

# In The Spotlight

18TH EDITION

Teves/Shevat 5772  
Volume 3 Issue 3

**Come Farbreng!** Thursday evening  
9 Shevat - February 2 @ 8:30 pm

10 Shevat:  
י" שבט



Yud Shevat is a most significant date on the Chassidic calendar.

It is the anniversary of passing (yahrtzeit) of the sixth Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak Schneersohn.

It is also the day when, in 1951, the seventh Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson formally accepted the leadership of Chabad-Lubavitch with a historic discourse (maamar) and address at a gathering marking the first anniversary of his predecessor's passing.

**PURIM**  
SAVE THE DATE: THURSDAY, 14 ADAR ~ MARCH 8

Join Bais Menachem NMB for a fun and exciting  
Purim Banquet Celebration

Make this a reality and become a sponsor for \$500  
Contact Mrs. Yael Gold at [dov7yael@aol.com](mailto:dov7yael@aol.com) for more details

With many thanks and appreciation to the following people for making our Chanukah Wonderland event a huge success. A great time was had by all!

## ... A look back

- Mrs. Russi Arkush
- Mrs. Sarah Ben-Hayoun & Amit
- Mr. Chaim Berkowitz
- Mr. Dovid Carroll
- Rabbi Dovid Gold & the Gold girls
- Gratsiani Family
- Handwerger Family
- Mr. Yanky Kopfstein
- Mrs. Julie Kramer
- Mr. Isroel Labkowsky
- Lebensburger Family
- Roth family
- Mrs. Sharon Rudd
- Mr. Nosson Seigel
- Wilyamowsky Family
- Mr. Meir Zigelbom

To Mrs. Rina Kramer for hosting the Chanukah Wonderland event at the Eli Kramer Park

To Mrs. Yael Gold for organizing this wonderful event and for her constant devotion and dedication to Bais Menachem

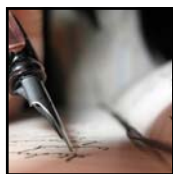


**Chanukah Wonderland**



**BAIS MENACHEM  
CHABAD**  
NORTH MIAMI BEACH

1005 Northeast 172nd Terrace · North Miami Beach, Florida 33162  
Tel: 305.770.4412 · Web: www.bmnmb.com



## *Message from the Rabbi*

**Rabbi Yosef Y. Marlow**  
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**Mrs. Yael Gold**  
*Shul Events*

**Mrs. Yocheved Zirkind**  
*Communications*

This coming Wednesday is the first day of the new month of Shevat. The name itself means a branch or a stick, yet there are many other words in Hebrew that express the same thing: makeil (staff), match (rod), eitz (a piece of wood), etc. Sheivet, by contrast, refers to a branch that is soft. It is obvious that our Rabbis chose this name for the month because on the Fifteenth we will celebrate Tu B'Shevat, the New Year for Trees.

The word Shevat is also related to the concept of a royal rod or staff. In the same way that a king is blessed with riches and all of life's pleasures are accessible to him, so too is every Jew considered a prince or princess, deserving of the very best. This is reflected in the delicacy and assortment of fruits we eat on Tu B'Shevat. Also, just as Moshe disciplined the Jews with love and compassion rather than severity, we must always temper our authority (our "royal scepter") with kindness and concern.

Another interesting connection exists between the

month of Shevat and the mezuzah. Every letter in Hebrew has a numerical value. If you add up the letters of the word Shevat (shin-vet-tet) it equals 314, the same as Sha-dai (shin-daled-yud), one of Hashem's Names. This Name is found on the outside of the mezuzah, our protection from harm. In the month of Shevat, when we are blessed with a great deal of affluence (as demonstrated on Tu B'Shevat), we must ask Hashem for special protection to guard us from taking our good fortune for granted. A Jew must always recognize his special mission in life, that Hashem has put him here to refine and elevate the world for a higher purpose. When we live up to this responsibility and take up our "royal scepter," we will indeed serve as a "light unto the nations" and have a positive influence on all our surroundings.

Warmly,

Rabbi Yosef Marlow

### **A Dose of Learning for Men:**

**Sunday**

10:00 am - Breakfast and Gemara with Rabbi Mendelsohn.

Between Mincha & Maariv - Ein Yaakov (or Halocha before Yomim Tovim) with Rabbi Marlow.

After Maariv - Gemorrah with Rabbi Mendelsohn.

**Monday**

Between Mincha & Maariv - Ein Yaakov (or Halocha before Yomim Tovim) with Rabbi Marlow.

9:00 pm - Chassidus with Rabbi Chaim Drizin.

**Tuesday**

Between Mincha & Maariv - Ein Yaakov (or Halocha before Yomim Tovim) with Rabbi Marlow.

After Maariv - Mishmar: Mini Shiurim & Chavrusa Learning.

**Wednesday**

Between Mincha & Maariv - Ein Yaakov (or Halocha before Yomim Tovim) with Rabbi Marlow.

**Thursday**

Between Mincha & Maariv - Ein Yaakov (or Halocha before Yomim Tovim) with Rabbi Marlow.

8:30 pm - Chassidus Shiur with Simcha Gottlieb at his home.

**Friday**

Bet. Mincha & Kabolos Shabbos - Dvar Torah on the Parsha with Rabbi Marlow.

**Shabbos**

45 minutes before Mincha - Gemorrah with Rabbi Marlow.

Between Mincha & Ma'ariv - Seder Nigunim and a Ma'amor.

After Ma'ariv - "The Living Torah" video of the Rebbe.

### **Davening Schedule**

**Shacharis:**

- Sunday 8:00, 9:00 am
- Mon—Fri 6:30, 7:30, 8:30 am
- Shabbos 9:30 am
- Shabbos Mevorchim 8:30 Tehillim / 10:00 am Shacharis

**Mincha:**

- Everyday - 10 min. before Shkiyah
- Shabbos - 15 min. before Shkiyah

**Ma'ariv:**

- B'zman



### *Ladies Shabbos Shiur*

*Weekly location to be announced*

*To be a hostess for future Shabbosim please contact:*

*Masha Weinfeld at 305-770-9285  
or Malka Hellinger at malkaaida@gmail.com*



## It Once Happened

by Sandy Corenblum

Neena, our three year old daughter, was having severe vision problems. She could not even recognize family members at distances greater than ten feet. An optometrist examined her eyes and prescribed glasses one half of the necessary strength. He felt that if the prescription were stronger she would not want to wear them.

When Neena got her glasses, she loved them. We had to fight with her to take them off that first night to go to sleep. Finally, we made a special stand for the glasses beside her bed and promised to leave them there all night. In the middle of the night, we looked in on her and saw her sleeping with one hand on her glasses. When we tried to make her more comfortable, she cried out in her sleep about how we shouldn't take away her glasses. Even cleaning her glasses presented a problem as she was inseparable from them.

Life continued in this way for several months until a recent trip to Crown Heights and to the headquarters of the Rebbe.

Our family was given an opportunity to go into the Rebbe's office for five minutes.

My wife and Neena went into the Rebbe's room first. After giving tzedaka, Neena stood staring at the Rebbe's chair.

Upon leaving the Rebbe's room, Neena dropped her glasses outside the door. I scooped them up just as they were about to be stepped on. When I returned them to Neena, she asked me to hold them saying, "the glasses are hurting my eyes." I put them into my shirt pocket.

When we returned home we gave Neena her glasses again. She put them on briefly and then started to complain. She began to hide her glasses in her toy box, behind the books, under her bed and all over the place.

In frustration, we took Neena to a different optometrist for a thorough examination. After he examined Neena, the optometrist wanted to know why anyone would put glasses on a three year old who had perfect vision!



## Snapshots



Yud Tes Kislev  
Farbrengen



Yud Tes Kislev  
Farbrengen



Rabbi Manis Friedman  
"Time for an upgrade!"



Hay Teves Farbrengen  
with Rabbi Manis Friedman

## Headquarters Chabad Lubavitch News

www.lubavitch.com

### Statement by Chabad-Lubavitch World Headquarters: A Response To Violence In The Name Of Religion In Beit Shemesh

*"Her ways are ways of pleasantness and all her paths are peace." (Proverbs 3:17)*

King Solomon, the wisest of all men, thus defined and described the ways of Torah. These words are as true today as they were in his day.

Pleasantness and peace are not only fundamental to the observance of Torah-true Judaism, but are the only appropriate paths to maintaining and promoting authentic Jewish values.

Violent behaviors of individuals or groups who abuse, intimidate and insult others are a flagrant offense to Torah and tzniut (modesty), in both letter and spirit, and deserve to be unequivocally condemned.

Tzniut, intrinsic to Jewish family and social life, covers the gamut of human behavior and is intended to cultivate dignified comportment in the privacy of an individual's life and especially in their interaction with others. When organically and wholesomely practiced, it is a key to a functional, healthy and respectful environment at home, in the workplace and society at large.

With respect to tzniut, Chabad seeks the participation of all members of the Jewish community. Indeed, women are critical participants in the community, maintaining significant leadership positions, as is evident in Chabad communities worldwide.

Ahavat Yisrael, the bedrock of Jewish life, has always been the inspiration motivating Chabad's mission. Chabad will continue to reach out to all Jews with respect, acceptance and inclusion in the full spirit of Ahavat Yisrael.

# Another Form of Charity

## The Rebbe's message to an eight-year-old child

By Rabbi Shimon Freundlich

I come from a family of twelve children. My father is in the London diamond industry. Once a year, my father used to take one of us to New York to meet the Rebbe, of righteous memory. When I was eight, it was my turn to go to New York.

We had an audience with the Rebbe at two in the morning. As a kid, by that hour, I could get very cranky. "Just do me a favor," my father told me, "All it's going to take is one minute. Please behave for that time." I agreed to behave for that one minute.

When our turn came, we entered the Rebbe's office, and the Rebbe started talking to my father in Yiddish. We never spoke Yiddish at home, and I did not know the language. One minute passed, two minutes, three minutes, five minutes, and I was getting impatient.

What was I going to do? I couldn't turn around to my father and say, "Dad, hurry up." I knew that if I would ask him if I could slip out of his hand the answer would definitely be no. As he was standing there, I did it very quickly, I ripped out of his hand. What was he going to do -- start running after me in front of the Rebbe?

I started looking around the Rebbe's room to find the box of toys. I figured thousands of kids came through this room, there must be toys somewhere.

At the back of the room there was a filing cabinet. I opened the bottom drawer, thinking there had to be toys there. I look inside, just papers. I opened up the next drawer, just papers. The compartment had a third drawer, but I couldn't see into it, so I slammed the second drawer and stood on the papers in the first drawer. I looked in the third drawer, and I saw papers. I didn't even bother opening the fourth drawer. I couldn't find anything.

I continued to look around again and there were just books. You could imagine what was going through my father's head, trying to concentrate on the what the Rebbe was saying while he's got this lunatic kid running around in the Rebbe's room opening up filing drawers.

There was nothing exciting happening in the Rebbe's

room, but outside the Rebbe's room they were doing construction. Construction is always exciting: tractors, noise and so on.

I opened the blinds and was about to open the window when the Rebbe called my name, Shimon. I quickly closed the blinds, closed all the drawers, leaned over the Rebbe's desk and said, "Yes, Rebbe."

The Rebbe was holding a dollar in his hand, and he asked my father, "Does he speak Yiddish?" My father told the Rebbe that I understood English.

The Rebbe, holding the dollar, asked me, "Do you know what this is?" I said it is tzedakah (charity). He smiled and asked, "What is tzedakah?" I said, "charity." He smiled and asked, "What is charity?" I said, "tzedakah." This went back and forth several times.

He asked me a question and I answered. I thought I was going to get a candy.

The Rebbe looked at me and said to me, "There are two types of charity: there's charity with money and then there's charity with your body, to care and to share with somebody else. I want you to know, sometimes sharing and caring for someone else is more effective than giving money to charity." The Rebbe gave me that dollar.

Normally when you go to a grandfatherly figure, they are always trying to tell stories, trying to get your attention. Here, the only thing the Rebbe could tell an eight-year-old kid was to share and care for someone else.

My father would remind me of this story throughout my life, and I would tell him that I had learned two things from it: First, that I would be a very lousy fundraiser, and second, I knew that I wanted to be a Chabad-Lubavitch Shliach to assist others. I thought to myself, that has to be my calling.

From that time, I wanted to go to a place where there's no Jewish infrastructure, I wanted to build it from scratch.

*Rabbi Shimon Freundlich is the Shliach in Beijing, China*



### What is Tu B'Shevat?

The 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat, known as Tu b'Shevat, is the New Year for Trees.

Why do trees celebrate their New Year so much later than ours? It has to do with the rainy season in Israel, which starts on the festival of Sukkot. It takes four months for the rains to saturate the soil, nurture the trees and coax them into producing fruit. This is important to know if you are planning to give your Maaser (different charities and gifts) of fruits, as we did in the time of the Bais Hamikdosh, because the required Maaser changed from year to year.

We humans can also celebrate along with the trees. After all, the Torah says, "Man is a tree of the field." We are nurtured by deep roots, as far back as Avraham and Sarah; we reach upwards to the heavens while standing firmly on the ground; and when we do all this right, we produce fruits that benefit the world—namely our good deeds.

### Traditional Observances:

Eat some fruit on this day. Best if you can get some of those fruits for which Israel is famous: olives, dates, grapes, figs and pomegranates.

If tasting a fruit for the first time in its season, recite the Shehecheyanu blessing before saying the fruit blessing.

Some also have the custom to eat carobs on Tu B'Shevat.



# WORD SEARCH

- YUD
- CHAYA
- FARBRENGEN
- CHOF DALED
- THE REBBE
- CHOF BAIS
- MUSHKA
- TU BSHEVAT
- TEVES
- REBBETZIN

H R E B B E T Z I N T L  
 D C L E C F W E K P A M  
 A H D E L A D F O H C B  
 Y O C H K R Y W D T V M  
 A F F B Q B T L L U Q U  
 H B S S G R Z L R B D S  
 C A X W S E V E T S G H  
 U I A Q J N B D L H D K  
 K S V C H G Y X M E A A  
 E B B E R E H T O V F M  
 A W E S D N E E V A H C  
 R N W R E F D U Y T T I



# ROAD WORK

## A Glimpse at the Rebbetzin

Told by Rabbi Chessed Halberstam



*Note: Chessed Halberstam worked in the employ of Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka Schneersohn, wife of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, for eighteen years -- from 1970 until the Rebbetzin's passing in 1988 -- performing household chores and serving as the Rebbetzin's driver.*

The Rebbe requested that I try to see to it that the Rebbetzin gets out of the house every day for fresh air. Usually we would drive out to a park in Long Island. In the years that my son, Ari (may Hashem avenge his blood), was a young child, we would often drive by his school on Ocean Parkway to take him along; the Rebbetzin enjoyed playing with him, pushing him on the swings in the park playground, etc.

One day, as we neared the park, we found our regular route closed off due to road work, and were forced to proceed instead on a parallel street. As we drove along that street, we heard the sound of a woman screaming in Russian. When I stopped at the next traffic light, the Rebbetzin turned to me and said: "I heard a woman screaming; can you go back and see what that was about?"

We drove back to the beginning of the street. There we saw a woman standing on the curb and weeping, while near her workers were carrying furniture and household items from a house and loading them on to a truck belonging to the county marshal. At the Rebbetzin's request, I parked behind the marshal's truck and went to learn the details of what was going on. The marshal explained that the woman had not paid her rent for many months and was now being evicted from her home.

When I reported back to the Rebbetzin, she asked me to go back and inquire from the marshal how much the woman owed, and if he would accept a personal check; she also asked that I should not say anything to the family being evicted. At this point, I still did not realize where all this was leading, but I fulfilled the Rebbetzin's request. The sum that the family owed was approximately \$6,700. The marshal said that he had no problem accepting a personal check, as long as he confirms with the bank that the check is covered; he also said that if he received the payment, his men

would carry everything back into the house. When I informed the Rebbetzin of the details, she took out her checkbook and, to my amazement, wrote out a check for the full amount, and asked me to give it to the marshal.

The marshal made a phone call to the bank, and then instructed his workers to take everything back into the house. The Rebbetzin immediately urged me to quickly drive away, before the woman realized what had transpired.

I was completely amazed at what I had seen and later, when we were in the park, I could not contain myself and asked the Rebbetzin what had prompted her to give such a large sum to a total stranger?

"Do you really want to know?" asked the Rebbetzin.

"Yes, I do," I replied.

"Then I'll tell you," she said. "Once, when I was a young girl, my father took me for a walk in the park. He sat me down on a bench and started to tell me about the idea of hashgachah peralit ('specific divine providence'). Every time -- said father -- when something causes us to deviate from our normal routine, there is a divinely ordained reason for this; every time we see something unusual, there is a purpose in why we've been shown this sight.

"Today," continued the Rebbetzin, "when I saw the 'Detour' sign instructing us to deviate from our regular route, I remembered my father's words and immediately thought to myself: Every day we drive by this street; suddenly, the street's closed off and we're sent to a different street. What is the purpose of this? How is this connected to me? Then I heard the sound of a woman crying and screaming. I realized that we have been sent along this route for a purpose."

### When the Rebbe Would Need Something of His Wife



According to two aides who assisted in the Rebbe's home, Rabbis Shalom Ber Gansburg and Chaim Baruch Halberstam, they never heard the Rebbe calling for his wife, the Rebbetzin, when he needed something. Rather, he would approach her and speak directly, face-to-face.

At a Chassidic gathering in Montreal this year in honor of the Rebbetzin's anniversary of passing, Rabbi Leibel Wolowik, a Jew with a big heart, told me, "Many marital issues, arguing and bickering, stem from a spouse screaming across the house demanding something s/he wants. If spouses would approach each other and ask nicely -- and perhaps not ask at all if the other spouse is occupied -- this would resolve many issues in the home."

COMMEMORATING THE  
YAHRTZEIT OF

*Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka*

PLEASE *Save* THE DATE

MONDAY EVENING  
20 SHEVAT / FEBRUARY 13  
8:00 PM

WITH  
GUEST SHLUCHA  
MRS CHAVI EPSTEIN





# Mommy & Me INTERACTIVE

specifically for ages 12 - 30 months

Come join in the fun as we enjoy

an interactive program incorporating music, movement, exercise, crafts and sensory play!

This is a time when babies can develop their earliest friendships.

We look forward to seeing you as we explore the child's world through this multisensory experience!

## Wednesday mornings from 9:30 am - 10:45 am

8 Shevat / Feb. 1  
home of Michla Roth  
1110 NE 170th Street

15 Shevat / Feb 8  
home of Nechamee Brody  
1250 NE 176th Street

22 Shevat / Feb. 15  
home of Malkie Bialestock  
770 NE 178th Street

29 Shevat / Feb. 22  
home of Josephine Basher  
810 NE 173rd Terrace

6 Adar / Feb. 29  
home of Chani Kagan  
730 NE 178th Terrace

20 Adar / March 14  
home of Neomi Bialo  
785 NE 174th Street

27 Adar / March 21  
home of Chumi Ptalis  
1150 NE 177th Terrace

5 Nissan / March 28  
A Day in the Park  
Meet at Canal (this side)

For more information or to host a future Mommy and Me please contact:  
Chumi Ptalis 305-401-4770 or Michla Roth 305-528-6828

**happenings**  
in the *Community*

*Baby Girl*

Yanky & Sarah Kopfstein

*Birthdays*

- 1 Teves - Shaul Shifrin
- 4 Teves - Rochel Andrusier
- 5 Teves - Frumma Gottlieb
- 10 Teves - Yitzchok Aaronson
- 10 Teves - Eli Benhamou
- 15 Teves - Kaleb Rodriguez
- 18 Teves - Yaakov Neistein
- 19 Teves - Harlene Green
- 23 Teves - Isroel Labkowski
- 24 Teves - Mirel Spalter
- 25 Teves - Sarah Kopfstein
- 25 Teves - Yisroel Geisinsky
- 26 Teves - Gittel Lazerson
- 26 Teves - Moishe Silverman
  
- 1 Shevat - Beny Ichilevici
- 2 Shevat - Yakov Rubin
- 3 Shevat - Sara Raizel Marlow
- 6 Shevat - Rivka Brody
- 9 Shevat - Moshe Hankin
- 10 Shevat - Yosef Y. Benhamou
- 11 Shevat - Ari Tamari
- 11 Shevat - Tziporah Goldstein
- 12 Shevat—Penina Basher
- 14 Shevat - Eli Brody
- 15 Shevat - Rifka Mendelsohn
- 17 Shevat - Rochel Shifrin
- 19 Shevat - Gedaliah Druin
- 19 Shevat - Malky Hankin
- 21 Shevat - Julia Kramer
- 23 Shevat - Hadassa Helinski
- 27 Shevat - Chana Sara Brody
- 27 Shevat - Yehoshua Usher Green
- 28 Shevat - Sheli Gratsiani
- 29 Shevat - Chaim Boruch Brody
- 30 Shevat - Josephine Basher
- 30 Shevat - Avrohom Stolik

*Condolences*

Our heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Hindy Hazan Dr. Dovid Lazerson  
*May Hashem comfort their families among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.*

**PLEASE SHARE YOUR NACHAS WITH US!**  
Email your simchas to [sarahkopfstein@gmail.com](mailto:sarahkopfstein@gmail.com)

# Chanukah Wonderland

*A look back in photos*



## We want to hear from you!

We are looking for stories, articles, personal Jewish experiences and more. Email [sarahkopfstein@gmail.com](mailto:sarahkopfstein@gmail.com) to partner with us and contribute to our publication.

**Get Involved!**



**under construction**

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 North Miami Beach, Florida 33162



# UPCOMING EVENTS

DON'T MISS OUT



## Chof Daled Teves Farbrengen

Thursday evening  
 25 Teves - January 19 @ 8:30 pm



## Yud Shevat Farbrengen

Thursday evening  
 9 Shevat - February 2 @ 8:30 pm



## N'shei Chof Bais Shevat Event

Monday evening  
 20 Shevat - February 13 @ 8:00 pm



BAIS MENACHEM  
 CHABAD  
 NORTH MIAMI BEACH

## ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES

- Daily Minyan – morning and evening
- Shabbos and Holiday Services
- Torah and Philosophy Classes for Adults
- Women's Classes
- Educational Programs for Children
- Lunch & Learn
- N'shei Chabad
- Mitzva Campaigns
- Mommy & Me
- Project LEV
- Bikur Cholim
- Shifra & Puah
- Tefillin & Mezuzah Bank
- Counseling
- Funerals & Shiva Calls
- Speakers Bureau
- Sukkos Fair & Mobiles
- Chanukah & Purim Events

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