



A TRI-STATE AREA DAY SCHOOL
FOR STUDENTS GRADES 6-12

JACK M. BARRACK HEBREW ACADEMY

272 S. Bryn Mawr Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Barrack Hebrew Academy Celebrates Tel Aviv's 100th Anniversary and Israel Independence Day on Wednesday, April 29 *Migdalei Tel Aviv Youth Band Highlights Festivities* *Tel Aviv is Philadelphia's Sister City*

Bryn Mawr, PA (April 20, 2009): Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy will celebrate Israel Independence Day on Wednesday, April 29 with day-long celebrations focusing on the 100th Anniversary of Tel Aviv, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania's sister city.

Israeli Consul General Daniel Kutner and Leonard Barrack, President of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, will join other area dignitaries to launch festivities. Students from the Saligman Middle School in Elkins Park and the Kellman Brown Academy in Cherry Hill and Barrack students, faculty, administration and staff will participate in a wide array of events highlighted by special performances by Tel Aviv's youth band, *Migdalei Tel Aviv*. Twenty-four band members, brought to Philadelphia by Barrack Hebrew Academy and the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia and hosted by Barrack families, will tour the Philadelphia region, climaxing their performances at Barrack Hebrew Academy.

A special prayer service will begin the day, followed by an Israeli breakfast in an ersatz Tel Aviv cafe and a brief assembly outlining the day's programs. Events include: shopping at a replica of Shuk Nachalat Binyamin, Tel Aviv's famous marketplace; Krav Maga (Israeli martial arts) demonstrations; lively Israeli dancing; Israeli films; soccer matches; and lunch on the beaches of Tel Aviv.

"The day's events and activities were all planned and will be implemented by members of our Israel Club," reports Eli Philip, Club President. "The entire school will be decorated Tel Aviv style. In fact, the campus outside the dining hall will be transformed into a beach motif, replicating the famous beachfronts of Tel Aviv." -More-

Page 2- Barrack Celebrates Israel Independence Day with Salute to Tel Aviv's Centennial

"The school-wide celebration is sponsored by grants from the Avi Chai Foundation, Israel's Jewish Agency, and the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia," reports Oded Philip, Barrack faculty member and Israel Club advisor.

"Our students forge strong bonds with Israel throughout the year," states Dr. Steven M. Brown, Head of School, "learning Hebrew and Israeli history and culture in class and studying in Israel during their junior year. This special tribute to Tel Aviv and Israel's Independence presented by our Israel Club is representative of the excellent programs club members present each semester."

Tel Aviv was founded on April 11, 1909 on the Mediterranean sand dunes north of the port of Jaffa. Its name, which it took later, means "Hill of Spring" and is drawn from the writings of Theodor Herzl. The founders built theaters, museums, promenades and universities. Today, 61 years after Israel was declared a state, Tel Aviv is now a high-tech and financial capital of 400,000 people.

A schedule of April 29th events follows:

8:20-9:10 AM Prayer service: Orthodox minyan with band performance in Dining Commons, OR Egalitarian minyan with music on the porch above Dining Commons

9:10-9:40 Bet Café: Tel Aviv-style café in Dining Commons

9:45-10:30 Independence Day assembly in the Auditorium

10:30-11:00 Break and shopping in Tel Aviv's famous marketplace, Shuk Nachalat Binyamin

11:00-12:30 Krav Maga (Israeli martial arts); Israeli dancing; Israeli films and more

12:30-1:30 Lunch on the beaches of Tel Aviv

1:45-2:30 Migdalei Tel Aviv Band performance in Auditorium

Barrack Hebrew Academy provides a dynamic dual curriculum of college preparatory and Jewish studies to students in grades 6-12. The only pluralistic, co-educational day school in the tri-state area, Barrack welcomes students from every spectrum of Jewish observance and life. For information, contact Vivian Young, Director of Recruitment and Admission: 610-922-2350 or vyoung@jbha.org.

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