

YOUNG ISRAEL OF WEST HARTFORD
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Web Site: www.youngisraelwh.org

Shabbat Parshat Eikev
August 20th, 2011 ✨ 20 Av 5771
Kiddush Sponsored by the Shul

Rabbi's Corner Parshat Ekev 5771

Last Shabbos many of you were in shul when I announced that the Eruv is no longer re-routed and is back to normal! This was a great accomplishment which took a lot of time and emotional energy to achieve. It helped to highlight for me a lesson that I see over and over again which is to be patient since change comes slowly and in its proper time: Working with people to achieve your goals is not a science but an art which is unpredictable and always changing. As I mentioned last Friday night, I would like to thank Tsion Cohen for his help in climbing the ladder and helping to string the wires with me. Tsion can always be relied on and is unwavering in his constant support.

This Shabbos I am happy again to announce yet another Eruv milestone. This week we have made some great repairs to the Eruv. These repairs are less known and less public than the issue of re-routing which everyone knew about. Basically, over the winter months there was a lot of wear and tear on the "lechis" (the thin black strips that go up the telephone poles to meet the wires) causing them to be broken, bent, or no longer be straight under the wire (which they need to be in order for the Eruv to function). I have been making temporary fixes to all of these poles over the last many months week by week as the problems arise but this week we were able to hire a bucket truck and go make more permanent repairs. We worked on almost 50 poles and have another 15 to go.

What I realize time and time again is that we so often take the Eruv for granted or forget just how much we rely on it for our Shabbos activities. I must say that even I who check the Eruv and make repairs for about two hours every week sometimes lose sight of how important it is! I was reminded of this during the repairs this week. Making the repairs with the truck was a long and grueling task. In total this week alone I was out for 14 hours. As I stood in the heat of the sun, and then some drops of rain, and always lots of exhaust fumes from this Diesel truck (!) I often thought to myself "what am I doing; this is crazy!!" And then I would think about what it means to have an Eruv and what it would be like without one and it made the entire endeavor worthwhile.

Continued on page 3

מזל טוב

מזל טוב to Nathanael Cohen on his upcoming marriage to Adeena Schlusel. **מזל טוב** to Anita & Tsion; Tzippy, Daniel, Rli, Adam & Lily; Michal, Moshe, Jacob, Maytal & Keira Abehser; and Naomi, Noah and Meir Moss. **מזל טוב** to Adeena's parents, Sara & Richard Schlusel and the entire Schlusel family.

MANY THANKS

Many thanks to Helen Loew & Shayne Kesler
For all their work on the BJOTT Shabbaton!

מזל טוב

מזל טוב to David and Sharon Goldfarb on the birth and bris of their grandson Chaim born to Barzelai and Yehudis of Philadelphia.

מזל טוב to Judy Levy on the engagement of her grandson Shlomo Elimelech Rabinovich to Rochel Adler. **מזל טוב** to proud parents, Rabbi Yisroel & Sarah Rabinovich of Monsey, and Rabbi Chaim Yitzchak & Bimi Adler of Boro Park!

ברוכים הבאים

Welcome to the Moss family who moved in
to our community last week.
Welcome Yitz, Juanita, Aliya, Neve, and Cole

YIWH End-of-Summer BBQ

As the summer comes to an end we celebrate and warmly welcome those who have become part of our shul and our community. Please come out to greet them and make one of the last nights of summer one to remember!

Date: Sunday, August 28th ~ **Time:** 4:00 PM

Location: The Keslers - 57 Pilgrim Rd.

If it rains the event will be held in the shul!

You received the Evite

Please RSVP SOON so that we may
plan appropriately.

Or email **Ann Pava** at abpava@aol.com

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YOUNG ISRAEL OF WEST HARTFORD



RABBI'S SHABBAT AFTERNOON CLASS

Starting this Shabbat the class will be studying
Melachim Aleph (I)

SCHOLAR-in-RESIDENCE

Raanan Eichler
Shabbat, August 27th
Pre-Mincha Talk at 5:45 PM
"The Ark of the Covenant and the
Tomb of Tutenkhamun"

Talk at Seudah Shlishit
"The Cherubim in the Mishkan & the Mikdash"
Raanan is the grandson of
Helen & the late Al Weisel z"l

HHNE SEMI-ANNUAL HAT SHOW

Monday, September 12th
At the home of Fran Wittenberg
36 Whetton Road

KOL HANEARIM TALLIS PROJECT!

The Yom Tovim are almost here!

Now is your chance to include your family in a part of
YIWH history. Add your child/children's names on our
Kol Hanearim Tallis in time for this Simchat Torah.
You can start with one child at a time or add them all at
once, the choice is yours!

In addition, the names on the Tallis will all be added
to the tree of life downstairs, check out the newest
additions!

Contact Aviva Braunshweiger for more info

MIKVEH BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

As you may know, our community Mivkeh has been
undergoing a much needed face-lift,
initiated by Sandy Trencher.

Now we need your support to help with the cost.

This is a special opportunity as we head toward
Tisha B'Av for truly meaningful Tzedaka.

Please consider giving \$10, \$15, \$18... whatever you can,
however modest or generous.

BUY SCRIP! BUY SCRIP!**SHOP RITE & BIG Y SCRIP AVAILABLE NOW!**

Don't forget Crown & Stop & Shop too!

Big Y Scrip by check only!

You can buy scrip for so many more stores with your scrip
at any of these venues!

Let's support our Shul by buying scrip!

Every dollar counts!

Contact: Joan & Hal Kadish 523-4635

100 Mohawk Drive

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Acknowledgment donations should be sent to
Debbie Luger at 37 Miamis Road

Jason Wolfe & Vera Schwarcz

In honor of Esther & David Glahn's Anniversary

Rabbi Brahm Weinberg

In honor of Tsion Cohen --for all his hard work,
dedication and help with eruv.

UPCOMING VOTE ON PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGES

The vote will take place

Sunday, August 28th

Between 4:00 & 6:00 PM

Outside the home of the Keslers, at the same time as
Our welcome-to-the-community BBQ will be taking
place there.

The newly simplified changes, along with a draft of
the paper ballot, are available at
go.youngisraelwh.org/bylaws2
Or via key #257 through the homepage

SHUL RENOVATIONS

Yasher Koach and Thank you to BARRY GORDON
for all his hard work on getting the basement ceiling
and lights project finished! It looks great and has
made a big difference in the shul.

Thanks again to all the donors who came forward.

THIRTY SIX = ONE CAMPAIGN

\$36 = 1 Chair

Replacing the worn and tattered chairs
120 chairs are needed

Buy one or buy ten, let's do what it takes!

Please contact Barry Gordon at gorbado@aol.com

All donations acknowledged

Thanks to our generous donors thus far....

Michael Weinstein

Bernard and Linda Kesler

Rabbi Brahm and Elana Weinberg

Anonymous

Miriam and Howard Rosenblum

Lynn and Morrie Weinberg

Aliza and Joan Katz

Sam and Judy Leichtberg

Stan and Evelyn Rutstein

Leonid and Irina Margulis

Jack and June Mishkin in honor of their grandchildren

Rabbi Dovid & Shira Mintzes

Bernie and Eileen Weinberg

Rabbi Neil & Dena Rich

Vera Schwarcz & Jason Wolf

In gratefulness to YIWH community

Dvar Torah of the Week – Ekev 5771 - Rabbi Jay Kelman (www.torahinmotion.org)

"According to the days that you spent exploring the land, forty days, a year for a day, you shall carry your sin and you will know My actions" (Bamidbar 14:34). The sin of rejecting the land of Israel was not easily forgiven and forty days would turn into forty long years, enough time for an entire generation to die. This is well known and seemingly indisputable.

However, Moshe Rabbeinu, speaking to the second generation weeks before his death, seems to contradict G-d's clear enunciation of the reason for the long, long journey in the desert. "Remember the entire path along which G-d your Lord led you for forty years in the desert in order to harden you, to test you, to know what is in your heart, to see if you will keep His commandments or not" (Devarim 8:2). Moshe claimed that our sojourn in the desert was for our own benefit, to see what we were made of and to determine if the challenges we face would bring us closer to G-d. Moshe said nary a word about the spies and made no reference to punishment.

"Why" and "for what purpose" are two very different questions. Often we cannot fathom the whys of life. We must, however, attempt to derive some lesson from that which may transpire, allowing us to glean some purpose to life's mysteries. The Torah often provides the *why*, allowing us to focus on the *what for*. In chronicling the actual story of the spies, Bamidbar answers the immediate question of why we stayed in the desert for so long. While listening to the report of the spies may have been the immediate cause of our staying in the desert, our sojourn had a much greater purpose. Just as we needed the Egyptian experience to help develop our sensitivity to others-hence the constant refrain to be "kind to strangers", because we know the pain to which foreigners are often subject -so too, we needed the desert experience to harden us as a people, to see what we were made of.

The Netziv (Bamidbar 14:34) notes that had our wandering been a punishment for the sin of the spies, it would have been unfair to punish the children and those not yet born for the sins of their parents. The guilty should have been killed immediately, as they were in other sinful episodes in the Torah such as the sin of the golden calf, the Korach rebellion, the sinning with the daughters of Moav, or the sending of the poisonous snakes. The fact that much of the punishment was borne by those who bore no responsibility for the spies indicates that our wandering served a much greater purpose.

"He made life difficult for you letting you go hungry, and then He fed you the *manna* ... this was to teach you that it is not by bread alone that man lives, but by all that comes out of G-d's mouth" (8:4). Our desert experience was meant to teach that it is G-d who controls the world. The chet hameraglim, the sin of the spies, demonstrated the necessity to drive home this message. Perhaps the greatest failing of the generation of the spies was that they did not rely on G-d to take them to the land of Israel. Precisely because they insisted on a natural conquest of the land it became imperative to demonstrate that it is G-d who controls nature, though He allows us to feel that we are responsible for our success.

It takes forty long years to fully develop one's way of thinking. The Talmud (Avodah Zara 5b) notes that often, we only fully comprehend what we have been taught after forty years. (I recall hearing Rav Schachter comment that some of the teachings of Rav Soloveitchik became understandable to him only forty years later.) Our Sages note that "forty is the age for understanding" (Avot 5:25); thus it is only at forty that one may be ready for the study of esoteric Jewish teachings.

These forty years in the desert were meant to develop the historic mindset of the Jewish people. Our survival in the most difficult of circumstances, due to the guiding hand of G-d, would help prepare us for much travail in our future. The success of modern man, the harnessing of technology, the ability to explain almost everything that occurs in scientific terms, has desensitized us to the fundamental principle that "man does not live by bread alone but by all that comes out of G-d's mouth". May we merit the ability to recognize this without the need of "hardships to test us".

Rabbi's Corner, continued from Page 1

It feels great to have made such progress and I am grateful to Hashem for giving me the opportunity to help so many Jews in West Hartford avoid the prohibition of carrying on Shabbat. I once again encourage you to become more aware of the Eruv: Ask me questions about the aspects of Eruv you don't understand, schedule a time to go out with me to check the Eruv, donate to the Eruv committee so that they can continue to pay for upkeep. Most of all, in order to build awareness of the Eruv and feel just how important it is try to call the hotline on Friday afternoons if you don't do so already or sign up to get Tweets to make sure the Eruv is up.
Shabbat Shalom!

☆ YIWH Schedule of Services ☆ August 19th - 26th, 2011 Shabbat Parshat Eikev		It is easy to sponsor a Kiddush Or Seudah Shlishit!
Friday, August 19th Shacharit Mincha/Maariv Candle Lighting	6:45 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:29 p.m.	Shul handles set up & Clean up! Contact Judie Patel at 236-4178 or judiep@gmail.com to check the availability of the date you need & call Fran Wittenberg 860-232-2320 to make the arrangements for the type of Kiddush you want to sponsor. <u>Checks need to be received</u> <u>the Sunday prior to your</u> <u>Kiddush date.</u> Send to David Cohen at 19 Mansfield Avenue. There are three types of Kiddushim: Standard for \$150, Semi-Deluxe for \$250 & Deluxe for \$350 With supplements available. For Seudah Shlishit contact Stan Rutstein at 232-3369 <u>KIDDUSH SCHEDULE</u>
Shabbat, August 20th Rabbi Sheinkopf's Mishna Brurah Class Shacharit Sof Zman Kriat Shma Rabbi's Shabbat Afternoon Class Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishit & Maariv Shabbat Ends	8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:28 a.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:15 p.m. 8:27 p.m.	
Sunday, August 21st - Thursday, August 25th Earliest Tallit & Tefillin Shacharit... Sunday Shacharit... Monday - Thursday Mincha/Maariv	5:09 a.m. 8:15 a.m. 6:45 a.m. 7:25 p.m.	
Friday, August 26th Shacharit Mincha/Maariv Candle Lighting	6:45 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:18 p.m.	

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 (Hotline - 860-232-6417)

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ner La'Maor</u> Lights Judy & Sam Leichtberg and Batsheva Goldfischer in memory of their parents and grandparents, Israel Weiss ישראל בן דוד Frida Weiss טויבא פרידה בת עזרא Abraham Leichtberg אברהם בן שמואל</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Yayin l' Kiddush Ve'Havdalah</u> Wine for Kiddush & Havdallah Betty & Irving Wizenfeld in memory of Betty's Parents, Tobias & Esther Spira טוביה בן צבי אלימלך אסתר בת דוד הכהן Irv 's father, Sam Wizenfeld שמואל מאיר בן יצחק הכהן</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Pat La'Orchim</u> Challah rolls for Seudah Shlishit Fran & Gene Wittenberg in memory of Fran's father, Tzvi ben Yitzchak Meir HaCohen צבי בן יצחק מאיר הכהן & Gene's father, Binyamin ben Moshe בנימין בן משה</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Seudah Shlishit Supplement</u> In Memory of Al Weisel</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5771 Candy Man: Gil Fried</p>
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Friday, August 26th Shacharit Mincha/Maariv Candle Lighting Shabbat, August 27th Rabbi Sheinkopf's Mishna Brurah Class Shacharit Sof Zman Kriat Shma Raanan Eichler S-I-R Pre-Mincha Talk Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishit & Maariv Shabbat Ends Sunday, August 28th - Thursday, September 1st Earliest Tallit & Tefillin Shacharit... Sunday Followed by Rabbi Weinberg's Gemara Shiur on Masechet Makot Shacharit... Monday & Thursday Shacharit... Tuesday & Wednesday - RC Elul Mincha/Maariv Friday, September 2nd Shacharit Mincha/Maariv Candle Lighting	6:45 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:18 p.m. 8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:31 a.m. 5:45 p.m. 7:05 p.m. 8:17 p.m. 5:18 a.m. 8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 6:45 a.m. 6:30 a.m. 7:15 p.m. 6:45 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:07p.m.	Shul handles set up & Clean up! Contact Judie Patel at 236-4178 or judiep@gmail.com to check the availability of the date you need & call Fran Wittenberg 860-232-2320 to make the arrangements for the type of Kiddush you want to sponsor. <u>Checks need to be received</u> <u>the Sunday prior to your</u> <u>Kiddush date.</u> Send to David Cohen at 19 Mansfield Avenue. There are three types of Kiddushim: Standard for \$150, Semi-Deluxe for \$250 & Deluxe for \$350 With supplements available. For Seudah Shlishit contact Stan Rutstein at 232-3369 <u>KIDDUSH SCHEDULE</u>

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Friday, September 2nd Shacharit Mincha/Maariv Candle Lighting Shabbat, September 3rd Rabbi Sheinkopf's Mishna Brurah Class Shacharit Sof Zman Kriat Shma Rabbi's Shabbat Afternoon Class Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishit & Maariv Shabbat Ends Sunday, September 4th - Thursday, September 8th Earliest Tallit & Tefillin Shacharit... Sunday Followed by Rabbi Weinberg's Gemara Shiur on Masechet Makot Shacharit... Monday - Labor Day Shacharit... Tuesday - Thursday Mincha/Maariv Friday, September 9th Shacharit Candle Lighting Mincha/Maariv	6:45 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:07 p.m. 8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:33 a.m. 6:05 p.m. 6:50 p.m. 8:05 p.m. 5:26 a.m. 8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 8:15 a.m. 6:45 a.m. 7:05 p.m. 6:45 a.m. 6:55 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Shul handles set up & Clean up! Contact Judie Patel at 236-4178 or judiep@gmail.com to check the availability of the date you need & call Fran Wittenberg 860-232-2320 to make the arrangements for the type of Kiddush you want to sponsor. <u>Checks need to be received the Sunday prior to your Kiddush date.</u> Send to David Cohen at 19 Mansfield Avenue. There are three types of Kiddushim: Standard for \$150, Semi-Deluxe for \$250 & Deluxe for \$350 With supplements available. For Seudah Shlishit contact Stan Rutstein at 232-3369 <u>KIDDUSH SCHEDULE</u>

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