

V'ahavta... ואהבת



"Stellar Education for Every Jewish Child"

Nov. 13, 2015 Kislev 1, 5776

- PCL Program 1
- High Holiday Appeal 2
- Boot Day 6
- Run-A-Latke Info 7
- Book Fair Info 8
- Photo Re-order Info 9
- Young Alumni Casino Night 10
- Target /Martins Reward Programs 11
- Box Tops Program 12
- Parsha 14

PCL Program Returns!

With much enthusiasm, we kicked off our 3rd season of PCL (Parent Child Learning) this past Saturday night. Over 55 children and their parents came from all parts of the community to join us for this fun, innovative approach to learning. From ice cream to raffles, there was only one way to sum it up - in the words of the children, "WOOOHOOOO!!!"

We look forward to our next PCL event this Saturday night at 7:00 pm. Remember, the event is free and open to all our friends in the Richmond community.

Thank you to *Let's Give RVA* for their very generous sponsorship of this year's PCL program!



A huge shout-out to the maestro who makes PCL such a smashing success every single time - our very own Rabbi Elliot Plotnick!

(more photos on page 4 . . .)



Candle Lighting

Friday, Nov. 13
4:42 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 14
Shabbat ends
5:45 p.m.



Saturday, Nov. 14

PCL Program
7:00 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 16

Book Fair Begins

School Picture
Re-orders Due

Art Club
3:45 - 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 17

Karate
3:45 - 4:55 p.m.

Codemonkey (gr. 5-8)
3:45 - 5:00 p.m.

Meat Order Pick up
4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at
Shaarei Torah of Richmond
4811 Patterson Avenue

Wednesday, Nov. 18

Parent-Teacher
Conferences
8:30 - 4:30 p.m.
No Classes

Thursday, Nov. 19

Chess Club
3:40 - 5:00 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 20

Last Day of Book Fair

Rudlin Torah Academy August High Holiday Appeal

Thank you for giving to the 2015 Rudlin Torah Academy August High Holiday Appeal.
Listing is for donations received through Wednesday, November 11, 2015.

Board Members

Mrs. Ellen Renee Adams
Rabbi Yosef Bart
Mr. Elliott Bender
Mr. Ben Freedlander
Mr. Brian Greene
Mrs. Helen Griffin
Dr. Amos Habib
Mrs. Rebecca Kalman-Winston
Rabbi Elliot Plotnick
Mrs. Shoshanna Shaffin
Mrs. Yael Sheldon
Rabbi Mo Sherman
Mr. Nathan Shor
Dr. Bob Weisberger
Dr. Karen Wharton

Parents

Rabbi & Mrs. Michael Aronowitz
Rabbi & Mrs. Dovid Asher
Mr. Tamir & Dr. Ronit Avni
Rabbi & Mrs. Yosef Bart
Mr. & Mrs. Elliott Bender
Mr. & Mrs. Amit Cahana
Mr. & Mrs. Yossi Ciment
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Cohen
Ms. Dana Crow
Mr. & Mrs. Roben Farzad
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Greene
Mr. & Mrs. David Gruber
Mr. & Mrs. Avi Gunzburg
Dr. & Mrs. Amos Habib
Mr. & Mrs. David Hecht
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Heffron
Dr. & Mrs. Ari Hirsch
Rabbi & Mrs. Yossel Kranz
Mr. Lee Krumbein & Dr. Susan Kornstein
Ms. Wendy Lusk

Parents (continued)

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Miller
Mr. John Minor & Dr. Leslie Cohen
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Pegalis
Rabbi & Mrs. Elliot Plotnick
Mr. Darryl Lowery & Dr. Debra Rodman
Rabbi & Mrs. Royi Shaffin
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Sheldon
Rabbi & Mrs. Mo Sherman
Mr. & Mrs. Rowee Yadin
Mr. Barton Zedd

Alumni/Students

Jennifer Adams
Rebekah Adams
Stefanie Adams
Aharon Bart
Berel Bart
Bracha Bart
Hudi Bart
Malka Bart
Nechama Bart
Shoshana Bart
Mr. Ronald Binshtok
P'nina Cantor
Mr. & Mrs. Yonatan Cantor
Jack Chumbris
Pete Chumbris
Mrs. Rebecca Kalman-Winston
Mrs. Shifra Poznanski
Benjamin Winkelmann
Ellie Winkelmann
Samantha Winkelmann

Friends

West End Pediatrics
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Ackman
Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Adolf
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Adams
Mr. & Mrs. Meir Binshtok
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Binshtok
Ms. Francine Blum
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Cantor
Rabbi & Mrs. Edward Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Ben Freedlander
Commander & Mrs. Dana Griiffin
Mr. & Mrs. William Hill
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Ipson
Mr. Ronny Ipson
Mrs. Willa Kalman
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Lessin
Mr. & Mrs. Joel Lewis
Mr. Robert Lichtenstein
Dr. & Mrs. David Lowitz
Mr. & Mrs. Victor Moes
Mr. Richard Murad
Mr. & Mrs. Richard November
Mr. & Mrs. Adam Poznanski
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Press
Ms. Susan Preville
Mrs. Toby Rosenthal
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Selznick
Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Shor
Ms. Sandra Sisisky
Ms. Olga Solomonova
Dr. & Mrs. Neil Sonenklar
Mr. Todd Weinberg & Ms. Kate Moore
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Weisinger
Mrs. Adrienne Winkelmann
Mr. Tony & Dr. Karen Wharton
Mr. & Mrs. David Winston

THANK YOU

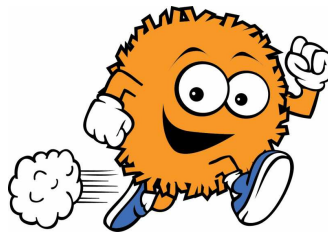
A **huge** shout-out to our volunteers who helped with taking down and storing the RTA Sukkah:



Mr. Sander Altman, Mr. Andrew Pegalis, & Stuart Altman!!

Calling all volunteers for the Run-A-Latke!

If you are available to assist with this year's Run-A-Latke at the Weinstein JCC, from 8:30 am to 12 noon on December 6th, please contact Allison Snyder - 545 8638 or asnyder@weinsteinjcc.org



Correction

In last week's issue, Izabella Bender's picture from the fifth and sixth grade Line and Pattern Paper Relief Sculpture was incorrectly included.

Here is the correct photo.



PCL Program

(... continued from page 1)



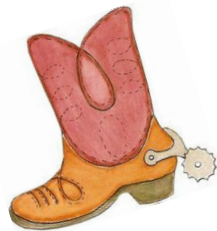
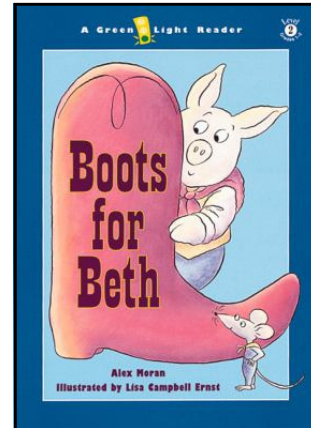
(more photos on next page ...)

PCL Program



First Grade Celebrates Boot Day

Today the first grade children in Mrs. Stansell's class enjoyed boots day. Our story of the week was "Boots for Beth". It was a fantasy about wonderful animal friends helping each other. We enjoyed making character maps of all the characters from the story.



RUN-A-LATKE

To benefit Rudlin Torah Academy and the Weinstein JCC

FAMILY FUN 5K AND ONE-MILER



Sunday, DECEMBER 6

9:30 a.m. - One-Miler

10:00 a.m. - 5K

Start and Finish at Weinstein JCC

5403 Monument Avenue

Sign up today at runsignup.com, weinsteinjcc.org or rudlin.com!



Designer Deliveries™



After the run, stick around and enjoy a post-race party with bagels, donuts, hot beverages, and of course, latkes!

Runners of all levels take part in the Run-A-Latke! Our 5K and One-Miler are also accessible to the special needs community. Volunteer buddy-runners will be available upon request. For more information contact Allison Snyder at 545-8638.

2015 RUN-A-LATKE REGISTRATION FORM

Complete and submit to the locations below or register at runsignup.com

One-Miler

\$20 By Dec. 5
\$25 Race Day

5K

Individual

\$35 By Dec. 5
\$45 Race Day

Family

(Up to 4 entrants)
\$110 By Dec. 5
\$125 Race Day

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Street: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Race Day Emergency Contact/Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (if under 18): _____

Entering: One-Miler 5K Buddy Requested (Complete a separate form for each entrant)

T-Shirt Size: S M L XL XXL

Payment Amount: \$ _____ My check is enclosed (payable to Weinstein JCC)

Charge my: Visa MasterCard AMX Exp. Date: _____

Card #: _____ Sec. Code: _____

Return to Weinstein JCC front desks or RTA office, email to asnyder@weinsteinjcc.org, or mail to: Weinstein JCC, 5403 Monument Ave., Richmond, VA 23226, Attn: Run-A-Latke

Scholastic Book Fair

November 16 - 20



The PVA is pleased to announce
the Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will
be open from November 16-20.

Each child will be given a
\$10 gift card to use at the
Scholastic Book Fair courtesy
of the Bricks Family. All the
children did a great job with
the summer reading challenge!

Thank you Bricks Family!!

There are still a handful of volunteer slots
available to man the book fair. Please email
yalicb@gmail.com to sign up.

Hours of Operation

Mon 11/16 – Tue 11/17 –
Thur 11/19

8:00am - 8:30am

11:30am - 12:30pm

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Wed 11/18 Open All Day!

Open All Day!
Parent Teacher Conferences

8:00am - 3:30pm

Fri 11/20

8:00am - 9:30am

11:00am - 12:00pm

1:30pm - 2:30pm



*Stellar Education
for Every Jewish Child*

PICTURE REORDER FORM

Photo Ops by Adrienne

**Reorders by Monday,
November 16th**



Name: _____

Individual Pictures

_____ 2 5x7's

_____ 8x10

_____ 8 wallets

Sibling Pictures

_____ 2 5x7's

_____ 8x10

_____ 8 wallets

Each sheet is \$10.00

Total amount enclosed: _____

_____ Cash

_____ Check



Saturday, November 28th
7:30pm - 10:30pm

Exclusive event for former RTA students ages 21-30.
In honor of RTA's anniversary, you and your significant
other are cordially invited to attend

RTA Alumni Casino Night!

***BLACKJACK, ROULETTE, CRAPS,
POKER, PRIZES & MORE!***

Complimentary refreshments will be served.

Please RSVP to
marlenacantor@gmail.com

Rudlin Torah Academy
3809 Patterson Avenue
Richmond, VA 23221

**Alcohol served to those 21 and over*



TARGET Target "Take Charge of Education" ID#: 16697

If you are a Target RedCard holder, you can link your card to RTA's "Take Charge of Education" program and our school will see HUGE rewards! To date, **RTA has been awarded \$3376.87** through this program – and that's with only 13 cardholders participating. Imagine how our school could benefit if even 20 additional families linked their RedCard to RTA!

To connect your account to RTA, simply go to the Target.com website, log into your RedCard account (RedCard>Manage My RedCard) and add RTA as your designated school for the "Take Charge of Education" program.



MARTIN'S A+ School Rewards Program ID# 23028

Welcome to a new year of A+ School Rewards. Beginning October 9, 2015, and running through March 17, 2016, RTA (ID# 23028) will have the opportunity to earn cash through the Martin's A+ School Rewards Program. We currently have 14 families who have linked their Martin's Bonus Card to RTA -- let's see if we can double that!

Registration is easy:

- Log on to www.giantfoodstores.com/aplus to designate our school online using your Martin's BONUSCARD,

OR

- Call the A+ Hotline at 888-448-4642 for assistance

Your participation DOES make a difference. Please go online and connect your rewards cards to RTA today!



AN EASY WAY TO EARN CASH FOR YOUR SCHOOL!

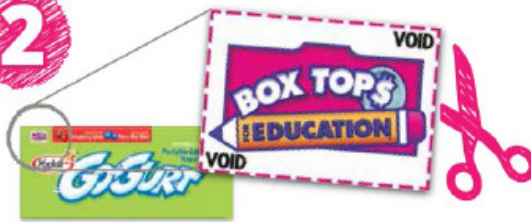
Look for the pink Box Top on hundreds of participating products. Each is worth 10¢ for your school!

1



BUY your favorite Box Tops products.

2



CUT out the Box Top from each package.

3



SEND your Box Tops to school with your child.

4



YOUR SCHOOL GETS CASH for every Box Top collected to help buy the things it needs most. All those Box Tops really add up!

Go online to www.btfe.com/products for a complete list of participating box tops products.

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Ziploc® is a registered trademark of S. C. Johnson and Son, Inc. All rights reserved.



November Box Tops for RTA!



Start clipping Box Tops today! Each one is worth 10¢ for your child's school. They add up quickly and your school can use the cash to buy whatever it needs. For more information on Box Tops for Education, including a list of participating products and how much your child's school has earned, go to BTFE.com. Thanks for your help!

- 1** Clip Box Tops.
Don't forget to check the expiration date.
- 2** Tape or glue Box Tops on this sheet.
- 3** Send completed sheet to your school.



Parsha Points

Each week we feature an article on the weekly Torah portion.

Toldos (Genesis 25:19-28:9)

To Each Their Own

In this week's Torah portion, we see that while Esav is a man of violent nature, Yaakov is very much his opposite. The Sages tell us that even in the womb, when Rebecca passed a temple of idols, Esav would be pushing to get out, and when she passed a place of Torah study, Yaakov did the same. A message to be gleaned from this Midrash - an understanding that from their very conception, Esav was pulled toward evil and Yaakov towards good.

But how can that be? Surely free will is the cornerstone of Jewish philosophy! How can these two individuals be held responsible for their actions if they were programmed in this way from day one?

The answer is a fundamental facet of life: Each of us faces different challenges. Some are born with an angry disposition. Some are born with a sensual nature. Some are born with a nature that yearns for money. Some are born lazy. For each human being the test is different. That's why we cannot compare people accurately, nor can we judge. Who are we to know the challenges with which another is faced? But Hashem, the ultimate Judge, does indeed know how capable an individual is of conquering his or her demons within...

Esav was born with a violent nature - the most striking manifestation of this was his being born with an unusually ruddy complexion. His challenge in life was to subdue this nature, to harness his passion, and channel it into bringing positive change to the world. He could use his anger in the spiritual battle against evil. Use his passion to bring others to truth. He was not forced to walk down a path of murder and debauchery. It was a path he very much chose for himself.

Our Sages do indeed point to another famous individual in our Torah who had a similar inborn, innate tendency toward spilling blood. But instead of using that trait for criminal activity and destructive violence, **he** channeled it to become a mighty warrior who fought the battles of Hashem – vanquishing the enemies of the Jewish people time and time again. He was one of the greatest leaders the Jewish people ever knew.....King David.

And Esav could have made the very same choice for himself.

But what of Yaakov? If he was inclined to goodness and spirituality from the very outset - what was *his* test?

Yaakov's test was much more subtle in nature. The challenge of the genius is whether he or she will push to the fullest potential, or be satisfied with being just one step ahead of the crowd. It is fascinating to ponder, when one sees individuals of great stature who

were brought up in a strong spiritual environment – would they have been the same with a less sheltered, protected upbringing? And oftentimes we don't realize how much work a righteous individual performs in order to exceed the level at which they were educated and trained. Greatness lies not in where you get, but in how far you come. The destination doesn't matter as much as the journey.

To become a righteous person - after having that nature from birth and being brought up in Isaac's holy home - was no great challenge for Yaakov. The question was whether he was going to become **more** than that. Would he going to strive for greatness instead of just goodness? Yaakov could have settled for mediocrity in the same way as his brother settled for immorality. And had he done so, his mistake would have been similar to Esav's!

But Yaakov chose differently – he took the hand he was dealt, his G-d given gifts and his righteous upbringing, to become unimaginable greater than when he started! He was not content to rest on his laurels as the son of Yitzchak and the grandson of Avraham. He consistently worked on himself and grew spiritually, to become not only the third patriarch – Yaakov Avinu - but the “choicest” of them all.

Life is a ladder. Some of us start on a low rung, some much higher. But in the end, what G-d looks at is how much we climb during our years in this world.

Adapted with permission from the award winning website, www.aish.com



THE FIFE-DAVIS FAMILY ANNUAL JEWISH BOOK FAIR & GIFT SHOP



Sponsored by Sandy Sisisky

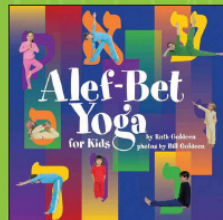
November 5 - 15 at the Weinstein JCC

A Day of Family Wellness Sunday, November 15 • 1-4PM

Get healthy and have fun together at this first-ever Book Fair family event!

From 1-2PM, Ruth and Bill Goldeen, authors of *Alef-Bet Yoga*, will be with us to talk about their book and lead a family yoga demo. Delicious snacks will be provided by Relay Foods and the family fun goes on from there!

- Art
- Music
- Dance
- More!



- Demos of Zumba and Balance classes for families to try together
- Drama games by JFT Jr.
- Recyclable arts and crafts
- Storytime in the Garden
- Make your own granola station
- Chair massages
- Blood pressure checks



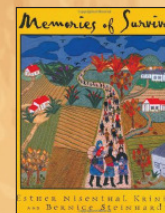
Presented in Partnership with Relay Foods

Alef-Bet Yoga Event from 1-2PM: \$5 children 12 and under/\$8 adults/\$25 family maximum for Weinstein JCC members; Non-members: \$7 kids 12 and under/\$10 adults/\$30 family max. Activities from 2-4PM are free for everyone.

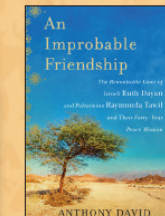
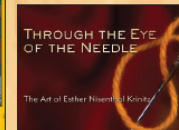
This year's Book Fair features these acclaimed books, films and authors:



ART & REMEMBRANCE



Memories of Survival
Through the Eye of the Needle
November 5 at 7PM



Anthony David
November 9
12:30PM

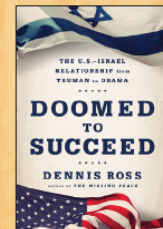


Dafna Michaelson Jenet
November 11
11:30AM

Tess Gerritsen
November 10
11:00AM



Ambassador Dennis Ross
November 12
7PM



We're celebrating 40 years of Book Fair & Gift Shop! From modern art to jewelry, toys and more, you'll find something for everyone on your holiday gift-giving list.

Gift Shop

AT THE WEINSTEIN JCC



For event tickets, details, and Gift Shop hours, visit weinsteinjcc.org or call 545.8608.