



# REPORTER

Shabbat Parshat Bemidbar

Candle Lighting: 7:47 Shabbat Ends: 9:06

## MHA Illustrated Torah Scroll Benefactors

Mr. and Mrs. Josh Kahane and Mr. and Mrs. Marlin Gruber

## Sefer Bemidbar Sponsor

Mr. and Mrs. Josh and Cara Baer

## Parshat Bemidbar Sponsor

Young Israel of Memphis

May 26, 2017

## Seeking Opportunities to Teach

א' סיון תשע"ז



This week's *parasha*, Bemidbar, recalls the death of two of Aharon's sons, Nadav and Avihu. The Torah says, "and Nadav and Avihu died before Hashem because they brought foreign fire before Hashem in the Sinai desert; and they had no children."

The context of the incident of Nadav and Avihu is more fully treated in Sefer VaYikra.

Moshe communicates Hashem's command to Aharon and *b'nei yisrael* to bring ingredients for four different offerings – a *chatat*, an *olah*, a *shelamim* and a *mincha* – all for the culmination of the inauguration of the *mishkan*. All of the respective parties brought the proper ingredients to the *mishkan* in conformity with Hashem's command. Moshe then gave Hashem's next command of what to do with these ingredients – the result of which will be G-d's glory appearing to the nation. Aharon and *b'nei yisrael* brought their respective offerings in exact conformity with Hashem's command.

Aharon lifted his hands to the nation and blessed them and then descended from performing these sacrifices. Moshe entered and exited the Tent of Meeting together with Aharon and then blessed the nation – subsequently, G-d's glory appeared to the nation. Fire descended from before Hashem and consumed all of the sacrifices. The nation praised Hashem and fell on their faces. Immediately following this accounting is the incident of Nadav and Avihu – two of Aharon's sons who were destroyed while offering a foreign fire that had not been commanded to them.

The Torah twice emphasizes in the first event of the necessity of acting with strict conformity only to that which Hashem commanded. The Torah uses the same language to explain that the cause of Nadav and Avihu's death was their failure to conform only to what Hashem commanded.

Hashem never commanded Aharon to bless the nation. Instead, Aharon seems to take it upon himself to bless the nation. Why did Aharon not meet the same demise as his sons for his seeming failure to conform only to what he was commanded?

In his *Mishneh Torah*, the Rambam cites the *halacha* that

the Kohen is not permitted to look at the nation during *birkat kohanim* lest he lose his focus. Furthermore, the nation should not look at the *kohanim* lest they lose their focus. The importance of the *kohanim* not losing their focus is readily understandable, but what does the nation have to focus on?

Sefer HaChinuch explains that *birkat kohanim* is an opportunity to focus on true ideas about Hashem and the importance of turning our actions towards Him. He explains further that the *kohanim* do not bless the nation in the sense that they have the power to bless. Only, *vesamu et shemi al bnei yisrael, vaani avarechem* – and place My name on the People of Israel and I will bless them. Because the *kohanim* represent the lifestyle of constant service of Hashem, they are conferred with the responsibility of enunciating true ideas about G-d's Providence. When they hear these ideas coming out of the mouths of these individuals, the nation will be aroused to focus on these ideas and in so doing raise themselves to a level where they deserve Hashem's blessing. In other words, everyone must concentrate on the ideas contained in these words in order to approach Hashem and benefit from His blessing.

Aharon was authorized to bless the people because Hashem charged the *kohanim* – *lesharet u'levarech* – to serve and to bless. The blessing of the people by the *kohanim* concretizes the messages of the service that they do – to teach to the world the ideas of Hashem. An additional service – such as that of Nadav and Avihu – was not authorized. Aharon's blessing was acceptable to Hashem; the service of Nadav and Avihu was not.

This message applies to each and every one of us. We are a nation of priests. Hashem defines what constitutes a mitzvah – a commanded act. We do not have the right to invent our own service. Hashem does give us the charge, however, to teach and to publicize the ideas of the commandments and the ideas about Hashem. Like the *kohanim*, we must be on guard constantly for opportunities to teach Torah to others.

Shabbat Shalom

Rabbi Beny Owen



## Administrator Corner

### Grit and Growth

Charna Schubert- ECE Director

Several months ago I wrote a newsletter article about growth mindset and a conference I had attended that month focused on grit and growth mindset. In that article, I discussed how inspired I was by a specific presenter: Jeffrey Benson. I am very excited to share with you that the MHA will be hosting nationally-recognized speaker and presenter Jeffrey Benson as a scholar in residence for several days of presentations and trainings for the MHA faculty and the larger community. Jeffrey Benson is the author of "Hanging In: Strategies for Teaching the Students Who Challenge Us Most" and has over 40 years of experience in a variety of divisions, schools, and teaching environments. The focus of his work is on supporting schools that work for all students. Margolin Hebrew Academy administrative and teacher training will focus on growth mindset and how this quality can help students grow to their potential. Mr. Benson will also spend time training teachers on the most up to date and powerful methods of differentiating for all students. Mr. Benson's work with all divisions from ECE to High School will give him the opportunity to support the MHA in their goals for professional development.

I am especially excited that Mr. Jeffrey Benson will be kicking off his trip to Memphis with a **presentation for parents and community members at 8:15am on June 7th in the MHA Library**. This program is free of charge and is open to the community. The topic of Mr. Benson's presentation will be "Growth Mindset and Working From Students' Strengths". The discussion will focus on current research on student intelligence and whether it is fixed or changeable and Mr. Benson will share his top tips for parents on how to help their children develop a growth mindset. I cannot wait for the parents in the community as well as our colleagues in all divisions of MHA to benefit from this presenter. He has so much to offer and I hope everyone will attend! Please RSVP to (901) 682-2400 to attend the community presentation on Wednesday, June 7th at 8:15am.

# GROWTH MINDSET

By Jeffrey Benson

### WHEN

**June 7th  
8:15 a.m. -9:15 a.m.**

### WHERE

**MHA Library**

390 S. White Station Rd Memphis 38117

RSVP to [amanda.minner@mhafyos.org](mailto:amanda.minner@mhafyos.org)  
Or to 901-682-2400

### SPONSORED BY

The Margolin Hebrew Academy

### WHO: OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

**DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON PARENTING**

**NO CHARGE**  
Light refreshments will be served

### ABOUT THE PRESENTER:

JEFFREY HAS WORKED IN ALMOST EVERY SCHOOL CONTEXT IN OVER 40 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION. THE CORE OF JEFFREY'S WORK IS IN UNDERSTANDING HOW PEOPLE LEARN. THE STARTING POINT FOR EVERYTHING THAT SCHOOLS SHOULD DO.

To learn more about Jeffrey Benson visit [jeffreybenson.org](http://jeffreybenson.org)

### Please Join Us For The

#### Kindergarten Class of 2017 Graduation

We've learned a lot of things this year  
And now it's time to go  
We made new friends and had fun,  
We're moving on, you know!

We wish to share this time with you  
To laugh, to smile, to play  
As our Kindergarten graduates  
Have their first graduation day!

Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> / 10 Sivan 5777

10:30 a.m.

In the MHA/FYOS Auditorium

### OUR GRADUATES

Chaya Devorah Besser	Zacharia Levine
Ariella Caplan	Abigail Lewis
Maytal Davidovics	Zachary Nelson
Dahlia Freiden	Avigayil Safier
David Harary	Benjamin Schubert
Pliyah Harris	Yehoshua Semmel
Miriam Kaplowitz	Rena Siegel
Aliza Klein	Dov Vanderwalde
	Orli Vanderwalde



## Community Wide PTA End of the Year Meeting

**Where:**  
**Elana Kahane's House**  
**5669 Vantage Point**  
**Memphis, TN 38120**

**When:**  
**Sunday, June 4th at 7:00 PM**

**Come celebrate our success for the year  
and welcome our 2017/2018 PTA board.**

**\*Light refreshments will be served.**

## Community News

**Mazel Tov to Dr. Bradley and Adina Karasik on the upcoming Bar Mitzvah of their son Z.J. Karasik.**

**The MHA Health and Wellness Committee will be making smoothies for all high school students on June 6th from 9:30-11:00am in the Boys High School Lounge.**

## A message from the PTA

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe the end of the year is already here!! The PTA would like to make the teacher gift giving a little easier for you. Instead of rushing around searching for the perfect teacher gift, take advantage of the "Teacher Gifts" program. This program is an excellent way to say "thank you" to all of your children's teachers without ever stepping foot into the mall.

This is how the program works: Over the next few weeks, we will be collecting gift money for the teachers, assistant teachers, administrative staff, and specialty teachers from Pre-K through High School. The money will be divided among the faculty, with lead teachers receiving the highest amounts. No need to divvy amounts on any forms. Just bring in a check. Before the last day of school, your child's teachers will receive an envelope full of cash accompanied by a card with the names of all the children who contributed. There is no greater look of appreciation than a teacher opening an envelope full of money!

We urge EACH AND EVERY family to participate so that we can give the well deserved teachers and faculty the highest amounts possible. We are asking for a total of \$35 per CHILD. Please turn the money in no later than Tuesday, May 30th.

Your checks can be returned via mail to Stacy Sanderson, 5681 Shady Glen Road, Memphis, TN 38120, or you may HAND DELIVER it to the box located in the front office. PLEASE DO NOT SEND THIS IN YOUR CHILD'S BACKPACK, AS IT IS A SURPRISE FOR YOUR TEACHERS!!!

Thank you,  
Elana Kahane and Stacy Sanderson  
PTA MHA/FYOS





# REPORTER

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א' סיון תשע"ז  
May 26, 2017



Please join the Margolin Hebrew Academy for its

## 67th Annual Scholarship Banquet

Wednesday Evening, June 7, 2017 | FedEx Event Center at Shelby Farms

Cocktails 6:00p.m. | Dinner 6:45p.m.

*Paying Tribute To*



Hugh Freiden  
Community Service Awardee



Dr. Joel and Joanne Kahane  
Guests of Honor



Dr. Joel Siegel  
Ish Chesed Awardee

Margolin Hebrew Academy | 390 South White Station, Memphis, Tennessee 38117  
(901) 682-2400 | Fax (901) 767-1871  
[www.mhafyos.org/banquet](http://www.mhafyos.org/banquet)



## 67th Annual Scholarship Banquet

Wednesday, June 7, 2017 | FedEx Event Center at Shelby Farms

Cocktails 6:00p.m. | Dinner 6:45p.m.

RSVP by May 24

Ads and reservations can be made and paid for online at [www.mhafyos.org/banquet](http://www.mhafyos.org/banquet).

Or, please return this sheet with payment to:

Margolin Hebrew Academy | 390 White Station Rd. | Memphis, TN 38117

### Dedication (Ad Journal) Opportunities:

I/we would like to take a journal ad as follows:

<input type="checkbox"/> Diamond Sponsor	(Includes 2 Dinner Tickets)	\$10,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Bronze Sponsor	(Includes 1 Dinner Ticket)	\$1,250
<input type="checkbox"/> Platinum Sponsor	(Includes 2 Dinner Tickets)	\$7,500	<input type="checkbox"/> Pearl Page		\$1,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby Sponsor	(Includes 2 Dinner Tickets)	\$5,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Crystal Page		\$750
<input type="checkbox"/> Emerald Sponsor	(Includes 2 Dinner Tickets)	\$3,600	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Page		\$400
<input type="checkbox"/> Sapphire Sponsor	(Includes 2 Dinner Tickets)	\$2,500	<input type="checkbox"/> Half Page		\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> Gold Sponsor	(Includes 2 Dinner Tickets)	\$1,800	<input type="checkbox"/> Quarter Page		\$150
<input type="checkbox"/> Silver Sponsor	(Includes 2 Dinner Tickets)	\$1,500			

### Event Sponsorships:

<input type="checkbox"/> Gold Plate	(Includes 2 Tickets)	\$900	<input type="checkbox"/> Bronze Plate	(Includes 2 Tickets)	\$500
<input type="checkbox"/> Silver Plate	(Includes 2 Tickets)	\$750	<input type="checkbox"/> Dinner Only	Number of Tickets	\$180 perTicket

I/we cannot attend, but are pleased to make a donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_

### RSVP and Ad / Sponsorship Payment Information:

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_ State\_\_\_\_\_ Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Number\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

Please choose one of the following options

I/we wish to pay by credit card:  AX  Visa  MC  Discover

Credit Card #\_\_\_\_\_

Amount\_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date\_\_\_\_\_ Security Code\_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on card\_\_\_\_\_

Authorized signature\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my/our check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ payable to MHA/FYOS

Place ads online at [www.mhafyos.org/banquet](http://www.mhafyos.org/banquet) or by emailing [journal@mhafyos.org](mailto:journal@mhafyos.org) with your ad request.  
Or include text/instructions in the space below and mail or drop off at the MHA Office or fax to 901-767-1871.

Deadline for ad information is May 24, 2017



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May 26, 2017

## GET MIDNIGHT SUSHI / CHINESE BUFFET

## SHAVUOT ALL NIGHT LEARNING



May 30 ~ 10:30 PM  
@ BARON HIRSCH  
400 S. YATES, MEMPHIS

The Administration, Faculty, and Eighth Grade Class of the Margolin Hebrew Academy / Feinstone Yeshiva of the South Cordially Invite You to Attend

### 8th Grade Advancement Exercises

On Monday, the Fifth of June, Two Thousand and Seventeen, The Eleventh Day of Sivan, Five Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Seven

At Seven O'clock in the Evening  
In the MHA Gymnasium



### ADULT SCHEDULE

10:30 pm	Rabbi Binyamin Lehrfield
11:15 pm	"Islam & Judaism: Brothers or Rivals?" Jordana Maged
12:30 am	Rabbi Binyamin Lehrfield
1:30 am	"Presidents, Dictators & Kings: Who is Fit to Lead?" Michal Laub
2:30 am	Rabbi Beny Owen
3:30 am	Rabbi Rafael Azugi
4:30 am	Rabbi Dovid Saier
5:15 am	Shacharit



### HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

10:30 pm	Program with NCSY Advisors
11:15 pm	Fun with YU Fellows
<b>MIDNIGHT CHINESE BUFFET</b>	
12:30 am	Teens Teaching Teens
1:30 am	Ask the Rabbi w/ Rabbi Lehrfield
2:30 am	Learning w/Torah MiTzion
3:30 am	Jamie Gibber
4:30 am	Shirot V'Tishbachot
5:15 am	Shacharit

### JR. HIGH SCHEDULE

10:30 pm	Fun with YU Fellows
11:15 pm	Program with NCSY Advisors
<b>MIDNIGHT CHINESE BUFFET</b>	
12:30 am	Teens Teaching Tweens
1:30 am	The Amazing Torah Race
2:30 am	Rabbi Moshe Semmel
3:30 am	Learning w/Torah MiTzion
4:30 am	Shirot V'Tishbachot
5:15 am	Shacharit



Join ASBEE  
Sisterhood for our  
open meeting at  
7pm

Where:  
ASBEE Congregation  
120 East Yates Road  
North

Find out what  
Sisterhood has  
planned for the rest  
of 2017

Join one of the  
amazing Sisterhood  
committees for this  
year

## TUESDAY, JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup> MEET & SHOP

With ASBEE Sisterhood and  
LuLaRoe Clothing

LuLaRoe Clothing is a very modest clothing line with many designs to choose from, known for their comfort and uniqueness. Come browse through over 300 items for the perfect one for you! Irina Ollar will be our LuLaRoe Representative and is ready to help you find the perfect outfit. In addition, 10% will be donated to our Sisterhood.

Shop with  
LuLaRoe Clothing  
6 - 8 pm

REFRESHMENTS  
will be  
served

To RSVP or for questions:  
Cindi 230-2217  
wein1088@yahoo.com



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May 26, 2017

Family Learning at Young Israel will be at 5:00 and Parsha in the Park will be at 5:15 this week. Prizes and Shabbos party to follow. Hope to see y'all there!!

## Shavuot Family Fun

**Tot Program**  
Enjoy fun holiday songs and activities and learn about Shavuot  
Led by Rachael Rovner  
Ages 3-6



Followed by \*FREE\* MACARONI & CHEESE dinner

**Family Learning**  
Bring your parents or grandparents for a unique holiday learning experience  
Led by the YU Fellows  
1st-5th grade



**Wednesday, May 31st**  
6:00PM @Baron Hirsch Congregation

**YOUNG ISRAEL OF MEMPHIS & THE MEMPHIS KOLLEL'S**

**Sunday Morning LOX 'N LEARN**

**SCHEDULE OF SHIURIM**  
(All shiurim to conclude by 9:30 AM)

**April 30, 2017** - Presented by Rabbi Dovid Safier  
"Paying Wages on Time: A Halachic Analysis"  
Sponsored by Essie & Michael Stein

**May 7, 2017** - Presented by Rabbi Yosef Braha  
"When in Doubt Do Without"  
Sponsored by Esther & Carl Kaplan *liluy nishmas Gittel bas Meir Yosef*

**May 14, 2017** - Presented by Rabbi Akiva Males  
"Unraveling the Mystery of Lag B'omer"

**May 21, 2017** - Presented by Rabbi Shuki Nissan  
"Mashed Foods and their Brachos: A "pot-puree" of Complications"

**May 28, 2017** - Special Community-wide pre-Shavuot Shiur  
Understanding the Mitzvah of Torah Study  
given by Rabbi Shmuel Fromowitz

Home of Cindi and Dr. Joe Weinstein  
5490 Shady Grove Terrace

**Shavuot Learning at Young Israel**

**Men's Program**  
Shiurim, chavrusas, & great food - starting at 12AM.

Learning programs for children & adults.

Enjoy BBQ through the night!

Shachris at 5:15 AM

Rabbi Males - YIOM  
Rabbi Owen - MHA  
Rabbi Gersten - CYHSB  
Rabbi Hauser - MHA  
Rabbi Semmel - MHA  
Rabbi Mordechai Harris - MJCC  
Rabbi Nossen Fromowitz  
The Memphis Kollel  
Kollel Torah Mitzion  
Avi Katz - Alumnus  
Yishai Berendt - CYHSB  
Gary Goldmeier - CYHSB

**Ladies' Program**  
Beginning at 10:00AM Shavuot morning, enjoy a round-table of shiurim - 15 minutes each.

Ice Cream Kiddush for women & children to follow.

Groups will be available

Rebbetzin Males  
Mrs. Kutliroff  
Eliana Schlesinger  
Mrs. Goldblatt  
Rebbetzin Braha



*This newsletter sponsored in honor of Joanne and Joel Kahane*

*This newsletter is sponsored in  
honor of Joanne and Joel Kahane,  
Guests of Honor at the 67th Annual  
MHA Scholarship Banquet.*

*By Susan Myers*



# REPORTER

390 S. White Station Rd.  
Memphis, TN 38117

## *Picture of the Week*



The MHA-FYOS 12th grade graduates.

To advertise in the MHA/FYOS Reporter contact Ms. Erica Stoltz at [estoltz@mhafyos.org](mailto:estoltz@mhafyos.org) or 901-682-2400

Check us out on the web-  
[www.mhafyos.org](http://www.mhafyos.org) and Facebook!