



Community Bulletin

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REGISTRATION OFFICIALLY OPEN

The unusual growth Magen David has been experiencing over the past four years has made it necessary to open registration for the September term a full six weeks earlier than usual.

"We do not want to find that we are overwhelmed with applicants for admission late in the year and can not properly staff the school", Eli D. Cohen, Yeshivah president, explained.

Mr. Cohen was making reference to the experience of the 1979 and 1980 school years when we had to turn away many would-be students because they waited to register as late as June and July.

ENROLLMENT EXPLOSION

Our Early Childhood Department has experienced dramatic growth each of the past three years and presently includes eight full classes of close to two hundred children.

Rabbi Sholom Himmel, Magen David Registrar, pointed out that the enrollment explosion is continuing and cautioned parents that, "many kindergartens and nurseries are already closed out and the others are filling up quickly. The first grade classes, too, will be oversubscribed." He urged parents to register now, "rather than delay and be disappointed."

Rabbi Himmel also underscored that as a community school we will follow a strict "first come - first served" policy.

INVITATION TO VISIT

Mrs. Adina Schwimmer, the school's director of early childhood education, invited would-be parents to visit Magen David and see the kindergartens and nurseries in actual operation. That is, to see the varied and outstanding programs, and the unbelievably beautiful and abundantly equipped facilities. She said that she will make herself available to show visitors around and answer any questions they may have.

SCHOOL-PARENT TEAMING

"Magen David takes a unique approach to early childhood education" Adina Schwimmer pointed out. "We have an ongoing relationship with our parent body. There are parent meetings almost each and every month at which school staff or invited authorities talk to parent groups on subjects of interest to the parent of the pre-schooler." Some of the sessions are held in the evening for both father and mother and some are held during the day and are for mothers only.

Many parents report that as a result of these sessions they understand their children better and are better parents for it.

To receive an application for admission, call either the Registrar's office or the school office at 236-5905.

MAGEN DAVID WINS NATIONAL AWARD

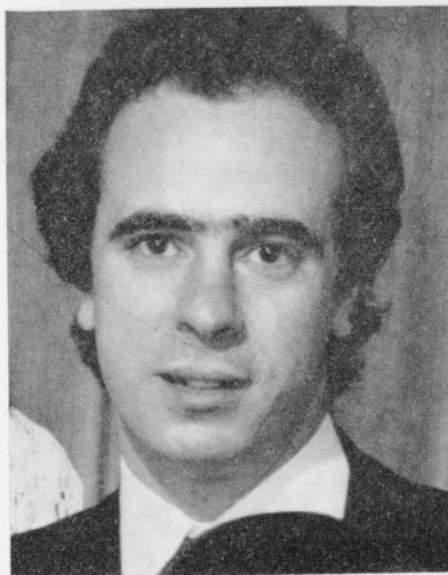
See Berachot Bee Story Page 5



MORRIS SCHWEKY

Journal Chairman Reports

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SAM HAMWAY

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250 PRE-SCHOOL PARENTS AT FATHER/CHILD BREAKFAST



The Annual Father/Child Breakfast this year was organized under the Chairmanship of Board Member Morris Abraham, shown at left addressing the 250 parents who attended, seated alongside him is Journal Chairman Sam Hamway. The 1981 gathering was dedicated to the journal drive. Shown below addressing the participants are Eddie Sitt, immediate past President of the Yeshiva and a former journal drive chairman. Below him is Ellis A. Safdeye, Yeshiva Treasurer, former Journal Chairman, and head of its Overseas Committee. The two lower pictures in left column are random shots of beaming fathers and happy children taken at the breakfast.



President's Column

By Eli D. Cohen

THE SENSE OF CULTURE

We often receive inquiries questioning the need, even the wisdom, of including such non essential subjects as music, art, gym, choir, in an already crowded double curriculum. Some even suggest we do away with assemblies and class trips; they view these as entertainment which draws off valuable time from class work.

Our Yeshiva has always maintained that education is more than the basic "three R's". A truly cultured person should also have a feeling for the fine arts. Meaning an appreciation and understanding of classical music, art, ballet, drama, even if only at the elementary school level. From there he is armed to proceed to whatever heights his talent, diligence and personal inclinations will carry him. Without these "fringe" teachings the child will simply not develop into a well-rounded person, and it is not our ambition for Magen David pupils to be "educated bores".

Educators tell us that developing a sense of culture is much like teaching reading. If you do it in elementary school the child will be reading in weeks and from thereon it's only a matter of comprehension and vocabulary building, but try to teach it to an adult and it becomes a major, drawn out project.

In addition, performing at assemblies in front of other children or singing on a stage as part of the school choir is a great personality builder. It gives the child poise, self confidence and a feeling of self esteem.

SEPHARDIC BUSINESS ASSISTANCE SOCIETY

About three and a half years ago four conscientious businessmen — David Bibi, Isidore Esses, Abraham Esses, and Moshe Faham — organized SEBAS, with a capital of \$25,000 they raised from fifty sponsors who donated five hundred dollars each. The capital always remains intact because there are no operating costs.

The Society lends up to one thousand dollars without interest for periods up to one year.

To date the Society made over one hundred loans, and they are planning on raising their capital to \$50,000 by approaching another fifty Community Members for five hundred dollar donations.

NEIGHBORHOOD DELICATESSENS FINED FOR KASHRUT VIOLATIONS

We are advised by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets that two neighborhood delicatessens were fined because they stocked unkosher food intended for sale as kosher.

The official N.Y. State Bulletin reads:

"PMH Kosher Delicatessen Inc., 1906 Avenue M, Brooklyn, N.Y. Represented as a kosher delicatessen. A violation was charged on 4/11/80

for alleged possession with the presumptive intent to serve non kosher chicken as kosher. Civil penalty \$2200."

"S.A.J. Enterprises Inc., 1906 Kings Highway, Brooklyn, N.Y. Represented as a kosher delicatessen. A violation was charged on 5/9/80 for alleged possession with the presumptive intent to serve French fried potatoes prepared in non kosher beef fat as kosher. Civil penalty \$400.

On the Lighting of Shabbat Candles

To usher in the Shabbat and Yom Tov with the peaceful glow of candlelight is one of the special mitzvot given to the woman. The lighting of Shabbat and Yom Tov candles brings light and blessing into the world, and particularly into the home, in a very real way.

We know that Shabbat candles were lit from the very earliest days of our history. The Torah relates how Sarah, the first Jewish Matriarch, lit the candles every week before Shabbat. Her reward was very great: the tent of Abraham and Sarah was illuminated from those Shabbat candles until the next Shabbat, a whole week through. When Sarah died the light departed. Three years later when Rivkah (Rebecca) the wife of Isaac, began to light the Shabbat candles, this special light, one of warmth, happiness and peace, returned and lit up the home once again throughout the week.

The mitzvah of candle lighting, performed a few moments before the onset of Shabbat each week with just a pair of candlesticks and two candles, brings warmth, happiness and peace into Jewish homes and spreads outward to dispel darkness in the entire surrounding world.

So, dear community women, to assure peace and harmony and blessings in your home all week long, to assure tranquility in the family, be sure to light candles before each and every Shabbat and Yom Tov.

But do not be late. Candle lighting time is shown in all Jewish Calendars. It is better not to light candles than to desecrate the Holy Shabbat by kindling a fire once the Shabbat has begun.

Adapted From The Shaare Zion Bulletin

EXCITING NEWS!!

NOVEMBER 29 TO
DECEMBER 9

J.J.A. MISSION TO ISRAEL

COST APPROXIMATELY —

\$16.00

DELUXE ACCOMMODATIONS
COME WITH US AND SEE
ISRAEL AND ITS PEOPLE
AS YOU NEVER

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

CONTACT GLORIA SITT

375-5506

DEAN'S COLUMN

By Rabbi Moshe Greenes

THE DARKNESS DESCENDS

□ Many educators are perplexed by the ever-worsening academic standards in schools throughout the country.

Year by year achievement ratings move ever downward. Some schools even redesigned their rating systems, in an attempt to produce "failure proof" tests, but to no avail. Scores are still going down, down, down.

Personally, I often fear that western civilization is entering another "Dark Age"; that the darkness is descending upon us and there is nothing we can do about it. That it's really not in our hands to reverse.

After all, the greatest minds and the brightest educators in the country have been working out solution after solution, only to see each one fail as miserably as the one before it.

Then I read an interesting column by Daily News writer Peter Hamill and it all became clear. Here is an excerpt:

"The year his son turned 14, Maguire noticed that the boy was getting dumber. This was a kid who had learned to talk at 14 months, could read when he was four, was an A student for his first six years in school. And then, slowly, the boy's brain began to deteriorate. Maguire told me, 'He couldn't finish sentences. In school, the A's became B's, the B's became C's. I thought maybe it was something physical, and I had a doctor check him out. He was perfectly normal. Then the C's started to become D's. Finally, he started failing everything. Worse, the two younger kids were repeating the pattern.'"

"Maguire took an afternoon off from work and visited his oldest boy's school. 'They told me he just wasn't doing much work,' Maguire said. 'But the teacher told me he wasn't much different from the other kids. In some ways, he was better. He at least did some work.' Maguire asked the teacher if she had any theories about why the kids behaved this way."

"Of course," she said. 'Television.' 'What do you mean, television?' he bounced back. 'Television rots minds,' the teacher said flatly. 'But most of us figure there's nothing to be done about it anymore.'"

Next day, Maguire started some

The Survivors A Mini Review

Magen David's seventh and eighth grades took a February trip to the Morosco Theater to see "The Survivors", a poignant, deeply moving Broadway production, as part of our Living Literature Course.

It portrayed the struggles of the Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto and zeroed in on a gang of Jewish teenagers determined to fight back.

Some of the more stirring scenes of the emotion-laden presentation dwelled on the difference of feelings separating parents and children and how, despite the vast gap in outlook between the two, they strived with heroic determination to remain a *whole* Jewish family.

The cast performance was superb. They acted out their characters with such intensity and integrity that the audience perceived them right from the outset as the subjects themselves. They were magnificent.

By: Elyse Missry
Dawn Cohen
Maureen Franco
Rachel Smouha

special research. Within a week, he had some scary numbers on his desk. The Scholastic Aptitude Tests (SATs) showed that the reading scores of all high school students had fallen every year since 1950, the year of television's Great National Triumph."

"I came home that night, and the kids were watching television with my wife," he said. "I looked at them, glued to the set. They nodded hello to me. And suddenly I got scared. I went to the bedroom and for the first time since college, I took down Moby Dick and started to read."

"In the following week, Maguire accumulated more and more ideas about the impact of television on the lives of Americans. All classes and races have been affected intellectually: reading requires the decoding of symbols, the transforming of a word like 'cat' into a cat that lives in the imagination, but no active thought is required for television, it even supplies a laugh track and music to trigger the emotions the imagination will not create or release."

So, dear Mommies and Daddies, if you want to give your little darlings a new lease on learning, pack that T.V. into a carton, tie it securely and store it in the basement.

You'll be glad you did.

Parent Education Program

By Debbie Antar

Making the parents an integral part of the educational process has long been a major principle at Magen David Yeshivah. It has been the observation of the school's educators that the children whose parents are involved in their child's education somehow do better and achieve more than do the children of "leave it all to the school" parents.

In keeping with this philosophy, our Early Childhood Department has been conducting a series of Parent Education programs. At these sessions the intricacies of the pre-school curriculum is explained and discussed. Parents often are unaware of the value of the "indirect" learning that goes on in kindergarten and nursery.

The games chosen for the children are designed to introduce them to learning concepts in arithmetic and reading and that many games are employed to sharpen the skills needed for learning. Thus, it has been amply demonstrated that children who benefit from such programs almost always are better students once they enter the grades. To help our parents understand the intent of these pre-school routines, the teachers demonstrate and explain them at these Parent Education sessions.

The March meeting heard from Dr. Rivkah Behar, a leading authority on early childhood education. Dr. Behar, whose background includes: Head of the Early Childhood Department of Queens College; Superintendent of Pre-School education of the Roslyn School District of Nassau County and Head of Early Childhood Education of the Board of Jewish Education, is also permanent consultant to Magen David Yeshivah and visits our school to advise the teachers on a regular basis.

She presented a well prepared program, embellished with illustrated slides. Her presentation was followed by a lively discussion period in which the close to seventy mothers who attended asked many questions, some relative to their own children and some on various aspects of the school's programs.

Mrs. Adina Schwimmer, Director of Early Childhood Education, who chaired the meeting, made sure to keep the discussion varied, rather than limited to just one or two topics. She also pointed out that although these sessions are intended for Magen David parents, each parent is entitled to bring a friend.

From the Desk of The Principal

By Irving Flinker

ACCEPT ONLY THE BEST

In the past decade newspapers and magazines have published numerous articles deploring the deterioration of the educational system in America. Authors present a dismal view of scholastic achievement, especially in the areas of reading and writing. The Council for Basic Education reported that "our schools are scandalously and outrageously failing at least 20% of our young people." According to the Scholastic Aptitude Test scores in verbal skills, the national average dropped from 478 in 1963 to 427 in 1980. Keep in mind that these tests are taken only by those high school seniors who want to attend college; in other words, the more proficient students. Critics point out that at many universities, half to three-quarters of all freshmen now have to take remedial writing courses, and that throughout the country, major business organizations complain that few of today's high school graduates can write a proper letter or report.

While there are many socio-economic forces to explain this deterioration of educational accomplishment, educators point to several which may be controlled and re-directed. The contemporary stress on learning to read by decoding, using phonics, is a departure from the whole-word method which was successful only with children having excellent memory. The "life-adjustment" educational philosophy which favored a relaxed school discipline, pupil choice of interests and subjects, automatic chronological promotion, and the open classroom with its individualized study plans, failed to insure systematic and regular educational growth. It is obvious that films, radio, comic books, and television compete with reading and writing. Television watching involves no use of reading or writing ability, nor even the use of stored verbal information. A recent study shows that heavy television watchers don't understand what they read as well as moderate or light watchers.

How does this state of the nation's schools affect us at Magen David? We definitely don't want to follow the national trend. Pull the plug of the T.V. set. Check to see that Abie has done *all* of his homework. Ask to see the weekly test papers. Encourage reading of library books, magazines, and newspapers.

Our parents must consider themselves partners with the teachers. A child may be trying to work up to grade level to please his teacher and be accepted by his

Journal Campaign Reaches \$95,000

Sam Hamway, chairman of the 1980-81 Journal Drive announced that as of March 7th, a total of \$95,000 has been secured in ads, towards our goal of \$350,000.

"While the sum raised is very heartening, it is nevertheless terribly disappointing that so few solicitors have worked on the gathering of these ads. Imagine what would happen if all of us devoted just two hours to soliciting our suppliers, tradespeople and our many friends."

"Our buying power is enormous and I am sure that all those we would call on would respond positively to our request," so said Sam Hamway at a Father's Club gathering of Nursery and Kindergarten parents held on January 18th.

"We are trying to maintain our tuition fees within the reach of the average parent in our community and it is only with a concerned effort on the part of all of us that we will be able to keep up with the inflationary spiral which is plaguing our Yeshivah. The monies which are derived from our Journal Drive go directly to the Scholarship Fund which enables us to accept all children of Sephardic heritage regardless of their social or economic status."

Traditionally, our community has been most supportive of Torah all over the world. We are now calling on the community to help us continue the most important and most productive work in our midst, our own Magen David Yeshivah.

Give your own ad now! Contact your business associates, suppliers and friends.

For ad blanks, and any other assistance, please call Rabbi Himmel at 236-5905.

peers. However, he may resist going to school, complain of a headache or stomach ache early in the morning, "forgot to bring home his homework books, etc." By the parent's visiting the school and telling the child's teacher about such symptoms the child will become the focus of special attention such as individualized assignments, testing by the psychologist, conference with the principal. The school should be aware of a child's resentment or school phobia as soon as possible to correct it sooner.

A teacher has 22 children to worry and learn about; the parent has one. The more the teacher knows about each child the better she can help him educationally.

ALICE F. ROSSABI

Advertising & Marketing Consultant
946-3229

PUPILS VISIT FEDERAL HALL NATIONAL MEMORIAL AND CITY HALL

By Rose S. Jaffe, Teacher Grade 5

On February 11, 1981, the three fifth grade classes visited Federal Hall and City Hall in lower Manhattan as part of our "Living History" Program. As we approached Federal Hall by bus, the children were awe-struck by the narrowness and winding streets of the world's greatest financial center.

So many important historic events occurred under the roof of Federal Hall that it can be thought of as the birthplace of our government. George Washington was inaugurated here and there is an outstanding collection of Washingtonia to be seen. The Stamp Act Congress met here to bitterly oppose the British "taxation without representation." Here, the first Congress under our constitution convened; and it was here that the Departments of State, War and Treasury were created; our Bill of Rights was adopted, and the Supreme Court of the United States came into being in the very halls we visited and stood in.

City Hall, the center of government in New York City, is the third since the city was first established as New Amsterdam. This building houses the offices of the mayor and those of the president of the City Councils; and the meeting rooms of the City Council and the "Board of Estimate." There is an outstanding collection of paintings of great Americans, by American artists, in the Government Room. Since the City of New York was once the capital of our country the desks of the first three presidents are also on display.

The children were most enthusiastic and responsive throughout the trip. It was most meaningful for them because they could understand our study of colonial history and the development of the government of our country with greater clarity. They had a wonderful time!

The enthusiasm which our classes maintained throughout the trip, and the inspiration they derived from it are evident in the reports I had my class write several days later. I reproduce one of these letters here.

OUR TRIP

By Ralph Shaoul, 5th Grade

On February 11, 1981, our class took a trip to Federal Hall and City Hall. At Federal Hall we saw a replica of the original building and a replica of how City Hall looked long ago.

M.D.Y. Excels In Berachot Bee: Morris Schweky National Winner

Yeshivah Day schools throughout the United States and Canada conduct a national Berachot Bee during the spring of each year. The Berachot Bee is a nationwide inter-school competition along the lines of the well known spelling bees.

For weeks before the national event children in schools throughout the country study the rather complicated laws of Berachot, the blessings said on various foods, and then compete in school playoffs to pick school champions. These school representatives move on to the regional eliminations where they compete against the Berachot champs of other schools in the region.

Then comes the culmination of the National Bee, in which the finalists from all over the country compete against each other for national honors.

MAGEN DAVID EXCELS

We are very proud indeed to have been able to field a team of six finalists in the national playoffs, held in Brooklyn this year. These were:

- Gail Massry and Morris Schweky — Junior Division
- Frieda Paskie and Richard Setton — Intermediate Division
- Sarah Sutton and Jack Didia — Senior Division

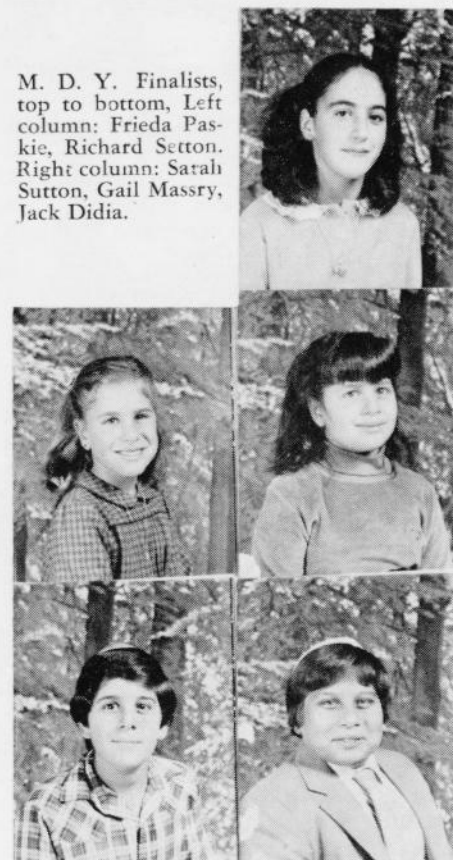
This year, for the first time, we achieved the grand distinction of having a national winner, Morris Schweky, champion of the Junior Division.

Rabbi Sholom Skaist, who organized and directed our Berachot project, pointed out that our children really worked hard to achieve the distinction they did. "They not only studied all the books that children in other schools do, but had a special booklet made up for them with all the appropriate blessings for the Sephardic foods." That booklet was pre-

We also saw a reproduction of the balcony where George Washington took his oath of Presidency.

We were entertained by a lady who played and sang some songs. She showed us the "Delson," that is an old guitar whose strings are made of horse hair. To play the Delson you must use a pick or the end of a feather. She also showed us the Penny-whistle and the Woodwhistle; those are also quite old. We also saw the Limberjack, which is a little man on a paddle. If you punch the paddle he

M. D. Y. Finalists, top to bottom, Left column: Frieda Paskie, Richard Setton. Right column: Sarah Sutton, Gail Massry, Jack Didia.



pared in consultation with Hakham Baruch Ben-Haim and lists such foods as kibbe, samboosak, kaak, lahmi-anjia, and dozens of others unique to our community.

The Berachot Bee is held under the auspices of Torah Umesorah, the National Society of Hebrew Day Schools. After the eliminations were over, Rabbi Greenes received a personal call from Rabbi Joshua Fishman, a member of the society's directorate and chairman of the National Conference of Yeshiva Principals, congratulating Magen David on achieving a national winner.

Dances. These antiques are all reproduced today.

In City Hall we went to the Governor's Room where we saw George Washington's desk.

We also went to the Board of Estimate Room where they hold meetings pertaining to the problems of the city. Every meeting is taped and is put into records. These meetings sometimes last over five hours.

This was a very exciting trip and a fun experience, even though it was so educational.

SEPHARDIC COMMUNITY NEWS

We are accustomed to thinking of the Syrian-Sephardic Community as being a Brooklyn, or, more specifically, an Ocean Parkway, institution.

Actually after two generations we find the smaller, spin-off communities taking root in a number of areas, including some as far away as California (Magen David of L.A.) and some as close as Deal, N.J. These two having not only their own synagogues, but also their own Yeshivah and their own mikvah.

GREAT NECK GROWS

Another, albeit smaller, community taking root is to be found in Great Neck, L.I. We have before us a report of a most impressive ceremony that recently took place in that budding daughter community. It centered around the dedication of seven (yes, seven) Sifrei Torah in one day. The seven Torot were dedicated to their synagogue, The North Shore Sephardic Synagogue, by Abe Hedaya and Jack Nasser.

The festivities were an all day affair starting with a massive parade of 1200 marchers, headed by a marching band under the direction of Joe Amar. They paraded and danced joyously accompanying the Sifrei Torah to their new home. The police blocked all roads crossing the parade route, giving great honor and respect to the seven passing Torot.

Serving as master of ceremonies for the proceedings was Abe Hedaya, supported by Hazanim Abraham Ben Haim, Meir Levy, Joe Amar and others. The festivities ended with two affairs for all 1200 participants. It is appropriate to quote from the artistic program printed especially for the occasion "... throughout the world Jews rally around the Torah the source of life for all Jews."

We wish the Great Neck Community spiritual and material prosperity for many years to come. May they go from height to height. We look forward to the day that they will have their own Yeshivah and be the epitome of the Prophet's blessing.

"and all your son's be learned in (the Torah of) G'd, and great will be the peace of your children." AMEN.

OCEAN PARKWAY (Bet. Y & Z) 3 Family Brick; 5½, 4½, 3½; 20 yrs. old; Gas Heat; Hollywood Kitchens; Burglar Alarm; Move-In Condition; \$157,500; 998-0987 Eves; No Sat. Calls.

FOR SALE

2 Family House, detached, Ocean Parkway Near N. Gas Heat, Attic, Basement, Garage, Contact Heino Realty 939-2900.

GOOD EYESIGHT, POOR VISION

By Dr. Ezra Cohen

Our eye doctor tells us that our eyes are OK, and our sight is 20/20. What does that mean? The simplest explanation is that you can see a certain size letter at 20 feet with the same clarity as the average person would see it at the same distance. Individuals with poorer vision, such as 20/100, must stand closer than 20 feet to see that same letter as clearly. This is simply eyesight.

Eyesight is only one part of the way we see the world. Eye coordination, focusing, perception, efficiency and comfort without strain all play a key role in how we understand the world around us. Understanding what we see is vision.

A child who cannot understand what he reads may have poor focusing ability. He may see the letters in his book double. The result will be confusion and difficulty in interpreting the reading material, and a decline in general school achievement. A possible solution to this type of focusing problem is Vision Training.

Vision Training involves a series of eye exercises to help restore proper eye coordination and good focusing. Only when the eyes work together efficiently can one understand what he is seeing.

More about Vision Training in the next issue...

HEBREW UNIVERSITY SEEKS SYRIAN DOCUMENTS

The Institute of Contemporary Jewry, a division of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, is collecting old material about Jews from all parts of the world. They are particularly interested in gathering data from Jews of Aleppo, Damascus and other Near East cities, so that the memories of the old countries can be kept alive.

Do you or other members of your family have any old letters, pictures or documents that might have been brought to the New World?

We should be represented among the historical treasures that are being preserved for posterity. Such documents can be copied and photographed with no harm to the originals. In some cases the Institute would consider paying for documents of value. The Institute's address is Ben Zvi Institute of Contemporary Jewry-Hebrew University — Jerusalem, Israel.

We are also advised that one can contact Joseph A. Sutton "On behalf of the Institute." His number is 339-3278.

IT'S SNOWING, IT'S SNOWING A LITTLE GIRL IS GROWING.



A Margen David pre-schooler studies her handiwork, as all kindergartens engaged in a snow-sculpture contest after recent 8 inches. Who won? Everyone got a prize.

MILESTONES

by Grace Rossabi

BIRTHS

Mr. and Mrs. David Gold ... Girl
Mr. and Mrs. Abe Setton ... Boy
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Franco ... Boy
Mr. and Mrs. David Harari ... Boy
Mr. and Mrs. David Ben Hooren ... Twin Boys
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Sheptai ... Boy
Dr. and Mrs. Albert M. Harary ... Girl

BAR MITZVAS

Mr. and Mrs. Sol Sankary ... Son, Nissim
Mr. and Mrs. David Sutton ... Son, Jimmy
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Jemal ... Son, Elliot
Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Shrique ... Son, Jack
Mr. and Mrs. Morris Gindi ... Son, Zac
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Harary ... Son, Albert
Mr. and Mrs. Nat Betsh ... Son, Robert
Mr. and Mrs. Felix Harari ... Son, Steven Edward

WEDDINGS

Francis Cohen to Allan Massry
Grace Dweck to Charles Theodore Silvera
Cindy Shewky to Alan Pressman
Esther Yael Tawil to Shaya Jeffrey Chabot
Ellen Setton to Stanley Rishty
Marcelle Aboudy to Mark Kreindler
Susan Adjmi to Marvin Dweck
Linda Joyce Kaire to Maney Douck
Denise Ash to Morris L. Levy
Brenda Dweck to Mark Dweck
Janet Zonana to Joseph Dayan
Frieda Sasson to Ralph Monsour
Elizabeth Ligmil to Samuel Sasson
Stephanie Goldberg to Joseph M. Mizrahi
Betty Shewky to Michael Fallas

ENRICHES YOUTH BODY ANNUAL SCIENCE FAIA

Yeshivah Magen David's Annual Science Fair, coordinated by faculty member, Ronald Dermer, was held early in March.

Many students worked for several weeks on their projects and the finished product was something that reflected the efforts and love they poured into it. A successful project is doubly beneficial. It benefits the project's authors giving them the experience of doing independent research work and the poise and self confidence that follow a job well done.

It also benefits the hundreds of students who come, class by class, to view the projects in two exhibition rooms on the fourth floor especially set aside for the Science Fair. It inspires many a younger child to undertake his or her own project at future fairs.

Mr. Dermer said that "the 1981 Fair was an unqualified success in that it accomplished both of these goals!"

"As Magen David's Science teacher and Department Coordinator, I know that the fair inspired many students to advance in science. I see increased diligence and interest in the weeks following the fair, and know we have achieved what we had in mind when we organized the fair.

CHANUKAH GIFTS

At Chanukah time, as the lights of the Menorah surround us with spiritual warmth, we busy ourselves with the festivities of the holiday. But it is also a time for charity, to turn our thoughts from ourselves to those less fortunate than we are.

In a genuinely selfless manner, gifts were brought to school by our student body in abundance. These were then distributed to the children in the Pediatric Division of Maimonides Hospital and to the Ohel Children's Home of Brooklyn. Letters of thanks were received, and to quote Lester Kaufman, director of the Ohel Home, "These beautiful gifts were distributed amongst our children and spread untold joy for these innocent victims of tragic family circumstances." Heartwarming and well deserved thanks to our children, and to their parents, who looked beyond their own needs to bring a little light to those in need, especially during the Holiday of Light.

As we see these values and charitable acts passed down from parent to child, and reinforced within the school, we realize we are helping mold an emerging generation of which we can be very proud.

Debbie Antar

P.T.A. NEWS

By Judy Mizrachi, President

P.T.A. SPONSORS THE FELT FORUM

FIRST: Let's make it clear that we're not talking about Madison Square Garden. We are talking about the Family Enrichment & Leadership Training Program (F.E.L.T.) instituted by our P.T.A. in Conjunction with Torah Umesorah, the National Society of Hebrew Day Schools.

SECOND: What is the FELT Program?

A group of psychologists connected with Torah Umesorah have discovered that much of the difficulty children experience, especially in their relationship with parents, is a lack of communication. That is, the parents do not understand what their child is *really* trying to say because children often speak in euphemisms. Also, children often do not understand themselves very well, and can therefore not clearly convey what it is that's troubling them.

Decoding children's conversation is a specific skill that many parents do not have. Similarly there are other skills needed for effective parenting that the average parent does not possess.

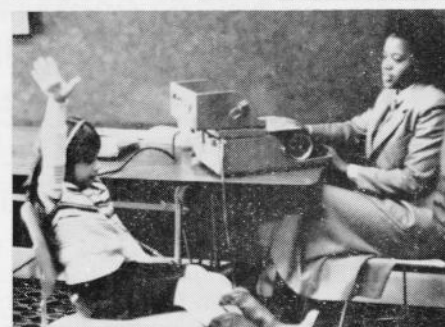
They also discovered that when parents were taught these skills their children's problems were greatly reduced, or completely disappeared.

Psychologists also point out that pre-adolescence is the period when a child learns to deal with himself and his environment. It can be a difficult time for both parent and child. It is not uncommon for parents to alternate their perception of their child. They often get the feeling that their son or daughter is hard to handle, and even harder to understand, yet at other times they find them ineffably sweet and wise and lovable.

Between the ages of six and thirteen children mature biologically and psychologically at such an accelerated pace they often confuse their parents, siblings and even themselves. Every few months they seem to be entering a new developmental stage. Even the most successful parents can benefit from learning *specific skills* which will help them understand and deal with their children.

With this in mind, the P.T.A., in conjunction with Torah Umesorah, is sponsoring a series of six parent workshops which will teach *skills* (not just theory) related to parenting. The P.T.A. is currently conducting six such F.E.L.T. workshops at the Yeshivah. Two are held during evening hours for husband-wife

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The Program Coordinator is Ms. Esther Reichman, a leading New York City psychologist. She holds a masters Degree in Education, specializing in counseling and psychology and serves as coordinator of H.S. counseling programs for the N.Y.C. Board of Education. The instructors are well known guidance persons with a rich background in Yeshivah education. They are Mrs. Shirley Jungreis and Mrs. Chaya Newman.

The Program's Director as well as the instructors were interviewed by Rabbi Greenes and he endorses the project 100 percent.

All three workshops were oversubscribed and a second series is being planned for the Spring, immediately after Passover.

These are subsidized programs and the fee for attendance is quite nominal. Interested parties can sign up or have their questions answered by calling one of the following committee members.

Marilyn Ashkenzai	338-4861
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