



See Page 42



See Pages 3, 4 & 5



See Page 9



See Page 74

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See Luach, Page 18

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See Page 8



YU announces newly tenured
faculty. See Page 64



Camp Simcha goes for a ride.
See Page 81

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KOC's West Coast Story



Over 400 people traveled this week to have some fun in the sun on the California coast. Above, Kids of Courage get ready to take off from New York. Read more in Heard in the Bagel Store, below.

Zev Wolfson: The Untold Story, Part 2

BY RABBI YAIR HOFFMAN

This week, I sat down with Aryeh Deri to speak about Reb Zev Wolfson. Aryeh Deri is a highly popular Israeli politician and the former leader of Rav Ovadia Yoseph's Shas party. The interview was held in the *daf hayomi* room in Congregation Shomrei Shab-

bos in Far Rockaway. The interview was conducted in Hebrew. Below is a translation of the interview.

Y.H.: Reb Aryeh, how did you first meet Zev Wolfson, z'l?

A.D.: Believe it or not, it was actually through Yitzchak Rabin. Mr. Wolfson came to Rabin's office and Rabin said,

Continued on Page 24

DISCOVERING THEIR JEWISH ROOTS



A group of Polish youths, many of whom had only recently discovered their Jewish ancestry, arrived in Israel for a Shavei Israel seminar. See Page 28

HEARD IN THE BAGEL STORE

BY LARRY GORDON

Tales Of Courage

The wheelchair was lifted high above the heads of a large group of stomping and dancing young and not-so-young people, including this writer. I've seen it before, but it never ceases to amaze me. The occupant of the wheelchair is confined due to partial paralysis. This may be his condition or situation for life. The music is

booming under a moonlit California summer sky. The boys grab the chair and start twirling him around, fast and then faster.

To describe the look on the face of the wheelchair-bound young man, I am challenged by the limitation of mere words

Continued on Page 6

THE TEFILLIN-STRAP CONTROVERSY

Halachic Musings

BY RABBI YAIR HOFFMAN

There is a new controversy brewing which has a number of rabbis visibly upset at some of the *sofrim* who deal in the sale of *tefillin*. And the controversy does not seem to be going away.

Continued on Page 20

MY SILENT CALLING

From The Other Side Of The Bench

BY DAVID J. SEIDEMANN, ESQ.

Just when you thought it was safe to get into the water, to relax after the intensity of Tishah B'Av, the month of Elul hits you in the face. Not much

Continued on Page 23

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BAGEL STORE

Continued from Front Cover

in this space. He is not just smiling; he is laughing uncontrollably and wildly

last Thursday night. Eight days of these types of activities are planned. This is so much fun. G-d have mercy on us.

Here are some notes that I felt compelled to record after settling into the

He is not just smiling; he is laughing uncontrollably and wildly whooping it up.

whooping it up. He wants to be twirled faster and if possible held higher up in the air.

There were about a dozen such episodes within this one music-filled hour

Sheraton hotel near LAX in Los Angeles last week. This is our third trip, or perhaps a better description would be

Continued on Page 9

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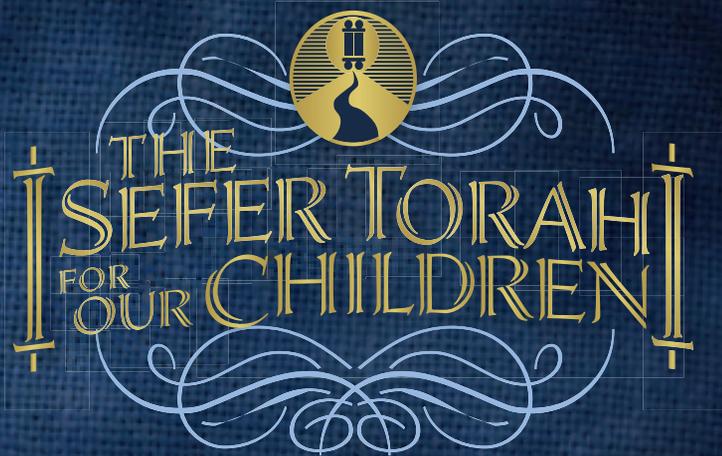
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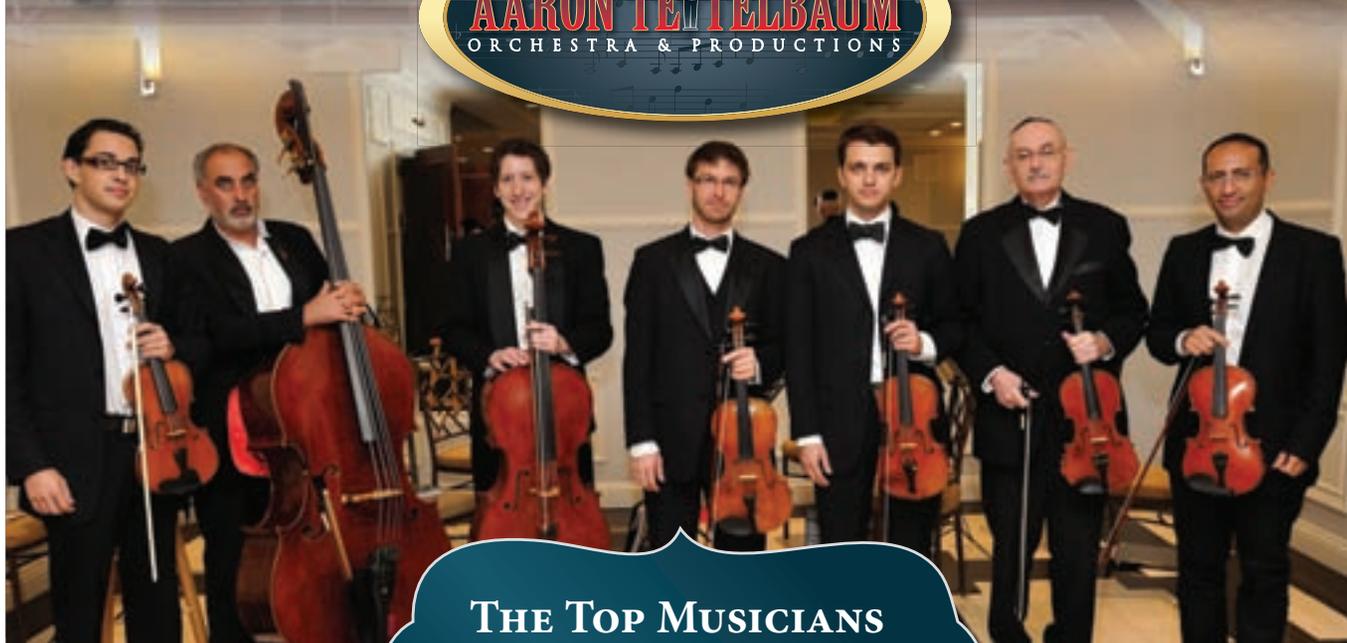
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FEATURES

Back To School	42
Classified Ads	66
A Clever Title Goes Here Mordechai Schmutter	33
Community News Around The Five Towns Around The World	75 62
Daf Yomi Insights R' Avrohom Sebrow	37
The Dish Elke Probkevitz	40
Health Section	50
Insights on the Torah R' Dr. Jonathan Sacks	49
Letters to the Editor	74
Luach/Calendar	18
Middle East News Samuel Sokol	25
MindBiz Esther Mann, LCSW	52
Mother's Musings Phyllis J. Lubin	41
News from the Hills Chanita Teitz	57
Puzzle Yoni Glatt	46
Real Estate Anessa V. Cohen	36
That's The Way It Is! Hannah Reich Berman	29
Tidbits from Israel Ron Jager	48
Travel Section	70

BAGEL STORE

Continued from Page 6

experience, with the Kids of Courage folks.

There is always a remarkable dynamic at play at these KOC events.

It's difficult to explain what these kids so truly filled with courage have endured in their young lives and how the advent of KOC has changed and redefined what was once an existence that was confined to dealing with the limitations and difficulties



Perhaps there is an element present here that is reflective of life itself. There are serious health problems everywhere you turn here. But there is also a powerful parallel emotion of unbridled joy that is evident wherever you look. And I think that's what gives this experience a magnetic pull of sorts. It perhaps requires taking a step back to realize that this is simply a reflection, to an exaggerated extent, of life's everyday, sometimes brutal, contradictions.

that life has handed them. At these events like the week in L.A., the main focus is breaking through to the other side, to what a conventional kid's life should really be like.

One of the more outspoken young people—kind of an unofficial, free-association rambling spokesman for KOC, a young man named Boris—spoke to the more than 400 people gathered here about what it meant

Continued on Page 10

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BAGEL STORE

Continued from Page 9

for him, a kid confined to a wheelchair, to have the opportunity to travel to L.A. He said that before KOC came into being four years ago, he was more or less defined by his limitations. Now KOC has turned that all around, or upside down if you will. Now Boris says he is more defined by the things he does rather than the things he cannot or does not do.

This year's crowd was unprecedented in size. It was during the meals when just about everyone was gathered in the main ballroom of the Sheraton Gateway that one was able to absorb the scope and ambitiousness of this undertaking. The additional interesting thing about all this is the smoothness and agility with which the group gets around town.



Here they are in Disneyland, then at an Angels baseball game, then off to a water park, and so on. During two of the evenings that I was with them, they featured full-blown barbecues for about 500 people (including guests and local community members who joined for the evening) with style and panache.

The first night we were there, we were hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Steve



Spira in Hancock Park. And then on Sunday night, on the regulation-size basketball court of the Murrow family in Beverly Hills. Needless to say, both neighborhoods are very upscale, with incredibly artistic landscaping the order of the day. One got a real thrill both evenings witnessing the early evening serenity shattered when seven large coach buses, measuring in total an entire suburban block, pulled up to the front of a string of homes. In an instant the volunteer staff is out of the buses and

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quickly opening the hatches to break out the dozens of wheelchairs that would be needed for the evening.

As fascinating and challenging as it is to observe this exercise, it is also deeply moving and even riveting to watch how everything is seemingly so synchronized and well-practiced. The kids and their young-adult volunteer staff move pincer-style into



their hosts' expansive and lavish yards. Music is booming, either by a live band or a DJ featuring larger-than-life speakers whose sound can force you back if you get too close.

An extensive buffet dinner is presented, and after a long day in the hot sun, people seem famished and ready to dine. There is an ever-present giddiness and positive energy in the air. And those in charge are always carefully watching the clock. While everything on the surface seems free and easy and all are having an immense amount of summer fun, still there are young people here who have to have their medications administered to them on time, and they need their rest.

On Saturday night, after Shabbos at the hotel, the popular L.A.-based Marcus brothers of the 8th Day group performed to an overly animated and excited crowd. People streamed in from nearby communities to partake in the *melaveh malkah* and watch over 150 kids party so very hearty. The pizza and the ice cream were moving fast, along with the cotton candy, shakes, and other traditional nosh.

The room was rocking. A friend of mine stood nearby with both hands over his ears. You have to be able to appreciate the way in which loud music can jolt your senses and jar you out of your ennui. It was an amazing event. Kids who cannot walk were in their own way dancing, either by shaking their head or perhaps just moving their shoulders. In other words, they were into it.

The credits to put something like this together are endless. Everyone involved is in charge of something. Dr. Stuart Ditchek, a pediatrician from Brooklyn, is the medical director. He is surrounded by a staff of ten nurses and a group of paramedics that work in shifts around the clock. There is a waiting list of doctors, I was told, who want to close their practices or take off from work for a week in order to join KOC at one of these events.

As far as the one-to-one and sometimes two-to-one ratio of volunteer staff to "kid," there is also a waiting list of over 1,000 people angling to get accepted and come on one of these whirlwind trips.

Continued on Page 16

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BAGEL STORE

Continued from Page 11

When Dr. Ditchek gets up to speak to the crowd, he speaks of medical emergencies in a very routine and matter-of-fact fashion. It's Friday night after the *seudah* and he is urging the "counselors" not to hesitate to use their phones and dial the emergency number in case they feel there is a medical situation that requires a response from the medical team during the night.

The counselors are not trained medical professionals, though many of them are regular attendees to these getaways and the assortment of *Shabbatonim* that take place during the course of the year. The doctor knows that as kids who are from observant homes and who came up through the yeshiva system, there will be a natural reluctance to use their phones on Shabbos. He therefore needs to be emphatic about what is the *halachically* approved meth-

od to respond to an emergency.

The fact is that there is so much more at play here that doesn't meet the eye. A vital element not seen from this vantage point is the respite that families receive knowing that their children are away having fun and being cared for meticulously, just the way they would be cared for at home. This means a great deal to all involved.

It is a wonderful and inspiring environment that helps just about anyone par-

ticipating to place priorities in our lives in their proper perspective. The news is that it all ends on Thursday with a charter flight back to New York. There will be a series of smaller events between now and the next big trip this coming winter. I think Boris said it best when he referenced the next big excursion in his remarks last Shabbos. "This winter we are going to the Bahamas," he said. ❖

Comments for Larry Gordon are welcome at editor@5tjt.com.

You shall not plant for yourself an asherah, any tree, near the altar of G-d

(Devarim 16:21)

This verse includes two prohibitions: not to plant an *asheirah* (idolatrous) tree anywhere, and not to plant any tree, or build any tree on the Temple Mount.

(Sifri; Rashi)

To seek to beautify the Holy Temple by planting trees around it is an insult to the holiness of the place, whose beauty derives from itself and not from external "landscaping."

This also explains the Talmud's statement (Sanhedrin 7a), that the reason the Torah places this law immediately following the law regarding the appointment of judges is to teach us that "whoever appoints an unqualified judge it is as if he planted an *asheira* near the altar." Often, we see people appointed to positions of authority because of their external appearance, charm, and oratorical prowess, instead of their knowledge, integrity and fear of Heaven ...

(Even HaAzel)



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MEDICARE ACCEPTED Shomer Shabbos

FROM THE EDITOR

Continued from Front Cover

Goldstein shot up the Cave of the Patriarchs in Hebron, has the mainstream press, which is so critical of Israel, had a chance to once again proclaim the existence of Jewish terrorism.

Yes, sadly it is true. Some kids were hanging out in Zion Square at the bottom of Ben Yehuda Street in Jerusalem after midnight one night last week, and a fight broke out after some words were exchanged between Arab and Jewish youths. The Arab kids were outnumbered by the Jewish teens, and one of the Arabs absorbed a serious beating that knocked him unconscious and sent him to Hadassah Hospital, where he is recuperating.

President Shimon Peres was amongst the first to refer to the incident as "Jewish terror." Peres has been waiting since the miserable, damaging, and murderous failure of the Oslo Accords to achieve the perception of parity between terrorists on both sides of this lopsided equation. So along with the *Times* in New York, Peres and a few other Israeli officials have decided that this was a serious terrorist incident perpetrated by Jews on Arabs.

The message is simple: You see, we are all the same—all prone to violence—and the so-called occupation of the land is now corrupting people on both sides. But these were 14- and 15-year-old kids; one or two may have even been younger than that. Sure, an element of nationalism and prejudice may have seeped into the mix, but this

was no terror attack along the lines of what we have all unfortunately become accustomed to.

Then again, maybe terror is marked on some kind of a curve. After all, we can't have leaders around the world condemning a simple scuffle between teenagers on a city street and dub it a dangerous international incident. But then again, if it involves Israel and Jewish children, we have to take what we can get. If this is the worst terror they can dispense, then so be it. The press will just have to take it and run with it.

Peres's condemnation of this so-called Jew-on-Arab terror reminds me of the story that goes back to the founding of the new State of Israel in 1948. When it was related to Israel's first prime minister, David Ben-Gurion, that there were prostitutes working on the streets of Tel Aviv, he is reported to have expressed satisfaction with the news, explaining that he now knew that Israel was going to be a state like all the other states that dotted the globe.

At least Prime Minister Netanyahu had the good sense not to rush to call it terrorism. The PM referred to the incident on Tuesday, saying that there was no place for this kind of racism in Israel.

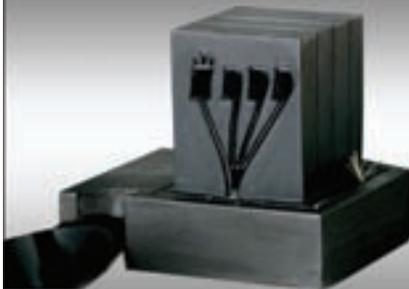
The events of late last Thursday evening are still under investigation, so if anything is certain, it is that it is unclear what really took place. It may have been a tussle that was tinged with long-standing attitudes that are dominant in a significant segment of Israeli society.

Continued on Page 18



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FROM THE EDITOR

Continued from Page 17

The so-called terrorist attack committed by as many as ten Jewish youth pales greatly when we compare it to the murder of Tali Hatuel at the Kisuifim Crossing in Gush Katif in May 2004. Hatuel, who was eight months pregnant, was killed along with her four daughters, Hila, 11; Hadar, 9; Roni, 7; and Merav, 2. They were riding in their station wagon on the way to pick up her husband, David, from work in Ashkelon when real terrorists fired in their direction, hitting Tali and forcing the car off the road. Once the car came to a halt, the Islamic Jihad terrorists ran to the car and shot Tali and the girls repeatedly at point-blank range in order to make sure they were dead.

If that's too far in the past for you, then perhaps we should summon up the brutal terroristic slayings of the Fogel family last year in Itamar. They were home on a Friday night, ready to go to sleep, when two 19-year-old men

from a nearby Arab village who were swept up in the nonstop barrage of anti-Israel and anti-Jewish harangues that are part of the Arab education system in Israel broke into their home in the Shomron. The Arabs quickly murdered the parents, Ruth and Udi Fogel. Then they systematically slaugh-

types of things. Still, the violence needs to be condemned at the highest levels and by all of us in the loudest voice possible. Yes, young Julani had a heart condition that no one involved could have known about, and that may have contributed to his reacting in the fashion that he did. Ju-

The message is simple: You see, we are all the same—all prone to violence.

tered three children, Yoav, 11; Elad, 4; and three-month-old Hadas, who was stabbed in her tiny heart.

Jamal Julani was beaten and stomped on by some youths in Jerusalem on Thursday night. Some of the kids involved told police that the Arab boys were taunting and teasing the Jewish kids. Children do those

lani is in Hadassah Hospital, has recovered, and by the time you read this may be back home in East Jerusalem.

Comments that some of the Jewish kids purportedly made to police about hoping that the Arab youth

Continued on Page 19

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The dream of the Gedolim to save a lost generation from extinction could not have been realized without R' Zev's foresight, vision, and generosity. We will miss his sage advice, his compassionate concern and his gracious heart. Our sincerest condolences go out to his dear devoted wife Mrs. Nechoma Wolfson שתחי' and to his very special and dedicated children who follow in their father's great footsteps.

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CALENDAR LUACH

August 24 – September 1
ZIP Code: 11516

6 Elul

Friday, August 24

Daf yomi: Berachos 23

Z'manim*:

Earliest tallis/tefillin: 5:18 am

Sunrise: 6:15 am

Latest Shema:

M. Av. 8:59 am

Gr'a 9:35 am

P'lag ha'minchah: 6:15 pm

Candle Lighting: 7:20 pm

7 Elul – Shabbos

Saturday, August 25

Parashas Shoftim

Avos: Ch. 6

Shabbos ends**:

8:25 pm

72 min. 8:55 pm

13 Elul

Friday, August 31

Daf yomi: Berachos 30

Earliest tallis/tefillin: 5:26 am

Sunrise: 6:22 am

Latest Shema:

M. Av. 9:02 am

Gr'a 9:38 am

P'lag ha'minchah: 6:05 pm

Candle Lighting: 7:09 pm

14 Elul – Shabbos

Saturday, September 1

Parashas Ki Seitzei

Avos: Ch. 1–2

Shabbos ends**:

8:13 pm

72 min. 8:44 pm

* All times from MyZmanim.com

** includes 5 minutes for tosefes Shabbos

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issue of the 5TJT
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Thursday,
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FROM THE EDITOR

Continued from Page 18

would have died from the assault are ridiculous and need severe condemnation, but they can probably be chalked up more to stupidity and immaturity than anything else.

But terror? Mr. Peres, you have got to be kidding. This was no terror attack. A terror attack is more akin to what happened to Nava Applebaum and her dad, Dr. David Applebaum, in September 2003. It was the night before her wedding, which was to take place in Jerusalem. Father and daughter went out for coffee to Café Hillel on Hillel Street in the capital. They were there when a suicide bomber struck and, along with others, were killed instantly.

The *Times* reported on Tuesday of this week that seven Israeli teenagers were arrested and “accused of what police officials and several witnesses described as an attempted lynching of several Palestinian youths.” That’s a wonderful characterization of a teenage street fight. I seriously doubt whether any of these kids have any idea what a lynching is or how the concept works. Still, for an American readership it conjures up images of the Old South and how blacks were mindlessly and mercilessly preyed upon by racist whites and murdered for no reason other than the fact that they were black. It was a shameful time for this country.

Oh yes, the use of the term “lynching” is not exactly brand new in Is-

rael’s part of the world. In October 2000, two IDF reserve soldiers, Yossi Avrahami and Vadim Nurzhitz, made a wrong turn in their military jeep into the Arab city of Ramallah, just 15 minutes outside of Jerusalem. The two were arrested by Palestinian police, and then, when a mob besieged the police station they were being held in, the police refused to protect them and they were hacked to death, their bodies mutilated. You probably remember the photograph of Palestinian policeman Marwan Maadi holding up and displaying his hands, red with the blood of the two Israeli soldiers.

Unlike young Mr. Julani, Avrahami and Nurzhitz will not be recovering from their injuries and going home after two days in a Jerusalem hospital. Well, there are terror attacks and then there are terror attacks. I believe that the thought process here has to be seriously retooled. It has to start at the top, with Mr. Peres, and someone should tell him (once again) to stop pandering to Israel’s detractors and antagonists.

Those boys who beat up Mr. Julani should indeed be disciplined and taught sensitivity. They were obviously a wild bunch that need to be dealt with, and this experience should serve as a lesson for others. But if anything clearly emerges from this experience, it is that this was no terror attack and those kids are not terrorists. ❖

Comments for Larry Gordon are welcome at editor@5tjt.com.



The Board, the Staff and the Advocates of Shalom Task Force extend our sincerest condolences to our founder and president

Nechama Wolfson

on the passing of her beloved husband, Zev, a’h.



Zev Wolfson was an enlightened and creative philanthropist, a baal chesed of the highest order. We were most fortunate to be the beneficiaries of his warm concern and support of the Shalom Task Force mission from its very inception.

Our hearts go out to our dear friend Nechama and her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren on their incalculable loss.

חבל אל דאבדין ולא משתכחין

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Mrs. Nechama Wolfson, the entire Wolfson
family and especially, to our dear friend and
Board member, Daniel Wolfson.

Avigdor's
HELPING HAND



HALACHIC MUSINGS

Continued from Front Cover

It has to do with *retzuos*, the straps that bind the *tefillin* to the head and to the arm.

The Talmud tells us (*Menachos* 35a and *Shabbos* 28b) that the *tefillin* straps must be black and this is a law that Moshe Rabbeinu handed down to us orally, straight from the mountain at Sinai. The *tefillin* may only be tied with their own type—in other words, the straps must also be made of leather.

For thousands of years, *tefillin* straps have been produced and painted black. The black paint, after years of use, will sometimes come off and people have always had some black paint handy to re-paint it.

In recent times, however, a new type of *tefillin* strap has emerged, apparently utilizing a different type of process to ensure that they are black. This new *tefillin* has on it what appears to be a peelable film of black plastic that is on the *tefillin* strap.

Those who claim that this *tefillin* is not kosher are of the opinion that this is either a plastic laminate that was placed on the *tefillin*, and not paint, or that even if it is paint, it is peelable and not *halachically* considered paint. This author had posed the question to Dayan Yechezkel Roth, the Karlsruher *dayan*, who tentatively answered (on Wednesday, August 22) that the straps, as described, would be definitely not kosher. However, it could be that the question



was not presented as accurately as possible.

Those who say that it is permitted are claiming that it is a dye, not a plastic film. It is just a dye that turns into a plastic-looking film later. Rabbi Moshe Shoul Klein, the *dayan* in Rav Vosner's *beis din* in Bnei Brak, issued a ruling that the *retzuos* in question are definitely permitted and even those who seek *mehadrin min ha'mehadrin* may use it. The letter was issued this past 19th of Av.

There are also those who are unsure, as yet, as to what the *halachic* status of these *tefillin* straps are. This is the opinion of R' Akiva Oppen, the owner of Oppen Scrolls in Cedarhurst. He quoted a ruling from Rav Mordechai Friedlander, the *motz l'inyanei STAM* of the B'Datz and the *rav* of Ramat Shlomo in Yerushalayim, as having said, "It is not

clear; the *beis din* has to clear the issue. Right now, it should not be announced publicly that it is forbidden." He further quoted him as having said, "A *kol koreh* should not be made for this. Let the *beis din* do their job." He stated not to publicize it yet and that he is looking into it. Rav Friedlander is known to have been Rav Elyashiv's right-hand man when it came to the *halachos* of *STAM*.

Others who have called Rav Friedlander, however, state that his position was that it was not permissible. Many

off whole], that it is there on the *ohr* and the black which is on the *tzeva* and the black, that is my dilemma. That is something that we have to wait. If it has to be pulled off on the *ohr* it has to be attached to the *ohr*. Once it is *niklaf*, it is clearly forbidden. The bridge that I have to cross—I am trying to get the *eidah chareidis beis din* together to issue a ruling."

Regardless of the various opinions, the company that produced the straps in question did issue a recall that was printed in the Israeli *Hamodia*.

Some of the people who have purchased the new straps have witnessed the black layer peeling off.

local *rabbanim* have quoted this second version of Rav Friedlander's ruling.

This author called Rav Friedlander and received the following clarification: "I said that if it was peeled off already, then it is not kosher at all. However, if it was not yet peeled that is a bridge we have to cross. Rabbi Oppen's quote of me was 100% accurate and I stand behind it completely."

He further explained, "*Kol z'man* that it is on there, there is no *din* per se that the *tzeva* has to get into the *ohr* and not come out like a piece of plastic. *Kol z'man* that it is intact [i.e., that it comes

The local stores that have sold the new type of *tefillin* strap are offering free exchanges for their customers who purchased these straps. However, in the absence of rabbinic opinion claiming that they are, in fact, not kosher, they are not labeling it non-kosher. They are, however, no longer selling the product.

The *halachic* concerns regarding these *tefillin* straps are as follows:

1. Is this black plastic considered to actually be dyeing the straps if they are

Continued on Page 22

בס"ד

ושלמו ימי אבלך

הנהלת מוסדות "חסד לאברהם" בארה"ק ובאר"ב, מאות תלמידי ותלמידות הפנימיות, יחד עם אלפי התלמידים ותלמידות המשתתפים יום בסניפי "רשת שיעורי אחה"צ/ערב" וכן מאות המשפחות "בוגרי ובוגרות" מוסדותינו הק' שהעמידו בתים נאמנים בישראל לשם ולתורתנו הק' בהוקרה ובהערכה על החיזוק והתמיכה שנתקבל עשרות בשנים כולם לטובה משתתפים בלב כואב באבלם הכבד של משפחת וואלפסון המעטירה בפטירתו של ראש משפחתם, שר וגדול במפעלי צדקה כבירים לטובת הכלל והפרט, לב רחום ופתוח לקרב צעירי צאן קדשים לאביהם שבשמים וללמד תועים בינה ברחבי תבל, ובפרט ברחבי ארה"ק ה"ה

מוה"ר זאב וואלפסון ז"ל

פעולותיו הנדגלות שנעשו בהצנע לכת זה יותר מיובל שנים יעמדו לרעתו מנ"בת מרת נחמה שתחי' לאוישו"ט ולכל המשפחה הכבודה

ובפרט לבניו היקרים והחשובים, ה"ה

מוה"ר אברהם הי"ו, מוה"ר משה הי"ו, מוה"ר אהרן הי"ו

שזכו כולם לעשות ולמלאות רצון צדיקים ה"ה כ"ק הס"ק מרן אדמו"ר מסקולען זצוק"ל, מייסד ומחולל מוסדותינו הק', ולהבלחט"א כ"ק מרן אדמו"ר מסקולען שליט"א, נשיא מוסדותינו הק', לעשות ביתם בית ווע"ד לצדיקים ואכסניא לפעולות של תורה וחסד בעריכת "מסיבות מפוארות" רבות בשנים לטובת מוסדותינו הק' ובזה זכו בכפליים, גם להיות עושים בתרומת ד' לעשות פעלים להרחבת והחזקת גבולי הקדושה וגם להיות מהמעשיים בהרמת סכומים נכבדים מעם בני ישראל נדיבי לב להשתתף בגוף ובממון בהרחבת הפעולות של מוסדותינו הקדושים.

וג"ם לרבות האחים היקרים מוה"ר דוד פארמאן הי"ו ומוה"ר דניאל הי"ו וגם בנותיו וחתניו היקרים משפחות גאטסמאן, זאפיר, וואלמארק, פאלסאן, הערץ כולם ידועים לשבח ולתהלה בפעולות הנ"ל.

המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבילי ציון וירושלים ולא תדעו משום צער ועגמו"ג, ובהמשכת הדרכים הישרים והנכונים ומעשי חס"ד לטובת כלל ישראל תמצאו נוחם, ויושר יליץ בעדם זכיות פעולות האדירות החובקות זרועות עולם עדי נזכה ליהקיצו ורננו שוכני עפר בביאת הגואל, בב"א

החותמים בדמע בשם כל חברי וועד ההנהלה, צוות המנהלים, מחנכים, והתלמידים, מרדכי פרידמאן, יו"ר יוסף הלל בראכפלד, סגן יו"ר

ג"א מצטרף בניחומים מקרב לב בשם בית כ"ק מרן אדמו"ר שליט"א ידידכם מקרב לב מאז ומקדם קלמן מיסקי



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HALACHIC MUSINGS

Continued from Page 20

so peelable? In other words, are they really black from a halachic perspective?

2. Is this considered a *chatzitzah*? Is there a need for the *retzuos*, the straps, to be completely clear and unblocked by anything?

The *Mishnah Berurah* (O.C. 32:185) cites a similar trend regarding the paint of the *tefillin* housing that occurred in the late 1800s when the *sofrim* developed some sort of coating that can actually be peeled off in its entirety. In describing it, he writes, "Its form resembles black paper." In declaring it non-kosher, the *Mishnah Berurah* cites the *Nishmas Adam* (*klal 14*) who forbids it.

The rationale of the *Nishmas Adam* is that the *tefillin* box must be open to the air. He cites the Talmud in *Sanhedrin* (89a) backing up this view. If the coloring has significant substance to it, then it would be considered a block that does not allow it to be exposed to the open air.

Rabbi Yechezkel Landau, in his *Noda BiYehuda* (MK OC #1) writes that even if there is substance to it, it is still permitted because since it comes to beautify it, it is considered *batel* to the *tefillin* housing. The *Mishnah Berurah* chooses not to rely on this view in regard to a coating that can be peeled off in its entirety, but to rely on it when the coating is still solid enough that it can be chipped off one piece at a time.

Some may be tempted to try to prove from this *Mishnah Berurah* that the newfangled *retzuos* are kosher. How so? Because the *Mishnah Berurah* cites the view of the *Nishmas Adam* to say that it is non-kosher because it is not exposed to the air. He does not bring any argument to say that it is not considered black. Others say that there are numerous distinctions between these two cases and that a proof cannot be brought from a non-statement at any rate.

Some of the people who have purchased the new straps have witnessed the black layer peeling off. Presumably, the sweat and hair oil that are

on the wearer's body are causing it to come apart. At any rate, after the top layer comes off, a brown, undyed strap is left below.

Of late, a number of entrepreneurial individuals have started manufacturing *tefillin* straps in Brazil and Thailand. The Ukrainian ones have become more widespread.

Is there only one company that is producing problematic *retzuos*? Apparently not. This author was present when a well-known philanthropist came in for new *retzuos*. He had purchased them from a reliable *sofer* in Jerusalem—one that thousands of local people have purchased their *tefillin* from.

What is the reason for the problem?

There are three major theories that insiders have been proposing, all of them involving some unfortunate tweaking to the older methods of processing. Possibility #1 is that the method of leather processing has changed from a 4-to-5-day process to an overnight process. Instead of utilizing vegetable oils in the processing, the new

chemicals being used are changing the absorption properties of the leather—which explains the peeling. Others have explained that the manufacturers have purposefully changed the leather so that less paint will be necessary to make it black. Yet a third theory is that too much plastic has been put into the paint itself.

The *Five Towns Jewish Times* is in the process of sending the *tefillin* paint to check for the percentage of plastic.

What will be the final disposition of these *tefillin* straps? It is this author's view that the *eidah chareidis beis din* will end up forbidding it and that they are, in fact, problematic.

Were those people who wore the *tefillin* reciting a *berachah levatalah*? The *Eishel Avraham* (OC 39) clearly rules that they did not. However, from now on, they should not recite a blessing over them and they should definitely wear a different pair.

Are there *tefillin* straps without problems? "Tefillin straps that are manufactured now under the supervision of the *eidah chareidis* are without problem," remarked Rabbi Abraham Berkowitz from Five Towns Judaica. "They have a *mashgiach temidi* present during the entire process." Rabbi Shimbarsky, who studied in the Ponevezh yeshiva, and Rabbi Dundenfeld, who studied in Brisk, are two such manufacturers with an impeccable reputation under the *eidah chareidis*. ❖

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OTHER SIDE OF THE BENCH

Continued from Front Cover

of a break for those in need of some R&R (religious respite). From the start of the Three Weeks to the conclusion of Sukkos, the message that our fate is in the hands of a higher source, that our destiny is in large part not controlled by us, is reflected in our every prayer and action. Sometimes we are summoned to action by the loud blast of the *shofar*. Other times we are enlisted by the silent whispers of the *lulav* as we wave it back and forth, up and down, side to side.

We live in a noisy world. We have been conditioned to believe that he who screams the loudest, wins. We are impressed with style over substance, looks over depth. I, for one, prefer the call of the silent *lulav* and pray that this year will be a quiet year.

I grew up in a noisy house. Eight children, two parents, and then brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, and then their children, thank G-d, made Simon and Garfunkel's "Sound of Silence" not just a song, but a prayer.

Every Thursday night, my mother, may she rest in peace, would disappear to the public library for an hour or two for a well-deserved break from the commotion. I would accompany her sometimes, sit in the huge big black swivel chairs in the newspaper section, and, believe it or not, enjoy the quiet. It's been a long time—too long—since I have had the time or opportunity to enjoy such quiet. The faint rustle of the *lulav* branch is good enough for me.

People often ask me if I display my humor in court in front of the judges. On rare occasions I do, but most often I allow the judge to set the tone. If he or she wants humor, I will toss in a good line here or there. If the judge is in a serious mood, the last thing I want to do is show him or her up by switching the mood. I read the judge. That is the first thing I do as I enter the courtroom. In fact, I will sit in the courtroom watching the judge handle other cases—instead of waiting in the hallway till my case is called—so that I can see what kind of mood the judge is in on that particular day. If the judge is in a *shofar* mood, I bring in the *shofar*. If the judge prefers the hush of the *lulav*, that becomes my weapon of choice.

I recall not too long ago covering a case for my partner, who was away on vacation. We basically are aware of each other's cases and spend a lot of time each day discussing the cases that I am primarily handling and the cases that she is primarily responsible for. Accordingly, I was well aware of all the facts and circumstances surrounding that particular case when I entered court that day.

The judge was in a serious, all-business mode, which I observed by arriving 20 minutes before my adversary. I had witnessed the judge "let loose" on another attorney that morning so I knew to keep it low-key. I would state my position once and only once for the record and let the judge control the courtroom.

Unfortunately for my adversary, by arriving late he did not have the advantage I had of observing the judge's mood that morning. He stated his position, and in trying to gain somewhat of

an advantage over me, interrupted me as I was stating my position. That was strike one.

When the judge repeated my position, my adversary interrupted the judge to restate his position and drown

Now here was the interesting epilogue. My partner received an e-mail from the client stating that I had blown the case—that we had lost, that I was unsure of myself and was quiet compared to the other attorney.

I had witnessed the judge "let loose" on another attorney that morning so I knew to keep it low-key.

out mine. That was strike number two. The judge screamed at my adversary, who made the mistake of interrupting the judge's admonition, trying to defend himself. That was strike three.

I had won by barely stating a word. The relief we had requested was granted.

We had won! But in this noisy world, the client was so used to the fact that he who screams loudest, he who makes the bigger commotion, wins. It totally escaped her that we had been victorious precisely because I was more silent. There was no need for me to join all the yelling. I left the *shofar* at home

that day and brought the *lulav* instead.

To be sure, there are times when the shrill sound of the *shofar* is necessary. But more often than not, the stillness of the palm branch can carry the day.

For the next 30 days, we need the *shofar* to arouse us from our spiritual sleep. But after that, I'm praying for a quiet year, a peaceful year, a year of whispers, and sounds of silence. ❖

David Seidemann is a partner with the law firm of Seidemann and Mermelstein and serves as a professor of business law at Touro College. He can be reached at 718-692-1013 or ds@lawofficesm.com.



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ZEV WOLFSON

Continued from Front Cover

"Mr. Wolfson, there is a young man that you have to meet who shares many of your goals." Mr. Wolfson had just come to my office unannounced. I had no idea who he was, and we spoke.

Y.H.: You hit it off right away?

A.D.: Actually no. At the beginning we did not get on well at all. But soon we developed very close ties and became quite close.

Y.H.: So how would you describe Mr. Wolfson's contributions to the State of Israel?

A.D.: Reb Zev Wolfson's life has to be divided into two parts. There is Zev Wolfson the *askan* and Zev Wolfson the *gvir*. [*Askan* means involved person and *gvir* means financial benefactor.] I was familiar with him in both facets of his assistance to the state. As far as his *askanut*, there was no one who did more for Sephardic Jewry and for their *hatzalah* than Zev Wolfson.

Y.H.: Specifically . . .

A.D.: Well, let me give you a typical example. As you know, he was involved in Chinuch Atzmai from the very beginning and was Rav Aharon Kotler's right-hand man. But in the very beginning, the state did not help the Chinuch Atzmai school system at all. There were some very serious financial problems in the beginning. The treasurer at the time was a fellow named Shlomo Hoffman. And no, I do not believe that he was any relation to you, though I could be mistaken.

Y.H.: No, no relation.

A.D.: Anyway, one day, Shlomo Hoffman receives an urgent phone call from the Foreign Office in Israel. "You have caused enormous damage to the State of Israel. You must come down immediately." Hoffman is in a state of shock. What had he done? What were they talking about? He went down and was told by the ambassador's staff member, "A fellow named Mr. Zev Wolfson had contacted a number of senators that all aid to Israel should be temporarily stopped until the financial problems in the religious sector of Israel's schools are resolved to the satisfaction of Shlomo Hoffman." What is the meaning of this? Hoffman answered that he had no idea. Needless to say, the Israelis fixed the problem and the aid was given. In fact, Wolfson had made sure that in the allocation there was a stipulation that the funding be exclusively for Sephardic Jews.

Y.H.: That is not the case now. I know that all the Chinuch Atzmai schools get allocations.

A.D.: Yes, Menachem Porush addressed that and had that changed to include Ashkenazim. [laughs]

Y.H.: Oh, well . . . [laughs] What other aspects . . . ?

A.D.: Oh, he did much more than this. He realized that we had to do more than the schooling system was doing, and that is when he began backing the *metivtot* programs. No one can possibly fathom what he did, but he was intimately involved in the creation of some 70 dormitory schools throughout Israel. He helped them

all. Rav Tenami's *metivta*, the Orach Chaim *metivta*, Rav Blechner's place, and many more.

Y.H.: This was strictly through his financial support?

A.D.: No, he was also able to take advantage of some refugee funding and helped direct it there. However, eventually they stopped the programming. Also, I just want to add that both my brother and I personally benefitted from Mr. Wolfson's efforts. I came to Israel from Morocco in 1968 with my brother. I was 9 and my brother was 11. He is now the rabbi of Be'er Sheva. Were it not for Wolfson, neither of us would be where we are today. His assistance with the buildings and such was not only through the United States. He was able to do this in France as well and was close to Chirac.

Y.H.: In what other capacity did he assist the State of Israel?

A.D.: In both loans and loan guarantees through his lobbying, he was able to shave off percentage points. Indeed, Rabin told me about him that there was never a Jew who had helped *Eretz Yisrael* as much as he had.

But also, Rabin told me that in 1973, during the Yom Kippur War, the Syrians were already in Tveria. *Baruch Hashem* we were able to push them back, but there was no more ammunition. Golda Meir reached out to President Nixon. She begged. She pleaded. She even cried. But he was not budging. Kissinger also seemed to be unmoved by her pleas. They did not want to provide Israel with material assistance, apparently because they were

afraid of being cut off from Arab oil. It was Zev Wolfson who individually contacted the senators who pressured the president.

I had asked Mr. Wolfson about it later, and at first he was reluctant to describe what he had done, but he did tell me. Mr. Wolfson had posed the question to Rav Moshe Feinstein [zr'l], who had told him that he may even travel on the Shabbos to lobby the senators in person. This is exactly what he did. He traveled to Washington on Shabbos with the *heter* of Rav Moshe Feinstein.

Y.H.: How did he perceive his role or his mission, in your estimation?

A.D.: He looked at things as if it was not his money at all. He viewed himself as merely a *gabbai*. This, by the way, explains all the stories about him traveling coach instead of first class or business class. Whenever he came to *Eretz Yisrael* he was busy all day with meetings about what he could do to help. From morning until night. I think that also, his view of how to look at things transferred to his children. He leaves behind a family of *Yerei Shamayim* that are following in his footsteps.

Y.H.: Thank you so much, Reb Aryeh. It was a pleasure sitting down with you.

A.D.: The pleasure was mine. Please feel free any time to reach out to me.

Y.H.: And a safe trip home!

A.D.: Amen. ❖

The author can be reached at Yairhoffman2@gmail.com.

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PA Official: Israel's 'Inciting Rhetoric' Leading To Violence

BY SAMUEL SOKOL
MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

The Palestinian Authority's official media outlets, Israeli media-monitoring groups allege, serve as organs promoting the glorification of terrorism, hatred of Jews, and intransigence in negotiations. Readers of the *Five Towns Jewish Times* are no doubt familiar with news reports quoting PA-TV and the *Al Hayat Al Jadida* newspaper, by way of Palestinian Media Watch (PMW). Such reports, a staple in many Israeli and Jewish media outlets, outline the ways in which Israelis and Zionism are demonized in the PA. However, less well known are the PA's incitement reports, cataloguing what the PA's leadership considers to be Israeli incitement.

Started several months ago by Ghasan Khatib, a Palestinian Arab academic and the head of the Palestinian Government Media Center (PGMC) in Ramallah, the monthly incitement report details examples of Israeli extremism, such as calling the territories captured in 1967 "Judea and Samaria," their Biblical names.

These monthly reports are distributed by e-mail to foreign journalists and diplomats stationed in Israel and the PA and have led to articles on incitement in publications such as *Haaretz*.

Khatib, who recently announced his impending return to Birzeit University, agreed to sit down with this correspondent for a one-on-one in his office in an upscale neighborhood of the PA administrative center of Ramallah.

Khatib explained why he believes Israel is the one truly engaging in incitement. "Incitement is leading to Israeli violence," he said, stating that there has been an increase in anti-Palestinian attacks due to "the inciting rhetoric that you hear sometimes from politicians and religious leaders."

"Palestinians," he said, "have always objected to certain problematic Israeli behaviors or statements that had an inciting effect," but the Palestinian objections were "unsystematic" and unorganized.

Now, in light of "the larger picture in which in Israel today there is an increase in hatred, hostility, and rhetoric of the kind that encourages violence and hatred and racism against Palestinians," it has become imperative, he said, to begin addressing the issue of Israeli racism head on.

Among the monthly incitement reports' primary recurring objections is Israel's "provocative denial" of Palestinian history. "Distorting history for political purposes is profoundly disturbing," Khatib said, "and in the context of the Middle East is an obvious incitement against those who wish to live in peace side by side."

It is especially disturbing when practiced in schools, he said. He is bothered in particular, he states in one of his reports, by comments by Education Minister Gideon Sa'ar, who

is accused of "rejecting Palestinian history" by downplaying the "Palestinian history" of Jerusalem.

Sa'ar is cited in the report as saying that "Jerusalem has never been the capital of other than the Jewish people." Khatib finds this unacceptable. It goes without saying, the report notes, that if the education minister holds these views, Israeli students would be indoctrinated in them via his education policies.

Among the alleged denials of Palestinian attachment to the land raised by Khatib is that "Israeli textbooks foster hate." Citing an Israeli textbook that refers to the disputed territories as Judea and Samaria, Khatib wrote that "insisting on using the term 'Judea and Samaria' rather than 'West Bank' or 'Palestinian territory' is nothing but delegitimizing Palestinian rights and ignoring the existence of Palestine. It not only denies

Palestinian rights to their land but contributes to unmaking Palestine in the minds of Israeli children by teaching in schools that the West Bank is theirs, and part of Israel."

Khatib elaborates that the PA "uses terms in a legal way that was agreed on, that were included in the agreements signed by the two sides. "The essence of our problem with the Israeli textbooks vis-à-vis maps is that we simply don't exist. We as Palestinians, or Palestinian territories, we don't exist in the Israeli maps and curricula."

However, statements denying Israeli history abound on Palestinian television and radio, in official newspapers and in school books, said Itamar Marcus of PMW. The PA Ambassador to Geneva, Ibrahim Kharisha, he points out, recently said on the official PATV television channel that "the Palestinians [were] in Palestine before the Jews came to us from Egypt, via Sinai."

"Before Christianity sprouted in Palestine, and before Islam arrived from

the Hijaz, Palestinians have been in Palestine. And everyone remembers that in 2010, we celebrated the 10,000th anniversary of the establishment of the Palestinian city Jericho."

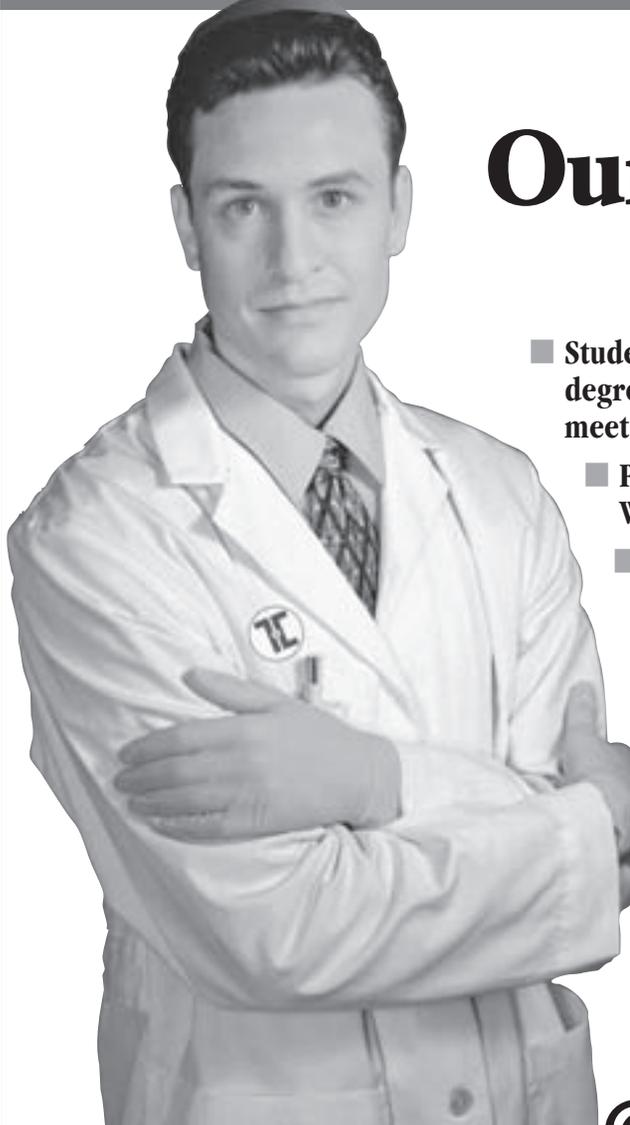
Knowing that such an Israeli objection to his statements would be inevitable, Khatib points out that "Israelis started to complain that Israel doesn't exist in the Palestinian textbooks, so we just wanted to remind them that we also don't exist in their textbooks, so it doesn't make sense to criticize the absence of Israel in our textbooks at a time when we don't exist in any way in the Israeli textbooks."

This, Marcus replies, is the Palestinians "trying to create a symmetry by pretending that Israel is doing the same thing." The use of the term "Judea and Samaria" is completely legitimate, Marcus believes, stating that they were the historic designation for these regions for thousands of years and are the best non-political terms to use in describing the disputed terri-

Continued on Page 26

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Inciting Rhetoric

Continued from Page 25

tories, whatever one's political orientation or views on Palestinian statehood. "The same sources that call Jerusalem 'Jerusalem' and Jaffa 'Jaffa' call these regions 'Judea and Samaria.' So why doesn't he stop calling it Jaffa if that's what his problem is, using biblical terms?" Marcus asks.

"Nowhere in any accords does it say it can't be called Judea and Samaria and, most important, this land of Judea and Samaria is, according to the Oslo Accords, to be negotiated. It's not, even by the Oslo Accords, called Palestine, it's called the Palestinian Authority. By him calling it Palestine, he is trying to impose a status" that neither the Oslo Accords nor any other until now has given it.

Citing examples from the PA media such as the *Al-Hayat Al-Jadida* newspaper calling pre-1967 Israel "Palestine occupied in 1948" and claims that Jesus was a Palestinian, despite the name Palestine only being imposed on Judea by the Romans 136 years after his birth, Marcus asserts that "one of the most important Palestinian endeavors today is what I would call replacement: to replace Jewish history with a fictitious and fabricated Palestinian history."

When the PA claims the Western Wall was really where Muhammad tied his horse, that there was no Temple on the Temple Mount, or that Rachel's and Joseph's tombs are really mosques, and Israel declares that

they are historically Jewish, Marcus alleges, the PA finds it easy to accuse Israel of incitement for calling the Arabs on their revisionist narrative.

"The Palestinians would like Israel to stop talking about its history because Israel's history means that we have a historical connection to the land, and their basic ideology said that Israel has no connection and has no right to exist and they don't want this claim to be challenged."

"Insisting on using the term 'Judea and Samaria' rather than 'West Bank' or 'Palestinian territory' is nothing but delegitimizing Palestinian rights."

Marcus brandishes a recently uncovered PA publication entitled "Terminology in Media, Culture and Politics" which seeks to instruct Palestinians to replace "the Israeli and American dissemination of poisoned terms." According to this book, using Israeli terminology "turns the essence of the Zionist endeavor from a racist, colonialist endeavor into an endeavor of self-definition and independence for the Jewish People."

The book instructs Palestinians to refer to suicide bombings as "martyrdom-seeking operations" and reinforces Marcus's contention that the PA is actively endorsing terrorism.

While there has been an uptick in reported Jewish violence against Arabs, it certainly cannot be attributed to any official government propaganda on the part of the State of Israel, Marcus says. Ultimately, he believes, the biggest difference between PA in-

Post that incitement "is harmful to the relation between the two sides" he is correct. However, it seems that his focus on Israeli incitement may just be a fig leaf to cover his own government's failures in this area, and Marcus believes that peace demands that he own up to that fact. ❖

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Heard At The Sheitel Macher

BY ANONYMOM613

It seems that there is a new *kashrus* scandal brewing. This one, though, is not about food, it is about *tefillin*. Actually it is about the straps. Some of the straps are no longer being manufactured in Israel and are actually not painted black but are black plastic laminate instead. Uh-oh. One of the rabbis gave a demonstration of it in shul this week. Anyone with an eighth-grader better get her son's straps checked.

...

And speaking about children, a lot of people are helping their children settle in Israel this week for either yeshiva or seminary. One family is helping both of them settle. The Plaza Hotel in Jerusalem is running at only 40% occupancy, which means that you can get some great deals and have a lot of leverage in negotiating price. When booking through Orbitz you can get a car in Israel for \$10 a day. The downside is that you have to know how to drive a stick-shift to get this price, but the automatics are only a few dollars more.

...

When storing a *sheitel* between wearings, always make the extra effort to put it on a stand—and do get the long stand if the *sheitel* is long. Without the stand, it will get more tangled and you have to bring the *sheitel* in more often. The more often you bring it in, the less it will last you.

...

Five Towns women are getting into Reiki energy healing. Most of their husbands think it is completely bogus and a waste of money. Some of the local *rabbanim* are saying that it is *avodah zarah*. But why is it any different than acupuncture? Some of our local *roshei yeshiva* go to the local acupuncture specialist (and even swear by him). Looks like this is a growing topic that needs to be addressed. One thing is for sure—the Reiki healing does nothing for *sheitels* in poor condition!

...

Store your *sheitel* in a place away from a lot of heat, away from humidity, and away from dust. All of these will kill your *sheitel*.

...

A lot of people are going away this week. After the kids have returned from camp, a family vacation before the schools start up again seems to be a good way to end the summer.

...

Having more than one *sheitel* in different styles is a good way to add versatility, style, and fun to a wardrobe. It also helps to change your look to match the mood you are in.

...

It seems that a lot of our local schools got some new *rebbis* for this coming year. South Shore, Darchei, and Yeshiva Ketana. Plus TAG hired a male *mashgiach ruchani*. ❖

Do you have *sheitel* questions, cute tips, or find any of this information very useful? Drop the author a line at AnonyMom613@gmail.com.

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Discovering Their Jewish Roots

Twenty-five young Polish Jews, many of whom have only recently discovered their Jewish roots, arrived in Israel this week for a special seminar organized by Shavei Israel, an organization that aims to strengthen the connection between descendants of Jews and the State of Israel and the Jewish people. The participants, between the ages of 18 and 35, most of whom were raised Catholic, came from a variety of cities throughout Poland, primarily Krakow, Katowice, Warsaw, Przemysl, and Gdansk. For many it marks their first time visiting Israel.

“There is a growing thirst among young Poles with Jewish roots to learn more about their Jewish religious and cultural heritage,” said Shavei Israel chairman Michael Freund. “This awakening would have been unthinkable just 25 or 30 years ago, but since the downfall of Communism, an increasing number of Poles have sought to reclaim and affirm their Jewish identity. We owe it to them to assist them in any way that we can.”

Freund added, “With the start of the Jewish New Year just a few weeks away, it is fitting that these young Poles have come to Israel to rekindle their bond with the Jewish people. They represent the future of Polish Jewry, which de-

spite decades of suffering and persecution is now beginning to thrive. There can be no sweeter revenge for what was done to us seven decades ago in Poland than to reconnect as many of these young Polish Jews as possible with Israel and the Jewish people.”



Shavei Israel program participants at the Kotel

The unique program, which is run by Shavei Israel's team of Polish-speaking rabbis and educators, is designed to assist them in discovering more about their Jewish roots and learning more about ancient and modern-day Israel. Among the topics that will be covered are the laws of Shabbos; the upcoming festivals

of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkos; and keeping kosher in a non-kosher world. Participants will also study the weekly Torah portion that is read in synagogue.

Sessions will be led by Rabbis Baruch Babaev, Yitzchak Rappoport, Avraham Rabitz, and Dawid Szychowska, along with Shavei Israel's emissary to Krakow,

Rabbi Boaz Pash, and its emissary to Katowice, Rabbi Yehoshua Ellis. Morning, afternoon, and evening prayer services will also be available.

Not only will the young Poles delve deeper into Jewish study in the classroom, but they will also have an opportunity to tour various sites in Israel such as Masada and the Dead Sea, and

the northern part of the country including the Sea of Galilee and the Kabbalistic city of Tsfat. The group will also visit the Jewish Quarter in the Old City of Jerusalem and explore the Western Wall tunnels.

Two special activities include a meeting with the Polish Ambassador to Israel, and an all-day study seminar at a local yeshiva.

Today, there are approximately 4,000 Jews registered as living in Poland, but experts suggest there may be tens of thousands of other Jews in Poland who to this day either are hiding their identities or are simply unaware of their family heritage. In recent years, a growing number of such people, popularly known as the “Hidden Jews of Poland,” have begun to return to Judaism and to the Jewish people.

Shavei Israel is currently active in nine countries and provides assistance to a variety of different communities such as the Bnei Menashe of India, the Bnei Anousim (referred to as the derogatory “Marranos” by historians) in Spain, Portugal, and South America, the Subbotnik Jews of Russia, the Jewish community of Kaifeng in China, descendants of Jews living in Poland, and others. Shavei Israel currently has two full-time emissaries in Poland, located in Krakow and Katowice. For more information visit www.shavei.org. ❖

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that's the WAY IT IS

By Hannah Reich Berman

A True Visionary

This tale is a corker! I won't take offense if you don't believe what you are about to read. I solemnly promise, however, that it's true. There's a new product available in Jerusalem, as a result of which some enterprising soul over there might soon find himself making big bucks. The product is a small sticker. Your eyes don't deceive you; you've read the previous sentence correctly. A sticker!

An ultra-ultra-fringe group of Jews decided that they needed custom eyewear, in the form of a sticker that they could place on eyeglass lenses to blur the wearer's vision. The explanation for wanting to have one's vision blurred follows here, but, readers, please brace yourselves for it: It is to avoid accidental—and forbidden—contact with scantily clad women. Don't yell at me. I'm simply reporting this news bite; I'm not making it up. I couldn't. I'm not that creative.

A few questions come to mind. What if a person doesn't wear glasses? Does he put the sticker on his eyeballs? And if one does wear glasses, why would he need to affix special stickers to the lenses to blur his vision? Wouldn't a simpler and less expensive solution be to smear

Vaseline on the lenses? That would take care of things. But I have more questions. If people choose not to see clearly, how do they stay safe? What prevents someone from bumping into walls, trees, plate-glass doors, or other people?

Supposedly the stickers allow a person to see to a distance of up to three yards, but that still doesn't sound like a good idea. If someone is silly enough to mess with his vision and then find that he needs to cross the street while being unable to see farther than a measly nine feet, what's to prevent him from stepping out in front of a speeding vehicle? Also, a wearer might possibly get used to this limited vision, forget that he has affixed stickers to his lenses, and then get behind the wheel of his car. It's true that if an inappropriately dressed female crosses in front of his car he won't see her, but he might just kill her—or some other unsuspecting soul—unless the pedestrian manages to jump out of the path of the vehicle with lightning speed. And even if a driver with diminished vision does manage to avoid hitting someone, there are other things he

Continued on Page 30

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THAT'S THE WAY IT IS!

Continued from Page 29

might miss. How will he be able to see other cars on the road or know if he's approaching a red light or a stop sign? Sounds to me like pretty serious stuff.

A less compelling question that comes to mind concerns the cost of these stickers. I read that the going rate is six dollars. While that's not a lot of money, it does seem like a waste—especially in Israel, where six dollars will buy a falafel and a large drink for a hungry child. Then, too, six dollars could be used to give *tzedakah* to a needy person.

The stickers are being promoted by an organization called the Committee for Purity in the Camp, and are recommended to help religious men avoid violating their holy beliefs. This is "yenem" solution. It's a real gimmick and it may prove to be a boon for the person who thought of the idea, or for the individual who manufactures the stickers. Maybe they're one and the same, in which case, if this thing catches on, that person could have a very bright financial future. It's known that some very wealthy people got their start with a small business idea. So, we may one day hear big things about the innovator. Supposedly an entire committee is involved, but the likelihood is that the idea for the stickers germinated in the mind of a single person. Realistically, it's unlikely that an entire group of people could come up with the same unique idea. And unique it is.

If I were to say that I wish this creative genius the best of luck with the stickers, it would be disingenuous. My hope

is that the stickers don't catch on, especially in New York. With both pedestrian and vehicular traffic in our fair city as crazy as it is, the last thing we need is to have myopic people driving around, or even walking. It could prove disastrous. Think of the accidents and the traffic tie-ups, not to mention the shrieking sound of ambulance and police sirens as they rush to the scene of one accident after another. Nevertheless, I think we'll be OK, since it's doubtful that this *meshugas* will catch on here. This group apparently doesn't speak for the Orthodox or the *chassidic* communities at large; they speak only for themselves.

I can think of a few things I would rather not see, but I wouldn't mess with my vision to accomplish that.

It's not altogether crazy to want to avoid some sights—I can think of a few things I would rather not see—but I wouldn't mess with my vision to accomplish that. What I would be happy not to see has nothing to do with people. The sight of chocolate is a problem for me. It drives me nuts, because all I have to do is eyeball that stuff and I can't resist reaching for it. Unfortunately, with regard to chocolate I would not only need my vision blurred, additionally, I would need to have my hearing diminished, since that stuff calls out to me—

by name.

Needles are also problematic. Despite my advanced age, I have an aversion to them, particularly those that go into a vein. During a blood test, just as the doctor goes to slip that pointy thing into my outstretched arm, I tell myself not to watch. Unfortunately, it's a useless speech that I make to myself, because I have a longstanding habit of not listening to myself. I always look. My willpower isn't just poor; it might be more appropriately called non-existent.

There are other sights I would be best off not seeing, but intentionally blurring my vision isn't something I would

consider doing. I don't wear eyeglasses, but if I did, it's a safe bet that I wouldn't pay for stickers to slap onto the lenses. I would go with the Vaseline. A large tube of that stuff might last for a year or more—unless, of course, I happen to need an unusual number of blood tests or have the misfortune to encounter more chocolate than usual. That's the way it is. ❖

Hannah Berman lives in Woodmere and is a licensed real-estate broker associated with Marjorie Hausman Realty. She can be reached at Savtahannah@aol.com or 516-902-3733.

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Holocaust, Holocaust, Holocaust

BY RABBI AVI SHAFRAN

When Palestinian Authority presidential adviser Ziad Al-Bandak paid his respects recently at the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp, Hamas spokesman Fawzi Barhoum called the Palestinian's visit there "a marketing of a false Zionist alleged tragedy."

A newly appointed Romanian government official, Dan Soava, averred earlier this year that "No Jew suffered on Romanian territory" during World War II. (Tens of thousands of Romanian Jews were killed on Romanian territory, and hundreds of thousands others deported to their deaths. The historian Raul Hilberg concluded that "no country, besides Germany, was involved in massacres of Jews on such a scale.")

We tend to get exercised by Holocaust denial, and for good reason. The refusal to accept the facts that part of the ostensibly civilized world went on a genocidal murder spree over the years 1938-1945 and that most of the rest of the world didn't much care implies a certain regret that the genocide failed.

In the end, though, deniers of that historical truth are—at least outside the Arab world—generally marginalized, recognized as either mentally deficient or depraved.

But then there are those, even among our fellow Jews, who are, if not Holocaust deniers, then Holocaust deriders. Like a writer for *Tablet*, an online magazine, who recently wrote (Warning: deeply offensive quote ahead) that "Each time we clapped for the old Hungarian lady who spoke about Dachau, each time Elie Wiesel threw another anonymous anecdote of betrayal onto a page, I eyed it askance, thinking, 'What did you do that you're not talking about?' I had the gut instinct that these were villains masquerading as victims who, solely by virtue of surviving (very likely by any means necessary), felt that they had earned the right to be heroes, their basic, animal self-interest dressed up with glorified phrases like 'triumph of the human spirit.'"

And more (if the reader has the stomach for it): "I wondered if anyone had alerted Hitler that in the event that the final solution didn't pan out, only

Continued on Page 32

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5 TOWNS JEWISH TIMES August 24, 2012 31

Holocaust Fatigue

Continued from Page 31

the handful of Jews who actually fulfilled the stereotype of the *Judenscheisse* (because every group has a few) would remain to carry on the Jewish race—con- niving, indestructible, taking and taking.”

And, finally, there’s a more subtle chal- lenge to the memory of the six million, though in a way more disturbing for its subtlety. Call it Holocaust fatigue.

mention of the 6 million.”

And a third: “8:20: Hitler mention: On this day in 1936, the Olympic Games be- gan at a stadium of similar size in Ber- lin . . .”

The writer doesn’t spell out his pre- cise feelings about the references, but in the context of the “sassy” tone of the blog, it’s pretty clear that he found them somewhat . . . tiresome.

The Holocaust has, sadly, been mis- appropriated in the service of various

One entry reads: “8:02: First mention of the Holocaust.”

Like some recent blogging by a report- er for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, the premier American Jewish news service. Reporter blogs allow journalists to let their hair down a bit and offer reports that are more informal and person- al than the writers’ official, supposedly objective products. The blog entries are thus windows on their writers’ minds.

This particular writer, who produced a short, straightforward report on the recent *Daf Yomi Siyum HaShas*, used his blog plat- form to present his followers a “real time” series of observations from MetLife Stadi- um on August 1. Meant to be droll and fun- ny, they came across, at least to some read- ers, as more smarmy than savvy.

One entry reads: “8:02: First mention of the Holocaust (‘Auschwitz,’ ‘Nazis,’ ‘ghetto,’ ‘gas chambers’).”

A second one reads: “8:19: Another

purposes. But if ever there were a prop- er and fitting place for invoking the de- signs of the would-be destroyers of *K’lal Yisrael*, indeed, of Judaism, then a mammoth Jewish celebration of Torah is it. “*Yehei Shmeih Rabbah*” declared by 90,000 Jewish voices in unison was thunderous testimony to the fact that our enemies, again, have failed and that both our people and our Torah have emerged from unspeakable national tragedy faithful and strong.

I don’t mean, of course, to in any way compare Holocaust fatigue to sewage like Holocaust denial and Holocaust de- rision. The latter are evils, the former an unfortunate problem.

But it’s a problem, a deeply discomfit- ing one, all the same. ❖

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Judges and officers you shall place at all your city-gates . . .

(Devarim 16:18)

Do not judge alone, for no one can judge alone but the One.

(Pirkei Avos 4:8)

Monetary matters are decided by a court of three judges . . . capital crimes by a tribunal of 23 judges. . . . From where is this derived? For it is written (Bamidbar 35:24–25): “And the community shall judge . . . and the community shall save”—we need a community of judges arguing to convict the accused, and a community of judges arguing to exonerate him. Thus we have 20 (a “community” indicating a minimum of 10, as per Bamidbar 14:27). A conviction requires a majority of two (as per Sh’mos 23:2), and a court of law cannot have an even number of judges; thus we need 23 judges (22 so that there should be a majority of 2 over the 10 “saving” judges, and another judge so that the court should not be even-numbered).

(Talmud, Sanhedrin 2a–b)

Under Torah law, capital crimes are tried by a tribunal of 23 judges called a “minor Sanhedrin.” After hearing the testimony of the witnesses, the judges themselves would split into two groups: those inclined to argue for the acquittal of the accused would serve as his “defense team” and seek to convince their colleagues of his innocence; those inclined to convict would make the case for his guilt. Then the judges would vote. A majority of one was sufficient to exonerate, while a majority of two was necessary to convict.

But what if all 23 judges form an initial opinion of guilt? What if the evidence is so compelling and the crime so heinous that not a single member of the tribunal chooses to argue in favor of the accused? In such a case, says Torah law, the accused cannot be convicted and must be exonerated by the court.

The Lubavitcher Rebbe explains the rationale behind this law as follows: No man is so utterly evil that there is nothing to be said in his defense. There is always some explanation, some justification, some perspective from which the underlying goodness of his soul can be glimpsed. This does not mean that he is going to be found innocent, in the legal sense, by a court of law: at times the “mitigating circumstances” result in a verdict of acquittal, and at times they do not. But if not a single member of the court perceives the “innocent side” of the person standing accused before them, this a court that obviously has very little understanding of who he is and what he has done. Such a court has disqualified itself from passing judgment on him.

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Half Empty

BY MORDECHAI SCHMUTTER

Elul is a time to work on ourselves. I say that every year. Every year I write a column about one *middah* that we all have to work on, and I'm going to write about another *middah* this year, even though I keep looking around and it seems that people aren't really improving themselves as fast as they could be. So this year we're going to speak about pessimism.

That's it? Just pessimism? You're not going to speak about optimism?

We're actually going to speak about both. No one likes to think he's a pessimist, but we all know someone who's a pessimist or have a little voice in our heads that constantly expresses pessimistic thoughts, usually in italics.

Great. So now we're schizophrenic.

The pessimist inside us wants more than he has. He wants to be rich. But, as the *mishnah* in *Avos* says, "Who is rich? He who is happy with his lot."

I'm okay with my lot. It's the house on the lot that I'm not crazy about.

Some people say the glass of water is half full. Some people say the glass is half empty. One can argue that they're both pessimists, in a way, because they're making a huge deal about a half a cup of water. I just gulp it down and look around for more.

"Hey, what are you doing? We were arguing over that!"

Really. It's water. You can just get up and pour your own glass.

Uch, so now I have to get up and pour it myself?

But okay, maybe you're in a restaurant, and the waiter brought you a glass, and is going to charge you for it, and they generally frown on you getting up with your glass and walking into the kitchen for more water.

They probably don't want me to see that they're getting it from the tap.

So you're in a restaurant, and the waiter brings you a glass full of water and ice. A pessimist is the one who says, "You know, the more ice you get, the less water you get. Also, the ice waters it down. And by the time the meal comes, I'll be chewing on ice cubes. And for goodness sakes, two dollars for a cup of water? Do I at least get to keep the glass?"

Honestly. It's a glass of water. Let's all sit around discussing it.

Continued on Page 34

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Half Empty

Continued from Page 33

Well, we wouldn't have to discuss it if our food was here already.

Okay, so there are better examples than a glass of water. Let's say life hands you lemons . . .

No, I'm just kidding. There's nothing wrong with lemons. I did a freelance writing job recently for a company that sells nothing *but* lemons. Life hands them lemons, and they sell it to other companies to use for baked goods, floor cleanser, and squirt guns for mean older brothers.

How about this one? An optimist is a kid who, when Mommy says he can't have more candy, immediately goes to ask Totty. A pessimist is a kid who, when his little brother comes back and says that Totty said they could have more candy, makes sure to go back and ask Totty himself, just in case.

None of those examples were any good, either.

Of course, some people are never happy unless they're unhappy. In which case they're happy. So they become unhappy. Which makes them happy. This whole thing frankly gives me a headache, so I'm happy. But this is also why it's not that much fun to hang out with pessimists.

Of course, most negative people say that they're only pessimists because bad things always happen to them. And that is kind of true. When they complain to people about their never-ending stream of problems, the people edge away, or say things like, "Well, at least

you have your health." Once people are saying that, you know you have a lot of problems. Also, for some reason, no one ever wants to go out to eat with them. Except for extreme optimists, who love going to restaurants with people who complain, because there's a good chance they're going to get a free meal.

Yeah, but the free meal is going to have all the same problems the other meal had.

Also, a lot of times pessimism is a self-fulfilling prophecy. When my kids say they're not going to like something, and we spend two hours convincing them to taste a tiny bite, I know that 100% of the time, they're not going to like it. Maybe that's the pessimist in me talking.

Are you putting words in my mouth?

Of course, certain situations call for pessimism. For example, sometimes, as a parent, you have to be a pessimist, at least on the outside. You have to focus on the half of the room your children *didn't* clean. Maybe they did some cleaning, but until the last thing is put away, the room isn't actually "clean." Some people will probably disagree with me, but I think if you look into your child's room and go, "Great job cleaning half the room! I still can't see the floor, but at least now I can see my knees! Go have some more candy!" then you're just nuts.

So parents have to be pessimists, for *chinuch* reasons, and what we end up teaching our kids, before teaching them to finish a job, is how to be a pessimist. My point is that pessimism is a never-

ending cycle that we will never be able to eradicate, because try as we might, we keep passing it to our kids. So we probably shouldn't even try.

So here are some tips that are probably not going to work:

TIP #1: In general, I find the best way to be happy with what I get is to not expect too much beforehand. I think this is called "optimistic pessimism." But it's better than nothing.

TIP #2: In every situation, always look for at least one thing to be grateful for. Find reasons to say thank you, no matter how small they are. "Thank you for making supper. The canned peas were not quite as burned as the fish sticks and the noodles."

You can even make a whole thing of writing thank-you notes:

"Thank you so much for the wonderful thank-you note you sent for the wedding gift that we got you, and for writing what that gift was, because there was no way we were going to remember what we bought you on sale five years ago. Nevertheless, we were so excited to get something in the mail that was not a bill."

TIP #3: Okay, so obviously we won't be able to get rid of all of your pessimism at once. Let's work on this little by little. The vast majority of things in life are not 100% positive or 100% negative—otherwise everyone would do the positive things and no one would do the negative things, right? So instead of automatically focusing on the negative side of everything that is not 100% positive, which for argument's sake is 99% of all things, at least make a list of

all the pros and cons, and in the end, if there are really more negatives, you can be pessimistic about it.

Yeah, but I'm going to have to get a piece of paper and make a list, and by the time I'm done, people won't want to hear about it.

People *already* don't want to hear about it. Pessimism is a feeling you have inside—and for goodness' sakes, please keep it inside. But the only person who can change that feeling is you. And hopefully me, with this article. But probably not. You can try, though. After all, studies find that happy people live longer.

Oh, well, I guess that means that I'm not going to live longer.

Um, okay. At least you have your health. ❖

Mordechai Schmutter is a weekly humor columnist for Hamodia and is the author of three books, published by Israel Book Shop. He also does freelance writing for hire. You can send any questions, comments, or ideas to MSchmutter@gmail.com.



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real estate & mortgage financing

By Anessa V. Cohen

Preparations For Refinance

The rates are low. You are thinking to yourself, "Why not take advantage now and refinance to benefit from these rates and lower my payments for the long term?" Sound familiar? It's a great idea. But you can't just wave a magic wand and then ask, "Where do I sign?" Lenders typically require more preparation of a borrower as part of their mortgage application. So where would be the best place to start?

Gather all your pay stubs and tax returns to show where income comes from? Check! Copy bank statements showing assets, so the lender can see you are not down to your last dime? Check! Make a list of any or all debts you may have, together with the monthly payments you make to them? Check! Hurray! You seem to be on target in preparing your documentation. But maybe you forgot something?

As part of the lending process, the lender will send an appraiser to evaluate the condition and value of your house. How do you think your home will fare during this evaluation? Have you prepared your home for the evaluation process in the same meticulous way you prepared all the necessary doc-

umentation for the mortgage process, or did you sideline it, thinking whatever will be will be.

You want the appraiser to look at your home as being highly cared for.

In today's lending market, one of the most important aspects of getting the best rate, other than a high credit score, is the percentage of what you are looking to borrow against the appraised value of your home (loan-to-value). Since getting the highest possible value on your home can mean the difference between getting the best rate as opposed to settling for something higher, this is a preparation detail that should not be ignored unless your home is in top condition every day of the week.

Renovating your home or doing major construction is not really what I

am speaking about here. In the case of some homes that are not in the best condition, a little TLC can go a long way in making that appraisal tweak out a little extra value that can make the difference in the loan-to-value of your mortgage application and get you the better rate.

Some things as simple as making sure the house is cleaned top to bottom so everything looks well cared for, as well as making sure all clutter is put away so the house shows well, are the easiest as well as the zero-cost ways of getting the

ing highly cared for so as to have him (or her) compare your home to other well-cared-for homes that have recently closed, which will have gotten higher sales prices than homes that needed a facelift.

So when you are getting ready to refinance, take a little time to pay attention to the condition of your home at the same time you are ready to prepare your paperwork. This can mean the difference between the best rate, or second best. Which one would you rather have? ❖

Anessa Cohen lives in Cedarhurst and is a licensed real-estate broker and a licensed N.Y.S. mortgage broker with over 20 years of experience, offering full-service residential and commercial real-estate services (Anessa V Cohen Realty) and mortgaging services (First Meridian Mortgage) in the Five Towns and throughout the tri-state area. She can be reached at 516-569-5007 or via her website, www.AVCrealty.com. Readers are encouraged to send questions or comments to anessa.cohen@AVCrealty.com.



most value out of your home appraisal. The next item which might cost a little more in the pocket but the return on which can be tremendous is for those walls, ceiling, and trim that look like they have taken a real beating. Investing in a round of paint for all those sad-looking rooms—either professionally or by doing it yourself—can make a huge difference in how that house is perceived by the appraiser.

Remember that although the appraiser is comparing your home to similar closed homes in the area, you want the appraiser to look at your home as be-

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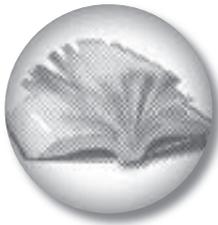
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DAF YOMI INSIGHTS

By Rabbi Avrohom Sebrow

Do Knot Disturb

I had a friend who purchased an airline ticket using his frequent-flyer miles. Some issue arose and he needed to contact customer service while at the airport. He called the company and apologized for not having his frequent-flyer number handy and instead offered his name. The agent was having some difficulty locating his account and my friend exclaimed in exasperation, "How many accounts can one frequent-flyer program possibly have for a Steve Moss from New York?" "Well over a hundred!" was the response. Common names can sometimes lead to confusion—or sometimes actually clear things up, as seen in the following Gemara.

The Gemara relates that Rebbe Chiya and Rebbe Yonasan were walking in a cemetery. Rebbe Yonasan's *tzitzis* were dragging over the graves. Whereupon Rebbe Chiya said, "Lift up your *tzitzis*, lest the departed say, 'Tomorrow they will be joining us and now they mock us.'" Since the departed can no longer fulfill *mitzvos*, dragging *tzitzis* over their graves is a form of mockery. The Gemara then commences a lengthy discussion regarding whether those who

are already in the next world know what is happening in this world.

The *Acharonim* discuss a tangential point. The Gemara in *Bava Metzia* (90b) records a conversation between Rebbe Yonasan and Rebbe Simai. It is clear from that conversation that Rebbe Yo-

nasan was a *kohein*. How, then, could he visit a cemetery? The *Seder HaDoros* offers a simple answer. There were two *Amoraim* named Rebbe Yonasan, and only one of them was a *kohein*. Based on other sources, the *Mitzpeh Eisan* says that there were three *Amoraim* named Rebbe Yonasan and still only one of them was a *kohein*. The one mentioned in our Gemara was not a *kohein*.

Another major tangential point raised regarding our Gemara is the appropriateness of allowing one's *tzitzis* to drag on the ground. Apparently, Rebbe Chiya had no issue with *tzitzis* strings dragging on the ground. He was only bothered by the fact that the *tzitzis* strings were being dragged over graves. The *Shulchan Aruch* (O.C. 21:4) says that one should be careful that his *tzitzis* strings not drag on the ground. This seems to be contradicted by our Gemara.

The *Yad Aharon* differentiates between a *tallis gadol* worn during *davening* and *tzitzis* worn all day. Only the strings of a *tallis gadol* should not be dragged on the ground. Since a *tallis gadol* is designated for prayer, it ac-

quires extra sanctity and must be treated with extra care. Understandably, Rebbe Yonasan was not wearing his *tallis gadol* in the cemetery. The *tzitzis* strings in question were attached to a different garment.

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Rav Aharon Kotler: Torah Lishmah

In honor of Rav Aharon Kotler's 50th *yahrzeit*, we begin to present a few anecdotes to help us gain more of an appreciation of this Torah giant, one whose impact on *K'lal Yisrael* has been immeasurable. It is with great hesitation that we embark on this task, as Rav Aharon represented the highest and purest levels of *kedushah*.

Rav Aharon was the acknowledged *gadol ha'dor* and leader of American Jewry, the prime builder of *chinuch* and Torah in *Eretz Yisrael*, and *rosh yeshivah* and founder of Beth Medrash Govoha in Lakewood, New Jersey in the 1940s. He infused a generation and a country with an unbridled love for learning Torah unlike what they had ever seen before. His life and his message were simple: *limud haTorah lishmah*. This stark revelation transformed the post-*Churban* Torah landscape.

Rav Aharon Kotler was a transcendent figure, one who in many ways single-handedly drove the rebuilding of *K'lal Yisrael* in the aftermath of the inferno of the *Churban*. He was fiercely passionate. The fire of Torah consumed his persona in a manner that was visible to all who saw him; its tenets dictated his every action, word, and thought. A *talmid* of the famed Slabodka Yeshiva, Rav Aharon firmly believed that Torah leaves no room for hesitation, weakness, or fear. Although he was initially opposed or ignored, Rav Aharon's fire eventually warmed the frozen hearts of American Jewry, revealing newfound commitment and dedication to Torah. As one *talmid* noted, "The *heiligkeit* of *Har Sinai* radiated from his face."

Prior to Rav Aharon's arrival, *limud haTorah* existed on these shores. Yet, Rav Aharon's unbending mantra of *limud haTorah lishmah* took American Jewry to new, never-imagined heights of Torah learning and commitment. His message rallied a broken band of survivors, along with pre-war American Jewry, to imagine a new landscape in which Torah was the prime factor in their lives and in which the foundation of a revitalized *K'lal* would be *limud* and *ahavas haTorah*. Through that foundation, *K'lal Yisrael* would be resurgent, and through that power, they would be restored. As a result, *avodas Hashem*, *mitzvos*, acts of *chesed*, *kiruv*, and every form of *ahavas Yisrael* would thrive. Shuls, *yeshivos*, and communities would begin to flourish.

Rav Aharon's legendary acts of *mesirus nefesh*, dedication, and personal in-

Continued on Page 51



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THE DISH By Elke Probkevit

Planting Seeds For A Healthy Body

There is so much focus on fruits, vegetables, and herbs that you hear little information about seeds and their health benefits. They are the birthplace for every plant, so there must be something to them. What is contained in these little concentrated miracles? Let's unlock the mysteries of the seeds.

Chia seeds. Chia seeds are the new miracle ingredient. The seeds, once only popular for growing grassy pets, come from the mint family. They are a great diet aid for many reasons. They help you feel fuller faster because they absorb water ten times their weight! Chia seeds turn into a gel that's bulky and keeps you full while also helping hydrate the body. Chia seeds also block some of the calorie absorption of the foods you eat and help reduce cravings. They are full of fiber, protein, calcium, and antioxidants. They help stabilize blood sugar and lower risk of heart disease. Add them to a smoothie or incorporate in baked goods.

Flax seeds. Coming from the same flax plant used to make linen, flax seeds are highly nutritious and low in carbs. They have a slightly nutty flavor and are full of fiber and healthy fat. They can be found as whole seeds, which stay fresh for up to a year, but need to be ground into flax meal to be digested and provide their full health benefits. The flax meal can be used to add nutrition to many dishes or as a substitute in baked goods. Mix it in yogurt, ricotta cheese, smoothies, or your pancake or muffin batter.

Hemp seeds. Another miracle seed, hemp seeds contain a perfect balance of omega-6 and omega-3 essential oils. They are an excellent source of daily protein and are composed of more protein than any other grain on the planet! Studies show they may help prevent heart disease, cancers, Alzheimer's and even Parkinson's. The seeds can also be found in the form of milk, so drink up!

Sunflower seeds. A popular seed roasted, salted, and eaten as a snack, sun-

flower seeds are great for digestion and dieting. They are full of fiber, so they keep you feeling full, and a great source of folate, which is important in women's health. They can help prevent heart disease and cancer since they are loaded with antioxidants, vitamin E, selenium, and copper. Snack or bake with them or add them to salads as a crunchy topping.

Sesame seeds. Usually seen on top of *challahs* and other baked goods, sesame seeds have long been considered a wonderful source of nutrition. Packed with calcium, magnesium, zinc, fiber, iron, B1, and phosphorus, sesame seeds are a powerful little seed. They help fight cholesterol, lower blood pressure, and protect from liver damage. They may also help prevent arthritis, asthma, migraines, menopause, and osteoporosis. ❖

Yogurt Granola Parfait

Ingredients:

- 4 cups oats (not instant)
- 1½ cups whole almonds
- ½ cup flax seeds, ground
- ½ cup light brown sugar
- ½ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. ground cinnamon
- ¼ cup canola oil
- ¼ cup honey
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1½ cups dried cranberries
- 3 cups mixed berries
- ¼ cup confectioners' sugar
- 1 lemon, juiced
- 1½ cups vanilla yogurt

Directions:

Preheat oven to 300°F. Mix oats, almonds, flax seeds, brown sugar, salt, and cinnamon in medium bowl. Heat oil and honey in small saucepan over medium heat. Add vanilla and whisk. Add honey mixture to oats and gently mix well. Add dried cranberries. Spread out onto baking sheet and bake for 40 minutes. Allow to cool and break up into clumps.

Using same saucepan, cook berries with confectioners' sugar and lemon juice over medium heat until mixture is syrupy, 10-12 minutes. Let cool. To serve, layer yogurt, berries, and granola in tall glasses.



Want to learn how to cook delicious gourmet meals right in your own kitchen? Take one-on-one cooking lessons or give a gift to an aspiring cook that you know. For more information, contact Take Home Chef personal chef services by calling 516-508-3663, writing to elke@TakeHomeChef.net, or visiting www.TakeHomeChef.net.

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Another Mother's Musings

By Phyllis J. Lubin

Time Flies

As I sit in front of the computer screen and relay my musings, I am again reminded of the old adage, "time flies when you are having fun!" At press time, we will have finished camp (the last day this year is August

more than one year ago, it is deemed "a long time ago." For me, a long time ago is perhaps when I was in elementary school. High school seems like yesterday to me. I can vividly remember the teachers that I had, the class-

The beauty of pictures, or especially video, is that our family never ages!

22). This is my seventeenth summer at Avnet. At the end of every summer, I reflect how quickly another season has passed.

"That was such a long time ago, Mommy!" my Lea said to me when I was remembering when she first learned how to swim. When my children describe how long ago something occurred, it is usually in terms of a couple of years. If something happened

es that I took, and the feelings that I felt at that age. In the blink of an eye, somehow I've "grown up"!

Lately Yussie has become fixated on watching my wedding video. When Naftali was about to wed, they wanted to "re-live" my own wedding. Our wedding video reappeared and Yussie has been watching it, and eerily quoting it, ever since. Somehow the years have washed away and I am a young girl of



Yussie, with his eldest sister, at Avnet dressed in his team color of gray and sporting lifeguard-style sunscreen and lifeguard hat

22, with all my family and friends frozen in time. The beauty of pictures, or especially video, is that our family never ages! Yussie has come to "know" his Bubby Lilly and Bubby Rose (whom he, sadly, never met) and his Zayde Morris, who has not been with us in a few years. I am able to visit with them again as their voices reverberate from the television screen and they are alive again.

That's the strange part about memories. When I see a picture, smell a familiar aroma, hear the name of a childhood friend, or even see a certain date on the calendar, the years seem to melt, and I experience a certain moment again. As I write these words, it

is August 20. Exactly 12 years ago, I was completing my final days of the summer at the waterfront—much as I am now, except then I was nine months pregnant! Always at this time of year, my mind drifts back to the summer of 2000. I especially remember that I was not in camp that summer for the last day (August 23). I was at North Shore Hospital, along with my husband, Leib, coming face-to-face for the first time with our youngest son, Yosef Bin-yamin Lubin, who has given our family so much joy! I missed a lot of fun camp activity on that day. But I was rewarded with a lifetime of fun! Having a "special" child opens your world up to experiences you never envisioned (some certainly fun, but some not so fun). A new appreciation for so much more about the little things in life comes to the forefront.

This past week, Yussie joined the Lubin girls and me at Avnet Country Day. His summer at Camp Anchor has come to an end, and he is enjoying some fun time these last few days of the Avnet season. And so I have a good portion of the Lubin clan spending the last days of the summer season at Avnet Country Day. We have made a new set of memories this summer that will surely make an indelible imprint on our lives. ❖

Phyllis Joy Lubin is an attorney with Rosenfeld & Maidenbaum, LLP, who resides in Cedarhurst with her husband, Leonard. They have six children: Naftali, Shoshana, Rivka, Rochel, Yosef, and Lea and now a new daughter-in-law, Nina. The author welcomes your questions and comments at MothersMusings@gmail.com.

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Vaccinating Your Children Before School

The beginning of the school year is a great time to make sure your children's vaccinations are up to date. Informed parents know that immunizations save lives. But even those who have dutifully vaccinated their babies and toddlers may not be aware that the recommended vaccination schedule continues through the later teen years.

Research published by the American Medical Association found that teenagers age 14 and older were much less likely to see a pediatrician than their younger-adolescent counterparts. But threats to health don't go away just because children are older. "We live in a busy world, and it's easy to forget to make appointments for an annual check-up," says Dr. Robert W. Block, MD, of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). "Let the new school season be your annual reminder to protect the health of your kids."

Here are some crucial vaccination tips and facts for parents of older children and teens:

- Check your calendar. When was the last time your child saw a pediatrician? If it's been over a year, make an appointment as soon as possible. In advance of the appointment, talk with your child and draw up a list of any concerns or questions to discuss with the doctor.

- Store immunization and other medical records in an easily accessible place and be sure to keep the records current. Bring this information to the appointment. When you see your pediatrician, ask directly, "What vaccines does my child need at this point?"

- You may wish to ask about the HPV vaccine, which is recommended for both boys and girls. While protection is most effective for adolescents ages 11 to 13, older teens who haven't yet received the vaccine can benefit from it as well. This cancer-preventing vaccine will safeguard your teen's health in the future.

- If financial considerations are preventing you from taking your teen in for visits and immunizations, talk with your pediatrician. He or she may be able to point you toward resources that can offset the costs.

- All children ages 11 to 18 should be protected against meningitis, a deadly bacterial infection that's spread easily in close living quarters. If teens are going to boarding school, college or the military, do not delay giving them the vaccine.

- Every year, more than 200,000 Americans are hospitalized because of the flu and its complications, and 36,000 die. An annual influenza vaccine is an important part of protecting your children. Health authorities including the AAP and the Centers for Disease Control and Preven-

tion recommend an annual flu vaccine for everyone, starting at 6 months of age.

Your children's health plays an important role in their academic success. Make sure you take steps to keep him or her safe from life-threatening dangers and prepare for a healthy school year. (StatePoint Media) ❖

Go Outdoors For More Success In School

If your children are like most, they are spending more time indoors than ever before. A 2010 Kaiser Family Foundation study found that children ages 8 to 18 engage in over seven hours of electronic media each day.

Some experts warn that all that time indoors can take a heavy toll on children's health, contributing to attention difficulties, hyperactivity, obesity, a diminished use of senses, and even a disconnect from the real world.

"American children are losing a vital aspect of healthy development as they spend less time riding bikes, climbing trees, or doing much of anything outdoors," says Kathy McGlaulin, director of Project Learning Tree (PLT), a nonprofit organization that trains teachers to incorporate environmental education into school curricula. "Today, children spend most of their time indoors—largely because that's where all the electrical sockets are."

According to McGlaulin, teaching children to understand and value nature will improve their performance at school.

Here are some fun ways to cure "nature deficit disorder":

- Brainstorm with your children's teachers and principal about ways the school

can incorporate learning in the outdoors and provide a healthier environment.

- Talk to your child's teacher about applying for a Project Learning Tree Green-Works! grant to help get started on building a school or community garden, starting a recycling program, or restoring a nearby stream. Since 1992, PLT has distributed nearly \$1 million to fund 1,000 environmental service-learning projects in communities nationwide. Apply by September 30 by visiting www.plt.org/ApplyForGrant.

- Take a walk through a local wooded area, park, or even your own backyard. Observe wildlife and plant life, paying special attention to fallen logs to learn how decomposition works and get a better understanding of microhabitats. Look for signs of animals, including insects and plants in, on, or around the log.

- Go for a bike ride around your neighborhood for exercise, quality time, and some fresh air.

- Plant a garden together to improve your family's nutrition and create something meaningful. You'll diversify your meals with fresh local produce and teach your child about the lifecycle of plants. Choose flowers that will attract an array of hummingbirds and butterflies to admire.

More tips can be found at www.plt.org.

Getting children outside is an important aspect of child development and can contribute to student achievement and a healthy lifestyle. This school year, be sure your child takes some time off from television, video games, and the Internet to explore the great outdoors. (StatePoint Media) ❖

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This Year, Ban Boring Hebrew!

BY ORLY AND YOEL GANOR

One of the many great strengths that have contributed to the miraculous revival of the Jewish State is another ancient restoration—that of the Hebrew language. Modern Hebrew has served not only to linguistically and culturally unite diverse Jewish immigrants to Israel, but is a vital link that connects global Jewry. Yet this crucial linguistic bond must be reinforced so that Jews worldwide can remain connected with each other and with Israel.

Hebrew language education has historically been, and continues to be, a large component of the majority of Jewish day school curricula, and rightly so. However, there is a constant challenge to produce—and maintain—meaningful levels of fluency among students that is hindered by the traditional methodology which is frequently used.

A new approach to teaching Hebrew must be embraced, one that focuses on incorporating modern technology. We like to say that our mission is to help students learn Hebrew at the speed of light, and we therefore use technology such as computers, smartphones, and tablets as platforms to deliver content because these tools are innovative and accessible. Harnessing new technology and using mobile devices is very important—in fact, many schools are already handing out iPads to their students, sometimes eliminating the need

to use printed books. The underlying key to success is taking Hebrew studies from grammar and memorization-based classroom techniques to a more intuitive learning process. Students learn best by hearing the language, being exposed to fresh, up-to-date materials with constant yet creatively crafted repetition, and using it in real environments.

alleviated with the realization that it is not necessary to fully master educational technology, but it is important to become comfortable and familiar with it.

Wariness among educators to introduce new technological methods in teaching an ancient (albeit modernized) language must be overcome if we are to revamp the Hebrew-language learning environment. Our firsthand experience

The Hebrew language is a glue that bonds Jews everywhere.

The goal is to get students engaged, involved, and excited. When students share their Hebrew-language experiences on social networks, you know that you are on the right track. In short, the key for long-term success is for them to become immersed. This kind of distinctive mindset both effectively engages today's technologically savvy youth and involves tools that are arguably more successful than many of the stale, decades-old methods.

Change is never easy. Through the course of our interaction with educators, we have recognized the existence of a certain "fear factor," but teachers also tend to acknowledge that using technology for educational purposes is critical. Their apprehension can also be

has shown that when utilized correctly, this new methodology—combined with certain existing tried-and-true techniques—can result in ease, joy, and accomplishment in classrooms. Teachers are able to better instruct, and engaged students exhibit significant language improvement.

The Hebrew language is a glue that bonds Jews everywhere. If this bond weakens, then Jewish unity diminishes. As we approach a new school year and the start of the Jewish New Year, we should embark on a new, more effective way of teaching and learning Hebrew. It is especially important in 5773 to examine just how well Hebrew is being introduced to the next generation, and to employ all means at our disposal to so-

ludify the Hebrew language link for generations to come. ❖

Educators Orly and Yoel Ganor founded Ulpan-Or (www.ulpanor.com) in 1995 with a vision to spread their love of Hebrew and Israel to people around the world. Ulpan-Or has since pioneered a new approach to Hebrew-language instruction that blends innovative educational methodology with advanced uses of multimedia technology.

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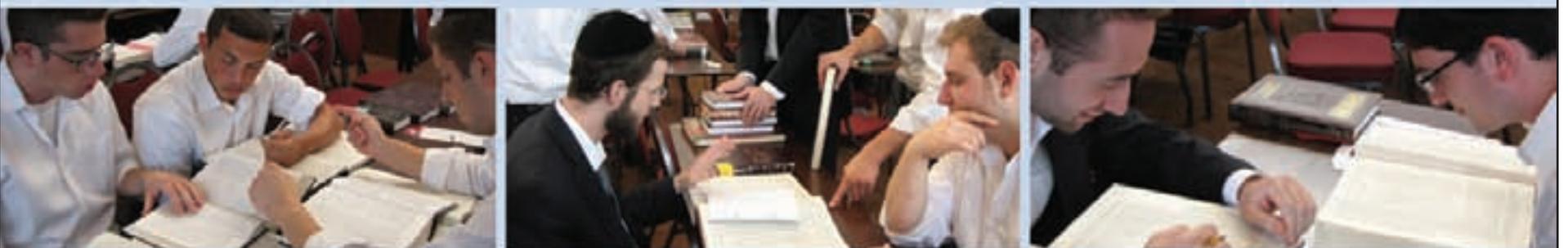
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Touro's Gaming Workshops For Teachers



Katya Hott, a producer at E-Line Media, a publisher of game-based learning products and service, talking to a participant at an educational game-design workshop hosted by the Touro College Graduate School of Technology last week. Approximately 20 educators attended the one-day workshop to learn how teachers can create educational games for use in their classrooms for students aged eight to fourteen to foster 21st-century learning skills. Participants received certificates for completing six hours of professional development applicable toward the New York State teacher certification requirement.

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5TJT Puzzle: Favorite Teams

BY YONI GLATT

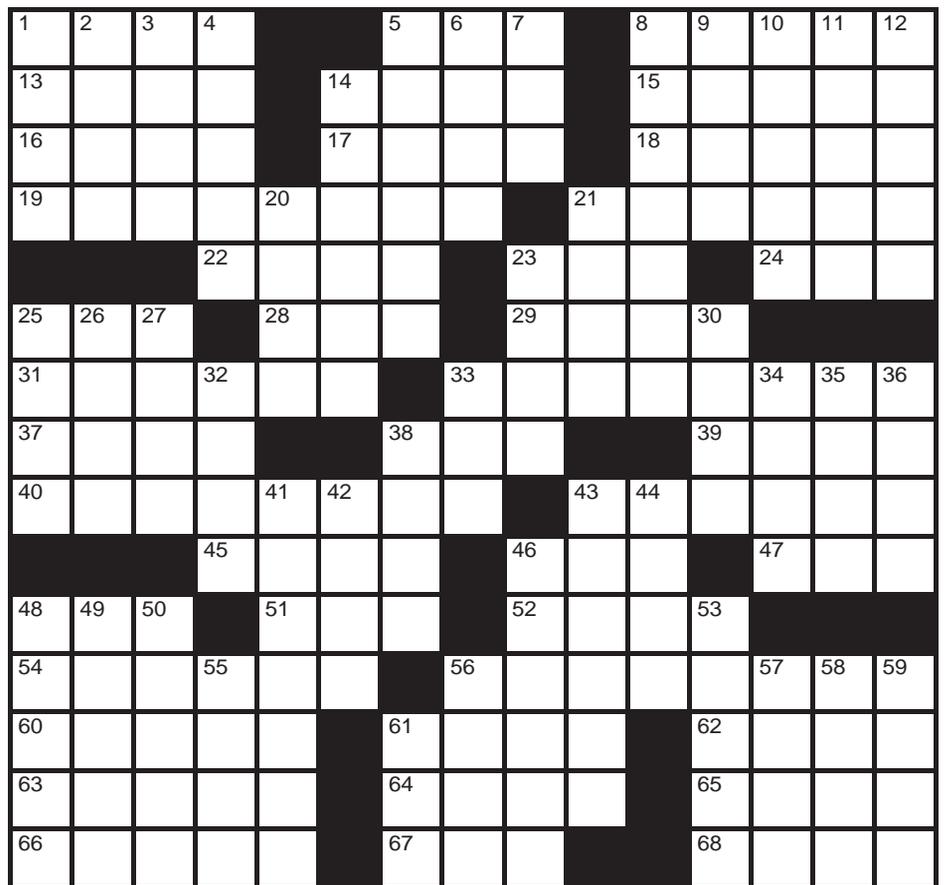
Across

1. Scratch
5. Store for workout junkies
8. Farm baby
13. Bum kin
14. "Bye now"
15. Asian capital
16. ___-friendly
17. Cronos
18. Bury
19. Eisav's favorite NFL team
21. Like some memories
22. Hue
23. Mont Blanc, e.g.
24. Baseballers Cobb and Wigginton
25. *Shalom*
28. Part of UCLA
29. Has a *seudah*
31. Michal and Merav's favorite MLB team
33. The tribe of Zevulun's favorite MLB team
37. Curved molding
38. Form 1040 org.
39. Eye part
40. David and Yonatan's favorite NBA team
43. Gavriel's favorite MLB team
45. Pool site, maybe
46. Bonanza find
47. ___ ___ E (trading letters)
48. Cardinal letters

51. Word before and after "oh"
52. Nest eggs, for short
54. Uses a loom
56. Favorite NBA team of Delilah (and Samson's least favorite)
60. *A Doll's House* playwright
61. Day before
62. Israeli vacation locale (var.)
63. He took two tablets
64. Hurried
65. Relief
66. Cursed
67. They give you some uni. credits
68. Did in

Down

1. He died at *Chet haEigel*
2. Leave behind
3. In the sack
4. Least good
5. Og's favorite NFL team
6. Bothers
7. Comedian Bill, informally
8. Wine enjoyed by Hannibal Lecter
9. Full house, e.g.
10. Indigenous Canadian
11. Like lame jokes
12. Chizkiyahu's favorite NHL team
14. Casual (pants) wear
20. Big don't in religion and general society
21. Alarm
23. Exemplars of twinship



25. Forehead
26. Lotus position, e.g.
27. Ogler
30. Like a bug in a rug
32. Ethereal
33. ___ Doubtfire
34. Balanced
35. Be dependent
36. Be rude to
38. Persia, today
41. Huge
42. Wood sorrels
43. Hit the big time
44. Certain tide
46. Favorite NHL team of many who worked in the *Beis HaMikdash*
48. Travels by arm and leg
49. Footballer who prays a lot
50. Cow catcher
53. Glasses
55. Zig or zag
56. Field yield
57. We're in it
58. Endangered
59. *Chulent*, sort of
61. Pilot's announcement, briefly

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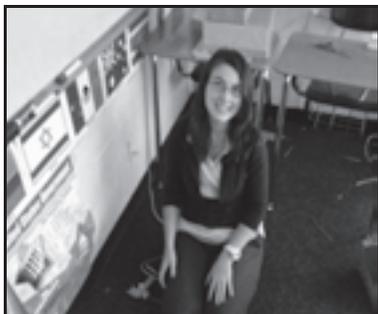
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Solution To Previous 5TJT Puzzle: TV Jews



Puzzle appeared on Page 51 of the August 17 issue.

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“Dirty Jewish Money”

Tidbits From Israel

BY RON JAGER

According to numerous polls, Obama's critical Jewish margin has been on a downward slide, as he loses major ground since the 2008 election among Jewish voters in Florida, a key battleground state. This phenomenon is evidently repeating itself in other swing states, creating not only a problem of potential loss of critical electoral votes, but also affecting the level of fundraising needed to finance Obama's reelection bid.

The Democratic Party and its head, President Obama, are unable to match the level of successful fundraising by the Romney campaign as we approach Election Day. The visibly panicky Obama campaign managers have joined forces with liberal Jewish organizations such as the *New York Times* and other politically left

organizations to delegitimize those donations by conservative Jews backing Mitt Romney for president by claiming that the money being donated is tainted—in other words, “dirty Jewish money.”

The 2012 presidential race is evolving into a fundraising contest where the financial resources of the two major candidates and their support groups will be much more in balance than was the case in 2008. This is very upsetting to the Democratic Party and their leftist supporters. They like their party to have more resources than the Republican side, and they particularly do not like big spending by very rich Republican Jews or Jewish-owned corporations for conservative candidates. Spending by very rich Democratic Jews and by unions who support a leftist agenda seems to bother them far less, if at all. This obsession of liberal Jewish organizations with all the big-money checks

by Jewish conservatives backing Mitt Romney has in their collective minds meant that Jewish-owned corporations, and their super-rich Jewish executives, might be able to swing the election this year for the Republicans.

In terms of campaign contributions, two major targets by the Jewish Liberal organizations have been the Koch brothers and Sheldon Adelson. The Koch brothers are relatively unknowns, and most Americans, Jews and non-Jews, have no clue as to who they are, despite the obsessive coverage of them in recent months. Adelson is a different story. He has not been shy about whom he is supporting (first Gingrich, now Romney) and about how much money he is prepared to spend. Adelson, whose business is casinos and hotels, is an ardent supporter of Israel and has publicly voiced his skepticism of what is commonly referred to as the “two-state solution,” the current mantra of Jewish liberals and leftist organizations.

All of this has made Adelson a rich target for his Jewish liberal enemies. He is spending tens of millions to defeat the candidate of the Left. He is a supporter of Israel. He is in the gambling business, which makes for easy targeting by the Jewish Left who are busy supporting “Occupy” and other social-protest movements. The Jewish liberal Left seems to fear that Adelson could help elect a president who will be a true supporter of Israel and genuinely friendlier to Israel than Obama has been.

Even Professor Alan Dershowitz, a lifelong Democrat who is on a different page politically than Adelson on many issues, has lashed out against the smears of Adelson: “I know Sheldon Adelson and I have worked with him on several matters relating to Israel and the Jewish community. I have spoken on behalf of the wonderful school he has built in Las Vegas and have had the pleasure of teaching one of the brilliant graduates of that school. Adelson was deeply involved in the creation of the Birthright Israel program, which has had extraordinary success in exposing young Jews to Israel. It's hard to find anyone who has done as much for the Jewish community as Sheldon Adelson.

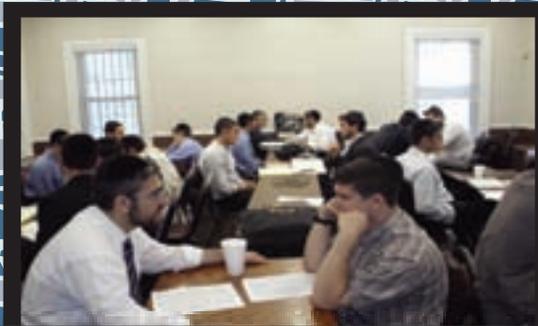
“Adelson grew up in Boston in near poverty and is a shining example of the American dream. He is a self-made multi-billionaire who has contributed significantly to the world of modern technology and to the economic growth of Las Vegas and other areas. His generosity has helped repair the world. . . . I'm sure that if the Democrats were to apply the “Adelson test” [devised by David Harris of the National Jewish Democratic Council] to all the contributions they have received from Hollywood stars and moguls and other wealthy businesspeople, they wouldn't like the results.”

The attacks on Adelson and similar attacks on the Koch brothers are hard evidence that there is only one real test of decency for the Jewish liberal Left this year—whether you support Obama or not. As far as they are concerned, it is regarded as un-American to give big money to the Republicans, and any effort that helps damage the prospects of a Romney candidacy, including feeding vile anti-Semitic venom into the campaign, is “kosher.” Furthermore, any Jew daring to support Romney will be accused of donating tainted “dirty Jewish money.” Obama has over the past four years managed to anger many Jewish voters whose votes he now seeks, as well as quite a few Jewish donors whose wallets he now pursues. Implementing a strategy of delegitimizing American Jews who support conservative candidates is a sure way for losing support among all Americans. ❖

Ron Jager is a 25-year veteran of the Israel Defense Forces, where he served as a field mental-health officer and as commander of the central psychiatric military clinic for reserve soldiers at Tel-Hashomer. Since retiring from active duty in 2005, he has been providing consultancy services to NGOs, implementing psychological trauma treatment programs in Israel. Ron currently serves as a strategic advisor to the director of the Shomron Liaison Office. To contact him, e-mail medconf@netvision.net.il.

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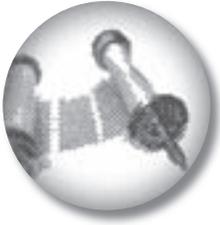
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insights on THE TORAH

From The Chassidic Masters

The Judge And The Refugee

In *Parashas Shoftim* (*Devarim* 16:18-21:9) we read of the cities of refuge, to which a man who had killed accidentally could flee, find sanctuary, and atone

ed wherever Jews live. Why does the law extend everywhere, while refuge belongs only to Israel? And what does this imply for the month of Elul, our place of spiri-

A court which sits in the Land of Israel cannot know the trials and temptations which exist outside.

for his deeds. The Chassidic masters note that *Shoftim* is always read in the month of Elul; for Elul is, with regard to *time*, what the cities of refuge were with regard to *space*. It is a month of sanctuary and repentance, a protected time in which a person can turn from the shortcomings of his past and dedicate himself to a new and sanctified future.

The Lubavitcher Rebbe analyzes an important feature of the cities: they were only to be found in the Land of Israel, even though the judges and officers who executed Torah law were to be appoint-

ed wherever Jews live. Why does the law extend everywhere, while refuge belongs only to Israel? And what does this imply for the month of Elul, our place of spiri-

A Paradox

The Midrash *Sifri* interprets the opening verse of our *parashah*, "You shall set judges and officers in all your gates" to apply to "all your dwelling places," even those outside Israel. It then continues: One might think that cities of refuge were also to exist outside the Land of Israel. Therefore the Torah uses the restric-

Continued on Page 50

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CHASSIDIC MASTERS

Continued from Page 49

tive term “these are the cities of refuge” to indicate that they were to be provided only within Israel.

Nonetheless, the *Sifri* says that someone who committed an accidental killing outside the Land of Israel and who fled to one of the cities of refuge would be granted sanctuary there. It was the cities themselves, not the people they protected, that were confined to the Land of Israel.

The fact that the *Sifri* initiates a comparison between the “judges and officers” and the cities of refuge indicates that they have a relationship to one another. It is this: The judges who applied the law and the officers who executed the sentences did not aim at retribution, but at the refinement of the guilty. And the aim of the cities of refuge was to impose on the fugitive an atoning exile—atonement in the sense of a remorse which effaces the crime until he regains his original closeness to G-d’s will.

We might then have thought that if this safeguard, this place of atonement, was available in the holy environment

of the Land of Israel, it would be all the more necessary outside its borders where it was easier to fall into wrongdoing. And yet only judges and officers were to be provided beyond the Land of Israel’s borders—only the agents of the law, not its refuge.

Transcendence Or Empathy

There are two phases in *teshuvah*, repentance. There is remorse over what has been done, and commitment to act differently in the future. These are inextricably connected. For the only test of sincere remorse is the subsequent commitment to a better way of life. To be contrite about the past without changing one’s behavior is a hollow gesture.

This the deeper significance of the law that the city of refuge is found only in the Land of Israel. For a man could not atone while clinging to the environment which led him to sin. He might feel remorse, but he would not have taken the decisive step away from his past. For this, he had to escape to the “Land of Israel,” i.e., to holiness. There, on its sanctified earth, his commitment to a better future could have substance.

Judges, however, could be appointed outside the Land of Israel. For it is written in *Pirkei Avos*, “Do not judge your fellow man until you come to his place.” A court which sits in the Land of Israel cannot know the trials and temptations which exist outside, or the difficulties of being loyal to one’s faith in a place of exile. The Land of Israel is a land where “the eyes of the L-rd your G-d are always upon it, from the beginning of the year to the end of the year.” It is a land of Divine grace. One cannot judge a man by its standards if that man lives outside its protection.

So judges had to be drawn from the same environment as their defendants. They had not only to know what he had done; they had to experience for themselves the environment which brought him to it.

Rabbi DovBer of Lubavitch (the second Chabad Rebbe) was once giving private audiences, when he interrupted for some time before continuing. It transpired that a man who had had an audience wanted the Rebbe’s help in setting right a particularly degrading act he had done. The Rebbe later said to one of his close disciples

that one must discover some analogous quality in oneself—on however refined a level—before one can help someone to remedy his sin. His interruption of the audiences had been to attempt to find in himself this point from which he could identify with the sinner.

It was this principle that lay behind G-d’s command to Moshe when the Israelites had made the golden calf: “Go, get thee down, for your people have dealt corruptly.” For at that moment, Moshe was inhabiting the spiritual heights of Mount Sinai, neither eating nor drinking, divorced from the world. The Israelites were degraded through their sin. But by telling him to “go down” to “your people,” G-d created a bond between Moshe and the people, on the basis of which Moshe was able to plead on their behalf.

Three Degrees Of Refuge

Although all the cities of refuge were to be in the Land of Israel, they were not all in the same territory. There were the three in the Land of Israel proper, the Holy Land. Three were in the territories east of the Jordan, where “manslaughter was common” (Talmud, *Makkos* 9b). And, *Le’asid La’vo*, in the Time to Come, “the L-rd your G-d will enlarge your borders” and three more will be provided, in the newly occupied land.

This means that every level of spirituality has its own refuge, from the relatively lawless Eastern territories to the Holy Land, and even in the Time to Come. And this is true spiritually as well as geographically. At every stage of a person’s religious life, there is the possibility of some shortcoming for which there must be refuge and atonement. Even if he never disobeys G-d’s will, he may still not have done all within his power to draw close to G-d.

This is the task of the month of Elul. It is a time of self-examination, when each person must ask himself whether what he has achieved was all he could have achieved. And if not, he must repent, and strive towards a more fulfilled future. Businessman and scholar—he who has lived in the world and he who has spent his days under the canopy of the Torah—both must make Elul a time of self-reckoning and refuge.

It is the way of the Western world to make Elul—the month of high summer—a time for vacation from study. The opposite should be the case. It is above all the time for self-examination, a time to change one’s life. And the place for this is the city of refuge in the “Holy Land,” which, in the geography of the soul, is a place of Torah.

Each Jew should set aside Elul, or at least from the 18th onwards (the last 12 days, a day for each month of the year), or at any rate the days when *Selichos* are said, and make his refuge in a place of Torah.

A refuge is a place to which one flees: that is, where one lays aside one’s past and makes a new home. Elul is the sublimation of the past for the sake of a better future. And it is the necessary preparation for the blessings of Rosh Hashanah, the promise of plenty and fulfillment in the year to come. ❖

From *Torah Studies* (Kehot 1986), an adaptation of the Lubavitcher Rebbe’s talks by Britain’s Chief Rabbi, Dr. Jonathan Sacks. Courtesy of Chabad.org. Find more Torah articles for the whole family at www.chabad.org/parshah.

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Rav Kotler

Continued from Page 38

involvement in *askanus*, as well as his exemplary *avodas Hashem*, stemmed from the clarity Rav Aharon possessed—that our acceptance of *Torah lishmah* is our *raison d'être*.

And so, although we may be unable to capture the true essence of Rav Aharon, we will nevertheless attempt to glean lessons and *limudim* through a number of narratives.



Rav Aharon Kotler, zt'l

Numerous vignettes illustrate Rav Aharon's insatiable desire for Torah. Rav Aharon's never-ending thirst for the *d'var Hashem* eliminated all impediments to his learning. He savored every spare moment; every second was an invaluable and cherished gift. Thus, danger was no obstacle, as *Toras Chaim* was Rav Aharon's lifeline.

One *talmid*, Rav Yaakov Leshinsky, recounted an unforgettable incident that highlights Rav Aharon's *mesirus nefesh* for every droplet of Torah. Rav

Aharon and his *talmidim* were on the run, with the Russian authorities in hot pursuit. Aware that the *rosh yeshiva* provided the fire and spiritual energy for so many, the Russians desperately sought to extinguish his flame. Yet, as Rav Aharon attempted to board the train from Kletzk to Vilna, the throngs

Rav Leib Heiman, one of his close *talmidim*, asked his *rebbe* how old he was when he'd established this *chiddush*.

Rav Aharon asked his *talmid* why he was interested in this piece of information. Rav Leib explained that he wanted to know how far removed he

other worries, "*poseiach lo pesachim gedolim ba'Torah*—it will open for him tremendous archways of Torah." As Rav Aharon fled for his life from the Russians and unspeakable horrors of the Nazi inferno, his journey led him through the greatest archways of Torah imaginable.

"*Nafshi be'chapi samid, ve'Sorascha lo shachachti*—My life is constantly in my hand, but I did not forget Your Torah" (*Tehillim* 119:109).

Rav Aharon's whole life was anchored in the primacy of Torah, and his every action was dictated by its morals and its message; his personal feelings were irrelevant.

Quite often, after a long, exhausting day of *askanus*, Rav Aharon returned home hungry. Not for food, but for Torah. Because, as Rav Aharon once commented to Dr. Ernst Bodenheimer after a long grueling day of activity on behalf of the *K'lal*, "*Es kumt nisht tzu a blatt Gemara*—it doesn't come close to a page of Gemara."

While most would have felt spiritually satiated from the fact that they had advanced the cause of Torah, Rav Aharon knew that such activity and effort do not stand alone; they are rooted in a foundation of Torah, and therefore *askanus* alone wasn't enough. He hungered for more; he was starving for a *blatt Gemara*.

"*Lo ra'av la'lechem ve'lo tzama la'mayim ki im lishmoa eis divrei Hashem*—Not a hunger for bread nor a thirst for water, but to hear the words of Hashem" (*Amos* 8:11). ❖

As Rav Aharon fled for his life, his journey led him through the greatest archways of Torah imaginable.

who flooded the open doors prevented him from doing so.

Realizing that their *rebbe's* life was at stake, a group of *talmidim* cleared a path for Rav Aharon and lifted him through a window of the train, into the eager arms of other loving students, who pulled their *rebbe* inside to temporary safety. But before they had a chance to express their relief, Rav Aharon was already swept up in the *rischa d'Oraissa*, as the small compartment of the train was immediately transformed into the *dalet amos shel halachah*.

Years later, Rav Aharon delivered one of his famous, brilliant *shiurim* on a complex *sugya*. Following the *shiur*,

was from his great *rebbe*, as the *chiddush* was beyond anything he could imagine developing at his age.

Rav Aharon looked at the young Rav Leib and revealed, "When we were fleeing from the Russians, on the run from Kletzk to Vilna, I slipped away into a *beis midrash*. It was there that I was *zocheh* to be *mechadeish* this *yesod*."

Rav Aharon wrote (*Mishnas Rav Aharon III*: page 126), "*Ki d'var Hashem yakar me'od, ve'i efshar l'hasigo b'li tzaar*—the Word of Hashem is very precious, and it is impossible to grasp it properly without difficulty and pain." However, if one continues to persevere, toil, and suffer for Torah, or he removes from his mind any and all

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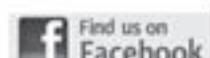
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MINDBIZ

By Esther Mann, LCSW

Dear Esther,

I'm terribly concerned about my parents and I wonder whether there is anything in my power to do to make the situation any better.

My parents are wonderful people who enjoyed a beautiful marriage together for many years. About five years ago, my father started showing signs of dementia. It's still not clear to any of us what exactly is causing his decline, but he is not the person he was a number of years ago. My father is eighty years old and my mother is in her late seventies. My mother is fine mentally, but she has heart problems and other physical health issues that concern me. She is extremely devoted to my father in every which way. And that's becoming a serious problem.

My mother waits on my father hand and foot. His behavior is unreasonable and demanding. I don't know if I would go so far as to say that he is abusive, but certainly close enough. My mother takes it all in like a true soldier or maybe a victim. She feels it is her duty to now basically be his slave. It was never like this in the past. They were always very respectful toward one another and my father treated my mother like a princess. It's hard to recognize who he is these days based on his behavior. He's

definitely not the loving father we all grew up with.

My siblings and I have been begging my mother for many months already to take in help for my father. She is physically just not capable of taking care of all his needs. But my mother just says that my father doesn't want a stranger in the house, and so that's that. She just gives in to his every demand.

I know that my father is not getting any better and will only get worse. But my mother still has so much life in her and I worry that she is destroying herself and giving up her ability to still enjoy her life at this point and forward.

Also, just physically, I wonder how much her body can take. As I said, she is not a healthy woman. And emotionally, I see the joy being sucked out of her.

We are all feeling very helpless as we stand back and watch this scary situation play out. Any suggestions regarding something we might be able to do to get my father the help he needs and help my mother still have some quality to her life?

Scared

Allowing him to determine that a caregiver does not belong in their house is as silly as giving a child the right to determine whether he needs to go to school.

We often try to get my parents to move into our homes for a weekend or even just a Shabbos, so that we can lighten her load for a little bit of time. But my father refuses to go. And so my mother acquiesces to everything he demands and stays home alone with him.

Dear Scared,

The situation you describe is such a hard one for anyone to see, especially children who are accustomed to seeing their parents treating one another with love and respect. It's so sad and confusing to watch personalities shift

so dramatically, almost morphing into unrecognizable strange beings. Especially when the new person appears selfish and unreasonable.

Unfortunately, sometimes illness and old age are capable of playing these cruel tricks on people, and when that happens, there is occasionally little that can be done to prevent such ravages to one's very being. I'm sure your father is receiving all of the best medical care that is available for him. Nevertheless, it sounds as though his further decline is most likely not preventable.

You correctly wonder whether there is a way to encourage your mother to save herself, despite your father's descent. It's obvious that she feels it's her job to stand by your father at all costs, particularly to herself. So, the real challenge is to help her understand that by taking care of herself, she will be in a much better position to take care of your father. Plus, it's imperative that she value and recognize the importance of her own life and her right to still have joy, despite your father's illness. If not, she stands the chance of seriously risking her own health—and what good will that do anyone?

At this point, as your father's mental well-being has continued to decline and the quality of their lives together has followed suit, it's virtually impossible for your mother to objectively process how she too has been pulled in and pulled down by this insidious process. Right now, the first and best move you can make is to try and lo-

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cate a support group in your area for caregivers. I suggest you research this possibility and even if you have to literally go with her, while another sibling stays with your father, I believe she will get the necessary encouragement she needs to start viewing her situation from a healthier perspective. She may believe that you can't possibly understand what it feels like to walk in her shoes, but talking to peers in exactly the same situation is always affirming and helpful. Validation and empathy from others in her predicament are generally the most effective wake-up call a person can get.

For instance, your mother seems to have forgotten that your father, who is not of sound mind, should not be the one deciding what's best for him. He is not qualified to make such judgment calls. Allowing him to determine that a stranger who can help care for him does not belong in their house is as silly as giving a child the right to determine whether he needs to go to school. Your mother should be the one deciding what's necessary and what isn't. Again, it's hard for your mother to see the forest for the trees right now and so she's lost a grasp on who

should rightfully be in charge of her home. Bringing in an aide that can free up your mother somewhat is the second step toward a healthier situation.

Meanwhile, as your mother hopefully opens herself up to a more practical balance at home, you and your siblings should try to bring joy into your parents home as much as possible. Even though your father may be antagonistic toward you or your families, it's important to visit regularly.

Make sure Shabbos feels like a Shabbos for them by taking turns stopping by to sing *zemiros* or simply sitting around the Shabbos table with them. Try celebrating parties and even easy holidays at their place, if your father refuses to leave his home. Stay determined to pry your mother away from your father, even if it is for a quick breakfast or a *shiur*.

No one ever said this is an easy juncture for anyone involved. It's tragic to watch

someone you love enter the twilight stage of life and suffer all the indecencies that often accompany this final cycle. Nevertheless, every challenge can be tweaked in some ways to make it a bit less unbearable.

All the best to your mother and the rest of you.

Esther

Esther Mann, LCSW, is a psychotherapist in Lawrence. Esther works with individuals and couples. She can be reached at mindbiz44@aol.com or 516-314-2295.



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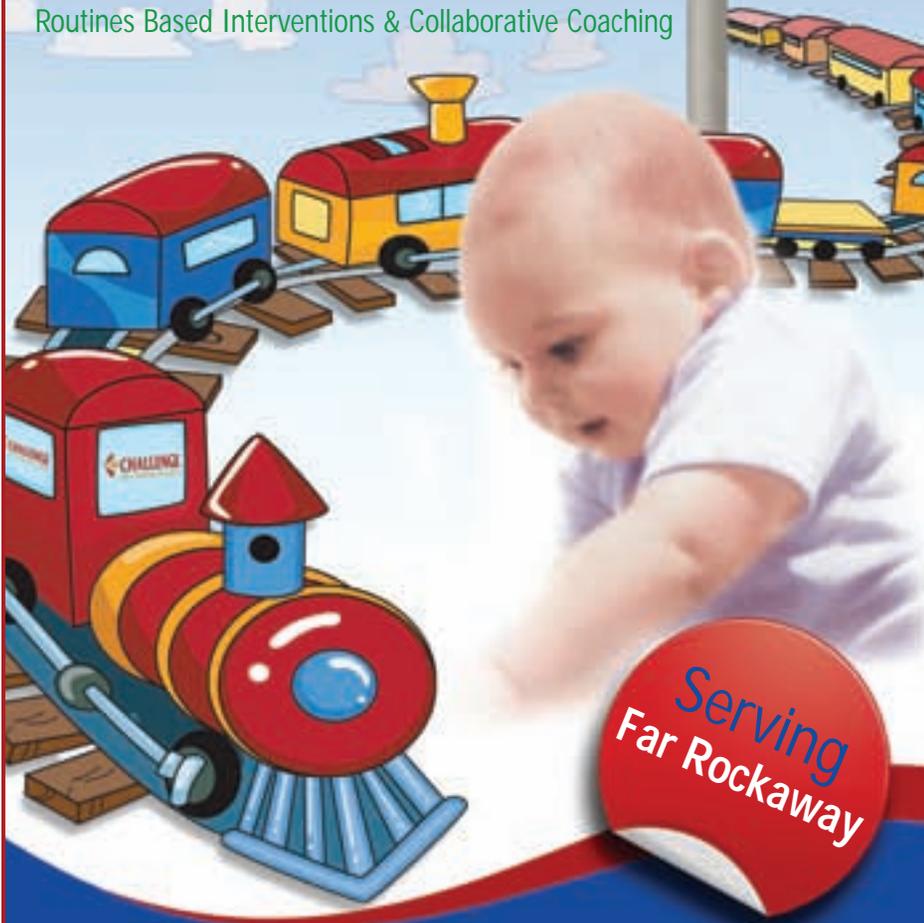
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Dozens Compete In Madraigos Golf And Tennis Outing

This past Monday, August 20, Cross River Bank held its third annual golf and tennis outing to benefit Madraigos. Over two dozen golfers flew in to New York from across the United States

Guests began arriving well before 9 a.m., as many people were eager to view the grounds, tour the clubhouse, and enjoy the generous giveaways that Madraigos presented to each registered golf-



Gilles Gade (CEO of Cross River Bank) with Rabbi Yakov Horowitz, Jason Cury (president of the Gruss Foundation), Ric Weinstein, and Rabbi Josh Zern (executive director of Madraigos)

and Canada to be part of this highly anticipated, sold-out event. Trump National Golf Course Westchester, known for its challenging course, spectacular grounds, and majestic waterfall on the 13th green, proved to be the perfect backdrop for a beautiful day of golf, tennis, and networking.

er. Between the golf travel bag as the premium giveaway, the beautiful umbrella, and the duffel bag filled with a host of other sponsored items, the golfers were well equipped for a full day of golfing and beyond. The VIP sponsors were delighted when, to their surprise, they were presented with an additional

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special giveaway as Madraigos exhibited its profound thanks to those who very generously support the organization.

After a delicious breakfast, as the foursomes began to prepare for a competitive day of golf, Bobby Bradley settled in at the second hole, ready to take on anyone who wished to challenge him in a long drive contest. As the ReMax Long Drive Champion, Bradley gladly stepped up to the green to compete with those who wanted to take on the pro. Many tried, but none succeeded, as Bradley capably, and with authority, beat many highly talented golfers. It proved to be quite the excitement for many in attendance.

As the breakfast was being cleared indoors, the barbecue lunch was already underway outside on the spacious patio next to the putting green, halfway through the 18-hole course. The golfers drove their golf carts right up to the seating area and enjoyed the plentiful meats that were grilled to perfection. The aroma was enticing, and the cold drinks and icy refreshments hit the spot, as the sun shone overhead, accentuating the beautiful weather and comfortable temperatures that were continuously appreciated throughout the day.

Although the golf and tennis spots were completely sold out, many individuals came to the golf course to enjoy the wonderful day and to be a part of this spectacular event. Over 100 people arrived solely for cocktails and dinner, where elegant tables were set to accommodate the 250 people who had come together to show their support for Madraigos.

Dan Scavino, EVP and general manager at Trump National Golf Course Westchester, was so impressed with the professionalism of both the outing and the guests, he donated an additional raffle prize to Madraigos on the spot; a foursome to be used at the Trump National Golf Club Hudson Valley.

All of the food at the outing was expertly catered by Main Event, and the dinner was just as plentiful and succulent as the food had been throughout the day. At the short dinner program, the awards were presented, the trophies were accepted with gracious humility, and the raffles were drawn, as tens of thousands of dollars in donated gifts, jewelry, trips, and sports memorabilia were given away. As the day came to a close, the golfers and all the participants were already anticipating next year's outing, with the confidence that it will

Continued on Page 56

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Madraigos

Continued from Page 55

once again be the most highly anticipated golf event of the season.

Rabbi Dov Silver, founder and executive vice president of Madraigos, was grateful. "We are so thankful to Cross River Bank, the generous sponsors, the volunteers who went above and beyond the call of duty, and everyone who came here today in support of Madraigos. We could not provide our lifesaving work were it not for each and every person here today, who understands and appreciates the need to help empower our youth, and give them the skills they need to become the leaders of tomorrow."

Gilles Gade, CEO of Cross River Bank, was equally pleased with the event. "It is an honor for Cross River Bank to host this outing to benefit such a worthwhile organization as Madraigos. My business associates, colleagues, and friends are proud to support Madraigos while enjoying a day of golf, tennis, and networking. It was a very rewarding experience."

From registration through dinner, the day ran smoothly, thanks to expert planning and hard-working volunteers. "This golf outing exceeded everyone's expectations and raised even more than we anticipated," said Rabbi Josh Zern, executive director at Madraigos "We exceeded all of our goals for this beautiful event, which is now more important than ever, as we look to balance our growing budget to accommodate the expanded list of services and programs that Madraigos offers."

Funds raised at the event will assist Madraigos in providing valuable services to our community, including a 24-hour support line, community education, crisis intervention, case management, educational enhancement program, the lounge, assessments and referrals, school-based services, *Shabbatonim*, job placement program, support groups, and *yom tov* retreats, including this year's inspirational Rosh Hashanah program which will take place at Honors Haven in Ellenville, New York. For more information about Madraigos, please visit www.Madraigos.org.

Madraigos is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit that provides a wide array of innovative programs and professional services designed for teens and young adults who are not able to cope with the everyday challenges of life. Their mission is to provide teens and young adults with the skills and tools to take the next step in becoming the leaders of tomorrow. ❖

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News From The Hills

BY CHANITA TEITZ

As we are winding down the summer, camps have ended and the kids are back! The pizza shops are crowded again and parking on Main Street is getting tighter, with people returning from vacations and the country.

My son-in-law David Weiss and kids Tova and Mordechai are back from their amazing trip to Israel. What amazing times we live in! David was able to e-mail us pictures every day. Over here, we were waiting to hear all about their adventures, including Tova's run-in with the *Sikrikim*, the self-appointed vigilante *tzniyus* patrol that you may remember from their Ramat Bet Shemesh harassment of school-girls.

three different sections for *milchig*, *fleishig*, and *pareve*, all color-coded. The consequences for not adhering to the *kashrus* standards is not only an offense of the *Rabbanut*, it is also a military offense.

They visited several wineries in the Binyamin area, which has become known for growing abundant grape crops equal to the best of France.

David also said that another highlight worth mentioning was their incredible experience Friday night walking to and from the Kotel, along with throngs of religious Jews, through the Arab *shuk*—particularly jam-packed with Arabs on a Ramadan Friday—to *daven Kabbalas Shabbos* at the Kotel Carlebach *minyán*.

We also talked about the new *chareidi* draft and how many of the yeshiva



Mordechai Weiss at the Kotel, putting on tefillin for the first time.

With all the undercurrents we keep hearing of war, perhaps all these new soldiers are joining just at a time when Israel will need them. We have known for a while that most of the officers in the army today are religious, mainly from the national religious sector, and now with the addition of *chareidi* boys, the army will lean even more to the right, politically and religiously.

Of course, the highlight of their trip was of Mordechai putting on *tefillin* for the first time, at the Kotel. Mordechai and Tova said that the trip was "great, they learned a lot and they did a lot of walking."

At this time, I want to wish *hatzlachah* to all Queens boys going to yeshiva in Israel for the year and to the girls going to seminaries.

We also wish *tzeischem l'shalom* to those Queens families who are moving. We sold a number of homes this summer of families who are moving to the Five Towns. Sorry to see you go, but we welcome the newcomers to our community. Buyers and sellers are what keep a neighborhood growing and thriving.

Upcoming Events

Reminder: This Shabbos afternoon, **August 25, "Chinuch Today: Are we succeeding in getting our message to the next generation? Part 2"** at the YIKGH, 5 p.m. for men and women. Speakers are Rabbi Chaim Feuerman, Rabbi Simcha Feuerman, and Hillel Feuerman.

Chazaq is presenting renowned lecturer R' Shalom Rokeach speaking on "Developing Your Unlimited Potential" on Sunday night, **August 26** at 8:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served at 8 p.m. at Beth Gavriel Community Center, 66-35 108th St., Forest Hills. For more info call 917-617-3636 or e-mail Info@Chazaq.org.

Save the date

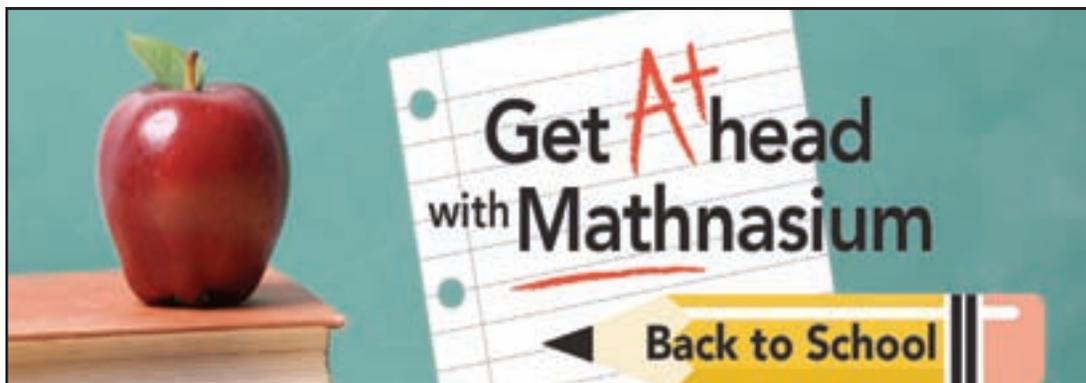
Monday, **September 3** at 7 pm for the annual Queens/Five Towns **AHH Labor Day BBQ** at the home of Bilhah and David Moradi, 72 Muriel Avenue, Lawrence. For those of you who have attended this gala event in the past, you know that it is an event that should not be missed. There will be great food, music, and great raffle prizes. All proceeds go to the AHH *tzedakah*, which is based in Kew Gardens Hills and is distributing monies to help families who have lost

Continued on Page 61

David was impressed with the *kashrus* in the kitchen at an army base they visited.

At lunch on Shabbos we got to hear some of the highlights of their trip. The kids had a great time ATVing in the desert, and David sent us a video taken as they were driving. David was impressed with the *kashrus* in the kitchen at an army base they visited. He described

boys are actually happy to enlist. They can continue learning whenever they can in the army, and with the training they get, plus the fact that they will be able to enter the workforce with new skills and earn a *parnassah*, it's a big plus for many of them.



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Pre-Algebra	On a certain map, 6 inches represents 25 miles. How many miles does 15 inches represent?
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Nidacheinu

BY YOCHANAN GORDON

Recent videos of *chassidic* music superstar Lipa Schmeltzer in Israel reveal that he is currently working on a music video based on the track from his new album to the words, “*Vkabetz nidacheinu mei’arba kanfos ha’aretz.*” After seeing the video, I began thinking about these words with a little more concentration.

In the video, Lipa is dressed in camouflage, with a group of dancers, seemingly members of the IDF, in middle of a busy Jerusalem shopping strip. I was enlightened by a comment on a blog saying that he has always been disturbed by people who feel that the ingathering of the exiles is relevant to the Jews of Boro Park and Bnei Brak to the exclusion of some disenfranchised, uneducated Jew somewhere out there in the world at large. He was pleased by Lipa’s script to dance with members of Israel’s IDF to the words and lively tune that signal the end of this long exile and freedom for all Jews wherever they may be.

I then began thinking of the words again, specifically the word “*nidacheinu.*” The word *nidach* means to be rejected or pushed away, in this instance exiled, with the plea that G-d will gather in the exiled from the four corners of the world. Part of the problem is that we have been taught that as long as we lead lives closely in accordance with the precepts of Torah and *mitzvos* then we are in a sense complete and do not lack anything. What follows is, those Jews who haven’t discovered their portion in Torah and the sweetness of life

as an observant, G-d-fearing Jew are truly the ones in exile.

So you ask, what is the problem? The problem precisely is that in our learning and observance of *mitzvos* and contentment with our lives in exile we lose our yearning to attain the real world when G-d will finally see fit to redeem us and rebuild the *Beis HaMikdash* and revive those that have departed throughout the ages. You see, as much as we get into learning, even if we have been exposed to all facets of the Torah, at best our learning in exile is compared to hearing as opposed to seeing. The Gemara says hearing is not comparable to seeing, and by the same token, the Torah as we know it today is incomparable with the way it will be seen and understood with the coming of Mashiach. It’s important for us to realize that as sweet and enlightening as Torah is to us today, it will be so much more pleasing and appealing to us after Mashiach comes.

So when we pray that G-d gather in the exiled, do we think of ourselves, or the impoverished Jew who sadly hasn’t attained the sweetness of *Yiddishkeit*? I recently learned a *d’var Torah* from the holy Baal Shem Tov as quoted in the *sefer Degel Machane Efraim* authored by his grandson, Rav Moshe Chaim Efraim from Sedlikov. The Gemara in *Shabbos* states, “Anyone who lives in *chutz la’aretz* is compared to someone who has no G-d. . . . And anyone who lives in *Eretz Yisrael* is compared to someone who has a G-d.” I was always rather uncomfortable with this Gemara in light of the millions of Jews that live out-

side of *Eretz Yisrael*, many of whom had and have an undying love for the land and still remain outside the land.

The Baal Shem Tov reads the Gemara a little differently. He says, “Anyone who lives in *chutz la’aretz* seems as someone who doesn’t have a G-d, but in reality does. And anyone who lives in *Eretz Yisrael* seems as someone who has a G-d, but in reality doesn’t.” The Baal Shem Tov explains that the terms *chutz la’aretz* and *Eretz Yisrael* are euphemisms for someone who feels that despite all of his striving to cleave to G-d, still sees himself or herself at a distance, or someone who has become content with his or her accomplishments in this world, confident that they have found favor in G-d’s eyes as a result of all their Torah learning and *mitzvah* performance. The Besht says that the word *domeh* can mean that it “seems as if” one person is more connected than the other, but in reality it is the opposite.

This is consistent with the philosophy of *chassidic* thought that the more one strives to cleave to G-d, the further he actually feels from Him. The distance that one feels from G-d despite his efforts to draw near is indicative of a G-d in his or her world. However, one who feels that he has reached the top in an imperfect world is the one who doesn’t have a G-d in his or her life, although it may seem that they are the most connected to G-d.

In a letter written after Rosh Hashanah to his brother-in-law, Reb Gershon of Kitov, the holy Baal Shem Tov describes some of the revelations that he was privy to during an ascent of his soul to the heavenly realms. One of the things that the Besht implies is that certain people who in

this world were accorded little respect as a result of sins that they committed were completely forgiven and allowed to enter into the most lofty mystical experiences in Heaven. The lesson is, many times the way things seem to us down here is in fact the exact opposite in the world of truth. It’s not for naught that this world is called the world of deceit.

The Chofetz Chaim explained the *pasuk* in *Tehillim*, “*Toras Hashem temimah . . .*” that despite the voluminous commentaries on Torah throughout the history of this world, the Torah, which is infinite, remains unplumbed. We have to view our relationship with Hashem in the same manner. A person can never rest, saying that he has cleaved to Hashem. In reality, the closer we get the further we feel.

Last Shabbos was Rosh Chodesh Elul. Very soon we will begin reciting *Selichos* and *Avinu Malkeinu* following *Shemoneh Esrei*, when we will pray that our Father and King remember us in the book of redemption, among many other requests. If we live life in this world with the attitude that we lack nothing, from what exactly are we looking to be redeemed? This is a question that we must all ask ourselves. If there is one aspect of our lives in this world that we feel could be better, then we could turn to Hashem and ask Him to redeem us. But how can we raise our head in prayer and ask Hashem to redeem us when in fact we feel as if nothing could be better? If anyone finds himself in that situation, it’s best he reexamine to whom he is trying to draw close. ❖

Comments for Yochanan Gordon are welcome at ygordon@5tjt.com.

Minyanim in the 5 Towns/Far Rockaway Area

MINCHA

- 12:45 @ Agudas Israel of Long Island (Sun)
- 1:30 @ Cedarhurst Center
- 1:35 @ Mesivta Chaim Shlomo (in Darchei Torah) @ Shor Yashuv
- 1:45 @ Yeshiva Beis Shmuel (2937 Oceanside)
- 1:45 @ Rabbi Katz (in Far Rockaway)
- 1:45 @ Learning Center (114 Spruce)
- 1:50 @ Yeshiva Gedolah of 5 Towns
- 2:00 @ Yeshiva Mercas HaTorah
- 2:00 @ 5 Towns Judaica
- @ Brachs
- @ Elite Caterers (M-Th.)
- @ Yeshiva of South Shore
- @ YI Lawrence Cedarhurst (Sun)
- @ YI Woodmere (Sun)
- 2:10 @ Mesivta Ateres Yaakov (131 Washington)
- 2:15 @ Yeshiva Far Rockaway
- 2:45 @ Agudas Israel of Long Island
- @ Kollel Avreichem (1204 B. 12)
- @ Yeshiva Far Rockaway
- @ Yeshiva Gedolah of 5 Towns
- @ Yeshiva Zichron Aryeh (2422 Bayswater)
- 3:00 @ Judaica Plus
- 3:15 @ Yeshiva Mercas HaTorah
- 3:20 @ Mesivta Chaim Shlomo
- 3:35 @ DRS
- 4:15 @ Aish Kodesh
- 4:30 @ Yeshiva Bnai Torah
- 4:40 @ Shaare Emunah

MAARIV

- 5:10 @ Learning Center (114 Spruce)
- 6:30 @ YI Woodmere
- 6:35 @ Shor Yashuv
- 7:00 @ YI Woodmere
- 7:15 @ Mesivta Chaim Shlomo
- 7:30 @ YI Woodmere
- 7:45 @ Aish Kodesh
- @ Chabad 5 Towns (S-Th.)
- 8:00 @ Heichel Dovid in Lawrence
- @ White Shul (S-Th.)
- @ YI Woodmere
- @ Young Israel of Far Rockaway (S-Th.)
- 8:15 @ YI Lawrence Cedarhurst
- @ Young Israel of North Woodmere
- 8:30 @ Beis Hamidrash Harav
- @ Yeshiva Far Rockaway
- @ YI Woodmere
- 8:50 @ Cong. Beis Tefillah (Edward Ave.)
- @ Mesivta Chaim Shlomo
- 9:00 @ Cong. Knesseth Meir (The Sand Castle)
- @ Rabbi Brown
- @ Shor Yashuv
- @ YI Wavecrest and Bayswater
- @ YI Woodmere
- 9:15 @ Agudas Israel of Long Island
- @ Shaaray Tefila
- 9:30 @ Cong. Beth Shalom
- @ Rabbi Blumenkrantz (S-Th.)
- @ Heichel Dovid in Lawrence
- @ YI Woodmere
- 9:45 @ Cong. Bais Yehuda Zvi (Red Shul)
- @ Mesivta Ateres Yaakov (131 Washington)
- @ Shor Yashuv
- @ Spinka Shul (10-29 Bay 32nd St., Bayswater)
- @ Yeshiva Gedolah of 5 Towns
- @ Rabbi Blumenkrantz (M-Th.)
- 9:50 @ Agudas Israel of Long Island
- 10:00 @ Cong. Bais Medrash (Rabbi Speigel)
- @ DRS
- @ Yeshiva Bnai Torah
- @ Yeshiva Far Rockaway
- @ Yeshiva Zichron Aryeh (2422 Bayswater)
- 10:15 @ Agudath Israel of 5 Towns
- @ Kollel Avreichem (1204 B. 12)
- 10:30 @ Agudas Israel of Long Island
- @ Yeshiva Gedolah of 5 Towns
- 11:00 @ Boston Beis Medrash
- 11:30 @ Boston Beis Medrash
- 12:00 @ Boston Beis Medrash

Mincha in the **Young Israel of Far Rockaway** is approximately 9 minutes after the previous Shabbos’s candle lighting time followed by Maariv.

Mincha at the **Young Israel of Hewlett** is 5 minutes after the previous Shabbos’s candle lighting time.

Mincha at the **Agudath Israel of the Five Towns** is 15 minutes before sunset.

Mincha at **Rabbi Blumenkrantz’s Shul** is 10 minutes before sunset Sun.-Thurs. followed by Maariv.

Maariv at **Ahavas Yisroel in Cedarhurst** is 10 minutes after the previous Shabbos’s candle lighting time.

Erev Shabbos Mincha at **Yeshiva of Far Rockaway** and **Yeshiva Shor Yashuv** is 1/2 hour after Chatzos

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Sunday, **September 9**, beginning at 9 a.m. for a **mezuzah- and tefillin-checking campaign** at Congregation Ohr Moshe, 170-16 73rd Avenue, Hillcrest, in conjunction with the "Mezuzah Doctor," Moshe Gantz. For more information and to make a reservation, call Rabbi Asher Schechter 718-591-4888 or e-mail AsherSchechter@msn.com.

Mazal Tov

... To Rabbi and Mrs. Yoel Schonfeld on the engagement of their daughter Malky to Yitzie Goldberg of Baltimore. *Mazal tov* to grandparents Rabbi and Mrs. Fabian Schonfeld.

... to Yossie and Esther Davidov on the birth of a son. *Mazal tov* to the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Boris Davidov and Mr. and Mrs. Lio Batyrova.

If you have any *mazal tovs* you want mentioned in this column, send me the information. Pictures are also welcome. ❖

Chanita Teitz is a real-estate broker at Astor Brokerage, with offices in Kew Gardens Hills and Fresh Meadows. For all your real-estate needs in Queens, call her at 718-263-4500 or e-mail chanita@astorbrokerage.com.

DAFYOMISHIURIM

In the 5 Towns Far Rockaway Area

<p>4:30 am @ Yeshiva Sh'or Yoshuv - Mishnah Berurah: Rabbi Shmuel Grossman 5:00 am @ Yeshiva Sh'or Yoshuv - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Shmuel Grossman 5:15 am @ Y.L. of Woodmere - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Rafael Fink 5:30 am @ Chofetz Chaim Torah Center - Cedarhurst @ Rabbi Neiman's Shul - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Yossi Schoenkopf 5:45 am @ Agudah of L.I. (Rabbi Reisman) - Magid Shiur: Rav Shmuel Wirkin @ Kehillas Bais Yehudah Tzvi (the Red Shul) 6:00 am @ Agudah of L.I. - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Dr. Mermelstein @ Aish Kodesh - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Shalom Friedl, Rabbi Daniel Fink @ CBEY- Island Ave., Woodmere - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Shalom Rosner @ Yeshiva Sh'or Yoshuv - Magid Shiur: Rabbi David Greenblatt 6:10 am @ Beis Medrash of Cedarhurst - Rabbi Spiegel 6:15 am @ Cong. Beis Avraham - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Henoch Grumet @ Beis Haknesses of North Woodmere 6:30 am @ Agudah of West Lawrence - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Moshe Brown @ Young Israel of Law/Cedar. Maggid Shiur: Yale Fishman/Yaakov Shalev @ Y.L. of Oceanside @ Rabbi Katz's Shul in Far Rockaway - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Pinchas Birnhack 6:40 am @ Y.L. of Woodmere - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Aron Glatt @ Congregation Beth Shalom - Maggid Shiur: Rabbi Yechiel Weberman 6:45 am @ Shaaray Tefila - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Kalish @ The White Shul - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Kanner @ Agudah of the Five Towns - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Ephraim Edelstein @ Agudas Yisroel of Long Island - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Tzvi Flaum 7:00 am @ Agudah of L.I. - Sunday ONLY - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Dr. Mermelstein @ Congregation Beth Avraham - Sunday ONLY @ Yeshiva Gedolah of 5 Towns - Magid Shiur: Rav Yitzchok Knobel @ Young Israel of Law/Ced. - Sunday ONLY - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Yale Fishman 7:09 am @ Far Rockaway LIRR 3rd car from the end - Direct to Penn Station Magid Shiur: Rabbi Kodesh</p>	<p>7:10 am @ Agudah of Bayswater @ Mesivta Ateres Yaakov, 131 Washington Avenue 7:15 am @ Aish Kodesh - Sunday ONLY @ Kehillas Bais Yehudah Tzvi (the Red Shul) @ Chabad - Maple Avenue, Cedarhurst 7:30 am @ Agudah of L.I. (Rabbi Reisman) in Library - Magid Shiur: Rabbis S. Kohn, N. Schweid, R. Flegman @ Congregation Heichal David - Sunday ONLY 7:35 am @ Y.L. of Woodmere - Sunday ONLY - Magid Shiur: Rabbi R. Fink 7:45 am @ Kehillas Bais Yehudah Tzvi (the Red Shul) - Sunday ONLY @ Beth Shalom - Sunday ONLY - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Yale Fishman 7:50 am @ Far Rockaway LIRR front section of the last car - Direct to Penn Station 7:55 am @ Lawrence LIRR - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Pesach Lerner 8:00 am @ Shaaray Tefila - Sunday ONLY - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Kalish @ Agudas Yisroel of Long Island - Sunday ONLY - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Tzvi Flaum @ Mesivta Ateres Yaakov, 131 Washington Avenue (Shabbos Only) 8:10 am @ LIRR Far Rockaway Branch, in the last car of the train, which makes stops at Inwood, Lawrence, Cedarhurst and Woodmere at 8:22 am Magid Shiur: Rabbi Menachem Adler 8:15 am @ Beth Shalom - Shabbos ONLY - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Yale Fishman 8:45 am @ Agudah of L.I. - Sunday ONLY in library @ Sunday mornings at Beis Tefilah - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Shaya Richmond 10:15 am @ The White Shul - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Matt Cohen 12:50 pm @ Cedarhurst Center - Ground Floor Conf. Room - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Lichtenstein 8:00 pm @ Agudah of L.I. - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Nochum Katz @ Aish Kodesh - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Simcha Weingott @ Y.L. of Far Rockaway - Magid Shiur: R' Daniel Martin and R' Avraham Bachrach 8:15 pm @ Cong. Beis Medrash of Cedarhurst - Magid Shiur: Rabbi David Spiegel 8:30 pm @ Y.L. of Oceanside @ Congregation Heichal David 8:45 pm @ Yeshiva Sh'or Yoshuv - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Y. Weberman @ Rabbi Blumentkrantz - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Yosef Friedler 9:00 pm @ Agudah of L.I. - Magid Shiur: Rabbi Lichtenstein/Rotating Chaburah @ Agudah of West Lawrence - Rabbi Brown's Shul @ Agudah of Bayswater @ Beis Tefilah - (Tues. - Thurs.) Maggid Shiur: Rabbi Ephraim Edelstein</p>
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Community News From Around The World

The EMES Card Campaign: An Urgent Project For All Jews

The National Association of Chevre Kadisha (NASCK), under the direction of Rabbi Elchonon Zohn, is promoting a national initiative commencing with the upcoming weeks of *Selichos*. The goal is to encourage all adult members of the Jewish community to join the "EMES Card Campaign." The "EMES" (Emergency Medical Education and Signup) Card attaches to one's license in a special plastic sleeve. In the event of a medical emergency, the card advises medical personnel of the contact information for one's designated health care proxy and the rabbi listed in the *halachic* living will. It also encourages registry at the US Living Will Registry. Furthermore, the EMES Card states an opposition to autopsy or any post-mortem dissection, unless stated other-

wise in a written document, as well as opposition to cremation. This project, supported by Agudath Israel, NCYI, OU, and RCA, is meant to have shuls across the country dedicate a day to guide and help people fill out and sign the EMES Card together with a living will.

Visit www.nasck.org to find out why this initiative is so important. To bring this campaign to your shul and community, contact info@nasck.org or call 888-243-8721. ❖

Landau's Health Tree

Landau's Boro Park Health Foods has been serving the community for over 38 years. They have just moved right next door to their previous location. They are now known as Landau's Health Tree, located at 5201 13th Avenue in Brooklyn. Come pay them a visit and you will be treated to a brand-new upper-class store that looks more like it belongs in Manhattan.

Landau's Health Tree carries hundreds of brand-name kosher vitamins and supplements at discounted prices. They also carry a full selection of health foods, as well as gluten- and sugar-free products. They offer free delivery. Come browse their fully stocked aisles and be treated to a shopping experience you won't forget! ❖

Kosherica's Winter Cruises

By Yochanan Gordon

Anyone who has taken my suggestion to entrust their travel itinerary to Kosherica, the travel aficionado, has thanked me endlessly. Aside from the selfish reasons behind maximizing your vacation days, there are multiple benefits in ensuring that your vacations are satisfying. Everyone wants to fill their various roles in life to the best of their capacity. We all exert a lot of time and energy to be the best parents, spouses, and providers that we can be. It's exhausting, and sometimes all we need is a little Kosherica vacation TLC to rejuvenate our batteries.

One of the great things about Kosherica is the long list of destinations that

they offer. Keeping with their tradition of embarking on uncharted territory, on December 19, there will be a 14-night cruise to Australia and New Zealand—that is new ground in the kosher cruising industry—aboard Holland America. This cruise will leave from and return to Sydney, Australia and features ports of call to the most fascinating destinations in New Zealand. Just two days later, on December 21, Holland America will be embarking for the Panama Canal. This stunning cruise will leave from California and end in Miami. This is one of the only Panama Canal cruises that properly sails through the Panama Canal.

For Caribbean excitement, join Kosherica aboard Norwegian Cruises. On December 23, the ship will depart from Miami. The scholar will be Steven Savitsky. On January 18, 2013, Kosherica will depart from New York City! This unbelievable cruise will mark Kosherica's fifth annual Jewish Music Festival At Sea. In addition to the endless amenities, *glatt kosher* gourmet cuisine, and fantastic customer service, Kosherica will feature the best and brightest entertainers of our time. Experience Dudu Fisher, Avraham Fried, Yaacov Motzen, Lipa Schmeltzer, Colin Shachat, and Simone Cohen up close. New to the roster of brilliant personalities that will be travelling aboard the January 18 ten-day cruise to the Caribbean is the renowned scholar, rabbi, and educator, Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak Jacobson. He is the *rav* of Cong. Beis Shmuel in Crown Heights, dean of *theyeshiva.net*, a global classroom of Torah study with a full schedule of live classes over the internet and co-editor of the *Algemeiner Journal*. Rabbi Jacobson was chosen twice as the religious keynote address at the Senior Army Leadership conference attended by over 1,000 chaplains and was received enthusiastically each time and is continually sought after to speak in communities across the globe. His weekly articles are received by tens of thousands of subscribers and you have an opportunity to be educated and guided by this one-of-a-kind personality for ten days this winter. It's an opportunity that should not be missed! The staff at Kosherica plans these excursions with the traveler in mind. Over two decades in the business the Shifmans and their dedicated staff continue to thrive based on the thoughts, feelings, and suggestions of their travelers. The sumptuous and immaculate cuisine is unparalleled, all *chalay Yisrael, Pas Yisrael*, with an extremely experienced and professional crew of *mashgichim* aboard every cruise. While you don't need an excuse to get away, Kosherica is the perfect birthday or anniversary gift, and the staff on board are experts at helping you celebrate these special occasions in the most unforgettable ways. Don't think too much; you owe it to yourselves. Pick up the phone and call 305-695-2700 or 877-724-5567 or visit www.Kosherica.com and one of the travel experts will be in touch with you to secure your travel plans. *Bon voyage!* ❖

Welcome Back from **Seminary!**

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Camp Kaylie Inaugurates Kleinman Bais Medrash

Camp Kaylie at Ohel, The Dr. Joe Silver Campus, recently inaugurated the Elly and Brochie Kleinman Bais Medrash with an inspiring *chanukas habayis*. More than 300 campers and

staff, together with wonderful summer weather, welcomed more than 150 special guests and dignitaries for the official opening of the new *bais medrash* and Kleinman Center.

The building, built this past winter, features a large stunning *bais medrash*, together with an educational and cultural wing featuring multiple classrooms for learning and indoor activities—which all overlook the beautiful Lake Kestenbaum.

Since the acquisition of the premium campsite in Wurtsboro, New York, Elly and Brochie Kleinman have been one of the staunch supporters of the groundbreaking Camp Kaylie—an integrated camp for campers of all abilities.

While a new camp and concept, Camp Kaylie has doubled the numbers of campers in 2012 from the inaugural summer of 2011—and registration for Summer 2013 is already up. Camp Kaylie not only offers campers an exhilarating sports and activity filled summer like no other, but an additional lifetime experience that is transformational.

Through close and integrated activities with kids of different abilities and from diverse backgrounds and communities, Camp Kaylie breaks down stigma, builds confidence amongst all campers, and nurtures leaders of tomorrow who are more knowledgeable, more sensitive, and more understanding of their responsibility in ensuring that the abilities and potential of all individuals are appreciated, encouraged, and realized.

Camp Kaylie is uniquely fortunate—invaluably benefiting from the parent organization of Ohel Children's Home and Family Services, which provides extensive managerial, fundraising, marketing, and administrative support.

Speakers at the *chanukas habayis* included Rabbi Peretz Hochbaum, camp director, Rav Dovid Cohen, *mara d'asra*, Moishe Hellman and Mel Zachter, co-presidents of Ohel, Rabbi Sholom Rosner, educational director, as well as two campers who inspired everyone with their story of fun and integration at camp.

In his moving remarks, Elly Kleinman moved the audience to tears by quoting from a letter received from a typical camper of Summer of 2011 who remarked that a camper with special needs had asked her, "When do I tell them I have Down's syndrome?"



Elly and Brochie Kleinman and Family

Following the dedication, campers and guests danced to the live music of Boruch Levine, Michoel Pruzansky,

Shloime Dachs and the Shloime Dachs Orchestras. The wonderful day ended with a delicious *seudah* served in

the Sammy & Lea Trencher Main Dining Hall.

Numerous opportunities for unique dedications and commemorations are available at Camp Kaylie. Your inquiry is welcomed at 718-972-9338 or norman_gildin@ohelfamily.org. ❖

Oceanside JCC Wins Medal In Maccabi Games

The 2012 Maccabi games in Rockland County were held August 12–17. The games brought in more than 1,200 Jewish athletes from all over the world. The JCC Maccabi Games encourage the health, physical fitness, and well-being of Jewish youth, as well as cultivate

a deeper understanding and instill an appreciation of Jewish values, enriching teens' Jewish identities and encouraging their identification with the State of Israel.

The opening ceremony was extremely moving as Ankie Spitzer spoke. Her husband was one of the athletes brutally murdered along with ten other members of the Israeli delegation to the 1972 Munich Olympics. She inspired the entire audience to continue to uphold principles and values and to educate them about the Munich Massacre which occurred 40 years ago. Rockland JCC participated in a minute of

Continued on Page 64

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Community News
Continued from Page 63

silent commemoration at the opening ceremony, paying homage to the Munich 11.

Alec Schonfeld, and Adar Benzaken of HAFTR; Cody Zafran of East Meadow High; and Avery Feldman and Josh Netto-Rosen of Hewlett High. Also thanks to Mascot "Poppy Lou Goldreich." ❖



L-R: Billy Schneider, Josh Cohen, Benjy Hakakian, Mark Spivak, Cody Zafran, Adar Benzaken, Avery Feldman, Alec Schonfeld, Avery Lubin, Josh Netto-Rosen, and Dean Schneider

The Friedberg JCC in Oceanside is proud of our local athletes who participated and achieved great success, winning the bronze medal in basketball. Ron Kaminer and Billy Schneider coached the team and Dean Schneider assisted. The team included Josh Cohen, Avery Lubin, and Benjy Hakakian of North Shore High; Mark Spivak,

YU Awards Tenure To Ten Professors

Dr. Naomi Grunhaus, a scholar of Biblical exegesis, researches the incorporation of rabbinic traditions in the linguistic works of Jonah Ibn Janah and Radak. Dr. Bruno Galantucci, a cognitive scientist, designs experiments to study how humans establish and de-



Dr. Tamar Avnet



Dr. Bruno Galantucci

velop novel forms of communication. And Dr. Tamar Avnet, a marketing and consumer behavior expert, investigates how people use and rely on their feelings and emotions to help them make purchasing decisions.

They are three of ten professors who have been newly promoted and tenured at Yeshiva University. Grunhaus is now an associate professor of Bible at Stern College for Women. Galantucci has been promoted to associate professor of psychology at Yeshiva College. And Avnet has become an associate professor of marketing at the Sy Syms School of Business.

"Tenure is awarded to faculty who have made a long-term contribution

to the teaching of our students and have conducted leading research in the field," said Dr. Lawrence Schiffman, vice provost for undergraduate education at YU. "It's not a reward for past service, but an investment in someone whose academic life in their field will be significant and who will enhance our academic quality and reputation. This year's crop include top people who know how to teach and relate to our students and identify with our mission as a university, and it is partly as a result of this that our students get into top graduate schools and fellowship programs."

Continued on Page 69



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What a find! 5 br New construction in the heart of Cedarhurst* call Chana (516)449-9692
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LAWRENCE



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WOODMERE



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No Exclusive! Unusual Find! 7 bd 4.5bth SH Col 2 rm guest etc. Off Carlyle. Vaulted den, well maint. Private elevator, cac, 2plcs
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LAWRENCE 3bd garden apt low maint + UG pkg w/ train + shop w/ NU kosh kit Northgate
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Salesman Wanted for B.P. Furniture Store **917-974-3165**

Driver needed for deliveries in 5 Towns, Brooklyn and Queens. Call **516-986-3100**

Accounts Payable Clerk — Seeking college student or recent graduate for accounts payable position for fast paced E-commerce business in Brooklyn. Duties include posting of invoices, cutting checks, filing, and monitoring open accounts payable items. Please e-mail your resume to **HRCenter12@gmail.com**

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 Please forward resume in confidence to **HRCenter12@gmail.com**

Sales person for fast paced E-commerce company needed in Brooklyn. Must be well spoken & written. Able to work in a team environment Experience in E-commerce business a must. Please email resume to **HRCenter12@gmail.com**

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 Email resume to: **jobsatusave@gmail.com**

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Woodmere — Great house. 3+ BR, 2.5bths, finished basement, Koshher Kit (2 Sinks, 2 D/W), Deck. Low Taxes, near Aish & YIW **\$499K**
 Call **516-374-3635**

Open Houses 8/26
Woodsburgh — By appointment. **One of a kind C/H col. 1.25 Acre.** Large **11BRs**, plus separate dentist office. **\$1.5M**
Woodmere — By appointment. **Extra-large split.** Mother/Daughter. All updated. Waterfront. 6BR. 5bth **\$869K**
Co-ops — Woodmere — 141 Wyckoff Pl. 11:00-2:00
All updated and spacious:
 1BR, first floor **\$119K**
 1BR, second floor, elevator. **\$99K**
 2BR **\$155K**
 Prudential RE Dalia **516-849-2522**

Lawrence
 Prestigious brick c/h col 2MBR +3BR cul-de-sac ... **\$990K**
 Charming 4BR col. with golf views 1/2 acre **\$750K**
The Plaza — Spacious Jr4 co-op, FLR FDR, EIK, MBR suite, dble terrace, pool, elevator, doorman **\$349K**
 261 Central Ave. Spacious 2BR, 2bth, co-op **\$165K**
Far Rockaway
 New to market legal 2-family home with full basement **\$625K**
 For rent — All new 3BR duplex apt. **\$2200**
 Charming expanded cape on oversized prop. Location! **\$900's**
 622 Jarvis Ave. Young legal 2-family Location! **\$699K**

Cedarhurst
 37 Weyant Dr. 5BR split/col. main level den, basement, cul-de-sac. **\$700's** 4-5
 445 W. Broadway Charming 3+ BR col, basement, den **\$399K**
 441 Albermarle Rd. Renovated 3+ BR col., oversized prop **\$500's**
 321 Buckingham Rd. Mint wide line split can be M/D with permit. **\$725K**
Hewlett — Charming 3BR col, mint **\$459K**
Milky Forst Properties, Inc. **516-239-0306**

Great Neck — 5 years old, kosher kitchen, granite countertops, walk to synagogues, excellent location, 4BR, 2.5baths, oak flooring throughout, finished basement with ceramic tile floors and maid's room **\$975K**
 Avi **516-984-7895**

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Woodmere — Co-op, 1BR. **\$69K** — Rent For **\$1200/mo**
Call **Mark Lipner** Direct **516-298-8457** Pugatch Realty Corp. E-mail: **MLipner@Pugatch.com**

Lawrence — Exclusive opulence. Shy half acre. Unique CH. A Room for every occasion. 8BR, 4.5bths, ballroom size LR, DR, den. French doors, pillars, granite floors, skylight, guest house, Must see! **\$1599M**

Woodmere — 5-year CH col. Brand new . . . **\$1175M**
Woodmere — Mayfair Co-op — House size 3BR, 3 bths **\$425K**

Esther Walfish Jessica Silver Realty
516-295-0306, 516-476-7764

Woodmere — 4BR, 3 Bath Split, CAC, Water view, Move Right In. **\$539K**
Open House Sunday 8/26 600 Derby Ave, Woodmere 2-4 PM

Call **Mark Lipner** Direct **516-298-8457** Pugatch Realty Corp. E-mail: **MLipner@Pugatch.com**

Woodmere — **Just Listed!** 4BR, 3 Bath, Lot Size 63x147, CAC, SS Appliances, New Windows, 2 Car Garage **\$465K**

Call **Mark Lipner** Direct **516-298-8457** Pugatch Realty Corp. E-mail: **MLipner@Pugatch.com**

Hewlett — 3BR, 2 Bath Ranch, Finished Basement, Lot Size 56x150 **\$349K**
Call **Mark Lipner** Direct **516-298-8457** Pugatch Realty Corp. E-mail: **MLipner@Pugatch.com**

Woodmere — 2BR, 2 Bath Co-op, Elevator Bldg, 9ft Ceilings, Many Closets **\$169K**
Call **Mark Lipner** Direct **516-298-8457** Pugatch Realty Corp. E-mail: **MLipner@Pugatch.com**

North Woodmere — 4BR, 3 Bath Expanded Splanchn On Quiet Residential St, Many Built-Ins, 4BR One One Level **\$669K**
Call **Mark Lipner** Direct **516-298-8457** Pugatch Realty Corp. E-mail: **MLipner@Pugatch.com**

Lawrence — **The Plaza**, 1BR, 1.5 Bath, Spacious Jr4 Apt, Elevator Bldg, 24HR Doorman, IG Pool, Terrace. **\$355K**
Call **Mark Lipner** Direct **516-298-8457** Pugatch Realty Corp. E-mail: **MLipner@Pugatch.com**

Cedarhurst — 4BR, 3 Bath Split Level, CAC, New Bathroom, Beautifully Maintained, Fin Bsmt **\$535K**
Open House Sunday 8/26 333 Pacific Ave, Cedarhurst By Appointment
Call **Mark Lipner** Direct **516-298-8457** Pugatch Realty Corp. E-mail: **MLipner@Pugatch.com**

Woodmere — **New Exclusive!** 4BR, 3 Bath Splanchn In The Heart Of Woodmere, Alarm, IGS, CAC, Full Fin Bsmt **\$799K**
Call **Mark Lipner** Direct **516-298-8457** Pugatch Realty Corp. E-mail: **MLipner@Pugatch.com**

Cedarhurst — **New Exclusive!!!** 4BR, 4 Bath Split Level, New Fridge, Dishwasher, W/D, Boiler, Garage Door, Lg Bedrm On Top Flr Leading Out To Deck, Close To All. **\$479K**
Call **Mark Lipner** Direct **516-298-8457** Pugatch Realty Corp. E-mail: **MLipner@Pugatch.com**

Lawrence — 1BR, 1.5 Bath Condo Apt, Elevator Bldg, 24hr Doorman, W/D In Apt, Many Closets **\$299K**
Call **Mark Lipner** Direct **516-298-8457** Pugatch Realty Corp. E-mail: **MLipner@Pugatch.com**

Woodmere — 4BR, 3 Bath Split, New Eik, Hw Heater, W/D, Renovated Bath, All Systems, Move Right In. . . **\$515K**
Call **Mark Lipner** Direct **516-298-8457** Pugatch Realty Corp. E-mail: **MLipner@Pugatch.com**

Far Rockaway — **New Exclusive!** 6/7 Bedroom Colonial In The Heart Of Far Rockaway, Lot Size 90 x 150, All Amenities, One Of A Kind, Must See. **\$POR**
Call **Mark Lipner** Direct **516-298-8457** Pugatch Realty Corp. E-mail: **MLipner@Pugatch.com**

Woodmere: New Exclusive! 6/7 Bedroom, 5 Bath In Woodmere Park, Recently Renovated, Over Sized Lot, All Systems, MBR Suite, Finished Basement, A Must See **\$POR**
Call **Mark Lipner** Direct **516-298-8457** Pugatch Realty Corp. E-mail: **MLipner@Pugatch.com**

Cedarhurst — Beautiful 2BR, 2 Bath Co-op Apt, Bright & Sunny, Screened Terrace, In The Heart Of Cedarhurst. **\$315K**
Open House Sunday 8/26 545 Central Ave #42B, Cedarhurst By Appointment
Call **Mark Lipner** Direct **516-298-8457** Pugatch Realty Corp. E-mail: **MLipner@Pugatch.com**

Woodmere — AAA cul-de-sac 4BRs, 2.5 new bths, new EIK, large den, CAC, alarm **\$675K**
Owner **516-984-5143**

East Flatbush, Brooklyn — Near Kings County Hospital Legal 6 Family, Destabilized, 3 Fl. Walkup, 4,000 SF Semi-Detach Brick blg, Parking, Newly Renovated, Granite Kitchen Tops. Call **917-885-3101**

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Flatbush in the mid 30s — 1-family, semi-attached, 3BR, 1.5bths, large EIK, FDR, finished basement, private drive/garage, large nice backyard, price reduced! Call Yehuda **718-501-4003**

Woodmere — Split level mint condition. 5BR, 3.5bths, granite EIK, main floor den, finished basement, all systems, large deck, beautiful landscaping. Low taxes **\$799K**
Call **516-426-4221**

Woodmere — 3+1 BR, Kosh Kit(2 Sinks, 2 D/W), Deck, Fin Bsmt, 2 1/2 Baths. Low Taxes, near Aish & YIW. . **\$499K**
Call **516-209-1290**

North Woodmere — First show. Spacious, high ranch, large LR, FDR, new granite EIK, 5BR, large den, SD#14, walk all **\$525K**
5 Towns Homes Realty 516-569-5710

North Woodmere — **Open House By Appointment Sunday 8/26. Call Joan 516-319-4482** New to market. Custom oversized split 4BR, 1 level, extended kitchen and atrium den with beautiful water views in SD#14. Low taxes on quiet tree-lined street, walk Ohr Torah. **\$699K**
5 Towns Homes 516-569-5710

Cedarhurst — New to market. Co-op. Spacious all renovated 2BR, 2bth, LR, DR, new kosher EIK, terrace, w/d in apt, second floor, parking & storage, great location, walk all Owner motivated. Reduced **\$265K**
5 Towns Homes Realty 516-569-5710

Hewlett. Open House Sunday 8/26 By Appointment Call Joan 516-319-4482. 31 Steven Drive. Balcony split 4BR (1 level) 3 new bths, new granite EIK, LR, FDR, den, quiet tree-lined street, SD#14 **\$579K**
5 Towns Homes 516-569-5710

North Woodmere — **Open House Sunday 8/26 By Appointment.** Call Joan 516-319-4482. 872 Cranford Ave. Spacious split, LR, FDR, large EIK, 4BR, 3bths, large den, on quiet tree-lined street, SD#15, all systems, Low taxes, walk all. **\$629K**
5 Towns Homes Realty 516-569-5710

Cedarhurst — **Open House 8/26 12-1 PM** 499 Harbor Drive, off Oakland Ave. Absolutely mint 4BR split with basement. **\$579K**
Woodmere — Open House 8/12 1-2 PM. New Construction Classic 5BR c/h col. Large property. Walk to YI of Woodmere and Aish **\$1M+**

Old Woodmere — 3BR Colonial Charming on over-sized property great block, walk to new shul.

Woodmere — Newly constructed, 6BR col. Grand 2 story entry foyer, custom kitchen, marble bath, radiant heat, every amenity. Must see! **\$1M+**

Hewlett Neck — New construction located on spectacular 1/2 acre lot. 6BR, 2-story entrance foyer, 9' ceiling

Hewlett Neck — 1/2 acre, buildable lot, for sale. . **\$750K**
For rent
2-family house. 3BR, new kitchen and bath with full finished basement. SD#14. **\$3,000**
3BR, new kitchen and bath **\$2,500**
South Shore Estates 516-569-4980

Cedarhurst — **New construction.** First show. Col. 9' ceilings, 5BR, 2.5bths, full basement, on quiet tree-lined street. Call for details **\$799K**
5 Towns Homes Realty 516-569-5710

Cedarhurst — Legal 2 family brick, all new, spacious, LR with fireplace, FDR, large kosher EIK, 3BR each apt, c/ac, new roof and gas heat. Each apt has w/d. Alarm, basement, great location, walk all **\$739K**
5 Towns Homes 516-569-5710

Hewlett — Beautiful 5 BR, 3 bths, split. All updated, in SD#14. Separate entrance can be M/D with proper permits. Owner motivated, reduced. **\$449K**
5 Towns Home Realty 516-569-5710

Lawrence — **Open House Sunday 8/26 By Appointment** 516-319-4482 Ours Alone!! Brick, C/H COL, Stately brick, w/old world charm, Hi ceilings, 6Br, 4.5 bths, Kosher EIK, Lg. FDR, Library, Fin. Bsmt, Lg Prop, walk all. Asking **\$875K**
5 TOWN HOMES 516-569-5710

Far Rockaway: Coop, 3Br, 1Bth Lr/Dr, Walk to All **\$179K** Call **516-322-3555**

Woodmere Colonial For Sale
6BR 3.5 Bath Col. Master suite w/ bath. Fin. Bsmt, BR, bath + more. Granite Kitch, all new appliances, Den with skylt, Fireplace, formal DR, A Gem! **\$649K 516-569-1684**

Woodmere/Cedarhurst Oppty! 12,000 sq. ft. approx. 90'x150', Colonial, 17 rooms, full bsmt. with hi ceilings, clean 2 car garage plus storage, 6 space parking. 2 family, professional use, accountant, Esq., medical and/or educational and religious uses. Grand colonial with charm and great possibilities. Available at once. **\$875K** Negotiable. Owner **516-322-3555**

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Cedarhurst — Co-op. 1st Flr, large LR, FDR, EIK with new appliances, 2BR, 2bths, hw floors, Terrace. Views of Gdns, W/D, Lo maint, Grt. loca'n, Walk all.
Reduced. **\$299K**
5 Town Homes 516-569-5710

North Woodmere — Spacious Updated Woodmere 400. 11 rooms, 5BR, 2.5bth, EIK kosher, FDR, Den, Fireplace, Finished Basement, Office, New Roof, SD#15, 2-Car Garage,
All-Sys. **\$735,000**
Owner **516-717-8723**

Far Rockaway — 2 Family. All NU, 3 over 1 Bdrm, 3 full baths. Great Location **\$599K** Call **516-322-3555**

Inwood — New to market. Charming Victorian on quiet tree-lined street with water view. 7BR, great for large family. A must see! **\$499K**
5 Towns Homes Realty 516-569-5710

Lawrence/Far Rockaway — Co-op Freshly painted large 2BR, 2bth, kosher kitchen, LR, FDR, terrace, 24-hour doorman, Shabbos elevator. Walk all. **\$279K**
5 Towns Homes Realty **516-569-5710**

Lawrence/Far Rockaway — 833 Central Ave. Spacious 1 BR, light and bright, doorman/elevator building, walk all. Price reduced **\$179K**
5 Towns Homes Realty 516-569-5710

Five Towns — **Woodmere, Church Avenue** Completely renovated CH colonial in 2004/05. Hardwood floors throughout. 8BR, 5 full baths, custom kosher EIK, stainless steel appliances, FDR, home office, full finished basement, kids' game room & home gym and so much more. Asking **\$1.5M**
For more information & virtual tour visit **www.abcwoodmerehouse.com.**
Call **516-640-8646,**
or e-mail **moshry@hotmail.com**

FOR RENT

Far Rockaway — **Neilson St & Cornega.**
Large 1BR apts for rent, elevator building, renovated, hardwood floors. Near shuls. Call **718-692-2525 x 211**

Cedarhurst — **Open House 8/26**
474 Cedarhurst Ave. By appointment
Mint 2BR col. house. 1.5bths. LR. FDR. EIK. finished basement. Deck. Garage **\$2,250**
Prudential RE Dalia **516-849-2522**

Large 3BR Apartment in **Far Rockaway.** Available Immediately
Newly Renovated, Near all major Shuls, Heat/ Air, Kosher Kitchen, Parking **\$1,950.00** monthly.
Please call: **516-490-8221** or **917-843-9591,**
E-mail: **urif@uscillc.com**

Kew Gardens Hills — Beautiful 1 BR apt with terrace in semi-attached 2-family house. Brand new granite kitchen, excellent location, new appliances. **\$1,600**
Please call **718-544-1912**

Woodmere — 6BR, 3 Full Bath Colonial, Woodmere Park, All Amenities, Move Right In **\$4,000/m**
Call **Mark Lipner** Direct **516-298-8457** Pugatch Realty Corp. E-mail: **MLipner@Pugatch.com**

North Woodmere — Beautiful brand new 1-family home on the water. 4BR, walk-in closets 3bths, Jacuzzi, huge basement. Reasonable rent. Call **917-822-1405,** e-mail **ahuvalf@gmail.com**

Far Rockaway — Sublet apt 3 months Sep-Nov, New spacious beautiful 2BR, 2bth, Fully furnished, Kosher Kitchen, Washer Dryer, Porch overlooking beach, Heat/Aircon, hardwood floors. **848-525-3912**

Cedarhurst — First show. Ours alone. Charming col. LR, FDR, EIK, den, 3BR, 2bths, basement, deck, backyard, walk all **\$2,600**
5 Towns Homes Realty 516-569-5710

Belle Harbor — Beach 136th Street — 4BR, 2bth, Sept.-June. Unfurnished or furnished. Ideal for family that goes to Mountains for summer. **\$2,000** plus utilities, negotiable. **917-749-9060**

Far Rockaway — New to market. 3BR, 1bth, great location, totally renovated.
5 Towns Homes 516-569-5710

Lawrence/FR border — Large 3BR Apt available for rent, 1st FL Private entrance in 2Fam house, Separate large LR and DR, Prime location, Excellent condition.
Please call **516-322-3555**

Cedarhurst — Houses for rent. 3BR-5BR homes in A1 condition **\$2600-\$3800.**
Call for details. **5 Towns Homes Realty 516-569-5710**

FOR RENT

Cedarhurst — Garden apt. Nu 2 Mkt. Oversized 1BR, 1Bth, Mint, 1st Flr, heat & prk incld **\$1,600**
5 Towns Homes Realty 516-569-5710

Far Rockaway — Lg. Hse Rental: 4br, 2bth, bsmt., hi-ceilings, NU bths, W/D. Call **516-322-3555**

Hewlett — House for rent. Updated 3BR, 2bths, new EIK, SD#14, walk all. Available immediately **\$2,600**
Call 5 Towns Homes **516-569-5710**

Cedarhurst — All updated charming Col. New granite EIK, FDR, LR with fireplace, 4+ BR, CAC, in the heart of Cedarhurst. Walk all. Call **5 Towns Homes 516-569-5710**

VACATION RENTAL

Hewlett Neck, 5 Towns — **Ocean front mansion for rent. Book now for Yom Tov: special rates.** 9000 sq ft, fully furnished with tv's and wifi, sleeps 20, kosher kitchen, indoor pool, inside eruv, walk to all shuls. Can rent weekly or monthly. Perfect for any simcha or vacationers. **631-484-6781**

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02.581.8448 — **718.337.8349**

VACATION REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Vacation Village 2 fl, 4 BR, LR, 3 new bth, playrm, WD, beautiful view. **516-967-8370**

Alexander Hotel, Miami Beach — 2BR apt. Breathtaking views, 2bths, southern exposure, 10th floor. Priced right! **516-581-2058, 516-374-4001**

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Cedarhurst — **Commercial:**
Beautiful Office Space Available, Near All Public Transportation From 450SF to 1500SF. **New To Market!** — Call For More Details — Alan Hartstein — **516-295-3000 x123,** **www.pugatch.com**

Cedarhurst — **Commercial:**
Prime Central Avenue, Cedarhurst Store Available, 1250SF — Call For More Details — Lori Lewis — **516-295-3000 x126,** **www.pugatch.com**

Woodmere — **Commercial:**
Broadway, Woodmere Prime Retail Space Available From 900-5,600SF — Call For More Details — Lori Lewis — **516-295-3000 x126,** **www.pugatch.com**

Continued on Page 68

Deadline for Classified Advertising in the next issue is Monday, August 27, at 5:00 PM
Call 516-569-0502

SOUTH SHORE ESTATES

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Coming Soon New Construction
South Shore Estates Inc.

OPEN HOUSE BY APPOINTMENT

QUALITY NEW CONSTRUCTION
WOODMERE, S.D. #15

"New Construction" Walk to Yeshiva Gedolah & Aish Kodesh. Classic 6 Bdrm/4.5 Bth. Center hall colonial. Fabulous entry foyer. Nine foot ceilings. LR with fireplace. Large formal DR. Huge Kasher EIK. Full height basement. Top of the line. Must see. Call Susan for details. Walk to Young Israel and Aish. Come view the plans and specifications. **\$1M+**

Please call 10 minutes before arrival.



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CLASSIFIED ADS

Continued from Page 67

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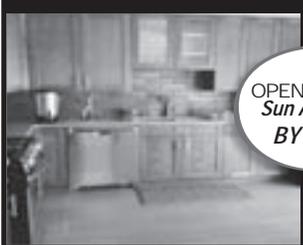


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"For an academic, tenure is a stamp of approval from one's university, as well as from the academic world at large, since scholars from outside one's own university are consulted," said Grunhaus. "Because my field is Jewish studies, it is es-



Dr. Naomi Grunhaus

pecially important to me that the tenure is at Yeshiva, which, as a religious institution with yeshiva-educated students, is my ideal teaching environment. It is my hope that as a tenured member of the faculty I can serve as part of the group effort to transmit the excitement and the interest of Jewish studies."

For Avnet, YU's unique mission played a similarly critical role in her decision to pursue tenure at the University. "The reason I joined YU, and especially the Sy Syms School of Business, is because I believe in its vision of *Torah u'madda*," she said. "As a researcher, it is very important to me to work in a place that appreciates knowledge and advancing science and yet is able to keep its Jewish traditions and combine these two elements well. I believe Sy Syms is well on its way to becoming a great business school and I am proud to be a part of its faculty."

The character of the student body played a role in Galantucci's decision to seek tenure at Yeshiva University. "I very much enjoy working with YU students," he said. "They are delightfully engaging and doing research with them is a great source of motivation and inspiration for me. I also enjoy the enterprise of building up the psychology department, together with my wonderful colleagues."

In addition to Grunhaus, Galantucci, and Avnet, tenure has been awarded to Dr. Gaetano Bloise, professor of economics, Stern College; Dr. Sumanta Goswami, associate professor of biology, Yeshiva College; Dr. Shalom Holtz, associate professor of Bible, Yeshiva College; Dr. Jenny Isaacs, associate professor of psychology, Yeshiva College; Dr. Rachel Mesch, associate professor of French, Yeshiva College, chair, department of foreign languages and cultures; Dr. Chaya Rapp, associate professor of chemistry, Stern College; and Dr. Margarita Vigodner, associate professor of biology, Stern College. ❖

Sukkot In Israel With Lasko

Limited space is still available for the ultimate journey to Israel for Sukkot. Join Lasko Kosher Getaways in Jerusalem at the 5-star Inbal Hotel, September 23 to October 9. The 9-night plus 10-meal package has a variety of possible offerings and room styles available. As with all Lasko programs, pre and post stays are always an optional part of your itinerary. This Israel in Sukkot program is no different, with pre-Sukkot Shabbat, Yom Kippur, and extended nights available. Additional itinerary options include *chol hamoed* trips and walking tours.

One of the outstanding features of the Lasko Sukkot In Israel program is the world-renowned scholars:

- Rav Binny Freedman, a highly engaging and inspirational educator who has a gift for synthesizing difficult, sophisticated material in a way that inspires both the novice and the scholar.

- Rabbi Hanoch Teller, author, lecturer, and producer who popularized the Jewish literary genre of true, contemporary stories to convey inspirational and ethical themes.

While Jerusalem has its own attributes, the Inbal Hotel is one of the city's only 5-star deluxe experiences. The property is a natural extension of the very best that Jerusalem has to offer. Ideally located, it overlooks Jerusalem's Liberty Bell Park and the Old City and is within walking distance of the city's main cultural venues. The Inbal Jerusalem Hotel offers luxurious amenities including free wireless Internet access,

A/C, LCD TV with cable, fitness center, as well as a spa and health club.

Lasko Kosher Getaways is celebrating 25 years of service to the worldwide Jewish community. Their stellar success and longevity is due in part to delivering the best in programming from ease of reservations to streamlined arrival, gourmet *glatt kosher* cuisine and detailed attention to on-site activities. This Sukkot in Israel program is no different! For information and reservations call 877-538-9948, e-mail info@LaskoGetaways.com, or visit www.LaskoGetaways.com.

If you are looking to stay Stateside, ask about the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur programs at the Hilton in Stamford, Connecticut featuring meaningful religious services and *davening* by the Cohen Brothers, inspiring *ba'alei tefillah*, stimulating lecturers, and the fabulous Main Event caterers. ❖

Touro Offers Web And App Development Concentration

Beginning this fall semester, the Touro College Graduate School of Technology (GST) will offer a new web and application development concentration within the master of science in information systems (MSIS) degree program.

"We are launching the new web and application development concentration in direct response to intense interest expressed by current students, alumni, and area employers," said Dr. Isaac Herskowitz, dean of GST. "There is

Continued on Page 71



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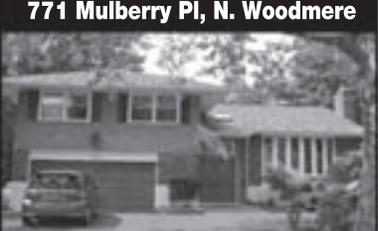
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Community News
Continued from Page 69

a strong need within the information systems master's degree for a course of study in serious programming. The new concentration has been specifically designed to satisfy this need."

The new concentration is the fourth within the MSIS degree, joining database systems, data communications, and technology leadership. Web and applications development will focus on the programming languages and concepts which underlie the structure and graphic look of today's websites and will appeal to students with an interest in sophisticated web programming. The concentration complements the master's of arts degree in web and multimedia design already offered by GST, as it now allows students to focus on either web design or web programming.

"The field of web and application development has exploded within the last few years as many applications have moved to tablets and to various mobile handheld phones," said Herskowitz. "Our career-services office has recently seen a tremendous proliferation of job and internship opportunities in these exciting areas, and we have moved quickly to develop a rigorous master's-level program to help meet the need for skilled programmers."

Shmuel Fink, chair of the MSIS program, said that students who complete the new concentration will be able to apply for positions within the burgeoning field of programming for mobile devices and the web.

"We're trying to meet a need that we think is critical, especially when it comes to the job market, and we're trying to give our students a broader range of skills," said Fink.

Students need to complete eight required courses and three elective courses in order to earn the degree. Electives may be chosen from a list of courses designed specifically for the web and application development concentration or, with the dean's approval, from the other programs within GST. ❖

**Franklin M. Steen
Appointed VP Of
Technology At Touro**

Dr. Franklin Steen has been appointed vice president of technology for the Touro College and University System. "The Touro College and University System is positioned to embrace the future with the latest innovations in information technology and to maximize its impact on learning," said President and CEO Dr. Alan Kadish.

"We looked for the best and brightest individual to fill this critical role. I am confident Dr. Steen has the will, energy, and talent to harness the potential of Touro's vast network and to forge the academic and administrative units to make them the best they can be throughout the Touro system."

Dr. Steen has enjoyed a distinguished career as the chief technology officer at leading universities around the country. Most recently Steen was CIO and assistant vice president for instructional computing and informational technology at Hunter College at the City Uni-

Continued on Page 72

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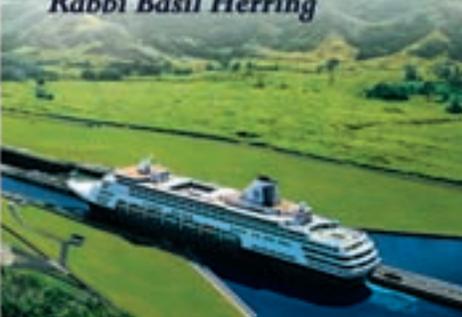
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Panama Canal

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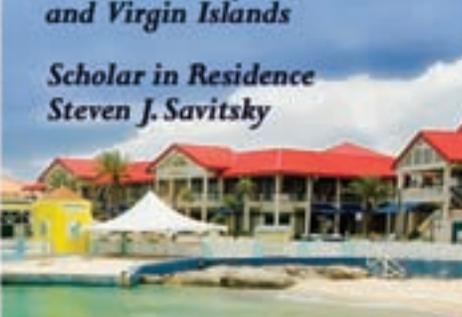


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Community News

Continued from Page 71

versity of New York. In that capacity, he worked closely with faculty and staff to define IT priorities, created several new initiatives to improve faculty use of instructional technology, consolidated disparate help desk functions, and led Hunter's CUNY-Peoplesoft Enterprise Resource Planning implementation.

Previously, Steen served as director of computer services, a CIO-equivalent position, for the Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences for over 11 years. Before Harvard, Steen was director of instructional computing services at Yale University and director of computer education and technology at Choate Rosemary Hall. Prior to his career in IT management, Steen was an instructor for 15 years, with experience in a wide variety of subject areas including mathematics, physics, and computer science areas. Steen holds a B.A. and M.A. in mathematics from the University of California, Los Angeles and a Ph.D. from Columbia University.

"I am excited about this outstanding professional opportunity and to be affiliated with an institution such as Touro whose mission is meaningful to me," said Dr. Steen. "I am interested in all aspects of the use of technology in education. One area in which I have particular expertise is the faculty experience in the classroom. In order to provide faculty with the latest tools and to advance higher education with IT, I have taught regular calculus classes and enhanced them with technology." ❖

An Interview With The Kosher GPS Developer

5TJT: Can you describe the Kosher GPS app?

KGPS: The app enables the users on a smartphone (iPhone and Android) to automatically see what kosher restaurant, *minyán*, or *mikveh* is in the area you are in at that moment. You can then, with a push of an icon within the app, call the place or just automatically get it to work with the GPS within the phone (or iPad) to give you directions.

You can also search for other places within the app by pushing the search icon and then pressing the location button and put in a zip code of the area you will be going to and search. It will now act like you are standing in that zip code area and give you all the same information. Great for when you are traveling. There are some discounts to restaurants and all you need to do is show the app with the discount to the manager and you get the discount. This free marketing helps bring in customers to restaurants.

5TJT: What prompted you to create this application?

KGPS: I originally had my own Garmin GPS device and found it didn't list kosher places specifically. You couldn't realize if a place is kosher by the name. So I first developed the database for myself and then opened it to the public. Once smartphones came on the market, it was an obvious need, so I created the apps version.

5TJT: What criteria do you use for the *kashrus* of the establishment?

KGPS: I confer with rabbis who work for major *hashgachah* authorities and

that are universally relied upon, and they have given me a list of the *kashrus* certifications that are considered reliable and most people will accept.

5TJT: I imagine that it has to be constantly updated. How often do you do so?

KGPS: Daily! I get alerts from *hashgachas*, and now that we have many users within the app, my users are e-mailing me when there are new places or if a place closes or loses *hashgachah*.

5TJT: How many kosher restaurants are there in the U.S. and Canada?

KGPS: Approx 1,300, but that number is always changing.

5TJT: Is it fully international?

KGPS: Right now only U.S. and Canada.

5TJT: What kind of background do you need to develop such an app?

KGPS: Programming for iPhone is different than for Android and other platforms so you need to learn the different programming structures and languages.

5TJT: What are your future plans?

KGPS: We plan on adding other features like dairy vs. meat categorization and websites so people can look at menus. This feature has just been implemented in the Android phone and will soon be in the iPhone. We also plan on showing advertisements and pop up alerts for people now that we have so many users using it daily. We plan on adding a *bentcher* and *Tefilas HaDerech*, etc... We may partner with other businesses to expand what we offer to our users.

5TJT: Has it been written up in the secular media anywhere?

KGPS: There was a blurb in the *NY Times* a couple of months ago but a full article in the *Times* is supposed to be written in the next couple of weeks by a freelance reporter on travel.

5TJT: Where can readers get more information?

KGPS: www.kosherrestaurantsgps.com. ❖

And it will be, when he sits upon his royal throne, that he shall write for himself two copies of this Torah on a scroll . . .

(Devarim 17:18)

The king has two Torah scrolls: one that is placed in his treasury, and the other that comes and goes with him.

(Talmud; Rashi)

If the ordinary person needs one Torah scroll, a king needs two: because of his greatness, he has greater need to be reminded of the higher authority to which he must submit.

(Yalkut David)

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letters to THE EDITOR

Meeting Rav Elyashiv

Dear Editor,

Rabbi Aryeh Ginzberg closes his very stirring article on Harav Elyashiv, *zt'l* [Heaven on Earth, August 10], which was *maleh hisorirus*, with a remark made by someone who never

took the opportunity to meet with the *poseik hador*, "I hope one day, after 120, I will merit meeting him in Heaven."

I am reminded of a story that my close friend, Rav Moshe Broide, told me many years ago. The Chofetz Chaim,

zt'l, was known to have urged people in his generation to go and look at Harav Shlomo Elyasheff, the *Baal Haleshem*. The reason, he said, was because in this world, you will at least be able to look at the *Baal Haleshem*, but in the next world, no one will even be close to seeing him. The *Baal Haleshem* was Harav Elyashiv's maternal Zeida.

I suspect that the grandson too will be in a very exalted level in *olam ha'ba*.

Sincerely,
Rabbi Chaim Cohen

Recalling The Founders' Legacy

Dear Editor,

First, thank you for avoiding the term "liberal" in referring to the *New York Times* or *Haaretz* ("Dealing with *Haaretz*," August 17). The Left seems to have adopted the "if you are not with us, you're against us" mindset. There is nothing "liberal" about this.

The *New York Times*, presently, follows a kind of Labor Zionist view of Israeli politics, I believe. The Israeli Left does not regard Netanyahu as a comrade in arms. It is no coincidence that *Haaretz* should be the source of comment from Israel reported in the *New York Times*.

Perhaps the *New York Times* should be renamed the *Dai-*

ly Demonizer. As you suggest, the paper strives to make monsters out of "those who oppose their political philosophies and agendas."

When Nixon was president, the media proudly declared that it should take an adversary view of government. I have not heard a reaffirmation of this view in recent years. When Nixon was in office, we heard outcries from the Left that he was an "imperial president." My sense is that the Left has no problem with an imperial president, provided he comes from its ranks.

You might recall the response of Peter Jennings, in an ABC News radio commentary, to the Republican congressional gains, November 8, 1994, dismissing the results to a "tantrum" by the voters.

The motto of the Left seems to me: "We assert; therefore, it is so." Stated in terms of its view of governance, for the Left the Constitution is what the Left says it is. Accordingly, our founding legacy is irrelevant.

How hateful is the Left towards its enemies? First, it is worth considering that for the Left, its enemies are domestic political opponents. In the Israel context, it is not irrational, I think, to see the Left viewing Netanyahu as the ene-

my, far more, if at all, than Ahmadinejad, or Hamas, etc. Ahmadinejad has again called for the annihilation of Israel. Does *Haaretz* think Ahmadinejad merely shares their antipathy to the Israeli right? The Left, after all, has its own very soft spot for tyrannical regimes. Indeed, can one get much more tyrannical than communism?

Alexander Hamilton, in *Federalist No. 1* noted, "A dangerous ambition more often lurks behind the special mask of zeal for the rights of the people, than under the forbidding appearance of zeal for the firmness and efficiency of government." He continued, "History will teach us, that the former has been found a much more certain road to the introduction of despotism, than the latter, and that of those men who have overturned the liberties of republics the greatest number have begun their career, by paying an obsequious court to the people, commencing demagogues and ending tyrants."

It is to be expected that the Left will be zealous in its pursuit of power, and thereafter. But where is the right, responding to this zeal with fidelity to our founding legacy? What, after all, do our conservatives want to conserve?

Sincerely,
David R. Zukerman

AROUND THE FIVE TOWNS

Friendship Circle: The Wheel Deal, September 2

On Sunday, September 2, The Friendship Circle of the Chabad of the Five Towns invites everyone out for the first ever Bike4Friendship Event. Friendship Circle volunteers have been "putting the pedal to the metal" in the Five Towns since 2004, visiting their friends with special needs and assisting in social and educational events together. Now it's time for the community to do the same to raise money so that FC can continue making a difference. Put air in your tires, throw on your helmet, and get ready to have a great time riding together to help the Friendship Circle!

The girls' ride begins at 12:00 p.m. and the boys' ride begins at 12:30 p.m. The group leaves from Chabad of the Five Towns, 74 Maple Avenue in Cedarhurst, and will ride to the Long Beach Carnival for the finish line. The event will take place rain or shine. The minimum commitment to fundraise is \$180. Bikers will receive a free jersey, fundraising page, and support along the way. Start training today. Sponsorship opportunities are available to have your logo on the jersey and featured on the website. South Shore Bicycle and Fitness has graciously signed on as the first sponsor of the event. Thank you to Avi and Chava Popack, Shlomie (Steven) and Rivky Hartstein, and Adam and Sarit Kramer for chairing the event.

Don't break the chain! Register, volunteer, and/or donate today by visiting www.bike4friendship.org/fivetowns, calling 516-295-2478, ext. 13, or e-mailing Batsheva@chabad5towns.com. ❖

Concert On The Lawn Becomes Concert On The Carpet

The wet weather on Wednesday evening last week did not dampen the enthusiasm and excitement of the Yeshiva of South Shore's Ninth Annual Tom and Judy Raskin Concert on August 15. The wonderful event was moved indoors and was termed "Concert on the Carpet" in the spacious ballroom of Young Israel of Lawrence-Cedarhurst.



Rabbi Mordechai Kamenetzky, Mr. Jeff Weinberg, and Rabbi Dovid Kramer

The performers, led by Beri Weber and the Shloime Dachs Orchestra, featured some up-and-coming stars in Jewish music, namely Yumi Lowy and Shrage Gestetner.

Continued on Page 81

Sovereign Debt Crisis Eroding Individual Liberties
Expanding Government Overreach Iranian Nuclear Program
Right-wing Anti-semitism Syria Radical Homosexual
Agenda Left-wing Anti-semitism Suspension of Habeas
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Learning In Memory Of Moshe

PHOTO BY IVAN H NORMAN



On Thursday, August 16, Rabbi Yaakov Reisman, *mara d'asra* of Agudath Israel of Long Island, celebrated a *siyum haShas* for the *z'chus* of his son Yisroel Moshe Reisman, *a'h.*

Audio CDs of the program are available from Ivan Norman at 212-461-0087.

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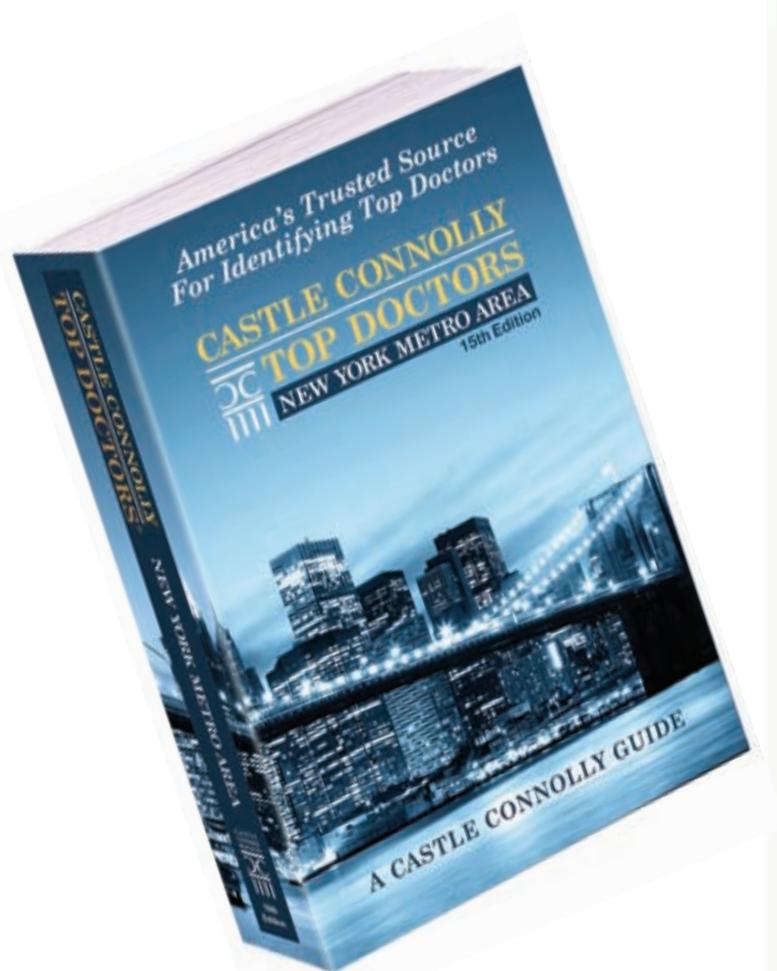
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AROUND THE FIVE TOWNS

Continued from Page 75

Singing solos, duets, and in trio, the entertainers mesmer-



L-R: Beri Weber, Jeff Weinberg, Shragee Gestetner, Rabbi Mordechai Kamenetzky, Shloime Dachs, Yumi Lowy, and Rabbi Dovid Kramer

and health fund raffle which was won by Mr. and Mrs. Shmuley Klier. The minute the raffle was drawn, the skies parted and the moon shone

brightly. The winner quipped, "I can see Klierly now, the rain has gone." ❖

A Posh Ride For Camp Simcha

When Camp Simcha ended its boys' session five days early this year, it wasn't just the campers who were disappointed. A group of volunteer counselors, devastated that the boys weren't able to enjoy two full weeks of camp, decided to bring Camp Simcha to them. The result was a Camp Simcha-style afternoon that featured dream cars, boat rides, and a fantastic afternoon of swimming, riding, games, and fun.

The day was the brainchild of Yehuda Berko, a former Camp Simcha division head,



who was inspired by all the exotic cars he noticed on the streets. "What boy wouldn't love riding in a Maserati?" he thought, and he began to enlist drivers for a road rally to Camp Simcha. When that be-

came impractical, he recruited Melly and Rochelle Lifschitz, who happily lent their home for what became "Camp Simcha on the Atlantic" for a day.

Continued on Page 82

ized the large crowd who, despite the driving rain, came out in force to support the Heller Resource Center at the Yeshiva of South Shore.

Rabbi Mordechai Kamenetzky, dean of the yeshiva, noted that since its inception, the Concert on the Lawn has never been rained out. He attributed the years of great weather to the prayers of his own father, Rabbi Binyamin Kamenetzky, the senior *rosh yeshiva* of the community and the founding father of the Five Towns.

This year, however, he mused, rain had threatened a prior event, the *siyum haShas*. Rabbi Kamenetzky received a phone call and was requested to pray to stave off the rain so 90,000 plus could attend the grand *siyum* without undue hardship. Rabbi Kamenetzky's pleas were granted, but with one caveat. "The celestial voice must have said, 'Rabbi Kamenetzky, we shall hold off the rain, but you have a choice, it is either the *siyum* or the concert!'" The younger Rabbi Kamenetzky quipped, "I guess my father chose the *siyum*!"

Nevertheless, the festivities were just as exhilarating and the music just as delightful. The wide array of grilled barbecue and sushi delights provided by the Young Israel's exclusive David Kaye Caterers with special assistance from Scott Fagan was truly delectable.

The yeshiva presented Jeff and Sharona Weinberg, whose home was all prepared for the big event, with a beautiful presentation, and received their commitment to try again in the future.

Shloime Dachs made a special dedication in memory of Moshe Reisman, a big fan of Jewish music who recently was *niftar*. Last year Moshe and Shloime highlighted the evening with a special duet.

The highlight of this year's event was the drawing of the One-in-One-Eighty, \$18,000 life

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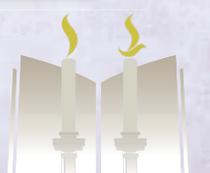
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AROUND THE FIVE TOWNS

Continued from Page 81

Three dozen boys and an equal number of staff members arrived at noon for a delicious lunch followed by a refreshing swim and a fun, if slightly rule-less, game of basketball. Then, as if on cue, the line of cars that included a stretch limo, a Lamborghini, and a number of other very high-end cars appeared. Every pair of eyes widened as the boys ran from car to car, taking turns sitting in the driver's seat and imagining himself actually turning the ignition and reaching the gas pedal. Then they moved to passenger seats and the cars' owners fell into line for a slow ride down Central Avenue to the marina where Chai Lifeline volunteer Eli Rowe and friends Dr. Norman Kupferstein and Seth Rosenblatt waited to take the group on a boat tour of the area. Afterwards it was back to the Lifschitz home for a concert, barbecue, and more swimming.

"This isn't something sick kids get to do every day," said Berko, who noted that the group was accompanied by



members of Hatzolah of the Rockaways and Nassau County. "We really wanted to do something very special for the kids."

"Special" doesn't begin to describe the impact that the day had on the boys. Their smiles were a mile wide from the moment they first walked into the

Lifschitzes' backyard until they went home.

"Thanks for making me come," said a little boy as his counselor helped him say goodbye. "I was really tired from chemo, but this was great."

Chai Lifeline thanks the Lifschitz family for generously giving their home

and hearts to our boys and Sammy Friedman of Posh New York Events for assistance planning and catering this event. ❖

MMC Session About Fibroids, September 13

Mercy Medical Center invites the community to a free lecture on uterine fibroids on Thursday, September 13, at 7:30 p.m. Interventional radiologist Dr. E. Collyer Kelling will discuss causes, symptoms, and available treatments, including the latest non-surgical option, Uterine Fibroid Embolization (UFE), as an alternative to hysterectomy.



Dr. E. Collyer Kelling

The National Uterine Fibroid Foundation estimates that as many as 80 percent of all women have uterine fibroids. And while the majority usually have no symptoms, one out of four end up with symptoms severe enough to require treatment.

Advance registration for the presentation is not required. It will be conducted in the employee dining room on the lower level of the medical center's North Pavilion. Ample convenient free parking will be available. For travel directions or information, call 516-62MERCY, or visit www.MercyMedicalCenter.info. ❖

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GLICK'S HONEY BEAR 12 OZ BTL 2/\$4	HEINZ TOMATO KETCHUP 36 OZ BTL \$1⁹⁹	BARILLA PASTA 12 TO 16OZ PKG ASST EXCLUDING LASAGNE 5/\$5	GEFEN MARINARA SAUCE 26OZ JAR ASST \$1⁹⁹	GOLD'S OR KRAFT BBQ SAUCE 18OZ BTL ASST 99¢	HEINZ VEGETARIAN BAKED BEANS 16 OZ CAN 89¢	GOODMAN'S ONION SOUP 2.75OZ PKG 99¢	ARIZONA TEAS & DRINKS 128OZ BTL ASST 2/\$5	MAXWELL HOUSE OR SANKA INSTANT COFFEE 8 OZ JAR \$5⁹⁹	SUPER A APPLE JUICE 64 OZ BTL 2/\$3
SNAPLE TEA 16OZ BTL 12PKG ASST \$6⁹⁹	COKE, SPRITE, FANTA, SEAGRAMS 2 LITER BTL 3/\$4	HERR'S TORTILLA CHIPS 13 TO 13.5OZ BAG ASST 2/\$5	MANISCHEWITZ TAM TAM CRACKERS 9.6OZ BOX ASST 2/\$4	KEDEM GEFILTE FISH 24OZ JAR \$4⁹⁹	GEFEN VEGETABLES 11 TO 15.5OZ CAN GREEN BEANS, CORN, PEAS 99¢	GEFEN CHOCOLATE SYRUP 22 OZ BTL \$1⁹⁹	YEHUDA GLASS MEMORIAL TUMBLERS 2/99¢	YEHUDA SABBATH CANDLES 72 CT BOX \$4⁹⁹	ANGEL SOFT BATH TISSUE 24 ROLL BUNDLE \$6⁹⁹
MARCAL PAPER TOWELS 8 ROLL PKG \$4⁹⁹	EDY'S ICE CREAM 48OZ CONT \$3⁴⁹	POPSICLE ICE POPS 17.5O TO 19.8O OZ PKG ASST \$2⁹⁹	MARINO'S ITALIAN ICES 36OZ PKG 6 PACK 2/\$5	SUPER A VEGETABLES 16OZ PKG GREEN BEANS - PEAS - CORN - MIXED 3/\$4	RICHS WHIPPED TOPPING 8 OZ CONT 99¢	BROOKLYN PIZZA DOUGH 32OZ PKG PLAIN OR WHOLE WHEAT \$3⁹⁹	SPRING VALLEY FRANKS 'N' BLANKETS, EGG ROLLS, POTATO PUFFS 28 TO 32OZ PKG \$9⁹⁹	REAL KOSHER NO-NITRATE BEEF FRANKS 12OZ PKG \$3⁹⁹	LA YOGURT YOGURTS 6OZ CONT ASST 2/99¢
FRIENDSHIP COTTAGE CHEESE 16OZ CONT ASST 2/\$5	LES PETITES YELLOW AMERICAN CHEESE 3 LB LOAF \$9⁹⁹	SUGAR RIVER CHEESE CHUNKS OR SLICES 6 TO 8 OZ PKG CHIPOLTE-BEER, JALAPENO-GARLIC-CHEDDAR \$1⁹⁹	SABRA CHUMMUS 17OZ CONT CLASSIC - SPICY - PINE NUT 3/\$10	BATAMPTLE PICKLES 32OZ JAR HALF SOUR OR GARLIC DILLS \$2⁹⁹	SALLY SHERMAN COLE SLAW, POTATO SALAD OR MACARONI SALAD 3LB CONT \$3⁹⁹	EMPIRE KOSHER CHICKEN OR TURKEY FRANKS 16 OZ PKG \$1⁹⁹	ROSENBLATT KOBE WAGYU BEEF SAUSAGE 16 OZ PKG \$6⁹⁹	REAL KOSHER CLASSIC FRANKS 5 LB PKG \$19⁹⁹	HOD GOLAN SLICED TURKEY BREAST 5 OZ PKG \$2⁹⁹

SEAFOOD

APPY COUNTER

HALF BABY SALMON FILLET \$8⁹⁹ LB	WILD COD FILLET \$8⁹⁹ LB	SEARED TUNA \$13⁹⁹ LB	BREADED BEER BATTERED POLLOCK \$5⁹⁹ LB	BREADED FISH NUGGETS \$4⁴⁹ LB	CHECK OUT OUR NEW READY-2-BAKE ITEMS ACROSS OUR COUNTER!	REGULAR OR FLAVORED ICED COFFEE \$2.50 - 20OZ \$3.50 - 32OZ FLAVOR OF THE WEEK: CARAMEL	FETA CHEESE \$8⁹⁹ LB	TUNA PASTA \$7⁹⁹ LB	PITTED MIXED OLIVES \$8⁹⁹ LB
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MEAT	BABY BACK BEEF SPARE RIBS \$6⁹⁹ LB	BONELESS BEEF SPARE RIBS \$7⁹⁹ LB	EXTRA LEAN GROUND SHOULDER STEAK \$5⁴⁹ LB	CHULENT MEAT \$4⁹⁹ LB	SHOULDER LONDON BROIL \$7⁹⁹ LB	WHOLE CHICKENS 2 IN A BAG \$1⁹⁹ LB
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STORE HOURS:
Sunday 7am-8pm
Monday & Tuesday 7am-9pm
Wednesday 7am-10pm
Thursday 7am-12midnight
Friday 7am-5:00pm

DELI	KUFTA KABOB \$5⁹⁹ LB	CORN SALAD \$2⁹⁹ LB	COUSCOUS \$3⁹⁹ LB	VEGETABLE SOUP \$4⁹⁹ QT	MATZO BALLS 6 PACK \$2⁹⁹
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email: sabnesh@gmail.com

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