Bar Mitzvah of Menachem Mendel Citron

“...ויאמר ה" אלוקים אל הנחש כי עשית זאת ארור אתה מכל הבהמה..."

And G-d said to the serpent, because you have done this, cursed are you beyond all the animals.” Bereshis 3:14

The Zohar teaches us that the snake was the personification of the Yetzer Hora, (evil inclination). The question is why was the snake punished for enticing Chava to eat from the forbidden fruit? Isn’t it the job of the Yetzer Hora to tempt people to sin? And question #2, what did G-d mean when he said “because you have done this?” The serpent didn’t do anything, he merely spoke words, and speech, according to Jewish Law (Makkos 16A), is not considered to be an action. The answer, explains Rav Yosef Chaim Sonnenfeld z”l, is that yes, the Yetzer Hora – i.e. snake’s function – is indeed to tempt man to sin and thereby bringing him great reward for resisting these temptations. However, the snake went beyond his mandate, for he actually pushed Chava into the tree to prove to her that it was harmless. This was an action, not just words. It was this overstepping of the snake’s bounds that angered G-d and earned him his curse.

The weekly Shmooze News is dedicated by:
Jack and Susan Gluck in memory of Milton & Edith Gluck z”l and Nicholas Brecher z”l;
Stuart Harris in honor of Penny Harris; and
Aaron and Susan Weinberg in memory of Jack & Helen Weinberg z”l and
Morris & Nellie Fischer z”l.
As we begin a new year and the proverbial snake of life tries to seduce us once again to transgress the will of G-d, may this year bring us the strength and inspiration to stand up to his devious plans and resist his temptations thereby bringing us much blessing and success for the coming new year.

(Sefer-Chochumas Chaim)

Wishing all of you an inspiring Shabbos!

Rabbi Moshe Gruenstein
Kiddush this Shabbos is co-sponsored by Ann and Alex Lebowitz in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Alex’s Mother, Frieda Lebowitz; and by the Sussman Family: in celebration of the birthday of their father, Eli Sussman; in honor of our Rabbi Gruenstein’s Birthday; and in honor of the Bar Mitzvah boy Menachem Mendel Citron.

Seudah Shlishit is sponsored by Fortuna & Leon Kopel and family commemorating the 1st yahrtzeit of Clara Morjain, Clara bat Mordechai z”l.

Mazal tov to Linda & Murray Laulicht on the birth of their first great grandchild, Marlee Amanda. Mazal tov to parents Estie & Evan Rottenstreich, and to grandparents Pamela & Ari Hirt and Stacie & Zvi Rottenstreich.

Mazal tov to Miriam and Sheldon Lisbon on the birth of their first great grandchild, Avraham Baruch. Mazal Tov to parents, Yitzi and Shani Grunhut.

Many thanks and Yasher Koach to all those who generously donated to all aspects of Succos, Shmini Atzeres and Simchas Torah -- thereby enhancing our Yom Tov and greatly supporting our shul.

We regret to inform you of the passing of Ilona Helena Rachel Katz, z”l Mother of our esteemed member Dr. Shmuel Katz.

We regret to inform you of the passing of Isaac Silberberg (Yitzi Bunim ben David z"l), father of Raquel Benson.

Building Fund

Important! Please try and remit your building fund pledge commitments at your earliest opportunity. Thank you.

Youth Program

Father and Child learning this week during a special Seudah Shlishis upstairs. There will be learning, ice cream, and prizes!!!

All youth can once again turn in their tickets they received for their wonderful participation for great prizes!

High School teens are invited to Learning and Frozen Yogurt every Wednesday night. Please contact Rabbi Fried for timing and location details.
New Mailing Address: 9580 Abbott Avenue, Surfside, FL 33154
P.O. Box 545985, Surfside, FL 33154-5985

Shabbos/Holiday Schedule: To view the schedule, please go to our website, www.yicbh.org and click on Holidays/Shabbos Info.

Email Addresses: To contact Rabbi, Office, Youth Director or Gabbaim, please email Rabbi@yicbh.org; yakira@yicbh.org; Rabbifried@yicbh.org; gabbai@yicbh.org

We now have photo gallery available online. Please go to www.yicbh.org and click photo gallery on the left bar. Enjoy!

The Young Israel Congregation of Bal Harbour has an extensive Torah Library both in Hebrew and English. Our English Torah lending Library is located in the conference room and will be open Monday-Thursday 9:00AM-5:00PM. The Torah library has been made possible through the generous sponsorship of Andrew and Basya Lowinger in memory of Maurice Lowinger z"l, מאיר משה בן-ציון הלוי ז"ל

We can now accept on-line donations via our shul website directly through PayPal. Please use this link http://www.yicbh.org/payment.php , or first go the website, www.yicbh.org, and click on Membership & Donation and press Donate. Please note it is very important you indicate in the “Payment Notes” the specific donation that is being paid for (membership, kiddush, aliyah, etc.).

We ask everyone's cooperation and understanding in not leaving personal handbags or knapsacks unattended anywhere in our synagogue building.

Please submit all insertions for the Shmooze News to yakira@yicbh.org by noon on Thursday.