“So now please forgive the spiteful deeds of the servants of your father’s G-d. And Yosef cried when they spoke to him.”
Bereishis 50:17

When Yaakov passed away, the brothers appealed to Yosef to forgive them for the years of misery and suffering they had caused him. Their plea stressed the word ועתה (so now) which meant to convey that after Yaakov’s death there was an added reason for Yosef to forgive them. After a father’s passing, the children should look for ways to honor his memory and earn him continued merit in the world of truth. The brothers appeared to Yosef not to take revenge on them, which would tear apart the unity of the family and cause Yaakov great pain in the world of truth. People would say that as great as Yaakov was, He failed to educate his children to live in peace and harmony with one another. The bitter feelings that were hidden under the surface when he was alive erupted into open hatred upon his death. What could be a bigger disgrace to the memory of Yaakov then that? When Yosef heard this he burst into tears that the brothers could suspect him of such a thing. There is a great lesson here for all of us. When a parent passes away the children look for ways to do things לשMateו לעלוי (to elevate the soul). They plan a Siyum or donate Sefarim to the local Shul or Yeshiva, maybe start a Gemach (free loan fund) and so on. All these are wonderful ways to bring a parent spiritual merit in the next world. Yet the greatest respect and Nachas children can give a parent after they are gone is to live in peace and harmony among themselves.
That is the greatest Aliyas Neshama for them, for it is a testimony to the fact that the parents raised children who are true “Mentchin” which is the greatest accolade a person can aspire to.

(Sefer- Emrei Cohen, Rav Avraham Pam Zt”L)

Wishing all of you an inspiring Shabbos!
Rabbi Moshe Gruenstein

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**YI Sisterhood Friday Night Dinner**
Please join the Young Israel Sisterhood at our first Friday night dinner, January 1, in our beautiful new shul – 6:30 PM, right after davening. Couvert, $65/pp -- $18/child under 12. RSVP with credit card to Yakira, 305-866-0203.

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**Young Israel / NCSY Partnership Shabbaton**
We are looking forward to our annual YI/NCSY Partnership Shabbaton, which is fast approaching on January 8th and 9th. We are excited that this year, once again, we will host Southern NCSY’s teen leaders, advisors and staff. We look forward to yet another exciting Shabbos filled with ruach and inspiration.

In order to accommodate our guests, we are still looking for homes that can each accommodate 3 or more guests; please specify how many males or females you can host. Additionally, we are still looking for homes for Shabbos lunch, inviting 4 or more NCSY teens or staff.

If you are able to host sleepover guests or help with Shabbos lunch invites, please contact, as soon as possible, either: Tammy and Aaron Attias, (786) 566-2102, tammyattias@gmail.com; or Freda Greenbaum, (305) 632-8360, fredafg51@yahoo.com.

Your support to this wonderful annual event is greatly appreciated.
Young Israel of Bal Harbour
Shmooze News
Parshas Vayechi December 26, 2015

Classes and Upcoming Events

- Talmud Shiur 6:30AM Mon-Fri in Classroom upstairs-on hiatus, will resume Thursday.
- Daf Yomi with Rabbi Citron, every day after Shacharis.
- Ladies Tehilim group will meet Mondays 10:30 AM in the Beis Medrash.
- Parsha of the week class, every Tuesday with Rabbi Gruenstein after Schacharis, including Halacha and inspirational thoughts.- Class on Hiatus this week.
- Father and Child Learning Saturday night at 7:00PM in the social hall.
- Lunch and Learn this week; 11:30AM at Beis Midrash; Class given this week by Rabbi Citron.
- Beis Medrash Night every Thursday 7:30PM-8:30PM; with Talmudic Scholars from Talmudic University. Cholent and kugel are served; sponsorships are welcome.
- Classes for women by Rebbetzin Baumann each Thursday, 10:00AM-12:00PM.
- Jan. 13 -- Rabbi Dr. Aaron Rakeffet, Wed. evening, 8:00 PM.
- Jan. 16 -- Rabbi Elchanan Zohn, Guest Speaker Shabbos afternoon.
- Jan. 20 -- Rabbi Zecharia Wallerstein, Wed. evening, 8:00PM.
- Jan. 27 -- Rabbi Eli Mansour, Wed. evening, 8:00PM.
- Feb. 17 -- Rabbi Tuvia Lieff, Wed. evening, 8:00PM
- Feb. 8,15,22,29 – Lectures on Modern Orthodoxy; Maxine Jacobson (Mondays).
- Save the Date; Purim and Purim Seuda, Thursday March 24, 2016.

Congregational Family and Shul News

- Kiddush is sponsored by Stephanie & David Schwartz in celebration of the birth of their daughter Juliet Rae (Liat Ora), sister to Matan and Caleb. Kiddush is co-sponsored by Mali & Steve Schwartz in celebration of the birth of their granddaughters Juliet and Maya, and in honor of all their children and grandchildren.
- Seuda Shlishis is sponsored by Rabbi Simon & Alice Truzman commemorating the yahrtzeit of their son, Yoseph Yehuda ben Shimon Moshe z”l.
- Mazel Tov to the Stanley and Ellen Wasserman, and the entire Wasserman family on the upcoming marriage of their granddaughter in Israel. May the family have much nachas always.
- Mazel tov to Ann & Jerry Gontownik on the birth of their granddaughter Sylvia Carmel. Mazel tov to parents Zev and Daniela Gontownik. May the family have much nachas always.
- A warm welcome to new members, Jayne Shapiro and Phyllis Franklin.
- lease note: All Ladies Seating will continue to be OPEN SEATING in the Ladies Balcony until further notice, and until such time that the Mechitza downstairs is finished.

Building Fund

Our deep thanks to the following families for their generous donation of:

- Jayne Shapiro for her donation of $10,000 to our new building fund.
- Suzette & Harry Diamond for their donation of $50,000 to our new building.

Youth Program News and Upcoming Events

High School teens are invited to Learning and Frozen Yogurt every Wednesday night. Please contact Rabbi Fried for timing and location details.

If you are interested in sponsoring Kiddush or Seuda Shlishis please contact Stuart Harris or Yakira at (305) 866-0203
Our Siyum on the Tanach is being postponed till Shavuos., when we will have a communitywide celebration. Although most of the Neviim and Kesuvim have been taken, the majority of the Chumash has not. Please click below to view what was taken and what is still available.

**YOUNG ISRAEL MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY UPDATE**
We want to ensure that all of your contact information is up to date and correct. Please review your listing in the 2015 Young Israel Membership Directory and send any corrections to Steve Schwartz at stevenbarryschwartz@gmail.com or call 973-493-1209.

**Upcoming Shabbos Events at our YI**
- Jan. 1 -- YI Sisterhood Friday Night Dinner
- Jan. 8-9 -- YI/NCSY Shabbaton
- Jan. 22-23 -- Scholar-in-Residence Shabbaton; Rabbi Elazar Muskin, Rav of YI Century City
- Feb. 19-20 -- Scholar-in-Residence Shabbaton; Rabbi J.J.Schachter

**Emunah Dinner**
Emunah of South Florida invites you to attend its Annual Dinner on Wednesday evening, February 3rd, 2016 at 6:30PM, to be held at Young Israel of Bal Harbour. Please contact Emunah of South Florida for detailed information.

**End of Year Tax Planning**
Our Young Israel now offers the opportunity for families to directly donate appreciated stock, which may offer tax benefits. Please check with your tax adviser, and if your situation warrants, please contact the office.

We can now accept on-line donations via our shul website directly through PayPal. Please use this link [http://www.yicbh.org/payment.php](http://www.yicbh.org/payment.php), or first go to the website [www.yicbh.org](http://www.yicbh.org), click on Membership & Donation, and press Donate. Please note, it is very important that you indicate in the "payment notes" the specific donation that is being paid for (membership, kiddush, aliyah, etc.).

Please submit all insertions for the Shmooze News to yakira@yicbh.org by Noon Thursday.