



Congregation Ahavat Shalom

The ACHDUS
NEWSLETTER
www.ahavatshalomteaneck.com

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Parshat Vayeira

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Cheshvan 15, 5778

Weather Report Friday night: 42° mostly clear Shabbat day: 55° partly cloudy

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert

Shabbat Times



Friday, November 3	
Candle Lighting:	5:32 PM
Mincha/Maariv:	5:35 PM
Shabbat, November 4	
Shacharit:	8:45 AM
Kriyat Shema:	10:05 AM
Mincha / Shalosh	
Seudot:	5:20 PM
Shkiya:	5:49 PM
Maariv:	6:26 PM
Shabbat Ends:	6:31 PM
Next Friday, November 10	
Candle Lighting:	4:24 PM
Mincha/Maariv:	4:30 PM

Welcome to Shani and Wesley Fischman, Janna and Yosef Chai Klein, Elana and Stephan Gilbert, and Aliza and Mordy Rosenberg who all moved into the community!

Tzeitchem L'Shalom to Pamela, Aaron, Yakira, Emmy and Aryeh Glatt. Thank you for all that you have done over the years for our community!

Mystery Shabbat - is taking place this Shabbat! For those who signed up as guests and forgot where to show up, please ask Melissa Kirshenbaum or Ben Wine for the address.

September/October/November Celebration Kiddush will take place on Shabbat, November 11. Please reach out to the Board at board@teaneckapartments.com to sponsor in honour of a birthday, anniversary or anything at all!

Women's Jogging Club will be canceled this Sunday due to rain. See you next week!

Get ready for Ahavat Shalom's Cholent Competition! Who says college basketball tournaments have to get all the fun?

For this round robin tournament, Round One will be after davening on Shabbat November 18th. We are looking for 4 cholents to compete and 1 host. Email Sisterhood@TeaneckApartments to sign up as either a chef or a host! All community members are invited to attend the event, taste test the cholents, and vote for your favorite! How it works: Join us for monthly cholent competitions leading up to the Cholent Competition Finals in the shul in March. 4 cholents will compete in November, 4 in December, 4 in January, 4 in February... that's 16 cholents for you to taste! The winner of each round will be invited to compete in the finals in March. May the best cholent win!

Rabbi Halpert's Availability

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert will be here on:
11/4, 11/11.

He can be reached via email at RabbiYehudaHalpert@gmail.com, or phone in the evenings at 201-836-3828. In the event of an emergency, Rabbi Halpert can also be reached at 212-909-6951.

New Releases in 2018 - Move over family photos on the fridge! Ahavat Shalom will be rolling out a calendar to every household for the first time ever! Reach out to the Fundraising Committee at board@teaneckapartments.com about exciting sponsorship and advertising opportunities. Sponsorships are filling up fast!

Kumzitz - This Motzei Shabbat at Beth Aaron @ 8:15 PM featuring Chanani Sandler and Benji Rosenbluth.

Join Yeshivat Noam - on Sunday November 5th from 9:30-11:30 AM for a morning filled with crafts, music and much more! Event is open to children ages 2 - 4 and, of course, their parents.

Torah in the Community - Rabbi Gideon Weitzman, Senior Puah Advisor, is speaking about *21st Century Shidduchim-when science enters into the orthodox community*. Shiur will take place at Bnai Yeshurun on Sunday, November 5th @ 9:30 AM.

Yeshivat Noam Youth Groups

Groups for children ages 2-4 will be located in the Room 7 from 9:30am - 10:45am. Morah Shira and Morah Melissa, two Yeshivat Noam teachers, will supervise. Toys and books will be provided by Yeshivat Noam. We ask parents to please send your child with a snack. Signup is on the website.

More Torah - Rabbanit Shani Taragin will be giving a shiur entitled *Sarah Imenu: A Tent of Her Own - A Modern Orthodox Woman's Search for Meaning*. The shiur will take place at Shaare Tefillah on Tuesday November 7th @ 7:45 PM.

Join Nefesh B'Nefesh - on November 14th @ 7:00 PM at the Jewish Heritage Museum for Young Professionals to hear from key players in Israel's hi-tech ecosystem about the latest developments and new opportunities emerging from Israel's evolving hi-tech hotspots. Opening remarks by Daniel Atar, World Chairman, Keren Kayemeth LeIsrael-JNF. Guest Presenters: Noa Yaar, Director of Strategic Partnerships, ii2020, Hanan Brand, Co-founder, Cornerstone Venture Partners, Founder & Chairman, Made in Jerusalem, Michael Kalantarov, Co-Founder & COO, VE - Visual Estate, Community Relations Manager, Tech7 Beersheva. Event is free, but registration is required: <https://events.nbn.org.il/Event.aspx?id=-1857384703>

Chesed Committees

If you or anyone you know has moved in recently or knows somebody moving in, let Moty Raven or Yael Stromer know! Check out ahavatshalomteaneck.com/movingin for more information

Join Project Ezra - for their seminar, *The aisle- Financial Fidelity*. This event is open to new and young couples. The seminar will take place on Wednesday, November 15th @ 7:00 PM at Beth Abraham. There is no charge for the dinner and seminar, but advance reservations are required. Please email theaisle@ezrah.org.

ReMembership Your Dues ... The new membership year began on September 1st. To join our growing community, the cost is \$165/person and \$330/household. Kiddushim for the year can be sponsored for an additional \$15/person or \$30/household. **NEW THIS YEAR**, Welcome Baskets for all new community members can be sponsored *for the whole year* for just \$10!

Chesed Opportunity - Deena and Henry Bernstein are looking for volunteers to help bring PackIts to the city every Thursday morning. Additionally, PackIts can be sponsored for \$10 each.

Open Houses in the Community:

1. RYNJ - Sunday, November 5th @ 7:00 PM
2. Yeshivat He'Atid - Wednesday, November 8th @ 7:30 PM

Congregation Ahavat Shalom Board Members 2017-2018

President: Ben Wine **Vice Presidents:** Alex Daitch | Ariel Kirshenbaum | Moty Raven | Evan Rottenstreich **Secretary:** Eli Baum **Treasurer:** Yonatan Isser

Sisterhood: Melissa Kirshenbaum | Sam Locke **Gabbaim:** Sam Lightstone | Ezra Blain | Steven Lowinger | Dani Weinberger

We welcome your input! Please send your newsletter announcements by Wednesday.

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Outsiders

A very old *minhag* is recorded in *Shulchan Aruch*^[1] that when a young woman gets married the *chupah* should take place outside under the stars. *Hakodosh Boruch Hu* told Avraham Avinu, look at the stars, try to count them, it is impossible, so too, will your descendants be so numerous like the stars in the sky. We want to invoke the blessing that Hashem gave to Avraham Avinu and the Jewish people, that the young woman who is getting married now should be blessed with a lot of children.

Some commentaries on the *Shulchan Aruch* assume that this *minhag* existed already in the days of the Talmud Yerushalmi. Tosfos^[2] quotes the Talmud Yerushalmi as distinguishing between the *chupah* of a woman getting married for the first time as opposed to an *almonah*: standing under the canopy only constitutes *nissuin* when the woman is getting married for the first time but not if she is an *almonah*.

Rav Chaim Volozhiner^[3] argued that this makes no sense whatsoever; why should we distinguish between a first marriage and a second marriage? Some of the contemporaries of Rav Chaim Volozhiner explained that the idea behind the distinction in the Yerushalmi is not so much first marriage vs. second marriage; but rather that a young woman gets married outside, and the *chupah* which has four poles constructed in the shape of a *tzuras ha'pesach* (i.e. what we use to make an *eruv* for Shabbos purposes), only constitutes a separate room when it is out in the open. But in the case of the older *almonah*, who is beyond the child bearing age, who gets married inside, because we are not interested in invoking the blessing of "*ko yihiye zaracho*", the four poles of the *chupah* do not accomplish that that area should be considered a separate room because the room is surrounded all around with walls which enclose the entire area, including the *chupah* area, and everything is considered one big room. (The whole idea that standing the under *chupah* accomplishes *nissuin* is based on the premise that the *chosson* and *kallah* who are married already enter together in a separate room for the sake of accomplishing *nissuin*). When Hashem told Avraham Avinu to gaze up at the stars and attempt to count them, the Torah tells us that he was inside his tent and Hashem took him outside to look at the stars. Rashi in his commentary on *chumash* quotes from the midrash that the idea behind taking him outside was to demonstrate that the Jewish people are not part of the natural order of the world. The Torah tells us that Sara *Imeinu* was an *akorah*, and the *gemorah* tells us that Avraham Avinu as an *akor*^[4]. According to the rules of nature they should not have been able to have children. According to the rules of nature, the entire Jewish people should not have existed. The entire history of the Jewish people is *Maaleh min ha'tevah*. This is what the *gemorah*^[5] means by the statement "*ein mazel l'Yisroel*". It does not mean that Jewish people have no luck, rather it means that our history is not subject to *sh'litas ha'kochavim u'mazolot* and does not follow the normal rules and regulations of history. One might refer to this concept as "*austritt*". Hashem told Avraham Avinu to go out of his house, representing the idea that the Jewish people don't really blend in with the rest of nature.

The old *minhag* of having the *chupah* under the stars for a young woman getting married is not really being fulfilled if they stand inside the building and open up the ceiling. Even though they are standing under the stars, but they have not walked outside. If the *chupah* takes place inside the building with just the ceiling removed, according to the interpretation that we quoted in the Talmud Yerushalmi, such a *chupah* would not be valid. To properly observe the *minhag*, the *chosson* and *kallah* should go out of the building and there, outdoors, stand under the stars.

This idea could perhaps explain the mysterious phenomenon of anti-Semitism throughout all the ages. The Jewish people really don't blend in with the rest of nature. We know that there is a natural tendency for the human body to reject foreign matter. Because the Jewish people have been designated by Hashem as something "*chutz min ha'tevah*", and perhaps that is why Avraham Avinu refers to himself as *ger v'toshav a'nochi l'mochem*^[6], the Jews are always considered like *gerim*, strangers, and correctly so, and this perhaps is the cause of the natural tendency for them to be isolated.^[7]

[1] Also see [Ma'asei Avos Siman LaBonim](#)

[2] תוס' יומא (י"ג:) ד"ה לחדא

[3] ספר כתר ראש (סי' צ"ה). ועי' בספו עקבי הצאן (עמוד 265-266).

[4] עי' יבמות (ס"ד).

[5] שבת (קנ"ו).

[6] בפ' חיי שרה (בראשית כ"ג-ד).

[7] See [The Meaning of Am Hanivchar; the Source of Anti-Semitism](#)



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FOR ALL YOUR MORTGAGE NEEDS



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