

ASHREINews



Menahel's Message

Parshat Terumah: **No Shortcuts!**

by Rabbi Ari Jacobson

We live in a society that places a premium on ease and convenience. While opting for the path of least resistance or the proverbial “easy way out” may yield pleasant short-term results, sustainable long-term growth is very often compromised when doing so. Growth is a process, a process that is sometimes even more critical than the ensuing result.

The Talmud in Bava Metziah (85b) relates the heroic efforts of Rabi Chiya to ensure Jewish continuity during a period in which Torah study had been neglected. R. Chiya planted flax, which he proceeded to harvest and spin into linen thread from which nets were fashioned. With the nets he trapped deer, which he subsequently personally *shechted*. The meat was distributed to the poor, and the hides used to write five separate scrolls, one for each of the *Chamisha Chumshei Torah*. R. Chiya then handed one scroll to each of five boys, instructing each to study and then teach one another. Through R. Chiya's efforts, Torah study was revived, and the Jewish future secured. No less a personage than R. Yehudah HaNasi was moved to proclaim:

“כמה גדולים מעשי חייא,” “How great are the deeds of Chiya.”

And yet one wonders: Why couldn't R. Chiya simply teach the children using existing scrolls? Why was it necessary to exert such extraordinary effort towards a result that most certainly could have been achieved more efficiently? The answer, suggests the Gaon of Vilna, is simple: you take out what you put in. The more invested, the more substantial and enduring the result. R. Chiya understood that lasting results could never be achieved through shortcuts. (cont. on p. 2)



Zevi (Class of '99) and Chani Rindner on the birth of a son, Yaakov.

Aviva (Hamburger, Class of '05) and Benji Leibowitz on the birth of a son, Gavriel Yosef.

Alumni & alumni parents, please share your smachot with us. Email Info@ashar.org.

Learning outside the Classroom

by Mrs. Jennah Schuh

At ASHAR we believe that learning outside the classroom can be even more impactful, memorable and significant than inside. This past week our students went on three major trips. The fifth grade students went to the Liberty Science Center, sixth grade students went to the Lower East Side in Manhattan and eighth-grade students went to Albany, New York.

The eighth-grade NYS Teach Mission to Albany was organized by the Orthodox Union. Students from yeshivas throughout New York State were invited to participate in a program to learn more about our state capital while representing Jewish children who receive and benefit from state funding for education. Led by Rabbi Jacobson, the students practiced caucusing, played a game which helped them understand lobbying and were addressed by various New York State politicians. The highlight of the day was hearing from Governor Cuomo who spoke directly to the students, stating his support for additional yeshiva funding. He also took the opportunity to condemn recent anti-Semitic attacks and announced his upcoming trip to Israel.

The sixth grade students went to the Lower East Side in conjunction with their immigration project, which combines social studies and ELA. The trip began with a visit to the Eldridge Street Synagogue where students connected with the Jews who settled on the Lower East Side from the 1870s on. From there they walked to the Tenement Museum on Orchard Street where they experienced what life was like living in a three room tenement trying to make it in America. They were challenged with questions of identity, priorities and tradition. To commence the trip, students were treated to authentic pickles and picnicked in Steward Park.

Fifth grades students spent much of the year learning about Health in science. Since the curriculum focuses on body systems, a trip to the Liberty Science Center was a perfect opportunity for students to participate in labs examining communicable diseases. Students also had hands-on experiences with all aspects of science topics, from optical allusions to physical exertion generating energy. A highpoint of the trip was the IMAX movie, Dream Big which depicted engineering feats throughout the globe. The students claimed it was both incredible and inspirational. (pictures on p. 3 & 4)

East Ramapo Superintendent's Conference Day—Fri., 3/10—No East Ramapo buses; Grades K-8,

8:15 start time; regular dismissal



Rabbi Jacobson, cont. p. 1

At the beginning of Parshat Terumah, the Torah enumerates the various donations towards the construction of the Mishkan in descending order of value: gold, silver, copper, *techeilet*, *argaman*. Only at the very end, notes the Or Hachaim Hakadosh, does the Torah mention the *avnei shoham* and *avnei miluim*, precious gem stones used for the Kohen Gadol's vestments. Though clearly more monetarily valuable than most, if not all, of the preceding metals, hides, and timbers, they are listed last, for according to Chazal, these stones originated from the *ananei hakavod*, unlike the earlier items that represented the fruits of human endeavor and are thus more greatly valued by Hashem, regardless of price.

Celebrate your children's accomplishments, big, small, and smaller, and perhaps even more importantly, embrace the process!

Shabbat Shalom! Rabbi Ari Jacobson

"Skulls, Paws & Claws" : Thanks to **Levi & Yehudis Blachman** for sponsoring the program, and to Rabbi Ami Cohen for educational and enjoyable presentation.



Annual Staff vs. 8B Basketball Game,
Final Score: Staff 44 students 41, Awesome Game!



1st Grade celebrates 100th Day of School with Mrs. K & Morah Lori!

Wednesday Women's Shiur with Rebbetzin Esther Baila Schwartz [1:15-2:15](#) in the library. To sponsor a shiur for \$80 please contact Gila at [845 362-7799](tel:8453627799). This week's Shiur was sponsored by the Zoldan family for a *refuah shaleima* for Yechiel ben Yentel.

Masmidim: 6-8th grade boys After School program. All-time record attendance, learning Maseches Megillah with Rabbi Jacobson every Tuesday and Thursday.

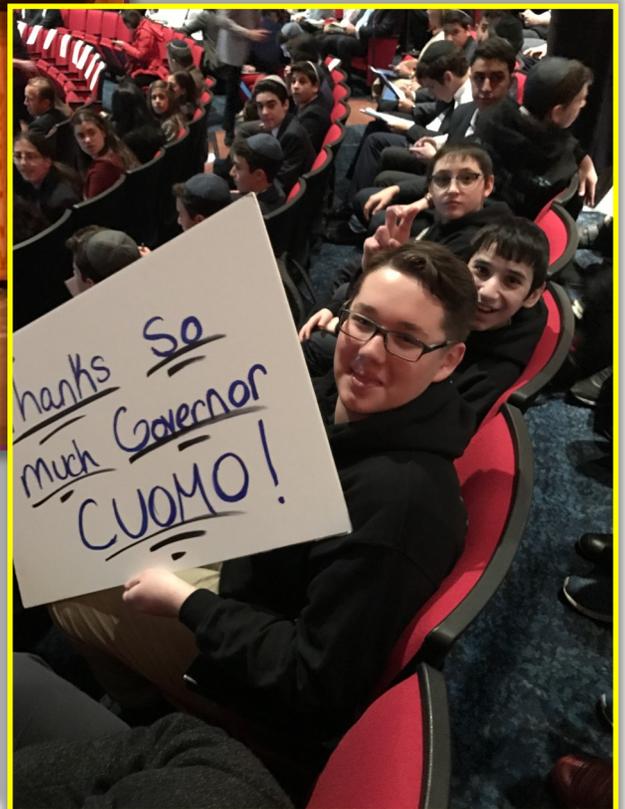
5th Graders at Liberty Science Center



6th graders at the Tenement Museum & buying pickles!



Teach NYS mission to Albany NY, sponsored by the OU. ASHAR's 8th graders attended.



TIFERET MOVEMENT

B'SD

Yoga with a Kaballistic Twist!



Right here in the neighborhood! Bracha Meshchaninov, a Certified Yoga Teacher (500hrs) and Yoga Therapist, member of the Yoga Alliance and the International Association of Yoga Therapists (IAYT), has a yoga studio in the New Hempstead area! Tiferet Movement Yoga caters exclusively to Orthodox Jewish women who are looking to get all the benefits of yoga with a professionally trained and experienced teacher yet want to be in an environment that feels comfortable from a cultural point of view...

Group Classes
Tuesdays and Thursdays
9.30am

Our classes are small and intimate with an opportunity for lots of personal attention. Give yourself an opportunity to move, stretch, strengthen and relax!

Southgate Dr, New Hempstead, NY, 10977
brachame@gmail.com
(917)821-0694 www.tiferetmovement.com

Last ChillZone Of The SeaZone!

Join The Fun!
Mar 4! 7:45-9:00!



2017 Season

Monsey ChillZone Boys Program:
7:45 PM



FRIENDS

Special Program!
Special Prizes!

Young Israel of Monsey and Wesley Hills
58 Parker Blvd • Monsey NY 10952

For more info contact:

Rabbi Don Braunfeld 845-304-1704 • Aaron Polter 732-267-1458
Find all information about

your ChillZone location at:
www.chillzone.org

chillzone@thezone.org
1.866.THEZONE



getinthezone thezone @chillzoneror

Merockdim

MINI. BOYS. GIRLS 2017

We welcome our new LEARNING DIRECTOR,



RABBI DANIEL ISAACS

UNBELIEVABLE NEW PROPERTY WITH UNBELIEVABLY AFFORDABLE RATES!!!

INQUIRE ABOUT OUR AMAZING GROUP RATES!!

Located minutes from Ashar



10 acres of ACTIVITY. 3 heated Swimming Pools including inground Pool for Mini's Baseball & Soccer Fields, Basketball & Volleyball Courts, Hockey Rink, GaGa Courts Tennis & Pickleball Courts, Dodgeball Wall Ball Courts, Miniature Golf, Go-Kart Track Archery, Rocketry, Skateboarding, Batting Cages, 52 Ft. Climbing Tower, Inflatable Ropes Challenge Course, 2 Ziplines, Climbing Wall, High & Low Ropes, Crazy Maze Gymnastics Tent, Karaoke Studio, Arts & Crafts, Cooking, Playdium Bldg for Music Nature & Science Center, Farm Animal Barnyard, Ping Pong Deck, Playgrounds.

MEROCKDIM SPORTS CLINIC: An after hour program featuring trained professionals offering individualized coaching skills in all sporting activities.



office@merockdim.com

845.362.0287

Explore
THE ART OF
Tichel
WRAPPING

8:30-11PM | **MOTZEI SHABBOS** **March 4, 17**

4 AYDEN CT., SUFFERN, NY 10901 | \$10 COVERT

An evening of demos, instruction, & inspiration.
For beginners, advanced wrappers & everyone in between.

Atara
COLLECTION

An event by www.AtaraCollection.com

