

Monsey Matters

BY M. C. MILLMAN

Congregation Bais Torah To Host Guest Lecturer Tsvi Zwickler

Tsvi Zwickler, a resident of Beit Orot, will be speaking on Motzoei Shabbos, October 20, at 8:30 p.m. at Congregation Bais Torah on 89 West Carlton Road in Suffern. Mr. Zwickler will be speaking on “The Renewal of Jewish Life Atop Har Hazeitim.” The event will include a video presentation and talk about Beit Orot, the first Jewish presence in two millennia on Har Hazeisim.

There is no admission fee. For further information, call (845) 352-1343 or check out www.baistorah.org.

Yeshiva of Spring Valley Inaugurates New Boys’ Campus

With tremendous shevach and hodaah to Hakadosh Baruch Hu, Yeshiva of Spring Valley has inaugurated its brand-new, state-of-the-art boys’ campus at the start of the 5773 school year. The opening of the impressive 104,927-square-foot building marked the culmination of more than 16 years of effort and dedication on the part of many individuals to ensure that this venerable mosad will continue to flourish and impact present and future generations of Monsey’s talmidim.

Initiated by forward-thinking board members with the purchase and ultimate sale of several acres of land in 1996, the actual construction and fund-raising campaigns were spearheaded by the yeshiva’s current administration. It was this administration that gave guidance and assistance in all stages of a long and complicated process to assure that the yeshiva was readied for occupancy in time for this year’s scheduled school opening.

The inaugural events began on Sunday, September 2, as major donors and their families were given a private tour as a gesture of gratitude for their generous contributions that brought the building to fruition. On Monday, the doors were opened for talmidim and their parents, and hundreds of men, women and children flocked to see their new home first-hand.

The excitement was palpable as parents and children expressed their joy and awe of the new yeshivah.

“It is an impressive building that seamlessly blends style, utility and sensibility. Great job!” said Mr. Motty Shulman after seeing the building for the first time. In thanking Rabbi



At the inauguration of the Yeshiva of Spring Valley’s new campus.

Stern, Yeshiva of Spring Valley’s CEO, whose tireless efforts were instrumental in making the building a reality, Mr. Yitzchak Sperka stated, “The good feeling and excitement from parents and staff at the Monday open house reflected the positive impact of your efforts. Yasher ko’ach!”

The yeshivah was honored with the participation of prominent Rabbanim, including the Mirrer Rosh Yeshivah, Harav Eliezer Yehuda Finkel, shlita, who, together with Yeshiva of Spring Valley’s Associate Dean, Rabbi Yehuda Frankel, affixed the mezuzos to the beis medrash doors.

The high point of the events was, without a doubt, the hachnasas sefer Torah, sponsored by Building Committee member and donor Mr. Micky Krull and family, which took place on Wednesday afternoon, with the yeshivah’s hanhalah and 700 talmidim in attendance. The rain abated and the skies parted for the sun as the white-shirted boys jubilantly sang and danced as they escorted the yeshivah’s three sifrei Torah into their new home.

“It was an incredibly emotional time, seeing the true meaning of all our years of combined efforts coming home,” shared Rabbi Stern.

The building, which is more than 95 percent completed, boasts 13-foot hallways and nine-foot ceilings as well as extra-wide staircases and a simchah hall that comfortably seats 400 people for weddings, bar mitzvahs, etc. An expansive, all-inclusive gym and a large lunchroom are in the final stages of construction and a tour through the building showed the office, staff lounges and remedial classrooms receiving final touches while sefarim were being unpacked and placed on shelves in the beautiful yet utilitarian beis medrash.

“Yeshiva of Spring Valley is most grateful to Ray Builders and their talented team, whose commitment to their project went so far as to find Mr. Yanky Mermelstein and Mr. Tzvi Jacobowitz personally perched on ladders the night before the opening, conducting last-

minute work,” said Rabbi Stern.

In addition to thanking those involved in the actual building, the hanhalah expressed its gratitude to all the rebbeim, moros, teachers and staff, particularly the office staff, for making the transition



At the Yeshiva Darchei Noam simchas beis hasho’eivah.

so graciously.

Upon closer examination, it became obvious that great thought and consideration went into the design of the school. Partially tiled walls in the beis medrash are there to ensure durability and ease of cleaning; occupancy sensors in the classrooms allow for conservation of energy; and throughout the building, the heating, air conditioning and security systems are electronically as well as remotely controlled.

A glance out of the large windows situated throughout the hallways and classrooms offered a view of the temporary basketball area that has been set up while the outstanding outdoor facilities are being completed.

Four baseball fields, regulation basketball courts, large grassy areas adjacent to the pre-school division and brand new playground equipment are all slated to be completed some time after Sukkos.

With the completion and occupancy of the new boys’ building, Yeshiva of Spring Valley ushers in a new era of chinuch habanim in a grand home befitting this bastion of chinuch. Alongside the Bais Sarah Girls’ campus, the



A view of the Yeshiva of Spring Valley’s new building.

yeshivah enters its eighth decade committed and prepared to continue providing the Monsey community’s children with the highest caliber yeshivah education.

Bikur Cholim’s Groups For Center for Applied



Psychology

Bikur Cholim’s Groups for Center for Applied Psychology (CAPS) is offering six skills and support groups. Their Social Skills Group (separate for boys and girls ages eight to 13) is an eight-session group.

The participants will learn how to successfully build and maintain relationships, work together in a group and successfully manage conflict.

The Anxiety Management Group for women will also be meeting for eight sessions. The participants will learn skills to manage anxiety and stress, cope with difficult life situations and change negative thought patterns.

There is also a 16-session group called 4 R’s 2 S’s. This is an innovative multi-family group designed to strengthen families with children ages seven to 11 who are experiencing behavioral problems.

The eight-session Banana Split Group (separate for boys and girls) will give participants skills for navigating the

changes and transitions of a new family. Participants will learn to deal with the stresses of parental conflict, custody and visitation and will discover that they are not alone in dealing with these issues.

The ADHD Parent Support Group will meet for 10 sessions (separate sessions for men and women). Participants will be in a warm and supportive environment that will give them tools to learn how to cope with ADHD symptoms.

There will also be discussions about the impact of the symptoms, while skills will be taught to deal with those symptoms as parents meet with each other and share tips.

Coping with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder will meet for eight sessions — for men only. Participants will learn to understand the obsession, stress and compulsion pattern and to change the pattern and control life’s stresses successfully.

To reserve a spot in any of the above groups, call Bikur Cholim’s Center for Applied Psychology at 845-425-5252, extension 331 or email info@capsdcs.org.

Yeshiva Darchei Noam’s First Simchas Beis Hasho’eivah

Yeshiva Darchei Noam’s simchas beis hasho’eivah was an all-around success story. The simchah in the room was tangible as the boys danced with their fathers, grandfathers and rebbeim. The simchas Yom Tov of the participants multiplied as the music echoed throughout the yeshivah.

Rabbi Bezalel Rudinsky, Rosh Yeshivah, Ohr Reuven/Darchei Noam, spoke about the simchah of Yom Tov and the power of a simchas beis hasho’eivah and the achdus it brings. The entire event was infused with warmth and pride as well as with enthusiasm to be a part of Yeshiva Darchei Noam.

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