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VOL. 20 NO. 36 JUNE 26, 2020

FIVE TOWNS JEWISH TIMES

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Thursday, Gimmel Tammuz, marks the 26th yahrzeit of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, obm.

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## FROM THE EDITOR

### Saying What You Mean

BY LARRY GORDON

There are few things today that are actually the reality they seemed to be when we first learned about them. For example, let's take a look at the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis and of Rayshard Brooks in Atlanta. It appears that both were murdered by the hands of police officers. This has led to protests and sometimes violent rioting triggered, purportedly, by excessive force used by police.

But now the prosecution of the officers as well as the defense of the officers is the task of attorneys. On video, there is little or no question that the police officers caused the death of these two men. Now it is the job of the judiciary to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that in the case of Officer Chauvin in Minnesota, he intended to kill Mr. Floyd. And in Atlanta, the prosecutor is charging Officer Rolfe with intent to kill Mr. Brooks.

Herein lies a fundamental problem. The prosecutors in both cases may not be able to

## INSIDE OUT

### A Gimmel Tammuz Message For All

BY YOCHANAN GORDON

Having celebrated the *bar mitzvah* of our oldest son, Nison, last week I was intending to write my own personal spin on the traditional blessing made by the father of a *bar mitzvah bachur*, *Baruch she'petarani mei'onsho shel zeh*. It then occurred to me that the month of Tammuz is upon us and that this issue will be distributed on the 3rd of Tammuz, observed by many the world over as the *yahrzeit* of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson,

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### Diamonds And Jen: A Girl's Best Friend

BY MALKIE HIRSCH

Jen has been in my life for years, first as my jeweler, then as my neighbor-turned-friend, and now as part of my precious inner circle of "those people."

It all started years ago when my husband discovered that there was a woman who sold the most beautiful baubles out of her converted garage on Church Avenue, around the corner from where we lived.

It was initially odd when I first approached the garage door and quietly knocked. I looked up and noticed a camera, and as if the curly-haired

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## HEARD IN THE BAGEL STORE

By Larry Gordon



## DAYS OF FUTURE PAST

The seed of the idea was planted a few weeks ago when we realized that there was a real possibility summer camps might not be opening this season. In addition, our customary journey to *Eretz Yisrael* may have to be scratched from the summer schedule as well.

Hotels are closed, travel to Florida is not looking that good, Europe is just about out of the question. Staying home, well that is an obvious choice but way too easy as well as disappointing.

Someone on the family committee suggested a summer home in the Catskills, but where do you find something big enough to accommodate the entire family? Let's jump for a moment to the end of the story. Right now, as I type these words, I am working from a table covered by a tan umbrella at the side of a pool, with part of the family swimming the afternoon away on what has become a sultry 90-degree, second-day-of-summer afternoon.

I've always had an affinity for the Catskills. I spent my early years here in a bungalow colony near Ellenville, New York. As I probably mentioned in

the past, this was the bungalow colony where my grandparents babysat us, as my parents spent most summers in Israel dating back to 1963.

After that period, we spent about four summers in camp, and then as we became of age, we were somewhat on our own. Fast-forward a bit and we were married with kids and back in a bungalow colony again for about a decade as the kids grew up and were being groomed for sleepaway camp.

As we sit here now, we do not know what the fate of camp is going to be for this summer. Day camps look safe for now but what about the tens of thousands of young people who anticipate spending an idyllic summer with friends in sleepaway camp?

The short version of this story is that we are back in Ellenville—Exit 113 on Route 17. We will be here for a month and then we will see which direction this virus, that is apparently full of personality, will travel. Maybe we will be able to go to Israel after all.

If you are an aficionado of the Catskills then you will say that Ellenville is in a valley and is extremely hot in the sum-



Larry Gordon and Rabbi Mordechai Jungreis

mer. Well, it had better be hot, because it's the summer, and up here this is what we wait for all year long.

The memories of life up here are numerous, and at certain junctures

life-changing. So now that I am back in Ellenville after a few decades, let me bring you up to date about life here—

*Continued on Page 6*

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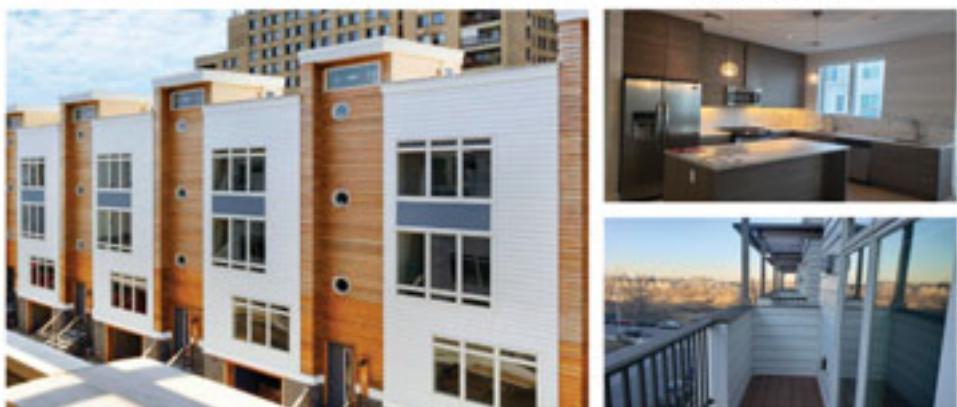
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### BAGEL STORE

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that is, how I remember it and what I found so far this week.

One of the fascinating things is how some of the properties that we used to frequent have remained the same, other than the fact that they are just rotting away. The deterioration seems to take a very long time because most of the buildings as I remember them are still standing, but just barely.

I knew, for example, that on the way up to our summer rental we would pass the turn-off from Route 209 to Spring Glen, New York, and the site of the Homowack Hotel. If you do not remember the Homowack then you are very young. We spent Pesach at the hotel twice, Shavuos more than several times, and Sukkos as far as I can recall just once. Our son Nissan's *bar mitzvah*, which took place on Shavuos, was celebrated up here with 50 members of our family and close friends. I didn't want to tell Esta that I wanted to make a quick stop at the hallowed and desolate grounds of the Homowack, so I waited until we were just a mile from the turnoff. That's when I said, "I have to pull off the road here just to see the Homowack for a few minutes."

I looked around the hotel grounds, at what used to be the main entrance, and at the long building that featured floor-to-ceiling glass and was once the dining room where strategically placed tables were coveted by many guests. In a nutshell, the place is silent and dead, but the memories are very much alive.

I pictured us sitting under a tree over there with friends on a *yom tov* afternoon. Across the road was the lake where the row boats were always in increasing disrepair as the seasons went by. If you ever wanted to know what it was like to be on a sinking boat that was it. Today in 2020, the old Homowack is just deteriorating, fading away.

The place looks like it has not been touched in the more than two decades since they closed down. This wasn't just another hotel that closed down due to a plethora of market conditions that made it economically impossible to operate. For as long as they were around, the Homowack was a hub of Jewish life and activity. When the few hundred hotel rooms went on sale a few weeks prior to Pesach or Shavuot, all the rooms were sold out within a day. If you lagged behind in making your reservation you had to know someone in order to get in.

But now it is eerily quiet on those grounds. As I scanned the landscape, my eyes absorbed

*Continued on Page 10*



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great memories and filed them away wherever those things are mentally stored.

On Monday afternoon, we drove the 10 miles to Woodbourne and the shul

Dovid, there were just a few people sitting at tables and learning. A few minutes later there were 50 people wearing face masks and positioned in a socially distanced manner to *daven Minchah*.

It is still a little early in the season, so *minyanim* that are not attached to communities or bungalow colonies are a lit-

certainly a great deal of history packed into those 100 years.

Before we left, I asked what time the latest *minyan* for *Shacharis* would be the next morning. He looked straight at me and, with a little smirk, said that he received a *psak*, or rabbinic ruling, that the latest he can say the morning services are held is at noon. Some of you reading this will gasp, but I have heard that it is not unusual to have people *davening Shacharis* here at two o'clock in the afternoon. Hey, you just *davened* at home for three months straight; give those late risers a break.

There's great Jewish history up here in this part of New York that was once so thoroughly Jewish, it was affectionately referred to as the Borscht Belt. If I am recalling correctly, I believe borscht was indeed an item listed on the Homowack lunch menu. But while there is still a lot going on up here, I don't think borscht is being served anywhere. ■

*Read more of Larry Gordon's articles at 5TJT.com. Follow 5TJT.com on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for updates and live videos. Comments, questions, and suggestions are welcome at 5TJT.com and on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.*

## The place is silent and dead, but the memories are very much alive.

that has come alive thanks to the selfless around-the-clock work of the shul's *rav*, Rabbi Mordechai Jungreis. *Shacharis minyanim* begin at 6 a.m., and the last *Ma'ariv* might be two or three o'clock in the morning.

We stepped onto the expansive back porch of the shul where the *minyanim* are held on beautiful warm days like this one. When I arrived with my grandson

tle sparse. Like at the main shul in Ellenville, there is no *Shacharis* or *Minchah minyan* and we had to wait about 20 extra minutes to patch together a *minyan* for *Ma'ariv* at 10 p.m.

It looks like on most mornings we will be making the trip to Congregation Bnai Israel of Woodbourne. After *Minchah*, the rabbi announced that this is the 100th anniversary of the shul. There is

# 5TJT

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jewelry gods heard my plea for entry, the door opened and I walked inside, not entirely knowing what to expect.

I was met with a sassy woman who could sell ice to Eskimos. Or diamonds to Eskimos. She was blunt, she was funny, she was definitely a little scary, and I didn't want to cross her, ever.

As the years passed and we became friendly, I got to know another side of her that others might not be lucky enough to see.

I felt flattered that she sort of took a liking to me and I held my breath so I wouldn't mess things up or say something stupid that would earn a look that I'm pretty sure could kill.

I always looked forward to the text messages that went like this:

"Hey, Happy upcoming birthday/anniversary/*yontif*! Come pick something out—it's on Moshe!"

I'd dutifully visit Jen, and my mother and friends noticed my new glam and followed. It was always a treat getting to hang with her and her products, and her words were all gems. And leaving her place with a beautiful pair of earrings or a necklace that told me that Moshe thought of me for all the milestones in our life and marriage was always special.

When she discovered my love for cooking and baking, our relationship evolved into occasionally catering Shabbos meals for her. I'd get a text on Monday that would say "Hey, I want to invite

a bunch of guests for Shabbos but clearly I'm not doing so unless you can cook for me. Let me know if you're available!"

She'd critique each dish with honesty, and I always knew that she did it because she believed in my talent and wanted to see me succeed in this new venture.

I knew that when I went in to repair or clean jewelry, my eyes would wander and I'd usually walk out toting a fabulous impulse buy. That's what happened on March 26, 2019. I went in to repair a bracelet and noticed a necklace boasting a diamond-crusted eye. I paid for it and asked her to extend the chain to make it bigger.

A day later, my world fell apart. Everything in life quieted and Jen became so spooked that of

all the pieces I could have looked at, I selected one that was supposed to ward off the evil eye.

But it hadn't. My husband was gone, and with him our hopes and vision for a beautiful future with him and our kids.

She refunded the money from the necklace I bought but I obviously didn't know that. I must've been messaging her a few weeks later and I asked her about the necklace. It's funny where your mind can go when enormously life-altering things happen, because you just want, more than anything, to reach into the Great Beyond and bring back your children's father, but somehow you can also want a new necklace with an eye made out of diamonds.

When she told me she refund-

ed the money, I was saddened but understood her logic. Who on earth would be purchasing jewelry at a time like this anyway? Even so, Jen kept an eye on me.

A few months passed as I worked on trying to settle into our new normal. And every so often, Jen would show up at my door with a gift, explaining why she wanted me to have it.

A symbolic bracelet, or a necklace on *erev yontif* that was a broken heart. Because when it arrived to her showroom, she looked at it and thought of me and how my heart was broken and couldn't be repaired. Her way was this way. Selling beautiful pieces to people to show them how much they're thought of. How much they're loved. She knew how Moshe had taken care of me in this way, and quietly honored his memory and our friendship by gifting these items to me.

Most recently, she showed up the week before Dovid's *bar mitzvah* with her signature bag and a message for me that she had received through e-mail. She told me that she was just the *shaliach* and had no idea who had bought this piece for me and why.

But she did say that she was hungry and wondered if I had any desserts she could trade for the diamond necklace in the bag she brought with her. She walked into the house and read the message aloud to me, my parents, and kids, and I stood there in complete shock at the letter and message. I think Jen was in shock as well, because she kept shaking her head as she read it.

She went on her way, leaving behind a beautiful piece of jewelry and a message I want to share with you.

*Dear Malkie,*  
*I want to wish you a huge mazal tov upon your oldest son Dovid's bar mitzvah.*

*A few weeks ago I reached out to you about baking a letter cake for my daughter's birthday. You told me you were making a bar mitzvah the same time. I couldn't get you out of my head. Over the course of this past year, I read your weekly column in the paper. Although you don't really know me, I feel like I got to know you and get a small glimpse into your life. You are real and deep, emotional and spiritual, and inspiring.*

*I was 11 at my older brother's bar mitzvah. At Shabbos lunch my grandmother got up and gave an impromptu speech about how amazing my mother is and that she deserves a medal. She then took out a beautiful piece of jewelry and presented it to my mom. It was a moment I'll always remember. She subsequently presented her with a medal at each of my other five brothers' bar mitzvahs.*

*This year was the first bar mitzvah from the next genera-*

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Look for the  
next issue of  
the 5TJT on  
newsstands  
Thursday,  
July 2

## DIAMONDS AND JEN

*Continued from Page 12*

*tion. And this time my mom got up and presented my sister with a "medal."*

*Malkie, although we are not family, I would love to present you with a small medal on behalf of all your readers. You are such an incredible and inspiring mom. You have not only survived a terrible tragedy but seem to thrive. You are an amazing role model to your children and all those who come in contact with you.*

*I'm not big on Instagram but after reading weeks of your column I followed you on Instagram. Your smile is contagious and real. You invite people into your home to get a glimpse of your daily life—struggles and mostly triumphs. Your kids, b'H, thriving and happy are a testament to who you are as a person, how you present and process pain and happiness.*

*May Hashem bless you with tremendous nachas from your bar mitzvah boy and all your other children. May you only have happiness, health, success, and kol tov in every aspect of your life."*

Sometimes you don't know how you'll impact someone's life. There are things

you say or do that might seem ordinary or commonplace, but it could change someone else's life.

Jen's personal life and professional one are two completely different entities, but she's managed to show me and so many others how much she cares by doing things you might not know about.

But some lucky people do. I do.

It's about accepting the gifts (figuratively and literally) that G-d hands to you and using them to uplift others.

There's something people write when they want to highlight an often-neglected population: "I see you." When it feels like everything is glistening around you but your own world has gone dark, it can make you feel invisible. Last year was not the right time for a shiny new eye; it was our darkest hour. I couldn't yet see or feel seen. But now, a year later, after countless tears, impossibly, my eyes have begun to shine again; the sparkle has returned, and I was able to enjoy this *simcha* with real *simcha*. Feeling seen (which according to Chazal also means understood) is incredibly healing.

I wonder if the woman who reached out to Jen over the internet knew how pro-

foundly she'd change my outlook on having to make my first of four *bar mitzvahs* alone. I wonder if she knew how it would breathe new life into me, and tell me that my efforts every day aren't for naught. That she, a stranger I've never met, noticed and wanted to make sure I knew that I have layers of cheerleading and support from people I don't even know. There is almost nothing more loving than reminding someone in pain: *You're not alone, and you matter*. You deserve to be happy. Objects and jewelry are not what really matter in life, but the sentiments that thoughtful giving can convey are priceless. Diamonds like Jen and this anonymous reader, with their extraordinary sensitivity and generosity, constantly strengthen my faith in humanity and give me the courage "to keep on keeping on," as they say, and look to the future with shining eyes. ■

*Malkie's husband, Moshe, a'h, passed away at the age of just 40. She has been sharing her thoughts and emotions with readers on her Instagram page @Kissthekoshercook. We are now privileged to share her writings and reflections with our readership. May Moshe's memory be a blessing for Malkie and her beautiful family.*



## Welcome Back!

Let's thank the essential local businesses that kept our community going, and welcome back the returning shops and restaurants we love and rely on, with our support.

Together, we can re-energize Long Island.

**PSEG LONG ISLAND**

of blessed memory, whose life I have a *chazakah* of reflecting upon on this date.

Rabbi Chaim Bruk also memorializes the Rebbe in his column "Souls on Fire," and Rabbi Tuvia Teldon has done so in his past "Back to Basics" columns, since the two of them are *shluchim* in Montana and Long Island, respectively, dedicated to furthering the Rebbe's vision for a perfected world. However, reflections on the Rebbe are personal, and therefore, regardless of how many different columns are dedicated to this subject, they will not be redundant.

There are a number of ways in which people try to honor the Rebbe's memory. If the writer met the Rebbe personally, it is usually the lingering memory of that encounter that inspires the writer to convey his or her experience with the readers. For others, it might be a familial history with Chabad or a theme within the Rebbe's Torah that they feel encapsulates his life and legacy. And for many, the Rebbe's ability

to bend the laws of nature, to deliver salvation to those desperately in need, as documented in countless stories, is what connects them to the Rebbe.

For me, in years past, I have addressed the Rebbe's life, his Torah, and as recently as last year I retold my own personal encounter with the Rebbe, with a sequel to that about a month ago. This year, however, I decided I was going to discuss the Rebbe's pragmatism as, above all, the Rebbe's focus on individual acts of fundamental goodness and kindness was part of a pragmatic belief of his that through small, altruistic, and righteous acts we can perfect the world.

You may be wondering how it's possible for the Rebbe to be a person who was capable of bending the laws of nature for people seeking *yeshuos* and at the same time be a pragmatist. The answer, as you will see, is that the key to the extraordinary is through a deep connection to the things in life that seem ordinary.

The Gemara says that the difference between someone who is branded a servant of G-d and someone who

hasn't achieved that status is that the "eved Hashem" reviewed his studies 101 times as opposed to the other, who reviewed 100 times. The key here, however, is that in order to reach 101 review sessions you need to traverse 90, 91, 92, and 93, all the way through to 101. The road to the supernatural is through the natural.

This message set in on a recent ride from our Cedarhurst home to Ellenville, where we are spending the month in the absence of fully programmed summer camp options for the kids due to the coronavirus regulations. I normally have the convenience of walking to work every morning as I live around the corner from my office. Although anyone given that opportunity would grab it, for me it means so much more because my tolerance for sitting behind the wheel is extremely limited, and having to commute to work would present its own set of challenges. This is something that set in later in life, years after my yeshiva days in Waterbury, when I'd make the nearly two-hour drive to and from yeshiva on my own with ease, even in inclement

weather, without losing myself to the anxiousness and unease that would plague me later in life.

I had recently spent a Shabbos upstate, and I had to give over the wheel to my wife, who has always been my copilot these last 14 years, when the length of the ride began getting to me. However, this time around, just a few days ago, I had a flashback to the days when I could make those long rides without any challenge.

What changed? Anyone who knows me is aware of my penchant for the classic American soft drink, Coca Cola. The mystique surrounding this sugary, carbonated beverage was the secret ingredient that they refused to divulge. For me, however, it's a drink I grew up on, and despite being more or less weaned off of it in my first years after marriage, it kind of became reinstated—not as a staple first, but more as a treat. But the Gemara says that the *yetzer hara* ingratiates itself to a person in stages, saying, "Today just do this small act," and progressively getting him or her to transgress more severe prohibitions.

There are some people who need the caffeine rush. For me, it was never about that; it was just the taste of the drink, ice-cold, of course, with whatever it was that I was eating or snacking on that seemed to be the perfect combination. Because my health and weight for the most part remained static, it's not something I considered removing from my diet. Lately it occurred to me that it's possible I have been having a bad reaction to the caffeine and that if I want things to change, I'd better try cutting not just Coca Cola, but anything with caffeine, out of my diet. Well, it's been a couple of weeks since I've drank Coca Cola and it was during my ride upstate, not having to surrender the wheel to my ready-and-able copilot, when the following thought came to me.

Oftentimes, people avoid changing themselves based on the erroneous thought that it requires huge commitments. The big picture that presents itself at the start of the journey discourages many from setting their lives straight, both physically and spiritually.

The Lubavitcher Rebbe was a pragmatist in the sense that he saw the eternal value in every minute detail or action. Over 50 years ago, on the brink of the Six Day War, he encouraged, as a protection for the Israeli soldiers, the *mitzvah* of *tefillin*, based on the *Chazal*: "And the nations of the world will see that the name of G-d is called upon you and they will fear you." Critics at the time ridiculed that device as an empty religious practice since the ignorant Jews on whom the adherents of the Rebbe's message were putting the *tefillin*, in many cases, did not know what the leather boxes represented or what was written in them. They railed at the Rebbe with proof after proof that what he sought to accomplish with one *mitzvah* or another would fall flat on its face. The Rebbe understood the divinity within each *mitzvah* that originated in the pre-intellectual realm of the *ein sof*

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# CALENDAR LUACH

June 26 - July 4

ZIP Code: 11516

4 Tamuz - Erev Shabbos

*Friday, June 26*

Daf yomi: Shabbos 112

Zmanim:<sup>\*</sup>

Dawn:	3:37 am
Earliest tallis/tefillin:	4:24 am
Sunrise:	5:26 am
Latest Shema:	
M. Av.	8:17 am
Gr'a	9:11 am
P'lag ha'minchah:	6:55 pm
Candle Lighting	8:11 pm

5 Tamuz - Shabbos

*Saturday, June 27*

*Parshas Korach*

Shabbos ends:<sup>\*\*</sup>

9:26 pm

72 min. 9:47 pm

11 Tamuz - Erev Shabbos

*Friday, July 3*

Daf yomi: Shabbos 119

Zmanim:<sup>\*</sup>

Dawn:	3:41 am
Earliest tallis/tefillin:	4:28 am
Sunrise:	5:30 am
Latest Shema:	
M. Av.	8:20 am
Gr'a	9:14 am
P'lag ha'minchah:	6:55 pm
Candle Lighting	8:11 pm

12 Tamuz - Shabbos

*Saturday, July 4*

*Parshas Chukas-Balak*

Shabbos ends:<sup>\*\*</sup>

9:24 pm

72 min. 9:46 pm

\*Zmanim are based on Cedarhurst – 11516

\*\* Five minutes added for Tosefes Shabbos

Courtesy of MyZmanim.com – the worldwide zmanim database

## INSIDE OUT

*Continued from Page 14*

and remained undeterred in his quest to reunite each Jew in the world with Torah and *mitzvos*.

Similarly, it was an institution of the Rebbe's that girls from the age of three begin lighting Shabbos candles alongside their mother. It was his mission to add light to an ever-darkening exile that drove this initiative forward.

It is told that there was a year in which the Baba Sali had predicted many of the wars in which Israel had to defend herself from hostile Arab neighbors; I believe it was 1974, after the Yom Kippur War, when another attack was brewing and the Baba Sali was visibly shaken and overwhelmed for months by what he saw on the horizon.

When the year passed and the war did not happen, he was asked about it, and he responded that he hadn't known that the Lubavitcher Rebbe was going to initiate *mitzvah neshek*, which, in addition to meaning "weaponry," is an acrostic of *Neiros Shabbos*

*Kodesh*, which he said pushed the war north to Lebanon.

There is a philosophy in *kiruv* that says that it is better to explain Torah, *mitzvos*, and proofs of G-d's existence to uneducated Jews as a prelude to embracing a life of observance. But the Rebbe saw things at their core, insisting that there is nothing more germane or natural than a Jew learning Torah or engaging in a *mitzvah*. Chabad's success is embracing each Jew without judgment, encouraging one small act of goodness and kindness at a time.

It never dawned upon me that a years-long fear behind the wheel could be triggered by that small 12 ounces of pop; but just as one can at a time could cause a person to retreat in fear, one *mitzvah* at a time can unleash a spirit of liberation in the life of its adherents. As the old adage goes, "Slow and steady wins the race," and as *Chazal* put it, "One who grabs more than he or she can handle won't retain possession of it."

There is something remarkable about this Gimmel Tammuz, more

than in any previous year. Due to fear of an anticipated second wave, *rabbanim* are pleading with pilgrims the world over not to visit the Rebbe's *ohel* this year as they have in the past. Traditionally, Gimmel Tammuz sees upwards of 150,000 petitioners at the Rebbe's graveside in the days leading up to and over the *yahrzeit*, but this year it will have to be different.

The question I grappled with is why it's this year from all of the years. What message is there in the number 26 and the fact that access to the *ohel* for people from out of town will need to be remote? The intention one bears in mind when reciting the name *yud-hei-vav-hei* is, "He was, is, and will be all at once." And the *Zohar* states that a *tzaddik*, after his *histalkus*, could be accessed in all of the worlds more easily than during his lifetime. I believe that the juxtaposition of this reality on the 26th year is to drive home this message.

Let us reexamine the value in every small positive action and begin to transform our lives and, by extension, the entire world, one step at a time. ■

Look for the next issue of the 5TJT on newsstands Thursday, July 2

# KOSHER DESIGN

Sarah Zohar  
Interior Designer



## RECONNECTING PEOPLE + NATURE

**D**o you love your home? If you could change anything about it, what would that be? These are some of the questions that need to be answered before starting the design process. In my career, I have seen patterns in construction projects that I would like to share in this design column to assist you in transforming your home design into something spectacular.

Most designers and architects have style preferences that they incorporate into their designs. But to make your property your own, you must ensure that your lifestyle and culture are addressed properly and incorporated into the overall design. One of the ways you can accomplish this is by utilizing Biophilic Design. Case and point; Your natural surroundings. It is not about just adding an extra wall covering or new furnishings. You must connect nature and its serenity and vibrancy into the design.



Hollywood Beach, Florida Residence | Photographer: Troy Campbell

This is a specialty that I have mastered after many years utilizing natural elements that harness raw nature bringing it into your home. As you can see from one of my latest projects from Hollywood Beach, Florida; light, ocean, natural tranquility, and serenity are brought to life throughout the home with something to see at every turn. The entire color scheme of the living room, with pops of blue on the swivel chairs and pillows that sit atop the custom Kravet sectional was inspired by the ocean and its raw natural beauty. The condo now seems to easily float on top of the turquoise Atlantic Ocean seen through the glass windows and doors. Family and friends visiting for Shabbat dinner can also gather around a timeless classic Saarinen table, with unique veining of Italian marble and a distinct and sculptural cast-aluminum base inspired by a drop of high-viscosity liquid. Behind it is a gorgeous view of the surrounding coastline seamlessly bringing the beautiful raw natural landscape into their home through biophilic design.



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# Shas Yiden Kollel Opens In London!

With the blessing of Sar Hatorah and Nasi of Shas Yiden, the UK takes a giant step forward as Torah study is being restored to its pristine glory.



On Rosh Chodesh Tammuz (June 23), Shas Yiden opened its first Kollel outside of Israel in Stamford Hill, London.

This momentous occasion is accompanied by a special brocho and wishes from the Nasi of Shas Yiden, Sar Hatorah, Maran Hagaon Harav Chaim Kanievsky, shlit'a:



## The Brocho of Sar Hatorah

...the Founder of Shas Yiden Kollelim Network who already responded to my request and opened additional kollelim in Eretz Yisroel where groups of incredible and outstanding talmidei chachomim have merited to study and complete the entire Shas every year with extraordinary diligence and clarity. They have visited with me numerous times and I tested them on Shas, and they were amazing in their exceptional knowledge of the Shas in depth and entirety. And now he has merited to open a new Kollel in the capital city of London where the scholars will maintain the same study regimen and load as they do here at Shas Yiden in the Holy Land.

Over the last 11 years, Shas Yiden has completely changed the approach of the Torah world to the idea of learning and mastering the entire Shas (Talmud). In yesteryear, such a feat was indeed rare and very few individuals became a bona fide 'Shas Yid' and spent many years mastering tractates, many of them not regularly learned in yeshivos.

When the Pozna Rov, Hagaon Harav Avrohom Eisen, shlit'a, founded Shas Yiden, many across Israel and abroad scoffed at the idea of each of the resident scholars completing the entire Shas every year. After being tested annually by Harav Chaim Kanievsky, shlit'a, followed by his publicized lavish praise, the Torah world sat up and took notice. Then, some three or four times a year, these avreichim are put through their paces by the leading talmidei chachomim geonim of the Torah world with open, public oral examinations.

The avreichim not only fielded questions on both known and obscure topics from the entire Shas, but were expected to be able to recite the page and context of each answer. To a man, those testing them said that in all their years they had never witnessed such a phenomenon as Shas Yiden, where the entire student body were so proficient and all knew the entire Talmud, Rashi and Tosfos by heart.

At the most recent Siyum Hashas in last December, Maran Hagaon Harav Gershon Edelstein, shlit'a, Rosh Yeshiva of Ponevez, declared that the method of study at Shas Yiden and their accomplishments was indeed the correct way of Talmudic study for the true mastery of Talmud.

At Shas Yiden, acceptance is based on each avreich passing a detailed exam on at least 450 blatt, and who is prepared to adhere to the very demanding daily regimen. Each day they have to master 8

full Talmud folios with 4 revisions – totaling 40 blatt a day, which translates into 13,555 blatt per year. Already 4 Kollelim with 62 unique and outstanding Talmud scholars have changed the Torah landscape in Israel, and now Shas Yiden has begun its first foray into the Diaspora in London.

There are 12 hand-picked avreichim metzuyonim (outstanding scholars) who were tested by the Rosh Hakollelim, Hagaon Harav Moshe Isaac Samet, shlit'a, under whose direction the London Shas Yiden Kollel will operate. They, too, will undergo monthly in-depth tests on 225 blatt.

An official opening of the London Shas Yiden Kollel will be scheduled later in the year. To witness the prowess of the Shas Yiden avreichim, please click on [www.shasyiden.com](http://www.shasyiden.com) and then on 'watch live farher'.

# OTHER SIDE OF THE BENCH

By David Seidemann

## OUR RIGHTS, REWRITTEN

I was born in Columbus, Ohio. So were five of my siblings. My parents lived there for almost 42 years. Some of the fondest memories of my entire life were formed in that city.

Quiet at times, bustling at other times—your typical Midwestern city with the right blend of small-town values and some big-town opportunities. As capital of the great state of Ohio, it is home to the famed Ohio State University and great research and science centers. The mere mention of the name of the city has always flooded my mind with warmth as I am transported to my youth.

All of that might soon change. In this timeframe, post the George

Floyd killing, many expressions about changing the past have surfaced. One such petition or movement is to change the name of my birthplace, Columbus, Ohio, to another name.

My hometown, named after Christopher Columbus, needs to be changed, according to those behind the movement, because Mr. Columbus held views or practiced actions that are offensive to many. I don't deny that; I do not know enough about his life and the times in which he lived to evaluate his actions and views in the context of what was occurring at the time. I am committed to researching the matter and finding out for myself, and perhaps it will

lead me to the same conclusion—that is, that Columbus's behavior was offensive to the point that he does not deserve to have statues, monuments, pictures, and, yes, entire cities, named after him.

Columbus is not the only subject of intense scrutiny. Roosevelt, Washington, Jefferson, and many of the personalities who formed our country are having their legacy reviewed in an effort to ascertain whether mention of their name is appropriate, whether they deserve recognition for what they did to build this country.

Statues and memorials are being torn down nationwide in this period of intense social reckoning. Some are being defaced and removed by lawless methods, some through a more legitimate and deliberate process.

To be sure, the voices that want to see what is perceived as tributes to villains removed cannot be dismissed out of hand. Can you imagine how incensed we would be if a city carried the name Hitler or if a statue

of Hitler adorned a public square?

So I get it, and it does not hurt to take a second look at some of our historical figures and review their actions. Were they proper? Should they be viewed objectively and by today's standards, or should they be viewed in context of the times in which they lived?

Are there some behaviors that are so abhorrent, that cause such pain to those alive today, that the names of the perpetrators warrant erasure? Or are we going too far in this newfound analysis? Is it possible to display a portrait of a man who did good for our country while he also held some views that are disturbing to particular groups?

Where does it end? Theoretically, every small group of people could band together and find something hurtful or offensive to any other person, group, movement, societal norm, or law.

We could deteriorate into an entirely nameless and faceless society, as every social interest group could demand the erasure from our past, present, and future of every person, place, or thing that gives them angst. I am not defending those persons whose legacies are now being examined, nor am I belittling the pain of racism, discrimination, victimization, and abuse that segments of the population felt and still feel generations later.

I do wonder, however, if, in the process of legitimate review, we are opening the floodgates of a concerted effort to rewrite history. Is it not possible to acknowledge the existence of a founding father and have his plaque contain an entire true history of his life—with all the good and all of the bad? Would that not serve this generation better?

We might not want a city named after Hitler, but to erase him from history is to remove the opportunity to educate the masses about his atrocities. So there really are two issues here. Is erasure from our history the best option when dealing with a figure whose actions range from less-than-stellar to downright offensive, or is a complete description of their behavior and mindset a more appropriate way to shape our history and educate the next generation? Secondly, are special-interest groups that are intent on dismantling our country taking advantage of this time period to rewrite history in a narrative that paints benign behavior as criminal?

Today there might be many who want to "edit" history. That's OK. It's fine to add footnotes to the recorded history of Washington, Roosevelt, Jefferson, Lee, and even Columbus. But we cannot fall into the trap of rewriting history, of erasing history, of obliterating history at the hands of those whose intent in rewriting the past is to control the present and future of America. ■

*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. Read more of David Seidemann's articles at 5TJT.com.*

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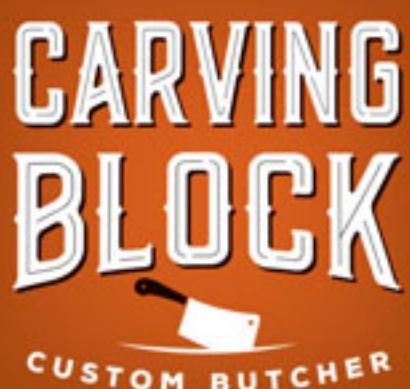
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## ROCHELLE'S REVIEWS

By Rochelle Miller



# NACHAS ART ACADEMY AND SEMINARY: THE ORTHODOX JEWISH CULTURAL CENTER AND ART SOCIETY OF LONG ISLAND

**R**ebbetzin Naomi N. Herzberg-Flaum is a visionary. Forty years ago, the gifted artist and educator, who traces her ancestry—and creativity—to Yocheved, daughter of Rashi, and is a descendant of *Dovid HaMelech*, dreamed the impossible. She envisioned creating a truly unique educational experience: a full-fledged Torah seminary and sophisticated art acad-

emy, a “frum FIT” Although throughout the ensuing years her dream remained precisely that, she never abandoned her hope of bringing it to fruition.

“The thought of embarking on the project was always on my mind,” Rebbetzin Naomi told the *Five Towns Jewish Times*. “But I realized that the scope of the project was very large and would require a great deal of my time and at-

tention. While my children were young and at home, it wasn’t the right time for me to undertake such an endeavor. Then my husband, HaRav Chanina Herzberg, *ztl*, became very ill and my focus was on taking care of him. I returned to school, earned my master’s degree, and pub-

beloved husband, *Baruch Hashem*, she found happiness again and is now married to Rabbi Tzvi Flaum, *shlita*, distinguished *rav* and *posek*. Currently serving as the *Mashgiach Ruchani* at Touro’s Lander College for Women in Manhattan, Rabbi Flaum has been in-

**She envisioned a truly unique educational experience: a full-fledged Torah seminary and sophisticated art academy.**

lished a thesis specializing in art education. It was at this point that my long-time dream of opening an art academy and seminary started becoming more viable.”

Focusing on her family and her professional pursuits helped Rebbetzin Naomi deal with the pain of losing her

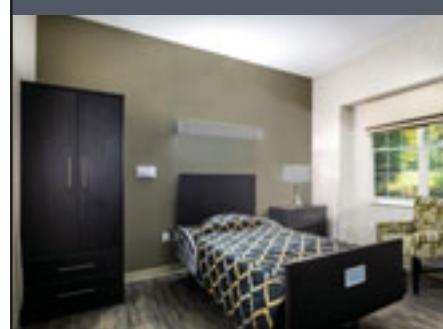
involved in women’s collegiate education for over 50 years. Additionally, he is a professor of honors courses in both Judaic studies and medical ethics. He has introduced thousands of Torah tapes, and following his retirement from the world-renowned Congregation Kneseth Israel, he founded the Torah Studies Network that offers *shiurim* for hundreds of members of our community each week. As a *posek*, he is consulted regarding extremely difficult issues relating to the creation of human life and the treatment of terminally ill patients. Rabbi Flaum is known for his warm and caring personality and has guided thousands of people in crisis.

Spanning 50 years, Rebbetzin Naomi’s history in art education is impressive. She has served with distinction as a member of the accrediting committee of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools for the department of fine arts. She also served as director of operations for a private girls’ school for 15 years. Presently, she is a high-school art instructor teaching AP Studio Art, Judaica Art, and Portrait Drawing in addition to being a highly sought-after freelance artist, designer, and mentor for many private students and institutions.

With over a century of combined experience in their respective fields of higher education, Rebbetzin Naomi felt the time was right to bring her dream to fruition. “A new marriage, a new beginning, might be a good time to work on a new project,” she shared. She approached her husband, seeking his input regarding the concept. “Not only did he think it was a good idea, he was enthusiastic, excited, and encouraging.” Sharing her passion, Rabbi Flaum suggested they make it a collaborative effort. Thus did Nachas Art Academy and Seminary become a reality, with Rebbetzin Naomi N. Herzberg-Flaum as dean and Rabbi Tzvi Flaum as rabbinical adviser. Named in loving memory of HaRav Chanina Getzel Herzberg, *ztl*, and Rebbetzin Rochel Miriam Flaum, *a'h*, it will serve as a fitting and beautiful tribute to them as it builds generations of *n'shei chayil*.

As treasured members of our community and trailblazers in higher education, Rabbi Tzvi and Rebbetzin Naomi stand at the forefront of innovative concepts to meet the needs of the *klal*, and have now raised the bar in higher education for girls by creating a stellar seminary experience.

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Nachas Art Academy and Seminary has been generating an enthusiastic response long before its anticipated September opening. The school will provide artistic and creative Orthodox women with a top-tier creative journey without compromising their religious standards. Under the expert auspices of this dynamic couple, and staffed by a premier faculty, it is a fusion of a Torah seminary and art academy that will offer an understanding of how to navigate the world of art from a Torah perspective.

The Torah seminary program offers highly sophisticated Torah courses in all areas of Torah knowledge taught by internationally acclaimed educators—including Rebbetzin Aviva Feiner, Rabbi Yaakov Feitman, Rabbi Tzvi Flaum, Mrs. Rivka Krischer, Mrs. Chaya Rothman, and Mrs. Esther Wein—who will enrich their students' knowledge base in understanding the many fascinating and diversified Torah courses. These will include practical *halachah*, *Tanach*, Jewish philosophy, and Jewish history. Featured as well will be courses dealing with contemporary ideological issues confronting the global Jewish community. Additionally, a special course will be offered concerning the medical-ethics dilemmas facing the world at large.

"We will also be offering a course in business ethics, taught by Mrs. Chaya Rothman, a prominent attorney with *halachic* expertise," said Rebbetzin Naomi. "The course will discuss, among many other topics, how to conduct oneself in the work environment as well as how to set up a business, for those students who are contemplating launching a business in the future. Professional courses offered are fine art and design with a concentration in teaching, interior design, and fashion design being taught by highly qualified professionals."

All graduates in the Nachas Art Academy and Seminary will receive a one-year professional diploma and a seminary diploma for the different programs they attended. Arrangements are being made so students can receive college credits for the seminary and professional programs through a world-famous prestigious university.

"We are planning to assist with job placement in their field of expertise," said Rebbetzin Naomi.

In the Five Towns, Far Rockaway, Long Island, and all throughout the Metropolitan area and beyond, the response has been overwhelmingly positive as this exciting new concept takes flight. *Rabbanim*, principals, educators, parents, and young women blessed with an abundance of creativity and artistic talent are eagerly anticipating this unprecedented opportunity to embark upon a journey of creative studies to explore new avenues of Torah study and art.

For further information regarding Nachas Art Academy and Seminary, please refer to their ad in this issue of the 5TJT. ■

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## HALACHIC MUSINGS

By Rabbi Yair Hoffman

# WHEN IS A PANDEMIC ACTUALLY OVER?

**C**an we fully go back to shul now?"

"Do we really need that mask and 'Safer Torah Shield'?"

"Is it still *safek pikuach nefesh*?"

These questions and more are being posed throughout the *frum* community in New York, and the reactions are quite varied. Some point to the dwindling cases of COVID in New York to justify a return to the old normal. Others point to Florida, Texas, and *Eretz Yisrael* to remain vigilant and cautious. A major Jewish newspaper chose to print pictures of a regular wedding with no social

distancing whatsoever. Many of its readers were horrified. "Do they not give a hoot about those of us who are at risk?"

Some Five Towns residents are maintaining the backyard *minyanim*—even wanting to make them permanent. In the meantime, many of the shuls are struggling to get *minyanim*.

One Five Towns resident justified the backyard *minyanim*, "First and foremost, it is safer. Secondly, the whole family is *davening* together. Thirdly, I hate masks. There are no *mishebeirachs* and no speeches. It is

much shorter this way and I spend more time with my family. There is no talking and there is more *kavanah*. Need I say more?"

Although it is hard to argue with many of these points, were it not for COVID-19, this sentiment can destroy *Yiddishkeit*. There is a huge need to support the shuls which are part of the very fabric of maintaining all we hold dear. Shuls are called a *mikdash me'at* for a reason.

So where should we go from here? Is caution being thrown to the wind? Will more people in our community die, *Rachmana litzlan*, if we assume that the pandemic is over and that we should return to normal?

Because of the strong sentiments behind this issue, the rest of this column will be viewed as controversial. Let's begin with five observations, some of them perhaps contradictory of each other at first glance.

1. Hashem runs the world. *Ein od Milvado*. We must keep this in mind before we embark upon any decision.

*Continued on Page 22*

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2. Hashem wants us to do proper *hishtadlus*—to take proper protective measures.

3. It is a mistake to allow observation #1 one to color observation #2.

4. The *metzius* in our times is vastly different than what it ever was throughout Jewish history. Interstate and international commerce and travel have changed the dynamic entirely.

5. Decisions, especially those that affect lives and especially those that deal with public policy, must be made with reason, logic, and facts, not emotion. Anyone who doubts this should reread Rav Yisroel Salanter's *Iggeres HaMussar*.

This author would like to suggest that there is very little historic *halachic* precedence to the concept of "reopening." In past epidemics, when people stopped dying, that was generally a good indication that the danger had passed. Thus, any special protocols taken on were stopped

upon seeing that there were no more deaths or illnesses. The possibility of resurgence was not even considered. This explains the paucity of *halachic* literature on the issue.

It is different now.

We have seen the resurgence happen in *Eretz Yisrael*. We have seen it happen in California, Texas, and Florida. It is likely that it can happen here, too, if we let our social distance guard down and as soon as the comingling of people returns. Let us bear in mind that there is, as of yet, no vaccine and, as of yet, no strong and effective medicine to treat those who are affected.

Let us also keep in mind that our particular lifestyle is such that we are affected at twice the rate as the general populace is affected. This conclusion is culled from a comparison of COVID-19 in the *frum* community in England to the rest of the community. The most logical distinction is indoor *minyan* attendance.

The studies also show that outdoor outbreaks are significantly less prevalent than indoor ones—by a 19:1

ratio. It is this author's view that the eight *mitzvos* involved in preserving the lives of the immunosuppressed among us are still relevant.

**Hashavas Aveidah.** One *mitzvah*, believe it or not, is *hashavas aveidah*. The verse in *Parashas Ki Seitzei* (*Devarim* 22:2) discusses the *mitzvah* of *hashavas aveidah*, returning an object, with the words, "V'hasheivoso lo, and you shall return it to him." The Gemara in *Sanhedrin* (73a), however, includes within its understanding of these words the obligation of returning "his own life to him as well." For example, if thieves are threatening to pounce upon him, there is an obligation of "v'hasheivoso lo." This verse is the source for the *mitzvah* of saving someone's life. It is highly probable that it is to this general *mitzvah* that the *Shulchan Aruch* refers in *Shulchan Aruch Orach Chaim* 325.

**Lo Sa'amod Al Dam Rei'acha.** There is a negative *mitzvah* of not standing idly by your brother's blood as well. This is mentioned in *Shulchan Aruch* (C.M. 426:1) and in the

Rambam. Collectively, if we avoid indoor gatherings we can ensure that we do not stand idly by our brother's blood—where we would otherwise catch something and bring it back to an immunosuppressed parent or grandparent.

**Lo Suchal L'His'aleim.** There is yet another negative commandment associated with the positive commandment of *hashavas aveidah*, and that is the verse in *Devarim* (22:3), "You cannot shut your eyes to it." This verse comes directly after the *mitzvah* of *hashavas aveidah*. The *Netziv* (*Ha'amek She'eloh*) refers to this *mitzvah* as well.

**V'Chai Achicha Imach.** The *Sheiltos* (*Sheilta* #37), based upon the Gemara in *Bava Metzia* 62a, understands these words to indicate an obligation to save others with you. The *Netziv* in his *Ha'amek She'eloh* understands it as a full-fledged obligation according to all opinions. He writes that he must exert every effort to save his friend's life—until it becomes *pikuach nefesh* for himself.

**V'Ahavta l'Rei'acha Kamocha.** The Ramban, *Toras haAdam Sha'ar HaSakanah* (p 42–43), understands the verse of "And love thy neighbor as yourself" as a directive to save him from danger as well. The Ramban specifically discusses the issue of medical danger.

**V'Nishmartem.** There is also the *mitzvah* of "V'Nishmartem me'od b'nafshoseichem" (*Devarim* 4:9)—the *mitzvah* of protecting our health and well-being.

**Rak Hi'shamer.** The verse later on (*Devarim* 4:15), "Rak hi'shamer lecha" is understood by most poskim to actually comprise a second *mitzvah* (see Rav Chaim Kanievsky, *shlita*, *Sha'ar HaTeshuvos* #25)—to take special care in our safety.

**V'Chai Bahem.** There is also the *mitzvah* of "V'Chai Bahem—And you shall live by them" (*Vayikra* 18:5).

### Idna D'Ris'cha

From a theological perspective, we have perhaps entered what *Chazal* term as an "idna d'ris'cha." One of my *rebbeim*, Rav Dovid Kviat, *zt'l*, once explained that there are two manners in which Hashem judges the world. He judges with both *middas ha'din*, the attribute of strict judgment, and with *middas ha'rachamim*, the attribute of mercy.

Generally speaking, Hashem judges us with *middas ha'rachamim*. However, there are times in Jewish history known as an *idna d'ris'cha*, periods of Divine anger. The Gemara in *Menachos* (43a) tells us that generally Hashem does not punish people for abnegating a *mitzvas asei*, a positive *mitzvah* in the Torah. We are only punished for violating negative prohibitions. However, in a period of Divine anger, we are punished for negating positive *mitzvos*, too.

Rav Kviat, *zt'l*, explained that there is an idea found in *Sefer Devarim* (31:18) of "hester panim," where Hashem hides His face, so to speak: "I shall surely hide My Face on that day."



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# TO OUR BORO PARK CENTER FAMILY

**O**ur father, like every father, was always the strongest person in the world. Until he wasn't. He was getting older, and we, his children, were watching it happen.

This year, he had open-heart surgery. Post-operation, he was barely able to walk more than a few steps. He couldn't hold a fork. It hurt to see Totty so weak and helpless.

After his situation was assessed, we moved him from the hospital to the caring, compassionate staff of Boro Park Center. For those months, you helped him get stronger, you taught him to move again, you kept him entertained, and you kept him comfortable. All while allowing Totty to maintain his dignity. You took him to shul every day, where Rabbi Wajsfeld helped him with his tefillin. You made sure his personal needs were taken care of.

We saw the change happen before our eyes: Each day, Totty seemed brighter and more energized than the day before. It was like watching someone come back to life. As the days passed, we were actually able to believe that, in a few short months, Totty would come back home, and sit in his study learning, with our kids pestering him to look at their drawings.



When the pandemic hit, we were nervous, but you were unflappable. You said, "It's our job to take care of your father, so we will."

We drove you nuts. (Sorry about that!) We called every day. You picked up every day. We video-called Totty. You held the phone for him. We worried. You reassured us. And you, mothers and fathers and grandparents yourselves—you still came in every day to take care of our father and the other residents in your care.

This wasn't a battle you signed up for, but you stayed on anyway. Your selflessness blows us away every time we think about it.

Now that our father is finally home (in the study with the grandkids :) we wanted to make sure you all know: You are TRULY APPRECIATED!

We can never thank you enough for giving your love, your strength, and your expertise to Totty. Our family could never have gotten through this difficult time without your team's support.

Thank you for being strong for our father, and for us.

With the deepest appreciation,

Chanie, Malka, Yossi and the rest of the family.



In an *idna d'ris'cha*, Hashem ceases to judge with *middas ha'rachamim*; He judges instead with *middas ha'din*. *Middas ha'din* is almost unfathomable to the mortal mind in terms of its sheer strictness. No one wishes to be judged with the *middas ha'din*.

### Decisions With Logic And Not Emotion

Rav Yisroel Salanter writes, “*HaAdam chofshi b'dimyono v'asur b'muskalo*—man is unfettered in his imagination, but bound in his use of *seichel*.” Proper *hishtadlus* means that decisions should be made with logic and not emotion. A first step in understanding how we should be making decisions in the knowledge vacuum that we are currently experiencing involves studying and analyzing what experts call “the description-experience gap.” This studies how people make decisions when they do not have certain experiences but only go with their gut feel-

ings [see [https://pure.mpg.de/rest/items/item\\_2504668/component/file\\_2520389/content](https://pure.mpg.de/rest/items/item_2504668/component/file_2520389/content)].

Some factors affecting improper decision-making are:

(1) lack of proper sampling data because people have never experienced the low-probability event themselves

(2) the “recency effect”—where greater weight is assigned to more recent experiences

(3) the desire to give in to short-term temptation

(4) biases toward either better or salient memories.

An example of the description-experience gap is the measurable difference in opinions on vaccination between doctors and patients. According to a Harvard study (see [http://library.mpib-berlin.mpg.de/ft/rh/RH\\_Decisions\\_2004.pdf](http://library.mpib-berlin.mpg.de/ft/rh/RH_Decisions_2004.pdf)), “Parents who research the side effects of the DTaP vaccine on the National Immunization Program website will find that up to 1 child out of 1,000 will develop high fever and about 1 child out of 14,000 will experience seizures as a result of immunization.

Although doctors have these same statistics at their disposal, they also have access to information not easily available to parents—namely, personal experience, gathered across many patients, that vaccination rarely results in side effects; few doctors have encountered one of the unusual cases in which high fever or seizures follow vaccination. If the importance assigned to rare events differs as a function of how one learns about their likelihood, then doctors and patients might well disagree about whether vaccination is advised.”

### The Iggeres HaMussar

In this author’s view, this is how to understand Rav Yisroel Salanter’s *Iggeres haMussar*—where the *seichel* is the additional information and the *dimyon* is the limited information of just going with the description and the four factors mentioned above.

### The Maharsha

There is also a fascinating *Maharsha* in *Yevamos* 62a that asks on the Gemara where *Moshe Rabbeinu*

broke the *luchos* of his own accord without consulting with Hashem, yet Hashem agreed to his actions. *Moshe Rabbeinu* made a *kal v'chomer* argument: “If someone is a *ben neichar* (*Moshe* had a *kaballah* from Hashem that this refers to someone estranged from Hashem), he may not partake of the *Korban Pesach*. That is just one *mitzvah* of the 613. Here, however, they made an *eigel*—violating all 613—should I not, therefore, break the *luchos*? ”

The *Maharsha* asks why he did not make the *kal v'chomer* argument earlier when he was first informed by Hashem that *Klal Yisrael* sinned. The *Maharsha* answers by quoting the *Baal HaIkkarim* (4:15) that it was *nirah l'einayim*—his experience of it made a far greater impression. Although *Rav Moshe Feinstein*, *zt'l*, in a responsum disagrees with this *Maharsha*—because how can one doubt Hashem—this concept of the description-experience gap clearly answers *Rav Moshe*’s animadversions and is the *pshat* of the *Maharsha* and the *Sefer HaIkkarim*.

With such dangers facing *Klal Yisrael*, we must take steps to ensure the safety of our immunosuppressed brethren in whatever way we can. It is this author’s view that the outdoor *minyanim* should be maintained until a vaccine is developed and those who go with the indoor *minyanim* should continue to practice full social distancing as much as possible. (But we see from the pictures published in that paper that this is very difficult to maintain.) In the winter, the *minyanim* could be modified to include only *Shemoneh Esrei* and *leining* when it is extremely cold—but that is for another discussion. ■

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# BACK TO BASICS

By Rabbi Tuvia Teldon



## THE VIEW OF A JEW

If there is one distinguishing aspect that most Jews would agree upon concerning Lubavitch, it is our total acceptance of all Jews, regardless of their level of observance, knowledge, age, color, or status in life. This attitude is a mystery to many, but for us it is a basic tenet in our belief system and a driving force for our work.

The background for this goes back to the *Tanya* of the *Alter Rebbe*, the founder of Chabad over 200 years ago. There, he expounds about the uniqueness of the Jewish soul, its spiritual makeup, and its purpose. He discusses how all Jews, as descendants of Abraham and Sarah, inherit a spark of G-d which is connected to His Essence. Although this soul descends into a very physical body, sometimes appearing to be totally overshadowed by bodily needs, the spark is nevertheless there in its full intensity.

Furthermore, who could possibly know the greatness of any particular Jew's soul? He may be far from Judaism, a simpleton or a rebel, but the soul is intact, alive and kicking. It is our privilege to be G-d's tool in helping this person come in touch with that dormant or undernourished dimension of their being. It could be that a pair of *tefillin*, a Shabbos candle, a discussion on campus, or a quick look at a Jewish website may arouse the inherent spark of this Jew. Our work is based on the tenet that every Jew has this soul and thus has the desire, however hidden, to bring it more to the surface. Every Jew is a diamond. Sometimes it is in the rough and needs a little work to polish it and bring out its inherent beauty. The Chabad Rebbes translated this into action, inspiring their *chassidim* to practice self-sacrifice for the sake of another Jew, even though they may have never met him before.

Taking this one step further, the teaching of Rabbi Akiva that the "whole of the Torah rests on the principle of love for a fellow Jew, and the rest is commentary" comes alive. Through our own individual ability to rise beyond our personal physical needs, wants, and limitations, to feel and act upon another Jew's needs first, we connect to the spiritual. As a famous *chassidic* saying goes, "Whatever the physical need of another Jew may be, for us it is a spiritual challenge to fulfill that need." Although love of a fellow Jew is usually expressed through physical actions, it sometimes requires some spiritual awakening. This automatically brings us closer to our Creator.

This is one reason why Chabad will go to such lengths and expense for the sake of even a single Jew, whether that Jew lives on an island off Alaska or in a prison in South Africa. The assistance they lend is not just in spiritual matters. Chabad programs serve children with special needs, drug addicts, the poor, and the infirm. These Jews are our family, a part of our own essence, and we and the

lives, interacting with Jews of all stripes on a regular basis. It is not an easy task to always be functioning on such a high level of *ahavas Yisrael*, to be so selfless

Whatever the level of success, the trademark of Chabad anywhere in the entire world is that you can always find a "home away from home" in the local

## Who could possibly know the greatness of any particular Jew's soul?

world are not complete while their body and soul sit in exile, limited from full expression.

Every Lubavitcher is challenged by Chabad teachings to see a fellow Jew without any labels, whether of religious affiliation (Reform, Conservative, Orthodox) or describing their personality or physical features. This love, however, is reserved for Jews who are fully Jewish according to Jewish law. This is our guarantee that they have that special soul. That's one explanation of the importance of "Who is a Jew?"—we need to know who we are focusing our attention on.

The Rebbe's emissaries (*shluchim*) get to apply this love every day of their

day in and day out. The *shluchim* are sincere people who love their fellow Jews and want to dedicate their lives to helping *Am Yisrael*. But that does not mean that they are totally selfless people without an ego. Rather, I like to consider them "spiritual entrepreneurs." Some obviously succeed more than others, depending on their personalities, the circumstances they face in their place of *shlichus*, and how they apply the blessings we all believe we have from the Rebbe for our success.

Chabad House. That accomplishment in itself is a fitting symbol of the power of the teachings of all seven Lubavitcher Rebbes. ■

*Rabbi Tuvia Teldon is the regional director of Chabad Lubavitch of Long Island. He can be reached at rabbi@chabadli.org. His new book, "Eight Paths Of Purpose" is available at Amazon.com. For more information and inspiration, visit www.chabadli.org or Facebook.com/RabbiTeldon to view his weekly broadcasts. Read more of Rabbi Teldon's articles and view his videos at 5TJT.com.*



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# FROM WHERE I STAND

By Rabbi Yossy Goldman



## KORACH: INSIDE/OUTSIDE

**S**ome arguments are petty affairs between small people who aren't big enough, so they need to stand up for their perceived honor or imaginary status. Other arguments are classic differences of opinion between people of stature, where each has an opinion worthy of consideration. We need to be able to discern the subtleties beneath the surface of any debate before formulating our own view.

This week's *parashah* tells the story of the mutiny of Korach, a cousin of Moshe, who challenged Moshe's authority. In the end, Korach and his henchmen were swallowed by the earth in a Divine display of rather un-earthly justice.

The Midrash reveals some of the behind-the-scenes dialogue and debate between these men. Remember, Korach was no pushover. Besides being of noble lineage, he was clever, wealthy, and charismatic. One of the questions Korach put to Moshe was this: Does a house full of holy books still require a *mezuzah*? Moshe answered that it did. Korach scoffed at the idea, ridi-

culing Moshe. The little *mezuzah* contains but two chapters of Torah, the *Shema Yisrael*. A whole houseful of books with the entire Torah won't do the trick and a little *mezuzah* will? It

what happens when we leave the comfortable confines of our home? Do we cease to be Jewish?

The *mezuzah* is at the threshold of our homes, at the juncture and crossover between our inner lives and outer lives. As we make the transition from private person to public citizen, we desperately need to be reminded of who we are and that we take our identity with us wherever we may go. There is only One G-d, says the little scroll, whether in our private domain or in the big, wide world outside.

One of the many works by well-known author Herman Wouk is an autobiographical novel called *Inside,*

main proudly Jewish even in the face of conflicting cultures, curious looks, and often hostile attitudes.

In the German-Jewish community of old, there was a slogan that has long been discredited. "Yehudi b'veitecha v'ish b'tzeitecha," "Be a Jew in your home and a man outside." The Nazis did not distinguish between Jews who looked Jewish and those who had removed any visible identifying marks. Today, traditional dress reflecting a national character is common, accepted, and respected—from Scottish kilts to Arab kaffiyehs. The outlandish hairstyles of sportsmen and celebrities are not only accepted, but mimicked by millions of mindless wannabes.

Is it too much to expect a Jew to assert his Jewishness in unfamiliar corporate territory or to keep the yarmulke on his head even when he walks out of shul? Moshe rejected Korach's argument with good reason. The *mezuzah* does not replace the need for Jewish libraries, but it serves as a perennial reminder on our doorways. As we step out of our home to enter the outside world, it beckons us to take our G-d and our Torah, our values, and our traditions along with us. ■

## Do we cease to be Jewish outside the confines of our home?

doesn't make any sense, argued Korach.

Why was Moshe's answer correct? What indeed is the significance of a small parchment on the doorpost in relation to a library inside? The Lubavitcher Rebbe explained that it all depends on location. The books are inside; the *mezuzah* is outside. When there are Jewish texts inside our study and living rooms, this indicates that the home is a Jewish home. This is good and as it should be. But

*Outside*, in which he portrays his own inner struggles straddling two conflicting worlds. His pious Talmudist zayde (grandfather) had a profound influence on him, but so did Hollywood and Broadway. It took him a long time to find his way and settle into an observant Jewish lifestyle while still writing bestsellers. Being Jewish "Inside" is relatively easy. It's when we hit the "Outside" that we encounter temptation and turmoil. The challenge every Jew must face is to re-

Rabbi Yossy Goldman was born in Brooklyn and was sent in 1976 by the Lubavitcher Rebbe as an emissary to serve the Jewish community of Johannesburg, South Africa. He is Senior Rabbi of the Sydenham Shul and president of the South African Rabbinical Association. His sefer "From Where I Stand: Life Messages from the Weekly Torah Reading" was published by Ktav and is available at Jewish book shops or online at [www.ktav.com](http://www.ktav.com).

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# INSIGHTS ON THE TORAH

## PARASHAT KORACH: SELF-ACTUALIZATION, IDEOLOGY, AND MA'ASER RISHON

BY RABBI MOSHE BLOOM  
Torah VeHa'aretz Institute

**W**hen a major general is told that he will not be promoted to be the next chief-of-staff, he feels deeply disappointed—sometimes to the point of resignation. For some reason, lower-ranking soldiers do not feel they were slighted in any way. It seems that it is precisely when a person is already at a higher level than the rest of the population that he is pained if he cannot climb even higher—even if he has already attained much more than others.

This, it seems, is Korach's story. Korach was a Levi charged with the most sacred components of the Levitical service—he was one of the bearers of the Ark! The Levite commando unit, indeed. In light of his high-ranking position, he wanted to scale the next summit: to become a *kohen*. Because he was not able to achieve this position, he argued, everyone should be on equal footing, "Since the entire congregation is sacred."

If we could probe the depths of Korach's soul, we would understand his pain. Everyone wants to fully express their talents and abilities; if they are told to stop just when they have progressed tremendously, anyone would be left smarting. Everyone has this feeling sometimes. How should we cope in such cases?

We can always say, "This is G-d's will, so there's nothing to argue about. G-d is the one who decides which role each person will be given. You were assigned a specific role—that and no other. This is the truth, so accept it." While this is entirely true, the heart often has a difficult time accepting it. "Why did he achieve more, to draw closer to G-d, but I am told to stop in my tracks?"

### The Drive For Self-Actualization And The Desire To Rectify The World

The answer lies in the relationship between two drives in man's soul. One is the drive that motivates man to actualize himself. This is a wonderful, lofty drive, which ensures that man's hidden potential will manifest itself and be used to rectify the world. There is another drive, though: man's aspiration to serve a higher purpose, to be part of the tremendous project of rectifying the world. The proper order is that our primary motivation should be to make the world a better place. What

until not long before. They easily find an appropriate—but patently false—excuse, which coordinates between their personal desire for self-advancement and the ideology that they preach.

However, even when the desire to rectify the world is in the driver's seat, people might attempt to improve the world as they see fit. This can also be extremely destructive; just look at Communism (and most "isms," for that matter). To avoid this pitfall, man must subjugate himself completely to G-d's will, knowing that this is the only way to make His world a better place.

It is only when we have struck a certain harmony within that we can perform the specific task we are charged with in the greater picture of rectifying the world. When this is true, it doesn't matter what outpost the general tells him to guard; he can fulfill his potential to the utmost through performing his job there, in the best way possible. Had Korach truly understood his role, and internalized that his position was the best

way for him to fulfill his job in life, he never would have looked for other "higher ranking" positions.

### Ma'aser: Revealing Sanctity In Less Glamorous Places

What is truly the job of the Levi'im? It seems we can find the answer in the gift that they receive as compensation for their service: *ma'aser rishon*, the first tithe. While this gift is the property of the Levi'im, it is not sacred. In contrast to *terumah*, Levi'im can give *ma'aser rishon* to anyone they please, and everyone can partake of it. *Ma'aser rishon* can even be eaten by someone impure and when the *ma'aser* itself is impure. *Terumah*, on the other hand, must be pure and consumed in a state of purity. Despite all this, *ma'aser rishon* is still called *terumah* by the Torah: "For it is the tithes set aside by the Israelites as a gift (*terumah*) to the L-rd that I give to the Levites as their share" (*Bamidbar* 18:24).

*Continued on Page 97*

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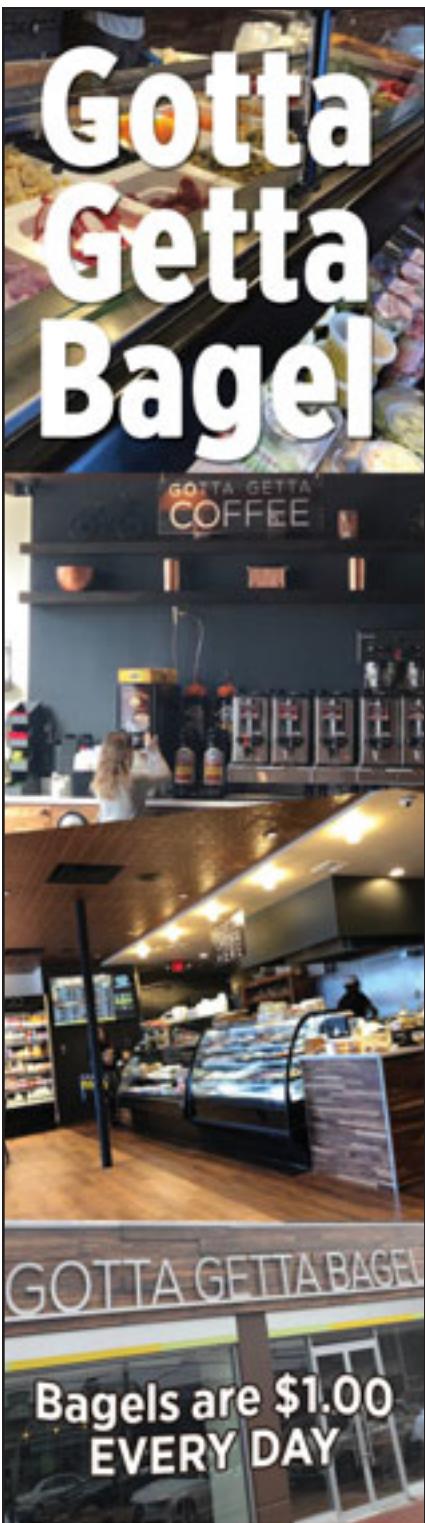
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## FROM THE EDITOR

*Continued from Front Cover*

prove beyond a reasonable doubt that there was any intent to kill by either of the officers. This could potentially mean that either or both of the policemen will be found not guilty.

So why are these men in both cases charged with a level of murder that the prosecution may not be able to prove in court? That is because the protesters and angry mobs that took to the street are demanding that these cops be charged with the maximum crimes that can land them in prison for life. If that doesn't happen, well, I guess we can deal with the fallout from that type of situation later.

If prosecutors in both cases were allowed to be truthful, the chances of convictions and sentences would be improved if they could only articulate the reality as it exists.

In Israel today, on an entirely different matter, we have a similar problem. Israel rightfully wants to extend Israeli law to the areas of Judea and Samaria but they are having a problem with the world accepting the idea of what they intend to do. On the simplistic and most practical of levels, it might be best not to make any announcements or declarations but rather to quietly apply the law accordingly. It's the press coverage, news conferences, and deadline dates that are causing all the problems.

Can you imagine what would happen if six months from today Prime Minister Netanyahu would say, "Oh, by the way, we extended Israeli law to the territories six months ago," and then add, "Everyone have a nice day."

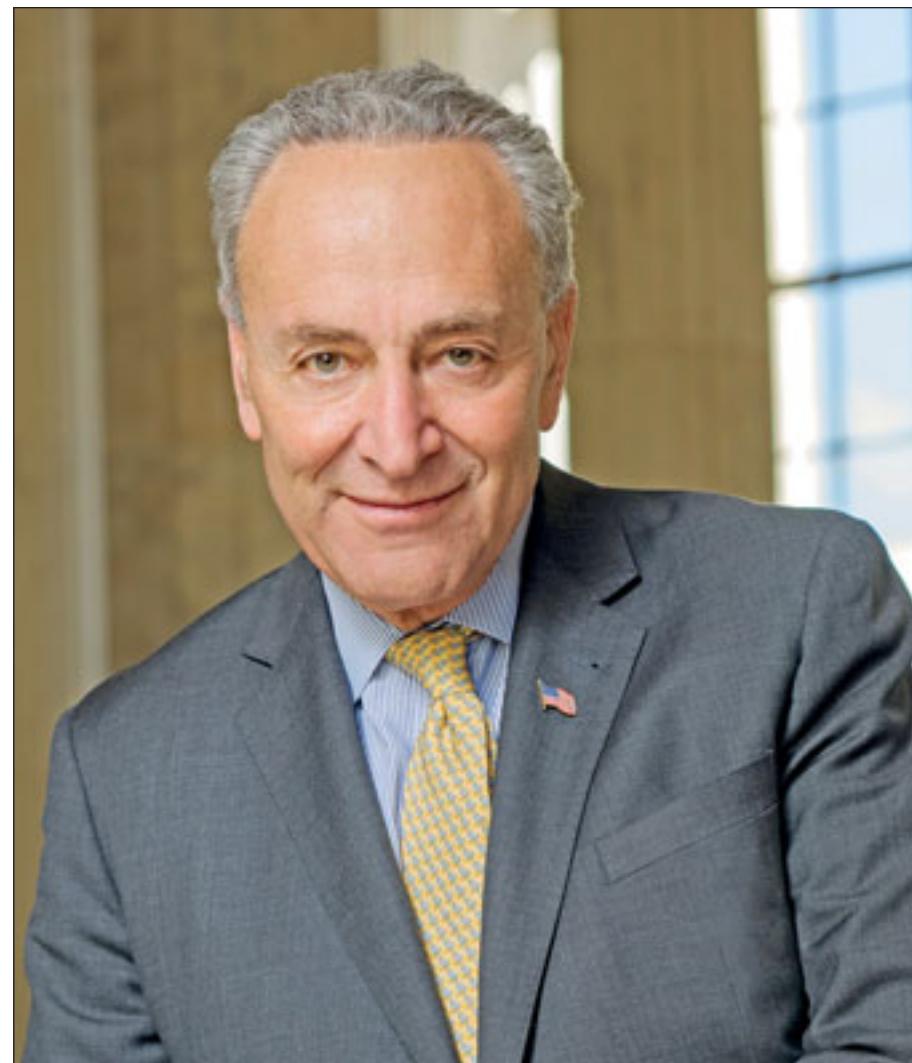
What would the reaction be at that time? Will the "Shomer Israel," the Democratic double-talker Chuck Schumer, announce that he is not recognizing the Israeli move retroactively? I mean, let's ask ourselves for a moment—do residents of Maale Adumim or Ariel really need the approval of Senator Schumer? Seriously, let's not kid ourselves.

Even Assistant Prime Minister Benny Gantz said this week that if the Palestinians continue to refuse to negotiate, then there is no reason to wait for them and he will support the move toward extending sovereignty to Judea and Samaria.

Here in the U.S., the Trump administration has expressed support for the sovereignty plan, preferably with the Palestinians on board, in a scenario that would eventually create a state for them. Democrats like Mr. Schumer and presidential candidate Joe Biden profess their strong and enduring support for the state of Israel—but it is enduring with limitations. With the emergence of this sovereignty issue, it seems that not for the first or second time the support for Israel of late is more theoretical or philosophical than practical and the realization of the full geographic and rightful state as we know it.

As you can see, it is much easier for politicians to support something conceptually rather than put their name and full belief behind something solid and real like the biblical land of Israel.

On that account, back here in the U.S. it is easy to join the voices that call for the defunding or complete dissolution of police departments in our major cit-



Senator Chuck Schumer



Benny Gantz

ies, so long as you don't really mean it. Yes, you can be for defunding the police, but actually doing it so that crime spikes and people are harmed is a completely different story.

Defunding police forces can be exercised in multiple meaningless directions. Don't be surprised if you find out that New York City police officers are

allocated money for two pairs of shoes annually, and that now, at the direction of Mayor de Blasio, they will be allowed only one pair of shoes going forward. Essentially, that can be presented to the public as reducing police expenditures.

Here in New York, Police Commissioner Dermot Shea said that he is doing away with the 600 undercover

police officers, and that the men and women of those units will be re-assigned. Asked how they would be utilized going forward, the commissioner said they would be used for drug interdiction and surveillance. That's interesting, because that was what plain-clothes cops were mostly used for in the past.

Back to the Israel situation, who out there in the Arab world or in the U.S. Congress genuinely believes that these areas of Judea and Samaria are a place in which Israel is only located temporarily? So annexation or the extension of Israeli law in these areas is really nothing more than a manifestation of a reality that has already existed for many decades. This is a classic case of what is involved in articulating a reality that everyone already knows exists and that nothing can possibly change.

So in effect, saying or explaining something can do more damage in this case, where this very reality already exists on the ground.

*Pirkei Avos*, which we study each Shabbos over the summer, directly states: "Do a great deal but say as little as possible." That might be the best advice in the current U.S. police crisis and in the brewing issue of the Netanyahu commitment to finally do the right thing and extend Israeli law to the territories. ■

Read more of Larry Gordon's articles at 5TJT.com. Follow 5TJT.com on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for updates and live videos. Comments, questions, and suggestions are welcome at 5TJT.com and on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

# EMPOWERING THE INDIVIDUAL

BY RABBI PESACH SCHMERLING  
Chabad of Far Rockaway

This Thursday, the 3rd of Tamuz, marks the 26th *yahrzeit* of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, *zt'l*, yet he continues to impact world Jewry and the world at large.

"The righteous are greater in death than during their lifetime," say our Sages (*Chulin* 7b). Over the last 22 years, many volumes of Torah and correspondence of the Rebbe were published for the first time, and more manuscripts and letters continue to be discovered and are being prepared for publication. Hundreds of *shluchim* have moved to cities and countries all over the world. Hundreds of new institutions around the globe have been established.

This isn't only an outgrowth of the Rebbe's devotion and work in his lifetime on earth; rather, this reflects the teaching of the Talmud (*Sotah* 13b) that Moshe *Rabbeinu* continues to serve on high on behalf of his people as he did during his lifetime on earth. As this is true about Moshe himself, so it is in regard to the "offshoot of Moshe in every generation" (*Tikkunei Zohar*, *tikkun* 69; see also *Bereishis Rabbah* 56:9: "There is no generation that does not possess one who is like Moshe." See also *Tanya* ch. 42).

While the above is certainly true, there is also a tangible explanation for this phenomenon, namely that thousands continue to be inspired daily by

the Rebbe, by learning his Torah, reading his letters, watching videos, and listening to audio of his talks, as well as through his students, *shluchim*, and *chassidim* in general. The Rebbe's example of unconditional love for every Jew, wherever he might be, physically or spiritually, is reflected in every Jew who has been touched by the Rebbe one way or another.

Our sages teach us (*Taanis* 5b) about Yaakov that "since his children are alive, he is alive." Students are considered children (*Sifri Devarim* 34), and through the children the father, the Rebbe, is alive and continues to inspire thousands to ascend in the path towards Hashem, learning Torah and fulfilling *mitzvos*, making the world into a dwelling place for Hashem.

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks described the Rebbe as follows: "A good leader creates followers; a great leader creates leaders."

One of the most amazing accomplishments of the Rebbe was to elevate the value of each unique individual. The Rebbe empowered each person who interacted with him to appreciate the potential that they have within themselves to impact the world. Regardless if it was a distinguished world leader or a simple young child who came to the Rebbe, the Rebbe ensured that their meeting should have a positive impact on an-

other individual or group of people. The message the Rebbe gave each one was that they mattered in the greater cosmic scheme of the world. Every individual has the power and the ability to make an impact and change the world to become a better place.

We look around the world today and see much negativity and sorrow, yet we see young yeshiva boys and high-school girls born after the Rebbe's passing still committed with an energy and passion to spreading the Rebbe's message to the world with loving goodness and kindness. They get their energy and devotion from the Rebbe imbuing each person with the feeling of "my one act can change the world," as the truth and power of this message resonates strongly with them. They are therefore also considered the Rebbe's students, his children, through whom the Rebbe lives on.

The Rebbe's lesson was given not only to Lubavitchers; it is applicable to anyone. We are encouraged to take this lesson to heart and realize that in this world a little light can dispel much darkness and bring the light of the *geulah*. We must realize that it doesn't require a world leader or a big activist; rather, each of us possesses that spark and our actions matter. We must reach out to another and spread the Rebbe's message of *ahavas Yisrael* and the importance of every single *mitzvah* performed. When we realize the unique potential that we have, of each of us being a leader in our own right, we will change the world to be a better place, uniting us all, hastening the ultimate unity in the coming of Mashiach, may it be speedily in our days! ■

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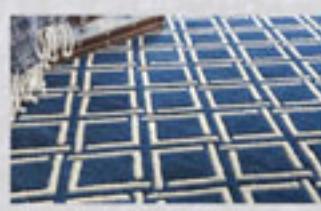
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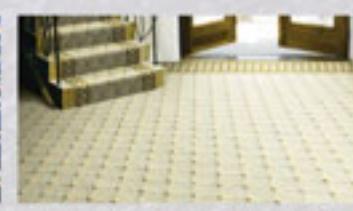
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# MINDBIZ

By Esther Mann



**Dear Esther,**

My sister Freeda has always been high maintenance. As far back as I can remember, enough was never enough for her. We are three years apart and couldn't be more different from one another. As Freeda

is the youngest member of our family, I do believe my parents and even my siblings played in to her neediness or maybe they were part of the reason she became that way.

Anyway, when Freeda got married four years ago, we

were all thrilled. She had dated various men for a long time but no one was ever good enough. When she started dating Ephie, she actually gave him a chance. Ephie seemed like a very nice guy who doted on her constantly, and, most important, he was very easygoing—nothing seemed to bother him or be a big deal for him. All their decisions were based on what Freeda wanted; he didn't seem to care at all about getting his way. We were all thrilled for Freeda that she met the perfect man for herself, and, honestly, we were relieved that someone else would assume the burden of her constant demands.

When Freeda told us that she and Ephie were getting divorced, we were devastated in many ways, though not entirely shocked. We've heard her version of what went wrong but don't totally believe her reasons. We saw how she treated Ephie and how his needs were never addressed. My guess is that Ephie finally couldn't take it anymore. Ephie has never badmouthed her and so we don't know anything for sure, but it would make a lot of sense that Ephie couldn't put up with her selfishness, neediness, and bossiness

anymore.

My problem is that Freeda has told us she is planning to move with her two-year-old daughter to my neighborhood. Though my parents live in Brooklyn and my other siblings don't live that far away, I'm the only one who lives here in the Five Towns. My parents have already told me that they expect me to be there for Freeda and her daughter, even though they have to know what a huge burden that will be on me. In a certain way, they have always cared more about Freeda than the rest of us, and now that Freeda's a single mom, my mother is constantly telling me what I will have to do when Freeda moves in. My mother expects me to invite her every Shabbos for meals, introduce her to all my friends and include her in all of our get-togethers, check in with her if I'm going shopping to see if she needs anything, etc. And most of all, I'm to keep my eyes open for eligible young men to set her up with.

I want to be a good daughter (much more so than to be a good sister, since with Freeda it's impossible to ever be good enough). I know my parents are worried about her and see me as her savior. However, I have a husband who

also has his own needs and requirements, two children of my own, and a fine life that I've built that I don't want to sacrifice. That's how I see my life becoming when Freeda moves in—a total sacrifice. I've hinted to my parents that I will be nice to Freeda but that I can't turn my life upside-down for her. My parents don't want to hear anything negative from me and are in complete denial about how things will play out. They have huge expectations about how things should be, and I'm frightened that I'm about to step into a major storm once Freeda moves here in three months. By the way, my husband has never been Freeda's fan; he sees her as selfish and has a hard time being around her.

What am I to do? I know I will inevitably be letting people down, but I just don't know what I am required to do and when I have to just say no and accept the consequences.

**Divided**

**Dear Divided,**

From the way you describe Freeda's personality, it sounds as though she is the type of high-maintenance individual who can never be fully satisfied. Some people are like bottomless pits. They

## Esther Mann, L.C.S.W.

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never get filled up. You can try, and maybe even make a small impact, but ultimately one insufficient move and all bets are off.

I'm guessing your parents think highly of you and believe that you can save the day. Or at least they desperately want to believe that under your

promise those relationships, maybe that's not something you're able to do.

Finally, have an honest talk with your parents. Deep down, they know the real deal. Give them a heads-up regarding what they can and cannot expect from you so that you can hopefully avoid constant clashes over this and

truth that it's not OK to sacrifice one life for another.

Unless Freeda suddenly had an epiphany and has changed her ways, this will be a challenging time in your life. From day one, it's important that you have a solid plan and that you stick to it and not allow your parents or Freeda to guilt you into losing perspective and going down a road you will quickly regret traveling. Thinking optimistically, maybe Freeda will find a happier life out here for herself. This is a wonderful community! You can suggest that she join the Kadima group at the JCC, which offers excellent emotional and concrete support for divorced women. Let's hope she begins to figure things out for herself and emerges emotionally stronger and happier from her challenges. In the interim, you can continue to feel safe and in control.

*Esther*

*Esther Mann, LCSW, is a psychotherapist in Hewlett. Esther works with individuals, couples, and families. Esther is presently offering phone sessions. She can be reached at [mindbiz44@aol.com](mailto:mindbiz44@aol.com) or 516-314-2295. Read more of Esther Mann's articles at [5TJT.com](http://5TJT.com).*

## They will have to swallow the hard truth that it's not OK to sacrifice one life for another.

influence, Freeda will change her ways and find a happier life. That's a tremendous responsibility that they are putting on you, and, honestly, they are asking you to forfeit much of your present life in the hope that a miracle will happen. Like all parents, they want the best for Freeda and are worried about where she goes from here. Parents never stop hoping and dreaming for a miracle, because it is painful for parents to watch their children act badly, make bad choices, and fail to thrive. It seems that your parents see you as a success story and don't spend much time or energy worrying about you. They probably believe that no matter what, you'll be fine. You are realistic enough to recognize the potential danger that lies ahead of you.

It sounds as though the time for suggesting a different place for Freeda to live is long gone. The possible tsunami is on its way and you're in its path. Now you're wondering how to protect yourself. I'm thinking that you feel a certain level of love and concern that will keep you involved with Freeda to some degree, but the question is to what extent. What are you prepared to do for her, and what do you feel is too much and might threaten the harmony you've created within your own family?

My first suggestion is that you sit down with your husband and discuss boundaries that work for both of you. No doubt it will be a negotiation, but at the end of the day, your husband's happiness must come first. For example, perhaps he never wants to see Freeda ever, while you feel comfortable having her for Shabbos every other weekend. So maybe you'll have to settle on inviting her once a month. Whatever compromise both you and your husband feel that you can manage must be honored.

Next, think about yourself. You're allowed to consider your own needs. In what ways can you be helpful to Freeda that will not impact you too negatively but still help her manage as a newly single mother? Helping her out with errands or suggesting that she drop off her daughter once a week so that she has more free time might be something that won't cause you any heartache. But if you feel that including her with your friends would com-

that. They probably won't be happy to learn that you are not planning on making Freeda the center of your life right now, because it's easier for them to dream of happy endings. Eventually, they will have to swallow the hard

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# DATING FORUM

By Baila Sebrow



## Question

I met this cool gal on one of those Facebook groups for singles. I commented on something in a thread, she responded, and before we knew it, we had hit it off. We continued talking on the phone, texting, and FaceTiming for weeks. As COVID-19 became less of an issue, we made plans to meet in person, and we were so excited that we couldn't wait. We literally counted the days and hours until we would finally meet in person.

I never checked her out officially, because we have so many mutual friends (off Facebook) and I heard great things about her. She is not some random woman. Plus, we have so much in common, shared goals, etc. But a few days ago I happened to mention her name to a colleague whom I trust with my life, and he told me to stay away from her. I asked him if he knows her and he said no, but he heard bad things about her from somebody he is close to.

I never felt so connected to anyone else before and I don't want to miss out on a good try. What if she is "the one"? I have been burned before, and I can't take the chance of going through the messes I had with other women.

On the other hand, I am scared to miss out on the opportunity that maybe she is my *shidduch*. What if the thing my colleague was talking about is just a misunderstanding or somebody making trouble? What is your opinion?

## Response

Your dilemma is not uncommon. Before I advise you on how to deal with your specific circumstances, I need to address your fears. Contrary to what many people have been led to believe, no human being in this world has the power to permanently ruin a *shidduch*. Hashem is the only one Who is *mezaveg zevugim*. If it appears that a *shidduch* was ruined due to *lashon ha'ra* and *rechilus* being spoken for malicious reasons, and a decision to end it was made because the person listening accepted it as fact, it is important to have faith that it was Hashem in action. It is He who allows a *shidduch* to slip away or to happen—even against all odds.

Why a *shidduch* that seemed right on the outset sometimes does not come to fruition can be baffling. There are times when people do not understand why the couple that could have been perfect together never came to

be. Sometimes it is Hashem's gift to prevent future unhappiness for either party. Other times, there is no rhyme or reason that we know of. Based on what I have seen and been privy to in my *shadchanus*, I am convinced that Hashem always plays the major role in the ultimate outcome.

Reading this you might think, "So, why do I need to even bother dating and making decisions if Hashem has the last say?" For the same reason that a person seeks professional help when sick or looks for a job—one must make some endeavor to attain

cal supermarket. You made it a point to state that this woman was not random, which means she was not a fictitious character catfishing, nor was she somebody whose roots cannot be traced. She is real and it sounds like you did your homework in finding out enough about her to allow yourself to be drawn into the type of relationship where you cannot wait to meet one another in person. So, what went so wrong that you are contemplating throwing away the possibility of meeting the woman who might turn out to be your *bashert*?

## Relationships can only thrive when there is honesty.

his goal. However, it is also important to never lose sight of the fact that at the end of the day, if Hashem wills it that the person gets cured, finds a job, or gets married to "the one" he or she truly wants, it will happen. Your mission right now is to deal with the challenge that was dropped on you.

You have been enjoying a relationship where you both felt compatibility. It does not matter whether your initial meeting was the result of a spontaneous Facebook comment, *shadchan's* introduction, or waiting in line to pay for groceries at your lo-

The person you "trust with your life" and spoke to is not the person who had an issue with her. Rather, this gentleman's information is based on third or fourth parties. How do you know if what he heard about her is true? Or even if it is, perhaps it might not be something that would bother you as much as it would another person. People have different tolerance levels, and what may seem serious to one is trivial to another. That is sometimes why a *shidduch* everyone else declined is acceptable to another. Allowing this relationship to go away

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without delving deeper is inadvisable.

Not to take away from your tight spot, but I am also concerned about the impact this disparagement can have on the woman in the long run. There is not a person alive who does not have enemies. However, a person can create enemies by his own misdeeds, or because he is misunderstood. There are even situations where a person can do everything right, go above and beyond to be kind, and the people who are backstabbing are enemies disguised as friends, which is mainly brought on by jealousy.

As a *shadchan*, sadly, I have seen the worst things people have done to try to ruin the happiness of another. I've seen singles who have been so disparaged by individuals who were assumed to be friends that they had to use incredible willpower not to lose faith in humanity. I will share with you that when COVID-19 was at its peak, and people were dying by the hundreds each day, there were those who became frightened about their own mortality and began contacting others to ask *mechilah* for anything they might have done to slight them in any

way, specifically in matters of *shidduchim*. Moreover, they reached out to various parties to intervene so that they will be forgiven.

It was beautiful to witness the turnaround of behaviors, and especially the *chesed* (including helping to make *shidduchim*) that people did for one another during those days. The amount of *tefilos* that poured out from all over and the *shemiras ha'lashon* that was observed reinstated my belief that at least where *shidduchim* are concerned, people would do right by others. As time went on and this pandemic seemed to slow its progression, *baruch Hashem*, unfortunately, some people went back to their old ways.

Here is what you need to do. Go back to your colleague and demand to know in factual detail what exactly this woman is being accused of. If he refuses to share any more information with you, or if he does not wish to reveal the source so that you can interrogate that person, then you need to question the validity of any claims. When a person has done something bad or is involved in questionable activities, there should be indisputable proof to support the rumors, or else it is hearsay. Since we are dealing

with a lifetime decision, even gossip needs to be investigated to ascertain its accuracy. I hope you will do your due diligence to uncover the truth in order to decide whether this is something you can accept.

The other tip I will offer you is based on the viewpoint that relationships can only thrive when there is honesty. Do not hold back from the woman the information you have been given, even if you are certain that it is true. While something might be true or partially true, there may be an explanation that can potentially alter the effect.

Be upfront with this woman. Tell her exactly what you heard and listen to her reaction. It might not come as any surprise to her. It is possible that she had an issue with someone, and she is aware that this is the person's payback. Hear what she has to say before you make any decisions. More importantly—and this is what I urge singles grappling with similar circumstances—investigate how the woman in question has lived her life. You do not give any inkling about her age, so, for example, if she is 30 years old, how has she lived her life for the past 10 years? If she is 40, then scrupu-

tinize the last 20 years of her life, and so on and so forth. That is how you find out the truth about anybody. Additionally, speak to people who know her for a long time and have seen her through various stages in her life. Ask the right questions to identify patterns of behavior. Patterns in one's life always return, and what you see with a clear lens is what you can expect to get. May you be guided with clarity and self-awareness to make the right choice. ■

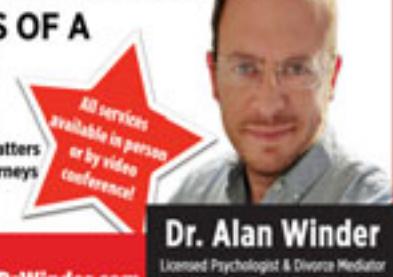
*Baila Sebrow* is president of Neshoma Advocates, communications and recruitment liaison for Sovri-Beth Israel, executive director of Teach Our Children, and a shadchanis and shidduch consultant. She can be reached at *Bsebrow@aol.com*. Questions and comments for the Dating Forum can be submitted to *5townsforum@gmail.com*. Read more of Baila Sebrow's articles at *5TJT.com*.

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# SERENITY NOW

By Dr. Deborah Rothman



# SUGAR RUSH

I drove 12+ hours to visit my kids in Chicago for the weekend. They finally felt comfortable enough to allow us to visit. I was ecstatic to be able to spend time with my children and grandchildren after such a long COVID-related hiatus. I still miss my children in Israel terribly, and it may be some time until we can see each other. In the interim, FaceTime will have to suffice. These are the new times and what we have to deal with. While it was truly an incredible weekend, it's never enough. I know I'm blessed, and grateful as a result, but I wish I could see them every day.

In the office, I consider myself somewhat of a techie. Over the years, I've worked continuously to ensure that we are operating on advanced systems. All appointments are through our high-tech online scheduling system. It enables us to easily view our schedule and modify when necessary, while also allowing patients the freedom to book their own appointments via our website. It has an automated text and e-mail

reminder for all appointments. Additionally, we work off advanced EHR (electronic health records), which are HIPAA compliant. Our system allows us to upload bloodwork, MRI reports, etc., that can be viewed easily within the patient's virtual folder, which allows me to flip back to previous treatments just by clicking so I can see the progress.

Over the years, I have come to the realization that if I am advanced and organized with my day-to-day systems, it allows me more freedom to focus on patient care. That is a priority to me, and I am confident my patients appreciate it.

This weekend was quite the contrary. I felt like I was enacting the expression, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks!" It was as if I had stepped forward into the future, into the Jetsons' world, as my generation would resonate with. My kids and their millennial generation love their gadgets! They look for every shortcut and technological advancement to make things faster, easier, and more fun.

My daughter talks to Alexa. She asks Alexa to play her music and take care of various minor tasks. After Shabbos ended, my daughter set her Roomba vacuum cleaner to work. I couldn't get over how it did a better job weaving in and out of the dining-room chair legs than I would have done sweeping.

Since we had eaten healthy food over Shabbos, we decided to indulge a little and order pizza. It's been a long time since I ate pizza and, to be quite frank, it wasn't that great. The famous Chicago pizza was a disap-

Ben & Jerry's. If you are having fun you might as well go all out! I simply did not believe such a timely delivery was even in the realm of possibility, so we proceeded to line up three different cellphones. One was monitoring the processing and packing of the order, as well as when it was en route to us. A second phone had been set up as a timer and started as soon as we placed the order. A third phone was zoomed into the camera on the Ring doorbell so we could see if anyone pulled up in front of the house, even before he rang the bell. Did I

## When it comes to your mental and physical well-being, be prepared to stay the course.

ointment. My daughter and son-in-law then started talking about how they were in the mood for Ben & Jerry's ice cream. Mind you, it was pouring rain and I couldn't imagine anyone heading out. They said, "Watch this. We'll just order on this app. It will be here in less than 15 minutes."

This was news to me, as even Amazon Prime isn't that fast! So of course, we challenged them. I just had to see this. We opened up the app and proceeded to order three pints of

mention that it was literally pouring rain during this time, which should have slowed things down? We had so much fun laughing and betting on when they would arrive. Believe it or not, our yummy frozen ice cream was delivered in 12 minutes. That's correct—12 minutes. It would have taken longer for me to find an umbrella, drive to the closest store open so late at night, and buy it myself!

*Continued on Page 38*

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During those 12 minutes we Googled the company. We were able to find out that the goPuff delivery service was created by two college students seven years ago and now earns over a billion dollars. I was so tempted to order various items just to see if they would come that fast again! However, it was now after 11:00 p.m., and I was in the middle of a major sugar rush. After all, I had just consumed loads of peanut butter, brownies, cookie dough, and whatever else is included in those heavenly pints. I figured I had enough and should turn in for the night.

The sugar rush got me thinking about how fast-paced our lives are and how automated everything is. Almost anything can be had for a fee, and with great speed. We have become impatient as a result. We expect answers and solutions at the snap of a finger, similar to a young child throwing a temper tantrum who wants what he wants, and wants it now!

Saturday night was definitely some of the most fun I have had lately, especially considering quarantine, being sick from COVID-19, reopening a practice... But this led me to look at how this contradicted everything I believe in so strongly and exercise in my practice every day.

Chinese medicine has been around for over 4,000 years because it works! Acupuncture builds on itself, and

thus consistent treatment is needed when beginning treatment on a new patient. It is nice when a patient has almost immediate improvement. However, the norm is that with a series of treatments, the individual will have long-lasting improvement. We all crave instant gratification; however, when dealing with the mystery of our mind-body connection, as well as both treating and preventing illness, the body is often a conundrum. It has many layers that must be understood and peeled away in order to get to the root of the disease. It is definitely not something that can be ordered on an app and guaranteed for delivery in less than 15 minutes!

My personal lesson over this weekend was pretty black-and-white. Have fun with the digital age when it's for the ease of obtaining material things. When it comes to your mental and physical well-being, however, be prepared to stay the course. The true magic happens in providing long-lasting results. Enjoy the climb on your wellness journey; you will reap the benefits. The head rush of achieving wellness will last a lot longer than a yummy but short sugar rush! ■

*Dr. Deborah Rothman is a doctor of acupuncture and Chinese medicine, as well as a Diplomate of Acupuncture. She is in private practice and runs a wellness center in Lawrence, offering a complete solution for all your health and wellness needs. Comments and questions are welcome. She can be reached at 516-203-4500 or Deborah@AcuZen.com. Please visit AcuZen.com and follow AcuZen Wellness Center on Facebook and Instagram.*

## A CLEVER TITLE GOES HERE

By Mordechai Schmutter



## ZOOMING AROUND TOWN

Welcome back to "How Should I Know?"—the advice column that is perfect for these uncertain times, as it itself is never really certain.

**Dear Mordechai,**

Is there a good system for getting in and out of stores these days, as far as not touching anything that's not yours *without* gloves and not touching anything that *is* yours *with* gloves?

**R.S.**

**Dear R.,**

No, there is not. Though I am slowly figuring out a system. The first time I went shopping, I burned through three pairs of gloves. I'm learning, but by the time I have a system that works, this thing will be over, *iy H*. A large part of this system involves standing outside my car when I get to a store and making sure everything is exactly where I need it to be:

- When I get out of the car, I take out the credit card I'm going to use and I put it in my shirt pocket. It's easy enough to *kasher* one credit card when I get home.

- I write out a shopping list on a piece of paper that I toss as soon as I get

out of the store. That goes in my shirt pocket, too.

- Anything that normally lives in my shirt pocket gets transferred to my back pockets, because it's not like I'm sitting down in the store.

- My car keys go in my pants pocket with the key fob in a position that makes it possible for me to push the button through my pants, which I rarely put near my face.

- I try not to think about what women do without pockets. When my wife goes shopping these days, she carries around a cloth bag that is by now steeped in bathroom cleanser.

- The only things of mine I touch with gloves once I'm in the store are my shopping list, of course, and my one credit card, which I touch once I'm at the checkout. Which is also when I generally realize that I left my supermarket card in my pants pocket below my keys in a rubber band with 25 other cards.

- As far as my phone, I don't call my wife from the store anymore. I don't love *kashering* my phone, and I'm not

*Continued on Page 40*

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dialing the number in gloves and then holding it to the side of my face. Which I also don't *kasher*. I refuse to get any more hand sanitizer in my eyes. So the official policy is that I get what I can, and if I forget something, I tell her they were out. *Shortages*.

- Lying for *shalom bayis* is a gray area. But I can't call my *rav* from the store either.

- And anyway, getting the exact item matters less when there's no way we're having company.

- After I put my groceries in the car, I take off my gloves. Then I wonder how I'm going to get the groceries *out* of the car when I get home without my gloves. Or open the front door of my house *with* gloves.

- When I get home, I honk the horn, and my kids run out in gloves and bring the groceries in. They will do this especially if they're in the middle of class. They might even bring their class with them.

- At that point, I try to *kasher* the

bag handles, so we can put the bags away for a later use, and then say, "Forget it. Even the laws of *kashrus* don't go this far."

- Alternatively, you can go the other way and put all your groceries in quarantine for 14 days after you buy them, if

**Dear Y.,**

I think there are some, actually. Though I hope for their sake they actually thought things through. Eight weeks is a long time in Zoom World. Sports will be difficult. As will swimming. I'm picturing a lot of counselor

ball, *halachah* soccer, and *Mussar* volleyball. But what about the afternoons?

I'm also picturing a lot of arts-and-crafts instruction using items you have around the house. Empty toilet paper rolls, mostly. Like maybe a speaker for their phone!

They could still have Color War, to an extent. Mostly just the Color War *chants*, with your kids yelling into the phone as loud as they can. ("I can't heeeeeeeeeear yooooouuuuuuuu!" "Well, turn the volume up on your phone!" "Oh, that's better. Thank you, whoever said that!") They can even pretend this was all one big Color War breakout.

They can also do races, on the honor system.

There can also be a treasure hunt where someone from the staff sneaks into each camper's backyard in the middle of the night and hides something. Or buries something.

And of course they don't have to leave out the part of the summer where they ask for tips.

**Dear Mordechai,**

Is there any way I can actually have people come to my daughter's wedding? Her Zoom *L'Chaim* was very nice for the guests, but to the people at the *vort* it was like lugging all the guests around in a pet carrier.

**J.W.**

**Dear J.,**

Actually, there are other options. Just a couple of weeks ago, I went to something called a "Drive-by *L'Chaim*," which, frankly, sounds dangerous. Basically, the two families stand outside the *kallah*'s parents' house, and cars drive by containing people they know, and also strangers wondering what the hold-up is. The *ba'alei simcha*, in masks and gloves, toss a *pekelah* into each car. Drive-by *L'Chaims*!

(This is also how I pick up school materials these days.)

There were a lot of details to work out beforehand:

- How many of the traditional *vort* things do you do? Do the *chassan* and *kallah* drive up late?

- Is there dancing? Do a bunch of cars drive in a circle very slowly, with the *chassan*'s car and the *kallah*'s father's car in middle—bumpers locked, going around?

That said, I say that *every L'Chaim* should be a drive-by *L'Chaim*. For one, it would get rid of the discussion of what to wear. It's also easier in that you don't have to play that game that people play at *vorts* called, "Which one is her *chassan*? Is that the *chassan*? Is that the *chassan*?"

No, the *chassan* is the one guy in the middle of the road who's under 40.

I think we should bring this entire concept to weddings. Can you have a drive-by *chasunah*? There's a whole *chuppah* people need to be there for. You can have a drive-in *chasunah* in a parking lot, where everyone's in a car, sealed off, in rows, and the *kallah*'s parents drive her down the aisle to a stage, either in one car or in three, holding candles, and the *kallah*'s car gets a sun shield in the front window, of course. Then the *kallah* drives around the *chassan* seven times, and if she doesn't run

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Continued on Page 42

# השלימו את טופס מפקד האוכלוסין 2020 עד היום.

מפקד האוכלוסין 2020 סופר את כל מי שמתגורר בארה"ב. השלימו את טופס מפקד האוכלוסין עד היום כדי לעזור לנו להבין איך כדי להוצאות מיליאדי דולרים לצורכי מימון מרפאות, שירות חירום ושירותי חינוך מדי שנה במהלך עשר השנים הבאות. השלימו את טופס מפקד האוכלוסין באינטרנט או באמצעות שליחה בדואר. כדי ללמידה כיצד, בקרו באתר: [he/2020census.gov](http://he/2020census.gov)

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ממומן על ידי לשכת מפקד האוכלוסין של ארה"ב.

him over or get into an accident, they get married.

Though I just know that if I go to one of these, I'm going to end up sitting behind a 15-passenger van.

And of course before that there's the backwards dancing ... and a *badeken* ... and then the *chassan* backs his car over a glass ... Instead of clapping while dancing, I guess everyone could keep honking their horn.

I think this is a great way to bring weddings back. We can have the *seudah* at a drive-thru, where all the cars line up and they give you food through a window. First you pull up, and they ask, "Chicken or fish?" and you pull around...

No alcohol would be served, of course, but it *would* be nice if there was a bar that served different types of fuel, if we're all going to have our cars running for four hours.

I don't really see any problem with this. Except that wedding photos will be ridiculous.

#### **Dear Mordechai,**

My teenagers are looking for a summer job this year. Any suggestions? They're driving me crazy all day, and I need to work. Some of us have jobs.

**Y.J.**

#### **Dear Y.,**

I guess they can ask the Zoom camps if they're hiring. Other than that, though, teenagers likely don't have many opportunities for a summer job, unless they're in the medical profes-

sion. No one's looking to telecommute a teenager.

My teenagers are asking me that right now: "How are we gonna make money?" And I'm like, "OK, this is what adults have been worried about for like four months now. Welcome to the world. You were all, 'Yay! We get to stay home and have classes in bed!' Now you're all, 'But what are we gonna do for money?'"

Teenagers: They eventually get there.

Though I suppose everyone who has older kids and younger kids can just kill all their birds with one stone by paying the older kids to be counselors for the younger kids. Basically, take your entire camp budget and give it to your teenagers and say, "I don't want to see anyone from 9–4 every day." Literally everyone wins. Teenagers can get creative. Last week, my older kids occupied themselves by trying to get my youngest to climb onto the roof of the garage. Then they spent like an hour trying to coax him back down.

Point is, there's no reason you can't send your kids out to the privacy of your own backyard. Unless you're worried about murder hornets.

*Have a question for the "How Should I Know" column? I can't actually take it from you. Give it to the teenager I hired to follow me around. ■*

*Mordechai Schmutter is a weekly humor columnist for Hamodia and is the author of seven 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. Read more of Mordechai Schmutter's articles at 5TJT.com.*

## THAT'S THE WAY IT IS

By Hannah Berman



## IT'S A PHASE

**I**t was not so long ago that the word *phase* had an entirely different meaning than it does today. Often, boys and girls of all ages go through what we call a phase. If consulted, even professionals acknowledge that kids do go through phases.

When parents would note that their obedient child was no longer obeying, they figured it was just a phase. If an easygoing kid suddenly became rebellious, that, too, was considered a phase that would pass. And if a formerly good student did an abrupt about-face by no longer doing homework or paying attention in class, causing his grades to slip, as concerning as this was, it was hoped that this was just a phase. When a modestly dressed girl became a teenager and suddenly began to wear her skirts too short or to use a heavy hand with her makeup, or when a well-groomed boy suddenly let his hair grow to an unacceptable length, some parents thought of it as a phase and waited for it to pass. That's what was meant by "a phase" way back when, and parents were advised not to make waves; rather, it was best to pick their battles and just

let these things slide for a while. When no amount of reasoning got through to the offender, unhappy parents just waited and hoped for the behavior to pass.

All of that is ancient history. Today, when we hear the word *phase*, we know it relates to something entirely different. Every news announcer and on-site reporter lets viewers know what phase they are in. It is possibly the most oft-used word in the English language right now. In some cases, an entire state is in a specific phase. That is not so here in New York. Here, there are some areas that are in "phase one" while others are in "phase two," and some lucky folks are just about to enter "phase three." However, in the opinion of some, those who are about to enter into "phase three" may not be so lucky after all.

It is a strange new world that we live in, where confusion reigns supreme! There are over three hundred million people in this country and they seem to be evenly divided. It appears that half the population is listening to what health professionals are saying. These are the folks who practice social dis-

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New Yorkers working together and staying home can slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in New York City. When you go out for essential needs, work or to get fresh air, keep distance between yourself and others and take the following precautions.



#### PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS

- Keep at least 6 feet between yourself and others.
- Wash your hands with soap and water often.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or sleeve when sneezing or coughing.
- Do not touch your face with unwashed hands.
- Monitor your health more closely than usual for cold or flu symptoms.



#### IF YOU ARE SICK

- Stay home.
- If you have a cough, shortness of breath, fever, sore throat and do not feel better after 3-4 days, consult with your doctor.
- If you need help getting medical care, call 311.
- NYC will provide care regardless of immigration status or ability to pay.



#### PROTECT THE MOST VULNERABLE

- Stay home if you have lung disease, heart disease, diabetes, cancer or a weakened immune system.
- Stay home and call, video chat or text with family or friends who have one of these conditions.



#### REDUCE OVERCROWDING

- Stay home.
- Telecommute if possible.
- If you do go out:
  - Stagger work hours away from peak travel times.
  - Walk or bike.
  - Do not gather in crowds.

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tancing, wear face masks and gloves, and wash their hands for 20 seconds every time they return home. The other half of the population does none of that. They gather in large groups, standing shoulder to shoulder, and don't bother with masks or gloves. There's no way to know if they do the 20-second hand washing routine, but it's a good bet that they do not.

The most recent news, delivered by the doctors who routinely appear on television, is that a great many health professionals feel that people are not likely to get COVID-19 from surfaces but are far more likely to get it from being too close to others and not wearing a mask. There are, however, some people, with zero medical training, who seem to believe that they are the experts. Behavior, with regard to the coronavirus, is all over the map. There are those who say that wearing a mask is enough, and others who feel that social distancing is all that is necessary. The more cautious souls feel that both should be adhered to, but some think that a good hand washing will keep them safe.

It's hard to know who to believe and what to do. What is obvious is that everyone is doing his or her own thing. Many thousands of protesters filled the streets of NYC. Some stood still and others marched, but none of our elected officials said much about it or made an attempt to stop it. In fact, the brilliant mayor joined the protest. The right to peaceably assemble is a First Amendment right and nobody can argue with that. But Dr. Fauci and the CDC warned that mass gatherings were risky. As of this writing, the Trump rally took place last evening and approximately one-third of the seats were empty. Today, the claim is that hundreds of teens made bogus reservations, thereby preventing people who wanted to attend from doing so. However, it is possible that the turnout was less than expected for another reason—maybe some people felt it was an unsafe space.

Right now, I wouldn't think of heading into an area, whether enclosed or outdoors, with a large group of people. It's a pity that this isn't a horse race, since, on a personal note, I hit the trifecta: I'm a Nervous Nellie-type, a devout coward, and obsessed with safety procedures. Since mid-March I have yet to go into a store. I order all my food online but, because I had a harder time placing online pharmacy orders, I did make an attempt last week to go into a local drugstore, hoping that the store would be empty. But when I pulled into the parking lot and saw five cars there, I stayed put. After some calculation about how many customers were inside, and adding that to the number of store workers that were in there, I made my decision. I hightailed it back home and continued my self-imposed lockdown.

If I continue to have trouble ordering online, I'll ask someone who I know goes in there to pick up the items I need. People don't like having to rely on others to shop for them, but, for some of us, right now that's just the way it is! ■

Hannah Berman lives in Woodmere and gives private small-group lessons in mah-jongg and canasta. She can be reached at Savtahannah@aol.com or 516-295-4435. Read more of Hannah Berman's articles on 5TJT.com.

## 5 TOWNS FOODIES

# TURMERIC EQUALS SALES GOLD AS CONSUMER DEMAND GROWS

**T**he golden spice that's taking the natural-foods sector by storm is now available in convenient, fresh-to-frozen cubes from Dorot Gardens, the leader in pre-portioned frozen herbs, garlic, and onions. Frozen Crushed Turmeric is field-fresh and flash frozen at the source to capture the warm, sweet-spicy taste of turmeric, an ancient food long hailed for its health benefits.

Turmeric is the number-one selling herbal ingredient in the natural space. And in mainstream retail, turmeric sales exceeded \$32 million in 2017, a

46.7% jump from the previous year.

*Curcuma longa*, a member of the ginger family, has been used in Ayurveda medicine for more than 4,500 years for everything from clearing up congestion and healing wounds to treating chicken pox. Today, nutrition communities tout the anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties of turmeric that link it to heart and joint health, boosted immunity, improved brain function, cancer prevention, and much more.

Turmeric is also revered in culinary circles for bringing earthy flavor and



Turmeric—this trending superfood is now available in frozen form from Dorot Gardens

brilliant color to cuisines all over the world. Home cooks are discovering ways to give meat and poultry dishes, grains, pasta, and even smoothies, hot cereal, and cocktails a boost with turmeric.

Dorot Gardens makes cooking with this exotic root effortless. There's no need to peel, chop, and measure. Just pop out pre-measured cubes (1 cube = 1 tsp.) of frozen crushed turmeric as desired. No waste, no mess—only fresh-tasting turmeric goodness that's available whenever you need it.

*Continued on Page 44*


  
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Like all Dorot Gardens all-natural frozen seasoning products, Frozen Crushed Turmeric contains no preservatives or artificial ingredients. It is vegan, gluten-free, and free of dairy, soy, or nuts. It is also non-GMO, OU-certified kosher, and halal.

Frozen crushed turmeric is the latest addition to the Dorot Gardens popular line of all-natural frozen seasoning products. It is sold in 2.5 oz. packages of 16 cubes (MSRP: \$2.99). Find it in the freezer section at Stew Leonard's and Best Market. Dorot Gardens products are distributed by Kayco.

Kayco is one of the largest manufacturers and suppliers of kosher foods. Its expanded Kayco Beyond division sources and distributes new products to the general market beyond kosher, to meet the demands of consumers looking for optional products that are healthful, convenient, and/or for restricted diets and lifestyles. These brands include Dorot, Absolutely Gluten Free, Beetology, Mighty Sesame, Tuscanini Foods, Wissotzky Tea Co., and new Wonder Melon™. Kayco is headquartered in Bayonne, NJ. ([KAYCO.com](http://KAYCO.com)) ■

## 5 TOWNS FOODIES

### ROYAL WINE CORP. RELEASES BARTENURA MOSCATO...IN CANS

**J**ust in time for the summer season, New Jersey-based Royal Wine Corp. announces the release of one of its most popular Moscatos in a new format—Bartenura Moscato in new 250 mL blue cans! The new cans will come in 4-packs of 8.5 ounces or about 1.7 glasses of wine. They offer a convenient option for consumers to enjoy the best-selling Moscato when they may not want to open a full bottle, or to where glass may be an issue—at pools, beaches, or picnics.

"Aside from the convenience factor, Bartenura is the perfect summer drink—delightfully refreshing, sweet but not too sweet, slightly effervescent and with a lower alcohol content than typical wine (5% ACV versus 11%-13%)," says wine expert Gabriel Geller, director of PR and

manager of wine education at Royal Wine Corp. "We're finding more consumers want to enjoy a more mellow experience when they drink, and Bartenura's lower alcohol content provides just that." Mr. Geller adds, "We've been looking at alternate sizes and formats for alcohol packaging. We've been working very closely with the winery and packaging facility to make sure the cans maintain the signature aroma, flavor, and bubble that's made Bartenura Moscato such a success. Consumers looking for the experience and outstanding value they've come to expect from Bartenura's iconic blue bottle will not be disappointed!"

Bartenura was one of the first premium Moscatos available in the U.S. and has seen growth every year since it was introduced in the mid-1980s.



Today it is on track to sell approximately 750,000 cases this year, making it the best-selling imported Italian Moscato in the U.S.

Bartenura cans will be rolling out nationwide, and consumers can expect to see them in stores with an SRP of \$15/4-pack.

#### About Royal Wine

The history of Royal Wine Corp. began in the early 19th

century in the town of Vrbov in Slovakia. There, the Herzog family crafted wines of royal acclaim for over 150 years, with each of six generations passing their legacy down to the next. In 1948, Eugene Herzog, the head of the Herzog family at the time, moved his family and settled in New York City, and in 1958, after working his way up, the company purchased with his four sons Royal Wine Corp.

Today, Royal Wine's portfolio of domestic and international wines range from traditional wine-producing regions of France, Italy, and Spain, as well as Israel, New Zealand, and Argentina. Additionally, Royal Wine Corp.'s spirit and liqueur portfolio offer some of the most sought-after scotches, bourbons, tequilas, and vodkas as well as hard-to-find specialty items such as flavored brandies and liqueurs. The company owns and operates the Kedem Winery in upstate New York, as well as Herzog Wine Cellars in Oxnard, California, a state-of-the-art-facility that also features the award-winning restaurant Tierra Sur, serving the finest, Mediterranean-inspired, contemporary Californian Cuisine. Visit [@RoyalWineCorp](#) and [royalwine.com](#). ■

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# SOULS ON FIRE

By Rabbi Chaim Shaul Bruk



## MUSINGS OF A SHLIACH FROM MONTANA

This week is a hard one for me. Thursday, the 3rd of Tammuz (June 25, 2020), is the Rebbe's 26th *yahrzeit*, and for the first time since 1994, the year of his passing, I will not be in New York on this day to *daven* at the *ohel* (resting place) in Cambria Heights. I know that I made the right choice not to fly during COVID-19 (it would entail four flights roundtrip and it's in New York City), but it still hurts, hurts to the core. Yes, I will be able to sit with Chavie and the children and learn about the Rebbe's life, light *yahrzeit* candles in his memory, learn *Mishnayos* for his incredible *neshamah*, and we may even have a *minyan* so I can say *Kaddish*, but it's with these mixed emotions that I enter the day that changed my life, the life of all Lubavitch, and, in certain aspects, the life of world Jewry, forever.

Yet, amid my emotional roller coaster, I am elated. I'm thrilled every day to call myself a *shliach*, a designation I don't use lightly, as I work hard to live up to the title. I'm uplifted each day as

I study the Rebbe's brilliant and pragmatic ideas infused in the hundreds of volumes of his Torah teachings. I'm inspired watching videos of the Rebbe and remembering my phenomenal childhood, the glory of growing up in his presence as he devoted so much time to us, the children of Crown Heights, and instilled within us a will to go out and change the world.

As I reflect this week, I think of all those who opposed the Rebbe's vision during his lifetime, and who now, *baruch Hashem*, are emulating his exact teachings.

Many snickered when the Rebbe campaigned that young girls should light Shabbos candles; now so many of their daughters and granddaughters are brightening their homes with Shabbos candles at a young age. Many couldn't understand the *chassidim* standing on the street corners putting on *tefilin* with men who weren't identifiably "religious"; today Belzer *chassidim* are doing *mitzvos* with "secular" men all across Israel. Many were bothered by

young Chabadniks giving out Shabbos candles to women on Friday afternoons in malls, nursing homes, and stores; today Shas and the Sefardim in Israel run major candle-distribution campaigns throughout Israel each Friday. Many of the *Mussar* movement were opposed to young people learning *Kabbalah/Chassidus*; today Aish HaTorah teachers around the world are teaching *Tanya*. Many couldn't understand the point of opening *mikvaos* and shuls in remote communities in rural America;

towns and college campuses to reach fellow *Yidden* who are living "secular" lives—and today Oorah, Ohr Somayach, OU-JLIC, and so many others are living embodiments of the Rebbe's vision for *Am Yisrael* and our bright future.

I don't write this in a bragging manner; I simply think that as the Rebbe's *yahrzeit* is commemorated, we must recall history so that we don't repeat the argumentative mistakes that led us nowhere healthy in the past. The Rebbe, of blessed memory, was a magnificent

**It was never about where we stand on the ladder of spirituality, but about whether we are heading up or down.**

today Mikvah USA has helped countless Chabad centers bring family purity to so many small communities. Many couldn't fathom being *makpid* (scrupulous) about consuming only *chalav Yisrael* dairy products in America like the "crazy" Lubavitchers; today so many *frum* Jews are, *baruch Hashem*, making the same soul-healthy choice. And of course, on the most basic issue, many couldn't understand "outreach"—leaving the comforts of our beloved *frum* communities and moving out to small

visionary who saw the *neshamah* of the Jew and never allowed the superficiality, no matter how seemingly distant they were from their Father in Heaven, come in the way of viewing their essence—"a child exiled from his father's table." Not everyone understood his vision at the time, but today, more than ever before, Jews of all flavors understand that the love and mutuality that the Rebbe gifted our generation is unparalleled in Jew-

*Continued on Page 46*

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ish history, and the Rebbe continues to give the world that gift via his living embodiments: the *shluchim* on six continents.

In the daily study of Rambam earlier this week, we learned chapter 25 of *Hilchos Sanhedrin*. The Rambam rules that “a judge may not treat them (his community) with capriciousness even though they are common people. He should not step over the heads of the holy people. Even though they are simple people and lowly, they are the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob ... He should patiently bear the difficulty of the community and their burden like Moses our teacher, as *Numbers* 11:12 states concerning him: ‘As a nursemaid will carry an infant.’ And *Deuteronomy* 1:16 states: ‘And I commanded your judges.’ This is an admonition to the judges to bear the community like a nursemaid carries an infant.”

In *Tehillim* we read “*Lamenatzeach livnei Korach mizmor*,” psalms composed by Korach’s children. It’s fascinating. In this week’s *parashah* we read about Korach’s rebellion against Moshe and Aharon’s leadership. The rebels were eventually punished for their sinfulness and swallowed up in the ground. Yet, while underground, Korach’s sons did *teshuvah*, returning to the path of Hashem, and screamed from underground: “*Moshe emes, v’soraso emes*—Moshe is true and his Torah is true.” Though they were underground, they didn’t die like their father Korach, be-

cause the cry from their heart, their sincere *teshuvah*, was accepted happily by Hashem.

The Rebbe, like Moshe, wasn’t focused on people’s past or their “record.” It was about who we are today and what we are going to do going forward. It was never about where we stand on the ladder of spirituality, but about whether we are heading up or down.

I’ve written ad nauseam about the “holy” infighting amongst Jews and the need for all of us to pause and ask ourselves: Is infighting what G-d wants? Is this what Torah demands of us? In that vein, I write today and ask each of you to emulate the Rebbe’s way of seeing the world. The Rebbe opposed no one, the Rebbe never spoke negatively about anyone, and even when he did oppose a *shittah*, a certain perspective within Judaism, he would never mention the name of the person who taught that *shittah* or speak negatively about him; he only opposed the philosophy, never the person.

On this 26th *yahrzeit* of our beloved Rebbe, let’s see each *neshamah* with the Rebbe’s eyes. No matter their “label,” no matter how “distant” you think they are from holiness, and no matter what they may have done to you personally, they are deserving of our love and respect. Remember, no one is a lost cause; if Korach’s sons could come back home, no one is beyond return. ■

*Rabbi Chaim Bruk is co-CEO of Chabad Lubavitch of Montana and spiritual leader of The Shul of Bozeman. For comments or to partner in our holy work, e-mail rabbi@jewishmontana.com or visit JewishMontana.com/Donate.*

## “A STATEMENT THAT SHOULD REALLY BE UNNECESSARY”

BY RABBI YAakov Klass

I’m being called upon to issue a statement that should really be unnecessary. Need we issue any statement in the matter of the ownership of our beloved land of Israel? Am I, a mere mortal, to have the gall to issue a statement and expect that it shall resolve an issue that has befuddled the Jewish people these 2,000 years? Further, how would any such utterance compare to one that is from the Divine words of G-d?

The Lubavitcher Rebbe admonished against surrendering any land that is part of *Eretz Yisrael*. Under the Rebbe’s *psak* and doctrine of *Shleimus Ha’aretz*, it is strictly forbidden as a matter of *halachah*/Jewish law to relinquish even one inch of *Eretz Yisrael* which is *Admas Kodesh*, Holy Land. The Lubavitcher Rebbe’s *psak* and doctrine of *Shleimus Ha’aretz* has been adopted by the Rabbinical Alliance of America/Igud HaRabbonim as part of our organizational platform and policy.

As presidium chairman of the Igud HaRabbonim, and on behalf of our 950 Orthodox rabbis, I reaffirm our strict adherence to the *psak* of the Lubavitcher Rebbe and his stance on *Shleimus Ha’aretz*. I say it, because the issue of *Shleimus Ha’aretz* has

risen again with the Trump administration pronouncing “The Deal of the Century.” This grandiose “Deal of the Century” being advocated by the Trump administration may call for the relinquishment of portions of Judea and Samaria for the purposes of making peace. Without hesitation, the Igud HaRabbonim vehemently, in the strongest terms possible, calls upon the Israeli government to heed the Lubavitcher Rebbe’s *psak* on *Shleimus Ha’aretz* and not to acquiesce to the surrender of even one inch of our *Admas HaKodesh* for this “Deal of The Century.” The Igud HaRabbonim further calls upon Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to reaffirm our sovereign rights to the lands of Judea and Samaria and to send the message that *Eretz Yisrael* will never consider the thought of ceding even an inch of our Holy Land.

Allow me to expand on the concept of *Shleimus Ha’aretz*. In G-d’s book, the Torah [Bible], He promises the land to us in the form of a surety and a grant, not once but three times to our Patriarchs. To Abraham (*Genesis* 13:14–18): “And Hashem said

Continued on Page 48

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to Abram after Lot had parted from him, "Raise now your eyes and look out from where you are: northward, southward, eastward, and westward. For all the land that you see, to you I will give it, and to your descendants forever. I will make your offspring as the dust of the earth so that if one can count the dust of the earth, then your offspring, too, can be counted. Arise, walk about the land through its length and breadth! For to you will I give it." And Abram moved his tent and came and dwelled in the plains of Mamre which are in Hebron, and he built there an altar to Hashem."

The Jerusalem Talmud (*Kiddushin* 1:3) teaches: One who sells a path to his fellow, when the other walks upon it, he thus acquires it. How do we know? Because of the verse's command, "Arise, walk about the land through its length and its breadth! For to you will I give it."

Thus, we see that the Bible records the deeding of the land to Abraham and his progeny. Yet, if the above were not sufficient, we find that the Torah (*Genesis* 26:1-6) cites Hashem's entreaty to Isaac. "There was a famine in the land, aside from the famine that was in the days of Abraham; and Isaac went to Abimelech, king of the Philistines, to Gerar. Hashem appeared to him and said, 'Do not descend to Egypt; dwell in the land that I shall indicate to you.'

Sojourn in the land and I will be with you and bless you; for to you and your offspring will I give all these lands, and establish the oath that I swore to Abraham, your father. I will increase your offspring like the stars of the heavens; and will give to your offspring all these lands; and all the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by you and by your offspring. Behold, I am with you; I will guard you wherever you go, and I will return you to this soil; for I will not forsake you until I will have done what I have spoken about you."

Sforno explains that due to the famine Isaac thought to depart the land as his father before him in the same situation had done; therefore, he went to Gerar [which is part of the Promised Land] to consult with the King of Gerar as to his doing so. It was then that G-d appeared to him to tell him not to descend but stay in the land that he is to give him.

If that, too, was not enough, we find recorded yet a third time, as the Torah (*Genesis* 28:10-15) states: "Jacob departed from Beersheba and went toward Haran. He encountered the place and spent the night there because the sun had set; he took from the stones of the place which he arranged around his head, and lay down at that place. And he dreamt and behold! A ladder was set earthward and its top reached heavenward; and behold! Angels of G-d were ascending and descending on it.

"And behold! Hashem was standing over him, and He said, 'I am Hashem, G-d of Abraham, your father and G-d of Isaac; the ground upon which you

are lying, to you will I give it and to your descendants. Your offspring shall be as the dust of the earth, and you shall spread out powerfully westward, eastward, northward, and southward; and all the families of the earth shall bless themselves by you and by your offspring. Behold, I am with you; I will guard you wherever you go, and I will return you to this soil; for I will not forsake you until I will have done what I have spoken about you."

Thus, unprecedentedly Hashem gave the tripartite deed to the land of Israel not only to the Patriarchs but to their progeny, the Jewish people, as a grant for all time to their future generations.

These passages are to be found in the same Bible that Christians too claim as their own; surely the nations of the world that seek to lay claim to that book need to uphold the promise to G-d's chosen, of the one and only land in the world that He set apart as the Jewish land, the State of Israel. Much more so those of our Jewish brethren who remain somewhat estranged from their Maker, our fervent wish is that the spirit of G-d within the depth of their souls be awoken.

As I stated at the outset, need I, or, for that matter, any other son of man, issue any statement of our dreams, our Divine inheritance?

May it be His will that all men of peace come to recognize that their bounty on this good earth is inexplicably tied to the Jewish people living

peacefully and securely in the land of their fathers, the land of Israel. ■

Rabbi Yaakov Klass, rav of Kahal Bnei Matisyahu in Flatbush, Brooklyn, is chairman of the presidium of the Rabbinical Alliance of America and serves as Torah Editor of *The Jewish Press*. He can be contacted at [yklass@jewishpress.com](mailto:yklass@jewishpress.com).

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# PUZZLES

By Yoni Glatt



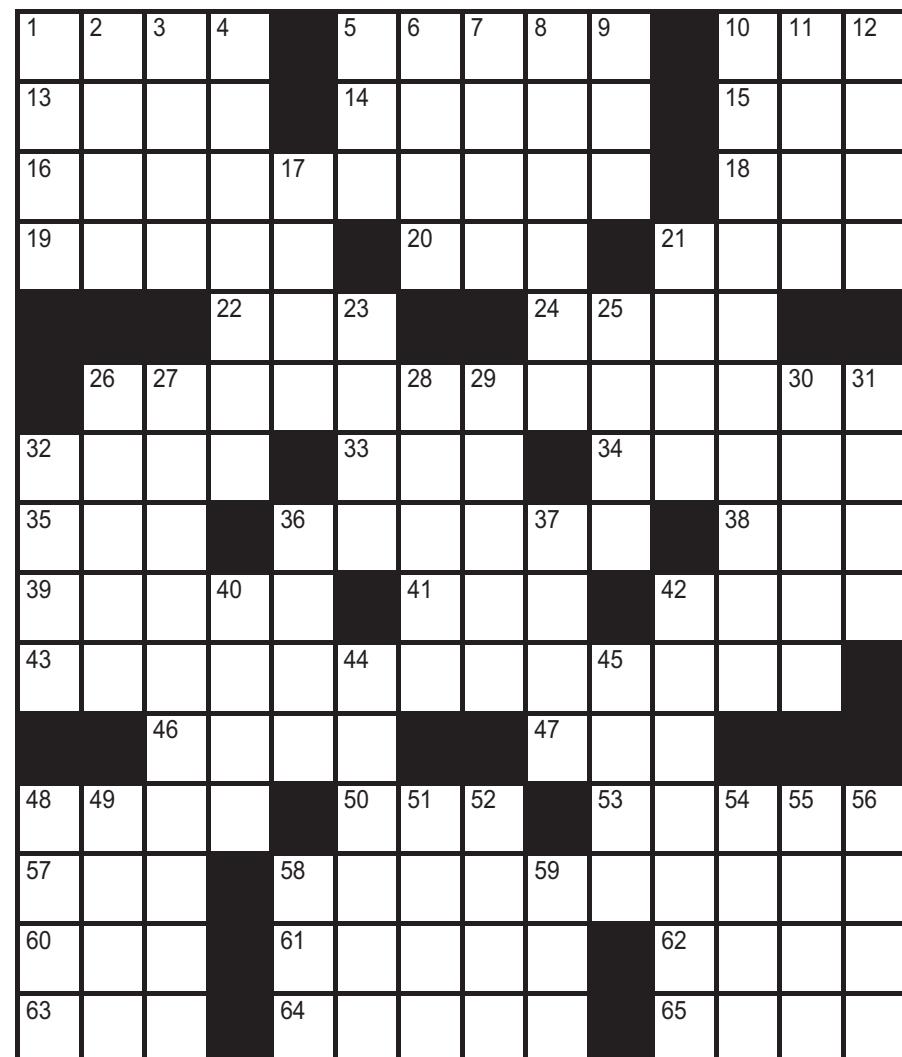
## Crossword: Eesy Peesy

**Across**

- Supreme Court Justice Warren
- Like a postscript
- PC bookmark
- Matzo \_\_\_
- Get ready, in golf
- The only daughter of Tzelafchad with a common name today
- They ensure the honey in the land of milk and honey
- Disrespectful part of the face?
- American capital in a Middle East capital?
- For
- Jews
- The Matrix* messiah
- Rabbinic law
- It starts July 8, 2020
- Star part
- Debt letters
- Bold bet by a bluffer
- Suffix with Marx or Lenin
- How the fortunate are blessed...or a phonetic hint to 16, 26, 43, and 58-Across
- Give-go connection
- \_\_\_ B' Tevet
- Aussie pop star who rarely shows her face
- Like Tanya
- They're brewed in Israel
- Feeling that proceeds suffering, according to Yoda
- Jews observe it on Sat.
- Apple program
- Little devil
- Take out once more
- Fury
- Right in America and Israel, but not in the Torah
- Nada
- "\_\_\_ Time" (license plate in an 80's smash)
- Bris, for one
- Local school that had Atara Shtern and Elisheva Glatt at the head of the 2020 class
- AKA Irgun
- Like Flash's movements in *Zootopia*

**Down**

- Abates, like Shabbat
- Place
- Item involved in fishing and filming
- Compared
- Had some blintzes
- Sparrow portrayer
- Kosher animal rarely on the menu
- Home to majority of the world's Jews 100 years ago
- A 2B often helps turn them
- Not as much in the cards
- Rage Barry Bonds was known to have displayed, once
- Auto race units
- It's the truth
- The story of Yehudit and Holofernes is quite similar to her encounter with Sisera
- One consonant state
- Convince
- Thompson who appeared in *Avengers: End Game*
- Ma'arat \_\_\_
- Bring out of slumber
- Jazz legend Blake
- Diamonds in the sky?
- Cereal mascot
- His only Oscar nomination was playing Oskar
- Kind of *g'neivah*
- Chocolate-colored dogs, for short
- First U.S. color TVs
- "A diamond is forever" company
- Middle East city very few Jews visit
- Wyatt of the west
- Hr. divisions
- Ariel (Sharon), to friends
- French city that's a homophone of a baseball team
- Big player for 51-Across's homophone team
- Diamond on the radio
- \_\_\_-1 (license plate in an 80's smash)
- "Boy, that was close!"
- David, from Saul's point of view (sadly)
- Mineo of *Exodus*



## Solution To Previous Crossword: Hebrew States



## The Jewish Star

See if you can find the full name of the famous Jew scrambled inside the star! He/she might be living or dead—no fictional characters. You may use the same letter more than once. For bonus fun, see if you can make another 5 common words that include the center letter that are 5 letters or more. Proper names and hyphenated words are not allowed. Letters may be reused.

Common solutions to last issue's Jewish Star: Isaac Asimov (writer). Amass, amiss, comas, comma, commas, comic, comics, cosmic, cosmos, imams, mamma, mammas (mamas), miasma, miasmas, mimic, mimics, mimosa, mimosas, mosaic, mosaics, osmosis, scams.



Puzzle appeared on Page 66 of the June 19 issue.

# SUPER SHABBOS SHEET

פֶּרְשָׁת קָרְבָּן



**MIDDAH OF THE MONTH**  
Avoiding wasting (בַּל תִּשְׁחַת): When putting food on your plate, only take what you know you will eat.



**ברכוֹת**  
What is the beracha one recites upon hearing:  
 • thunder?  
 • bad news?  
 • good news?  
(Look in your torah for help)

## CROSSWORD

Complete the crossword by translating each Hebrew word into English. Use the parsha reference for help.

### ACROSS

1		3		
2				5
4				
6				
8				

**DOWN**

- אֹה (16:10)
- בְּקֻר (16:5)
- צָמֵש (18:24)
- אֲכִיל (18:10)
- שָׂמֵר (18:3)
- רָח (17:12)
- תְּמִימָה (16:15)

## WORD FIND

Find the bold italic words on this sheet.  
The unused letters spell a secret message!

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



**WEEK IN REVIEW**  
Share something good that you did for two people this week.



## PARSHA SKIT IDEAS

- Act out these scenes with friends and family.
- summons וְיָהִי and to speak to them about their bad plans וְיָהִי.
- creates a phenomenon and opens the ground to swallow 250 men וְיָהִי.

After the plague of locusts, Moshe led 250 men against שָׂעָה and Aharon was very upset and said 'ה' will prove who the true leaders should be. ה' accepted the offering of Aharon and the ground opened up and swallowed נָגָר and his men and their families. The fire pans of the offerings of ה' and his men were saved and reshaped to be used on the נָגָר. ה' became angry when the Jewish people complained about what happened to ה' and his men, but He calmed down after nun davened. ה' collected a staff from each tribe and the one from Aron blossomed overnight to prove that he was chosen as a leader by ה'. The Torah lists the מִנְחָה set aside for the כהנים and the מִנְחָה for the לויים.

**WORD CHARLESAB** (scramble)  
RMSATE RFAE GNKI  
AHDN INERG EPSLE  
(Hint: שם שלם)



- Can you judge these situations favorably?
- The basketballs at gym class were all out of air.
  - The package with your new sweater clothes was delivered to the wrong house.

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Which one is different? (Hint: סבון)

- |              |          |
|--------------|----------|
| <b>DAVEN</b> | מִזְבֵּח |
| תפילה        | טהרה     |
|              | מעשר     |

## SHABBES

How many of the following items are permitted on Shabbat?

- tearing
- sleeping
- learning תורה
- business transactions
- shopping
- moving a cell phone

## תְּמִימָה

What did ה' make grow on Aron's staff?

1+2  
 י נ ז כ י ג + א ה נ ה + נ ש  
 400 300 200 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1



STYLE-A-DAF by RABBI NATAN FARBER | SHABBOS 104



STYLE-A-DAF by RABBI NATAN FARBER | SHABBOS 104

**שֵׁם מִשְׁמוֹאֵל**

Shem Mishmuel is a collection of Chassidic teachings on the Torah and Jewish holidays authored by R' Shmuel Bornstain, the second Sochatchover Rebbe.

He became known as the Shem Mishmuel after the title of this work, which was published posthumously.

His father, R' Avraham Bornstain is more famously known as the Avnei Nezer, and was the first Sochatchover Rebbe. He also authored the Sefer Eglei Tal.

אמר ר' יהודה: מצינו שם קטן ממש גдол...

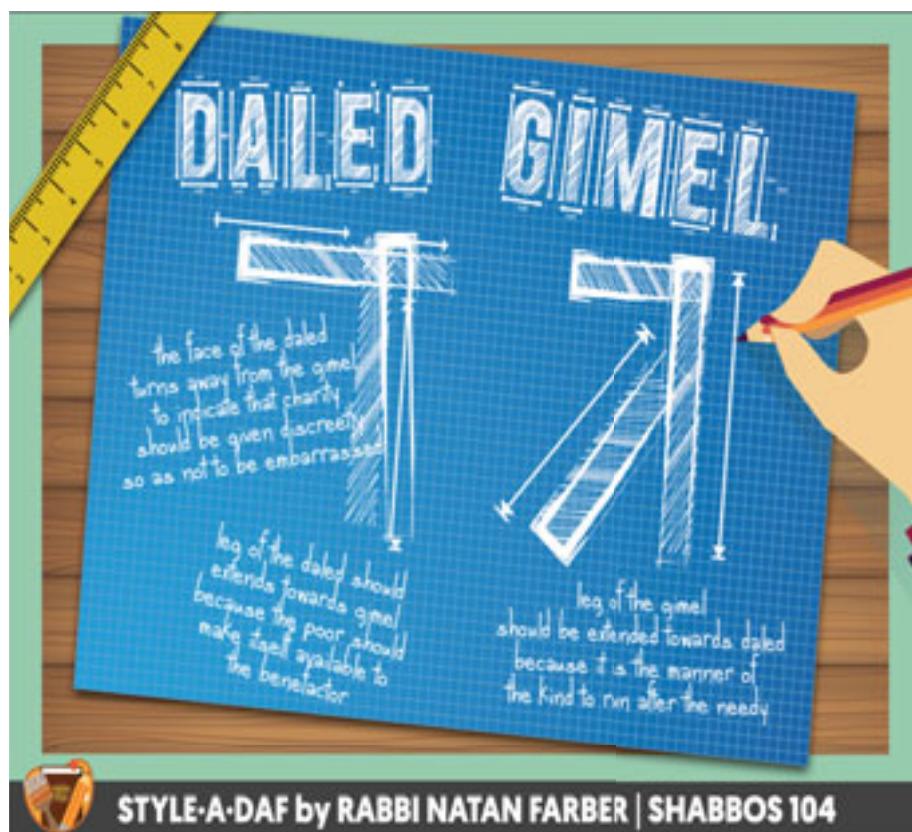
...**שם משמואל**

R' Yehuda said: If one initially intended to write a long word, but stopped after writing two letters of it, and the letters comprise a short word, he is liable

FOR EXAMPLE: SHEM FROM SHMUELI



STYLE-A-DAF by RABBI NATAN FARBER | SHABBOS 103



STYLE-A-DAF by RABBI NATAN FARBER | SHABBOS 104

### WELCOME TO THE THIRTEENTH PEREK ZOO

**1 THE DEER ENCLOSURE**  
R' Yehuda allows trapping a deer in such an enclosure on Shabbos. The Chachamim maintain that trapping in a small enclosure is prohibited. A small enclosure is one in which an animal can be caught in a single lunge, and where there are not many corners into which the animal can escape.

**2 THE DEROR BIRD HOUSE**  
Both R' Yehudah and the Chachamim prohibit trapping a Deror bird in a closet, and not a house, because the bird can still fly out through the window of the house. The Deror lives freely in a house as it does in a field.

**3 THE FISH POND**  
These fish are not considered captured in the pond because they can elude capture by slipping into holes. It is therefore prohibited to take them from the pond on Yom Tov.

**4 THE LION DEN**  
If one traps a lion on Shabbos, he is not liable until he brings it into its cage, specifically built to constrain lions. The lion is not otherwise trapped because when it gets angry, it will destroy whatever is in its way!



STYLE-A-DAF by RABBI NATAN FARBER | SHABBOS 106

# WHO IS WITH ME?

BY DR. GILA JEDWAB, DMD

**W**hen the *meraglim* (spies) returned, they reported death and doomsday back to Moshe and Aaron. Ten of the most respected men, princes of each tribe, wailed about how ominous and formidable the enemy appeared to them.

If their assessment was, in fact, physically accurate, why were they destroyed for it? What was their fatal error?

The answer is simple. They terrified a nation. They gave bad reports. They projected worst-case scenarios from facts on the ground and reduced an entire nation into the walking dead. The spies made an even graver mistake. Their cardinal mistake was that they left G-d entirely out of the equation. They forgot to factor in the same G-d Who had done every supernatural kindness for them. They thought it suddenly became their entire responsibility to control an enemy that they predicted would overwhelm their capabilities. Sound familiar yet?

Back then, they were dealing with an enemy composed of giants. Today, mercifully, G-d sent us the opposite. An invisible enemy. But the fundamental question remains the same. Will we factor G-d into the equation or will we leave Him out?

I ask myself: What does trust in G-d look like in real-time and what does its opposite—fear—look like? To me, trust looks like enjoying your life. Trust looks like going outside and breathing. Trust looks like standing close to other people without wondering about their antibody status. Trust

looks like the return of Divinely guided common sense. Trust does not look down on an entire world walking around in masks and say, “good job.”

A woman walked into my office and walked back out because she saw the most terrifying sight. People’s faces. How did this kind of irrational terror seep into an entire culture? How did this bizarre reality force its way in?

Why are we covering our beautiful smiling faces? Does a hidden face emit a vibe of trust? How did face covering become the latest version of trust in G-d, with even spiritual leaders falling prey to its false logic?

Breath is our first intimacy with G-d. It is our primordial connection to Him. G-d breathed His own breath into the nose of Adam to bring him to life. Breath remains our most elemental interface with G-d. Why would we choose to diminish that, even for a second? Breath is the source of good health and of life itself.

The answer is simple. Bad reports. Reports that leave G-d out of the equation. Reports that didn’t trust G-d to take care of an invisible enemy. The more that human beings scrambled to control a domain that so clearly belongs to G-d, a domain we could not even see, the more G-d stepped out and let us fall in that hole.

Back to the Bible. With the spies, the saddest part of their story is when they realized their grave mistake. It hit them like a ton of bricks. The unfortunate people who forgot to trust G-d stayed up all night wailing. But

it was too late. There was no coming back.

When the spies realized they wouldn’t be given a second chance by G-d, they tried to grab one for themselves. That tactic did not work out too well for them.

When it comes to fear of giants, a terrified reaction is fathomable. The physical victory promised to them would have to emerge from their brave physical actions of war, assisted by G-d. The victory over giants would obviously require action alongside the trust.

However, with this virus, when it came down to battling an unseen enemy, wouldn’t the more intuitive approach be to let G-d handle this war without our help? We couldn’t even see the enemy this time. Wouldn’t it have been smarter to step aside and say, “G-d, this battle is all You. We can’t even see what we are fighting. Let’s step back and let You handle it.”

Logically, wouldn’t victory with an invisible enemy emerge more fruitfully from enlisting the invisible weapons of trust and faith in G-d. This victory required the holding back of action.

For some reason, we appear to be luckier than that generation. G-d is handing us a second chance here. Maybe because we didn’t witness His Face as directly as the generation of the splitting of the sea did. Maybe that’s why G-d is cutting us some slack here.

This second chance at trust, given mercifully from G-d, is presenting itself with a catchy slogan. Society has cleverly named it “the second wave.” Will this second wave look like a continuation of the first, with more of the same—more worrying, more restrictions, more desperate clinging to fear of death? Or will the second wave look entirely different? Will it look like remem-

bering how to live with the breath of your grandchildren near your face? Will it look more like taking down barriers instead of putting more up? Will it look like hugging your friends? Will it look like being able to see your neighbor smile at you again? Will it look like our kids playing together in camp?

Even Israel—a country that is a world leader in knowing how to do trust, a country that gets the same bus up and running within hours of a terrorist attack—is slipping back into this dangerous territory of the second wave of fear. The country that puts trust of G-d at the center of its existence has somehow forgotten to do that here. It shocks me.

And look at the repercussions on us poor souls living outside the Land. We’ve temporarily lost access to our holiest, most precious place. I’ve always looked to Israel to show the world how it’s done. They are world leaders in physical defense. It is time for them to be world leaders in spiritual defense, to show the world what a second wave of trust in G-d looks like. I tell you, from my vantage point, it doesn’t look like more Plexiglas.

Emuna is a tricky phenomenon. People tend to think it applies to some other time or some other place. Or when no one is dying. Emuna is now, this exact moment and this exact place. We may not have a better chance come around.

I declare here that I trust G-d to run His world. That He doesn’t require our ineffectual micromanaging. That He knows how to manage life and breath with perfection. That nothing in His world has changed. That we have always been safe in His capable hands and always will be. Who out there will declare the same? ■

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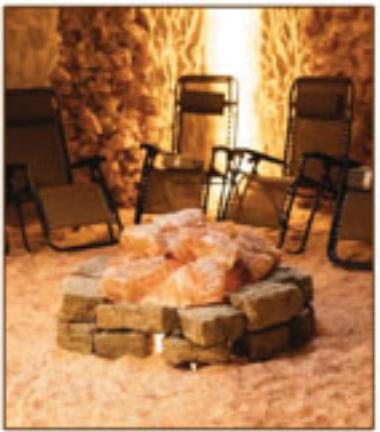
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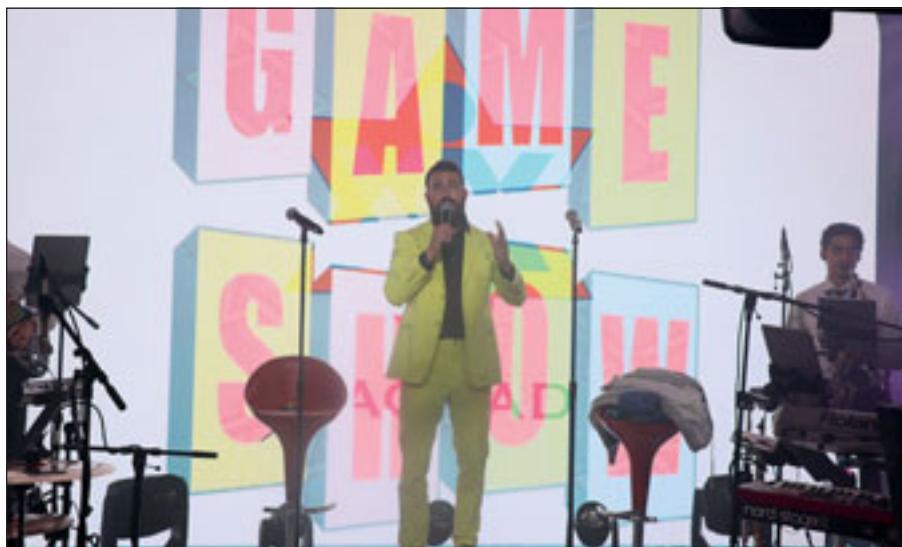
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ganization for individuals with disabilities in the Orthodox community, raised \$150,000 during its virtual “Battle of



Yachad “Battle of the Singers”



Benny Friedman and Mordechai Shapiro participate in “Battle Of The Singers”

the Singers.” The event featured entertainers Benny Friedman and Mordechai Shapiro. Meir Kay served as master of ceremonies, and Mendy Hershkowitz played the piano.

Friedman and Shapiro brought their “A-game” and battled it out over their signature songs in an effort to raise awareness of the critical support and program-

ming that Yachad has been providing to families with children with special needs during COVID-19. Shapiro also premiered an updated version of his hit song *B’Yachad*, which was originally released in 2017. The new lyrics reflect how Yachad is still bringing people together and caring for others even in isolation during COVID-19. The new lyrics were written by Mordechai’s sister, Sorah Shafren from Bergen County, NJ.

Proceeds from the program will benefit Yachad’s international efforts to help individuals with disabilities and their families combat social isolation during COVID-19. It will go toward virtual programming that the group will roll out over the coming months.

“As a result of COVID-19, three of our gala fundraisers were canceled, and so our team came up with a creative approach to fundraise for our programs while also producing an entertaining show that families could watch together. The feedback and results were tremendous and we are so appreciative of the time and effort of the performers and the attendees who participated and supported us,” said International Yachad Director Avromie Adler.

“Yachad is a cornerstone program of the OU and plays a critical role in Jewish communities across the country by providing programming, services, and Torah education to participants and their families. We are grateful that so many people recognize this and chose to lend their financial support during the virtual fundraiser to help support this important work,” said OU President Moishe Bane.

“During the COVID-19 pandemic, the OU has worked tirelessly to serve all of our communities, especially those with special needs for whom social distancing has been especially difficult,” said OU Executive Vice President Allen Fagin. “We are grateful to all of those who joined us for this event and helped donate toward our continued virtual programming for Yachad participants.”

### Project Community: A Unique Summer Experience For Teens To Benefit Local Communities

With camp, travel, and NCSY summer programs canceled as a result of the pandemic, the Orthodox Union (OU) has created Project Community 2020 (PC20), a summer initiative focused on engaging teens, college students, and Yachad members. Launching across the U.S. and Canada on **July 6**, in conjunction with the OU’s NCSY, Yachad, and



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<b>Mrs. Sura Alperwitz, a'h</b>	R' Bezalel Lesches, Brother R' Baruch Lesches, Brother (not sitting at main address)	<b>329 A Crown St. New York Ave &amp; Norstrand Ave</b>	<b>Crown Heights</b>		<b>Sunday (6/28/20) Morning</b>
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OU-JLIC, PC20 offers teens recreation combined with Jewish learning and volunteer opportunities to bring support to local communities.

"During a time like this, the OU's mission of supporting the community's needs is more critical than ever before. Project Community looks to do this by engaging our teens, college students, and Yachad members to help our community respond to this crisis. Our youth will be critical players in meeting the needs of others and experience the incomparable taste of making a difference in the lives of our community leading, hopefully, to a life of such service," added Orthodox Union incoming executive vice president, Rabbi Moshe Hauer.

"The closure of summer camp programs this summer has left thousands of teens across North America with a desperate need for structured programming, and there is a desire from these teens and their parents to participate in Torah learning opportunities as well as help the community prevail over this unprecedented disruption," said Orthodox Union President Moishe Bane. "The OU is proud to have brought together all of our departments to develop Project Community 2020 as a way to engage our teens and address our community needs as we rebuild after this pandemic."

The New York program will include versions of Kollel and Michlelet, both based in Five Towns and aimed at providing teens with morning religious programming including prayer and learning, similar to the way the NCSY summer programs bearing the same names operate in Israel. The programs will also include sports and recreational activities in the morning and two nights of activities each week that will be planned dynamically as the area continues to reopen.

In the afternoons, teens will have a variety of volunteering opportunities, including having teens participate in building a house in Long Beach with Habitat for Humanity. Weekly programs will also operate in Queens and Brooklyn.

"Our goal is fairly simple; to provide opportunities for our teens to come back together as a community," said NCSY summer director David Cutler, who is overseeing the state's programs. "Our hope is that the program maximizes our participants' ability to have fun together, learn together, volunteer together, and ultimately grow together as our communities reemerge from our shutdowns."

All programs will be run in accordance with state and local health requirements. For more information, please visit [PC20.org](#). ■

### Over 150 Women From 6 Countries Join OU Women's Initiative Virtual Summit

More than 150 women attended the OU Women's Initiative virtual summit recently to discuss pressing issues for Jewish communal leaders as they plan for the post-COVID-19 impact to their organizations. Participants hailed from 78 communities around the United States, Canada, Israel, Australia, the United Kingdom, and South Africa. The summit was designed to provide female lay leaders with a platform to learn and network with others who are facing the same issue as Jewish communal organi-



*Adina Morris*



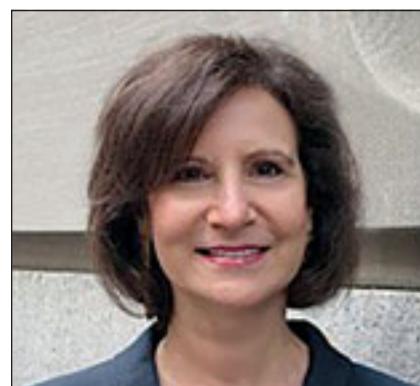
*Michelle Brody*



*Leslie G. Klein*



*Erica Brown*



*Amy Katz*

zations around the world are feeling the economic impact of COVID-19.

With new challenges facing Jewish organizations every day as a result of COVID-19, the summit provided an opportunity for participants to learn how to adapt and adjust their organizations' programming, operations, and fundraising models with a like-minded community of learners. Sessions focused on current program challenges and ideas, reimagining program needs and formats post COVID-19, the long-term impact of virtual programming and virtual meet-



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*Continued on Page 60*



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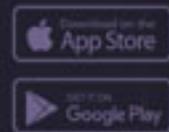
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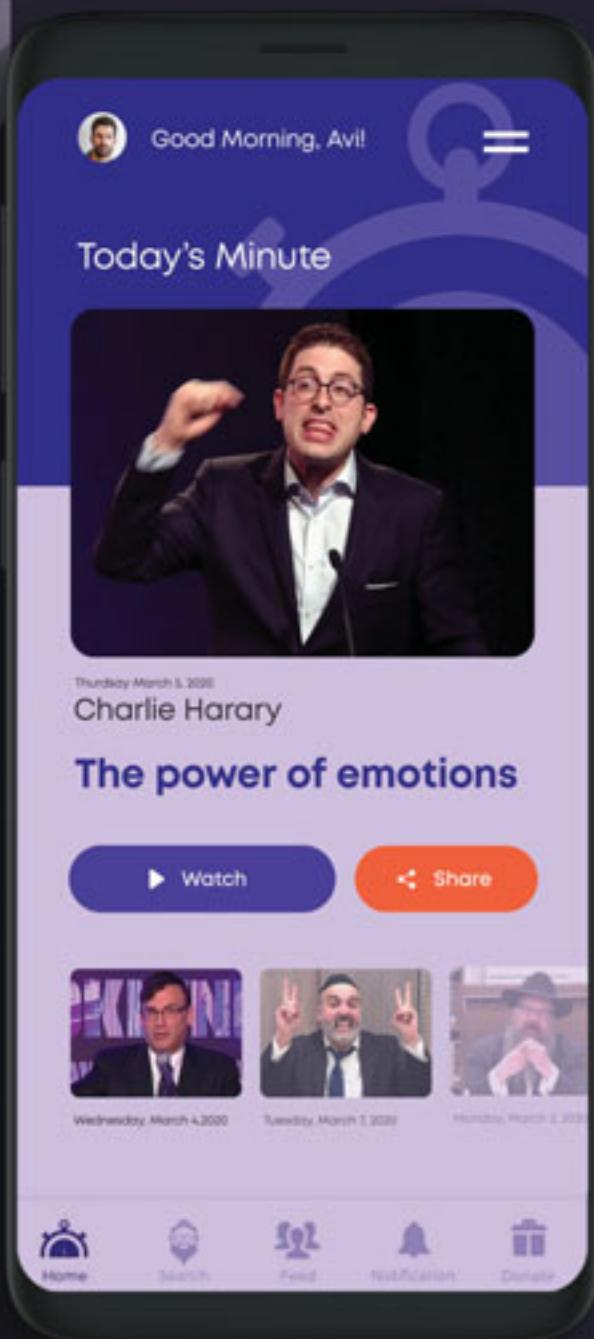
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ings, and the effects on interpersonal dynamics. Additional sessions focused on the long-term impact on current organizational economic models, fundraising with sensitivity, COVID-19's impact on fundraising and reimagining organizations, and their goals and missions in response to a new reality.

Expert lecturers, educators, and leaders in the field—including Erica Brown, Michelle Brody, Rachel Cyrilnik, Amy Katz, Leslie Ginsberg Klein, and Adina Morris—delivered workshops, sessions, and other presentations throughout the program.

"The Summit was extremely timely and effective in addressing the communal needs and concerns of the moment," said Orthodox Union President Moishe Bane. "Once again, the Women's Initiative created an event offering engaging and thoughtful topics, presented by best-in-class speakers. In addressing challenges posed by the pandemic and its economic aftershocks, Summit participants were afforded the opportunity

to share best practices and insights to employ in their respective communities and organizations."

"This year we took the program virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic and we also wanted to gear the sessions toward the topic that's on everyone's mind—how to lead their organizations successfully through COVID-19 and how to rebound successfully afterwards," said founding director of the OU Women's Initiative Rebbetzin Dr. Adina Shmidman. "It was inspiring to see a group of women from different backgrounds and communities come together to support one another and learn from these experts. Together, we reimagined new strategies for our organizations' missions, programming, and financial well-being." ■

*Founded in 1898, the Orthodox Union (OU) serves as the voice of American Orthodox Jewry, with over 400 congregations in its synagogue network. As the umbrella organization for American Orthodox Jewry, the OU is at the forefront of advocacy work on both state and federal levels, outreach to Jewish teens and young professionals through NCSY, Israel Free Spirit Birthright, Yachad, and OU Press, among many other divisions and programs. For more information, visit OU.org.*

# SOMEONE UP THERE HAS A PLAN, AND WE ARE PARTNERS ON INVENTING AND REINVENTING OURSELVES DURING CORONA

BY TOBY KLEIN GREENWALD

I was inspired to write this by a friend and colleague of mine, Raquelle Raiz, who wrote on her own page what had changed for her in a year, going from longtime dance instructor to the owner of a video company called Qreative Edge. In her case, the change was made before coronavirus. But many others are talking about reinventing themselves now, as they were suddenly working long distance or not working at all.

Sometimes we get frustrated about jobs that don't go our way or that we don't get or have to leave, especially now. Perhaps this will bring a little hope and perspective to someone going through a difficult time.



Toby with young stars



Toby at GII awards in 1998



Toby working as VP editor-in-chief of WholeFamily.com in 2000

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Perhaps I can pass on some insights I acquired from my personal experience. Twice in my life when I lost something professionally, I also gained something.

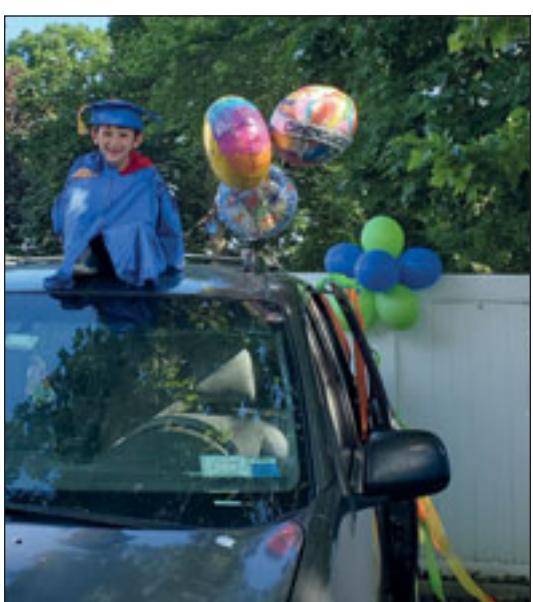
My work career spans more than 40 years, but for the purposes of this column I'm going back only 30 years, when I was offered a principal job at a girls' school. At the time, that would have been my dream job, due to the school's areas of specialization. It would also have been a nice culmination of all the creative educational work I had done up till then, both with students and as a teacher-trainer.

But I had just given birth. I knew that the job of a principal would be all-consuming, so I declined the offer and chose instead to accept a very part-time teaching position in the school. After three years, for various reasons, I left. I was a bit sorry at the time I had not accepted the job of principal.

A few years after that, I was invited by psychologist Dr. Michael Tobin to join in the creation of *WholeFamily.com*, something I could not have done had I been the principal of a school. This evolved into a dream job. We created a cutting-edge and wonderful family psychology website that won serious awards and received

Continued on Page 63

## YOSS ECC Graduation



## YOSS Rebbeim And Talmidim Join To End School Year TOGETHER



The pre-1a students at YOSS ECC attended their “drive-in graduation” last Wednesday evening. The graduation was filled with proud graduates, smiling parents, a few speeches, tributes, and many gifts for the graduates as well as lots of laughter. *Mazal tov* to all the graduates and their families!

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## REINVENTING OURSELVES

*Continued from Page 60*

investment. I was the executive VP and editor-in-chief and I traveled, met amazing people, and had a fabulous staff. But in the summer of 2000, the dot-com bubble burst and we had to close the office.

I was beside myself, even though we stayed online and most of the material is evergreen so it's still relevant and meaningful to people.

Less than a year after that, some friends and I started Raise Your Spirits Theatre, which has become one of my creative homes for the last 19 years, in addition to other theater companies and projects I began or directed, including Dor L'Dor Theater (which we created from the online dramas in *WholeFamily.com*), Mikva the Musical, and Playback Na'na (improvisational) Theater Dance Troupe. I did theater work with teens at risk, and other projects which I hope have

impacted lives.

I also gave more time to journalism and found myself researching and writing important articles and covering historical events, and I took a small detour back into teaching English part-time, to high school yeshiva boys, with a strong emphasis on creative writing.

I could not have done what I did and do in my theater projects and in journalism were I the principal of a school or the VP and editor-in-chief of a website.

This is the conclusion I reached: Hashem decided that the three years I taught in that girls' school, my students needed what I gave them, that the four years I

helped to create and administer *WholeFamily.com*, the world needed what we created and it is still there, 3,000 pages, for all the world to learn from.

Then Hashem said, *I have another plan for you now.* And the rest is history. In Jewish thought, it's called doing our "*hishtadlut*," putting in the effort. But we have a partner.

In these days of uncertainty and reinvention, that thought can help sustain us and pull us through.

*Shabbat shalom. ■*

*The author is an educator, an award-winning theater director, and a recent recipient of an American Jewish Press Association award for Excellence in Jewish Journalism.*

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### Korach the son of Yitzhar, the son of Kehas, the son of Levi (Bamidbar 16:1)

What moved him to start a quarrel? He was moved to it by the fact that Elitzafan, the son of his father's brother, was appointed prince over his family; as it says (Bamidbar 3:30), "And the prince of the fathers house of the families of the Kehasites was Elitzafan the son of Uzziel." Korach argued: My father was one of four brothers; as it says (Sh'mos 4:18), "And the sons of Kehas: Amram, and Yitzhar, and Hebron, and Uzziel." As for Amram the firstborn, his son Aharon attained to greatness and Moshe to royalty. Who then should rightly take the next office? Is it not the next in line? Now I, being the son of Yitzhar, should by right be the leader of the Kehasites. Yet Moshe appointed the son of Uzziel! Shall the [son of the] youngest of my father's brothers be superior to me? Behold, I shall dispute his decision and put to naught all that has been arranged by him ...

(Midrash Rabbah; Rashi)



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# TOURO COLLEGE GRADUATE DIVISION COMMENCEMENT 2020

**G**raduates from six Touro graduate schools participated in a virtual commencement ceremony on June 16, where they were invited to close their eyes and imagine themselves at Lincoln Center's David Geffen Hall. The majestic hall, home to the New York Philharmonic, is where their academic degrees are normally conferred—surrounded by family, friends, faculty, and administration.

Still, the event held fast to many of Touro's traditions: the national anthem opened the ceremonies, Touro College and University System (TCUS) Vice President Rabbi Moshe Krupka provided an inspiring invocation, and congratulatory remarks and advice were generously offered by President Dr. Alan Kadish and other senior administrators, deans, and faculty.

"This is a day of dreams come true," said Dr. Nadja Graff, vice president of the Division of Graduate Studies, in opening remarks to the Class of 2020. "Today more than ever, our city, state, and nation need dedicated, well-prepared, courageous, and caring leaders. As you join the ranks of practitioners and policymakers, accept the challenges ahead and be confident in the knowledge that you have the skills, dedication, and determination to make a positive

impact on our global society."

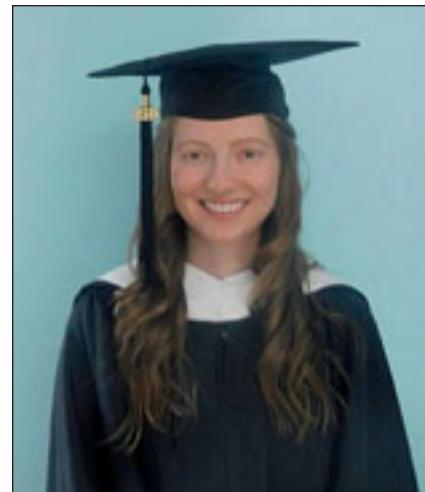
After reflections from six class speakers, over 1,000 graduates from the Touro College graduate schools of business, education, Jewish studies, social work, technology, and health sciences were congratulated by Patricia Salkin, provost of the graduate and professional divisions, who then awarded their degrees along with instructions to turn the tassels on their caps from right to left. The ceremonies concluded with the familiar "Pomp and Circumstance," as each graduate was recognized for their achievement.

TCUS President Dr. Alan Kadish expressed delight at celebrating the graduates' accomplishments, which he said reflected the culmination of their hard work and commitment to fulfilling their dreams. He is confident, he said, they will continue on that path, and is hopeful Touro has prepared them both to succeed and to model compassion, concern, and social justice. "I am confident we have instilled in you a commitment to serve humanity," the president said.

Noting the particularly challenging times, Dr. Kadish called on the graduates to join Touro in finding a solution to end racism. "We have come face to face with persistent racism. The George Floyd murder has reminded us that

racism remains a major problem in our country. It is intolerable," he said. "We must work together, united. We must find a way, without endangering others, to make equality and social justice the cornerstones of what we do."

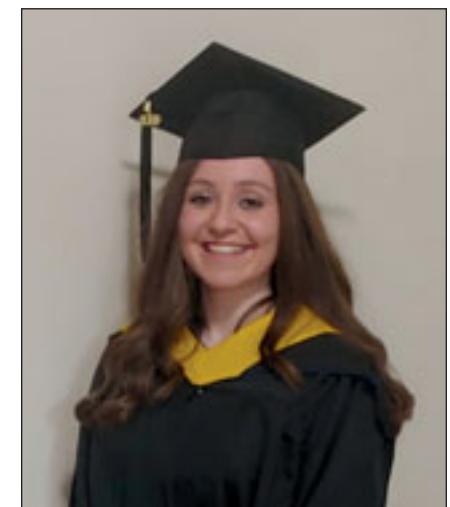
Associate Dean of Faculties Dr. Donne Kampel introduced the deans from each school, who introduced their student speakers.



Elisheva Friedman, Touro Graduate School of Jewish Studies valedictorian

Elisheva Friedman, Graduate School of Jewish Studies valedictorian and student speaker, began at Touro in the Judaic Studies Honors Program at Lander College for Women. This year she completed her M.A. in Jewish Studies. Friedman recounted for classmates a meaningful lesson she learned from studying Jewish history. "The struggles and challenges that we face do not have the power to determine our happiness and success." She said Touro has equipped them to achieve great things,

but that is not enough. "We need to make the conscious decision every day to use the skills we've been given. We will be tested, but we are also capable of overcoming every obstacle in our way," she said.



Sarah Fishman, MSW, Touro Graduate School of Social Work

Sarah Fishman, MSW, was chosen student speaker by classmates at the Graduate School of Social Work. She displayed a passion for helping others—including peers—and excelled academically, graduating with a 4.0 GPA. Before coming to Touro for social work, Fishman explored a business career and taught American History at two all-girls' schools in Brooklyn. "As a teacher, I saw the need for better mental-health care for my students and decided I wanted to improve the lives of children and teenagers," she said. While earning

*Continued on Page 66*

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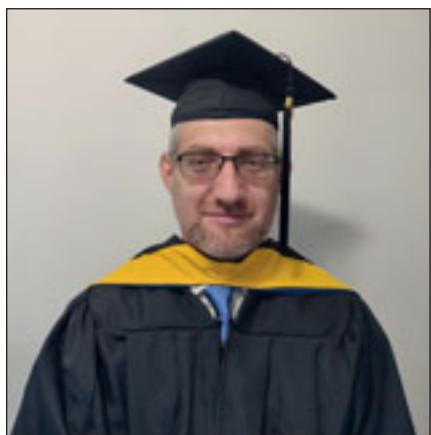
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her master's, Fishman counseled kids and teens at mental-health agencies as a social work intern. She knew she had found her calling. "Social work is about being compassionate, giving of oneself to others. The greatest form of self a person can achieve is expanding their love of self to others," she told her class.



*David Regev, Touro Graduate School of Technology*

David Regev also finished with a 4.0 GPA and an M.A. in Web and Multimedia Design from the Graduate School of Technology. He shared his love for UX (user experience) design—creating a digital product so it works to help people achieve their goals. He also shared that he lost his mother to COVID-19, though he and his grandmother survived. Regev used the example of the coronavirus and the host of institutions involved with it—hospitals, medical schools, insurers, government, and their websites and

apps—to illustrate his point. "Together they form one very large system. Anyone can research and find opportunities for improvement. The potential to help people and save lives is enormous," he said.

Rivky Goldman was a wife, mother, and pillar of her *chassidic* community when she realized a need for mental-health support in her community and went back to school. She began at Touro's School for Lifelong Education and then went on to earn her M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling at the School of Health Sciences. While in school, she organized support groups for women whose husbands or teens were diagnosed with disorders, and directed a parent mentoring program. Goldman said at Touro she learned that to be a counselor means to be a special "human being"—*human* meaning to "keep our own weaknesses and struggles in mind" and *being* meaning "being present with the client in the moment and connecting, while maintaining awareness of your own experience and emotions." So, she concluded, she spent three years in the graduate program "to learn how to be a human being."

### **Touro Students Help Design Virtual Summer Internship Program At Eastern Union**

Sometimes a casual conversation can be the catalyst for a major initiative. A few weeks ago, Chaim Shapiro of Touro College Career Services was discussing a project with Ira Zlotowitz, founder and president of Eastern Union, when Zlotowitz asked Shapiro how the pandemic was affecting his students' pros-



*Ira Zlotowitz*

pects for summer internships. Shapiro shared that many internships at top-tier firms had been curtailed and some offers were even rescinded. Students were frustrated by the lost opportunity and unsure whether they would find a meaningful and productive alternative.

In less than five minutes, Zlotowitz asked, "Why don't we do something together for them?"

Overnight, a virtual internship program was born. Shapiro sent résumés of seven business and accounting students. Zlotowitz followed up with a conference call where the students shared insights and gave input to help build the program from the ground up. They discussed what they would like to learn and what elements were necessary to make it a success, agreeing that both educational and experiential components should be incorporated.

Zlotowitz took their advice. After a follow-up meeting with Shapiro and Jodi Smolen from Touro Career Services to finalize the details, he launched the Virtual Summer Underwriting Internship, open not only to those Touro students, but to any college students across the country who want to learn about real estate through the eyes of banks—lending, underwriting, and finance.

In less than a week, 350 student interns signed up. Zlotowitz has decided to keep the applications open, but to cap the program at 500. College and graduate students studying real estate, finance, accounting, economics, business, law, mathematics, marketing, or management are eligible to apply. "We're looking for applicants ready to learn on-point skills in commercial real estate finance, and then leverage these skills to help propel their future careers," said Zlotowitz.

"Everyone has a life mission. Mine is to help people make a living—to give them the skillset, mentoring, coaching, and confidence they need to be successful," continued Zlotowitz. "At my firm, we take every opportunity to do this. We have the best training system in the country in the commercial real-estate lending space and we want to use that to help position people for success."

"Virtual" interns will participate from the safety and convenience of their homes and work remotely alongside Eastern Union's commercial real estate brokers and senior underwriters.

Internship curricula will be offered in conjunction with services provided by the company's new "Multi-Family Group," which recently reset market pricing by

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introducing an unprecedented quarter-point fee—with no back-end fees—for refinancing multifamily properties backed by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, transactions known as “agency refinancings.”

The internship program covers four tracks: underwriting and finance education, sales and origination education, hands-on education, and business development and underwriting. Students may enroll in multiple tracks. The program will offer Zoom sessions followed by Q&A; enable interns to join portions of the junior brokers training; offer the opportunity to analyze live deals every week with the head of underwriting, and for those who are able to bring a deal to Eastern Union, the chance to actually work on it live with a senior underwriter mentoring them every step of the way and possibly even earn a commission.

“Ira asked for our input and valued our opinions, and came up with great solutions—the four different tracks—to help different people with diverse goals and priorities achieve the most out of their internships,” said Moshe Pinkas, a finance major at Touro. “I’m excited to get started and see how the business works from A to Z. The unprecedented access to behind the scenes calculations and negotiations will be invaluable for anyone going into real estate specifically and finance generally.”

“I have always wanted to enter the fields of real estate or financial advising. This internship allows me to hit the ground running on the real estate path. I had something lined up in the financial advisory sector which was canceled due to COVID. I’m grateful to have this opportunity presented at the last minute. Thanks to Ira’s generosity and thoughtfulness the summer will be a productive one. May Hashem repay Ira’s generosity and kindness the way only He can,” continued Pinkas.

“While discussing different ideas and deciding how the internship should be structured, I learned more about myself, which allowed me to zero in on what exactly I was looking to gain from the internship,” said Bennet Kest, an accounting major at Touro College.

Internship sessions will run during the Monday through Thursday period from July 1 to August 31. Interns, however, will have flexibility in designing their schedules.

Internship spots are limited, so students are urged to apply promptly. Students may apply at [EasternUnion.com/intern](http://EasternUnion.com/intern).

“Touro Career Services is always working on new and innovative ways to increase employment opportunities for our students, so a collaboration with a forward-thinking industry leader like Eastern Union was a natural fit. We are so pleased that this partnership can extend further as well,” said Chaim Shapiro, M.Ed, director of the Office for Student Success at Touro College.

*Founded in 2001, Eastern Union is a leading national commercial mortgage brokerage firm employing more than 100 brokers and real-estate professionals and closing \$5 billion in real-estate transactions annually.*

Touro College offers 20 different majors and tracks, including business, finance, accounting with accelerate CPA track, as well as pre-med, pre-dent, and numerous health sciences. Visit [Touro.edu](http://Touro.edu) for more information. ■

## HALACHIC MUSINGS

By Rabbi Yair Hoffman

### A HEATED ARGUMENT ABOUT TEMPERATURE

**W**ill there be a second wave? How bad will it be? Will the shuls have to close again? If it does come, will shuls buy the new high-end temperature-reading devices?

COVID-19 has created a new paradigm—not only in terms of medicine but also in terms of medical halachah. The websites today are reporting upon a debate between the two chief rabbis of Israel regarding taking the temperature of everyone who enters a hospital in Israel to visit the sick. Is it permitted to do so on Shabbos? Is there a difference between the perspective of the hospital and that of someone visiting wishing to

perform the *mitzvah of bikur cholim*?

This issue will need to be addressed in our shuls if, *chalilah*, a second or third wave of COVID develops. There are also new devices soon being marketed that are instant and apply to a group, not just an individual. So we need to address the *halachic* permissibility of it now before anyone spends the money on such devices.

Also, what is the validity of the Shabbos medical technologies that have emerged and are still bound to emerge in light of the new paradigm of “medicine and the pandemic?” Do all *poskim* agree that it is permitted?

To understand the background behind the debates, let us first look at three types of terms:

- Direct action: generally a Biblical prohibition.
- *Grama*: generally a rabbinic violation.
- Semi-*Grama*: also known as not considered a *grama* and thus fully permitted.

The term “*grama*” means a “causation force” rather than a “direct force.” The laws of *grama* on Shabbos are derived from the Talmudic passages of *grama* in both damages and in murder. Not that “causation force” is permitted, necessarily. At times, for damages, it is forbidden by rabbinic decree (for murder it is biblically forbidden). The *Shulchan Aruch* and *Rema* (O.C. 334:22) rule that a *grama* is forbidden on Shabbos except in cases of loss or great need.

The trick then, it would seem, is to create medical devices that would *halachically* not even be considered a *grama*—a causation force—but rather a semi-*grama*. Are there other caveats?

*Continued on Page 70*

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## The Big Secret

It is a little-known fact, but there has been a large debate going on in the medical *halachic* community in *Eretz Yisrael* between those who followed Rav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach, *zt'l*, and those who later followed the changes that Rav Elyashiv, *zt'l*, had attempted to implement. Rav Shlomo Zalman had permitted the use of "semi-grama" for medical purposes in order to minimize *halachic* violations. Rav Elyashiv was of the approach that we look at the aggregate total and the time involved—and in most cases, he forbade it.

There are many people in *Eretz Yisrael* (mostly the religious Zionist group) who wish the Jewish state to be completely independent of a need to employ gentiles for *halachic* purposes in a medical setting. This is certainly a laudable ideal, but, on the other hand, the vast majority of *bnei Torah* would also like to fulfill the opinions of Rav Elyashiv.

Rav Elyashiv, *zt'l*, did, however, permit the anti-terror cameras to operate on Shabbos in the streets of Yerushalayim on the way to the Kosel. More on this later. The secret that is discussed in this sub-heading is that many hospitals initially relied on rulings from Rav Shlomo Zalman permitting these de-

vices. Of late, however, there are adherents of Rav Elyashiv's approach, particularly in the more *chareidi* circles, that do not at all approve of the tech-devices. Since the *chareidi* market is an ever-growing part of Israel's target market, many hospitals are eliminating the pro-tech alternative and are using gentiles to perform the non-*pikuach nefesh* acts that are necessary in a hospital.

## Thermometers

The invention of the first practical thermometer to measure human temperature as an indication of illness is credited to Sir Thomas Clifford Allbutt in 1870. He created a narrow tube at the top so that the mercury would get stuck and so that the temperature could be read later. This is why the thermometer needed to be shaken down each time after use. Its use was only described in *halachic* literature after 1870.

Generally speaking, "measuring on Shabbos" falls under the rubric of *uvdah d'chol* and is prohibited (see *Mishnah Berurah* 306:34). However, the measuring of a *mitzvah* is permitted according to the *Shulchan Aruch* (O.C. 306:7). Measuring temperature is a *medidah shel mitzvah*, when warranted, and would be permitted on Shabbos (aside from issues of the electronic method).

This is the view of the *Mishnah Berurah* (306:36). It does not fall under the rubric of rabbinically forbidden medicine because it is an action that is *ein bo m'amash*, no physical qualities to it.

Here, however, the measuring involves an electronic signal and further electricity being generated and recorded.

## Rav Rubin's Ruling

In a written ruling (see footnote #2), Rav Yitzchok Rubin, *shlita*, distinguishes between passing through a camera on the street and recording terrorists [*inshi delo maali*], which is permitted according to many *poskim*, and the situation here, in a hospital setting. Regarding terror cameras, the passerby does not want every individual to be recorded—he just wants the terrorists to be recorded. Thus, it is not considered a *psik reisha* that he wants and is attributed to him. Regarding the hospital, however, he wants everyone checked.

Rav Rubin argues that since the visitor will not be let in unless his temperature is taken, it is considered as if he wants it and the action of setting up the temperature camera is attributed to him. He concludes that one may not visit the sick in *Eretz Yisrael*.

On the other hand, Rav Yitzchok Yosef disagreed and permitted people going into hospitals, and also permitted *frum* Jews in the hospital to measure temperatures.

Rav Rubin writes in footnote 7:1 that the concern is a Torah concern.

This author would like to argue that since one is walking through the device,

this may not be considered the *derekh* of the *melachah* per se. There are *poskim* who would argue that this is a form of *k'le'achar yad* since, as of now, this is not the most common manner in which to violate the *melachah*, and at this point, most of the world is not using these devices. When a large majority of people will be using this regularly, most of these lenient *poskim* would argue that it will no longer be considered *k'le'achar yad*. In addition, the *melachah* involved is a debate, and it may be only a *d'rabbanan*. That being the case, we might have a case of a double *d'rabbanan* and it is possible that *b'makom choli lo gazru*. There is also the possibility of implementing a *halachic* concept known as a *sfeik sfeikah* to permit the item when it is used for medical purposes. Even though we no longer do *sfeik sfaikos* in our times (see *Shach Y.D.* 110:63:36), there are exceptions to this (see a list of such *poskim* in *Yabia Omer* Vol. VI, p. 322). One such exception is if there is a *Torah mitzvah* involved.

This author was involved in a case at Rav Zilberstein's *shiur* for doctors and hospital *rabbanim*, where a modern-day *sfeik sfeikah* was invoked by Rav Elyashiv, *zt'l*, in a unique case.

Each person should ask his own *posek* or *rav* as to whether he should follow Rav Yitzchok Yosef's lenient ruling or the ruling of Rav Rubin. This author just wanted to present both sides of the issue. ■

*The author can be reached at Yairhoffman2@gmail.com. Read more of Rabbi Hoffman's articles at 5TJT.com.*

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# GETTING IN SHAPE FOR THE BIG DAY

BY ALICE HARROSH

**C**ongratulations! You are engaged! There is a sudden new whirlwind of activity, and a huge to-do list. The obvious ones are already on your list: book a hall, get a dress, and make an invite list. How about getting in shape? Is that

it is that you want to do so that you can tell the professionals you are working with, as well as have a clear goal(s) for yourself.

**Be realistic with your goals.** After defining what "in shape" means to you and what your goals are, take stock of



on your list? For many, it is one of the first things to go on the to-do list. As a personal trainer, I often get calls from brides who say, "I just got engaged and need your help." For some, this is not even on the priority list, and for many, this becomes an idea or an inspiration very close to the wedding, without enough time to really accomplish it.

Here are my top ten tips on how to get in shape the right way for the big day:

**Don't wait until the last minute.** Start as soon as possible so that you have enough time to make a real change. A healthy rate of weight loss is about 2 pounds a week (more than that may mean that you are "crashing" and the weight can come back in full force later), so figure out how many pounds you want to lose, how many weeks you have, and work accordingly. Do not assume you will lose weight every single week. There will be weeks where you have a standstill or holiday/other occasions.

**Hire a professional or a team of professionals.** Yes, a few self-motivated and determined people can do this on their own, but the average person needs some help. A professional can include a nutritionist, a personal trainer, and even a life coach to help you integrate these changes into your life long-term. Sticking to a set appointment with someone, having accountability, and professional and objective guidance is extremely helpful.

**Define "in shape."** The term "in shape" means different things to different people. Are you looking to lose a few pounds? Tone up? Look better in the dress? Be able to dance without getting out of breath? All of the above? Define what

how realistic and attainable they are. If your wedding is in 3 months, you are not going to lose 100 pounds, run a triathlon, and become a vegan. Even if you had no wedding to plan and a million other things to do, this would probably not be possible. Consult with an objective professional about your goals and what you hope to attain, and work together to reach realistic goals.

**Never crash diet or go on an extreme workout regimen.** Many brides (and even some grooms) feel tempted to do something extreme in order to knock the weight off very quickly. This can be anything from starving, juicing, exercising to an extreme, or completely eliminating necessary food groups. This is never a good idea for a few reasons. Firstly, it is not sustainable for a long period, so chances are, you will quickly feel deprived or too weak and give it up. Second, crash dieting puts your body into a starvation mode, which means your body will start holding on to whatever little food you do give it in a desperate attempt to store what it has in case no more is coming. Additionally, when you do go back to regular eating (which you inevitably will), your body will be unprepared to properly metabolize the food, causing weight gain, a slower metabolism, or a new pattern of losing weight, very, very slowly.

**Don't take in the dress yet.** I think many seamstresses secretly hate us trainers and nutritionists because with hard work, the bride constantly needs to adjust to make the dress smaller. My advice is to wait until as late as possible to make those adjustments. This is especially applicable if you

are dieting and exercising, as you will be losing pounds from dieting but also inches from exercise.

**Keep it simple—you are too busy for complex.** I always hate complicated. Not just when I work with stressed-out brides, busy moms, or overwhelmed executives. If it's not simple, I don't like it, because people don't do complicated forever; people do simple. This applies to diet and exercise. Stay away from complicated classes where you either need to travel far, be super coordinated because the choreography is so complex, or buy fancy equipment you cannot pronounce and will never use or look at again. In terms of diet, avoid calorie counting, fancy unpronounceable grocery items, or having to follow complicated manuals and books. Stick to easy, clear, doable and pronounceable, and you will be more likely to succeed.

**Consult with your kallah teacher before starting any rigorous exercise program.** If you are not used to exercise, the workout may interfere with your cycle. Consult with your kallah teacher, and do not engage in vigorous workouts.

**Keep the right perspective.** You made a great choice to get in shape and you will love the results, but remember that this is only a small part of getting ready for your wedding. Leave time for other things that matter, like spending time with the people you are soon going to see less, and of course working on your inside so that you can be prepared to be a better spouse.

**Do not give it all up once you are married.** Just because the big day passes does not mean your new healthy lifestyle should. After *sheva brochos*, as you settle into your new life, apply what you have adapted. Cook healthy meals, eat breakfast together, and go for walks or to the gym. You now have a partner to help you continue the great journey you started.

Good luck and congratulations! ■

*Alice Harrosh is a nutrition counselor and manager at Nutrition by Tanya, with 14 locations including a branch in Five Towns right on Elder Lane (behind Jildor Shoes). Alice knows that making healthy choices is not always easy as she has been through the struggle herself. As an optimistic person, Alice's favorite quote is: "It's never too late to start eating better. If you have a bad morning, make it a better afternoon." For more information on Nutrition by Tanya or the TAP (Tanya approved products) food line, please visit nutritionbytanya.com or call 844-Tanya-Diet (844-826-9234). For daily tips and inspiration, you may follow @nutritionbytanya on Instagram. Our beautiful and healthy new cookbook, Cooking with Tanya, is now available in Judaica stores or through the Menucha Publishing website.*

## REAL ESTATE

By Anessa V. Cohen



## COUNTRY LIVING

**W**hen I was growing up, we all looked forward with great anticipation to those summer months that would take us to the Catskills, whether it was to a summer home that our parents or grandparents owned, which we romped through all summer long, or to a bungalow that was rented for the season. By Labor Day, when families packed up to go back to the city or wherever they lived year-round, the discussions about the next summer would already begin—what would they prepare or what would they do a bit differently when the time would come again to go back to the carefree existence that both child and adult had in those mountains.



A typical day in "the country" back then might have entailed many different activities—all fun, laid-back, and outdoors for sure, with everyone leaving their pressures and problems wherever they came from, since summer in the Catskills meant your troubles disappeared.

We went berry picking, not to public berry farms but usually in wild berry bushes alongside our homes or on tiny country lanes abutting our location at the time. There were always two seasons for the berries—one in July and one in August, even though they were wild. Very convenient for all of us kids.

After you collected those buckets of berries, the next activity would be making a batch of homemade jam. Somehow, we all thought we were geniuses that we were even able to do this.

Fishing in the lakes was done by young and old, and most never heard of going to town to buy bait but would dig for worms to attract those fish. Sometimes there were even night activities, such as going out in the dark with flashlights and buckets to catch night-crawlers that would come out of the ground to float around the grass during the night. Night-crawlers caught the biggest and finest of fish available in those Catskills lakes!

Boating and swimming in those lakes were the real stuff of memories, since the two activities often went together—jumping in and out of those boats or diving off big rocks or docks in the deeper parts of the lakes.

Frogs, which we rarely see anymore and seem to have grown somewhat extinct in those upstate lakes today, were all over the place, and many a kid would collect them as pets, only to set them free at the end of the summer.

Although the Catskills gradually became less of a destination once flying and other traveling became easier and more accessible, it obviously still kept its charm in our memories because, lo and be-

hold, since this COVID pandemic started, many from the city ran to buy both first and second homes in the Catskills.

Not only is there a huge demand for these homes, but they are now going beyond asking prices, with multiple offers on each home. Because of the low inventory against the number of buyers looking to purchase homes there, it's a total whirlwind, what with the sudden demand on what had previously been a sleepy, low-demand market.

What this tells me is that people looking to buy there are seeking the life we lived years ago—an anxiety-free, low-pressure, quieter lifestyle during these difficult times. The forecasters predicted that the Catskills would fail without legal gambling casinos, but it looks like it is flourishing now—and gambling has nothing to do with it! ■

*Anessa Cohen lives in Cedarhurst and is a licensed real-estate broker (Anessa V Cohen Realty) and a licensed N.Y.S. loan officer (FM Home Loans) with over 20 years of experience offering full-service residential, commercial, and management real-estate services as well as mortgage services. 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@AVCrealty.com.*

# MY MOTHER'S LAST BREATH

BY RABBI ZEV MEIR FRIEDMAN

**M**y mother, Felicia Friedman, of blessed memory, was all of 13 years old when the Nazis invaded Poland. She was immediately assigned to slave labor in the munitions factory outside of Krakow, her birthplace. Many other teenagers and young adults endured long hours, hard work, and scant nutrition in that factory. Consequently, many of her peers began to complain and rile against Hashem for allowing them to be persecuted.

My mother took a contrary view: She expressed her abiding belief in Hashem, saying that Hashem is good, but it is man who chooses to be the perpetrator of evil. A young man who overheard this perspective decided on the spot that if he survived the war, he wanted to marry this amazing young girl.

She endured the brutality of the infamous Plaszow Death Camp. She witnessed firsthand the wanton execution of a six-year-old girl who was picking a flower. That girl was her first cousin. Shortly thereafter, she was shipped to another concentration camp and ended up in Auschwitz in 1944. While there, she had many brushes with death. On one occasion, her barracks was picked to be sent to the gas chamber.

Jews who entered never came out. The diabolical Nazis would drop poison gas, Zyklon B (a rat poison) from above, effectively choking the Jews who were trapped in the gas chamber, asphyxiating them and forcing them to die of respiratory failure, unable to say goodbye to family, all alone. This time, my mother's imminent death was forestalled because of some technical failure and she was sent back to her barracks.

As the Soviets approached sections of Poland in 1945, word of liberation began to circulate in Auschwitz. Hope was finally on the horizon. However, in January 1945, my mother, along with 60,000 other Jews, was sent on a death march towards Germany to keep the Jews from liberation. During these death marches, my mother and thousands of others were forced to trudge in the freezing, snowy cold of Poland, marching up to 30 miles a day. No food, no coats, just Nazi guards and dogs, trained to pounce and maul any Jew who sat down to rest or happened to stumble in the snow. Her next stop was Ravensbrück, a notorious torture and death camp designed specifically for Jewish women who were subjected to horrific

conditions and incessant beatings by Nazi guards. A Jewish girl bearing a German-sounding surname was cause enough to be humiliated and beaten.

Finally, liberation came in May 1945 from her next stop, Neustadt-Glewe. Attempting to return to her hometown afterward, she heard some comforting news. Her husband-to-be was alive in Theresienstadt, albeit suffering from typhus. She walked and hitchhiked to Czechoslovakia searching for



Felicia Friedman, a'h

the young man who had admired her words in Plaszow.

The couple decided to get married and move soon after to the United States. Thankfully, my parents enjoyed a wonderful life with their children, 20+ grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. After my father's

passing in 2015 and after much research and family consultation, we concluded that a rehabilitation center would be the most fitting option for my mom, who was relatively healthy but needed assistance eating. Our mother, like others, refused to be a burden and join us in our home.

She lived there comfortably until a couple of weeks ago, when the ill-fated directive from New York State instructed state-funded nursing homes to take COVID patients. My mother and many other residents of nursing homes fell ill to this deadly disease. The poorly-thought-out decision to intermingle our nation's most vulnerable population with one of the most contagious and deadliest diseases was a recipe for contagion and suffering. Having contracted the deadly virus just a few days later, she found herself battling with a "hidden enemy" in the fight of her life. Sadly, her good fortune ran out and she passed away from COVID pneumonia, taking her last breath with no family by her side. ■

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# COMMUNITY NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

## MVP Camps Launch MVP XTREME For HS Boys

MVP XTREME is the newest addition to the MVP Camps family! MVP Camps, celebrating its 12th consecutive year, is excited to launch MVP XTREME, a new basketball program for high-school boys. This program will take place at Camp Seneca Lake from Sunday, **August 16** to Thursday, **August 20**. The program is open to individual players entering ninth through twelfth grades, as well as JV and varsity team members and their coaches.

Experience counts—now more than ever! Over the course of the five-day training camp, MVP XTREME will feature high-level competition, serious clinics focused on fundamentals and techniques, drills, skills, conditioning, and competitive league games in a tournament style format and intense MVP XTREME Challenges. MVP XTREME gives players an opportunity to take their game to the next level while emphasizing a positive attitude, as well as confidence building.

Camp Seneca Lake is a top-of-the-line basketball facility. The grounds and amenities are second-to-none. All bunks are air-conditioned. The three daily *minyanim* take place in the

air-conditioned shul. Facilities include the Seneca Center Dome, special MVP courts, the crowd favorite Seneca Park with stadium seating, all lit for night play, in addition to other outdoor/indoor courts, a track, and an obstacle course. MVP players enjoy the indoor and outdoor pools and a poolside hot tub Jacuzzi. Delicious and gourmet *glatt kosher* meals are served in the air-conditioned dining room. The camp also features Seneca Sprinkles Ice Cream Parlor. Following exciting night games and individual skills competitions, the famous MVP nighttime barbecues take place at the state-of-the-art canteen/café.

All activities and facilities at MVP will be fully operational, following all CDC guidelines, in order to provide a safe, healthy, and fun experience for all the players and staff.

MVP Camps, the premier Orthodox Jewish sports camp program, is looking forward to MVP XTREME, in addition to the other MVP Camp programs taking place this season.

MVP Girls takes place Sunday, August 23–Thursday, August 27 and features a choice of three tracks—basketball, tennis, or dance—and is open to girls in fourth through tenth grades.

MVP Boys takes place Sunday, August



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30–Thursday, September 3 and features a choice of two tracks—basketball or tennis—and is open to boys in fourth through eleventh grades.

Spots are limited. Register early at [themvpamps.com](http://themvpamps.com).

For more information, e-mail [mvp4boys@gmail.com](mailto:mvp4boys@gmail.com) or [mvp4girls@gmail.com](mailto:mvp4girls@gmail.com) or call 516-707-2638. ■

## Lubicom Leading One-Stop Business Consulting Agency In Post COVID-19 Era



Menachem Lubinsky

Lubicom, one of the leading marketing firms for the kosher and Jewish markets, has emerged as the major business consulting firm in the community. Headed by Menachem Lubinsky, an accomplished and noted business authority, the consulting services include a broad range of options ranging from the development of business plans, reviewing the tract of a business, mergers and acquisitions, and preparing businesses for investment opportunities. Mr. Lubinsky is first and foremost a strategic business professional who is frequently consulted by businesses of all sizes.

"We are particularly working with many businesses to position themselves for growth in this post-COVID era," said Mr. Lubinsky. "This is the time to reassess the positioning of a business and to firmly establish it for the future."

Menachem Lubinsky's business consulting division has grown significantly in recent years, providing business consulting services to over 250 businesses, ranging from start-ups to large multinational companies. Mr. Lubinsky ([mlubinsky@lubicom.com](mailto:mlubinsky@lubicom.com)) has launched a new website, [MenachemLubinsky.com](http://MenachemLubinsky.com) where additional information on the consulting services is available. ■

## Free Kosher Groceries Delivered To Your Home From City Of New York

New York City's revamped COVID-19 Food Delivery program now allows New Yorkers to schedule a month of free kosher grocery deliveries, Met Council announced this week. With a single 311 call or by visiting [NYC.gov/getFood](http://NYC.gov/getFood), New York City residents who need kosher groceries can get it delivered to

their homes for free due to the threat of COVID-19. It remains a daily challenge for many vulnerable New Yorkers, and by streamlining the meal delivery process, the city will help households get the groceries they need so residents can stay as safe as possible.

Each delivery will contain three days' worth of groceries (nine meals' worth per person) and arrive approximately eight times a month. Deliveries will be made within three days of the initial order. For another month's supply, all city residents need to do is call 311 or visit [NYC.gov/getFood](http://NYC.gov/getFood) at the start of a new month. Free kosher meal deliveries are available through the city, many of which are provided by Met Council.

"There is nothing more important right now than ensuring New Yorkers in need have food on the table, and for New Yorkers who are stuck at home, home deliveries are the best option to keep them safe and fed," said David G. Greenfield, the CEO of Met Council. "By allowing New Yorkers to schedule these free food deliveries a month in advance, New York City is keeping New Yorkers fed and protected from the COVID-19 pandemic."

The city program is intended for individuals and families who meet all of the following criteria as a result of the COVID-19 emergency. Those who call or apply will be asked to confirm the following:

- No members of the household can go out and get food because they are at increased medical risk or homebound
- No neighbors or family members can go out and get food for you
- You do not receive meal assistance from other providers (such as Meals on Wheels); and
- You are unable to afford a private pay meal delivery or grocery delivery service (such as FreshDirect)

This program is available for a limited time, and all the food and the delivery is absolutely free. Those interested in enrolling in New York City's COVID-19 Food Delivery Assistance program should call 311 or fill out the form at [NYC.gov/getFood](http://NYC.gov/getFood). If you need any help with this or any other city, state, or federal program, please call the Met Council helpline at 929-292-9261. Met Council is providing six new coronavirus-related programs to those impacted by coronavirus, from unemployment help to free food delivery for Holocaust survivors to domestic violence assistance. The Met Council coronavirus helpline is open 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. and is free and confidential. Please call 929-292-9261. ■

## PCTC: Bringing Software Skills To The Greater Jewish Community—Now Online As Well

PCTC—Professional Computer Training Center offers computer software training for the greater Jewish community. A wide range of courses is provided for those who are interested in acquiring cutting-edge computer skills as well as for those who wish to brush up on their computer knowledge. Located at 1 College Road, Monsey, NY, PCTC—Professional Computer Training Center classes are in high demand as the training center's reputation stands in

good stead. There is nothing else quite like it in the industry. The center has a large variety of software courses given in office administration including Microsoft Word, Excel, and QuickBooks (a computerized accounting program). PCTC also offers a professional high-end graphic program covering Adobe InDesign, Photoshop, and Illustrator.

Due to high demand for their unique training, PCTC is now online. This will facilitate PCTC to train anyone, anywhere, without compromising any of its services. When training online, the potential class size can be very large. However, PCTC will limit the size to 25 participants. This will guarantee a strong and personal relationship between trainer and participant.

PCTC-Professional Computer Training Center courses are different than what a student learns in a high school or college course. Courses prepare the students well beyond the basics, including situations that will inevitably arise in the workplace. Each subject is taught in detail by those who are experts in their fields, bringing both academic knowledge and real-life work experience into their respective programs. Classes include clear, easy-to-understand notes that students can retain long after leaving PCTC. The notes include numerous tips and techniques that unleash the power of these programs. This ensures that graduates can maximize the software's potential and make the most of their time and effort when utilizing their new training.

Graduates remain a part of the PCTC family for as long as needed. Free follow-up support is available by phone or e-mail. All questions are responded to in less than 24 hours, providing yet another example of the exemplary five-star service PCTC offers.

Registration opens at the beginning of every season, four times a year. At the end of a course, if a student feels that he or she did not completely master the subject, the student is welcome to return within the year and retake the class at no charge (certain conditions apply). Classes are separate for men and women with trainers of the same gender.

We are fortunate to have an educational center accommodating all the various groups of the Jewish community. PCTC is available to train anyone who has the desire to learn software. Now with online training, students from around the globe can benefit from their expertise in teaching. Classes are given in English, with Yiddish instruction available as needed. Graduates receive a certificate that is recognized by our community of businesses and organizations.

To learn more about the various programs available, please call 845-425-0884 or 732-276-5416, visit *PCTConline.com*, or e-mail *admin@pctconline.com*. ■

## **COJO Assists In Staten Island PPE Distribution**

On June 18, at the Tasters Market located in the Willowbrook section of Staten Island, Congressman Max Rose, Assemblyman Michael Cusick, and COJO of Staten Island came together to distribute PPE and hand sanitizer.

"As New York City approaches Phase 2 of its reopening, I thought it appropri-

# **PSEG LI OFFERS STEEP REBATES TO SAVE CUSTOMERS MONEY THIS SUMMER**

**A**s many people are opting to vacation at home rather than travel this year, many are sprucing up their homes' outdoor spaces to give them a vacation-like oasis to relax in. PSEG Long Island is offering rebates of up to \$650 on equipment to make customers' backyard staycations more enjoyable this summer.

Energy-efficient pool heaters and pumps, lawnmowers, and lawn equipment can save customers money on their electric bills while reducing their carbon footprint.

If you need a new pump and heater for your pool, now is the time to get one—rebates of up to \$650 for the most energy-efficient models will make a splash in your wallet while helping the environment. A pool pump can be a home's second-largest energy user. However, an ENERGY STAR®-certified model uses up to 65% less energy. The addition of an energy-efficient heat pump pool heater will maximize the savings, which run between \$150-650 in savings depending upon which model is chosen.

The company is also offering rebates of \$25 to \$50 on ENERGY STAR-certified lawn equipment. Purchasing a chargeable lawnmower, blower, or trimmer can cut a homeowner's spending. In addition, electric tools are not as messy or noisy as traditional gas equipment, and they require less maintenance.

PSEG Long Island's commitment to helping lower customers' energy usage through energy-efficient products and its home performance programs has earned the company the 2020 ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year Award for the second year in a row.

Each year, the federal Environmental Protection Agency, which administers the ENERGY STAR program, and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) recognize ENERGY STAR partner businesses and organizations that demonstrate superior leadership, innovation, and commitment to environmental protection through energy efficiency and ENERGY STAR.

"Last year, PSEG Long Island promoted ENERGY STAR-certified products through rebates and its Home Performance with ENERGY STAR (HPwES) programs," said Michael Voltz, PSEG Long Island director of Energy Efficiency. "By endorsing certified lighting, dehumidifiers, clothes washers and dryers, variable speed pool pumps, and other products, we have been able to reap about 150,000 mega-watt hours (MWh) in energy savings for our customers. This has made a significant impact in reducing overall electric demand on Long Island and in the Rockaways."

"I salute the 2020 ENERGY STAR award winners," said Anne Idsal, EPA principal deputy assistant administrator for air and radiation. "These leaders demonstrate how energy efficiency drives economic competitiveness in tandem with environmental protection."

Independent annual evaluations by Opinion Dynamics Corporation have

found that PSEG Long Island's energy-efficiency and renewable-energy programs generate energy savings that are cost-effective. In its evaluation for 2019, Opinion Dynamics found that the PSEG Long Island Energy Efficiency Program generated \$2 in benefits to the utility and its customers for every \$1 in costs to operate the program, including rebates. To learn more about PSEG Long Island's energy-efficiency programs, please visit [PSEGЛИNY.com/efficiency](http://PSEGЛИNY.com/efficiency).

## **PSEG LI Helps Businesses With Incentives For Outdoor Spaces**

PSEG Long Island announced a new Main Street Revitalization grant to continue helping small businesses adjust to new public health requirements as commercial districts reopen for business. The program will offer funding of up to \$5,000 to a Chamber of Commerce or Business Improvement District.

The grant, which will reimburse these groups after the purchases are made, is to be used for, but not limited to, outdoor seating, outdoor tables, outdoor lighting, durable safety materials, and signage.

PSEG Long Island's Main Street Revitalization grants support projects that will stimulate economic activity in downtown business districts on Long

Island and in the Rockaways. This latest iteration of the program supports the enhancement of outdoor spaces where local businesses can provide outdoor dining and commerce with proper physical distancing.

"We created the Main Street Revitalization Program because we know that small businesses are the backbone of Long Island's economy. If they thrive, we all thrive," said John Keating, manager of economic development for PSEG Long Island. "The pandemic has affected businesses in many ways, and the intent of this new program is to help them succeed as our communities reopen for business."

PSEG Long Island is committed to supporting the local economy. Its Main Street Revitalization Program supports projects in business districts that will foster economic viability, vibrancy, and support of local businesses and increase economic growth and business in downtown areas that will be supported by a local chamber of commerce or business improvement district.

In addition, PSEG Long Island launched Small Business First. This program offers a no-cost or minimal-cost incentive to help small business owners upgrade to more efficient lighting and lower operating costs moving forward. Customers are eligible for rebates averaging approximately \$2,500 per customer efficiency upgrade, under the program.

Program funds are limited. Learn more about the program and how to apply at [PSEGЛИNY.com/inthecommunity/revitalization](http://PSEGЛИNY.com/inthecommunity/revitalization). ■



ate to solicit the support of my colleague Assemblyman Michael Cusick and COJO-SI, one of Staten Island's premiere civic associations, in the distribution of PPE," remarked Congressman Max Rose. "Thanks to the support of Assemblyman Cusick and the proper marshaling together of resources, this PPE distribution went well."

Assemblyman Michael Cusick stated, "When Congressman Rose suggested that we distribute PPE, I immediately supported the idea. As elected representatives, we have an obligation to make certain that our constituents are safe and have the protective equipment they need to live safely. One of the best ways of doing so is by collaborating with COJO-SI. My office has a long, great working relationship with COJO-SI, its president, Mandy Mirocznik, and its CEO and executive vice-president, Scott Maurer. Once again, our collaborative efforts were successful, and due to COJO's support we were able to reach out to and assist many Staten Islanders."

"Our primary concern is that our borough residents are prepared for the challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic has plagued us with. We at COJO-SI are more than delighted to assist our elected representatives when called upon and to collaborate with them to improve the quality of life, safety, and health for all Staten Islanders. Today's PPE distribution achieved this important result," stated Mandy Mirocznik, president, COJO-SI.



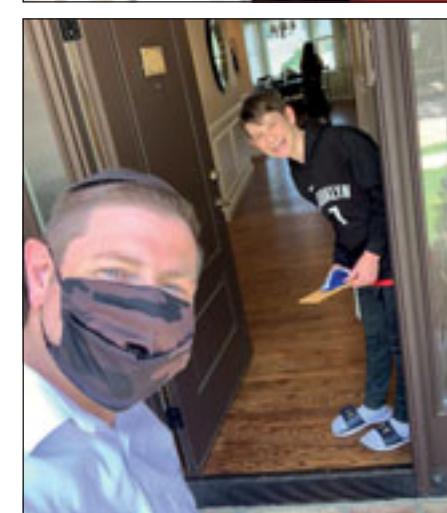
Ari Weiss, Congressman Max Rose, Mandy Mirocznik, Kevin Elkins, and Elliot Porter

Mirocznik then praised Scott Maurer, CEO and executive vice president of COJO-SI, for his hard work in coordinating and setting up the PPE distribution. "Scott is Mr. COJO. He does what it takes to bring the best to Staten Island. Thank you for helping the elected officials in making this PPE distribution the success that it was." Mirocznik also thanked Ari Weiss, chairman of the COJO Security Committee and coordinator of the Staten Island Shomrim, for organizing the Shomrim who helped coordinate the distribution and helped facilitate a smooth event.

Scott Maurer, CEO and executive vice-president of COJO, stated, "This distribution of PPE, brought to us by Congressman Max Rose and Assemblyman Michael Cusick, is one of the many important tasks that COJO-SI

has undertaken to assist Staten Islanders as we wage the war on COVID-19. Our prayer is that we should be safe and win this battle. Until that day, COJO will continue to do what it can to achieve that victory." ■

### MTA Welcomes Class Of 2024



MTA welcomes Class of 2024

MTA welcomed the Class of 2024 with surprise visits to each *talmid* and an exciting grade-wide orientation. "We are thrilled to welcome the Class of 2024 to the MTA family," said the freshman grade dean, Rabbi Eli Cohn. "Visiting each boy personally was a really special opportunity. It was great to spend time with every boy individually and we truly enjoyed getting to know them better. Our freshman experience is not only tailored to the needs of the grade as a whole, but also to the needs of each *talmid*. This was the perfect way for our incoming *talmidim* to meet our freshman team one-on-one and start building what will become lifelong relationships." The

freshman team also delivered a limited-edition Class of 2024 MTA *kippah*, which the incoming freshmen are already wearing to show their MTA pride! The excitement continued on Zoom with a fun-filled Freshman Orientation, featuring games with DJ Dov and getting to know the entire MTA team, including administrators, grade deans, and *rebbeim*. Incoming freshmen also had the opportunity to spend time with their Cub2Lion Senior mentors, who serve as a great resource for the boys during their freshman year and beyond. MTA can't wait for the Class of 2024 to join the entire yeshiva in the fall! ■

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# AROUND THE 5 TOWNS

## Meet Rambam Mesivta's Valedictorian, Salutatorian, And Keter Shem Tov Awardee

The Rambam Mesivta Class of 2020/5780 is represented by three standouts who exemplify the highest values of Torah, *middos*, and excellence.



*Uriel Sussman, Rambam valedictorian*

**Uriel Sussman: Valedictorian.** Uriel is captain of the Rambam Torah Bowl, robotics, and debate teams, though he says that his proudest accomplishments are the weekly *HaMasmid* publication and *Semichat Chaver* in *Basar B'Chalav* and *Ma'achalei Akum*. Uriel is also a member of the chess, College Bowl, and math teams and participated in the Jerusalem Science Competition, Torah Bowl at CitiField, USACO, ACSL, and the math and science Olympiads. He has an insatiable thirst for knowledge and a passion for learning Torah and language—programming, musical, spoken, or otherwise. In his free time, Uriel enjoys attending *shiurim*, explaining complex concepts, and engaging in rigorous debate. Uriel plans on spending the upcoming academic year engaged in personal growth at Yeshivat Har Etzion - Gush. He will then attend Yeshiva University, where he hopes to obtain *semichah* and devote his life to the Jewish community.

**Avi Balsam: Salutatorian.** For his entire high-school career, Avi has been committed to teamwork, leadership, and personal achievement. He has participated in most of the extracurricular activities the school has to offer, and he has taken a leadership position on many of those teams. Avi is one of the captains of Rambam's Debate team, and he has won multiple awards at regional debate tournaments. He is also an assistant captain of the Mock Trial team, where he participated as a lawyer to bring the team to the playoffs. He is also an active participant in the robotics team, the math team, College Bowl, History Bowl, soccer, and a host of other clubs and activities. Avi hopes to continue his active extracurricular schedule and academic achievements even after high school. He plans to eventually pursue a career in software engineering, where he will use



*Avi Balsam, Rambam salutatorian*

his aptitude for computer programming in a practical setting.



*Avrum Klein,  
Rambam Keter Shem Tov awardee*

**Avrum Klein: Keter Shem Tov Awardee.** Avrum is a constant presence at the school's extra-learning *Masmidim* Program, and keeps the beat for the Rambam Choir, The Harmonides, as the squad's resident beat-boxer. A stalwart member of the *Chesed* Committee, as well as a member of the Model

Beis Din and Torah Bowl, and a writer for *HaMasmid*, Avrum is always there to help, give words of encouragement, or serve as the humble moral compass. His kindness and commitment to others make him the ideal recipient of the Keter Shem Tov Award.

Despite the challenges faced this year due to the pandemic, these students continued to exhibit the best in Torah learning, academic excellence, and the desire to give back. They are fitting representatives of the Class of 2020/5780. ■

## Gan Chamesh Ends The Year With Uplifting Gratitude Graduation Parade

Gan Chamesh, Chabad's Early Childhood Center, ended the year with an exciting walk-through graduation parade centered around the theme of gratitude to Hashem. The children and their families marched to the music of Gary Wallin, and went from station to station, while making sure to adhere to all social distancing guidelines. There was a

*Continued on Page 78*

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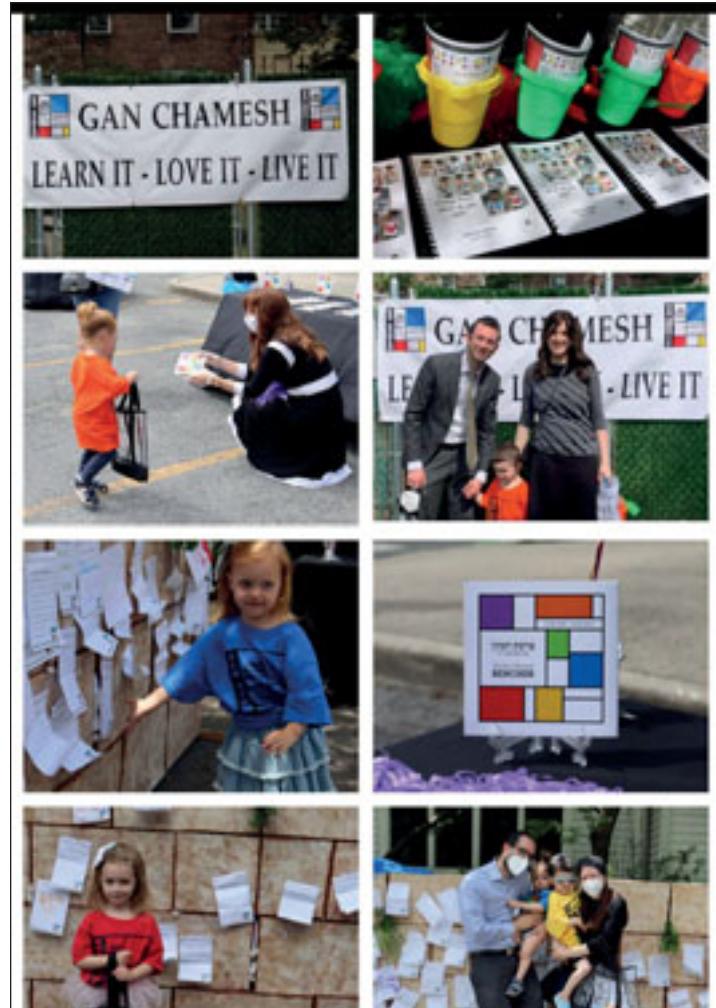
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# AROUND THE 5 TOWNS

*Continued from Page 77*

personalized introduction of each graduate. The children

received. They also received their yearbooks and diplomas, a Gan Chamesh tote bag, bubbles, and a refreshing ices treat. The



held decorated banners, pinned notes expressing gratitude to Hashem on a pretend Kosel, and found their own pictures within the unique, personalized Gan Chamesh *bentchers* they

graduation was a meaningful experience that gave the children a sense of closure and the opportunity to express their gratitude to their teachers. *Mazal tov* to all the graduates! ■

## Cheder Chabad Girls LI Meets For End-Of-Year Reunion

After not seeing each other except on Zoom for the last three months, the students of Cheder Chabad Girls of Long Island had a short and sweet (literally) gathering for their last day of school.



*Cheder Chabad LI students meet for end-of-the-year reunion*

Meeting at the plaza across the street from their building and wearing masks, each class gathered with their teachers for a quick reunion as well as farewell. The girls were also given their hard-earned *Tzivos Hashem* medals and received their promotion books reflecting their new ranks in the Army of Hashem.

An extra bonus was the sweet treat provided for them with the arrival of the *chalav Yisrael* ice cream truck! Each girl received a delicious large ice-cream cone with sprinkles.

The day was sweet on all accounts! ■

## SHS Celebrates A Successful Year

In lieu of a banquet celebrating a successful year, Shulamith High School planned two events. The first, on Tuesday afternoon, took place on Zoom. The program opened with Principal Mrs. Sara Munk and was followed by a pre-recorded video in which specific students and student groups were introduced by faculty and recognized for their notewor-

thy accomplishments this year.

SHS's NCSY JUMP team, which was awarded a grant for their incredible project, was acknowledged for their achievement. Sophomore Ariella Forzman was announced as a top ten nationalist in Chidon HaTanach—placing third in the country, an incredible feat! Freshman Shira Deil earned

was a great success.

"*Chesed* is a huge part of our school," director of student activities, Ms. Esty Munk, began, "...our *Chesed* Ambassadors further instilled the importance of *chesed*, in big ways and small, through weekly hours and larger events... thank you *Chesed* Ambassadors Noam Maman, Leora Goldstein, Ellyana Pilevsky, Gabriella Grossman, Chaya Gelbstein, and Chaya Warren."

Subject Scholars, a new independent study program at SHS, was a huge success. Students had an opportunity to choose an area of interest and were assigned a faculty mentor as they completed a research project. A virtual museum was created to showcase their learning and projects as a live presentation was not possible. Michal Betzalely, Gabriella Grossman, Melissa Zalisky, Talya Sharoni, Shira Deil, Meira Goldstein, Leah Chaya Gluck, Noam Maman, and Basya Vishnepolsky wowed the school with their display of intellectual curiosity and academic motivation. Finally, the G.O. was recognized, though it is impossible to articulate how hard this year's G.O. worked creating and executing the numerous programs at SHS. Even throughout Zoom there were nightly and weekly events. Co-presidents Tamar



*Remembering SHS 2020*

her recognition for placing in a scholastic national art contest, with honorable mentions earned by juniors Ellyana Pilevsky and Talia Ben-Simhon. Middot Heads and *Chesed* Ambassadors were thanked for their dedication and creativity in planning events throughout the year. The Middot Heads, 11th-grader Chaya Warren, 10th-grader Gizzi Gestenter, and 12th-grader Tzivie Scharf were chosen by faculty to head the new *middot* program which

Davies and Adina Lazar, Vice President Talia Ben-Simhon, and Secretary Elisheva Jaffa worked closely with Ms. Esty Munk this year, working late nights and early mornings to ensure an incredible year, before and during quarantine.

Before the concluding montage, two students from each grade earned an award as voted by faculty and students—one *middot* award, and, elected by teachers, one academic award. Freshman Michal Moskowitz,

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## AROUND THE 5 TOWNS

*Continued from Page 78*

sophomore Chanie Hertz, and junior Ellyana Pilevsky earned their *midot* awards with their consistent displays of kindness and gratitude, modeling *midot tovot* in their behavior and hearts. Michal, Chanie, and Ellyana, the entire SHS was so proud to give you this well-deserved award! For showing a love of learning, a desire to succeed and grow in academics, freshman Michal Betzalely, sophomore Meira Golstein, and junior Talia Ben-Simohn were all given academic excellence awards. This award means more than just earning good grades—it recognizes these students' inquisitive minds and commitment to education.

A video montage followed, which included picture and video clips of the whole year, bringing to mind the freshman retreat, pre-first day *achdus* trip, *chagigahs*, trips, surprise events, and more. Emotional and bittersweet, the pictures reminded everyone of something that did not need reminding: SHS is our home. Just when faculty thought the meeting was adjourned, students surprised everyone with their own montage. Writing messages of how SHS teachers are unique, students "passed" their messages from one to the other, in a montage of video clips. Messages in-



cluded recognizing and thanking teachers for "constant care and consideration," "hard work," "showing constant positivity," "teaching for inside and outside the classroom," "being available on 'off hours,'" and, of course, "caring about each individual student." Before signing off, students were reminded that SHS has planned—once Phase III officially begins—an in-person summer farewell for students. Following guidelines, it will have staggered attendance, but will still be the best kind of way to end the year.

*Continued on Page 84*

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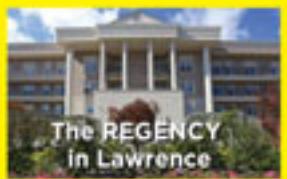
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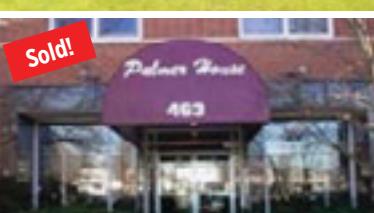
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### WOODMERE



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### CEDARHURST



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### WOODMERE



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### West Hempstead

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*Continued on Page 82*

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### WOODMERE

**NEW!**

Lg custom col w/ 6br+3.5bath, Kosher granite EIK w/ hi-end SS appl, lg LR and DR, great for entertaining, mag windows throughout, hdwd floors, 50ft hentry hall, spot lights and hi hats, everything updated, pristine cond. Acad area **\$1,249K**

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### WOODMERE

**NEW**

4BR col on ABC streets. **\$749K**

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Lovely Ranch with 2700 Sq Ft of Living space W/ CAC and Gas Heating, 4 BR and 3 full Baths, eik, quiet Block, close to homes of worship, Fenced-in Patio in back, 5-zone Irrigation system, lots of storage space, LOCATION!! Asking **\$769K**



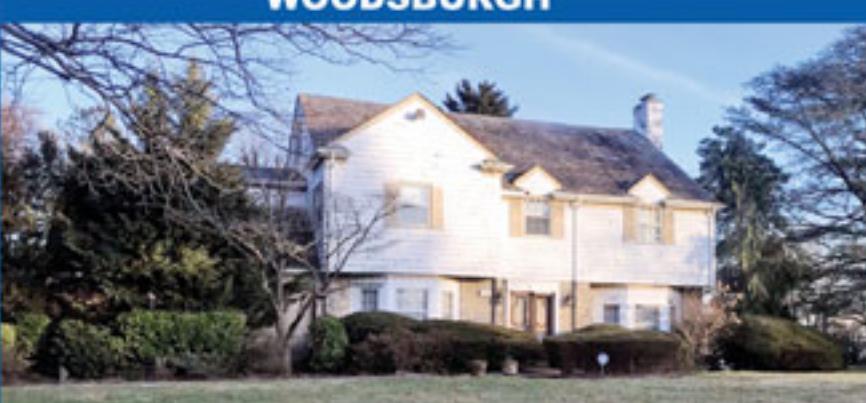
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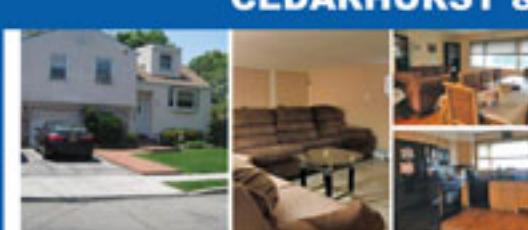
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**Cedarhurst** — New listing 2 bedroom 1 full bathroom, private terrace, 1st floor apartment, kitchen with granite countertops, updated appliances, high hats, hardwood floors, full bath with jacuzzi tub, 2 closets in each bedroom, close to park, shopping, railroad and houses of worship ..... \$279K

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**Woodmere** — Spacious 2 bedroom apartment on the 1st floor. Elevator building, underground parking available, hardwood floors, laundry room in building, storage available, eat in kitchen, full bathroom-tub and separate shower stall. Close to railroad, shopping and houses of worship ..... \$339K

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**Woodmere** — New to market 2 bedroom 1.5 bathrooms, elevator building. renovated kitchen with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, hardwood floors, custom closet, laundry room on premises, storage unit available, close to railroad, shopping and houses of worship ..... \$249,000

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**Woodmere** — New to the market 4 bedroom 3 bathroom expanded ranch, in school district 15, renovated eat in kitchen with 2 sinks, 2 dishwashers, high end appliances, radiant heat, dining room with fireplace, huge den, new full bathroom, magnificent master bedroom suite with vaulted ceiling, full bathroom, and additional room for nursery or office. Quiet residential street ..... \$875,000

Open House Sunday June 28 1:00-2:30pm

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## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

**Woodmere** — 5 bedroom, 4 bathroom colonial prime location, spacious eat in kitchen, living room with fireplace, formal dining room, hardwood floors, Anderson windows, new trex deck, dishwasher, and hot water heater. 1st layer on roof, full basement, close to railroad, shopping and houses of worship ..... \$849K

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**Woodmere** — Just listed Great location in Old Woodmere, 4 bedroom, 2 Bathroom, 3 car garage, easy to expand, close to railroad, shopping and houses of worship ..... \$725,000

Open House Sunday June 28 2-4:00pm

1083 Lynn Place

Mark Lipner 516-298-8457,

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**Woodmere** — New to the market 4 bedroom 3 bathroom expanded ranch, in school district 15, renovated eat in kitchen with 2 sinks, 2 dishwashers, high end appliances, radiant heat, dining room with fireplace, huge den, new full bathroom, magnificent master bedroom suite with vaulted ceiling, full bathroom, and additional room for nursery or office. Quiet residential street ..... \$875,000

Open House Sunday June 28 1:00-2:30pm

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## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

**Woodmere** — Move in ready center hall colonial, prime location in Woodmere, close to railroad, shopping and houses of worship. Home features central air conditioning upstairs and new split systems throughout. 4 zone gas heat, new boiler and hot water heater, new electric panel & full house generator, in ground sprinklers, water filtration system, LED lighting, hardwood floors, new eat in kitchen with 2 sinks, double oven, new full bathroom, full finished basement, spacious rooms throughout, and so much more close to railroad, shopping and houses of worship ..... \$879K

Open House Sunday June 28 11:00-12:30pm 970 West Broadway

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**Woodmere** — Magnificent property (63x126) on a quiet residential tree lined street in SD#15, 4 bedroom 2 full bathrooms, 2 car garage, easily expandable ..... \$949K

Open House Sunday June 28 11:00-12:30pm

Mark Lipner 516-298-8457,

[mlipner@bhhsaffey.com](mailto:mlipner@bhhsaffey.com) Associate Broker  
Berkshire Hathaway Laffey International Pugatch Group

**Woodmere** — Great house in a great location in SD#15, bright & sunny, living room, kitchen, + master bedroom with vaulted ceilings, 6 bedrooms plus finished basement, close to railroad, shopping and houses of worship ..... \$849K

Open House Sunday June 28 3:00-4:30pm

Mark Lipner 516-298-8457,

[mlipner@bhhsaffey.com](mailto:mlipner@bhhsaffey.com) Associate Broker  
Berkshire Hathaway Laffey International Pugatch Group

**Hewlett** — Exp-Ranch, 4BR, Enclosed & Heated Back Room Overlooks The Deck, Formal DR, Basement, SD#14, Close To All ..... \$549K

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[www.Bhhsaffey.Com](http://www.Bhhsaffey.Com), 516-295-3000

**North Woodmere** — Fabulous Colonial, 5BR, 2.5BA, Formal DR, Updated EIK, Finished Basement, SD#15 ..... \$1.099M

**Woodmere@Bhhsaffey.Com,**  
[www.Bhhsaffey.Com](http://www.Bhhsaffey.Com), 516-295-3000



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### HEWLETT NECK

**NEW TO MARKET**

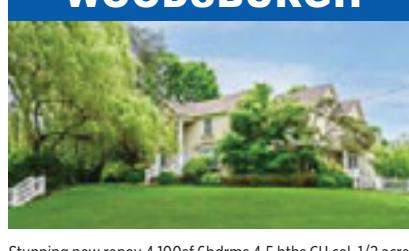
Stucco col. park-like prop. w/ gardens & igp, wraparound deck & 2nd floor balcony w/ water views, flr, fdr, new gourmet eik, den, lrg rec rm. Main floor mag. mbr w/ closets & lux. bth, +5br, 4bths, office \$1,925M



### WOODMERE

**OPEN HOUSE**  
JUN. 28 12-1:30 PM

141 Linden Street



### LAWRENCE

**NEW TO MARKET**

Brick 8BR Georgian col. w/ grand 2-story marble entry, den, gourmet eik, banquet fdr, flr, MBR suite w/ closets & lux bth+7 BR, fin. bsmt, radiant heat, generator, beautiful park-like prop. prime loc! \$2,485M



### WOODSBURGH

**NEW TO MARKET**

Stunning new renov 4,100sf 6bdrrms 4.5 bths CH col. 1/2 acre prof. landscap crnr lot. Conv loc, SD #15. Gourm cstm EIK, entrntrg spaces. Generat, water filtr sys. Low taxes. \$1,749M



### WOODMERE

Charming tutor in prestigious Academy area, lg flr with high ceilings, fdr, den, EIK, 4 bdrrms on one level w/ finished attic, full finished basement, beautiful tree lined street \$825K

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2901 Royal Palm Ave, Miami Beach  
3 BD | 3.5 BA | 2,637 SF Sold for \$1,850,000



4403 Pine Tree Drive, Miami Beach  
9 BD | 10.5 BA | 10,012 SF Sold for \$7,330,000



5055 Collins Ave Unit 12M, Miami Beach  
2 BD | 3 BA | 1,640 SF Sold for \$584,000

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## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

**Douglaston — New Listing** — Lovely 15 Year Old Colonial, 4BR, 2.5BA, Eik, Formal DR, Full Finished Basement..... \$P.O.R.  
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**Hewlett — New Listing** — Lovely & Spacious 2BR Co-op, Beautiful Renovated Kitchen, Close To All .. \$125K  
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**Valley Stream/Nwdmr** — Spacious Townhouse, 3BR, 2.5 Bath, EIK, Formal DR, Basement, Close To All, Rare Opportunity ..... \$420K  
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**www.Bhhslaffey.Com, 516-295-3000**

**Woodmere** — Spectacular & Extra Spacious Corner Unit Completely Renovated, 3BR, 2.5BA Condo, SD#14, Master BR Suite On Main Floor, Finished Basement, Community Pool & Tennis Court ..... \$675K  
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**www.Bhhslaffey.Com, 516-295-3000**

**Lawrence Bay Park** — New to market! Spacious, beautiful 6BR on quiet tree-lined street in prestigious Lawrence Bay Park. Granite EIK, FDR with fireplace, LR with cathedral ceilings, den, 6BR, 4bths, closets galore, on oversized property, walking distance to all .. \$1.599M  
**Call Joan for appointment and details**  
**516-319-4482**  
**Five Towns Homes 516-569-5710**

**Woodmere** — 4BR, 2.5bth, hi-ranch, near water, IG swimming pool, finished basement, ABC blocks, close to all SD#15 ..... \$615K  
**Call 631-889-2882**

**Woodmere** — For Sale by Owner. ABC street, corner property with beautiful water views, 3BR, 3bths, kosher kitchen, new floors, totally redone..... \$920K  
**racheldahan516@gmail.com**

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Co-op for sale in **Lawrence**. Great Location. Move-in condition. Junior Four. Granite Kitchen with SS appliances. Tiled Bathroom. One large bedroom. Large dining area Sunk-in Living room with gleaming hardwood floors. Bright, sunny terrace, indoor garage..... \$285K  
**Call 516-698-1765**

**Far Rockaway** — First show, ours alone! Calling all builders! Cleared empty lot 4400sq.ft. Ready for building. Good for 2- or 3-family house

**For details and appointment**  
**call Joan 516-319-4482**  
**Five Towns Homes 516-569-5710**

**Cedarhurst — New Exclusive**-ours alone. Legal 2 family brick house in prime location. Each apartment has: Large LR, formal DR, EIK, Low taxes. Gas heat. Walk all. Spacious first floor apartment, 3 BR, 1.5 bath, basement. Second floor apt with separate entrance upstairs, 2+ BR, finished attic.

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**Five Towns Homes 516-569-5710**

Quality **new construction** between Peninsula Blvd and West Bway, Classic 5+ BR Colonial with full basement, Huge Kosher Kitchen. **South Shore Estates**, Call Susan: **516-569-4980**

**Cedarhurst** — Center hall colonial, large LR, FDR, EIK, den with fireplace, huge master suite with dressing room and bathroom, plus 3 spacious bedrooms (all four on one floor), full finished basement with high ceilings, oversized property and low taxes. Great location, walk to all!

**For details and appointment.**  
**Call Joan for details 516-319-4482**  
**Five Towns Homes 516-569-5710**

**Woodsburgh** — Magnificent Totally Renovated 7+ BR Classic Colonial On 1+ Acre. Lush Grounds With Guest House And Pool. Every Amenity. Must See. Walk To IP Minyan. Call For Appointment & Price

**South Shore Estates, call Susan:**  
**516-569-4980**

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

**Cedarhurst** — Located b/w Peninsula & W. Broadway. Still time to customize! Call for details. **Call for price.**  
**South Shore Estates, call Susan:**  
**516-569-4980**

**Woodmere** — Great house for large family or perfect mother/daughter with proper permits. Totally renovated with gorgeous kitchens, SS appliances. 6BR, 4bth, Pesach kitchen. Great location, walking distance to all shuls. In prestigious SD#14. Price reduced!..... \$799K  
**Call Joan for appointment and details**  
**516-319-4482**

**Five Towns Homes 516-569-5710**

**Woodmere Waterfront** — Absolutely mint 5 level split. 5BR, 3Bth, FLR, oversized FDR, top-of-the-line Euro EIK, 2 family rooms, finished basement, lots of storage space. Magnificent waterfront views w/ two decks. Price Reduced, Call for details. Must see! Too much to mention. Call for private viewing. **Open House by Appointment. South Shore Estates, Call Susan 516-569-4980**

**Cedarhurst** — Renovated, Mint Classic C/H Colonial. 4BR, Grand entry foyer with oversized LR w/ fpl & elegant FDR. Top-of-the-line Euro EIK with granite countertops and SS appliances. Large master BR w/ doors to deck. Beautifully fin bsmnt w/ laundry & playroom. Located between Peninsula Blvd & W. Broadway. Low taxes. Great prop. Oversized 2-car garage. Room to expand. Walk to all. Price on request. Call Susan for appt.

**South Shore Estates, call Susan:**  
**516-569-4980**

## FOR RENT

**Cedarhurst** — 4 bedroom updated apartment, eat in kitchen, gas stove, new bathroom, gleaming hardwood floors, washer/dryer, close to railroad, shopping and houses of worship ..... \$3,500 monthly  
**Mark Lipner 516-298-8457,**  
**mlipner@bhhslaffey.com** Associate Broker  
Berkshire Hathaway Laffey International Pugatch Group

## FOR RENT

**Cedarhurst** — Renovated 3 bedroom plus full finished basement, large eat in kitchen with quartz countertops, dishwasher, gas stove, washer/dryer, gleaming hardwood floors, use of yard, close to railroad, shopping, and houses of worship..... \$4,500 monthly  
**Mark Lipner 516-298-8457,**  
**mlipner@bhhslaffey.com** Associate Broker  
Berkshire Hathaway Laffey International Pugatch Group

**Hewlett** — Totally renovated 2 bedroom apartment with washer/dryer, quartz countertops, recessed lighting, stainless steel appliances, hardwood floors, 2 air conditioning units, storage, close to all ..... \$2,550  
**monthly No Brokers Fee**  
**Mark Lipner 516-298-8457,**  
**mlipner@bhhslaffey.com** Associate Broker  
Berkshire Hathaway Laffey International Pugatch Group

**Woodmere** — Totally renovated 1 bedroom apartment with washer/dryer, quartz countertops, stainless steel appliances, recessed lighting, hardwood floors .. \$1,950  
**Monthly No Brokers Fee**  
**Mark Lipner 516-298-8457,**  
**mlipner@bhhslaffey.com** Associate Broker  
Berkshire Hathaway Laffey International Pugatch Group

**Woodmere** — Spacious 6 bedroom, 2.5 bathrooms, living room with vaulted ceilings & fireplace, oversized den with fireplace, large family room, 5 bedrooms on one level, close to railroad, shopping and houses of worship ..... \$4,000 monthly  
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**mlipner@bhhslaffey.com** Associate Broker  
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*Continued on Page 84*

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### EAST ROCKAWAY Sd#20



### LAWRENCE NEW LISTING



Renovated Colonial, Culdesac, 5+Br's, 5Bth, 4500 Sq Ft, Huge family Rm extension, Low taxes.....\$1,875,000

### CEDARHURST/Hampshire House



### WOODMERE/COOP



### LAWRENCE/COOP



## FOR RENT

**Far Rockaway/Nassau Border** — 2 Bedroom & 1 Bathroom Rental in Beautiful Townhouse. High-End Finish, Gleaming Hardwood Floors, Many Elegant Windows, & Bright LED Lighting throughout. Kitchen features 2 Sinks & Stainless Steel Appliances. Great Location, Move Right In. For Lease asking ..... \$2400/Month  
Call Fatima Smith for a Private Showing  
**Woodmere@Bhhsaffey.Com**, [www.Bhhsaffey.Com](http://www.Bhhsaffey.Com), 516-295-3000

**Far Rockaway/Nassau Border** — 3 Bedroom & 3 Bathroom Rental in Beautiful Multi-level Townhouse. High-End Finish, Gleaming Hardwood Floors, Many Elegant Windows, Bright LED Lighting, & Sliders to Multiple Patios throughout. Kitchen features 2 Sinks, Stainless Steel Appliances, Walkout to Private Rooftop Patio w/Astroturf finish. Garage Parking, Great Location, Move Right In. For Lease asking ..... \$3500/Month  
Call Fatima Smith for a Private Showing  
**Woodmere@Bhhsaffey.Com**, [www.Bhhsaffey.Com](http://www.Bhhsaffey.Com), 516-295-3000

**Cedarhurst — House rental.** New to market, ours alone, spacious beautiful colonial, LR with fireplace, FDR, kitchen w/ SS appliances, huge den, 4+BR, full finished basement on oversized property on private, quiet, tree-lined street..... \$5500/month  
**Call Joan for details 516-319-4482**  
**Five Towns Homes 516-569-5710**

**Far Rockaway** — Newly renovated spacious 2BR, LR, DR, EIK, laundry room with washer/dryer hookup, backyard, and parking available ..... \$1900/month  
**Call Joan for details 516-319-4482**  
**Five Towns Homes 516-569-5710**

**Lawrence/Cedarhurst** — Lower level, separate entrance, totally renovated, large 1BR, new granite kosher kitchen, all utilities included ..... \$1800  
**Call Joan for details 516-319-4482**  
**Five Towns Homes 516-569-5710**

**Far Rockaway — New to market.** Renovated, 1, 2, 3 and 4BR rentals, great location.  
**Call Joan for details, 516-319-4482**  
**Five Towns Homes Realty 516-569-5710**

**Far Rockaway** — Beautiful, Ours alone. Spacious totally renovated, 4BR, 2.5bth, duplex apt, kosher granite EIK, hardwood floors, FDR, large LR, washer/dryer, great backyard and parking, walk to all ..... \$3100  
**Call Joan for details 516-319-4482**  
**Five Towns Homes 516-569-5710**

**Cedarhurst** — 1 and 2 and 3 Bedroom apartments for Rent. Prime location, Walk all.  
**Call Joan for details 516-319-4482**  
**Five Towns Homes 516-569-5710**

**Far Rockaway** — Newly Renovated 3BR, 2Bth, Apartment in a beautifully enclosed complex on Neilson Street. —Move in condition, First Floor—one off Street parking spot—Close to all Shuls—option to add additional rooms with a separate Pesach Kitchen and additional bathroom.  
**Call Dovid 516-924-1970,**  
**Aaron 347-866-6363**

Private House for rent in gated community in one of the best parts of **Far Rockaway**. Beautifully renovated duplex, 3 full BRs, 4bths - 2 full & 2 half, kitchen with new appliances, LR & DR, Basement, full-sized deck with built-in Sukkah frame, direct access to backyard, 2 parking spots, shul in complex, washer/dryer hookup. To view this unique house, call **David 516-924-1970, Alex 347-866-6363**

## VACATION RENTAL

**South Fallsburg** — 4-star estate, 3BR, 2bth, A/C, furnished, beautiful quiet grounds, shul, swimming pool.  
**718-887-9440**

## COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

**Lynbrook** — Turnkey bakery/commissary for sale. Price reduced now **\$59k**. Includes all equipment, POS computer, too much to list. Call Randy Green for More Details **516-459-2375**  
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## COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

**Valley Stream — For Sale**, 4400 +/- SF Plus Full Basement, 20 Car Parking, 7 Private Offices Including 2 Extra Large Executive Offices, 6 Bathrooms, Full Kitchen, Many Upgrades Including A Nest Security System & Remote Access, Call Ian Leigh For More Details **516-384-3880**  
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**Far Rockaway** — First show. Calling all investors: Rare opportunity! Legal 5-family house in prime location, near train, beach, and shopping. Good income producing. Asking ..... Asking \$899K  
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**Five Towns Homes 516-569-5710**

## COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

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**Woodmere** — 1-2 Person Office, With Own Bathroom, Work Near Home, 350SF... Call Randy Green For More Details **516-459-2375**  
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**Desk Space — 2182 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn.** Across street from TD Bank, bus stop. Wifi/Internet. Near Kings Plaza. Modern Office. Prime Location. Owner call/text **646-866-0400**.

**Inwood** — Fully renovated, great office space. With private bathrooms, conference room, kitchen area, in prime location. Parking. **A Must See!** Perfect for all uses. For details and appointment call Joan **516-319-4482**  
**Five Towns Homes 516-569-5710**

**Cedarhurst — Commercial Co-op for rent** in prime location, good for part time professional, close to all. Call for details.  
**Call Joan 516-319-4482**  
**Five Towns Homes 516-569-5710**

**Garden City — Office space immediately available!** 1399 Franklin Avenue Windowed Office in Law Office Suite, accessible 24/7, secretarial station, shared copier, kitchenette, near courts & LIRR. Possible overflow work ..... \$1500  
**516-747-4770**

**Rockville Centre** — 3,500 sq. ft., fully wired for Web, partitioned, will divide. Call **516-322-3555**

## MISCELLANEOUS

Yeshiva of South Shore has some **membership openings in its burial society**. By purchasing an individual, couple or family membership, you will be ensured of select plots in one of several New York area cemeteries. For more information on burial society membership, please call **516-374-7363** or e-mail: [societies@yoss.org](mailto:societies@yoss.org)

## LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of formation of HuCo LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Sec. of New York SSNY on 6/5/20. Off. Loc. in Nassau Co. SSNY has been design. for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process of service against the LLC to 70 St. Paul's Place Hempstead, NY 11550. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Journey By Michal LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York SSNY on 3/02/2020. Office location Nassau County. SSNY has been designated for service of process served against the LLC 916 Woodmere Drive, Valley Stream, NY 11581. Purpose any lawful purpose.

Deadline for Classified Advertising in the next issue is Monday, June 29, at 5:00 p.m. Call **516-569-0502** ext. 208

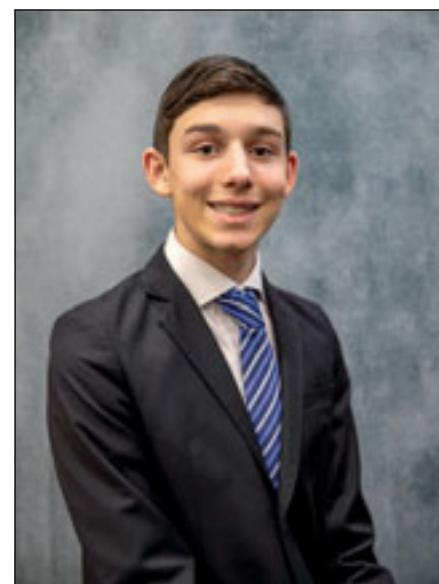
## AROUND THE 5 TOWNS

Continued from Page 79

Before concluding, SHS would like to take a special moment to thank juniors Tali Hertz and Leora Walfish for creating and arranging the Mishmar program. Both Tali and Leora took this extra learning program upon themselves—arranging the speakers, flyers, and food. These incredible students modeled a source of pride of SHS—the ability of students to advocate for and create what they want.

Surprises are in store for SHS students at the summer send-off! ■

## Mesivta Ateres Yaakov Class Of 2020 High Honors



*Yosef DiGiacomo, MAY valedictorian*

**Yosef DiGiacomo: Valedictorian.** Yosef excels in all areas of his life and has been quite busy since he entered MAY. He enrolled in all honors classes, served as secretary of the student government, and was the president of the MAY Arista chapter in his senior year. An extremely bright student, Yosef has always been willing to lend a helping hand to anyone in need and can often be found helping other students preparing for exams. Yosef's talents are not limited to the classroom: He was a member of the soccer team and a senior member of the soccer club. Yosef's positive spirit, calm demeanor, and acute sense of *derekh eretz* lift the spirits of everyone around him, no matter the circumstance. He will surely continue to accomplish amazing things and be successful in any path he chooses. Yosef is graduating with an overall 99.11 GPA and will be heading to Yeshivas Chofetz Chaim in Yerushalayim next year.

**Chaim Weiss, Salutatorian.** Chaim values education, achievement, and *chesed*. He has a kind and calm demeanor, combined with a razor-sharp intellect that enabled him to skip a grade into the honors *shiur* and all honors classes. Chaim has maintained an above-average academic record with top grades, while simultaneously being down to earth and always available for friends, whether to help them understand a difficult *sugya*, prepare for a test, or just to chat and give guidance. Chaim is always eager to learn more and make new friendships, and

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## AROUND THE 5 TOWNS



*Chaim Weiss, MAY salutatorian*

his character stands out above all else. As captain of the bowling team, he has shown his leadership skills. Whatever path Chaim chooses in the upcoming years, we remain confident that he will shine and lift others with him. Chaim is graduating with a 98.42 overall GPA and will be heading to Yeshivas Toras Moshe in Israel next year.



*Aaron Enyatiyan, MAY Middos awardee*

**Aaron Enyatiyan, Rav Yaakov & Binyomin Kamenetzky Middos, Character & Academic Excellence Award.** Aaron is a compassionate, kind, and good-natured individual who is always looking out for the success of those around him. Whether it's a serious conversation or just a good time, he's always there for friends. Aaron has the ability to evenly balance all aspects of his life, a skill that is rarely found in someone his age. He excelled academically, was an officer of the MAY Arista chapter, and was a key member of both the varsity basketball and softball teams. Aaron is a tremendous *ba'al chesed* and has grown enormously in all areas of his life since arriving at MAY—demonstrating maturity beyond his years. It is clear that Aaron's amazing personality will assist him in continuing his development into a true *ben Torah* and success in life. Aaron is graduating with a 94.38 overall GPA

and will be heading to Yeshivas Merkaz HaTorah in Israel next year.

**Aryeh Singer, Rav Pesach Oratz Hasmودה & Overall Excellence Award.** Aryeh has been an exemplary *talmid* in so many areas—academically, on the basketball court, and as someone highly regarded by his peers. Whatever Aryeh does, he gives 100% of himself, 100% of the time, while trying to put others first. He is soft-spoken and humble despite his many accomplishments: a top student, captain of the varsity basketball team and officer of the MAY Arista chapter. He has shown genuine success and growth in his time at MAY, from the development of his sterling *middos* to his devotion to learning and becoming a *ben Torah*. Aryeh will surely be successful in whatever the future holds for him, and he will do so with a smile on his face. Aryeh is graduating



*Aryeh Singer, MAY Excellence awardee*

with a 94.57 overall GPA and will be heading to Yeshivas Toras Chaim in Israel next year. ■

### HANC High School Celebrates Top Honors

The Hebrew Academy of Nassau County is proud to announce the Class of 2020 valedictorian and salutatorian. HANC High School's *menahel*, Rabbi Shlomo Adelman, proudly remarked, "Adam Speiser and Alexandra Lenefsky embody the core values of our yeshiva. Each one, in his or her own unique way, personifies excellence as scholars, leaders, and *ba'alei middot*. The HANC community is incredibly proud of these well-deserving honorees who excel in their academic and religious studies."

*Continued on Page 86*



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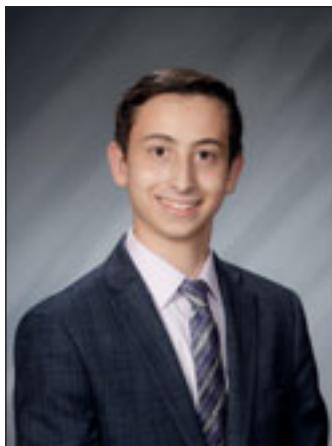
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# AROUND THE 5 TOWNS

Continued from Page 85

**Valedictorian: Adam**

**Speiser.** Adam is truly a gentleman and a scholar. His teachers rave about him and praise his endearing concern for his peers, often seeing him offer his free time to others to aid them in their comprehension of topics after class. He is a divergent thinker who welcomes a challenge; he does not shy away from tough assignments. He welcomes the opportunity to "think," and tackles his assignments with passion and conviction. He is a mature, focused, and insightful young man whose intellect has earned him many accolades.



Adam Speiser,  
HANC valedictorian

Adam is a member of the National Honor Society and was also named to both the General and Judaic Studies Honor Roll every quarter of his high-

school career. He was selected by the administration as the recipient of the University of Rochester's Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award. While this award was earned for his excellence in the sciences, he has also been consistently honored with awards and recognitions such as the Rav Avraham Yitzchak Kook Passion for Education Award and the Rabbi Meir & Rebbetzin Goldie Fendel Determination & Perseverance Award, which exemplify the quality of character he brings to the school and community. Adam has been named an AP Scholar for his performance on his AP exams. He is also a student of the challenging and prestigious *beit midrash* program.

Adam is a *mensch* in every sense of the word. While rising to the occasion in his academic classes, he still found time to pursue a diverse multitude of extracurricular interests. Currently, he is co-chair of the *bikur cholim* committee where he is hard at work on a "Letters to Essential Workers" initiative that will collect e-mails

from students to show appreciation for those who put their lives on the line during the COVID-19 pandemic. He is also a founder of the Ju-Jitsu club, co-chair of the astronomy club, opinion editor of the *HANC Herald*, as well as a member of the Torah Bowl, Mathletes, College Bowl, and Chess club ... just to name a few. Adam is also an accomplished pianist, as well as a black belt in Ju-Jitsu.

Adam has a demonstrated passion for computer science and plans to pursue it as a major in college. He has taken steps to gain exposure in the field both locally and globally. He previously participated in the Cooper Union Summer STEM Makerspace, a six-week immersive program utilizing cutting-edge technology on design and research. He also took part in NCSY Next Step, an Israel-based summer internship. The combination of his real-word experience with engineering and AP Computer Science classes align Adam to be a well-versed contributor to his field.

After a year at Yeshivat Migdal Hatorah in Israel, Adam will be attending University of Maryland as a member of the Scholars Program.

**Salutatorian: Alexandra Lenefsky.**

Alexandra is a teacher's dream. Known affectionately as Ali to all, she is an eloquent young lady who conducts herself with grace and class. Her grace is matched equally by her intelligence. She is insightful, organized, and has an innate drive to excel. She works thoroughly and selflessly, often keeping the bigger picture in mind. Teachers and peers alike regard her as a role model. She was selected by her classmates and administration to become co-president of the National Honor Society. She consistently challenged herself throughout her high-school career with a slew of scholars, honors, and AP courses. Additionally, she was named to both the General and Judaic Studies Honor Roll every quarter of her high-school career and is a student of the *beit midrash* program.

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# AROUND THE 5 TOWNS



*Ali Lenefsky, HANC salutatorian*

Throughout the halls of HANC, Ali is known for her kindness, humility, approachability, and infectious smile. She is a student who can always be counted

ship Circle, as well as working with the young-adult population as a member of the Yachad Committee.

Aside from her love of *chesed*, Ali also has a passion for dance. As the captain of the dance team, she poured her heart onto the dance floor, choreographing exquisite routines week after week and captivating the audience at the annual Rekudiah Dance Competition. She is also co-captain of the volleyball team. Additionally, Ali was a member of the competitive Torah Bowl team, peer tutoring program, HPAC, and was a weekly contributor for the *Midreshai HANC* newspaper.

After a year at Sha'alvim for Women, Ali plans to study psychology at Queens College.

*Mazal tov* to the awardees and to the entire Class of 2020. ■

## A Graduation To Remember



*HANC Graduation*

on, always willing to learn and jotting notes with vigor, her mind like a sponge carefully absorbing information. She has the uncanny ability to apply complex concepts to modern-day movies and situations.

Her intellect, creativity, critical thinking, and quality of character have earned her many accolades over the years. She was selected by the administration as a recipient of the Ateret Shem Tov Award for distinguished character and a strong commitment to leading a life of high ethical and moral standards. She was also a recipient of the University of Rochester Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award for her combination of strong grades, rigorous coursework, community service, leadership, and demonstrated commitment to understanding and addressing difficult social issues. Ali was also a previous winner of the Moshe Flescher Holocaust Scholarship Essay Contest.

Despite her academic time constraints, Ali still manages to find time to help those around her. In spite of a fear of blood and needles, she consistently served as the chairperson for the blood drive. She considers it an incredible act of *chesed* to be able to organize something that will have a direct, positive impact on a large group of people in need. Ali has also devoted her time to working with young children at Friend-

On Wednesday evening, June 17, the 25th of Sivan, HANC High School seniors graduated before an audience of 130 Hondas, Nissans, and Toyotas filled with proud family members and faculty members. The ceremony took place in the parking lot at Christopher Morley Park, Roslyn Heights, NY.

As the cars drove up through the arches of festive balloons and accompanying music, students and guests were greeted by faculty. They were presented with a graduate gift box which included the book *Unlocking Greatness* by Charlie Harary, Hurricane slides, this year's color war T-shirt, and a cookie with the class picture. Food fit for a drive-in movie such as popcorn, Twizzlers, Milk Duds, and the like were enjoyed by all.

The program opened under unique circumstances as it complied with the COVID-19 guidelines, making it the first-ever drive-in movie graduation at HANC High School. Following the pre-recorded procession of graduates and the anthems sung by Mr. Jacob Spadaro, Rabbi Shlomo Adelman, principal of the high school, welcomed guests and graduates and introduced the salutatorian, Ali Lenefsky, who delivered the invocation.

Mrs. Marie Palaia, associate principal, greeted the graduates with an upbeat congratulatory message. She reminded students to strive for excel-



lence, find balance in life, and laugh and smile each day.

In his outstanding valedictory address, Adam Speiser encouraged his classmates to continue making positive choices based on the foundations each student received while at HANC. Additionally, Adam expressed his *hakarat ha'tov* to his beloved school, family, and friends and thanked Hashem for bringing the class to this milestone.

Dr. Ruchi Kushner, HANC's presi-

dent, congratulated the class on their accomplishments and reminded the graduates that they will always remain beloved members of the HANC family.

Then the faculty honored the Class of 2020 with a poignant video presentation filmed from the comfort of their homes, as they reflected on their most meaningful memories throughout the four years of high school.

*Continued on Page 89*

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# AROUND THE 5 TOWNS

*Continued from Page 87*

Ms. Tziporah Zucker, assistant principal, addressed the graduates, emphasizing the unique qualities of the Class of 2020 and how each individual has impacted the school. She also complimented the class on

student was handed his or her diploma by Rabbi Adelman.

*Mazal tov* to all the graduates and their families! ■

## Shulamith Helps Pre-1A Graduates Transition To First Grade



*Shulamith helps pre-1a graduates transition to first grade*

their valuable leadership, especially during these unusual times. Ms. Zucker then introduced the class speaker, Stephanie Hoch, who reflected on the four years of high school and the memorable experiences they shared as a grade.

Senior members of the HANC band, BlüSoul, accompanied by music teacher, Mr. Jacob Spadaro, performed “Yom HaShishi” by Omer Adam in a riveting music video.

A surprise and heartfelt tribute video was created by the Class of 2020 to the outgoing *menahel*, titled “Thank You, Rabbi Adelman,” which reflected their admiration for their beloved principal.

Rabbi Shlomo Adelman, in his charge to the graduates, recognized his special bond with the graduates and encouraged students to always stay close to Hashem.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, following the bloopers, faculty lined the “parade route” in a socially distant way, waving to the graduates as they drove through in their decorated cars. This was a way of carrying on the wonderful longstanding tradition at HANC of greeting the graduates as they come off the stage. At the end of the parade route, each

Big changes can be exciting but also frightening. Parents of children who are finishing pre-1a and getting ready to enter first grade always have many questions about how to ease their child’s transition to the “big school.” This is especially true in today’s COVID climate where there is no longer a standard called normal.

In order to offer parents guidance and reassurance, Shulamith ECC invited noted educator and Covenant Award winner Dr. Ruth Pinkenson Feldman to share her many years of experience with incoming first-grade parents. In a session called “From Worry to Wonder,” Dr. Feldman advised parents about the 3 P’s: to be sure to take care of themselves as a person first and as a partner in order to be good parents. Additionally, she counseled parents to avoid overburdening their children by acting as their child’s teacher and forcing formal schoolwork on children at home. Instead, she recommended informal learning opportunities and experiences to enrich children’s vocabulary and provide the foundation for comprehension when learning to read.

Dr. Feldman suggested that we look to *Pirkei Avot* (1:6) for wisdom

in dealing with these unsettling times: “asei lecha rav”—don’t be afraid to ask for guidance; “knei lecha chaver”—we need social interaction now more than ever (in safe ways, of course); and “hevei dan et kol adam l’kaf z’chut”—if you see people doing things you wouldn’t do, don’t judge them, as you don’t know the whole picture. Accept that people are different and react to situations differently. And that is OK.

At the same time as the parents of Shulamith ECC pre-1a-ers were getting their guidance, the fantastic pre-1a *morot* carefully prepared a curriculum to give the children guidance and ease their concerns about the big transition to first grade. The teachers elicited a list of questions from the children about first grade. Then they invited the first-grade teachers to a Zoom session to answer the questions and describe how much fun they will have in first grade. The teachers took the children on a virtual tour of “Big Shulamith” including a fun virtual ride on the LIRR. The children were thrilled to meet the principal, Mrs. Yarmak, and see the current first-graders having a wonderful time in school.

Shulamith ECC will certainly miss its pre-1a graduates and wishes them

a wonderful summer and a successful year full of fun and learning in first grade. ■

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# NEWS FROM THE HILLS

By Chanita Teitz



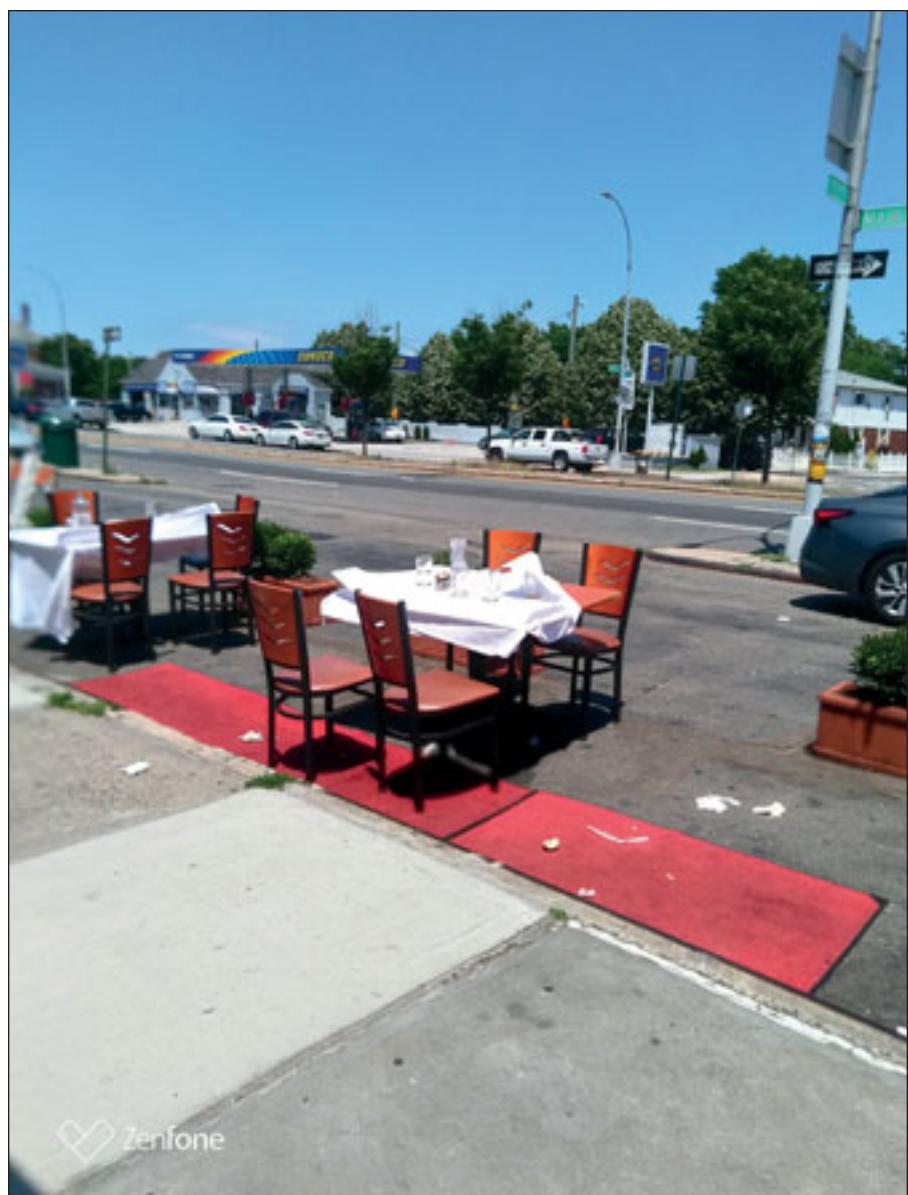
**D**o you hear the firecrackers at night? Do you see the fireworks light up the sky? Lots of people all over the city are fed up with the noise all night long, keeping them awake—and scared. The firecrackers sound like gunshots, and a group of activists decided to do something about it. Together with NYC Councilman Chaim Deutsch they drove in a procession of cars from Crown Heights to Gracie Mansion with their hazard lights on. Once blocking the streets around Gracie Mansion, they started honking their horns. "If we can't sleep, Mr. Mayor, you won't sleep," said Deutsch.

Locally, a statement was sent to our community by Councilmen Rory Lancman and Barry Grodenchik about the placing of approximately 100 inmates in temporary housing at the Wyndham Hotel in Fresh Meadows. They are trying to reassure their constituents that they are looking into this to see how long the inmates will be housed in our neighborhood and whether they should have been placed there at all, since the city changed the policy of placing people in hotels.

It strikes me as telling that closing Rikers Island and putting a jail in Kew Gardens was OK, but housing inmates

in Fresh Meadows is questionable. (Getting too close for comfort?) Just like the female politician (whose name and city I don't recall) who was pro the BLM protests until they got to her neighborhood. Then she was shocked at what she saw. It looked like a war zone. I'd like to know where our liberal-Democrat congress people are. Are they holed up safely in their homes until all this violence ends? Why haven't they voiced any outrage at the violence and destruction? Protests are fine—voice your concerns and call your government officials—but don't endanger everyone around you. Violence won't get you what you want. It will just snowball into more violence. And all the past heroes and leaders whose statues are being toppled are turning in their graves at the disrespect, not only to them, but to history. One way we can make change is by voting. That is our right as Americans. Don't take it for granted. If the far left takes over, we could lose it.

Back in KGH, Main Street has taken on the ambiance of an outdoor café. It's not exactly a pedestrian mall, but there are a few tables, nicely set in front of the restaurants, some on the sidewalk and some in the service road. The florist gave them shrubs to decorate the area



and it looks inviting. It doesn't disturb the flow of traffic although it does decrease the available parking. What happens on Friday when more people are out shopping? In any case, it will hopefully be temporary and indoor dining will be coming soon.

Stay safe, everyone. COVID-19 isn't over till it's over. Keep your masks—they work at keeping everyone safe from catching COVID-19—and keep your distance. Have a peaceful and quiet Shabbos.

## Innovative Highlights From Shevach HS

As everyone adjusted to the new normal of remote learning this spring, it became clear that the absence of physical classrooms or typical schedules would not stop the dedication and creativity of Shevach teachers or students. Under the guidance of Shevach Principal Rebbetzin Rochelle Hirtz and Associate Principal for General Studies Mrs. Nechama Mirsky, the staff reworked extracurricular events to meet the changing realities. Classes were dynamic, collaborative experiences, and in place of several traditional assessments, teachers designed fabulous projects that enabled students to learn through heartfelt writing, high-tech science, and solid teamwork.

When an anticipated in-person speech by Mrs. Rachel Geisler had to be cancelled due to the mandated school closures, Mrs. Geisler happily agreed to "meet" with the Shevach students and mothers on May 20 through Google Meet. This was a perfect venue for the event, as Mrs. Geisler has worked at Google for over 14 years. She was able to provide an "inside scoop" on some of the exciting happenings there, especially with the surge in use due to COVID-19-related school and office

closures around the world. Through her speech and the question-and-answer session that followed, Mrs. Geisler enthusiastically discussed her schooling and her work at Google, as well as the incredible ways computer science is changing the field of medicine and so much more. As one student, Gitty Howitt, expressed, "Mrs. Geisler showed me that there is much more to technology than my laptop." Mrs. Geisler shared poignant and humorous lessons about not giving up, the importance of listening to your mother, and the incredible privilege of making a *kiddush Hashem*. Mrs. Geisler's clear devotion to her family, her love for Torah, and her positive energy made for a highly memorable evening. A special thank you goes to Mr. Barry Grossman and Mrs. Temima Baum for coordinating the event!

As Regents examinations, regular in-person final sessions, and extracurricular trips also had to be canceled, Shevach teachers came up with new ideas to build a successful and enjoyable spring semester. Mrs. Paula Berger's eleventh-grade Earth Science class developed technology-based presentations on environmental issues. Students created films and detailed slideshow presentations of graphs and charts to demonstrate their knowledge and research of topics such as renewable energy, water resources, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, and tsunamis. The girls did an exceptional job incorporating graphic design, music, and other tools into their projects. Students in Ms. Sara Nasirov's tenth-grade Global History course created a documentary about India's struggle for independence in the 20th century, crafted imagined correspondence between family members in



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*Continued on Page 92*

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Europe in the 1930s and 40s, and wrote newspaper articles about the Cold War. Seniors in Ms. Nasirov's Economics class created a matching game about taxes, children's books about investments and insurance, and a trivia game about GDP and the economic cycle. Students reflected that their final projects allowed them to gain a greater understanding of their topic while enjoying the opportunity for creative expression.

Mrs. Rena Hall's eleventh-grade pre-Calculus students created magic mirror graphing books and Spot It! games to share the fun of mathematics. Instead of final exams, the girls presented videos and slideshows on analytical trigonometry, graphing, limits, permutations, combinations, and more using graphics and music. The advanced math students in Mrs. Hall's ninth-grade Geometry class became teachers themselves as they designed review sheets, exam questions, and shared unique presentations on topics such as circles, density, and coordinate geometry. Rabbi Nachi Sonnenblick posted a *dvar Torah* for his senior college credit mathematics class each Friday, and he expressed that in some ways the challenges of the past semester created a greater sense of teamwork and purpose in the class.

A canceled museum trip prompted Mrs. Tzivia Meth to bring some of the artwork related to her modern Jewish history class to her students via computer instead. This sparked great analysis and discussion, all without having to deal with traffic into the city. Mrs. Regina Fischbein's English students wrote about their experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic through poetry and daily journal writing. The experience of not being able to get together with friends or physically attend school, as well as being "cooped up" with family (who can sometimes be annoying), more seriously coupled with news of tragedies and feelings of fear, were all elements of *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank, which the ninth grade had read prior to the pandemic. Despite the clear differences between Anne's much more tragic situation during the Holocaust and their own situations during the pandemic, the girls were able to recognize and relate to some of the thoughts and feelings Anne had while she was in hiding. The girls' own writings reflected maturity, compassion, longing, and hope.

No one anticipated a semester like the one that just concluded. Mrs. Shari Weiss, whose students presented projects on major American policy making, explained that teachers also learned new skills these past few months. Learning how to teach virtually through Google Meet and Zoom and brainstorming new ways to motivate students certainly were challenges. Yes, live debates on human rights are more exiting, but Mrs. Ahuva Bondi's English students were able to articulate their stances and engage in lively debate from the comfort of their homes with great success.

The descriptions above are just a few examples of the creativity and care of the Shevach faculty. *Baruch Hashem*, the flexibility, optimism, and dedication of all of the Shevach teachers and stu-

dents have enabled great accomplishment and growth this spring in unexpected but wonderful ways.

### YCQ Says Goodbye To Virtual School Year 2019–2020



Kindergarten students at YCQ had a virtual moving-up ceremony



Rachel Poulad, YCQ Keter Shem Tov awardee



Michael Kikov, YCQ Keter Shem Tov awardee

drive-thru milk-and-cookies party in the yard to say their goodbyes to teachers and classmates.

Nursery and kindergarten students shared their virtual moving-up ceremonies with their teachers, friends, and families. Nursery students received



Eitan Canter, YCQ salutatorian



Eli Dyckman, YCQ valedictorian



Eva Bokhour, YCQ salutatorian

This has been an exciting final week of what has been the most fascinating, innovative, exhilarating, and often challenging school year for YCQ in their virtual learning environment. Students joined with their teachers for Zoom baking parties and virtual trips to Disneyland. Second-graders participated in a virtual talent show, and third-graders went on a Happiness Scavenger Hunt. Many teachers visited the students at home, dropping off gifts, and some classes came for a socially distant or

packages with caps and gowns, a diploma, and a special treat, and then joined for a ceremony, with each student sharing a drawing of their favorite part of the year. The kindergarteners described a memorable experience from the school year followed by Morah Karen, their music teacher, leading them in songs of appreciation to Hashem. Rabbi Landsman, principal, and Morah Sharon Korn, preschool director, sent the students off with words of encouragement and wished a *mazal tov* to each student.

On Monday evening, June 15, the eighth-grade graduating class attended their virtual awards ceremony, with each student receiving an award for the effort and hard work they put into their education and for completing this leg of their academic journey. On June 16 and 17, the graduates gathered in the schoolyard for the first-ever, and probably the most memorable, drive-in graduation. Cars were decorated with balloons and streamers, words of gratitude, and *mazal tovs*. The yard was set up like a drive-in theater with two large screens and a stage. Eitan Canter and Eva Bokhour, salutatorians, said *Tehillim* for the State of Israel, followed by Eli Dyckman and Talia Cohen, valedictorians, who gave poignant speeches in front of their



Siggy Orenbuch, YCQ Keter Shem Tov awardee



Talia Cohen, YCQ valedictorian

families, friends, and staff live and via livestream. They spoke of their gratitude for all YCQ has given them over the years, and especially during this extraordinary and often difficult and confusing time, and how this connection has prepared them and their classmates both academically and emotionally for the next step—high school. Finally, Olivia Kandinov, Rachel Poulad, Siggy Orenbuch, and Michael Kikov, recipients of the Keter Shem Tov Award, said *Tehillim* for peace and a special *Tehillim* for parents in front of the cheering (from their vehicles) crowd. The students were then called up one at a time to walk across the stage and receive their well-earned diploma as a member of the YCQ graduating class of 2020 at a graduation event to remember.

On the last day of school, Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, former chief rabbi of Israel, joined the entire school on Zoom and gave the students words of *chizuk* and a *berachah* on how to face these challenging times. That was followed by an amazing show, the Extreme Magic of Eric Wilzig.

After bittersweet goodbyes to the students, staff gathered for an afternoon of

words of gratitude and thanks for the magnanimous task every staff member took on this year as they transformed overnight to a virtual environment. From jumping right in to Zoom classes, including creative and new ways of teaching, to managing all the intricacies of running the building and keeping YCQ going, the staff never stopped, YCQ never stopped. Even with the changes, the students grew and flourished this school year. Have a great summer!



Olivia Kandinov, YCQ Keter Shem Tov awardee

### Upcoming Event

*Virtual celebration of the 53rd year since Jerusalem's reunification and the 72nd year of the State of Israel, with Yoel Sharabi and band*, Thursday, **June 25** from 5:00–7:00 p.m. Sponsored by Queens Borough President Sharon Lee, Jewish Community Relations of Council of NY, and

Queens Jewish Community Council. RSVP: [queensbp.org/RSPV](http://queensbp.org/RSPV). Livestream: [queensbp.org](http://queensbp.org). ■

Chanita Teitz is a real-estate broker at Astor Brokerage in Kew Gardens Hills, serving the entire Queens vicinity. For all your real-estate needs, call her at 718-263-4500 or e-mail [chanita@astorbrokerage.com](mailto:chanita@astorbrokerage.com). Read more of Chanita Teitz's articles at [5TJT.com](http://5TJT.com).

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## POLITICAL ROUNDUP

### Sen. Kaminsky, Empire Secure \$5K Grant For Achiezer

Senator Todd Kaminsky and the Empire BlueCross BlueShield Foundation awarded a \$5,000 grant to the Achiezer Community Resource Center to support their work helping the Five Towns recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds were used to purchase personal protective equipment for donor plasma and antibody testing blood drive efforts.

"Achiezer is a pillar of the Five Towns, providing a myriad of crisis management and support services to the community," said Senator Todd Kaminsky. "I was pleased to work in partnership with Empire BlueCross BlueShield to provide this grant to help fight the pandemic in our community. Day in and day out, Achiezer and Rabbi Bender have been on the front lines of the COVID-19, and I am confident these funds will further the organization's incredible work."



Achiezer staff and volunteers wearing the scrubs and PPE Senator Kaminsky helped procure with grant funding.

"Senator Kaminsky has shown us time and again his willingness to be there for the community in anticipating the needs and stepping up and assisting whenever necessary," said Rabbi Boruch B. Bender, president of Achiezer. "We are truly grateful."

"Meeting the health needs of the whole person is critical to fulfilling Empire's mission of materially and measurably improving the health of all New Yorkers," said Alan Murray, president of Empire BlueCross BlueShield. "That's why it was important for us to support Achiezer, which provides a comprehensive set of services to meet the varying needs of individuals and families in times of crisis. We're committed to the communities we serve and working with organizations like Achiezer as we improve the health of all New Yorkers."

Founded more than a decade ago, Achiezer provides an array of services to the Five Towns community as its premier crisis management organization. From delivering meals to making hospital arrangements to providing financial

counseling, Achiezer has been tackling the COVID-19 pandemic head-on, and will use the grant funding secured by Senator Kaminsky in partnership with Empire BlueCross BlueShield to bolster their work for the community at this difficult time. ■

### CM Lander Reminds Parents To Fill Out Online Form To Avoid Losing "Related Services" For Special Education

Parents of children that are enrolled in non-public schools in New York City are required to fill out a form every year in order to guarantee that their child is eligible to receive special education services at their school. While the Board of Education usually mails out this form, the Coronavirus pandemic has affected this practice, and the form was sent out by e-mail instead of postal mail this year.

*C5fesB4VquwK\_6j1Hl0-7ninQPzlU-MUZRRVQxUjhCVzg3NEZGUlhN-VTkzQ05EWi4u* to submit the required form of the Board of Education, and to ensure that your child's special education services are continued. More information can be found on the website of the NYC department of education, at <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/special-education/help/committees-on-special-education>. ■

### RAA Supports Withholding Of Aid To Jordan To Force Extradition Of Ahlam Tamimi

The Rabbinical Alliance of America—Ihud HaRabbonim, representing over 950 American rabbis—calls upon the Trump Administration to compel the Jordanian government to extradite Ahlam Tamimi, the brutal mastermind of the August 9, 2001, Jerusalem Sbarro terror attack that took the life of 15-year-old American, Malkie Roth, together with 14 other innocent people that included 7 children and another 122 people injured.

In 2011, Tamimi, a cousin of the notorious Ahed Tamimi, was freed from an Israeli prison under the terms of the controversial Gilad Shalit deal. She was whisked away to Jordan, where she has been courted ever since by Arab and Western media as some sort of heroic "resistance fighter."

Despite her vicious crime, Tamimi lives a life of luxury and privilege, thanks to the lucrative salary she receives from Hamas, which is indirectly financed by Western governments who contribute to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNWRA). Tamimi has never denied her role in the Sbarro terror attack, and her pride in slaughtering Jews and Americans is on display for anyone to see when she parades herself on television.

After a long campaign by the Roths to seek justice for Malkie, the US Department of Justice (DOJ) officially filed charges against Tamimi in 2017, and announced that they would seek her extradition to stand trial in the United States. The FBI also added her to their most wanted list of terrorists.

For those who thought that justice would finally be achieved, Jordan's reaction was a shock. Despite claiming to be an American ally and having established a mutual extradition treaty with the U.S. in 1995, the Jordanian government claimed that the treaty hadn't been ratified in their parliament—and have thus denied the request.

Recently the Trump administration said it is weighing "all options" to press Jordan to extradite Ahlam Tamimi including the withholding of aid to Jordan to inspire compliance with its extradition request. This announcement is further predicated on the "Further Consolidated Appropriations Act 2020," which was signed into law on December 20, 2019. Section 7055 of the act provides for financial consequences for Jordan if the case is not handled properly.

This is an important tool to lever-

age the extradition of Ahlam Tamimi. The United States has long been a major provider of aid to Jordan. In early 2018, the Trump Administration signed a five-year, \$6.4 billion aid agreement with Jordan that increased the annual amount of aid by \$275 million to \$1.3 billion. The boost "highlights the pivotal role Jordan plays in helping foster and safeguard regional stability and supports U.S. objectives such as the global campaign to defeat ISIS, counter-terrorism cooperation, and economic development," the State Department said then.

Rabbi Mendy Mirocznik, executive vice-president of the Rabbinical Alliance of America, stated, "As Americans we must seek justice and prevent the likes of the notorious terrorist and cold-blooded murder, Ahlam Tamimi, from avoiding the bar of justice and living the life of luxury and privilege in Jordan. This brutal killer must be held accountable for the murder of Malkie Roth, an innocent 15-year-old American teenager. Malkie Roth was deprived of life due to the heinous acts of a cold-blooded, decrepit, barbaric individual who does not value life. As Americans, we call upon the Trump Administration to insist that Jordan honor their treaty and extradite Tamimi to stand trial and be held accountable for this brutal killing."

Mirocznik continued, "As Americans, we must make certain that American taxpayer money is not used by Hamas and Jordan to reward a heinous criminal like Ahlam Tamimi for killing Malkie Roth. The blood of this innocent American teenager demands justice. How can it be that the Roth family loses a child and the terrorist criminal publicly lives a life of luxury? Therefore, the Rabbinical Alliance of America calls upon all peace-loving people to insist that the United States of America prevent our money from being spent to reward the killers of Americans and ensure that such expenditures terminate immediately." ■

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# ISRAEL NEWS

## Israeli Officer Wounded In Terror Attack Near Jerusalem; Assailant Shot Dead

An Israeli Border Police officer was lightly injured on Tuesday when a Palestinian driver attempted to run her over at a checkpoint linking the town of Abu Dis, a suburb of Jerusalem, and Bethlehem. The attacker was then shot dead by other officers on the scene.

"A short while ago near Jerusalem in the area of Abu Dis a suspect vehicle attempted to run over a Border Police officer," police spokesman Miki Rosenfeld said in a statement. "Border Police responded at the scene by opening fire at the vehicle. The terrorist was shot."

Tensions have been high in recent weeks in parts of Judea and Samaria due to the Israeli government's stated intention to apply its sovereignty to parts of the territories beginning in July. (JNS) ■

## NBN Signs Deal With El Al For 14 'Group Aliyah Flights'

The NGO Nefesh B'Nefesh, which facilitates immigration to Israel from North America and the United Kingdom, announced that it had signed a contract with EL AL Airlines for 14 "Group Aliyah Flights" from New York to Tel Aviv over the course of the next three months.

The announcement comes in the wake of an unprecedented spike in interest from North American Jews to move to Israel, with Nefesh B'Nefesh reporting its highest number of applications in May since the organization's founding in 2002.

During the first half of June, more than 900 applications for *aliyah* were submitted to Nefesh B'Nefesh, as compared with the entire month of June last year, when only 399 applications were submitted.

Many of those making the move said that the coronavirus crisis helped prompt a decision they long had in the making, especially those from countries hard-hit by the coronavirus pandemic.

Nefesh B'Nefesh operates in partnership with Israel's Ministry of Aliyah and Integration, the Jewish Agency for Israel, Keren Kayemeth LeIsrael, and JNF-USA.

"We deeply appreciate the patience and understanding of our *olim* as we navigate *aliyah* together during this unprecedented time," said Rabbi Yehoshua Fass, co-founder and executive director of Nefesh B'Nefesh. "It is incredible to witness and take part in this moment, where there is an unparalleled increase in *aliyah* interest. With hundreds of seats now available for *olim*, we look forward to taking a large step forward to ensuring that we can assist in the fruition of these *aliyah* dreams." (JNS) ■

## Israeli Defense Exports Reached \$7.2 Billion In 2019, Growth Expected To Slow

Israel, one of the world's largest exporters of military technology and expertise, exported \$7.2 billion worth of

arms in 2019—down from \$7.5 billion the previous year due to the coronavirus, according to a Defense Ministry report published on Monday.

Nevertheless, the Jewish state remains one of the top 10 arms exporters in the world, with 17 percent of all sales radar and electronic systems, reported *Ynet*.

Missiles, rockets, and air-defense systems made up 15 percent, and unmanned drone-type aircraft 13 percent, of the total.

Most of the sales (41 percent) went to the Asia Pacific region, with 26 percent to Europe, 25 percent to North America, and 4 percent to Africa and South America.

"We are making sure, as a cornerstone of our activity, that Israel's sensitive military capabilities will not leak overseas," said the head of the Defense Exports & Cooperation Division at the Defense Ministry (SIBAT), Brig. Gen. (res.) Yair Kulas, according to the report.



*IDF's Skylark Unit prepares one of its drones for flight*

Kulas noted expectations that growth will continue to slow in 2020 because of the coronavirus global pandemic. (JNS) ■

## Report: US Circulates UN Resolution To Extend Arms Embargo On Iran Indefinitely

The United States has been circulating a resolution with U.N. Security Council members that would extend

the U.N. arms embargo on Iran indefinitely, reported Bloomberg on Monday, citing diplomats and the text of the draft received by the news outlet.

It calls on all countries "to prevent the direct or indirect supply, sale, or transfer" of weapons to and from Iran unless, as reported by Bloomberg, "a Security Council committee ap-

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## ISRAEL NEWS

*Continued from Page 95*

proves it at least 30 days in advance on a case-by-case basis."

Negotiations on the resolution are expected to begin on Wednesday, according to Bloomberg, citing diplomats.

China and Russia, two permanent-veto members of the Security Council, have already said they will not approve such a resolution to extend the embargo, which was enacted in 2010 and is set to sunset in October in accordance with the 2015 Iran nuclear deal.

The United States withdrew from the deal in May 2018, reimposing sanctions lifted under it, along with

The Russians have already stated their intention of resuming the trade of arms to the Islamic regime. (JNS) ■

## Iranian Navy Seeking To Establish Base In Gulf Of Oman, Entry To Indian Ocean

Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps is attempting to establish a new permanent base in the Gulf of Oman and the entry to the Indian Ocean, said its top admiral on Monday.

Alireza Tangsiri told the semi-official Fars News Agency that the base would assist in combating pirates and foreign vessels, and could be finished by March 2021. Tangsiri did not say where exactly the base would be located.



Alireza Tangsiri, naval commander of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps

enacting other penalties on the regime as part of what the Trump administration has called a "maximum pressure" campaign.

The 2015 accord allows for America to enact veto-proof snapback sanctions on Iran in the U.N. Security Council. The snapback sanctions include extending the arms embargo on Iran permanently—a move the Trump administration has said it would take if the resolution solely to extend the arms embargo fails.

Tensions have risen between the United States and Iran since the former withdrew in May 2018 from the 2015 nuclear deal, reimposing sanctions along with enacting financial and other penalties in what the Trump administration has called a "maximum pressure" campaign.

That campaign has also consisted of building up a U.S. military presence in the region in an attempt at deterring the Iranian regime from future aggression. (JNS) ■

## And you desire also the priesthood?

**(Bamidbar 16:10)**

Moshe said to them: Among the religions of the world there are various customs, and they do not all gather in the same house [of worship]. We, however, have but one G-d, one Torah, one law, one *Kohen Gadol* and one Sanctuary; yet you, 250 men, all desire the High Priesthood! I, too, desire it!

(Midrash Tanchuma; Rashi)

If Moshe, who personifies the *sefirah* (Divine attribute) of Truth, said "I, too, desire it," this was no mere debating tactic: Moshe truly desired the position of *Kohen Gadol* for himself. This means that Korach's desire for the highest spiritual state attainable by man was, in and of itself, a positive thing. The difference between Korach and Moshe in this was that Korach acted upon this desire, in defiance of the Divine decree.

This explains why our Torah reading is named "Korach." The Talmud tells us that it is forbidden to name one's child after a wicked person, in keeping with the rule, "The memory of the righteous should be to blessing, and the name of the wicked should rot" (Mishlei 10:7). So how is it that an entire section in the Torah carries the name of a person whose deeds were most negative and destructive?

But the name "Korach," as the name of a parashah in Torah, pays tribute to the positive aspect of Korach's "rebellion." While the story of Korach comes to teach us what not to do—not to act on even the most lofty of ambitions, if such action is contrary to the will of G-d—it also comes to teach us that we should desire and yearn for the highest ideals, even those which we are prohibited from actually attaining.

(The Lubavitcher Rebbe)

**PARASHAT KORACH**

Continued from Page 27

*Ma'aser rishon* expresses sanctity, but it is the sanctity of the mundane. It can be sold anywhere and to anyone; nevertheless, its inception is sacred. This is no shameful matter or a lesser honor—it is simply his job. Carrying the vessels of the *Mish-*

ply performed his personal duties to the best of his ability. It is no wonder that he merited to renew prophecy and became one of the greatest prophets, as great as Moshe and Aharon put together. And no one was more fit than he to anoint the first kings of the Jewish nation, which was a new stage in the redemption of the Jewish People in its land and

**In their burning desire to advance themselves, people trample on basic values that they themselves had espoused.**

*kan*, guarding the Temple gates, and singing might seem less exalted, less sacred, and perhaps even less “important.” But in this manner it is possible to arrive at the summit of their self-actualization, and in this way become full participants in rectifying the world—no less than anyone positioned at a different outpost.

One of Korach's descendants was *Shmuel HaNavi*, who “entered the service of the L-rd under the priest Eli” (*Shmuel I* 2:11). Shmuel did not attempt to become a *kohen*; he sim-

ply performed his personal duties to the best of his ability. It is no wonder that he merited to renew prophecy and became one of the greatest prophets, as great as Moshe and Aharon put together. And no one was more fit than he to anoint the first kings of the Jewish nation, which was a new stage in the redemption of the Jewish People in its land and

Rabbi Moshe Bloom is head of the English department of Torah VeHa'aretz Institute. Torah VeHa'aretz Institute (the Institute for Torah and the Land of Israel) engages in research, public education, and the application of contemporary halachic issues that come to the fore in the bond between Torah and the Land of Israel today. Recently, the Institute opened an English department to cater to the English-speaking public living in Israel and abroad. For additional information and inquiries, e-mail [h.moshe@toraland.org.il](mailto:h.moshe@toraland.org.il) or call 972-8-684-7325.

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