the store on Needham Street in Newton will honor it. The Butcherie and other local merchants also donate a percentage of spending to PTA, and Amazon sponsors a program for purchasers who sign in with a Maimonides identification. Details on all of these can be found at <http://www.maimonides.org/content/pta-information>.

GRADE 4 CONNECTING WITH HAIFA COHORT

Maimonides School fourth graders have embarked on a new adventure with their cohort from the Netiv Eliezer School in Haifa. This is the second year of a student partnership, part of Combined Jewish Philanthropies' Boston-Haifa Connection, said Associate Principal Reena Slovin. Fourth grade Judaic studies teacher Kaylee Frager met with her counterpart at Netiv Eliezer during the February vacation. The partnership then began with an exchange of letters and school souvenirs between the two classes. There was also an exchange of albums featuring photos and personal information about each student -- favorite activities, foods and colors, as well as home addresses. "We found out that they love Minecraft, soccer and sushi -- much the same as our students," Ms. Frager said. "The connections are boundless, and we hope this is the beginning of a long-term partnership." The students have mailed a second batch of letters, including Boston keepsakes, and hope to culminate the experience with a "breakfast-dinner Skype" in May. Ms. Frager, who works on the project with Lori Kipnes, teaching assistant, said, "The fourth grades have bonded, and we now have new global BFFs (best friends forever)."

"For many years, day schools and supplementary schools in the Greater Boston area have created partnerships with peer schools in Haifa to explore Jewish identity and promote community," Mrs. Slovin said. "Through shared curricula, video conferencing and social media, students are able to learn, communicate and develop friendships with same-age students in Haifa."

STUDENTS RUN, SUPPORT GRAD'S CHARITY

Several Maimonides students and alumni participated in the recent Jerusalem Marathon to raise funds for Hope Time Cure, the charity founded by Elisha Galler '13 that supports epilepsy research and programs. The students, who were running in memory of Ezra Schwartz, זק"ל, included senior Aleeza Solomont, junior Danielle Hanau and Yakira Galler in Grade 7. Parents Lynn Hanau and Ruth Schwartz also participated.