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### Schechter School Office Hours:

**Monday- Thursday**  
**8am -4pm**

**Friday**  
**8am- 3:30pm**

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### For Your Calendar:

**June 13**  
**Last day of classes**  
**(NOON dismissal)**

**8th grade graduation**  
**5pm**

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### Quick Links

**Shabbat Shalom**  
Parashat Shlach  
Candlelighting 8:06 pm

**June 8, 2018**  
**25 Sivan, 5778**

### EXCITING SCHECHTER FAMILY OPPORTUNITY

GENEROUS DONORS HAVE CREATED AN  
AMAZING GRANT FOR OUR CURRENT FAMILIES!

**LET'S MEET THE CHALLENGE!**

IF WE IDENTIFY AND SIGN UP

**10** NEW STUDENTS BY **AUGUST 26<sup>TH</sup>**,

THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL,

ALL **CURRENT AND NEW** STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE A  
**10%** REDUCTION IN 2018/2019 TUITION

#### DONOR REQUIREMENTS:

- For current students to be eligible for this opportunity, they MUST be registered for the 2018/2019 school year by **June 30, 2018**. As per donor guidelines, NO EXTENSIONS GRANTED.
- The 10 additional students must be NEW FAMILIES TO THE SCHOOL and submit signed contracts by August 26, 2018.
- Challenge includes all current and new students, EC2-8<sup>th</sup> graders.
- If we are successful, donors are already considering a new goal for the 2019/2020 school year.
- Questions? Come to the Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm to find your answers!

LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE THIS  
GENEROUS CHALLENGE A SUCCESS

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## MORE Gesher Torah Reading Pics



## Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford



The 2018/5778 Graduates of  
The Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford  
cordially invite you to attend their graduation

Wednesday, June 13, 2018  
30 Sivan 5778  
5:00 p.m.

Graduation will be held in the school auditorium of the  
Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford  
26 Buena Vista Road  
West Hartford, CT 06107

Graduating Class of 2018

**Brady Dulitsky**  
**Harry Gold**  
**Marley Noll**  
**Jack Resnick**  
**Michael Weiss**

ברוך דוליצקי  
צבי גולד  
עמנואל נול  
יואל רזניק  
משה וויס

Let us know if you plan to attend! RSVP to [kshakun@ssds-hartford.org](mailto:kshakun@ssds-hartford.org)

## Greetings from Lauren Eisen, New Board President

Good evening everyone. I am Lauren Eisen, incoming president of

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



### **MORE Pics of Mystery Night!**



the Schechter school board.

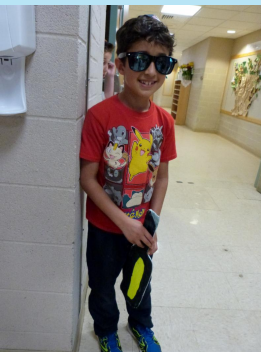
This is the time that we look back on our school year and look forward to our 2018-2019 programs. Perhaps one of the most significant changes this year was the implementation by our head of school, Andrea Kasper, of what has now become a new standard approach among many Jewish days school and was even the model of this school when it first opened--the multi age classroom. The benefits to this philosophy are multi faceted. A

strong spirit of cooperation and caring is developed within each classroom, students have more positive attitudes toward the school and themselves and at the same time become self directed as they take ownership of their learning. The most beneficial aspect of the program is that from an early age children are exposed to the real workings of society where they will be asked to collaborate with many people of all ages and talents. We look to develop leaders who understand the power of community. I would also like to thank Jessica Zachs and Sharon Kochen for all of their tremendous work in overseeing Andrea's vision and that it was able to be introduced into our curriculum this year.

My personal perspective of what a Jewish day school is has been influenced by several important factors. I am a graduate of the Kellman Academy, a Schechter School, located in Cherry Hill, NJ. My grandparents were proud to be founders of the first day school in the Camden area and later, as the school matured, my grandfather was chair of the school board. In later years, when I attended, my mother became a school board chairman. So, that would make me a 3rd generation Board president as I continue in their footsteps! I have experienced all aspects of a day school, however, I must share with you how my daughter Sari's education here has provided her with so many important tools after she left these halls. Her academic preparedness in every subject was evident and she continues to be an excellent student; she very importantly developed the deep self-confidence to be able to ask questions in order to gain a deeper understanding. She manages to maintain her Jewish identity within a larger environment including a Jewish Muslim group, started by a recent Schechter graduate, and most importantly has developed a real compassion and understanding for those who are in need. My son Jeremy is just completing his fifth grade year in the Gesher classroom. I have now seen first-hand the benefits of the new model. I am looking forward to seeing the growth as he will be entering the middle school in the new sixth-seventh grade next year.







Along with the support of the Board, one of my goals as President is to increase enrollment. We are working diligently on creating incentives for new parents. Currently, we have implemented a program sponsored by generous donors that if we sign up 10 new students by August 26th from EC2-through 8th grade that all current and new students will receive a ten percent reduction in the 2018/2019 school tuition. I would also like to increase the cohesiveness among the parent body. Along with Andrea, the Board and I will be taking a critical look at the communication between parents and staff. We will be looking to create a parent ambassador program.

My hope is for every child to leave this school with the three core values instilled within them as my daughter has in her. 1.*Chochma* (wisdom). We must continue to support Andrea as she continues to pursue the best practices for our children and challenge our children. 2.*K'lal Yisrael* (Community). We need to work to ensure that children develop a strong sense of Jewish identity and build strong ties with the Schechter community and the community at large. 3.*Lev Tov* (Kind Heart). Every student should learn to help one another and practice kindness both in the school and beyond, wherever they may be.

Together I hope we can make this school continue to flourish and grow and remain a vital part of our community. I hope to ensure the long term sustainability of our school .

From a traditional proverb: don't limit a child to your own learning, for he was born in another time.

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## 7th Grade Memorial Trip and Presentation!!

The 7th Grade had an exciting year researching, exploring, visiting and creating Memorials! "Third time's a charm" was our key phrase in finally visiting NYC to go to The Museum of Jewish Heritage and the 9/11 Memorial and Museum. The trip had been postponed twice due to weather, but it made the final visit that much more exciting!

The 7th Grade visited the Museum of Jewish Heritage and experienced "The Garden of Stones" by Andy Goldsworthy, one of their inspirations for their own Memorial. They had a guided tour with Anne, who commented, "your students are so intelligent and informed," as we discovered the different exhibits with her in the museum. The students were also able to view a new exhibit that their teacher, Ms. Van had spoken of, called **New Dimensions in Testimony**. (The following is from the Museum of Jewish Heritage's website)





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**MORE Memorial  
Project Pics!**

**New Dimensions in Testimony** is an interactive testimony installation. The first of its kind in the New York area, **New Dimensions in Testimony** allows visitors to have "virtual conversations" with Holocaust survivors Pinchas Gutter and Eva Schloss. Visitors ask questions and lifelike projections of Pinchas and Eva answer those questions in real time—offering personal reflections about life before, during, and after the Holocaust. Specialized recording and display technologies and next-generation natural language processing revolutionize



the ways we can communicate and learn from each other across time and space.

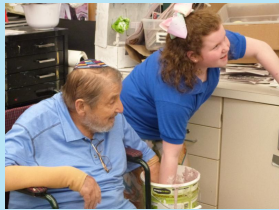
When Ms. Van attended a conference with Facing History and Ourselves conference last summer, she learned about the exhibit and described it to her students, who thought the concept was extraordinary. It was an added excitement to be able to experience it in person! This is such an important exhibit to have, since this generation will be the last to know and

interact with Holocaust survivors.

The 7th grade was profoundly affected by their visit to the 9/11 Museum and Memorial. It was fascinating to have the students ask each adult, "Do you remember where you were that day?" Every adult had an answer, because that is a day they will never forget. Students had an unguided tour through the museum, which allowed for each students to process the exhibits







at their own pace. The students had many questions, and the adult chaperones had many opportunities to engage and connect with the students to find the answers.



After the trip to NYC, the 7th grade had just a couple weeks before their big presentation of their Memorial Project held on Monday, June 4th.



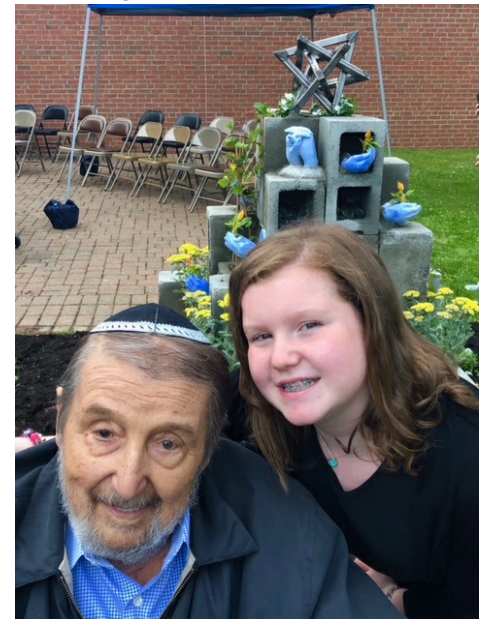
The students worked to construct the large stone structure, placing the hand castings along the concrete blocks and planting beautiful flowers in and among the hands. The contrast of the hopeful and joyous colorful flowers against the stark and somber stone structure is very impactful.

The evening of the presentation, Students **Lilian**, **Alyssa**, **Tzedkella** and **Noah** spoke.

**Alyssa** gave a heartfelt speech

about her personal connection with the Memorial Project. She stated, "For me, what represents the most impactful piece of this, is where my Poppy and I have our hands clenched together. His courage and strength is forever intertwined with me.

We represent the beauty that came after devastation, we will continue to grow, flourish and remember. The Holocaust is a legacy that I want to carry on from my grandfather and bring onto future generations so we







**Tzedkella** spoke about the design and inspiration of the students' Memorial. "The cement represents the hardship of the Holocaust: a rough and difficult material, something hard as stone. Our cement cast hands represent new generations after the Holocaust who survived and flourished. The six bricks around our memorial are there to represent the six death camps, and the six million Jews lost in the Holocaust. Our flower choices represent both Israeli and European flowers. We will also be planting daffodils in the fall that will return each year. We specifically chose the



daffodil which symbolizes Hope, Rebirth, Memory, Renewal, Awareness, Reflection, Inspiration, and Forgiveness." The evening was a beautiful presentation and conversation for

the community.





Dr. Avi Patt joined in the presentation, and Staci Rosenthal was a representative of our collaboration with Facing History and Ourselves.



Students Sharing the Memorial with Rimonim



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We were also thrilled to welcome special guest of **Derek Slap**, who helped pass the legislation for the Holocaust to be a mandatory part of education in the state of Connecticut. The power

and beauty of this memorial will bring comfort and hope to members of the Greater Hartford Jewish community for many years to come. Thanks to the 7th grade students and Ms. Van!



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**Mystery Night with Rimonim-  
The Mystery of the White House Murder**



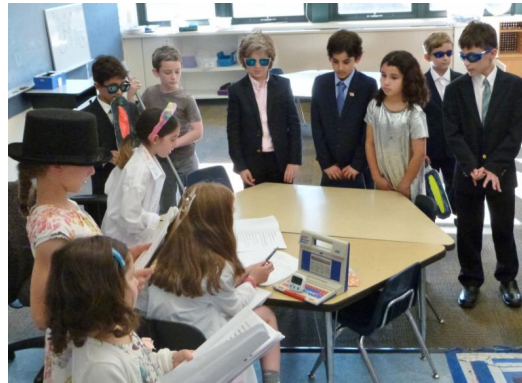
Last Wednesday, Rimomin students wrapped up their Mystery reading and writing unit by putting on a play entitled The Mystery of the White House Murder. What makes this play so special is the fact that it was created entirely by the Rimomin class, based on their knowledge of the constructs of Mysteries.

The students developed the mystery by first dissecting the class "read-aloud" book, The Bad Beginning by Lemony Snicket, and identifying the characters and the roles that they play. This knowledge was then applied in Readers'



Workshop to analyze the text and develop the concept for a play.

In Writer's Workshop, the students also planned and developed



their own individual mysteries that were edited, revised, and rewritten into final drafts and published into books. The students dissected the ways in which the clues must work together to help the reader understand a who-done-it. They also learned about

red-herrings, which are clues that are meant to throw the reader

off. The students each had one-on-one conferences with Rimomin teacher Kate Poltorak to discuss what was happening in their story and how they can add more detail, and suspense through the editing process. Student creativity flowed,



producing details and plot twists including aliens coming to steal people, big spiders in caves, and even a maid who played a mean April Fools' Day joke.



As part of their performance piece, the students had to develop:

**The Plot:** Someone is trying to kill the president, but murders someone else instead!

**The Setting:** The White House, in the West Wing

**The Characters:** Barack Obama, Tundra the Husky, Hannah and Scarlet the Tech Specialists, and Piper the Tour Guide to name a few.

Based on character studies, an important aspect of good writing that they learned this year, each student developed the personality and role of his/her character.

**The Dead Guy:** a Tourist named Dead Guy

**The Detective:** Joe Biden

**The Suspects:** Bob the Janitor and Secret Service Agent Barnie

**The Clues:** The lead pipe, the note, the silver hair, and the handkerchief with a B on it!

**The Who-Done-It:** (My lips are sealed!)



After the script was completed, students began the process of rehearsing for their performance. Students read the script aloud several times, then when the students felt comfortable with their lines (some had even memorized them!), we "blocked"

the scenes, testing out just the right position for each character to speak his/her lines. Since this was designed as an interactive performance, some of the teachers volunteered to take the place of the parents as the students rehearsed.





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## Gesher Students read from the Torah for the first time!

Gesher students have the privilege of learning Torah trope with **Nancy Rosen**, who makes the process both meaningful and fun. Watching our fifth grade students read from the torah for the first time is a significant milestone in a Schechter education. Mazal tov to Eli, Jeremy, Lily, Troy, and Alex for studying diligently and reading with both fluency and joy.





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**End of the Year Picnic Party!!**



Nothing says summer like a BBQ and fun with friends! Big thanks to the Schechter Parent Association (also known as the PA) for organizing a fantastic end of year picnic. **Leah and Larry Berson** worked the barbeque, while **Danielle Weiss, Gayle Temkin,** and **Karen Tuvin** made sure to replenish the salad and side dishes as people dug in.



While parents visited and ate, the kids had a great time on the inflatable slide and soccer field. A new favorite feature, sponsored by the Student Council, was the water blaster. They used funds raised



throughout the year in order to help support the PA in their picnic efforts. In keeping with Schechter's multiage program, and highlighting the ways in which students love interacting across grades, several student council members supervised the Blaster during the picnic, while other Middle School members helped out with the younger students on the slide and the soccer field.



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## We will be at Celebrate! West Hartford

Come visit us at the Schechter booth at Celebrate! West Hartford this Sunday afternoon beginning at 12:00 pm.

We will have our Schechter Corn Hole Toss Game (created by the Ehrlich family) and our new Schechter mini basketballs!

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## Book Fair Provides Summer Reading Adventures

Thanks to our fantastic PA for running the summer reading Book Fair! Parents and children were able to select fantastic books to read over the summer. Proceeds from the Book Fair enabled the Parent Association to fulfill many of the Teacher wishlists so that their shelves are stocked with student favorites next year. Thanks to all families who supported our Book Fair, and huge thanks to **Karen Tuvin** and **Cindy Gerber** for their dedication in running the fair, along with the following volunteers who worked shifts and helped set up and dismantle the displays: **Bethany Berger, Dominic Mendolia, Jane Resnick, and Gayle Temkin**. We are so appreciative of our parent volunteers and all that they do for the school!



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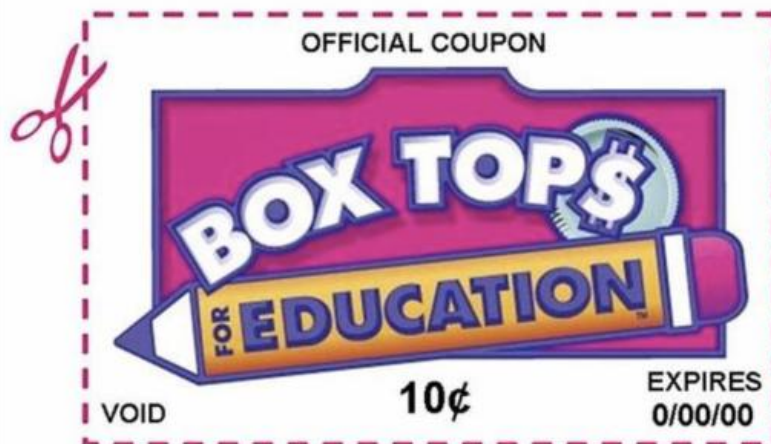
### **Reminder: Share Alumni Great News!**

The end of the year marks many milestones! If you're the parent of a Schechter alum and you have some great news to share about awards, honors, or graduations, please let us know!

The next update will go out next Friday in Mabat. All submissions must be submitted to [asobel@ssds-hartford.org](mailto:asobel@ssds-hartford.org) by Wednesday afternoon.

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**Next week is the final box tops collection ,  
so bring them in!!!**



## Let's get clipping!

Box Tops for Education is **free money** 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 [www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com) 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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## Do You Shop at Big Y??

**Big Y Education Express** 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 [HERE](#) to see more information about how to sign up and the benefits you can earn for Schechter.

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**Have you shopped at the Crown Lately?**




**Stop By the Crown Market TODAY!**


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**Household Hazardous Waste Collection  
Sunday, June 24**

This is Connecticut's only Sunday collection for household hazardous wastes. Members of the Jewish community are encouraged to spread the word so that everyone can rid their homes of potentially harmful and toxic substances.

The event will be held **June 24**, rain or shine, from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at **Hall High School**, 975 North Main St (new location!!). For more information about this important community event, please call **MDC's Hazwaste Hotline** at **(860)-278-3809**. Now is the time to gather your household hazardous waste.


**MDC Household Hazardous Waste Collection**

**Mark Your Calendars!**  
**Sunday, June 24th, 8 am – 1 pm**  
Hall High School, 975 North Main Street

| Household Hazardous Waste Accepted |                          |                           |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Alkaline Batteries                 | Acids                    | Artist's Paint            |
| Antifreeze                         | Aerosol Cans             | Brake Fluid               |
| Gasoline & Diesel                  | Ammonia                  | Cleaning Solvents         |
| Lithium Batteries                  | Drain Cleaners           | Epoxy Products & Glues    |
| Mercury Thermostats                | Disinfectants            | Kerosene & Fuel Oil       |
| Oil and Latex Paint                | Floor Care Products      | Pesticides & Insecticides |
| Paint Stripper                     | Lighter Fluid            | Mercury                   |
| Rechargeable Batteries             | Mercury Thermometers     | Mothballs                 |
| Road Flares                        | Oven Cleaners            | Polyurethane              |
| Transmission Fluid                 | Polishes                 | Pool Chemicals            |
| Turpentine                         | CFLs & Fluorescent Bulbs | Wood Preservative         |

| Unacceptable Items   |             |                 |
|----------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| All Empty Containers | Electronics | Tires           |
| Ammunition           | Explosives  | Used Oil        |
| Business Wastes*     | Medicines   | Smoke Detectors |
| Car Batteries        |             | Marine Flares   |

\*Small businesses (CESQGs) can now participate in the MDC's HazWaste Program. BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. Call the HazWaste Hotline for more info.

**Dispose of your mercury fever thermometer at this collection and receive a FREE digital thermometer while supplies last.**  
Residents of any eligible town may participate in any MDC sponsored collection day.  
**IDs will be checked to verify residency**  
For a complete list of collections & eligible towns, contact:  
**MDC HazWaste Hotline: 860-278-3809 or HHW@themdc.com**  
**www.themdc.com**

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# TWO GREAT WAYS TO SAVE ON JEWISH SUMMER CAMP



**Hartford County families:** Are you ready for the summer? Save on camp and give your child an unforgettable Jewish experience with these two amazing offers.

## 1. One Happy Camper grants for first time overnight campers



One Happy Camper provides grants of up to \$1,000 for a child attending a nonprofit, Jewish overnight camp for the first time. One Happy Camper is a program of the Foundation for Jewish Camp in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford. You can choose from over 150 camps for Jewish kids of all ages. For more information, visit [onehappycamper.org](http://onehappycamper.org) or contact Heather Fiedler at

[hfriedler@jewishhartford.org](mailto:hfriedler@jewishhartford.org) or 860.727.6121.

## 2. \$500 grants to attend Camp Laurelwood

A friend of Camp Laurelwood is offering a special \$500 incentive to attend any session of two weeks or longer this summer. The incentive applies to first time campers and anyone who did not attend Camp Laurelwood last year. Camp Laurelwood is Connecticut's premier Jewish co-ed overnight camp located in Madison, Conn. It has served Jewish families for more than 80 years. For more information, contact Heather Golub at [heather@camplaurelwood.org](mailto:heather@camplaurelwood.org) or 203.421.3736.



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SAVE THE DATE

YOUNG ISRAEL OF WEST HARTFORD ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

# SIYUM TANACH

Honoring Elisheva & Zev Davidovics

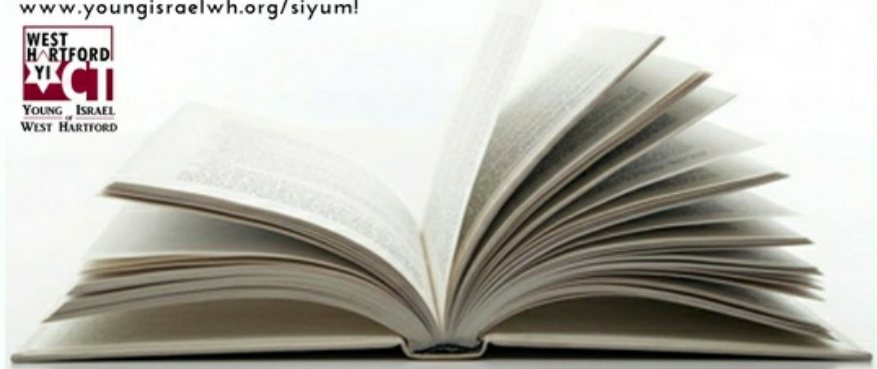
and Daniella & Rabbi Avi Robinson

SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2018

**SIYUM TANACH CAMPAIGN?** Join us as we work to study and complete the entirety of the Hebrew Bible for a communal celebration June 10!

Choose a portion to study on your own, with friends or in your family! Visit

[www.youngisraelwh.org/siyum!](http://www.youngisraelwh.org/siyum!)



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