

The Cougar Chroni-quill

Purim 2024

JACK M. BARRACK YESHIVA ACADEMY

Volume XXXIV Edition IV

Staff Personality Counterparts

Claire Englander, Staff Writer



Rabbi Lesack



Penguin



Mr. Dorsch



Panda



Mrs. Trajtenberg



Tiger



Benaya



Golden Retriever



Mr. Silver



Fish



Mrs. Farrell



Hawk



Mrs. Strick



Dolphin



Angela



Hummingbird



Rabbi Lev



Rabbit



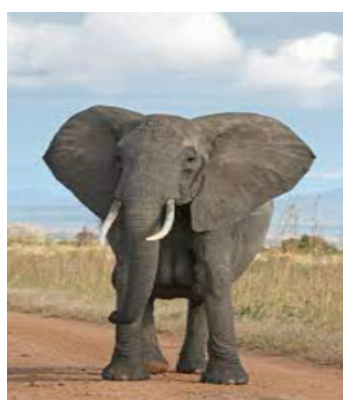
Mrs. Scheinmann



Peacock



Mrs. Yontef



Elephant



Mrs. Grolnick



Dove

THE REAL REASON BEHIND THE ROOM 206 RENOVATIONS

MIKAELA GARBER, MANAGING EDITOR

WHILE AUTHORITIES CLAIM THAT ROOM 206 WAS RENOVATED TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE STEAM DEPARTMENT, EXPERTS KNOWLEDGEABLE WITH THE CASE BELIEVE OTHERWISE. INVESTIGATIONS BEGAN NOT LONG AFTER THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR, FOLLOWING ALLEGATIONS THAT THE RENOVATION MIGHT NOT BE ALL THAT IT ORIGINALLY SEEMED.

THE DECISION TO RENOVATE ROOM 206 SHOCKED MANY BARRACK CITIZENS AND SPARKED SCHOOL-WIDE OUTRAGE AT THE SITUATION. CRITICS CLAIM THAT THIS RENOVATION IS A RESULT OF UNDERLYING PREJUDICE AGAINST THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT. THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT HAD ALREADY BEEN DEALT DEVASTATING BLOWS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS, MAINLY THE STEAM DEPARTMENT, GIVEN JOINT CUSTODY OVER THE ROOM THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY ENTIRELY OWNED BY THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT. FURTHERMORE, CRITICS CITE AN UPTICK IN DISPLACEMENT FOR MANY CRUCIAL CLUBS THAT ONCE CALLED 206 THEIR HOME. AGAINST ALL ODDS, THE CLUBS HAVE PERSEVERED AND REBUILT. HOWEVER, THE RENOVATION HAS LEFT A HOLE IN THEIR HEART THAT CAN'T BE PATCHED UP BY ANY OF THE SHINY STEAM MACHINES.

AFTER SHOCKING PHOTOS OF THE SECRETIVE MISSION WERE RELEASED DURING THE SUMMER, AN ANONYMOUS COUGAR CHRONICLE READER SENT AN ENVELOPE WITH A LETTER OUTLINING SUSPICIONS OF SOMETHING FISHY GOING ON. THE CASE WAS OPENED NOT LONG AFTER.

WHILE THE EVIDENCE IS STILL PENDING OFFICIAL REVIEW, CHRON-

ICLE WRITERS HAVE SPOKEN TO DETECTIVES WHO HAVE FOUND TANGIBLE PROOF THAT THE DECISION TO RENOVATE WAS, IN FACT, ROOTED IN BIAS AND GREED. DETECTIVES INTERVIEWED WITNESSES WHO CLAIMED THAT THE STEAM DEPARTMENT CALLED A SECRETIVE MEETING WITH ALL OF THE

DEPARTMENTS, EXCLUDING THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT. AFTER SOME NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENTS, STEAM OFFICIALS ALLEGEDLY STRUCK A DEAL WITH THE OTHER TEACHERS. THE AGREEMENT, SEEN BY A CHRONICLE INVESTIGATOR, STATED THAT THE STEAM DEPARTMENT WILL PROVIDE MONEY, 3D PRINTED ITEMS, AND OFFERS TO TAKE OVER LUNCH DUTY OVER THE COURSE OF THE COMING FIVE YEARS. FURTHERMORE, THE STEAM DEPARTMENT PLEDGED THAT THE HIGHLY COVETED “SPIN-



NY CHAIRS” WOULD BE TRANSPORTED TO THE LITTLE-KNOWN TEACHERS’ LOUNGE IN THE FAR UPPER SCHOOL STAIRWELL. THIS PROMISE CAME WITH A SIMILAR GUARANTEE AS THE REST OF THE AGREEMENT – SPINNY CHAIRS IN THE LOUNGE FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, WITH THE STEAM DEPARTMENT REQUIRED TO TAKE MONEY OUT OF THEIR BUDGET TO REPAIR THE CHAIRS SHOULD THEY BREAK OR GET RUN DOWN. THIS WAS IN RETURN FOR A RENOVATION THAT STEAM OFFICIALS CLAIMED WOULD HAVE “NO NEGATIVE IMPACT” ON THE OTHER DEPARTMENTS. NOTABLY, THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT DID NOT FIND OUT ABOUT THIS AGREEMENT UNTIL THEY RECEIVED THE EVICTION NOTICE IN LATE JUNE. REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE STEAM DEPARTMENT DECLINED TO COMMENT.

Sudoku

5		1	9				6	
6	2			3			7	
						8		
	3		4		5	6		
2								
	4	8	2	7				
3							9	
				9				7
7			1					3

Cougar Connections

Connections is a New York Times game which gives you unsorted 16 words to sort into four categories of four. The answers are on the last page - only check when you're sure it's done, or get a friend to check for you so it doesn't get spoiled and you can try again!

RADIO	TRIAL	SMILE	NOISE
BIT	WHISTLE	STYLE	LIE
AISLE	MOUTH	GROGGER	QUIP
GAG	ELEPHANT	COLLAR	JEST

Running Late: Your Average Student's Morning

Rachel Loeb, Editor-in-Chief

RING. RING. RING.

I check the time - 7:50. That's precisely 35 minutes after I was supposed to wake up. Having gone through half a year of school already, my morning routine had become a precise science. Wake up at 7:15, stay in bed for 10 additional minutes, shower in 10, get dressed in 2, brush my teeth in 2, eat breakfast in 5 and leave the door with my lunch in 5. According to this very specific schedule, I should arrive at school around 8:05.

On this day, however, my plans were ruined after I stayed up later than usual, under the pretense of reading the history homework, which of course, required hours of television beforehand to muster up motivation.

As I saw and processed the time, all my grogginess disappeared. In a burst, I

rushed out of bed. This entire process, which typically took 32 minutes, was reduced to 5, albeit without a shower. I entered my car and took off almost immediately. The ETA - 8:16.

3 unexcused absences, means 1 detention, and I really didn't want to spend my lunch there. With my windshield wipers swinging back and forth at the second-highest setting, I embarked on my journey. Of course, with my luck, the roads had moderate traffic. I did not let that deter me as I fought against the ETA. With a quick shortcut, I cut the time down by a minute. However, despite my best efforts, as minutes passed, my fate became inevitable.

I pulled into the Barrack lot at 8:14. On the ride to school, I worried that the senior lot would be full, but fortunately, that was not the

case. I quickly parked and rushed to the front entrance. I was so committed to coming in on time that I cut through the muddy grass instead of staying on the sidewalk. By this time, it was already 8:15.

With my swipecard deep inside my bag, my classic strategy for entering school is matching my pace to classmates around me, and as we arrive at the same time, they open the door instead. However, since I was entering late, this meant that I had to take independent action and open the door myself. Taking out the swipecard unfortunately cost me 1 more minute.

I still didn't lose hope. From my experience, as long as you are only 1 minute late, and the RUVNA scanner is still there, you're good to go! However, I could see, as I walked through the door,

Trajt walking away, with the RUVNA scanner, taking my hopes away with her.

This brought me to my last resort. If unexcused absences lead to detentions, I could try to turn this around by being excused! With that in mind, I called my parents. Call after call, my parents refused to pick up.

I begrudgingly walked to Ms. Underwood's desk and filled out the late arrival form. All of my efforts were for naught, and I was marked unexcused and later that week I was sentenced to a lunch detention. However, as I sat there, in room 1102, I reflected and realized how close to on time I was. This moment was pivotal, and prompted me to begin cutting back my morning routine more and more, trying to challenge myself to make it on time.

The World's Biggest Questions Answered

Mira Eisenstein, Staff Writer

While philosophers for thousands of years, have pondered some of life's biggest questions, after some careful consideration and extensive research the Chronicle has come up with potential answers. For the first time ever we are prepared to answer questions that were previously deemed unanswerable. The

following are in depth, comprehensive answers:

1. What comes after death?

Continued on page 13.

CONFIDENTIAL: TOP HOMEWORK EXCUSES

Rachel Loeb and Mikaela Garber, Executive Editors

Whether or not people approve of it, excuses are a core part of the student experience. So, the Cougar Chronicle staff brainstormed some award-winning ideas that can help you get out of any situation, using the following criteria: how believable it is, how reusable it is, how long the excuse will last, how embarrassing it is to share, and how many follow up questions it will prompt. In no particular order, here are our top three excuses:

My technology stopped working (fill in appropriate piece of technology here):

This is relatively believable, depending on the context, and can last some time, although at some point the teacher will expect you to find some way to do the work without the technology. However, your

teacher may expect you to find another way to do your work, either by utilizing the library printer if yours “wasn’t working” or borrowing a chromebook while the tech office fixes your laptop. So, while it may get you out of work in the short-term, there are so many ways that you could be caught in the act. And, of course, it’s not very reusable, because your technology isn’t likely to break multiple times.

I got sick:

The good news about this one is that teachers can’t do much to argue with you about it. If you were sick, you were sick. And, you can gain some sympathy from teachers which could lead to the assignment being excused altogether. However, this sympathy can also go wayward super quickly; Barrack teachers be-

ing as nice as they are will likely ask questions about how you are doing. A major drawback for this one is that your appearance in school that day is could be interpreted as suspicious, raising some questioning eyebrows. Again, if you were really so sick that you couldn’t do the work, you probably shouldn’t be in school. The other issue with this one is that in the event that you actually get sick, your excuse doesn’t hold as much validity.

I thought it was in my bag:

This is one of our favorites, because it doesn’t require much convincing and there’s not much they can argue with it. You don’t have to make up a story, but it does put the blame on you. However, this excuse is not very believable, especially the more you use it. You also have to make

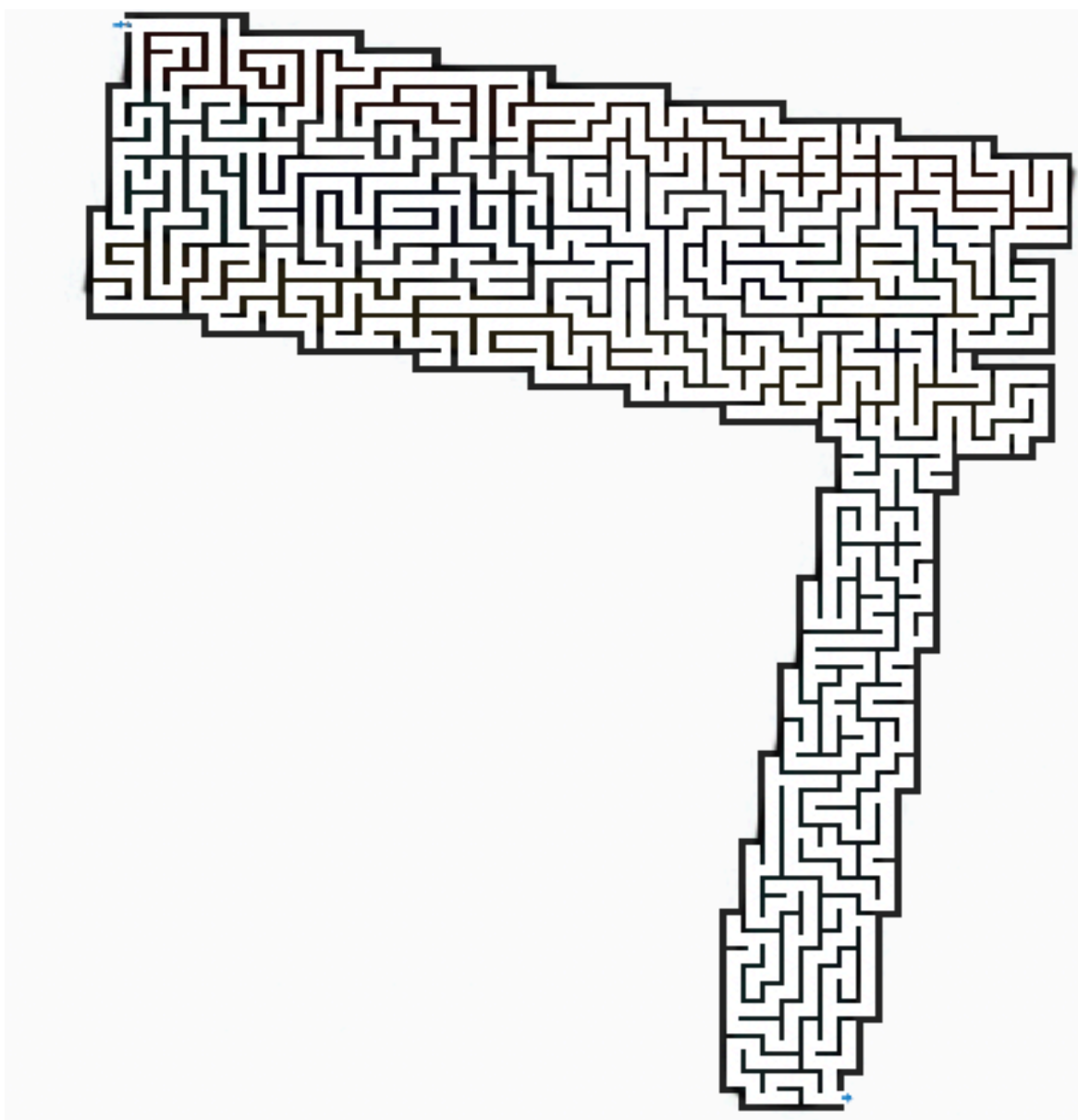
sure that while you’re ruffling through your backpack pretending to look for it, you don’t accidentally reveal your blank worksheet.

Honorable mention: It wasn’t on canvas

This one is a classic, but it only really works if the teacher actually didn’t put it on canvas, otherwise you look dumb.

Of course, this assumes that the teacher actually asked for your homework. In many cases, we would recommend our favorite choice: don’t bring it up. Don’t mention the homework; don’t ask questions about the homework; don’t seem surprised when someone mentions something they learned while doing the homework.

Grogger Maze



Barrack Relocates to New Location

Addison Smith, Israel Editor

DID YOU HEAR THE BIG NEWS!????!! You didn't!!!! Well, I'm here to tell you! After long disputes with the building managers, financial issues, and dealing with angry parents, the leadership of Jack Barrack Hebrew Academy of Bryn Mawr Pennsylvania, led by Rabbi Lesack (Head of School) has decided, with a heavy heart, to withdraw Barrack from its Bryn Mawr campus and relocate to a safer, bigger, and more cost-effective campus in Casper, Wyoming. I know that this may come as a shock to you, it took me a while to accept it but after hearing Rabbi Lesack's perspective it really seems like the best option for the Barrack Kehillah. Because of this change and the assumption that people aren't willing to move, the board has decided to turn the Bryn Mawr campus into an airport. This airport although small would be open to the public as a closer and more approachable airport to the people on the main line. As of now Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy in Bryn Mawr will be known as the BMA Airport, the new Southwest hub. And Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy in Casper Wyoming will be JBHAW.

Because of this change, there will be a new Barrack schedule, school will start promptly at 9:15 AM. Now you may be wondering if I'm not moving then how will I get to school by 9:15 AM five days a week? Well, it's simple, like you

do every morning you will arrive at the Bryn Mawr campus at your current and there will be 2-3 flights that leave every weekday from 7:50-8:15 AM, and those are essentially your school buses of the sky. And don't worry if you're a little late there will be a late flight leaving at 8:30 - 8:45 AM. This campus will be state of the art, there will be track, softball, baseball, and soccer fields, basketball, tennis, and pickleball courts, and there will even be an Olympic-sized pool and a football field. Classrooms with opening windows and heat and air controls, and a cafeteria with different restaurants like Chick-fil-A, sushi, playa bowls, etc. And because there is a good amount of travel involved and sports, play practice, and more, there will also be state of the art sleeping accommodations for those late nights at school. These will provide meals, toiletries, towels, running water and more!

Originally the board was concerned about this idea for many reasons: they thought it was ridiculous, way too much money to work, and overall they questioned why Rabbi Lesack would suggest such a thing. But with determination and with much persistence the board agreed to fund the Wyoming project. Seeing the many many benefits this change will bring to our community. The students at Barrack deserve the best and what other way to achieve the best

than in Casper, Wyoming!!

To test the facilities, travel, accommodations, and more, the board picked students and teachers from each grade and specialty to see how they liked the school, travel facilities, and everything else. "I loved it! The gym is perfect!" exclaimed a 6th-grade student. "I'm so upset I won't be able to love where I learn in Wyoming." lamented a 12th grader. "These are the best STEAM facilities I've ever seen! They're much better than what we have in Bryn Mawr!" remarked Mr. Shmia. "The classrooms are state of the art, you're transported the second you step into the classroom!" added Dr. Ziskind. "I had the best time! I can't wait for school to be here!" exclaimed an 8th-grade student. "The travel was easy, they even give you challah bites on the flight! Can't wait to do this every day!" said an 11th grader. "This school makes me not want to go on muss!" stated a rising 11th grader. "I love it here! These math facilities are like a 90 degree angle!" praised Mrs. Rasmussen. With all of these positive reactions, there's no reason why Barrack would stay on the Main Line. With so much more space we will finally be able to have the best of everything! With the new campus already built, we'll have students there in the fall. See you in Casper, Wyoming!

Flynn's Transition From Judaism to Buddhism

Micah Friedman, Staff Writer

Faith and spirituality often form a complex and deep personal narrative for young students. This is the case for Flynn Goldstein, an avid member of Mehitza Minyan whose journey from a follower of Judaism to a committed practitioner of Buddhism is a testament to the power of his spiritual journey. This is the story of Flynn's path from the synagogue, as he discovered profound truths and inner peace within the teachings of Buddhism.

Barrack freshman Flynn Goldstein began as a devoted young Jewish student, and his elementary years were filled with practices of his faith. The Mehitza Minyan was not just a place of worship but a second home, and the celebrations were moments of joy within his community.

Following his Bar Mitzvah, as Flynn began to develop into a young man, he found himself asking questions about the nature of existence, God and beliefs. Despite the comfort and familiarity of his Jewish identity, a sense of restlessness began to grow within him. His quest for meaning led him to explore diverse philosophical and spiritual traditions,

seeking answers to the questions that resonated inside of him.

It was during this period of introspection that Flynn discovered Twan his mentor. Drawn to his teachings Flynn resonated with the simplicity and depth of the Buddha's insights. The practices of meditation and mindfulness offered Flynn a new lens where he could view the world in his own way.

Flynn's transition from Judaism to Buddhism brought many challenges. Breaking away from the religious and cultural ties that had defined his identity for so long required courage and an open mind. However, Flynn's exploration was not a demonstration of rebellion from his roots but only a broadening of his spirituality.

As Flynn began to practice Buddhist philosophy and meditation, he started to experience a profound shift in his perception of life. The teachings of meditation and interconnectedness stuck with him, offering a perspective that resonated with him much more than Judaism had. His newfound sense of in-

ner peace and compassion became guiding principles in his daily life.



ner peace and compassion became guiding principles in his daily life.

Flynn's journey is a reminder that spirituality is a personal identity, and the destination may vary for each person. Flynn's story encourages a celebration of diversity. Flynn did not abandon Judaism, rather, he integrated the wisdom he gained from Buddhism into his own spirituality.

March 22, 2024 • 12 Adar II 5874
Mikaela Garber, Managing Editor

JACK M. BARRACK HEBREW ACADEMY

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Dear Upper School Families,

After months of discussion, we have successfully implemented our new grading system, and we can see the changes already! Our students are visibly less stressed now that they don't have to worry about getting a 100% in every class. The "Barrack B" has already been forgotten, as students go from class to class with the desire to learn, rather than get a good grade. On an administrative level, teachers are able to focus more on creating an interactive and interesting curriculum now that they don't have to grade assignments! We are seeing more students join clubs and afterschool sports teams, so much so that students now seem motivated to try their hardest to impress their coaches and receive leadership in clubs! Kol Ha'kavod to our entire student body, along with our dedicated teachers and staff, for working tirelessly to promote wellbeing in our Kehillah!

In the world of co-curricular activities, we received word this week that our esteemed "Lettuce Eating Club" has advanced to regionals. They have worked tirelessly to train and prepare for the competition, and we couldn't be more proud of them! We wish them the best of luck in the coming competition! Details regarding transportation to and from the event for supporters are forthcoming.

Tuesday brought an exciting Batei Barrack activity, sponsored by the Student Association! The Houses of Barrack program, not to be confused with the Harry Potter houses, feature four distinct houses connected to our Derech Eretz values. Unlike Harry Potter, students are randomly placed in houses rather than selected based on their attributes, adding extra adventure and bonding between students of different personalities. Students from all four houses participated in friendly competition this week. We want to give a shoutout to our Black Bears (who sport red lanyards), who won after an incredible plot-twist; the Golden Lions were in the lead until they took their founding value, courage (בל קמוּא), a little too far, causing three injuries. Thankfully, Madam Pomfrey, I mean Maria, patched them right up, and the friendly games concluded without another hitch. Points were awarded to the Black Bears, who won bragging rights for their victory.

A few reminders about forthcoming events and deadlines:

We are asking all parents and students who have not yet read and signed the Barrack Community Handbook to please do so in the next week, as it was due months ago. The Handbook is the cornerstone of everything we do at Barrack and is consistently referenced. Your signature clarifies that you are committed to upholding and supporting the Derech Eretz values. It also shows your devotion to getting paperwork in on time.

Thursday, April 4 will be our next special lunch day! Our featured lunch will be pizza, fruit, and a special treat! Please note: special lunch days are not included in the Nana's Kitchen lunch program and must be ordered separately. This amazing lunch can be ordered using [this form](#) for only \$19.99. We are aware that this is an increase in price but is necessary due to radical inflation. However, if your child comes at the end of lunch, they are likely to get the entire lunch for free.

The following week is shortened, but will be filled with friendship and learning! A reminder that there is no school on Monday, March 25, for Purim Katan, and a 9:30 late opening on Tuesday, March 26, to account for everyone to return from their weekend vacations. Tuesday will be our most rigorous work day, and we expect all students to come ready to learn. Since Wednesday, March 27 is hump day and one of the worst days of the week, school will be closed. Unfortunately, many teachers have requested off on Thursday, March 28, and we don't have enough substitutes for all of our classes. Therefore, we will have a half-virtual day, with google meet links sent to each grade, with one teacher instructing the entire grade, rather than individual classes. Finally, Barrack will be closed on Friday, March 29 due to a shortage of ingredients for Shabbos Shmooze.

Wishing all of our upper school families a Happy Purim and Shabbat Shalom,
"Barrack Administration"

www.jbha.org

הליהק-Solitude | דסה-Malice | בל קמוּא-Cowardice | דובכ-Dishonor

Teacher Doppelgangers

Marigold Warmund, Staff Writer



JLaw



Flounder



Mr. Stroker



Major Francis Monogram



Rabbi Rosenberg



Olaf



Mr. Dana



Timmy Turner



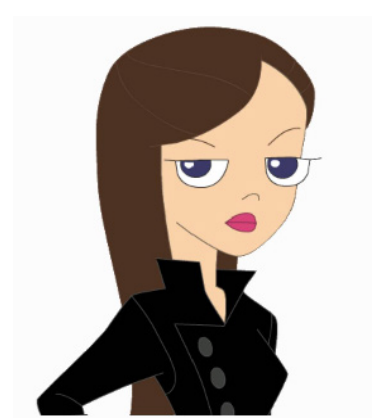
Rabbi Zinkow



Jack Kelsen



Ms. Yablon



Vanessa



Ms. Miller



Edna Mode



Mr. Shmia



Kevin

Daily Thoughts of a Student Before Break Mad Lib

Claire Englander, Staff Writer

Finally, I'm at school; there was so much traffic (aka I had to stop for _____(type of drink) to prepare me for my test today). It's only _____(time) though, so I hope Mrs. Underwood gives me a _____(noun). What do I have first? Oh, no! _____(teacher) hates it when I'm late. I wonder what sale is happening today, let me check my email. Yesssssss, it's a _____(type

of food) sale. I'm pretty sure I have two _____(plural noun) in my backpack and if not I'll have to ask my friend if they can pay for it and then I'll pay them back, well maybe. Later... "If you have lost a _____(noun) please come to Mrs. Underwood's desk. I repeat if anyone has lost a _____(same noun) please come to Mrs. Underwood's desk." Haha, _____(friend name) lost that, so

now they have to hike all the way down to Mrs. Underwoods and back to the _____(number) floor. Oh my goodness, how long until lunch? I'm so _____(adjective). Let me have some _____(noun) to hold me off until... wait what period is it? Second? that cannot be right it feels like I've been here at least 8 hours already!!

The Funnest Place on Earth

Isaac Dahan, Staff Writer

In a shocking new development, the Barrack SA has announced that it will be introducing a new system of "Fast Passes," echoing a similar system at Disneyland. Under this new system, students will be able to pay for passes to use exclusive hallways and lines to maneuver around the school in order to raise money for this year's Prom, which is currently struggling to get enough funding. These passes will include hallways to go to and from classes, shorter lines

SA has announced that it will be introducing a new system of "Fast Passes"

for bathrooms, first choice of seating in the classroom and at assemblies, and the ability to go to WaWa at breaks, which will now be prohibited for all non-pass holders. Furthermore, pass-holders will receive a discount on all Barrack-based stores such as: the vending machines. However, to increase demand for these passes and raise more money, the SA has also decided to decommission all bathrooms in the school except for the ones on the main level and create two lines for each: one fast piss and one regular goer. This decision, predictably enough, has been met with extreme backlash from the student body. In a recent Chronicle interview with a student who wishes to remain anonymous, the student had said, "I am outraged by the decision of the SA to try to monetize bathrooms! I mean, yeah, my daddy's rich and could probably pay for it, but the principle still stands." This student's sentiments are not his alone though, as there are reports of statements like "fascist," "greedy," and

"who gave the SA this much power" being thrown around to describe this decision. There has also been blame being pointed at other members of the Barrack administration, such as the Board, Rabbi Lesack, and, strangely enough, Mrs. Trajtenberg, who has a history of being blamed for things that aren't her fault. In a response from the SA president, Haley Zabusky, she went on record to say, "This was a necessary decision to ensure that there is, in fact, a Prom this year. We are sorry for all those inconvenienced by this new system, but yours is

a necessary sacrifice for the sake of the school and actually having a Prom." In a concurring opinion, Edan Held, SA Treasurer, has claimed that this system will be better for Barrack's future, as it will not only raise money for school trips but also



ensure that students will no longer be able to use the bathroom as an excuse to get out of class and make it no longer feasible to run in the hallways due to crowdings. After being asked about how students are expected to make classes on time, considering all the new waits just to maneuver the

building, Mr. Held responded with a candid "womp womp" before exiting the conversa-



tion. The response from parents has also been filled with outrage, with some even threatening to take their children out of the school before realizing that they have already paid for this year of schooling and don't really have a way of getting that money back. All in all, this gross overuse of the SA's power has left the student body shocked and with little clue of what's next for Barrack. However, there have been rumors floating around for the upcoming year about a new "streaming service"-esque system, where students will have to pay a monthly subscription to get access to certain teachers, including teacher packages, premium services, and product placement and ads during class for the lower levels of subscriptions. Furthermore, due to popular demand, the SA is in the process of creating a similar fundraising campaign to the "indulgences" of the 12th century to absolve oneself from attending JS classes. Find out more in the next issue of the Cougar Chronicle, where you know everything we say is the truth.

JBHA Workout Routine

Margot Englander, Centerspread Editor

So your New Year's resolution was to workout more this year, but you haven't yet started. You don't have a subscription to a gym or even any clue where to start. Don't worry! Simply coming to Barrack everyday can get you whipped into shape ASAP. Just follow this workout routine 5x a week, for the rest of the school year.

- 5 minute sprint from Health class in the Mitchell Building to English on the third floor of the Highschool Wing (if unable to accomplish, add in three minute walk of defeat to receive a late note)
- 15 crunches: pulling yourself up from the third-floor lounge sofa
- 20 russian twists: searching for everything you need for your history research paper that you have spread all around the room (extra points if from seated position!)
- 10 burpees: jump down to search for your pencil that has rolled across the floor, back to seat, repeat x10

- 30 suicides: run up and down junior lot hill
- Dumbbell Raise: lifting your backpack up off the ground every 45 minutes, seven times a day
- Elliptical: walking up those stairs. and then attempt to control breathing so it doesn't look like you're about to pass out.
- 45 minute walk sit: for during that grade meeting when you don't have a seat
- 30 above-head shoulder stretch: repeat as needed during double science periods; or until they invent lab chairs with backs
- Forward bends: show these off in mehitzta minyan during the amida!
- Head tilt: reserved for when your Hebrew teacher uses a word you've never heard before in your life
- 20 Double Arm Straight Out Push and Pull: try to open any door when you forgot your swipe card for the 100th consecutive day
- 2 minute elbow plank: scream into the ground when you don't understand your math homework.

New Slounge Renovation Replaces Everything with Beds

Manny Shklar, Managing Editor

After years of negotiations, Trajt has confirmed privately to the Chronicle that the senior lounge will be getting a massive makeover. At the beginning of April, the “slounge” will be covered with brand new beds everywhere. The old, questionably dirty blue couch will now be five beds lined up together and the table that everyone uses for their math homework due next period will become three beds. While the ping pong table will remain in the lounge, there will be new beds on either side of it, making it easy to play and sleep at the same time.

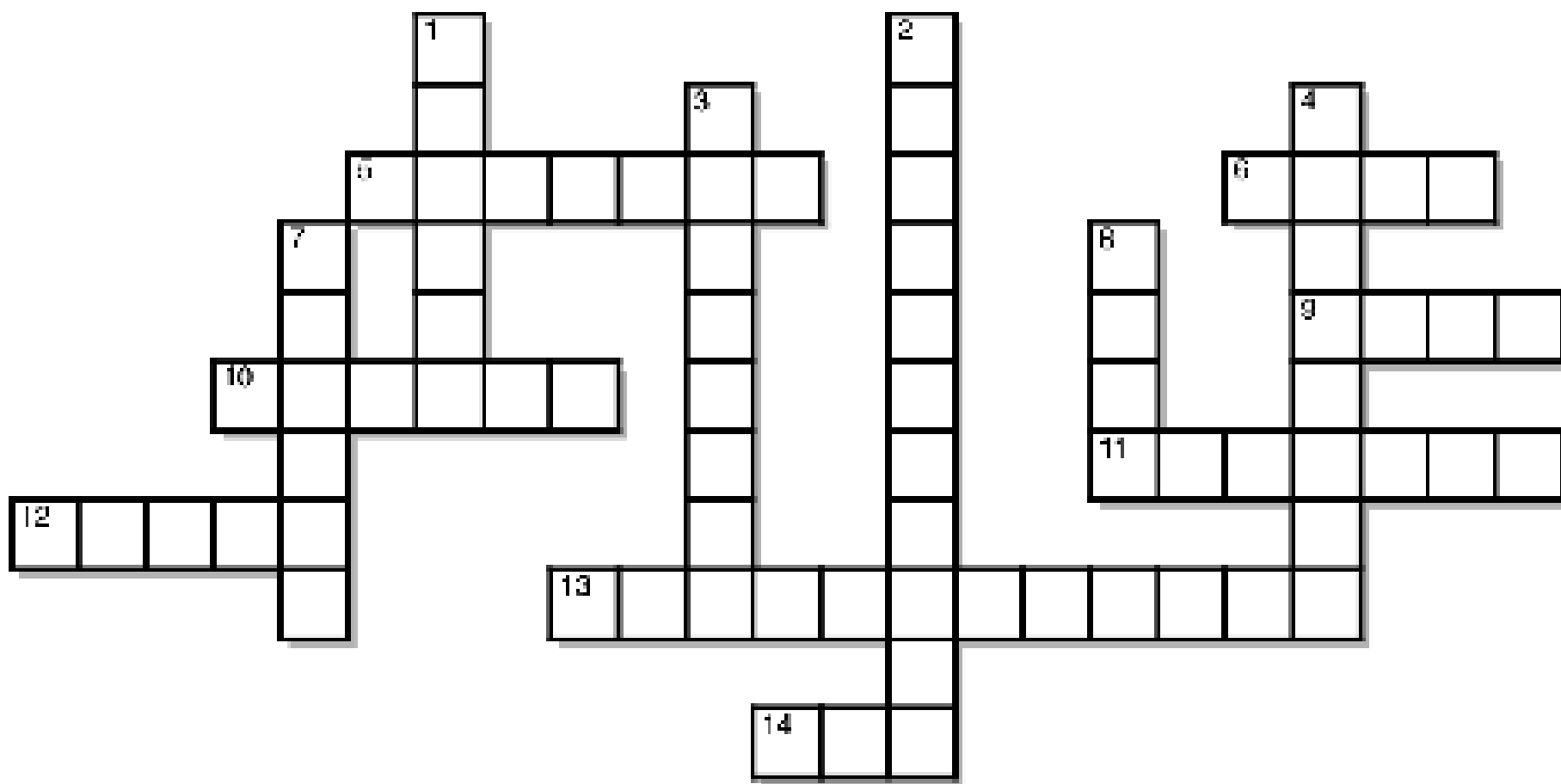


“This year’s senior class was truly pushed us to the limit,” said Ms. Pandian. Every morning, many ’24 gradu-

ates-to-be come in every morning and immediately fight for a position on the couch. Even with a spot there, it’s difficult to get a necessary power nap to get us to the end of the day, due to how uncomfortable the couch is and how many people are around. Soon, these complaints will be no more, as there will be more than enough beds at a given time.

Rabbi Lesack agreed with Ms. Pandian, telling us that “Barrack’s seniors must be prioritized. Without adequate sleep, they’ll struggle more in class and risk lowering our ranking among Jewish day schools on Niche.com.” This is a big concern, so Barrack’s administration hopes that this addition to the slounge will truly help seniors for years to come.

Purim Crossword



Across

Down

- 5. The noisemaker used on Purim is called a _____
- 6. Many _____ the day before Purim
- 9. Purim takes place in the month of _____
- 10. The hero of the Purim story is called _____
- 11. The events of Purim took place in _____
- 12. The food gifts we give to friends on Purim is called mishloach _____
- 13. The King in the Purim story is called _____
- 14. Haman has _____ sons

- 1. Haman’s wife is called _____
- 2. The cookie traditionally eaten on Purim is called a _____
- 3. The story of Purim is written in a _____
- 4. Esther’s hebrew name is _____
- 7. The King’s wife at the beginning of the story is called _____
- 8. The word Purim in Persian means _____

Ask Jack

Mikaela Garber and Rachel Loeb, Executive Editors

Question: Where can I get free food?

This is not a question we would normally answer, but in the Purim spirit, we'll do our best. Luckily, we do have quite a bit of experience backing this up. If you're in the mood for candy, we would recommend your first stop to be Ms. Pollack, or as we know her, the lollipop lady. She always has an excellent supply of lollipops, sometimes chocolates, and she's a friendly face! Next stop would be Trajt's office. Now this one is a bit of a toss-up, because half the time the door's closed. However, when it is open, it has a pretty good selection and is in a convenient location for all upper schoolers (which is probably why it runs out so fast). For our middle school readers, we would recommend heading to Mr. Dorsch's office. We've received excellent reviews about the candy receiving experience and it's a great spot. Next is Rabbi Lesack. He is often busy and it can be pretty embarrassing (although it's no fault of his own). However, his candy section is the most diverse that we've seen, and it's the most consistently full. Finally, coming in a tie is Ms. Grolnick and Ms. Yontef. They both have candy, although not a large variety, they're busy a lot, and as per their job, they are basically required to ask you about how you're doing, which can be rough, if you just wanted to get a candy fix and get out. Now, if you're looking for something more substantial, you can try to swing by the mercaz, because sometimes there's leftover JLI food. Good luck on your hunt for food!

Question: Does $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \cdot n^2}{(3n+1)(2n+4)}$ diverge or converge?

Once again, this isn't the type of question we typically answer. Usually, it's more asking for tips or information about extracurriculars, but we are dedicated to answering your questions, so here

we go...

Right away you should notice that this is an alternating series because $(-1)^n$ will change signs as n increases by 1. For example, when n is odd, the fraction will be negative and when n is even, the fraction will be positive. As you may remember (or probably not if you're asking this question), the first step of the alternating series test is the divergence test, where you take the limit as n approaches infinity, and if the limit is any number other than 0, the series diverges. To take the limit you ignore the alternating part of the problem, so here, you would have: $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2}{(3n+1)(2n+4)}$ which is equal to $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2}{6n^2+14n+4}$ after factoring. Now when you take the limit and plug in infinity, you will find that the result is infinity/infinity which is known as an indeterminate form. The next step would be doing L'Hôpital, a technique where you take the derivative of the numerator and denominator. That would leave you with $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n}{12n+14}$ then, if you do L'Hôpital again, you would get $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{12}$ which equals $1/6$. Since $1/6$ does not equal 0, the series diverges! Make sure to show ALL of this work otherwise you will lose points.

If you are still confused, I would suggest asking Ms. Strick. If that's too embarrassing, there's always photomath.

Question: What is the purpose of the mitochondria?

Geez, you all are really not paying attention in class. Lucky for you though, this fact lives rent free in my brain. The mitochondria is the powerhouse of the cell. Yeah, that's all I got. ChatGPT would probably be more helpful to be honest.

WORD SEARCH CHALLENGE

THIS WORD SEARCH DOES NOT HAVE A WORD BANK. THERE ARE A LIST OF WORDS HIDDEN WITHIN THIS PUZZLE, BUT IT IS UP TO YOU READERS TO DISCOVER THEM. IF YOU THINK YOU FOUND ALL THE WORDS WE HID, EMAIL IT TO CHRONICLE@JBHA.ORG - THE FIRST TO CORRECTLY COMPLETE IT WILL WIN A SWEET TREAT! HERE'S A HINT: THERE ARE 13 WORDS.

Q A W K J P L A B Y O S Z B C N C I T G
 T Y G D R D U B E G G S Q K S C G Q O D
 U R A Y I Z E Z B A Y V B H V F I M U P
 D O W R V S I C Z D E I Y J A S P F S V
 W O T L C Q G S O L X J H X K C P V U R
 D A S L N E H U O R E J S W Z E Z U B I
 J Z T B Z O Q L I N A W K V I P S M J Y
 W E X R A M Q Q A S G T L K F T V Q A E
 C S W Z I N R E N W E S I D S O Q U R A
 D E T I G C Q Q T M W G H O H R J E V I
 Z R L O S S K U R T N K J K N G Q E Z C
 B V U E R H M G E P M F U F M S N N W I
 P J G X B Y V F Q T L G I K A W O M Z P
 G T H Y G R E A Y B G F S K N H M B F L
 H Z Q P G R A L W T F M E H G B L M Q R
 Q M Z H R U W T F N D K Y S U W G U A Q
 G A L T H B H U I L F A O Z T S K S H X
 O Q N V Q C P N M O U Z J X D H H Y K G
 H Y R N D S N F S R N O U F Z N E A Z U
 W I D N N S T N U S L E V A B T Y R N F

WHICH TEACHER CAN DO THE MOST CONVINCING IMPRESSION OF A VELOCIRAPTOR?



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Preview of 2027-2028 Barrack Club Schedule

Rachel Loeb, Editor-in-Chief

Every year, Barrack has increased the number of clubs available to students. However, with an abundance of clubs and limited space and resources, many are wondering how this trend will persist. Students are curious what the club schedule will look like in the future and how it could possibly get more complicated. Fortunately, the Cougar Chronicle has obtained a pre-release of the Barrack 2027-2028 Club Schedule for our readers.



A Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
A Week	Animal Club (1208) Annenberg (201) Lettuce Eating Club (1808) Cougar Chronicle (313) Israel Club (Beit) Girls Who Code (203) Jewish Arts Impact Guild (JAIG) (Art Room) Math Tutoring (108/110)	JEDI (1204) Math Club (112) Math Counts (108) Mini Thon (Beit Midrash) M'et L'et (1303) MS Chessed (1404) Political Action Club (PAC) (312) Torah Lishmah (1304) Cheese eating club (704) Writing Center (314) Yearbook (110)	Math Tutoring (108/110) Model UN (1204) Competitive Thumb Wrestling (1503) MSC (1401) JTC (Beit) SCOPE Cup Stacking Club (1209) Stock Market Club (311) Student Life (Merkaz) Topics in Science (312)	GSA (1205) Library Club (Library) Fortnight Battle Royale (1207) Mock Trial (Beit) Moot Beit Din (108) Sports Debate (257) TEAMS (207) Widener Memorial (112) Synchronized Dinking Club (73) Writing Center (314) Yearbook (110)	Creative Writing (1401) Frequent Detention Flyers (1502) D & D (312) DECA (Beit Midrash) HEAR (112) Outside the Bubble (308) Cupcake Decorating (12002) Student Association (SA) (No Reps) (Merkaz) Word Games (1304) Cheez-It Fan Club (3)
B Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
B Week	Annenberg (201) Competitive FNAF Team Practice (17) Israel Club (Beit Midrash) Math Tutoring (108/110) Mental Health Matters (US) (313) Silly String Club (Outside Pat e) Model UN (1204) Improv Club (1009) Political Action Club (PAC) (312) Jousting Club (Front Circle)	D & D (203) Jewish Philosophy (1304) Leshem Shemayim (313) My Little Pony Fan Club (49) Lucy Belle's Rainbow (Beit) Mental Health Matters (MS) (1402) Mock Trial (1208/04) MS Chessed (1404) Women's Empowerment (308) Writing Center (314) Yearbook (110) Sock Puppet Appreciation Club (17)	Environmental Action Club (EAC) (108) Film Club (314) Library Club (Library) Learn to Lace Your Shoes Club (52) Math Tutoring (108/110) Chepstik Feeding (1301) Mini Thon (Beit Midrash) MSC (1401) Rock Paper Scissors League (4503) Topics in Science (312) Quidditch League (1202)	Create Your Own Legend Club (1402) DECA (Beit) Paper Airplane Piloting Club (351) Gateway (308) GSA (1205) Writing Center (314) Ice Cream Bites Anonymous (507) Yearbook (110) Cloudspotting Club (Tennis Court)	Derech Eretz (311) HEAR (Beit Midrash) Human Rights Club (110) M'et L'et (1303) Extreme Hide and Seek Club (126) MS Robotics (207) Music Club (257) Philosophical Debate (309) Do Rachel Loeb's Homework (1909) Student Association (SA) (With Reps) Conspiracy Theorists Club (12) Bubble Blowing Club (1293)

ANSWERS

Yellow group - Synonyms for joke (Quit, Jest, Bit, Gag)
Green group - Rhymes that are spelled differently (Smile, Aisle, Style, Trial)
Blue group - Things that make noise (Grogger, Whistle, Radio, Mouth)
Purple group - White (Noise, Tie, Collar, Elephant)

CONNECTIONS:

8. Lot
9. Adar
10. Esther
11. Shushan
12. Manot
13. Achashverosh
14. Ten

CROSSWORD:

1. Zereb
2. Hamantaschen
3. Megillab;
4. Hadassah
5. Grogger
6. Fast
7. Vashet