

Mabat At a Glance

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Schechter School Office Hours (Winter):

Monday-Thursday 8am -4pm

Friday 8am-3:30pm

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For Your Calendar:

March 29 **Passover Vacation Begins**

Shabbat Shalom Parashat Tzav Candlelighting 6:49 pm March 23, 2018 7 Nissan, 5778

A Message from Andrea

Why Schechter Students Excel in High School and Beyond

(Throughout this article, you will see words or phrases that are underlined. By clicking on each one, you will see additional links with information that is on a related topic.)

With a rich and broad curriculum, it is sometimes hard for parents to

truly understand how Schechter prepares students as well, and even better, than a non-Jewish educational option. This is an ongoing conversation in the community and nationally. It dawns on me that we need to spend significant time answering this question.



Our graduates primarily attend local public schools, but they also attend HHNE, Loomis, KO, Watkinson and other fine independent schools. Across the board, our students shine academically. In the last five years alone, 90% of our graduates were recognized for their academic achievements (honor roll) in each of these schools. Without a doubt, Schechter prepares our students to excel academically.

March 30 First Seder

April 9
School Resumes

April 16
Doug Lyons (CAIS)
presentation

April 20 Israeli Style RELISH!

April 24-26
7th grade Science trip
throughout New
England

April 27 8th grade vs. Faculty basketball game

April 29
Ner Tamid Gala!!

May 3 Israeli Dance Festival

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Quick Links

Solomon Schechter Website

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Join Our List

Would you like a grandparent, relative, or friend to receive the Schechter newsletter? Email ASobel@ssds-hartford.org and include the name, email address, and relationship to Schechter and we will add them to our list!



Mazal Tov to:



This is just the baseline of what a Schechter education and experience provide for our students. Early this week, a parent of two Schechter alumna shared that there are two areas that she credits directly to Schechter and that she

sees reflected in her children. The first is a capacity for language as a result of early language exposure and acquisition; the second is their ability to speak with adults with ease and confidence. Much has recently been written on the benefits of second language exposure and acquisition, providing a strong academic backing to our commitment to Hebrew language at Schechter.

What are often poorly named "soft skills" are the skills and

competencies that will be most important for the future such as empathy, high emotional engagement, creativity and critical thinking. These skills are at the core of a Schechter education and they are often



less understood. We hear about them from alumni parents because they become obvious once their child graduates and is among students who didn't attend Schechter. It's in the moments of seeing your child interact differently than his/her peers that highlight these skills.

"If we educate students who can read well and compute well but can't relate well we will have a failed society," explains Mary Gordon, the Founder of Roots of Empathy. Inspired by their work where they use a "baby as a vehicle to help children find their vulnerability and humanity" we brought a 6 month old into class this Wednesday (Down Syndrome Awareness Day). During the lesson, Nancy Rosen, Director of Teaching and Learning, worked with the middle school students on increasing their awareness and sensitivity to those who are differently abled. Together we all sat on the floor and observed the baby, talked about her non-verbal communication, and their ability to understand it.

The middle school students observed the baby's curiosity and how she mimicked their laughter. One student remarked, "when she felt overwhelmed she turned to the person she felt a bond with for **Geoffrey and Rivka** Sue Newman, who are celebrating the bat mitzvah of their daughter,

Miriam (6th grade)

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RELISH 3.16.18

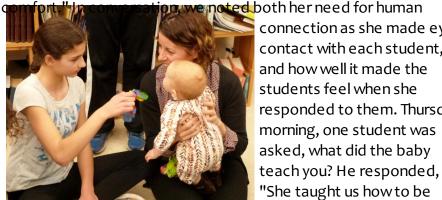












Students at Schechter go out into the world to make a difference; they are academically prepared to face the challenges ahead, and most importantly they develop a deep sense of compassion and empathy enabling them to relate,

engage and be models for goodness.

Shabbat Shalom, Andrea



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Ner Tamid Tickets are Available Now!



connection as she made eye

responded to them. Thursday

contact with each student,

and how well it made the

morning, one student was asked, what did the baby

students feel when she





Parparim explores Passover while Making "My Passover Story"

Parparim is gearing up for Passover!



While learning the story of Passover in great detail, the students are discussing how hard slavery was and what it might have been like to leave slavery behind and walk into a new life of freedom.

students have been working on the order of the seder and symbols through music and art activities. By the time Passover arrives, each student will have completed an accordionstyle book entitled "My Passover Story" that will



tell the story through

illustrations while highlighting important Hebrew vocabulary associated with this most special holiday.

Next week, we will share pictures taken from some of the Passover Story books made by Parparim.

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Mazal Tov to Schechter's Rabbi Chatinover and Family!

Mazal Tov to **Levi Chatinover** (Schechter 1999) and wife Lisie on the birth of their son, Caleb Langdon Chatinover. He arrived Thursday, March 22nd.

Special Mazal Tov to **Rabbi and Leah Chatinover** on becoming Saba and Grandma!

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Curiosity is Growing in Dubonim

One might ask why EC 2 chose planting - or more broadly Sh'mirat Ha'Teva (guarding nature) - as the topic for a project. It's simple:

when the children planted seeds and potatoes in the fall, a spark ignited in their hearts. From the spark came Morah Yeshiva's and Morah Julie's desire to see where the children would go if many opportunities were offered to them related to planting. Yet, doing work around planning is so much more than just dropping seeds into a pot of dirt. There are so many aspects of development that the children are able to focus on without even realizing what they are doing, like the idea of guarding



- or taking care of nature. Project work supports deep learning about a topic, in this case, around planting.



By learning what a seed is, what it needs to grow, and how to take care of it, the students are learning cause and effect. If we water the seed, then it will grow. If we pull out the seedlings, then they will die. They are learning about the natural world around them. They are seeing how plants grow and change in real time, not only how seeds are growing, but also how flowers die as well, and that's all a part of how the world works.

The students are given many opportunities to wonder and

question. What will happen when we put lettuce into colored water? Will the lettuce drink it? Which color will it like more? What will happen if we add romaine ends to water? Will they grow? Why are there so many more radish plants than basil plants? What happened to the cucumber plants?

This work allows for the children to be stewards of the Earth. They have the opportunity to care for living things. They learn tobe



gentle. They learn what it takes to observe what is happening as well as how to use authentic tools to measure what they notice.



They get excited for these changes, and excitement leads to deeper questions and more observations. All this leads to common experiences to talk about, which brings everyone closer together as a community. It leads to a deeper understanding of the world around them and a connection to that world. And when someone has a connection to something, they value it. With value comes a desire to care for it. As our sages tell us: Without earth, there is no rain, and

without rain, the earth cannot endure, and without either, humanity cannot exist. - B'reshit (Genesis) Rabbah 13:3

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Schechter PA Builds Community with Paint

Every day, we see examples of Schechter's core values in action. We see older students escorting younger ones to their classrooms, kids giving each other high-fives in the hallway, students transferring their classroom knowledge into theatrical performance, and students

learning to help their greater community by bringing in food or other necessities to donate to people in need. But *Klal Yisrael* (Community) was also on display Monday night, when the Parent Association invited all current parents to join for a fun night of painting and chatting at Muse Paint Bar. Parents of eighth graders met parents of Parparim and Rimonim students for the first time. We laughed and snacked and got paint on our hands! It was an opportunity to reach out and get to know new people who all share the same goal: providing our children with a strong sense of Jewish identity and an excellent education.

If you haven't yet taken the opportunity to join us for a parent gathering, or a Shabbat Share dinner, or serving lunch, or another of our community-building events, don't be shy! It will enrich your lives and those of others within our Schechter community. We hope to see you at the next event!

Special thanks to **Karen Tuvin, Danielle Weiss,** and **Leah**

Berson for organizing the event and bringing delicious treats!

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What is Happening in MS Science and High Tech Makerspace??

What happens to hot air?

Sadly, we have all felt too much COLD crisp air in our faces lately, so we in Rogow Middle School science class have been engaging in weather activities during our iQWST unit on What Makes the Weather Change? to demonstrate how WARM air currents

(as well as water currents) circulate.

Science has shown that as air warms, it rises and cools and then starts to sink due to properties of gravity and density (differences in compaction of molecules) in a process called



convection. Convection is a dynamic process, so students



demonstrated their understanding by showing how microcurrents exist in even a small space like our classroom: we measured the varying temperatures and noted the drafts around our room.

Bringing our understanding to the world outside the classroom, students studied the way hawks ride thermals to assist their migration and how hot air balloon flight



works with air currents. The 7th graders also met with their HHNE mentors this week to design and create Anemometers to measure wind speed. We also began researching the cost to send up our own Schechter weather balloon to transmit weather data for our students to analyze!

For all you DIY families, if you want to try replicating our experiment at home check out this site:

https://www.exploratorium.edu/science_explorer/watertrick.html or you can check out this classic footage from Mr. Wizard's Supermarket Science too:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N8mCn8f3zao

Here's a challenge question for you: If warm air rises, why is it colder at higher elevations? The Rogow Middle School students should be able to tell you why...

Don't just make pancakes anymore...CREATE them! Having fun with Pancake MakerBot in Schechter MakerSpace



Sixth grade students
experimented with the
PancakeBot on loan to us
from TTL. They imported an
image of a bunny to use as a
template and then used the
Pancake Painter software to
create their version.

Students then exported the file in a readable text format called GCODE that was stored on an SD card used to 3D "print" the batter onto the griddle. By using a combination of compressed air and a

vacuum, students
determined which level of
pressure was needed for
the best dispensing lines of
batter as the printer glided
over the surface of the
griddle. In the future,
students plan to
incorporate color into their
creations. Next up,
#PancakeSelfies!



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8th Grade Israel Experience!

What does a typical day look like for our students in Israel? Breakfast at the kibbutz. Tefilah on Mount Arbel in the Galilee, (Harry stepped up and read the Parsha from the Chumash so the group could enjoy the beautiful view from the mountain.) Challenging and fun hike down the mountain. Visit to the mystical city of Tzvat to learn about its history and importance, where an artist demonstrated fascinating glass blowing techniques. "Shoppertunity" in the artist area. Boogie boat ride on the Kineret. Mona Teitelbaum, our teacher chaperone, logged 8 miles on her Fitbit that day!

Each day brings new adventures, deepening friendships with other students from across the country, and stronger ties to Israel and Judaism. For even more pictures, please click here to see the posts on our Facebook page.

Yad Vashem



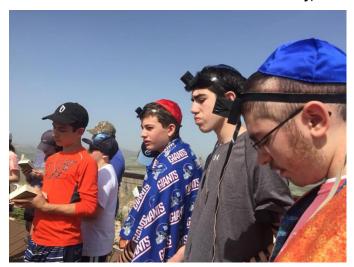


Chariot Races at Caesarea





A Visit from our Emissary, Tal!



Davening



Hiking: Golan Heights



Biking!



Only a few more days of travel!!







KINNERET CEMETERY

The first pioneers in the area were buried, coincidentally, in the northeastern corner of the Kerak. Givat Hakerak [Kerak Hill] is an archeological site of the ancient city of Beit Yerach. Thus the cemetery, used to this day for the members of Kinneret. The tombstones feature a variety of styles, and face in different directions, reflecting the turbulent periods the location has seen.

has seen.

The Kinneret Cemetery is one of the symbols of the Jewish settlement. Its ranking was the result of work by 'Landmarks' - the Heritage Division of the Prime Minister's Office, the Jordan Valley Regional Council, and the Council for Conservation of Heritage Sites in Israel.

The nearby Kinneret Courtyard (1908) portrays

The nearby Kinneret Courtyard (1908) portrays the pioneers. The cemetery, being an eternal resting place, continues to relate their unique story.

For further information, call the Kinneret Courtyard

For further information, call the Kinneret Courtyard at Tel. 04-6709117, or send an email message to h.kineret@gmail.com.

On another day, students learned about, visited and ate with members of the Druze community near Haifa. They



also



visited Jewish Ethiopian families in their homes and ate some delicious and different food. They learned about the Ethiopian community and danced and sang.









Day 9... More Delicious Food and Camel Rides!!







Ein Avdat Hike, simply beautiful!

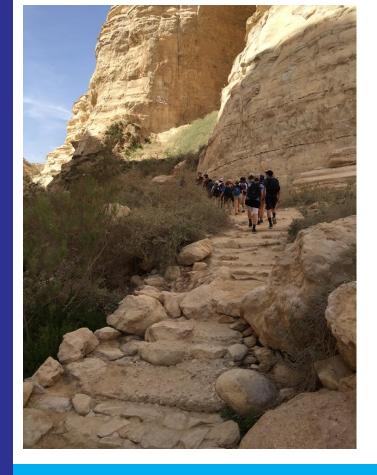








MORE next week, and their grand return home to Schechter!!!



Follow Schechter on Twitter & Facebook!!!

To keep up with all the happenings at SSDS, Follow us on Twitter <u>HERE</u> and on Facebook <u>HERE</u>

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Free and Open to the Community!



MONDAY, APRIL 16 The Impact of Schooling on the Development of the Life-long Learner

In the past two decades, dramatic advancements in neuroscience have given researchers a better understanding of how children, adolescents and adults learn. Scientists are discovering how memory works and what contributes to, or interferes with good memory function.

Two components of this research are particularly important for parents and teachers. These critical factors are: the role of emotion in learning and the impact of the school environment in developing the ideal graduate, defined as the life-long learner.

Independent schools have distinct advantages for students over the increasingly compliance-driven model that characterizes public education in the No Child Left Behind

After 46 years spent working with students and families, Dr. Lyons will share research and personal anecdotes that illustrate the influences that shape a child's journey from innocence to maturity.



Presenter: Doug Lyons, Executive Director of Connecticut Association of Independent Schools (CAIS)

TIME: 7:00 pm

Talk is free and open to the public!

RSVP:

rsvp@ssdshartford.org

SOLOMON SCHECHTER DAY SCHOOL

26 Buena Vista Road West Hartford, CT 06119 860-561-0700

www.ssds-hartford.org

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Parents: Save the Dates!

Schechter's ISRAELI DANCE FESTIVAL

In honor of Israel's 70th

Please join us for a performance by Schechter's K-8 students.

Bring your dancing shoes for the audience participation grand finale!

Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 7 pm
At the Hebrew High School of New England
300 Bloomfield Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06117



ec kicks off the celebration with their Israeli dance performance during RELISH on Friday, April 20 at 8:30 am.



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Do You Shop at Big Y??

<u>Big Y Education Express</u> is a Family Program to help local schools get FREE, much needed supplies & equipment!

Everyone can participate! Do you have children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews or even neighbors? You can support Solomon Schechter by signing up for Education Express. Click <u>HERE</u> to see more information about how to sign up and the benefits you can earn for Schechter.

Have you shopped at the Crown Lately?



Stop By the Crown Market TODAY!



Sign Up for a Season of Fresh, Local, Organic Produce!

Pickup Location: Beth David Synagogue 20 Dover Rd, West Hartford

Pickup Time: Thursdays 4:30 - 6:45pm from 6/8 - 11/9

Size: Seasonal shares like the one pictured weekly or every-other-week







Learn More and Register at whcsa.adamah.org

Celebrate our Learners!

Saturday, April 21 9:30am at Beth El

2626 Albany Avenue • West Hartford, CT bethelwesthartford.org • 860-233-9696





Celebrate our SULAM Beth El & Schechter Community during Shabbat services featuring SULAM & Schechter Learners! We will honor parents, educators, and teen madrichim.

Every child will participate. Community Lunch follows free and open to all!











SIGNATURE SPORTS

Choose your core focus.





SUMMER 2018 DATES & RATES

SESSION I

June 27 - July 9 \$2,925 SESSION II

July 11 - July 24 \$2,925 SESSION III

July 26 - August 7 \$2,925

All-Star Break (optional): 2-day/2-night adventure exclusively available for campers who enroll in consecutive sessions (dates: July 9-11 and July 24-26).

First time at a Jewish overnight camp?
Your child may be eligible for a need-blind grant of up to \$1,000 this summer!
Visit www.onehappycamper.org.

FIND OUT MORE AT RAMAHSPORTSACADEMY.ORG.

Summer

Ramah Sports Academy c/o BCC 212 1073 North Benson Road Fairfield, CT 06824 Winter

3080 Broadway New York, NY 10027 Contact 855-577-7678

Info@ramahsport.org



Celebrate Israel@ 70 Community Wide Shabbat Service and Dinner



Friday April 13, 2018

- 6:00 p.m. Mincha and Greetings followed by Evening Services
- 6:10 p.m. Candle Lighting
- 7:15 p.m. Dinner with singing and oneg in celebration of Israel's birthday and Shabbat.

at The Emanuel Synagogue 160 Mohegan Dr. West Hartford, CT 06117

Two services will be offered: a Traditional Mechitza service and an Egalitarian service.

Rabbi Yehuda Turetsky will be the after-dinner scholar

Oneg Shabbat dessert to follow the Speaker. Services and Dinner is open to the entire community.

Dinner catered by Yosi Kosher Catering under HKC Supervision

Firm reservation deadline: Friday, March 30, 2018

Some of our Event Partners: The Emanuel Synagogue, Young Israel of West Hartford, Beth El Temple,
Beth David Synagogue, Congregation Beth Israel, Hebrew High School of New England,
Solomon Schechter Day School and Bess & Paul Sigel Hebrew Academy of Greater Hartford

To reserve a table (8-10): please list the names of those to be seated with you.

Those not reserving a table will be seated with others who are attending.

Questions can be directed to Jeff Rudolph – elctstamps@comcast.net



PASSOVER SEDER

Saturday, March 31st

Join us for a Catered dinner and Passover seder led by Rabbi Bekah.

Begins at 6:00pm

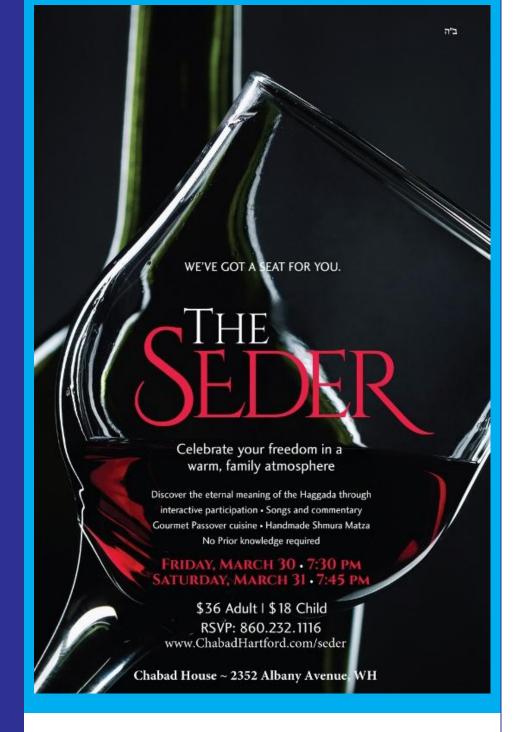
FVJC Social Hall 55 Bushy Hill Rd, Simsbury

Adults \$24 / Kids \$12 Non-member \$36/ Kids \$18

Checks can be dropped off or mailed to the office.

RSVP by March 26th https://tinyurl.com/yauq9y65

Any questions?
Mike & Moira Wertheimer
wertheimermichael7@gmail.com





Passover Food Drive

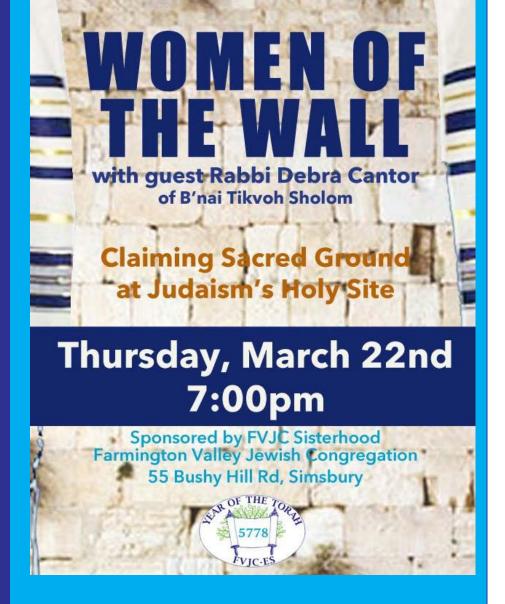


As we fill our cabinets for Pesach, lets help make sure everyone's cabinets are filled.

Purchase an extra Passover item or two and drop it into the food drive box at the Young Israel or the Crown Market to be donated to Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry.



Questions? Contact Susan Fried Jewish Family Services at sfried@jfshartford.org



Tired of Cleaning and Cooking?
Don't want to bring more Chametz into
your home?

Joinusfor

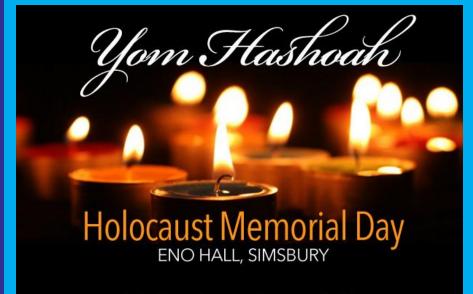
Shabbat HaGadol Kiddush Luncheon

March 24, 2018

RSVP at YounglsraelWH.org/ShabbatLuncheon by 3/20 Suggested minimum donation \$18/person and \$36/family Question? Contact Juanita Moss







Wednesday, April 11 6:50PM thru Thursday, April 12th 7:00PM

Farmington Valley Jewish Congregation - Emek Shalom will continue our annual tradition of hosting a 24 hour continuous reading of the names of victims of the Shoah in front of Eno Hall.

We would like to invite you to join us to:

STOP, LISTEN & REMEMBER

Please join our members, ask questions and stand with us as we work together to

NEVER FORGET.

We will read as many names as possible so they may

NEVER BE FORGOTTEN.

Questions or to join the reading,

sign up: https://tinyurl.com/y8wqb2mz

Contact Michael Bonchick, 860-709-4383 or email: FVJCYOMHASHOAH@GMAIL.COM





An Evening of Unity and Learning

Take a break from cooking and cleaning and join your local rabbis and educators from Greater Hartford for a night of learning as we prepare for Pesach. Come hear your rabbi and educator each deliver a brief insight into the Hagaddah. Bring a note book and go home with novel and inspirational ideas for your Seder!

Monday Night, March 26,2018

7:45 PM at Young Israel of West Hartford

(2240 Albany Ave., West Hartford, CT)

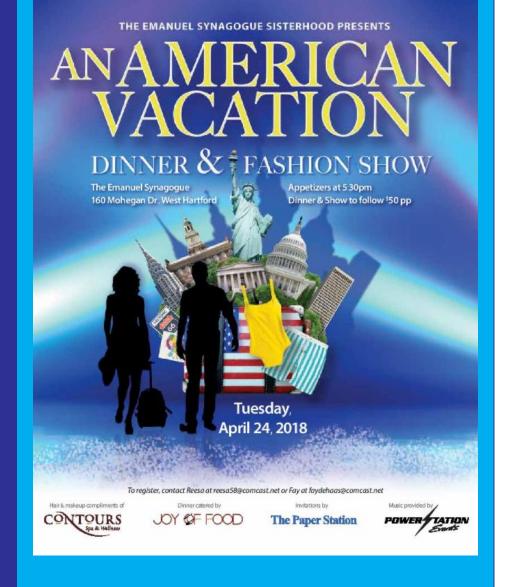
Featuring Community Rabbis and Educators...

(still in formation)

- · Rabbi Yosef Wolvovsky (Chabad of Glastonbury)
- · Rabbi Zev Silver (Hebrew Academy)
- Rabbi Mendel Samuels (Chabad of the Rabbi Jeremy Bruce (HHNE)
- · Rabbi David Fried (HHNE)
- Heather Fiedler (Federation)
- Dr. Galya Greenberg (Chai Mitzvah)
- Rabbi Shaya Gopin (Chabad of G.W.)
- Rabbi Tuvia Brander (Young Israel)



Young Israel of West Hartford · 2240 Albany Ave, West Hartford, CT 06117 (860) 233-3084 · www.youngisraelwh.org · @YoungIsraelWeHa



Dinner and Fashion Show

West Hartford - The Emanuel Synagogue Sisterhood invites you to "An American Vacation" Dinner and Fashion Show on Tuesday, April 24, 2018. Fashions for women, men and children will be provided by J.Jill and REI. The evening will begin with appetizers at 5:30, followed by a catered dinner and fashion show. As part of this event, we are giving back to the community by asking attendees to bring new baby and toddler clothing or toiletries as a donation to Jewish Family Service. This event will be held at The Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Drive, West Hartford. For more information, contact Reesa Olins at reesa58@comcast.net or Fay Dehaas at faydehaas@comcast.net.



FVJC-ES Sisterhood

Mah Jongg Tournament

CASH PRIZES!!!

Sunday, June 3, 2018 8:45am - 4:30pm

8:45..... Player Arrival, Coffee and...

9:00.....Reading of Rules

9:30.....Round 1 10:30.....Round 2

11:30.....Round 3

12:30-1:15..Catered Kosher-Style Lunch

1:15...... Round 4 2:15..... Round 5 3:15..... Round 6

4:30..... Announcement of Winners

Farmington Valley
Jewish Congregation
55 Bushy Hill Rd,
Simsbury, CT

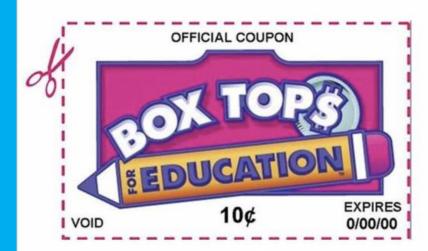


Cost: \$36

Questions?
Call Terry Cole 860-558-2587
(please also use this number in case of a problem on event day)

Registration will close on May 29th or at 100 players, whichever comes first.

Name	Email	Phone Number
YESI I have a s	et and I am happy to b	e East! *No black or vintage sets, please.
S	ave time by purchasing	your tickets for the Cash Raffle!
\$5 for 6\$	10 for 13\$20 for 30	Yesl I've added \$to my check for raffle tickets
		Sisterhood. Please send to: y 06092. Your RSVP must be received by May 29th.



Let's get clipping!

Box Tops for Education is <u>free money</u> for our school!

There are many brands that you may purchase that have this coupon on them...

Pillsbury Kleenex

Ziploc Betty Crocker

General Mills Hefty

Box Tops will be collected the **First Friday of each month!** Drop them off in any of the collection bins you
see around the school. Be sure to visit <u>www.btfe.com</u> to
sign up for additional offers, support Solomon Schechter
and even download the easy to use app!

Thanks for your support!

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Audrey Sobel and Rhiannon Van Bindsbergen, Co-Editors Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford