

The Spring Hill Times

Spreading Hashem's goodness all around the world

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ISSUE 72

PARSHAS LECH LICHA

CHESHVON 5783

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Wow!! Stunning!!!
Ma Rabu Ma'asecha, Hashem!

Dedicated L'Iluy Nishmas

ר' יונה מאיר בן ר' חיים אלכסדר
זיסקינד זצ"ל

יארצייט ט"ז מרחשון

☞ ☞

Please make sure that this wonderful paper does not disturb your davening and learning in any way!

☞ ☞

לזכות: מרים בת ברכה.

MAN EATS PERSIMMON!



Reports have come in from Rockland County, New York, about a man in his mid

thirties who has eaten a persimmon. According to eyewitnesses, he enjoyed it so much, that it reminded him of the wonderful treats that are waiting for us in the next world!

Persimmons, besides being one of the most delicious fruits on earth, also help prevent cancer! They regulate blood pressure! They boost the immune system! They keep the heart healthy! They help digestion and have many more benefits! **Thank You Hashem for this incredible gift!**

OUR WONDERFUL NATION

On the first day of Chol Hamoed, the Hirsch* family went apple picking. Baruch Hashem the place was full of Yidden, enjoying the beautiful weather, delicious smells and sights of the apple orchard.

The orchard had said that the price of the apples was \$1.89 per pound and that they take cash only.

The Hirschs almost never carry cash so they withdrew \$100 for the occasion. They figured that they would pick a total of 25 pounds, and have more than enough money.

In the end, they were surprised
Continued on page 3

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LIVING WITH HASHEM

By Rabbi Zevy Golombeck



BOCHUR GETS CHIZZUK

They honored me in shul to sing HaKol Yachol during the hakafos on Simchas Torah. After I finished, a bochur came over to me and told me that he woke up in the morning feeling very dizzy. He was feeling down and wasn't up to dancing. But then he heard me singing HaKol Yachol and he got back on his feet from the chizuk!

BOCHUR HELPS YID

My son Avromi woke up on Chol Hamoed early to go to Shacharis. It was dark and chilly outside. A neighbor stopped him and asked him some questions. He patiently answered him even though he really wanted to go to shul already. Just as he finished, another neighbor walked by and asked my son, "Do you want a ride? I'm going to shul." So not only didn't my son lose from helping another Yid, he even gained a ride because of it!

WOMAN TURNS TO HASHEM

A woman was eating chicken and swallowed a bone. She felt very uncomfortable and it was hurting. Her child asked her what happened is something wrong?

She wasn't sure if it was really stuck or not and didn't want to alarm anyone, so she turned to Hashem, "You are a Kol Yachol, You can make it go down."

B"H, the bone went down immediately!*

HASHEM IS OUR DOCTOR

A mother was in middle of serving supper and she got a burn. Her normal instinct would have been to run to the sink to put under cold water. But she was busy serving supper and couldn't really stop. So she trusted in Hashem that He is the One who makes burns heal not the cold water.

B"H it healed right away and she didn't get any blister like she got in the past when she got a burn.*

***[Editor's note: Obviously, every person must do the mitzvah of hishtadlus according to the level that they are on (especially, in a case of emergency)].**

FAMILY EATS IN SUKKAH

A family called in the most amazing story:

They live in England and according to the forecast it was going to rain the entire Sukkos.

They decided that before they go to eat in the Sukkah they would sing HaKol Yachol. They sang it and the rain stopped! They did this again and again throughout Sukkos. They found it so funny how every time they sang HaKol Yachol the rain stopped!

IT'S A DIFFERENT LIFE WHEN YOU LIVE WITH HASHEM!

Mrs. Gold* from Eretz Yisrael visited over Yom Tov her sister who lives in England. She noticed how the house was so peaceful and relaxed. She remembered how in the previous years the house was full of tension. Upon further investigation, she found out the reason why the house was so calm: They had become followers of 'A Life with Bitachon'!

BOY FINDS STAPLES

My son Yaakov was taking off the decorations after Sukkah and he dropped a staple on the porch floor. He looked for it so that no one should hurt themselves but couldn't find it. He then dropped another one and again couldn't find it. Then he dropped a third one. He followed it and Hashem made it land right near the other two staples that he couldn't find earlier!

A LIFE OF BITACHON HOTLINE

By Rabbi Golombeck

- 1 Today's YESOD/Vort on Bitachon
- 2 Today's STORY of Bitachon
- 3 ANSWERS to Questions asked (Answers to 4 new questions each day)
- 4 This week's connection of Bitachon to the PARSHAH
- 5 QUOTE from Sefer "Bitachon Weekly"
- 6 Summary of Rabbi Yehudah Mandel's Thursday VAAD
- 7 Today's STORY how Bitachon helped someone through a Nisayon
- 8 ARCHIVES (proceed as regular: 1 for Yesod/Vort section, 2 for story etc.) Press 8 again for Listening Instructions
- 9 RECORD your Questions, Stories & Comments
- * Back to previous menu
- 0 SONGS of Emunah & Bitachon (To listen continuously to all the songs, First press 8 and then 0)

SYSTEM INSTRUCTIONS

1 15 sec. back	2 Pause	3 15 sec. forward
4 1 min. back	5 Raise volume	6 1 min. forward
7 3 min. back	8 Lower volume	9 3 min. forward
* Back to Prev. Menu	0 Bookmark save	# Bookmark Continue

Eretz Yisroel079-704-0068
 Lakewood.....732-719-3898
 Monsey845-470-5577
 Five Boroughs929-470-5577
 England03-303-502-368
 Australia (3) 99-997-300
 Canada647-498-7700

WEEKLY NEWS ROUNDUP

Continued from front page when their apples were weighed - it turned out that they owed \$172! There was no ATM, and the orchard did not accept any other method of payment.

It was closing time, so they could not drive to an ATM and return. A frum family on line saw their quandary and said that they would pay the \$72!

The Hirschs asked them for their names and addresses, so that they could mail/zelle the money back. They told the Hirsch family their names and that they were from Crown Heights, but then they asked, "Are you going to use the apples for Yom Tov?"

The Hirschs said, "Of course!" They replied, "Well, this will be our way of joining you at your Yom Tov seuda."

They went to their car and left before the Hirschs could inquire further!

Mi K'amcha Yisrael!

THE POWER OF A SINGLE SHABBOS

Editor's note: The following amazing story was sent in by a reader from 'out of town'. It shows us the power of positivity and how that every Yid, deep down, really wants to be good...

I live in an out-of-town community and I'm in a Kollel. I also do some kiruv work. Last year around Chanukah time, the community hosted an event with the "Traveling Chassidim Group," a group that goes around bringing the joy of Yiddishkeit to out of town Jewish

communities.

There was an older Yid, in his 80's, who was not frum. He was clearly moved and inspired. I overheard him telling another friend that he is so inspired, that he wants to start keeping Shabbos. Upon hearing that I went over to him and started to praise him for his enthusiasm.

After Shabbos, I spoke to other people and asked them if they could help me help this Yid to realize his inspiration with having his first Shabbos in the community. He did not live near the community and we would have to prepare a Shabbos for him.

Most people I spoke to discouraged me saying that I shouldn't put energy into this because it would not be a long lasting commitment.

I have heard from my Rebbeim that sometimes we have to block out what people say. Knowing that even one Shabbos is so special and worth the energy, I went ahead and prepared a most beautiful Shabbos experience for this man, with meals, accommodations and dancing. He felt truly elevated.

Shortly afterwards, it became clear that that Shabbos was indeed a one-time affair and that he wasn't going to continue keeping Shabbos. It was too hard for him.

Not discouraged, I continued my relationship with this man and we used to schmooze and connect. I would encourage him to look how special he is for keeping that one Shabbos. I saw the reality that one Shabbos is amazing and so cherished by

Hashem and I made a tremendous deal about what he did. I told him that even if he doesn't keep Shabbos but he should at least acknowledge Shabbos and have a treat in honor of Shabbos.

That's what he did and surprisingly he looked forward to Shabbos every week and went through the parsha! B"H in general, he feels like he is constantly growing!!

I never stopped making a big deal of his single Shabbos commitment. I even sponsored the local shul's paper in honor of his commitment. I constantly made him feel like he is such a good and holy man for doing what he did.

It's now after Rosh Hashana and I just spoke to him. He told me that since he is a kohein he wants to do Birchas Kohanim for the 1st time!

[Editor's note: Seems like he is a tinuk shnishba who is allowed to duchen even if he doesn't yet keep Shabbos.]

I then asked him for a beracha. Being that he made such a kiddush Hashem by keeping a Shabbos. I told him that his blessing carries a lot of weight and that Hashem loves him. He then told me that from all the encouragement he is looking at himself in a more positive light.

He was used to knocking himself that he isn't frum and that Hashem doesn't like him and that he is a bad Jew, but now he looks up to himself! Additionally, other years he always focused on the "mi yamus" that we say in 'u'nisaneh tokef tef-

WEEKLY NEWS ROUNDUP

filah but this year he focused more on the "mi yichye' in that tefilah.

We see how encouraging someone can go very far, even an older man, and even when other people are discouraging! We see how one mitzvah leads to another, how his keeping Shabbos led him to growing and exploring the parshiyos and doing birchas kohanim and more to come! Even more, we see how making a big deal out of one Shabbos goes so far to help one view themselves as special and good people. He has changed his mindset to that of a more positive person and to think positively of himself, Hashem and his beautiful world. It is leading him back to Hashem!

DOCTOR HONORS SHABBOS AND YOM TOV

Shloimy* from Lakewood, New Jersey injured himself on Chal Hamoed and needed stitches. He went with his father to Dr. Stein* who is a plastic surgeon in Lakewood. The doctor told them that on Erev Shabbos and Yom Tov after Chatzos and on Chal Hamoed he doesn't charge!

MAN LOVES HASHEM

Dovid* and Meir* were learning b'chavrusa on Leil Hoshana Raba. Dovid offered Meir a coffee with milk. Meri said that he doesn't want to drink it because he had eaten challah that might have been fleishig. (Editor's note: Please ask your Rav what the halacha is.)

Dovid told him different reasons why he could be meikel. Meir answered him with determination, "Even if you put down on

the table \$1,000,000.00 I would not drink from this coffee!

Indeed there is no question! Klal Yisrael loves Hashem more than anything else in this world!

DOING FOR ANOTHER IS DOING FOR YOURSELF!

A Yid in Eretz Yisrael had two older daughters in shidduchim. One was 29 years old and the other was 25. Not only was the 29 year old mevater to allow her sister to go ahead with shidduchim, but she actually suggested the shidduch for her younger sister! The day that the younger sister was to get married, the older one got engaged! (Heard from Rav Binyomin Finkel shlit"a, Chol Hamoed Sukkos)

YID HONORS SHABBOS

A Yid from Kiryat Sefer was in the process of buying an apartment and everything was going well. One Friday, the seller called him up and told him he decided he wanted the payment in a certain form that the buyers weren't able to do. The seller said unless they can do it this way, he cannot sell it to them. Now, this yungerman was looking for an apartment for a very long time and this hiccup was a major disappointment. Shabbos was fast approaching but he and his wife decided that they would not talk about it over Shabbos. On Motzei Shabbos about ten minutes after the zman he got a phone call from the seller. He changed his mind and would accept the form of payment that they could offer. [Kav Hashgacha Pratis]

YID LOVES HIS NEIGHBORS

An organization was giving out for Yom Tov free vegetables to big families. One man decided he would take orders from everyone that lived in his building, go to the distribution center and bring everyone their orders. When he arrived home with all the orders, he realized that he left there his expensive pen. He decided he would go back the next day to see if he could find it. B'hashgacha, that day he met the person in charge of the distribution and the man said: "Oh, you were the one that lost the pen? Come by later today, I have it in my house!" When he arrived there, he said: "Once you're here, do you want to take this box of meat that is extra?" Small reward for his dedication. [Kav Hashgacha Pratis]

NES IN OFAKIM

A lady in Ofakim was driving and saw a lady standing on the side of the road waiting for a ride. Even though it was out of her way she took her to her destination. When she dropped her off, the woman blessed her that she should see miracles in her life. Later that day, her son was in the park and fell from 6 meters high (about 20 feet) onto his hand and no one could believe, all was perfectly fine! [Kav Hashgacha Pratis]

THE MASMID OF BNEI BRAK

Three amazing stories about R' Eliezer Schuck Z"L, a tremendous masmid from Bnei Brak who was nifter recently.

- His father was very wealthy. A little while after his father was niftar, he got a letter from the lawyer, that his father left him over a large

WEEKLY NEWS ROUNDUP

amount of money. He would have to go take care of some paperwork by a lawyer in Tel Aviv to get the money. He decided that learning was more important and Hashem takes care of parnassa. He would not disturb his learning for this! The lawyers were so amazed that they wanted to see who this person was. They ended up coming to his house and he was able to sign all the papers and get the money!

- When his father was niftar, the levaya was in chutz laaretz. He decided that for him the right thing would be to stay in Eretz Yisroel, because he didn't want to take away from learning and for shmiras einayim. But he was afraid it would be a chillul Hashem if they would write in the newspapers that the son from Eretz Yisrael did not attend. He

davened to Hashem that it should not cause any chillul Hashem. In the end, the newspapers wrote that the son from Eretz Yisrael came in and was maspid. It was not true, but it was not the chillul Hashem he feared.

- Everyday R' Eliezer would start his day early in the morning and unlock the shul with a copy of the key they gave him. One day, the lock was switched and the gabbai forgot to give him the new key. He realized his mistake and quickly came to shul. To his disbelief, R' Eliezer was sitting there learning. He asked him how he got in? He said he tried turning the key and it didn't work, so he davened to Hashem. "Please Hashem, I want to go in and learn your heilige Torah". He then tried again, this time it opened the door!! [Kav Hashgacha

Pratis]

ARRANGED BY HASHEM

I like to leave my watch at home on Shabbos to have it handy – to know when to go to shul.

Erev Yom Kippur I was planning on leaving my watch at home. However, on the way to shul, I realized that my watch was on my hand. It was too late to turn around, so I had it in shul. As I was about to daven musaf at the Amud – I noticed that the clock on the amud was not working. Since I daven ne'ila for the amud, I needed to gauge the time appropriately. Baruch Hashem I had my watch in shul!

[Harav Eli Yelen]

SIMCHAS TORAH AT KEHILLAS SPRING HILL

As in so many other kehillas from all over the world, the love that Yidden have for Hashem and His Torah was clearly evident at Kehillas Spring Hill of Chestnut Ridge, New York.

- Ata Hareisa was sold for 1600 blatt!
- Gabbai Shlishi (the honor to cover the Sefer Torah between aliyos) was sold to a twelve-year-old boy for 4800 Mishnayos!
- Once again members of the community stepped up and pledged to give thousands of dollars to boys who will learn hundreds and thousands of mishnayos throughout the year!

•
Indeed! אין אוהביה כישראל



Rav Akiva Grossnass, Rav of Kehillas Spring Hill, signing up tens of excited boys to the Yearly Mishnayos Program.

BEAUTIFUL QUOTES

"The reason we want children is in order for them to reveal the name of Hashem in this world."

Zichru Toras Moshe - Parshas Bereishis

"You were created to work on your middos and when you love your enemies without blaming them, then you are living with the truth. The people in your life simply don't count. They are just tests min Hashamyim."

Rav Yehuda Mandel - Bitachon Weekly, Parshas Bereishis

"When people see Dovid HaMelech singing despite much more tzaros than they have, then it gets easier for them to stop kvetching and start appreciating! No blaming HaKadosh Baruch Hu and/or people. Just being happy despite a challenge - is the main tachlis of all humans."

Ibid.

"Some chasidim say that if you're getting depressed start doing people favors and you'll feel better! A human thrives on being a giver and I heard in the name of Rav Nosson Wachtfogel z"l - the more you give the better!"

Ibid.

"Shabbos is a day to enjoy in order to know how great Hashem's kindness is to us, and so we have to concentrate on enjoying the Shabbos in every way."

Rabbi Avigdor Miller Speaks page 38

"When the news comes out that Mashiach is here, everyone will go crazy with a happiness that will last forever..."

Ibid.

Reproduced from "Rav Avigdor Miller Speaks" by Rabbi Simcha Bunim Cohen, with permission of the copyright holders, ArtScroll / Mesorah Publications, Ltd.

"Fruits have so many different tastes. They have so many different colors. They have so many different shapes... HaKadosh Baruch Hu is saying: "You know why I'm doing this? So that you should enjoy this world! So that you should realize how much I want you to enjoy this world..."

R' Zevy Golombek- A Life with Bitachon, Yesod 1379

"The more a person realizes that everything in this world is coming from HaKadosh Baruch Hu love and care and rachmanus ... the more HaKadosh Baruch Hu will shower you openly

with so much shefa bracha and rachamim..."

Ibid - Yesod 1382

"To show you how much I still love you. Because my love for you is forever and ever and ever! And even though you didn't listen to me... I still love you like before!"

Ibid - Yesod 1384

"There is one (completely) Kosher reading material: 'The Spring Hill Times'"

From a Spring Hill Times Reader

"Reb Moshe alighted from the car, walked a short distance and then returned to the car. "I forgot to say 'Goodbye' to your daughter," he explained to his talmid."

Reb Moshe - Page 286

"The Ribono Shel Olam loves the biggest rasha more than you and I love the biggest tzaddik."

Ibid - Page 299

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LET US IMAGINE

for just a few moments, what life might look like if our world would malfunction, and 'gravity' would slowly become stronger and stronger c"v.

Airplanes flying high up in the air would plummet down c"v!

Tissues would weigh so much that they would bore holes in our pockets and everything would come tumbling out...

Rain would come down with such force that it would be deadly! It would smash houses and buildings to pieces! We would need to build new houses after each and every rainstorm!

Rain, instead of helping trees and plants grow, would ruin anything growing... Resulting in a catastrophic shortage of food!

Snow would weigh so heavy that it would be impossible to shovel it away...

Eventually, water would weigh so much, that clouds would not be able form and there will be no rain c"v...

Leaves falling down from the trees would knock people to the ground with tremendous force!

Picking up a pen to write would take so much time and effort...

We would weigh so much and we would hardly be able to move at all!

The pressure on our bodies would be uncomfortable and unbearable!

People (who would somehow manage to walk) would trip c"v, and wouldn't survive the fall, from the sheer force...

It would take us forever to move our heavy bodies. We would leave the house at 7:00 on Shabbos morning and only get to shul at 3pm. We would arrive in shul utterly exhaust-

ed and totally knocked out. Davening would then take hours upon hours. Opening our heavy mouths and moving our heavy tongues would be so hard and slow. We would only get home after 9:00 pm...

We wouldn't even be able to lift our mouths to put in food and to chew it, and eating instead of being an enjoyable pleasure would become a terrible burden...

Cars wouldn't be able to drive fast...

The heart wouldn't be able to pump our blood properly c"v...

Playing ball instead of being an enjoyment would become a hardship.

Jumping up and down by 'Moshe

and sleep. The bus drivers, the grocers, the mailmen, the landscapers, the repairmen, the plumbers, Newspaper Editors, proofreaders, mistake finders, Rebbeim and teachers, doctors, nurses, hatzalah men, garbage men, police and firemen. Nothing in this world would get done...

Worst of all we wouldn't be able to serve Hashem b'zrirus... We wouldn't be able to be mekayem so many mitzvos... We wouldn't be able to see and feel Hashem's great kindness, and this world would be such a miserable place to be in...

We would run from one professor to another. We would search in all the libraries for a solution. All the world leaders would come together to try figure out a way to fix the level of gravity, with no success, and we would slowly come to the horrible realization that we are totally helpless...

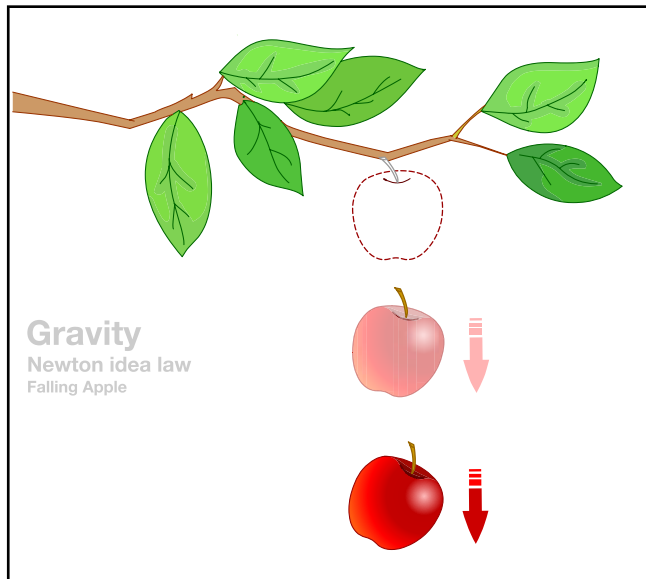
Who designed, with unlimited kindness, that gravity should be the exact way it is?

Who made, with unlimited wisdom and power, that the trillions upon trillions upon trillions of objects in this world should have each its own PERFECT amount of

mass and weight!?!?

YOU HASHEM!!

Thank You Hashem for this wonderful, beautiful, life saving, multi-trillion-dollar gift of 'perfect mass and perfect gravity' that You give us, with endless love and care, every second of the day, 365 days a year and free of charge!



Emes' on Simchas Torah would become extinct c"v...

Every time babies would cry we would need to lift them with a crane...

Building sukkos would be such a hard feat...

It would take so much work and effort to get out of bed each morning, that we would just all stay in bed and sleep and sleep! Everyone would just sleep

***WE ARE IN THE MIDST OF BUILDING, FOR
HASHEM, THE MOST MAGNIFICENT NEWSPA-
PER THE WORLD HAS EVER SEEN!***



***THANK YOU SO MUCH TO ALL WHO HAVE SIGNED
UP FOR THE MONTHLY \$5 DONATION!***

DEAR READER: IT'S NOT TOO LATE! YOU CAN STILL JOIN!

DO IT FOR YOURSELF. DO IT FOR YOUR CHILDREN. DO IT FOR KLAL YISRAEL. DO IT FOR HASHEM.

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WOMAN LOVES HASHEM

After attending the Nikadeish event, I made some real and life-altering changes in my internet use habits. Aside from the Internet that I use for work related items, I obliterated all other aspects of my internet use that were for entertainment or relaxation. That is, every-

thing besides one site that I just could not get off. I kept on trying to make Kabbolos, but after a day or two they just didn't hold.

This Rosh Hashona I davened to Hashem to please give me S'yatta D'shmaya to help me with this site. Two days later, I received help in the most unexpected way.

I work in a real estate office where one oversight can translate into thousands of dollars. Two days after Rosh Hashona, I realized that I had overlooked something so important, that it had caused over \$100,000 dollars of interest charges. I did not know what to do. I spent three sleepless nights agonizing over it, and trying to rectify what had happened to no avail. I was up against a wall.

It was then that I decided to make a significant kab-bala. I decided that by hook or by crook, I WOULD NOT EVER GO ON THIS SITE AGAIN. I also gave Tzedaka and davened very hard, and decided that whatever happened, I would publicize my story. Within 24 hours, by a true Neis that had to have come straight from Hashem, all interest was waived.

I left out most of the details, as I don't want to be identified by anyone, but rest assured that this was a true miracle with what and who I was dealing with.

I have not been on the site since, which is a very big deal for me. In retrospect, the supernatural ability of holding myself back from this site is worth well over \$100,000. (And I'm not that wealthy monetarily speaking!)

I want to publicize this amazing neis that happened to me in order to be michazeik others in this area as well as in Emunah and Bitachon in general.

Anonymous - N.J.

WOKE UP AS GOOD AS NEW!

Reading the Spring Hill Times really changed the way I think and look at life. It was the Shabbos before Yom Kippur and I was extremely under the weather and didn't even feel well enough to eat. I wanted to feel better because I had a good friend's vort to go to Sunday night and also so that I could fast and be in shul on Yom Kippur. I said that Hash-

em is a Kol Yachol and he could make me feel better by the morning and if He would, I would publicize it by sending my story in to the Spring Hill Times. When I woke up the next morning I was as good as new! Thank You Hashem!!

Y.

IT WORKED OUT PERFECT!

I'm a big fan of the Spring Hill Times. On Erev Yom Kippur I was a bit worried what would be on Yom Kippur if it would be raining and the kids would need to be inside all day.

Hurray it worked out perfect! The kids were entertained all day and I was even able to finish the sefer Tehillim!

The schar you will get in Olam Haba will be enormous! I really appreciate this magnificent paper.

A mother - Lakewood, New Jersey

THANK YOU HASHEM!

Thank you Hashem that the temperature all Succos was 55°-65° F by day and not colder than 48° F at night (at least in Lakewood). So, we were able to sit comfortably in the succah, and sleep there (I used two quilts and a blanket!). On Motzoei Succos, it went down to 37°, and Wednesday. Night was 38°!

One point to remember for the future, from experience, is to check timers that A) they are set right (both the schedule and the current time of day), and B) there is typically a setting for it to run on the timer schedule ('auto') or always-on ('on'). Sometimes, you might switch it to 'on' during a day of Chol Hamoed, and then forget to return it to 'auto' for Shabbos Chal HaMoed. For this reason, it may be a good idea to set it to be on 'auto' all day throughout Yom Tov.

Another point: If the outdoor plug is in the succa, it is helpful to tape the timer on well, so that it doesn't get knocked into by mistake. One frum electrician told me that he offers customers an additional outdoor plug above the schach, and then places a timer inside, as the switch.

S.R. - Lakewood, New Jersey

THE POWER OF BRING MEVATER

I rented a car from a frum car rental on Chol Hamoed. Of course the gas is full out, full in; this is a necessity for the renter, as to return partial as taken, is annoying at best or costly at worst.

The tank wasn't full and it was the only car in the class they had available on hand. Since they usually send it with tank full out, the representative told me I should go fill it up and save the receipt and he will

credit me that amount, when I return it. I agreed to that.

I took the car for a 2-day rental and towards the end of the first day, the trunk had problems closing. The next day, I went back to the rental with my problem. They said, "Sure, we will give you a new car right away."

However, when they brought the replacement car, they noticed that the car I had brought in to repair and ultimately wanted to switch out, was missing an eighth of a tank (one bar on a digital gauge).

They said it would be complicated to return that way. I said to them, "What's the big deal? Take it in to fill up and I'll pay you the difference. Anyways you have to pay me for what I filled it up in the beginning." However, it was a different representative who really didn't know what I was talking about. He got confused when I started pulling out the papers to show them the receipt. He said, "What do you mean? We're not going to go and spend the time filling up the tank for you. Just forget about getting a new car. Wait here a few minutes while we quickly take it to the mechanic and fix the trunk."

I told him, "I have already waited here twenty minutes for you to pay attention to me. I certainly have no interest in waiting another hour till you get that taken care of."

He told me, "I'm just going to the nearby mechanic it will only take a few minutes". However, I knew that it's at least a 10 minute and 5 or 6 km drive each direction, thus it certainly would not be done in 'a few minutes'. So I told him to just drive me home and when he comes back, to call me and then I'll drive him back to the rental place and that'll be the end of it.

As I was walking out of the car up to my building I thought to myself, *"This is ridiculous! First they told me to go fill up the car without offering any compensation. Then they told me, "We're not going to spend time filling up the car for You." Then they tell me wait for an hour when we take it to mechanic and then they say, "Fine we'll take you home and drive us back." Meanwhile, after all this treatment, I will still be losing 2 hours of my day and two hours of my car rental!*

And above all, after they fussed about the 8th of a tank that was missing, they were driving my car with my gas to their mechanic and back." Since the gas tank works with bars on a digital gauge, and the whole issue was that it was missing a bar, I said to myself, "I'm sure it will go down another bar from their driving it, because firstly they are spending my gas which cost me money, and secondly the whole fuss to begin with was over one bar."

But of course, they didn't take any of that into ac-

count and didn't offer to compensate me for my gas they would be spending to go take it to fix instead of switching the car for me because my tank was missing one bar.

However, I said to myself, *"These are trivial things. The whole thing in reality would be maybe 15 shekel in gas and probably more like 10 shekel. I am not a lawyer so my time isn't so expensive either. So really it's just about ego. I concluded that it doesn't pay to make a fuss about such things which is just going to cause an uncomfortable situation and diminish shalom."*

Lo and behold, as I'm walking up to my house from the car after he dropped me off, and I am thinking these thoughts, I noticed on the ground something blue. As I look down I see that it's a 200 shekel bill! Now, this is nothing unusual as kids play with fake money and many times their money is lying around. I hardly bothered to bend over to look at it thinking, I don't know why I'm ridiculously picking up a toy. However, as I got closer to it, I realized that it was actually a real bill, not a fake one! I said to myself, *"You see you were worried about the money spent on the gas and rental time that you we're losing? You got back the money with plenty of interest! Hashem will never make you lose from trying to make peace."*

R. G. - Eretz Yisrael

LULAV ARAVOS HADASIM AND MORE

The first thing is to take the lulav out of its plastic bag (or at least open it), so that it doesn't get moldy. There is a minhag to burn the lulav with the chometz, as once it was used for one mitzvah, we use it again for another – to help burn the chometz.

I read a story about R' Chayim Kanievsky Zt"l that his lulav once got thrown out during Pesach cleaning, and he searched and found it in the dumpster, late at night, and all to keep up a minhag!

I believe a similar idea can be to use it as part of the sechach, in future years.

The hadassim can be left to dry out, then added to the besamim.

The aravos can be planted, and the esrog can be cooked, and you can also plant the seeds to grow an esrog tree! (For cooking, it may help to get tips from someone with experience. I have heard that only the fruity part in the middle is edible. Some esrogim have a thicker skin – such as Taimani, while others have more fruit.) You can also allow the esrog to dry out, then drill a hole through it and hang as a decoration in the succa. We have a whole chain from past years.

Some people hang small jars of oil, wine and flour and also pomegranates etc. in the succa, as the Ge-

marra mentions this while in the course of discussing the halacha of whether one may use these items on Yom Tov, are they muktzeh once they were designated as a decoration (Beitza 30b)? The flour should probably be washed off, since it will be packed away with the decorations over Pesach.

If you bought a lulav bag/case, store it in a place that you will remember for next year.

In truth, the daled minim may be discarded as well; the kedusha does not remain after Succos, and it is OK to discard them, and, likewise, succa boards and schach. (Although perhaps they should not be put in the same bag as dirty garbage). I have also seen people throw the schach in the chometz as well.

This brings to mind the famous story about the Chasam Sofer. Two bochurim came to take farhers (entrance exams) to his yeshiva on Isru Chag Succos. While one did significantly better than the other, the Chasam Sofer accepted only the one that hadn't done as well. The gabbai of the Chasam Sofer, who had been present at the farhers, was surprised about this, and asked him about it. He explained: "I noticed out of the window as they approached the building. There was schach strewn over the walkway from a succa that was being taken down. While one made a point of walking around it, the other stepped on it. While there is technically no issue to step on schach at this point, how can one do so right after Yom Tov?!"

He explained that he was not concerned that the smarter bochur would have a hard time getting into another yeshiva. He had other options

By the way, it happens to be that his friend wanted to be together with him, and so he didn't stay either, but the lesson is for us to learn.

Another thing you can do with the Lulav is to make a lulav-ring chain from its leaves. My father once suggested to me that you can get two rings from each one (resembling a figure eight), as unlike when you make regular rings – where you cut off one leaf, here you can use both – and you can make them as large as possible, to make the chain as long as possible. If you're going to make a chain, you must do it within a few weeks of Succos, as the leaves begin to dry up and harden, making them hard to work with.

When making the rings, you need to make a 'knot', as is done when tying a lulav. One knot is enough; I stressed-tested a chain from a previous year.

I would note that just in case there is still an inyan to burn the lulav with the chometz, and one doesn't want to lose out on it – despite that making a decoration is certainly a mitzvah as well, you will be left with the shedra, the 'spine' of the lulav.

P.S. The story with the Chasam Sofer brings to mind what Rav Amnon Yitzchak once said in response to

someone asking if we know where Har Sinai is. It seems there are several theories, and no one knows for certain. He said that if the Torah wanted us to know, we would. He added that Chaza"l say that after Matan Torah, it lost its kedusha. It is very rugged terrain, full of thorns, and people do not go there.

This apparently means, in other words, even people who brave the desert. Perhaps we can say, based on the story of the Chasam Sofer, that although it lost its kedusha, it is still somewhat special, and it would not be appropriate for people and animals to simply climb all over it.

[Editor's note: One can differentiate between walking on the ground which is a normal thing to do (People walked onto the Har Habayis and in the Bais HaMikdash) and the story with the schach because schach is not meant to be walked upon...]

Rav Amnon also once addressed a question where a frei person was bothered that he had seen an ad of someone who had placed a dollar bill on the kever of Rav Nachman M'Breslov, and was now selling it for \$1,000! "Eizeh chutzpah", the man said, 'how can one do this – is this the way frum people act?!

Rav Amnon replied: 'What is the problem; one who feels it's worth that amount, should buy it, and one who does not, should not! He added that once, when the IDF wanted to make a fundraiser, they got a soccer player to donate his sneakers, and auctioned it off to the highest bidder – who bid half a million shekel. "Can you imagine?!", he said, "used, sweaty sneakers, and someone is willing to pay half a million shekel for them!"

It's all about perspective; if one values something, he'll be willing to pay for it, and if not, he won't even take it for free!

(The name of that soccer player was Spiegler, hence the name of that shiur by Rav Amnon is 'Spiegler's shoes'.)

In addition to the many sodos al pi kabala that there are about the daled minim, the seforim say that they also have a very nice look. The royal look of the esrog – compared to a lemon, for example. The look of the hadasim leaves – their nice shape and groups of three. The wavy aravos and the straight lulav all have a look that is particularly pleasing.

Once, before Succos, a bochur was selling chinuch sets of daled minim in front of Satmar Bais Hamedrash on Forest Ave in Lakewood, and a gentile, Mexican lady walked by and saw the lulavim. She asked 'how mach eez dees?' 'Ten dollars', he responded. She bought it on the spot. I understood it was because she wanted to show her children scenes 'fun der alter heim' – from back in Mexico, as it is tropical climate, where palm trees grow.

Boruch Hashem, we have a great availability of

daled minim today, and much credit goes to all the pardeisim and research that has gone into this. Most likely the chinuch sets you can get for about \$36, are nicer than the one set that an entire town had one-hundred years ago!

S.R. - Lakewood, New Jersey

HASHGACHA PRATIS

Dear Spring Hill Times,

I wanted to go to a shiur from Rav Dov Landau in yeshivas Slabodka, Bnei Brak, on chol hamoed. I didn't have any cash on me. All I had was my monthly bus pass and I wasn't sure if it expired yet. I checked and it had exactly 5 hours left. I was able to go and come back B"H!

M. Kiryat Sefer

MORE HASHGACHA PRATIS

I would like to share a few Hashgacha Pratis stories that happened to me:

1. As soon as I took down the last piece of schach and wrapped it up, it started raining!!
2. Last Shabbos morning, I woke up for vasikin and the staircase in the building was pitch black, as soon as I left, the lights turned on!! It's set on a timer.
3. Never rush. My daughter's hasaah (bus) comes every day exactly at 7:18am. This morning I woke up at 7:00am and rushed her out. For the first time I can remember, the hasaah came 10 minutes late.
4. Last Shabbos, I randomly took out a Pele Yoetz to see what he says about Sukkos. Later on I saw in the calendar that it was his Yahrzeit!!

Yungerman - Kiryat Sefer

HASHEM SPOILS US!

I had to mail to a doctor a large amount of money in cash. I had prepared it and sent it off. After that I was notified that there was an apartment number that was needed which if lacking would not allow the money to arrive at its destination. We would need to send the entire sum of money again.

We relied on our insurance - Hashem, and as always Hashem spoiled us that the doctor received the money!

Thank you Hashem for the money and thank you that the doctor received it.

P.S. I spoke to the doctor's office regarding the money, and they said that they never had such a thing in the last 26 years of the practice that it should arrive without the suite number!

Moshe - Lakewood, New Jersey

THE MEVATER NEVER LOSES!

Dear Editor, about the cartoon story printed in Succos edition, I'm sure readers understand that throwing a hammer is just a joke, as it would be dangerous (and for more reasons than just busting open a beehive!).

It would seem to me that the story was based on a true story. The story goes that a group of brothers put up their succah in the designated parking space of their apartment in Eretz Yisroel.

After spending several hours putting it up, their neighbor walked out of the buildings and pointed out that they had erected the Succah in his space. They looked and saw that indeed it was true. However, they assured him that he can use their space over Succos.

'Oh no', he said, 'I absolutely need my own parking space, you will have to move it'.

'But it took us several hours to put up - and it is too heavy to just drag over' they lamented. 'Absolutely not, you cannot take someone else's space.' They went to talk to their father about it. He said to them 'you're right he's being overly pressuring, but how can we sit in a succa knowing it's bothering someone, even though we really think he's mistaken'. They thus spent several hours taking it down, moving it, and then putting it back up.

On Succos, they were sleeping in the succah at night, when suddenly, 'crash, boom!', a very loud noise woke them up. They went outside, and saw that a large piece of metal had fallen off the roof and had landed right where their succa had previously been!

This story was related by Rav Moshe Tuvia Leif, rav of Agudas Yisroel of Ave L in Flatbush, in Adelpia Yeshiva, and is brought in a book by the English principal there called 'The Power To Give In', on being mevater. He writes that after the drasha, the bochorim crowded around Rav Leif and wanted to know if that man's car had been in his space at that time! He replied that he does not know, and that while it would make a good punchline to the story, it really doesn't matter, as the main thing is that they were mevater - and that is always a winner!





Let us continue on to discuss a new fascinating and essential organ – the tongue.

The tongue is something which is multifaceted with a number of very important functions. One of the functions of the tongue is referred to as 'the positioner' which means, whenever we are chewing our food, it is the tongue which positions the food to be under the teeth so it can be crushed and prepared for swallowing.

When a person takes a bite out of a carrot, for example, it is not ready to be swallowed. If he swallows it the way it is he can choke, it will not go down well. The food has to be crushed between his teeth again and again from every single angle until it is ground into

very fine pieces. It is the tongue that positions the food so it can be crushed properly and then swallowed.

The tongue keeps positioning the food again and again between the teeth getting it ready to be swallowed. Let us say we didn't have the tongue to do it, we would have to do it with our fingers.

This requires many, many movements; a person would have to eat with two fingers in his mouth the whole time that he is eating. He would have to put one finger on the left side and one on the right side, constantly pushing the food in between the teeth a little bit more on this angle and a little bit on that angle to make sure that every single piece of the food is properly crushed.

This would be a very, very inconvenient way to eat; and besides for the inconvenience of putting your fingers in and then taking them out again and again,

your fingers would get very dirty. There would be no such thing as finishing eating with clean fingers.

The way we have it now is that a person can eat a sandwich, a piece of cake, grapes, and most foods and his fingers are clean, he just pops it into his mouth and his tongue moves it around, and his hands are nice and clean when he finishes eating. This would be impossible if he would have to have his fingers in his mouth when he is eating.

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The



Bitachon Perspective

Q. Last z'man I learned with a chavrusa and I enjoyed it very much. We understood each other, the atmosphere was geshmak and the learning was very enjoyable. This z'man, though, it did not work out for us to learn together, so I found myself someone else to learn with.

Although the actual learning is going okay, on an interpersonal level, it's not going so well. There is a personality clash which is causing friction in our learning. When this happens, I think to myself, "If only I would be able to learn with my old chavrusa it would be so much better". What is the emunah and bitachon perspective about this?

A. The basic principle of hashgacha tells us that whatever situation we find ourselves in, things did not turn out like that 'by chance'. Rather, it's Hakadosh Baruch Hu Who gave us that set of circumstances for our best.

Therefore, if this is the chavrusa you presently ended up with, and it's not practical to change, it is Hashem's will that you should learn specifically with that chavrusa!

What's bothering you? You feel that with your present chavrusa the learning is not going as well.

Let's take one step back. Why do we learn Torah? To do the will of Hashem. Right now, the will of

Hashem is that you should learn with the chavrusa He handpicked for you. Hashem knows that this is the way you will truly grow and reach your shleimus.

- The mere fact that you trust that this is what Hashem had in mind for you helps you grow in your emunah and bitachon. The Vilna Gaon says that the chief purpose of the giving of the Torah is so we should put our trust in Hashem.

- Another way of growing through having a difficult chavrusa is by perfecting your middos .

- ❖ When you have a chavrusa who doesn't understand you, and you have to constantly repeat yourself, you have the opportunity to excel in middas hasavlanus – and Hashem will pay you back for the extra time you spent , and you will see brachah in your learning as well .

- ❖ If your chavrusa has a different way of looking at things, you have the opportunity to work on learning to see things from another person's perspective .

- ❖ If your chavrusa is overly critical and can say insensitive comments, you have an opportunity to work on the middah of שומעין חרפתו ואינן משיבין, receiving humiliation and not retaliating .

Rav Wolbe Zatzal writes that people commonly look for chavrusos who share a similar personality. However, writes Rav Wolbe, this

is not necessary for a successful chavrusa. As long as your chavrusa is on the same level in learning, you can shtieg together, no matter how different your personalities are. The main thing to look for in a chavrusa is someone who is on the same level in learning.

- The fact that you are trying to make it work is a tremendous achievement – perhaps greater than what you gained with your prior chavrusa. When it's going well with your chavrusa, it's certainly a wonderful thing. However, it doesn't show that you are truly dedicated to Hashem; you're learning well because you are enjoying it.

However, when your chavrusa is not the way you wanted, and nonetheless you try to make it work out, that demonstrates sincere dedication. Says the Vilna Gaon, this is the definition of true 'avodas Hashem' – working for Hashem, even when it doesn't come naturally .

Q. I am worrier by nature. Whenever there's a risk that something bad might happen, I grow tense. If there is ever a possibility of any danger, I am not calm. This constant state of worry robs me from living a calm relaxed life.

There are many people I know who have a much more relaxed nature. I wish I, too, would

The



Bitachon Perspective

Continued

have a relaxed nature so I wouldn't be stressed all the time. I know that the way Hashem made me is perfect for me, but what could be good about being a worrier, and which exercise can I do to help me remain calm?

A. The reason we were created is in order to grow in emunah and bitachon .

When someone has a laid-back disposition, he is naturally calm, and he is not compelled to invest in bitachon. Such a person has to actively involve himself in the avodah of bitachon, and unfortunately, he may never end up doing so.

However, when Hashem gives someone a nature to be a 'worrier', Hashem is 'cornering him' into mastering the middah of bitachon. When someone is a worrier, he knows that the only way to keep afloat in life is to rely on Hashem.

When a person constantly works on his bitachon, he is doing the most effective exercise in leading a calm life as well. In fact, he will actually be even more secure than the person who is naturally calm !

Therefore, you can thank Hashem for pushing you to fulfill your purpose in this world, and to live a happy life in this world as well .

Disappointed With Child's Chi-

nuch

Q. I gave my son a chinuch of idealism and joy in avodas Hashem. I dreamed that when my son grows up and has a family of his own, he will pass on the idealism in Yiddishkeit, and my eineklach will be a source of nachas ruach to Hakadosh Baruch Hu.

Now my son is married with children, and I see that he is giving his children a 'lukewarm' chinuch. In many areas his standards are low, and in general, he is not being mechanech his children according to the ideals he was raised with. This is causing me great disappointment. What is the emunah and bitachon perspective about this?

A. If giving Hashem a nachas ruach means so much to you, first, you must notice and appreciate how many mitzvos you son's family is doing!

Hakadosh Baruch Hu certainly has tremendous joy over all their Torah and mitzvos. Therefore, if you want to feel Hashem's feelings, the first thing you must do is to dwell on all the things they are doing right!

Until you take joy in the mitzvos they are doing you don't have the right to feel pain about what you feel they could be doing better.

When you habituate yourself to view your son with a positive eye,

not only will you be helping yourself get rid of negative feelings which are just hurting you, you will actually be doing your son the greatest favor as well. The most effective way to motivate a person to become the best person he can, is by focusing on their ma'alos.

This is the best hishtadlus to bring the best out of a person. The more you focus on a person's good side and appreciate them for who they are, the more they will be encouraged to become better people.

You don't have to say a word. People have a way of feeling what others are thinking about them .

If you hold highly of someone, he will sense it and will be empowered. And if you are disappointed over what a person is doing, they will feel that too, and that will block them from realizing their potential.

Therefore, if you want to help yourself and help your son, break out of criticism mode. Start focusing on his ma'alos and b'ezras Hashem you will see tremendous nachas from his and his family.

To receive the full Bitachon Perspective, please contact klatzkoshalom@gmail.com

Chizuk Corner

The unbelievable power of a good word

By R' Y. Friedman

We are now learning about the legendary Chessed of Avraham Avinu. Chazal teach us that the purpose of this is that we should strive to be like our Avos.

The Seforim tell us that the fact that we come from Avraham gives us the power to actually have some connection to Avraham's acts of chessed.

As we mentioned earlier, chizzuk is a form of Tzedaka and at times it can be literally hatzalas nefashos. In any case chizzuk in general is under the umbrella of chessed. Therefore, it's very appropriate that during these few weeks to grow in chessed through the area of chizzuk.

As we mentioned earlier, there are countless ways to give chizzuk, and obviously we are constantly involved in all aspects of chizzuk. Be"H, in the near future we will delve into the various ways we can give chizzuk to our fellow Jew. In this article we will address one of the most powerful tools in building people (ourselves included), and that's through giving compliments.

We would like to preface, that complimenting is an art. You need to know when to give it, how to give it and when not to give it. Sometimes overdoing it is not good either. So, some people might be thinking if complimenting is not so easy, why bother with it? First of all, when it comes to your immediate family it's not optional. Compliments are vital for our soul just as three

meals is vital for our body, and it's our job to sustain our families, therefore we must get to work. This is how we plant and build our children's self-image, and this is how we build our relationship with our wife and children.



Now some people may be struggling in this area. This can be for different reasons. It can be due to a lack of positivity in your life, and we have a hard time seeing the good. It can also be simply because we were barely ever complimented, making the concept of compliments foreign. However, we must realize that just like you understand that if you were undernourished as a child, you won't do the same to your child. It's the same with regard to compliments. If one lacks the skills due to a lack of positivity, have no fear! It's so easy to attain it (a good start is to read the Spring Hill Times).

Furthermore, even in regards to people that are not part of your immediate family it's still worth learning this art of complimenting, and to get started. First of all, compliments are mainly for our soul,

and when it comes to our Ne-shama we are one family. We are so connected, that in essence we are one unit. Furthermore, as we mentioned in the last issue, giving chiz-zuk makes one tremendously wealthy in Olam Haba, and can have lasting effects on people for years to come. That means, it's like you own stock in this person, because many of his good deeds can be attributed to you. On top of all this you are giving your Creator a tremendous Nachas Ruach beyond our comprehension, and nothing can be sweeter than that!

In the last issue, we told over a story how a Rebbe gave his student an extremely powerful thought which turned his whole life around. As a result, instead of amounting to nothing, he grew to become a giant in Torah.

Many times we will need to repeat the compliment over and over until it goes into their blood stream. There can be various reasons for this:

1. They may have not gotten compliments in the past and they don't know what to do with it.
2. They have been walking around with negative thoughts about themselves for years, which created a poor self image and lack of self esteem.

Therefore, when you compliment them, you are fighting the negative self image of themselves, which may cause them to deflect the

Chizuk Corner

By: R' Y. Friedman

Continued

compliment. In essence you are changing their thought patterns. How do we combat this?

I once heard a story from Reb Yehuda Mandel Shlit'a that transpired one year. He had a Talmid that had a bitter scowl pasted on his face, and he hardly ever smiled. Not fazed by challenges, Reb Yehuda waited for the moment that he saw a hint of a smile. He grabbed the moment and commented in a nonchalant manner "I see you are a smiley guy", and he immediately changed the subject. He kept planting and planting until he fruits sprouted. At the end of the year, this student was smiling more than anyone else in the class. This is how we plant and build with compliments. Small but continuous compliments can work wonders. Exaggerated compliments don't always work. It is an art, and we can master it.

Up until now we spoke about complimenting others. Now, I would like to discuss - complimenting ourselves. We can't wait until we hear other people complimenting us, as it may not happen. Therefore, we can take matters into our own hands. Like Rabbi Mandel always exclaims, "Stop knocking yourself so much. Stop looking at yourself with such a negative look. You need to start focusing on your Maalos and bring them into your life". Obviously, we need to know what our shortcomings are, so that we can

work on them and improve, but there needs to be a balance.

Accepting a compliment - Now let's say it happens that someone gives you a compliment. Some people think that its gaava to accept the compliment. Therefore, they take out their shield and they deflect it. However, you should know that many times this deflection comes from gaava itself. You may consider the speaker not worthy enough to compliment YOU. You might respond that everything is from Hashem or something in kind. However, everything has a time and place. Let's explain.

Firstly, a compliment is great to build up our self-esteem. It makes us feel respected and loved. Secondly, even if you are from the minority that has a healthy self-image you need to know two more things. When someone compliments someone it creates a bond. Whether it's a spouse or a friend, it helps us build relationship. It shows them that you value them and you recognize their good qualities. So, deflecting a compliment is preventing a loving bond.

However, there is another deep reason to accept the compliment (at least outwardly). The person that is giving you the compliment may be trying to improve himself in giving chizuk. He may be on a mission to give Chizuk to strengthen a fellow Yid. If you will deflect the

compliment, he might get discouraged and he may abort his mission. Thus, you might be preventing him from giving chizuk, and others from receiving Chizuk in the future. Therefore, it is recommended to thank him politely for the chizuk.

Furthermore, you might hurt his feelings and cause pain. Our Gedolim did everything in their power to avoid giving a Yid the slightest discomfort. I heard a story of a Bachur that was staying at the house of Reb Shaya Kerestirer Zt"l. The Bachur asked the Rebbe if he can wake him up early in the morning. The Rebbe refused to do it. The Rebbe explained that when one gets woken up there is certain discomfort that one feels, and I don't want the honor of giving even the slightest tzar. There are many many more stories of our Gedolim that had this shita. It is so easy for us to go in their ways as well.

The bottom line is that if we focus on complimenting the good in others, then insult and pain will not be on the table. On the contrary it will disappear. This in turn will bring love between Yidden which will hasten the arrival of Moshiach bimiheira biyam-einu Amen.

WONDER OF THE WEEK

By: Rabbi Yaakov Lubin

Did you know that the ground beneath you is floating around like a boat? You probably don't feel it as it is going pretty slow, about 3 inches a year, but the continent you live on is sailing over a fiery sea of melted rock we call magma. Magma forms deep beneath the earth's surface where rock melts due to the high temperatures and pressure down there. While we can't see magma, we know that it is there as it occasionally comes bursting out of volcanoes.



Ring of Fire

Do continents sailing around the world on a red hot sea sound hard to believe? If you need some convincing, take a look at a world map and you will notice how the continents seem to fit together like pieces of a puzzle. Scientists were aware that the continents seemed to have drifted apart but for a long time they had no idea how they could have moved. In the



1960's convincing evidence showed the continents were moving and the theory of plate tectonics was proposed that suggests currents of boiling magma beneath the earth's surface caused the land masses that the continents rest upon to drift apart.

1960's convincing evidence showed the continents were moving and the theory of plate tectonics was proposed that suggests currents of boiling magma beneath the earth's surface caused the land masses that the continents rest upon to drift apart.

Continental Drift

Are you a bit skeptical about scientific theories? If you are, I commend you as scientists change their minds a lot and make many

assumptions that may not be true. However, with regards to the continents sailing apart over a molten sea it seems that they got this one right. The Ibn Ezra teaches us that originally Hashem made one continent which He then split up into seven. Similarly we learn how the surface of the earth is divided into floating plates. In Pirkai d'Rabbi Eliezer it says:

“The earth is made up of plates covering the depths, as a ship that floats on the sea“. While we can commend the scientists for their discovery, they could have saved a lot of time and money by just asking some Rabbis to help them solve their puzzle.

Once you get the concept that earth's surface is made up of enormous plate like sections of rock that move in different directions you can understand other features of our world



like earthquakes and volcanoes. Earthquakes happen when two plates slide past or collide with one another. The force is so great that the ground between the two plates breaks

Continued on next page

WONDER OF THE WEEK

By Rabbi Yaakov Lubin

Continued forming what we call a fault. Tremendous damage results from the ground splitting which can cause roads and bridges to break, buildings to collapse, landslides and tsunamis.

Similarly, the explosive eruptions of volcanos is most often caused by two plates that run into each other. One of the plates gets pushed far underneath the ground where the rock melts into magma. The hot magma then rises to the surface where it flows out of a volcano. While it is really the same stuff, when magma comes up to the surface it is called lava and can cause great damage by melting just about everything in its path. Most active volcanos are found along the edges of the Pacific Ocean where the rock that the ocean rests on runs into neighboring plates.



A string of 452 volcanos surrounds the ocean and is referred to as the Ring of Fire.

While the Ring of Fire may be far away from you, its products are probably not. Volcanos are a source for many important resources like building materials, diamonds, gold, silver, copper, aluminum, and microscopic glass shards that are put in some toothpastes to help clean teeth. So the next time you see cinder blocks, gold, silver, or are just brushing your teeth, you can think about volcanos and the marvelous ways Hashem moves mountains and provides us with our needs.

toothpastes to help clean teeth. So the next time you see cinder blocks, gold, silver, or are just brushing your teeth, you can think about volcanos and the marvelous ways Hashem moves mountains and provides us with our needs.



Taken from the "Wonders of Creation Student Edition" textbook, a complete full-year science program for 4th or 5th-grade students that is changing the way science is taught in Jewish schools across America.

"The purpose of all these wonders is to make us aware that Hashem is there and that He is the One who brought these wonders about."

Rabbi Avigdor Miller (Ohr Avigdor, Chovos Halevavos)



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For more info: email yaakovlubin@jewishcenterforscience.com

THE AMAZING NORMAL

By: R' Nesanel Yoel Safran

As we return to routine, in this post Yom Tov period, we can take the opportunity to recognize the beauty inherent in this tekufah.

“So I guess now we get back to normal.” I said to my friend, at the end of the intense, whirlwind Tishrei ‘holiday’ season. I’d expected a smiling, shrugging ‘Yeah,’ in reply, but instead, my friend, a long-time Baal Teshuvah, seemed to take my throw-away comment with more grains of salt than a cook like me throws into a pot of soup. After a silent moment, he said to me that the word ‘normal’ had been intriguing him for quite a while.

Growing up in a secular home, he said, the word had always carried a somewhat pejorative connotation... boring and plebian.

Then he became frum.

Suddenly ‘normal’ was in. It was a goal to be sought and a badge of distinction. “You know what’s the greatest thing about the Rosh Yeshiva?” His starry-eyed chavrusa would gush. “It’s that he’s soooo normal!”

“Uh...huh,” he’d answer, mentally scratching his head beneath his ill-fitting yarmulke.

And normal they were. People wore suits (all the time, not just for ‘services’ or to the office). They got married. They had kids. They wore short, neatly cropped hair.

He wouldn’t have stuck around long, he said. He’d been sure the path of spirituality that he’d set out to seek was to be found at the furthest fringes of existence and with its denizens—certainly not among the ‘normal.’ What kept him there, though, was that beneath their normal facade, these people were living (and not just talking about it, like so many of his old, eccentric crowd) lives devoted to spiritual, idealistic, and world-transforming values.

Still it bothered him. How did normality fit into the picture? He couldn’t just write it off as an aberration in an otherwise tuned-in culture. One thing he’d discovered early on was that frum Jews never did anything ‘stam’ (for no reason). If they

were doing ‘normal,’ they saw it as a value, not just a fashion choice.

Then it hit him. They and he had been viewing the word in two entirely different ways. While to him it meant mediocre and mindless; to them it meant balanced, centered, and aligned with the flow of existence. The Torah was meant to connect worlds; the physical with the spiritual. To veer too far in either direction was to lose balance. To walk the line, the middle path, the narrow bridge, was to be totally connected with the other worldly—without letting it pull you out of the world. It was an incredible balancing act, a feat of nearly super-human spiritual strength...and normal.

So as we settle in to the ‘normal’ month of Cheshvan, (the only month consisting of entirely normal days; not graced with a full-fledged or quasi Yom Tov, fast day, etc.) we can bask in the comfort of knowing that there is nothing more special and meaningful than our ‘normal’ Torah life.



STORIES ABOUT OUR GEDOLIM

By: M.D. Applegrad & Yaakov Berliner

Reb Shlomo Dovid Yehoshua of Slonim was the fourth Slonimer Rebbe. He became Rebbe after his father the Bais Avrohom's sudden passing in 1933. He was known for his humility and his fiery avodas Hashem. During the war the Rebba was taken to a labor camp where the Nazis ym"s did everything they could to torment him.

Once, they tied up a Yid and ordered Reb Shlomo to hit him with a stick. Despite knowing that if he wouldn't hit him he would be beaten - possibly to death, still he only pretended to hit him, stopping a fraction of a second before hitting his

face.

The Nazis caught on and beat him severely. But to the Rebba it was worth it - as long as he didn't hurt another Yid.

We can learn from this a big lesson in ahavas Yisroel. Even though we're B"H not faced with a challenge like in this story, still we could try to improve our ahavas yisroel in small ways.

Eliezer the servant of Avraham, was walking through the city of Sodom. The townspeople of Sodom attacked Eliezer and injured him. Eliezer went

to the city's courthouse and presented his case to the judge. "Since these men improved your health by letting your blood," said the judge, "you are required to pay them for their services."

Upon hearing the verdict, Eliezer picked up a large stone and hurled it at the judge. "The judge, now bloody and wounded, screamed at Eliezer, "What have you done?" "Please," replied Eliezer, "give the money which you now owe me for letting your blood to my attackers. Now the money in my purse can stay where it is!"

Good Shabbos!



A Maple tree, located on the Spring Hill Times Headquarters's property, basking in its full glory.

While on the way home from shul on Simchas Torah, a neighbor of mine asked me: "Why did Hashem make the trees so beautiful in the fall." I said, "Perhaps the trees are screaming out to us on top of their lungs: *'Look at what happens to us when we accomplish our mission! You too when you accomplish your mission, will be shining in full beauty. Just keep on serving Hashem, glorious reward is waiting for you at the end...'*"



Tamarind Park bochurim making a siyum on Meseches Bava Metzia in the shul's new basement.

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3. Thank Hashem for all tremendous reward you will be getting if you accept it with love and don't complain! Thank Him for all the extra Olam Haba you will be getting because you serve Him happily even though you are so tired and exhausted.
4. Thank Hashem that you have a comfortable bed, pillow and blanket! You have a warm secure room to sleep in! You are in control of your sleeping time! Thank Him that you don't have to sleep on boards in freezing cold barracks under the Nazis ym"s or the Russians in Siberia...
5. Call 'A Life with Bitachon' (732-719-3898), press 0 and then 117. Listen to the song at least 3 times.



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- ✓ **HE FEELS YOUR PAIN**
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A GLIMPSE INTO THE PAST

By Sruli Yelen - Lakewood, New Jersey



Rav Yitzchok Feigelstock with Rav Shach zatzal



Rav Yaakov Kamentsky with the Baba Sali Zatzal



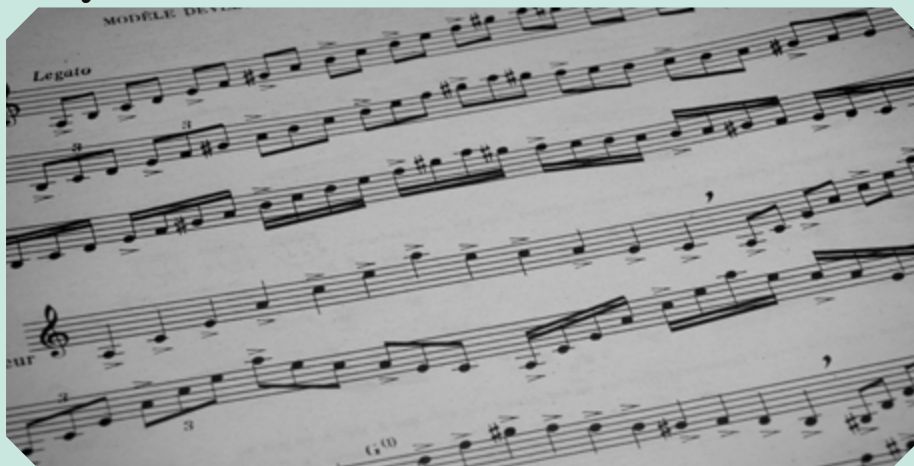
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AYIN טוֹבָה TOVA

פרשת לך לך - חשוון תשפ"ג

By: R' Nesanel Landsman

Rabbi Akiva Eiger is widely regarded as one of the greatest talmidei chachamim of his generation. In addition to his greatness in Torah, he also excelled in his middos and his love for his fellow Jew. The following is a small sampling of the magnitude of his behavior towards others.

When he was engaged, he came to visit his future wife and her family. Since he was regarded as a great talmid chacham, the townspeople were eager to get a glimpse of the scope of his knowledge. He realized what was happening and pretended to be a simple person. His father-in-law was confused as the chosson was renowned as a Torah giant and yet he presented differently. A few days later, Rav Akiva Eiger began talking in learning, and it became apparent that he was indeed a tremendous talmid chacham. When requested to shed light on his "peculiar" behavior, he explained that when he first came to town, there was another chosson there who was also a talmid chacham of note. He felt that had he began expounding his Torah thoughts right away, it might have taken away from the impression that the other chosson had made! He said that he would rather be regarded as a fool rather than make himself look good at the expense of someone else!

Another time, he was invited to speak in the city of Nikolsburg, which was led by Rav Mordechai Banet. He began building his pilpul and all those assembled were very impressed. In the middle of the speech, Rav Banet asked a question. Rav Akiva Eiger thought for a second and then stepped down from the podium, giving the impression that he had been defeated. Later that day, Rav Banet went to Rav Akiva Eiger to beg forgiveness for causing him agmas nefesh. Rav Akiva Eiger explained that the question the Rav had asked did not refute his build-up. He had stepped down because this way he could show the people of the town that they have a prestigious Rav who could even refute Rav Akiva Eiger. It did not matter to him that someone else looked good at his expense. Rav Banet gathered the community together and told them of the greatness of Rav Akiva Eiger.

We may not be able to act on the high level of Rav Akiva Eiger, yet we could apply these lessons to how we act towards our fellow Jew and work hard to maintain their dignity and honor. Clearly, Rabbi Akiva Eiger had an ayin tova for his fellow Jew!

Each Week, a case will be presented to provide the opportunity to practice viewing real life situations in a positive manner. Suggestions from previous weeks cases are offered, exposing us to how others interpreted the situation, and thus expanding our own ayin tova abilities

Case of the Week:

The Cohen's were looking forward to getting to know their new next-door neighbors, the Jacobs. They seemed like very nice and normal people and had some children the same age as their own. The only thing was the...BIRD.

They have a parrot who loves to make noises... all the time, and loudly. Now, every few minutes they were treated to an annoying racket coming from next door. They really are at their wits end don't know what to do with themselves as they are going a bit crazy.

Help the Cohen's have ayin tova for their situation.

Please send your suggestions for the AYIN TOVA CASE to: ayintovanewsletter@gmail.com

Or call: 831-244-6019

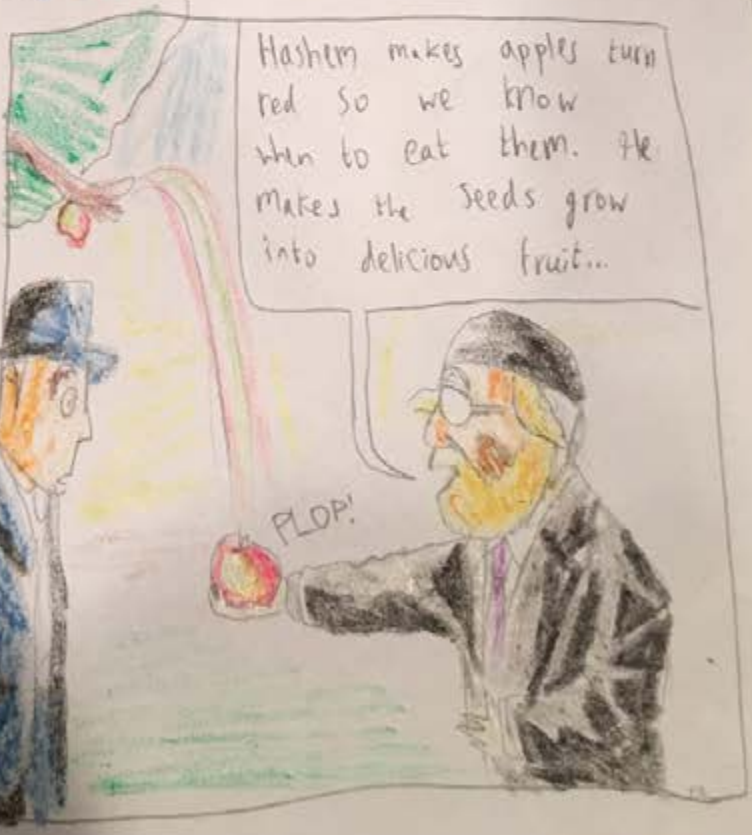
Answers will BE"H be printed in the issue for Parshas Chaya Sarah

Rabbi blum and his 2 sons mobby and Eli are building a shed to keep stuff in it. but some stuff are missing can you find them?

- key
- lock
- screw
- Bird
- shoelace
- Butterfly
- crayon

Big Choshana
Parshat K.9



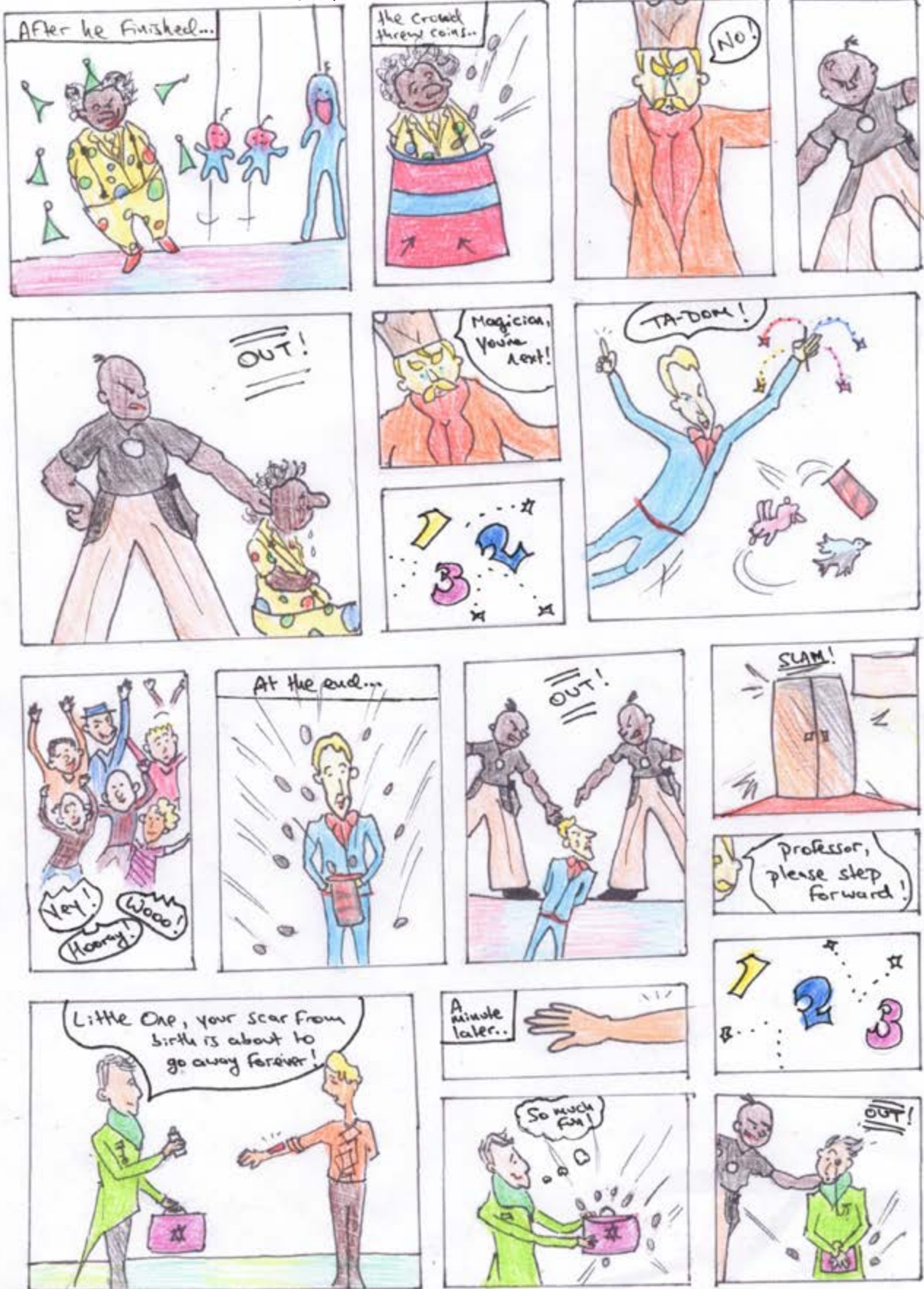


I never paid attention to these things before!



To Be continued...

The True Winner - Chapter 6
 by: Ephraim Weiss - Beitar Ilit



The True Winner - Chapter 6
by: Ephraim Weiss - Beitár Ilit



To be continued...



<p>LAKEWOOD - NEW JERSEY</p> <p>At Rav Yehuda Mandel's Thursday night Vaad: 8:00 pm. 18 14th St. For more info call: R' Shlomo Eliyahu 732-569-4273 (leave message)</p> <p>***</p>	<p>Call R' Shlomo Eliyahu 732-569-4273 (leave message)</p> <p>***</p> <p>Weinberg Family 10 Gvuras Ari Dr. 848-240-3128 Available from Thursday afternoon outside front door on chair.</p> <p>***</p>	<p>1500 Twin Oaks Drive. In container by front door from Wednesday night. For more info please call: 908-596-0844</p> <p>***</p>
<p>Ely Family 801 Lexington Ave, apt 4G 718-812-5152 Thursday afternoon</p> <p>***</p>	<p>Hirschberg Family 410 10th St. Apt 7b Please call to reserve: 732-569-8111</p> <p>***</p>	<p>Minzer family 15 Gefen Drive- Container in front of house from Thursday afternoon.</p> <p>***</p>
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5 Weekly Thank You's

By: R' Simcha Elefant

Thank You Hashem for Knapsacks/Briefcases

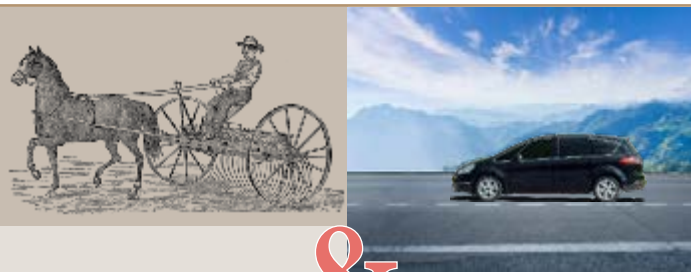
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Mazel Tov!

Mazal Tov to Rabbi and Mrs. Moshe Rosner and family (Lakewood, New Jersey) upon the wedding of their daughter Malka to Raphi son of Rabbi and Mrs. Azrial Swiatycki!

Mazal Tov R' Yaakov Yehoshua Wicentowsky and family (Lakewood, New Jersey) upon the engagement of their son Mordechai to Tzippy Gradman daughter of Rabbi and Mrs. Yisrael Aryeh Gradman! *Special Mazal tov* to the Grandparents: Rabbi and Mrs. Dovid Wicentowsky (Monsey, New York)!

Mazal tov to R' Betzalai Kaminsky and family (Chestnut Ridge, NY) upon the birth of a new baby boy!

NIFLAOS HABOREI RIDDLE

By T. Bauman

I am tricky, I am sly.
Sometimes I am rather slow.
But sometimes you just turn around
and wonder where did i go!
You can't see me, or hear me.
Nor taste, smell or breathe me.
I am used wisely or killed.
depending how you perceive me.
One thing is for sure,
I always leave my trail.

©

Wrinkles, rust and white hairs,
and with things that now are stale.

I always move forward,
Never going back.
Even in the Fall.
That's just a deceiving hack.
So watch what you guess.
On this you've got a hand
So think it out with patience.
The clues you'll understand.

Find the answer somewhere on this page

You can now hear parts of the Spring Hill Times being read on the Cheishek HaTorah Hotline!

845-720-4040 Ext 6

Updated every Motzaei Shabbos!

Riddle Corner #11

In the rescue mission for Lot, Avrohom Avinu removed from his soldiers any temptations for loot. How?

Leave your answer on the Chaishek HaTorah Line 845-720-4040 x9 by Sunday 7PM EST to be entered into a raffle for a Sefer. (The answer and winner will be announced on x14 #11)

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6. Do graphic work

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HASHEM IS WONDERFUL!

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**Wow! What a beautiful house!
Just keep on doing mitzvos with happiness and love! Something much
much better is waiting for you in the next world!**

Equilibrium

By: R' Yosef Moshe Mizrachi

A woman once rushed to the Amshinover Rebbe. "Rebbe!" she exclaimed. "My husband is a baal gaava! He is haughty! He thinks he is so special, holy, and important!"

"And what does he think of others?" the Rebbe questioned. "The same. He thinks they are also amazing," she replied. "That is not gaava. One is only considered haughty when he thinks of himself as great but others as not so great," the Rebbe responded.

Profound! Throughout one's life, he must strive to maintain this balance of first valuing himself and then valuing other Yidden as well. Rabbi Yehuda Mandel shlita explained that some people naturally feel great about themselves, but when it comes to others, they look down at them without really respecting them. Such people must make an effort to shift the tide by thinking about their friends' accomplishments and develop an appreciation for their friends' greatness. Most people these days, however, are easily impressed by others and have a difficult time truly appreciating their own accomplishments. For them, it is so important to always build themselves up and constantly review their latest successes. This will help them in both their relationships with others as well as in ruchniyus. Often, to the extent that

one values and believes in himself is the extent that he will be driven to serve Hashem.

In Leket Rishimus, Olamo Shel Torah (page 333), there is an amazing story. After Rav Aaron Kotler zatzal passed away, the people of Beis Medrash Gavoah came to Rav Nosson Wachtfogel zatzal. "What are we to do?" they asked. "How will we continue without our great Rosh Yeshiva to lead us? Maybe we should give up and disband the yeshiva..." Rav Nosson responded, "Someone in yeshiva had a dream the other night. In his dream, he saw Eliyahu Hanavi sleeping in a bed. The Chassam Sofer came over and started shaking Eliyahu Hanavi, but he would not wake up. Then Rav Aaron Kotler came, and no matter what he tried, he could not get Eliyahu Hanavi to wake up. Finally, a few regular, simple bochurim came over, and in an instant, Eliyahu Hanavi woke up! This dream is teaching us," continued Rav Nosson, "that even though we might be an orphaned generation, missing our Rosh Yeshiva, still just a few regular bochurim can bring Mashiach!"

Shabbat Shalom U'Mevorach!

**L'iluy Nishmat
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and Sarah Rivka Bat
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