

JEWISH NEWS

of Greater Phoenix Online



JewishNews@60
HORIZON video
the jewish collection
Arizona's Largest & Finest Judaica Store
DOTYBRIDGE
The CLUB to Learn, Play & Win™

ARIZONA THEATRE COMPANY THE STATE THEATRE
Get out and play!
THE 2008-2009 SEASON STARTS NOW - CLICK HERE!

[Previous Issues](#)

[Community Directory](#)

[Subscriptions](#)

[Advertise](#)

[Contact Us](#)

CHOSEN Magazine
Calendar

April 6, 2007/Nisan 18 5767, Volume 59, No. 29
[E-mail story](#) [Print story](#)

[Get Our Newsletter](#)



Yeshiva nears opening gate

Orthodox girls' high school planned for 2007-2008

SALVATORE CAPUTO
Senior Staff Writer
[E-MAIL](#)

An Orthodox girls' high school will begin classes in the Valley for the 2007-2008 academic term, officials of the planned school told Jewish News.

Shearim Torah High School for Girls answers the needs of a growing Orthodox community, said Dr. Jeffrey Becker, a Scottsdale neurologist who is the chairman of the school's board.

"For the past six or seven years, the community has needed and continues to need both girls' and boys' yeshiva high schools, and it just came to a point in time when we said, 'Now's the time,'" said Becker, whose daughter will be a member of the school's inaugural class.

Generally speaking, "yeshiva" means an institution that teaches secular and Judaic studies and is most commonly associated with Orthodox Judaism.

The timing is partly based on having a large enough nucleus of girl students to start the school, which will have a ninth grade only in its first academic year and add a class each year until it has the full complement of ninth- through 12th-grade classes, he added.

"There were a number of parents interested in this project" who previously would have had to send their high-school daughters to study at an out-of-town yeshiva high school, said Rabbi Raphael Landesman, dean of the school. "They felt the time is right to keep their girls at home."

Landesman, who is a member of the Phoenix Community Kollel, said, "The Kollel is very supportive," but that the school is not a Kollel project.

The school's name, "Shearim," is the Hebrew word for "gate" or "doorway," Landesman explained, as in the "gates of understanding."

The school will begin with a budget of about \$200,000, Becker said, and will raise funds to create a permanent endowment "to perpetuate the school" as soon as possible.

Meetings to form the school began about six months ago, Becker said, and organizers have firm commitments from families of four eighth-graders currently attending Phoenix Hebrew Academy and The King David School.

The board's plans for the school include excellent secular and Judaic studies, Becker said.

The school's general studies proposal calls for two levels of algebra, as well as geometry and trigonometry; biology, chemistry and physics; reading and English; history and sociology; and computer and technological training.

IN THIS ISSUE

- FEATURES**
- [Pitching technology](#)
- [Preparing for disaster](#)
- [A troubled exodus: Part 2](#)
- COMMUNITY**
- [Yeshiva nears opening gate](#)
- PROFILE**
- [Comic actor sees no part as 'thankless'](#)
- FAMILIES**
- [Interfaith survey finds Easter holiday dilemma](#)

Join Us NOW!
• Camp
• Fitness Center
• Youth Sports
• Pool
480-483-7121

Scottsdale Gymnastics

Horizon Animal Hospital
Pet Boarding & Grooming

HADASSAH The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc. www.hadassah.org

Find it in the Jewish Community Directory

Subscribe to the weekly print edition of Jewish News

Featured Jobs powered by Jewish Careers.com

[Administrative Assistant - Main Office](#)
Tucson, AZ
Jewish Family & Children's Service
[Advertising Account Executive](#)
Phoenix, AZ
Jewish News of Greater Phoenix
[Case Manager - DD](#)
Tucson, AZ
Jewish Family & Children's Service
[Therapist](#)
Tucson, AZ
Jewish Family & Children's Service
[View All Jobs](#)

[More Local Jobs](#)
[Post Jobs](#) [Post Resume](#)
[Search Jobs](#)

Using extracurriculars to augment development
HEALTH
Starting an exercise program at any age
SPORTS
NBA meets the Jewish Jordan
NATION
Top 50 rabbis ranked
Is pot kosher for Passover?
WORLD
Ethiopian camp reopens
Pelosi stresses diplomacy in Mideast
Bill pushes Shoah claims
ISRAEL
More firms investing in community
West Bank settler movement bouncing back
OPINION
Editorial - The stranger
Commentary - Vegas no Jewish oasis
Commentary - When all else is gone
In the Mail - Letters to the Editor
BUSINESS
Making leads groups work
People on the Move
MILESTONES
Births
Obituaries
EDUCATION
Fulbright Scholar to study, conduct research in China
TORAH STUDY
From slavery to freedom

The Judaic studies proposal calls for studies in Tanakh texts including Joshua and Judges, Jewish law, commentaries on the Chumash, advanced Jewish thought including sections of the Talmud, and Hebrew.

In addition, the school's character-development goals are to "instill a deep and comprehensive understanding of the proper attributes and conduct of a Torah-inspired lifestyle."

The board plans to lease facilities for the school and is debating between two potential sites, one in central Phoenix and another in Scottsdale, Becker said.

"The plans are to also have a boys' high school," he said, "but we want to get the girls' school up and running" first and launch the boys school in a few years.

The proposal that Landesman prepared for prospective parents and students also addresses admission to the school. An interested student and her family must submit an application and a fee of \$75. A personal interview with the dean is required as well.

To be admitted, "the student must have successfully completed the work for prior grade levels and show the ability and potential to handle our dual program."

The school also promises tuition assistance to students with demonstrated need.

In addition to Becker, initial members of the school's executive board are Aileen Becker, David and Gaby Friedman, Rabbi Zvi Holland, Dr. Steven Kanner, Larry Zier and Debbie Zilcha.

Besides Landesman, the school's educational administration tentatively includes Rabbi Shlomie Gelber, Cindy Landesman and Risa Brumer as Judaic staff.

Call Landesman at 602-433-0300.



[Issue Index](#)
[Home](#)

Ads by Google

[Tel Aviv Hotel - Vital](#)

60 spacious modernly designed rooms Located in the heart of Tel Aviv
www.vitalhotel.co.il

[Grief counseling](#)

Are you in need of counseling? Call today for more information
HoydSurvivor1.com

[Portland grief counseling](#)

Are you in need of counseling? Call us for a free consultation!
ClynnTerriPortland.com

[1 Rule of a flat stomach:](#)

Cut down 9 lbs of stomach fat every 11 days by obeying this 1 rule.
FatLoss4Idiots.com