

Monsey Matters

BY M. C. MILLMAN

Yeshiva Darchei Noam Visits Yeshiva Gedolah Of South Monsey

This past week the *talmidim* of Yeshiva Darchei Noam visited the Yeshiva Gedolah of South Monsey in honor of their recent *siyum* on *Eilu Metzuyos*.

Rabbi Reuven Hoff, a neighbor of the yeshiva, gave his *talmidim* the opportunity to experience Yeshiva Gedolah. The *talmidim* had the privilege of learning in the main *beis medrash* and then were given a *farher* by the *Rosh Yeshiva*, Rabbi Eliezer Lief. It was an uplifting experience for the budding *talmidei chachamim*.

Ohr Monsey Women's Program Introduces Exciting New Summer Program

Monsey's Ohr Monsey is introducing an exciting new summer program that will be offered every other Wednesday, starting June 13. The program continues to be free of charge and includes exciting weekly speakers and events geared to post-high school girls and women. The events are growth oriented and appropriate for those who are interested in recharging their batteries, hearing inspiring speakers and meeting new friends. The program is scheduled to begin at 8:30 p.m.

On Wednesday, June 13, Rabbi Benzion Klatzko will speak on "Redefining Our Relationship With Hashem."

On Wednesday, June 27, Mrs. Chani Juravel will be giving a lecture for single girls on "*Bitachon* and *Hishtadlus* — The Delicate Balance." This class will be Part II of the class Mrs. Juravel gave in May on "Finding the Husband You Can Trust."

On Wednesday, July 11, Mrs. Judy Bodner, a Life/Dating Coach at Ohr Naava, will be giving a lecture for single girls on "A Practical Guide to Dating."

On Wednesday, July 25, Mrs. Menucha Kahan will be speaking on "Internalizing the *Churban*."

On Wednesday, August 8, Mrs. Mindy Eisenman will be speaking on "Creating Improved Communication Skills in Our Relationships."

The last speaker of the summer session will be Rabbi Shmuel Skaist, who will be speaking on Wednesday, August 22, on "Elul Is About Becoming a Human Being."

The summer series is being given *l'iluy nishmas* Tzila bas Nosson. Sponsorships are available and welcome. For further information contact Ohrmonsey@gmail.com.

Upcoming Blood Drives

Two blood drives will be held next week for the New York Blood Center. The first one is on Wednesday, June 20, from 4:30-9:00 p.m. It will take place at Kehillat New Hempstead, 720 Union Road, New Hempstead,



Harav Ephraim Wachsmann, speaking at the *hanachas even hapinah* event at Khal Mishkan Yosef in Monsey (R-L): Harav Shulem Rokeach, *Rosh Yeshiva*, Yeshiva Toras Chaim; Harav Yechezkel Shraga Schwartz, Skverer Dayan - Monsey; Reb Berel Ostreicher; Harav Yitzchok Twersky and Harav Aron Mendel Twersky, sons of the Skverer Rebbe; Harav Bentzion Kokis, Rav d'Khal Zichron Mordechai; Harav Yosef Meyer Kantor, Rav, Agudas Yisroel of Monsey; Harav Mendel Rubin, Rav d'Khal Kalbisov; Harav Eliezer Lief, *Rosh Yeshiva*, Yeshiva of South Monsey; Harav Chaim Meyer Twersky, son of the Skverer Rebbe; Harav Shloime Gross, Belzer Dayan - Monsey.



Harav Eliezer Lief speaking to *talmidim* of Yeshiva Darchei Noam.



At the Yeshiva of Spring Valley 69th Annual Dinner.

New York. For any questions contact Aryeh Minsky at (845) 354-2318 or ariminsky@gmail.com.

The next day, Thursday, June 21, another blood drive will be held at the Young Israel of Wesley Hills on 58 Parker Boulevard. The drive will take place from 5:30-10:00 p.m. The contact for the second blood drive is Josh Lehman at (845) 354-6426 or JoshL813@gmail.com.

Khal Park Ave. Renamed Mishkan Yosef

On Sunday, June 3/13 Sivan, Khal Park Ave. in South Monsey held an Even Hapinah Ceremony where the shul was renamed Mishkan Yosef. This was not an ordinary groundbreaking ceremony. Rather, it represented another step in a journey that began 22 years ago that had an impact on religious freedom, and on Jewish communities throughout the United States.

In an epic legal battle, the shul

sued the Village of Airmont, New York, whose zoning regulations had been carefully designed to limit the growth of the Jewish community in the village. In a struggle that reached all the way up to the Supreme Court of the United States, the shul was victorious and allowed to stay in existence.

Fast-forward 22 years. Following years of negotiating through the multiple layers of the Village zoning board, planning board and other permit approvals, the shul is now ready to begin construction.

The *asifah* took place on the development site attended by some 200 *chashuve* Rabbanim, *mispallelim*, neighbors, and friends. The *Mara d'Asra*, Rabbi Yitzchok Sternberg, spoke movingly about the long journey to this moment and thanked everyone for their participation.

He also described the new name of the shul, Mishkan Yosef,



Reb Berel Ostreicher, pouring the initial *yesod* of the new *beis hamedrash*, saying, "A *nekamah* oif der Nazis, *yemach shemam*... This is what we were forced to do during the war!"

noting the *mesirus nefesh* of those after whom it was named, Reb Aleksander Yosef ben Reb Shlomo Ostreicher, *z"l*, and Reb Yosef ben Reb Avraham Yaakov Gelbart, *z"l*. He thanked his father-in-law, Rabbi Ostreicher, for helping to make this new *binyan* possible.

Rabbi Ostreicher poignantly and emotionally spoke of his journey through the Holocaust and the incredible *siyatta diShmaya* that led him to be *zocheh* to see this day when a *makom* of Torah and *tefillah* in memory of his father and father-in-law is being established.

The guest speaker was Rabbi Ephraim Wachsmann, *Rosh Yeshiva* of Yeshiva Meor Yitzchok, who powerfully described the meaning of a *makom tefillah* and the lengths to which the forces of Amalek will go to attempt to destroy it.

A heartfelt *brachah* by the Skverer Rebbe, *shlita*, was delivered by Rabbi Aharon Mendel Twersky, the Rebbe's eldest son, for the future *hatzlachah* of this new *beis medrash*. He concluded that it will undoubtedly take its place with all the *batei midrashim* which will be transported to Eretz Yisrael with the coming of Moshiach Tzidkeinu.

Following the program, each of the participants was privileged to pour some of the cement for the foundation stone of the new building.

The guests noted with amazement that prior to the beginning of the event it rained in Monsey, stopped for the duration of the *even hapinah* ceremony, and began to rain again immediately following its conclusion. There was an emotional feeling that there was a *haskamah min haShamayim* to the efforts of the *kehillah*.

Yeshiva of Spring Valley 69th Annual Dinner

On Sunday, June 10, more than 700 parents, grandparents and friends of Yeshiva of Spring Valley attended the yeshiva's 69th Annual Dinner, with the theme Building Momentum. For the second year in a row, the innovations and efforts of Rabbi Eliezer Stern resulted in a very enjoyable Dinner and further

underscored the commitment to excellence for which this *mosad hachinuch* is renowned.

The evening's warm and inclusive tone was set when Rabbi Frankel and Rabbi Eliezer Stern, along with the yeshiva's principals, personally greeted the guests as they arrived.

As the guests made their way into the Doubletree Hilton, pictures tracking the progress of the construction of the boys' building lined the hallway, marking the journey from groundbreaking to 80% completion. With wit and brevity, the master of ceremonies, Mr. Nachum Rosenberg, a longtime parent of students in the yeshiva, welcomed and thanked all those in attendance, and the evening's program unfolded.

In his address, Rabbi Yehuda Frankel, Associate Dean, likened the dedication of the *hanhalah*, *rebbeim*, *moros* and teachers to the *Ner Maaravi*, stating that their glow is being used to ignite the flame of Torah within our children. Rabbi Frankel referenced the rich heritage and legacy of the yeshiva's past luminaries and ended with a *brachah* that "we should all be *zocheh* to the *Ner Maaravi* that testifies that the *Shechinah* is with us."

The evening continued with a tribute to Mrs. Lilly Cantor for her seven years of dedicated service as Director of Education of the Boys' Division. A beautiful commemorative plaque was presented to her, thanking her for enhancing the level of education and wishing her well as she retires and moves to Eretz Yisrael.

Captivating video addresses followed from each of the evening's honorees: Danny and Atara Gilbert, Kesser Shem Tov awardees; Eli and Bea Hirsch, Ateres Zekeinim awardees; and Mr. Jason Cury and Mr. Joel Beritz, President and Vice President of Gruss Life Monument Funds, the Guests of Honor. Each honoree was presented with a commemorative plaque and a fitting gift.

Mr. Eli Hirsch, a long-time Monsey community activist, said, "Our support is very important, because this is a major edifice of education in our community."

The emcee appealed to all in attendance to support the yeshiva's efforts to complete the boys' building in time for September and to ensure Yeshiva of Spring Valley's ongoing viability as it enters its 70th year of *chinuch*.

"Now is the time!" he implored. "The parent body of Yeshiva of Spring Valley has been known to be heroic in the past and has always managed to accomplish special things."

As the 69th annual Yeshiva of Spring Valley Dinner drew to a close, it was clearly evident that the dedicated Board, led by its President, Mr. Yisroel Orzel, had once again succeeded in creating a memorable evening *l'shem ul'tiferes*.