



YOSS Advancing

FEBRUARY 2017 | SH'VAT 5777

SIXTY YEARS STRONG

YESHIVA OF SOUTH SHORE'S ANNUAL DINNER

Sixty years may not be long in the course of history, but for the Five Towns and the Rockaways, Sixty Years transformed a barren Torah desert into fruited plains blooming with institutions of Torah education, tefilah and chessed.

Indeed, when Rav Binyamin Kamenetzky, shlit"א, came to Woodmere 60 years ago, he planted seeds. The seeds, in the form of Yeshiva of South Shore, a small shul, now Young Israel of Woodmere and a girls school, now known as TAG, have flourished into strong, proud bastions of Yiddishkeit.

Though the Rosh Yeshiva's imprint is on so many institutions throughout the community, the jewel in his crown and the crown of the Rebbetzin, of blessed memory, continues to be the Yeshiva of South Shore.

From the ramshackle building on Oak Street with a handful of students, to a four acre campus in Hewlett with three buildings housing nearly 700 students, the Yeshiva has remained true to its initial mission formulated sixty years ago – to never turn away a Jewish child for lack of funds.

True to that mission, the Yeshiva of South Shore is celebrating 60 years of uninterrupted Torah education at its 60th Annual Scholarship Banquet Dinner on Sunday evening, March 5, 2017, at The Sands Atlantic Beach. The dinner will be a celebration of a rich history, and the honorees truly show a commitment to the values created during the past six decades.

Guests of Honor, **Berel & Sherry Daskal**, have made an indelible impact on our community in leadership, in their efforts on behalf of important Torah causes and their ongoing commitment to our Yeshiva.

Parents of the Year are **Binyamin & Sori Laufer**, whose active roles on our Board of Directors and in volunteering for our Yeshiva, have made a powerful impact on the future of our Yeshiva.

Young Leadership Awardees are **Abba & Fraydie Kloc** whose heimish flair, vibrant spirit and a warm vision for the future, have inspired our young parents and community members to higher levels of Yiddishkeit.

In addition, we will be expressing our gratitude to **Rabbi Morris Friedman, a"ח**, one of the early supporters of the Yeshiva and great grandfather of our students Moshe Simcha and Shalom Dovid Farkas. The *Ohev Yisrael Award* in his memory, will be presented to his children, **U.S. Ambassador Designate to Israel, David Friedman, Dr. Mark Friedman and Naomi Wolinsky**, who proudly follow in his footsteps in their love for Torah and Israel.

Man of the Year is **Bill Bonesso**, a partner with Forchelli, Curto, Deegan, Schwartz, Mineo & Terrana. His legal acumen has helped our yeshiva develop and expand its campus to meet the needs of an ever-expanding student population.

By attending our 60th Annual Banquet, on Sunday, March 5, 2017 you will assure the continuity of our pioneering Yeshiva as a vibrant Torah center for our community, our families and our children. For more information, please contact the Yeshiva at 516-374-7363 x212 or banquet@yoss.org, or simply click on the Yeshiva's website www.yoss.org.



BILL BONESSO

ABBA & FRAYDIE KLOC

BEREL & SHERRY DASKAL

BINYAMIN & SORI LAUFER

R' MORRIS FRIEDMAN ר' מ



WALDER SCIENCE LAB PROGRAM

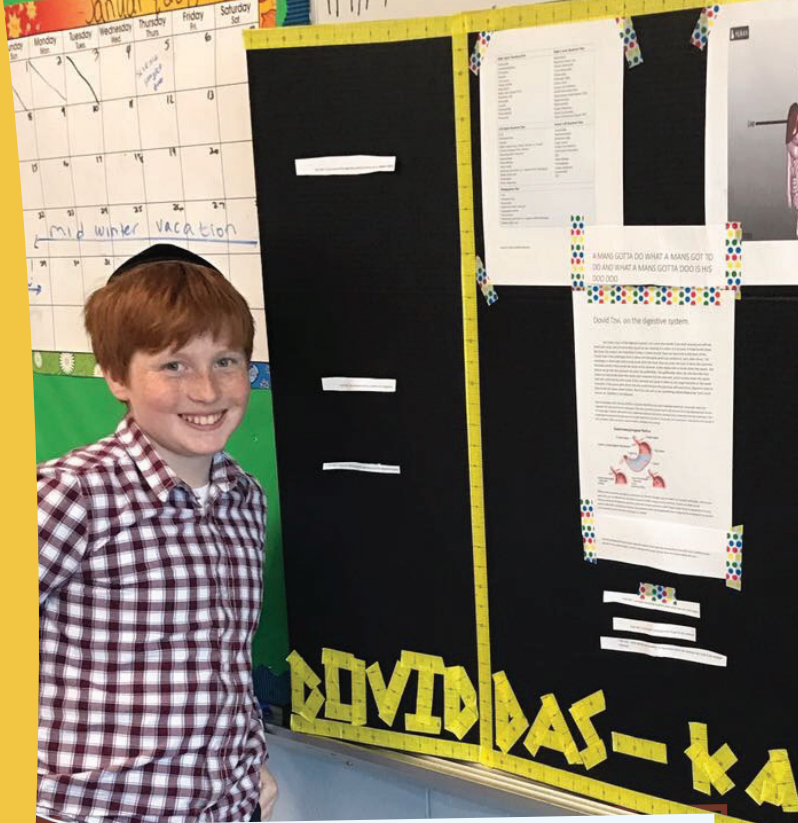
The boys in our Mechina Science program this year have discovered so much as they navigated through experiments and demonstrations in our science lab.

Sixth grade boys mastered the use of the microscope as they viewed a range of items from cells in an onion to exploring various bacteria that grows on surfaces.

Seventh graders have had fun with polymers as they compared and contrasted various ways to make slime. While using glue, borax, liquid starch and water the boys have also grasped the concept of cross linking molecules, and making long chained molecules. The boys were also introduced to Keva blocs as an introduction to STEM (Science, Technology Engineering and Math). Through formulating their own geometric patterns through simultaneously producing a working simple machine (inclined plane), to observe energy motion acceleration and velocity, the boys are on their way to becoming architects in the classroom.

Eighth grade students have been practicing the use of the scientific methods while conducting amazing experiments such as growing a radish seed and observation all the stages of growth in different environments. They recently scrutinized the diffusion of a starch indicator through the replication of cell membranes.

Thanks to the Gruss Life Monument Fund and CIJE for their ongoing support.



FOCUS ON YONATAN BEER YOUNG SCIENCE SCHOLAR AT YOSS

Yonatan Beer, an 8th grader, has been hard at work preparing for the New York State Chemistry Regents. Yonatan has enrolled in the very prestigious Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth Distance Education Program to help reach his goal of mastering the Chemistry curriculum. He has been thoroughly studying using the resources over at the Khan Academy as well. We wish Yonatan much *hatzlacha* though this challenging and rigorous course.



PRESCHOOLERS LEARNING FROM THEIR PARENTS: HOW TO TAKE CARE OF THE COMMUNITY

Though every letter of the *aleph beis* represents something special at the Hollander ECC, *kof* is super special. It stands for *kibud av ve'em* – honoring parents!

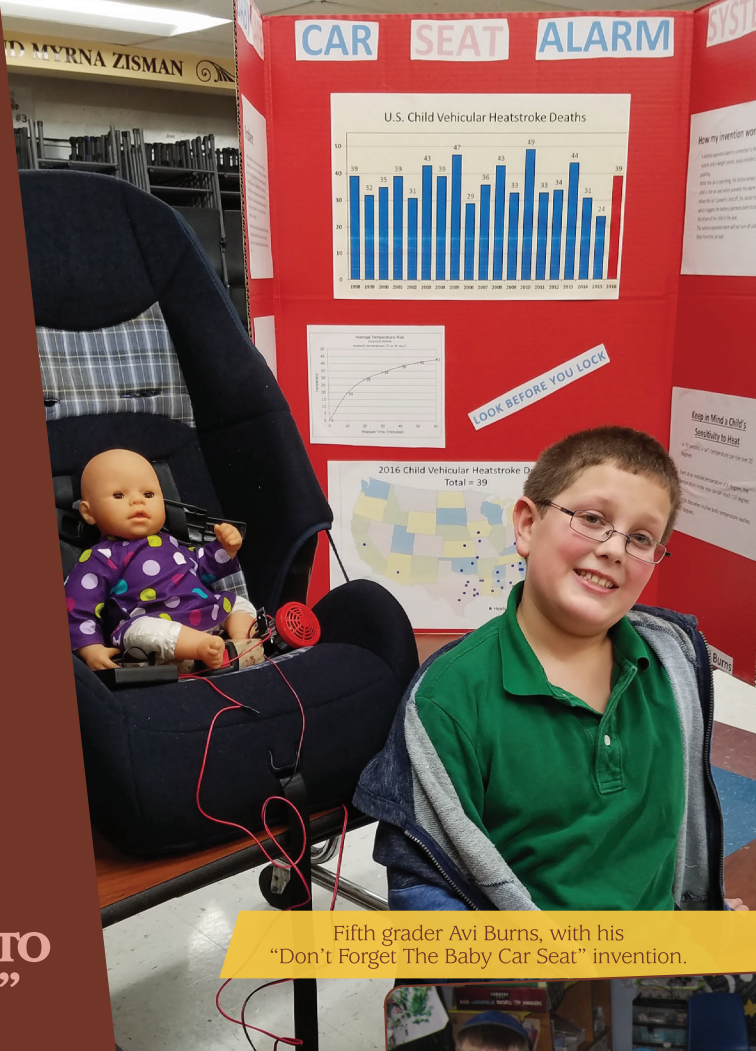
Parents came to our classrooms, to share the *nachas* of seeing their children afford them the proper honor, and to share their stories as community helpers! Zevi Tepper's daddy taught us all about Hatzalah and how they help people. Yaakov Yisroel's *abba*, YOSS Elementary Principal, Rabbi Fridman, read the boys a story in our school's library and introduced them to Rafi Rose's Bubby, Mrs. Burns, our librarian. Thanks to the many parents who came and taught about so many different topics. On the theme of helpers, the boys got a chance to meet all the helpers in our YOSS neighborhood, from the Rosh Yeshiva to the security guard, the nurse and some rebbis and of course they met the best helper of them all- Monika!



INVENTION CONVENTION

The YOSS STEM Program portrayed a patently (pardon the pun) promising passion at this year's annual invention convention. With so many of YOSS parents heavily involved in the latest tech boom, our *talmidim* joined the boom as well. Employing ingenuity, innovation, intelligence, and most importantly - hard work, the boys created new and improved innovations based upon existing technology. Keeping in mind that inventions are made to fill a need, the boys were reminded of the old adage, "need is the mother of invention." Our young engineers brainstormed, researched, planned, developed, and tested their prototypes with overwhelming success. Those who failed at first were encouraged by the motto, "failure is only an opportunity to start again more intelligently." With innovations ranging from the "What's for Supper?? Spinner," "Pillow Hoodie," to the "Vibrating Pillow Alarm Clock," the boys impressed all with their creativity and innovation.

"FAILURE IS ONLY AN OPPORTUNITY TO START AGAIN MORE INTELLIGENTLY"



Fifth grader Avi Burns, with his "Don't Forget The Baby Car Seat" invention.



THE MAKING OF A MENTSCH



As *midos* are integral at YOSS, the Hollander ECC kicked off their new "Making of a Mensch program" in memory of Mickey Berger, Meir Yechezkel, ה"ע Ben Yosef Avraham Mordechai, ז"ל.

Each week we focus on a specific *midah*, or *mitzvah* that entails being a *mentsch*. The children go home, set to accomplish their "Be a Mensch Missions". Among them:

- Saying nice words at the appropriate time
- Listening to their parents and asking them how they can help
- Starting each day as a mensch by:
 - Saying *modeh ani* and washing *negel vasser*
 - Dressing like a *mentsch*
 - Wearing the right clothing including *tzitzis* and *yarmulke*

The children designed, dressed and decorated their own little "mitzvah mensch." Watch out for the Mitzvah Mensch Magnets on the back of all our YOSS vehicles!



THE BUZZ AT YOSS

The boys in grade one through four were abuzz with excitement as famed beekeeper, Curtis Crowell, visited in full beekeeper regalia and beekeeping apparatus, and of course with thousands of bees! Through live demonstrations he presented how hives are constructed and explained the process of honey production. The boys were amazed and delighted. Sweetening the hands-on-lesson was Crowell's fresh, locally harvested, non-pasteurized, kosher honey. According to one eager *talmid*, "I knew learning was sweet... but not this sweet!"

NEVER FORGET

ESPECIALLY WHEN REMINDED ALMOST DAILY

Though none of our students were even born on the infamous day of September 11th, the yeshiva felt it incumbent to commemorate the 15th anniversary with a day of remembrance that featured renown speaker, Rabbi Moshe Taub and Eli Polatoff a first responding Hatzalah member who inspired the boys with amazing *hashgacha* stories of the miracles he experienced on that fateful day at Ground Zero when the Twin Towers collapsed.

But remembering means much more....

The boys also had the opportunity to meet the oldest living survivor of Auschwitz, Reb Yisrael Zalman Mitgang, great-grandfather of our 7th grade *talmid*, Nachum Silver. Rabbi Mordechai Kamenetzky spoke about R' Zalman's unbelievable *mesiras nefesh* in how he was able to make a *minyan* in Auschwitz on Yom Kippur. In light of the Satmar Rebbe's iconic statement to a *chasid*, "Don't ask a *bracha* from me, go to someone who has a number on his arm" each boy had the chance to greet R' Zalman and receive a *bracha* from him.

With ongoing visits and talks from survivors of hate and terror, such as Holocaust survivor, Dr. Moshe Katz and Soviet Refusenik, Yosef Mendelevitch, the Yeshiva educates our young charges and imbues them with the eternal message, "Never forget what Amalek has done to us", while giving them hope in the salvation and miracles we experience on a daily basis.



GET READY, GET SET, DAVEN!

HIKON: A BOLD NEW MECHINA PROGRAM

The launching of Hikon, a brand new Tefillah Incentive Program, inspiring our mechina *talmidim* to enhance their *tefilos*, has been resounding success.

The Navi Amos (4:12), exclaims "הכון לקראות אלוהיך ישראל" - Prepare yourself Yisroel to greet Hashem." The goal of Hikon is to prepare. Led by the vision of our dynamic Menahel Mechina, Rabbi Zev Davidowitz, the *rabbeim* are preparing students to develop a deeper understanding of the *halachos* and *hashkafa* of *tefillah*, and to appreciate the incredible opportunities they have when *davening* daily. The *talmidim* of the program prepare as well by coming on time, dressing appropriately, refraining from talking, and davening from a *siddur* with a *kol rom* (out loud).

Rabbi Paysach Krohn launched our Hikon program with a powerful speech packed with inspirational stories highlighting the power of prayer and how it enhances their relationship with Hashem. The Hikon members already participated in the first of three incentive awards, a trip to a N.Y. Islanders hockey game! They all got a chance to go on the ice with the players! According to the Menahel HaYeshiva, Rabbi Herzberg, "The program has infused an amazing and extraordinary vitality into our *tefilos*."





RABBI ZEV DAVIDOWITZ

OUR DYNAMIC MENAHEL HAMECHINA

Look up the word *'Geshmak'* in the encyclopedia (the Yeshivish one) and there will be a picture of our new Menahel HaMechina, Rabbi Zev Davidowitz. From first day of the year, Rabbi Davidowitz exuded warmth and energy, creating bonds with students, *rabbeim*, teachers and parents. Don't look for him in his office, because this dynamo is on the constant move; dropping in on classes, stopping to *shmooze* with a student in the hall and showing prospective parents a model Mechina.

Rabbi Davidowitz, together with our long-time English Principal, Mr. Daniel Winkler, form an active team, leaving no student unattended and every teacher covered.

Rabbi Davidowitz has introduced a number of innovative and successful programs including HIKON for *davening* and the popular Health and Wellness Series. He has formed strong relationships with area high school *menahelim*, working diligently to assure best placement for our graduates.

Rabbi Davidowitz who hails from a family of *mechanchim* is both a sterling educator as well as a top top administrator. He serves and leads with professionalism and family-like warmth. We like to think of him as the paradigm of the new YOSSI!



THREE GENERATIONS CELEBRATE GENERATIONS OF GEMARA STUDY

Seventy boys in the fifth Grades, recently marked their first steps in their journey of *Gemara* learning with a *Seudas Haschalas Gemara*, a gala three-generational celebration for the boys, their fathers and grandfathers. The inspiring program included a festive meal, multi-generational learning, a moving rendition of *Lulei Sorascha* and an inspiring *drasha* by the Rosh Yeshiva and guest speaker Rav Yaakov Reisman. Rav Reisman spoke passionately about the purity of the Torah learning of young children and stressed the great potential that each of them have. It was inspiring to see the young boys learning melodiously with their grandparents and even great grandparents, some of whom had once learned in the citadels of Torah destroyed in Europe.

The Rosh HaYeshiva, Rav Binyamin Kamenetzky, shlita, and Rav Mordechai Kamenetzky, together with the fifth grade *Rabbeim*, Rabbi Scharhon, Rabbi Steinharter, Rabbi Burger and Rabbi Jacobs presented each *talmid* with a personalized shtender and a photo memento of the event. It is a meaningful gift each boy will undoubtedly cherish. The *talmidim* of the fifth grade will *im yirtza Hashem* be *matzliach* in their learning as they begin to swim in the *vast yam shel talmud Torah*.

WELCOME RABBI STEINHARTER TO YOSSI FIFTH GRADE

Rabbi Yehuda Steinharter, a dynamic young *talmid chochom*, who breathes life into learning was appointed this September to teach another class of 5th grade *haschalas Gemara talmidim*. Rabbi Steinharter hails from Baltimore, Maryland, where he attended Torah Institute Elementary School, Ner Israel for High School and Philadelphia Yeshiva for Bais Medrash.

Rabbi Steinharter's seriousness for *limud haTorah* is infused with a genuine love and fun-style approach that captivates the boys' attention and his warm and caring, personality inspires their daily growth. His daily incentives, "Superstars" chart, and "Rosh Chodesh Store" motivate them to reach their highest goals. His stress on effort is highlighted by his mantra, "*ruchniyus* requires hard work, and sincere efforts are a major component of success." "It is my pleasure to reward the boys for their efforts, knowing that their daily achievements will breed more success in the future."

Rabbi Steinharter's wife Bracha (nee Slomovitz) is the daughter of the Rosh Yeshiva of Yeshivas Toras Chaim in Lakewood, New Jersey, and an integral key to her husband's success as an educator. They are blessed with five energetic boys. We wish Rabbi Steinharter continued success, and many more years of *harbatzos HaTorah!*





\$1 MILLION WITHIN OUR REACH

YOSS ENDOWMENT GROWS!

Our Yeshiva is pleased to announce that we are planning for the long term needs of our children with the establishment of **The Rebbetzin Tzirel Kamenetzky Endowment Fund**, as part of the **UJA of New York's Day School Challenge Fund (DSCF) Match Program**. For every dollar gifted towards this fund, the Yeshiva receives one-and-one-half times of interest. For example: if the fund receives a gift of \$100,000 for YOSS, the Yeshiva will receive interest as if \$150,000 was invested.

Not long after the passing of the Rebbetzin, the Yeshiva launched the initiative with 'An Evening of Solace' in her memory, at Abigael's, NYC. This well-attended event resulted in \$1 million of pledges towards the fund and the Yeshiva is already slated to receive annual dividends on \$750,000 actually invested.

If you would like to invest in YOSS' future with a gift or even a planned legacy gift, please contact Rabbi Dovid Kramer in the Yeshiva at 516-374-7363 x211. Remember: Your principle will not be touched and will continue to produce a healthy income for years to come.

UJA-Federation of New York
**DAY SCHOOL
CHALLENGE FUND**
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From Our Mailbag

Dear Rabbi Kamenetzky, Rabbi Herzberg,
and Rabbi Ross,

I had to share the following story with you. Today, Yechezkel and I were in the backyard playing basketball together. My daughter comes out and tells us that there is a man at the front door collecting Tzedaka. So I came inside to get my wallet, pulled out a 5 dollar bill and went to the door. I hand the fellow the money and am schmoozing with him for a moment when Yechezkel walks outside and hands the man a 5 dollar bill that he had taken out of his wallet. The man was stunned. He looks at Yechezkel and asks, "What Yeshiva do you go to?" Yechezkel proudly replied, "Yeshiva of South Shore."

Many thanks and Yasher Koach for your contribution to this story!

Best,
Moshe

IT ALL ADDS UP

The boys in all classes of grades one through five accomplished a great deal, when they jointly raised money for the Yeshiva in YOSS's first Annual Pushka Campaign. The campaign commenced during the *aseres yemei teshuva* and continued through and including Chanukah. The boys used their *pushkas* to collect *tzedaka* in and around shopping areas and in shuls, all of course with their parents' prior consent. In total, over \$4,500 was raised!



Besides the prizes, plus raffle tickets for grand prizes that were received by these 'expert fundraisers', there was a higher goal that seems to have pervaded the atmosphere of the Yeshiva during this campaign. The boys were just so happy to be giving back to their own Yeshiva in a way that they may never have tried before.

As one parent put it in a letter to the Yeshiva, "Every cent my son collected brought a big smile to his face... Thank you for giving him an opportunity to do such a mitzvah with joy."

Actually, the thanks goes to all of the dear students of the Yeshiva who gave it their all to help out. Every bit adds up. We can't wait to surpass our great achievement next year, IY"H.



**THE YESHIVA OF SOUTH SHORE RECOGNIZES
THE ONGOING SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING FOUNDATIONS**

The CAMBR Foundation
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**YESHIVA OF SOUTH SHORE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THOSE DONORS WHO HAVE
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YESHIVA TORAS CHAIM OF SOUTH SHORE

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1170 William Street
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- Yeshiva Toras Chaim Elementary School
- Joseph and Faye Tannenbaum Torah Institute
- Gedalia Maidenbaum Preparatory School
- Mechina/Junior High School Division
- Heller Resource Center
- Rosenwald Achievement Center



IN MEMORY OF ROBBIE SCHONFELD

ע"ד

Yeshiva of South Shore mourns the passing of Robbie Schonfeld, ע"ד, beloved parent, community *askan*, and extraordinary *baal tovah* and *baal chessed*. Both Rabbi Kamenetzky and Rabbi Herzberg remember his passion for Torah and our Yeshiva. "Robbie felt so strongly about inculcating *middos tovos* in the *talmidim* while imbuing the students with an appreciation of doing *chessed* while learning. His whole life was devoted to *ahavas chessed* and *limud Torah*. He inculcated this love into his family and all of his associates." He will be sorely missed and forever remembered. May he continue to inspire and be a *מליץ יושר* for his family and all of *klal yisroel*.



IN MEMORY OF BINYAMIN ZWICKLER

ע"ד

With a heavy heart, the Yeshiva mourns the tragic passing of our cherished *talmid* Binyamin Zwickler, ז"ל. His effervescent smile and hopeful demeanor served as an inspiration to hundreds of friends and mentors, and throughout his illness he was a symbol of hope and faith to all who knew him. Our entire administration, together with his graduating class of 2006, will miss him dearly and extend our condolences to his mother, Mrs. Daphna Zwickler, who taught in our Yeshiva, and to his younger brother Dovid (Class of 2009) as well as his beloved sisters and extended family.

SEVENTH GRADE HEALTH AND WELLNESS SERIES

With the short days and cold weather, it can be easy for our *talmidim* to slip into "hibernation-mode". At YOSS, we believe that "A Healthy Body = A Healthy Mind" and we do more than just pay lip service to this message. As such, we are pleased to announce a new initiative for the seventh grade titled "The Health and Wellness Series". This exciting program spans the winter months and covers exercise, nutrition, health, personal safety and more!



Penn State superstar, turned yeshiva bochur, Zack Rosen at his "Teamwork, Skills & Drills" workshop