

Weekly Bulletin

Candle Lighting: 4:39 PM
Shabbat Ends: 5:42 PM

VOLUME I

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2007 29 TEVET, 5767

ISSUE XXI

Great News! Chabad ELC Expanding!



Chabad ELC is pleased to share with the community the great news that it will be opening a satellite branch in the West 60's. The new branch of Chabad Early Learning Center will be located at West End Avenue and West 61st Street and will house 3 classrooms for children 18m - 3yr. Morah Faya Lipskier, who has over 5 years of experience

teaching and running educational programs under the guidance of Morah Pearl Stroh, will be the educational director of the facility.



Morah Faya Lipskier
Educational Director, W60s

Although the entire West Side is growing in population at a great rate, the West 60s are experiencing the greatest growth with large numbers of new rental and condo apartments coming onto the market. Chabad and Chabad ELC are at the forefront of offering quality Jewish education and services for the many new families moving into this vibrant area of our neighborhood.

In addition, following in the model of our two current facilities, the new center will serve as the base of Chabad activities taking place in the West 60s.

With G-d's help, the new Chabad Early Learning Center of the West 60s will touch the hearts of many new families in our area, strengthening the Jewish community even more.

Pearl Stroh Goes to Kansas City



The staff at Chabad Early Learning Center presented me with a gift of immeasurable value, the amazing opportunity of attending the annual N'shei Chabad Convention held this year at Kansas City, Missouri.

Over the past dozen years, I have attended two other conventions and I knew how inspiring the program is, but this year surpassed any other event that I have ever been to.

This weekend was made to provide rest and relaxation to women from all over the world and all walks of life. The five star hotel, massages, manicures, yoga and pilates classes, hot tubs, outdoor pools (swimming outdoors during an ice storm was beyond words) and scrumptious meals, all contributed to a sense of being

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Faces From Chabad's First Annual Shul Alumni Breakfast



Benzion Fuchs (Cedarhurst) and David Samuel



Bobby DooWah doin' his thing



Debbie and Brett Cohen (Monsey, NY)



Ida and Bob Dick (West Orange, NJ)



Bo Weitz with Daughters Ava & Elliana (Hillside, NJ)



Isaac Bitton and newest son (Cedarhurst)

Pearl In Kansas City

Continued from page 1

pampered and cared for, something all women appreciate. Most of all, however, the workshops that were offered by spectacular speakers on issues such as parenting, marriage, celebrating the unique role of a Jewish woman, and Torah classes were so spiritually uplifting and gave me so much food for thought. Sitting together with 250 other women and sharing thoughts and our lives together at late night farbrengens gave me such a strong sense of connection to Am Yisroel, wherever we may be.

My only regret was that I did not bring more friends with me to appreciate this convention.....

Pearl



Sunday, January 21

Baking Matza in Crown Heights

Have the experience of a lifetime! Bake your own Shmurah Matzah for Passover in the Crown Heights Matzah Bakery.

Participate in every step of the process, from mixing the flour and water, to rolling the dough, to putting the matzah in the oven.

RSVP: chabad@chabadwestside.org
or 212-864-5010 x 14

Sunday, January 28

Farbrengen Celebrating Yud Shevat



The tenth day of the Hebrew month of Shevat marks the day of the passing of the Previous Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Yosef Yitzchok Schneerson in 1950 and the assuming of the leadership of Chabad by his son-in-law and successor, the Rebbe. Join us for an inspirational farbrengen (chassidic get-together) as we share some of the teachings and life stories of the Previous Rebbe and the Rebbe.

8:30 PM at Chabad, 101 West 92nd St



Chabad ELC

Chabad ELC
101 West 92nd Street
166 West 97th Street

Phone: 212-864-5010
Fax: 212-932-8987

www.chabadwestside.org
celc@chabadwestside.org

Havdalah PJ Party!

This Saturday Night, January 20

6:00 - 7:30 pm

166 West 97th Street



PJs at Chabad?
You got it!

Right after Shabbat, join us for a havdala service followed by a kumzitz sing-along led by Daniel Henkin (dad of Sammy, PK).

Light dinner served just before the lights go out!
BYOB – bring your own beverage (sippy cups, et al)

Showing:
Winnie the Pooh, A Blustery Day

Admission - \$5 per child (no charge for adults)

Next Week at CELC



Monday, January 22	Bookworms PK Music 97
Tuesday, January 23	N2 & PK Trip to the Jewish Children's Museum Dentist Visit 92 Music 92 <u>Morah Torah</u>
Wednesday, January 24	N1 & PN97 Trip to the JCM Kinderdance 92
Thursday, January 25	Kinderdance 97 <u>Evening with Mrs. Zukerman</u>
Sunday, January 28	<u>Mitzvah Day</u>

From the PA Desk



Havdalah PJ Party!

We look forward to seeing you tomorrow evening at the Havdalah PJ Party! After the Havdalah ceremony, we will participate in a singalong led by Daniel Henkin (Sammy, PK), eat a light dinner and then watch *Winnie the Pooh, A Blustery Day*. Pajama wear not required for attendance :)

Also this week...

A Night with our Morahs' Mom, Mrs. Miriam Zukerman on Thursday, January 25th at 8 pm. Graciously hosted by Hila and Adam Steinberg (Sammy, T2)
800 West End Avenue #6D
Bring your parenting questions!

See you!
Sarah & Deborah

Dentist Visit



A dentist from the office of Dr. Robert Peracchia visited the 97th Street classes on Tuesday and will be spending time at 92nd Street classes this upcoming Tuesday. The dentist's presentation included a tooth brushing demo and a discussion about good dental hygiene.

And More?

What about YOUR profession or passion? Sharing your occupation or hobby with your child's classmates is a wonderful way to enrich our curriculum and will definitely make your child's day! Speak to your child's teacher to share ideas and get scheduling information.

Staff Workshop

As you know by now, Wednesdays are full days for the Morahs at Chabad ELC. The time following dismissal is spent on classroom upkeep, team meetings and staff development.

Last week's workshop was called "Puppets - When to Use Them and How to Make Them". The session began with a presentation by Nyla Kamlet, parent of Chabad alum, Esme. Nyla, a practicing child play therapist, explained that the use of puppets helps children address issues in a non-confrontational manner. Teachers can use puppets to help children resolve conflicts without getting too personal. In addition, puppets add joy to classroom routines by turning mundane activities such as cleanup into magical moments.



The next part of the program was led by Chana Jacobson, a preschool teacher and master puppet maker. Chana displayed a variety of puppets to help get the creative juices flowing. With a seemingly endless supply of fabrics, buttons, paper, stockings, hangers, markers, hair and glue; it wasn't difficult to get started. The teachers plan on incorporating these new puppets into the Purim curriculum while employing some of them for general classroom use.

“Whoever saves a life, it is considered as if he saved an entire world.”
(Talmud Sanhedrin 4:1)

Red Cross Certification in Child CPR

Monday, January 29
97th Street Library

10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Fee: \$35

Class space is limited - sign up at the school office today!
212-864-5010 x10 / celc@chabadwestside.org

Course is taught by Red Cross Instructor Rivky Kleinman



Buy Your Tickets!

Join CELC families for a day at the theater and help support the PA at the same time. We are now selling tickets to the "Three Little Pigs" which will be showing on Sunday, February 25 at 2 pm at the Manhattan Children's Theater. This wonderful show is appropriate for all ages.

For tickets, call Eta Kliger (Daniella Schreiber, N2)
212-706-2572 (home) / 917-734-0250 (cell)
Evenings are the best time to call.

Save the Date!



The Parents' Association's annual Wine Tasting and Auction will be held on **Sunday Evening, March 18, 2007.**

Enjoy an elegant evening out and support PA-sponsored programs by purchasing unique items such as morah playdates and beautiful objects created by the children in each class. You don't want to miss it!

Mazal Tov!

Stacy and Iliya Rybchin upon the birth of their son Jacob. Best wishes to big brother Zachary (T1) and the entire family.



Danielle, Morah Fraidy, Joshua and Judah - PN3

Sunday, January 28
166 West 97th Street

11 am - 1 pm

\$12 per child ages 2-14
(no charge for adults)

Mitzvah Day!

- ✓ Braid a challah
- ✓ Read Jewish books
- ✓ Create Jewish sand art
- ✓ Celebrate your Jewish birthday
- ✓ Watch the Sofer hard at work
- ✓ Special for Chabad Kids Club!
Torah Workshop for ages 7+
- ✓ Design a washing cup
- ✓ Order a personalized kippa /tzitzit
- ✓ Explore an ambulance
- ✓ Face painting
- ✓ And much, much more!

A fun-filled way to enjoy Mitzvot all day.
Family and friends are welcome!

Lost & Found

The children in Nursery 2 have been learning about the mitzvah of Hashavat Aveida - returning lost items that have been found.

Their class project is now gracing the 97th Street hallway. The children painted a set of hooks that is already covered with hats and gloves. The 92nd Street lost and found spot is to the left of the main entrance.

Help us perform the mitzvah of Hashavat Aveida by claiming your lost items. Of course, if your hats and mittens are labeled, this mitzvah is so much easier to do. Check out www.chabadelc.mabel.ca for a great selection of cute and sturdy labels.



TORAH FAX

Low Lives?

This week's Torah portion highlights seven of the ten plagues that G-d inflicted upon the Egyptian people. A question may be asked: why did G-d take ten plagues to "convince" Pharaoh that it would be in his own best interest to let the Jews go? Couldn't G-d have changed Pharaoh's mind about the need to have Jewish slaves after just one decisive plague?

Commentators point out that each plague, in addition to being a form of punishment and a means of coercion, served an educational objective as well.

Let us focus on just one of the plagues: number three, Kinim, lice. What was unique about the plague of lice and what constructive effect did it have on the Egyptians?

If we look closer at the Parshah, we will notice that this was the first plague that convinced Pharaoh and his court that Moses was not doing the plagues by means of magic. The first two plagues, blood and frogs, might have come about (according to Pharaoh's sorcerers) by way of magic, but after the lice came, the sorcerers proclaimed, "It is the finger of G-d" (Our Parshah, 8:15). Evidentially, it was the plague of lice that convinced the Egyptians of the existence of G-d - but how?

The Talmud, cited by Rashi, explains that the powers of Pharaoh's magicians only extended to larger forms - so they were able to turn water into blood and bring frogs into the land themselves and were thus not impressed with the first two plagues. With regard to smaller matters - things that were smaller than a "barley corn" - they were impotent. When the sorcerers saw that the Power Moses represented was able to create something as tiny as lice, they were convinced that they were dealing with a Being that surpassed their deities.

But is realizing that there is a Power that holds sway over objects smaller than those that the magicians can control such a convincing and sophisticated proof for the existence of an unlimited, all powerful G-d?

To understand this, we must first understand a bit about how pagans view their deities. Maimonides writes that the original pagans believed in G-d. They believed, however, that it was beneath His dignity to "personally" deal with the lowly affairs of our physical world. G-d, they reasoned, must have delegated those responsibilities to other powers. Thus, for example,

Moshiach Matters...

"The belief in the future Redemption is part of the belief in G-d, which is the first of the ten Commandments, "I am the L-rd your G-d." When it comes to discussing G-d, we find that it is common for us to discuss it and talk about it. However, when it comes to discussing Moshiach and the Resurrection of the Dead, we shy away from the subject!... Whoever is not totally involved in the complete belief of the Redemption and the resurrection is similarly incomplete in his belief in G-d." (Ohr Yechezkel, Rabbi Yechezkel

Lowenstein, Ponovitz Yeshivah)

Moshiach - It's a Jewish issue. For more info, visit www.moshiach.com

G-d let the sun make sure that the crops would grow well, and if one wanted good produce, he had better worship the sun. After all, would a monarch who has to worry about the needs of an entire kingdom busy himself with the nitty-gritty details of his lowliest subjects?

Thus, the sorcerers didn't just believe that *their* deities didn't deal with things smaller than a barley corn - they felt that *no* deity would deal with such miniscule things. Clearly, they thought, it must be beyond the realm of involvement of any form of pagan power.

When they saw that the Power Moses represented did in fact relate to the most miniscule and insignificant of creatures, they realized that their original understanding of deities was mistaken. True, a finite power can be more partial to a higher level of life and indifferent to lower ones. But if there is a Power that deals with tiny insignificant lice, it must be because that Power is truly infinite. From the perspective of an Infinite Being, there is no difference between greater and lower forms of life. G-d is no closer to (what can be viewed as) a more important creature and no more distant from an inconsequential one. Thus, the plague of lice educated the Egyptians of the Limitlessness of G-d, and hence His closeness to every part of His world.

This concept is basic to Judaism as well. We know that the Torah deals with many minute details. What we eat, where we plant certain seeds, what we wear, etc. Why is such an Omnipotent G-d interested in these seemingly trivial details? Shouldn't G-d be more concerned with the more spiritually glamorous experiences of our lives, like if we pray with enough love? For that matter, why is G-d so interested in humans at all? Don't angels have a much higher understanding of G-d and a greater emotional attachment to Him? The answer is that since G-d is absolutely infinite, He relates to all parts of creation equally. In fact, the more trivial the action, the more it expresses the "finger of G-d," the existence and involvement of an all-powerful G-d.

It is for this reason that Age of Moshiach will be in this physical world and not in heaven. G-d's presence will be most felt and revealed when He shows His involvement in this material world - the place with which one would normally assume G-d would have the least interaction. It is specifically the most "lowly" of places and the "physical acts" (read: Mitzvahs) we do here that will ultimately express G-d's infinity.

Halachic Times

Week of January 19 - 25

Earliest Tefillin (latest of the week)6:23 AM
Latest Shma (earliest of the week)9:40 AM
Torah Reading:VaEra (Exodus 6:2 - 9:35)
Haftorah (special for Rosh Chodesh) .. Isaiah 66:1-24

Shabbat Parshat Vaera
Rosh Chodesh Shevat

FRIDAY, January 19

Candle Lighting4:39 pm
Mincha5:00 pm
Dvar TorahRabbi Fried
Kabbalat Shabbat5:30 pm

SHABBAT, January 20

Parshah Shiur9:00 am
Shacharit9:45 am
Dvar TorahRabbi Ossey
Kids Shul & Junior Minyan11:00 - 12:15

Kiddush is sponsored by **Jason and Mary Shela** in honor of the Yahrzeit of her father, Bernard Lapidès. :approx. 12:30 PM

Rambam3:45 pm
Mincha4:45 pm
Ma'ariv & Havdallah5:43 pm

Each week, a Video of the Rebbe is shown after Havdallah.

Daily Minyan:

Sunday & legal holidays:9 AM
Monday & Thursday:7:15 AM
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday:7:30 AM
Rosh Chodesh:7 AM

Learn Rambam everyday at
www.chabadwestside.org/dailystudy/rambam.asp

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

Shabbat Parshat Bo*JANUARY 26 - 27*
Friday, *January 26*
Candle Lighting4:47 PM
Saturday, *January 27*
Shabbat ends5:51 PM

Thank you for the Seforim

We thank **Debbie Weisz Soussan** for donating a number of much needed Seforim to the Chabad Shul library. These seforim include: 2 volumes of the newly translated Alter Rebbe's Shulchan Aruch, the Code of Jewish Law written by Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi, the first Lubavitcher Rebbe; a collection of newly published Chassidic tales called The Third Judge; a translation and commentary on the famous chassidic work, Derech Mitzvotcha by the Third Lubavitcher Rebbe, known as the Tzemach Tzedek, among others.

These Seforim, which are a significant and much appreciated addition to our library, have been donated in honor of her father's Yahrzeit, Shlomo ben Arye Zalman, Sivan 27.

Anyone interested in donating more Seforim to Chabad should kindly contact our office at 212-864-5010 or email chabad@chabadwestside.org

Mazal Tov!

To **Adina and Michael Abrahams** on the birth of twins, a boy and a girl! Leah Avigayil and Yakov Dov. May you have much nachas from them!

**Wanted:
Torah Readers**

Chabad is looking for volunteer Ba'al Korehs. If you or someone you know can layn a Parshah - we would love to have you layn at Chabad. Whether you want to refresh your Bar Mitzvah Parshah and want to prepare a new one, please call our office.

The following Parshahs are already reserved:

Mishpatim, February 17
Jeremy Sanders

Tetzaveh, March 3
Jonathan Seliger

KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Sponsoring a Kiddush is a great way to share you Simchah or special family event with the community!

Kiddushim can be sponsored to celebrate a birthday, graduation or to commemorate the Yahrzeit of a loved one. Kiddush sponsors are encouraged to share some words of Torah at their Kiddush. Kiddushim cost \$300, \$400 or \$500.

To sponsor a kiddush, please email Rabbi Fried at ryf@chabadwestside.org, or call at 212-864-5010 x 14.

Kiddush Schedule:

Shabbat Bo, January 27,
Kiddush is sponsored by Anonymous

Shabbat Beshalach, Tu Bishevat, February 3,
*Kiddush is sponsored by **Dr. Stephen and Bella Brenner** in honor of his birthday*

Shabbat Yitro, February 10,
*Kiddush is sponsored by **Mayo Simon** in honor of the Yahrzeit of his father, Emanuel I. Simon, 26 Shevat*

Shabbat Mishpatim, February 17,
*Kiddush is sponsored by **Schneur Bistritzky** in honor of his birthday, 28 Shevat*

Shabbat Terumah, February 24,
Kiddush is available

Shabbat Tetzaveh - Zachor, March 3,
*Kiddush is sponsored by **Jonathan Seliger** in honor of the anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah*

The "New Year of Trees" is the day from which the new year is reckoned for the fruit of the trees with regard to the mitzvot of ma'aser ("tithes"; fruit that blossoms after this date may not be taken as a tithe on fruit that blossomed before) and orlah (fruit less than three years old, which is forbidden). It is celebrated by partaking of fruit, especially of the seven species with which the land of Israel is blessed.

The 15th day of the 11th month alludes to the secret of G-d's ineffable Name Havayah, whose first two letters, yud and hei (which represent the higher, hidden level of unification) equal 15, and whose last two letters, vav and hei (which represent the lower, revealed level of unification), equal 11. The full secret of the Name Havayah is the secret of the "Tree of Life," the tree of the month of Shevat.

The zodiacal sign (Mazal) of the month of Shevat is the Dli, bucket (aquarius). The New Year of Trees of the month of Shevat is the time that the rain waters of the winter months begin to ascend in the veins of the tree and bring it new life. The ascent of water in general is represented by the deli. The root of deli means "to lift up," as in the verse "my eyes are lifted up to heaven."

The Ba'al Shem Tov said that when one meets a water-carrier carrying pitchers full of water, it is a sign of blessing. "'Water' refers to Torah." The month of Shevat is referred to as the new year for the study of Torah. The eating of the fruits of Shevat corresponds to the partaking of and integration of the sweet fruits of Torah wisdom. And so the waters of Shevat represent the sweet waters of Torah.

The name "Asher" means "pleasure" and "happiness." Our father Jacob blessed his son Asher: "from Asher comes delicious [lit. fat] bread, and he shall provide the delicacies of the king." From this it is evident that Asher represents the sense of taste and eating. Senses that are uniquely connected to the month of Shevat.

The special tree which Asher personifies is the olive tree, which gives the goodly oil with which Asher's portion in the land of Israel was blessed. Of the seven species of the land of Israel, the olive is the sixth, which, in Kabbalah, corresponds to the sefirah of yesod, the "tzadik, foundation of the world." Olive oil represents the potent seed of the tzadik to bear and sustain blessed generations of Jewish souls.

Tithes, Buckets, Happiness and Olives - The dynamics of the month of Shevat

from inner.org

Shvat is the eleventh of the twelve months of the Jewish calendar.

The fifteenth day of Shevat is the "New Year of Trees" according to the school of Hillel; according to the school of Shamai, the "New Year of Trees" is the first of Shevat.

4th Women's Circle event of the season at the home of Lara Slager



On Tuesday, January 16, the Chabad Women's Circle had their monthly event at the home of Lara & David Slager. The topic, which was led by Rabbi Meir Ossey, was "Achieving Balance in our Lives: Maimonides' Viewpoint"

was well received by the more than 50 women who enjoyed a wonderful evening with Chabad.



The Women's Circle, which is a monthly group established to create an atmosphere of inspiration, creativity and camaraderie, has grown in popularity among many West Siders since its inception last year. One Chabad ELC

mother said, "the Women's Circle has become a high-point of my month. I have a night dedicated to learning and developing new friendships. This month's presentation, which centered on Maimonides' famous teaching of the golden mean, was especially meaningful."

After Rabbi Ossey's presentation, Aviva Sitruk, one of our parents at Chabad ELC and talented artisan, helped everyone fashion their own trendy handbag. *continued on page 4*

ADVERTISING RATES FOR THE CHABAD WEEKLY BULLETIN

Size of Ads and Rates		
Full Page	\$1,000	(min 4 weeks @ \$250 per week)
Half Page	\$520	(min 4 weeks @ \$130 per week)
1/4 Page	\$910	(min 13 weeks @ \$70 per week) or
	\$325	(min 4 weeks @ \$81.25 per week)
Bus. Card	\$325	(min 13 weeks @ \$25 per week)

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