

## MAZAL TOV TO...

Merv Alge, Maimonides School director of operations, and his wife Sharon on the birth of their grandson.

## CONDOLENCES TO...

Elizabeth Zygadlo, director of the Levy Library at Maimonides, on the loss of her beloved mother, Frances Stolper, ז"ל.

Hillel Sims, Raya '28 and Hayim '25, on the loss of their beloved father and grandfather, Dr. Martin William Sims, ז"ל.

Alla Zaykin, Simon Kangoun '17, Arie Kangoun '24 and Perry Kangoun '15, on the loss of their beloved father and grandfather, Venyamin Zaykin, ז"ל.

## CLASS OF 2017 COMMENCEMENT SUNDAY

Maimonides School's 65<sup>th</sup> commencement is scheduled for Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in Judge J. John Fox Athletic Center. Forty-six seniors will receive diplomas, swelling the ranks of Maimonides alumni to more than 2,000. Commencement will be streamed to viewers. The address for the free livestream video is [livestream.com/maimonides](http://livestream.com/maimonides). There will be an icon for the graduation.

Student speakers will be Sarah Wertheimer, valedictorian of the class of 2017, and Joshua Gruen, salutatorian. The next four seniors in the academic rankings are honored by presenting readings from the works of the Rambam: Hillah Hassan, Eitan Jeselsohn, Lauren Koralnik and Aleeza Schoenberg. Zev Gewurz will offer opening remarks on behalf of the Board of Directors. Rabbi Dov Huff, Middle and Upper School Judaic studies principal, will deliver an opening address to the seniors. Closing tribute will be by Scott Mattoon, general studies principal. Diplomas will be conferred by Naty Katz '73, head of school. Among the graduates is Adam Greene, who will be the first third-generation alumnus. Adam's mother Batya graduated in 1991 and his grandmother Rosa Drapkin in 1967.

## M-CAT SPORTS CAMP BEGINNING MONDAY

Three weeks of M-Cat Sports Camp begin Monday at Maimonides. Director Michal Alge '14 said that besides the lineup of clinics, scrimmages and other contests, field trips are planned to amusement parks, the Patriots Hall of Fame, and a minor league baseball game. Camp counselors, all current or former Maimonides student-athletes, are 2016 graduates Esti Solooki, Rachel Green, Miriam Naggar, Avi Sanders, Yedidiah Samuels, Marc Nechmad, Ethan Turk and Noah Hoffman; seniors Aleeza Solomont, Hannah Spear, Eitan Jeselsohn and Jake Kosowsky; and juniors Senai Weglein, Abby Bessler and Nir Solooki.

## SEVERAL SENIORS CITED FOR ACHIEVEMENTS

A highlight of Thursday's Senior Recognition Night was the presentation of awards to outstanding students in academics, activities, and personal qualities. The Faculty Award, presented each year to a senior with outstanding academic, service, and spiritual attributes, went to the class valedictorian, Sarah Wertheimer. The following students were recognized for achievements in respective academic disciplines: English, Ethan Fraenkel; Hebrew, Lauren Koralnik; history, David Kotler; math, Eitan Jeselsohn; science, Hillah Hassan; Talmud, Dina Cohn; Tanach, Baruch-Lev Kelman; and world language, Sarah Kosowsky.

Uriya Durani received the Ahavat Israel Award and Hadasah Stanhill accepted the Middot Award. The Student Leadership Award, in memory of Ezra Ben Zion Lightman '65, was presented to Ariana Gewurz, Jake Kosowsky and Aleeza Solomont. Elisheva Goldman accepted the Chesed Award, sponsored by Levine Chapel. Receiving the Ptach Award were Miriam Bressler and Dina Fisher-Greisdoiff. Yonatan Diamond accepted an award endowed four years ago in memory of Rabbi Leo and Ida Abelow, presented to a student who is "a budding Torah scholar, has a sweet personality, and cares about the community." Several years ago three anonymous 1979 alumni established an annual prize in honor of their principal, Rabbi M.J. Cohn, recognizing students accomplished in the arts. This year's recipients were Arthur Bloomfield and Akiva Jacobs.

## FOUR SENIORS REAP MAJOR SPORTS HONORS

Two members of the Class of 2017 received double recognition as athletes Wednesday during the spring sports awards reception in Saval Auditorium. Charlie Kramer and Aleeza Solomont were recognized not only as athletes-of-the-year for 2016-17 but also as recipients of the Ezra Schwartz Mentorship and Team-Building Award. This honor, launched last year, goes to student-athletes who exhibit the personal empathy and commitment to team spirit that were personified by Ezra, זק"ל. These qualities are exemplified by instructing underclassmen and building team unity. The other major honorees were seniors Eitan Jeselsohn and Hannah Spear, student-athletes of the year.

## COLLEAGUES TO FETE RETIRING TEACHERS

Colleagues will salute two retiring Elementary School teachers at a reception in the Brener Building Tuesday. Donna Verdun, support specialist in mathematics, and Maxine Zizmor, director of Elementary School student support services, will be joined by former students and teachers. Mrs. Verdun began at Maimonides in 1985 as a general studies teacher in first grade. Four years later Mrs. Zizmor began teaching Judaic studies in second grade.

## RECEPTION LAUDS MIDDLE SCHOOL LEADER

Students, parents and colleagues gathered on the courtyard of Saval Campus Wednesday evening at a reception saluting Middle School Associate Principal Brian Cohen, who is departing after serving as leader of the Middle School for six years. Rabbi Dov Huff, Middle and Upper School principal for Judaic studies, offered a *dvar Torah*. Other speakers included Scott Mattoon, Middle and Upper School principal for general studies, and Head of School Naty Katz, who presented Mr. Cohen with a gift of a framed text-based papercut. Speakers noted Mr. Cohen's constant attention to students, his love of music and his fun-loving nature.

## SCHOOL TO HOLD TWO REUNIONS IN ISRAEL

The annual reunion of Maimonides School alumni and friends in Israel is scheduled for Tuesday evening, June 27, at the Na'amat Center in Jerusalem. For the first time, an additional get-together has been scheduled in Ra'anana the following evening. Anyone in the Maimonides community visiting Israel during that time is welcome to attend; contact Mike Rosenberg for details ([mike@maimonides.org](mailto:mike@maimonides.org), 617-232-4452, ext. 405).

## ANNUAL SCIENCE CAMP OPENS ON JUNE 26

Preparations are almost finished for the annual Science Camp for students entering Grades 1-7, with sessions scheduled for June 26-June 30 and July 3-7. Katie Smith, Elementary School and Grade 6 science teacher, is originator and director of the camp. She will be joined on the staff by teachers Tamar Benjamin and Shifra Gerber, as well as Noa Atar '18 and Aaron Stolarov '15. "The first week is our STEM week, all about engineering," Mrs. Smith said. "Campers will build roller coasters, towers, tin can robots, miniature zip lines, solar ovens, cars made out of food, and more. We will visit the Museum of Science and see an Omni show about the Amazon." The theme for the second week is the science behind art, food, and the environment, she continued. "Campers will create pendulum paintings, chromatography T-shirts, conductive dough, slime, pizza, ice cream and more. We will visit Ward's Berry Farm and Drumlin Farm, and the Creature Teacher will visit Maimonides with different animals." A few openings remain for the second week.

## PRINCIPALS APPLAUD COUNCIL PRESIDENTS

The Middle and Upper School Principals this week extended congratulations and thanks to the 2016-17 Student Council presidents, Jake Kosowsky and Aleeza Solomont. Rabbi Dov Huff and Scott Mattoon applauded the two seniors' leadership, stellar example and school spirit, all of which enhanced the quality of life in the Upper School.