

Derash veDaSh - A Shabbat Message and Greeting: Pleading the Fiftieth

With Seuda Shelishit typically being eaten as Shabbat is coming to its conclusion, this third and final Shabbat meal is somewhat anticlimactic in nature - perhaps even accompanied by an aura of sadness - as we anticipate the mundane routine of the upcoming week that imminently awaits us. For us at Young Israel of New Hyde Park, however, there is hardly a regularly reproducible moment that is met with more enthusiasm than the announcement mid-way through Seuda Shelishit of "Page Fifty", the signal to begin the Zemirot – Mizmor LeDavid, Yedid Nefesh, and Chuck's song de jour – followed by the Devar Torah and Birkat Hamazon, the various religious components of the program. As such it is that cry of "Fifty" that marks the transition from earthly eating to heavenly hymns, reinvigorating the waning spirit as the sun sets and the Shabbat subsides.

The number fifty carries with it many other traditional (and more universal) associations – see *The Park Page* Issue #21 for some examples – but perhaps the most famous is the Yovel/Jubilee, the commandment, described towards the end of Leviticus, to observe the fiftieth year of the agricultural cycle. The Year of the Yovel, a "Super Sabbatical", seemingly derives its significance from what is not done during the year: "You shall not sow, you shall not harvest its after-growth, and you shall not pick that which was set aside. For it is a Jubilee Year, it shall be holy to you; from the field you may eat its crop." The fiftieth year appears to be a time to relax - a time to allow the land and its workers to rejuvenate themselves - a time to enjoy the fruits of the hard work of previous years, with no further expenditure of effort.

On the other hand, there is much more to the Yovel: "You shall sanctify the fiftieth year and proclaim freedom throughout the year for all its inhabitants; it shall be the Jubilee for you, you shall return each man to his ancestral heritage and you shall return each man to his family." To properly observe the Jubilee, it is insufficient to merely sit back passively, living off of the produce of earlier years' labor. One must actively contribute to its sanctity - by sounding the shofar, engaging in a lengthy prayer service resembling that of Rosh Hashanah, and issuing formal proclamations. Just as we must sanctify the Shabbatot and the Festivals, there must be a conscientious and proactive effort to imbue the Jubilee year with holiness. In particular, this is a time when we must release the slaves and restore property to its original owners, thereby reuniting the multiple generations of families and returning to them their achuza, their ancestral heritage.

Like our contemporary "Page Fifty," the Jubilee of antiquity is also a transition, away from the outdoor fields and into our inner core, relying less on our hands and more on our hearts. Indeed, a popular theme in the Maharal of Prague (1525-1609) is that while seven reflects nature, it is the eighth that symbolizes the supernatural, and thus the Yovel, as the epilogue of seven cycles of seven years, might be regarded as the super-supernatural.

As we mark *The Park Page's* Jubilee Issue, I express my gratitude for the opportunity to be involved in this venture, and to see it so far through its First Anniversary. As its primary purpose, the publication serves a pragmatic function, disseminating the most current information about our shul, whether the times for services and classes; personal news such as births, other semachot, and unfortunately illnesses and deaths; a schedule of upcoming events; miscellaneous other announcements, and updates from our President on matters of importance to our synagogue membership. Simultaneously, however, particularly in the framework of the *Derash v'Dash* column, it is a vehicle to transform the prosaic – even the trivial – into something that will provoke thought, to inform

but also to inspire. As such I acknowledge the role of the World Wide Web - in particular Google, Yahoo News, and Wikipedia but also Lehavdil the numerous Jewish on-line resources, especially Mechon-Mamre.org and e-daf.com which have helped facilitate writing these pages while sitting at a computer and not at the library. Kudos to Rubenstein Technologies for the pro bono hosting of our shul website, to Jonathan Ezor for his technical skills in getting Park Page posted in its early stages, and to those who have assisted with production. I thank those who share this publication with others and especially the Bikur Cholim Committee for distributing it to Jewish patients and their families at the local hospitals. Yasher Koach as well to my father-in-law Dr. Jerome Kutliroff, whose own weekly D'var Torah to family and friends has inspired certain stylistic aspects of this column generally and the cumulative puzzle that appears in this issue, to all of our readers wherever they may be found for their feedback and encouragement, and to our sponsors of the various issues and this commemorative edition. Todah Rabbah to my wife Nehama and children, often the last to get to read it, even as they are the first to allow me the time to write it. Finally, to the Ribono Shel Olam - the publisher of The Sinai Scroll - we say Shehechiyanu Vekiyemanu . Vehigianu Lazman Hazeh.

Shabbat Shalom, Rabbi Lawrence Teitelman

| Parsha Pages - Vayera | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| Torah-Reading | Artscroll 78, Soncino 63 | 3 | |
| Haftara | Artscroll 1134, Soncino 76 | 3 | |

| Schedule of Services and Classes | | | | | |
|--|----------|--|--|--|--|
| Friday, October 27 | | | | | |
| Shacharit | 6:15 am | | | | |
| Candle-lighting | 5:41 pm | | | | |
| Mincha | 5:45 pm | | | | |
| Saturday, October 28 | • | | | | |
| Shiur – Sefer Tehillim | 8:15 am | | | | |
| Shacharit | 8:45 am | | | | |
| Latest time for Shema MA 9:23, GRA | 9:59 am | | | | |
| Shiur | 4:45 pm | | | | |
| Mincha, followed by Seuda Shelishit and Maariv | 5:30 pm | | | | |
| Shabbat ends | 6:43 pm | | | | |
| Sunday, October 29 | | | | | |
| Shacharit | 8:10 am | | | | |
| Gemara – Masekhet Shabbat (R. Teitelman) | 8:50 am | | | | |
| Mincha/Maariv | 5:35 pm | | | | |
| Monday, October 30 | | | | | |
| Shacharit | 6:10 am | | | | |
| Mincha/Maariv | 5:35 pm | | | | |
| Tuesday, October 31 | | | | | |
| Shacharit | 6:15 am | | | | |
| Mincha/Maariv | 5:35 pm | | | | |
| Wednesday, November 1 | | | | | |
| Shacharit | 6:15 am | | | | |
| Chumash Shiur (R. Bilitzky) | 10:00 am | | | | |
| Gemara – Masekhet Kiddushin (R. Bilitzky) | 11:10 am | | | | |
| Mincha/Maariv | 5:35 pm | | | | |
| Thursday, November 2 | | | | | |
| Shacharit | 6:10 am | | | | |
| Mincha/Maariv | 5:35 pm | | | | |
| Friday, November 3 | | | | | |
| Shacharit | 6:15 am | | | | |
| Candle-lighting | 5:32 pm | | | | |
| Mincha | 5:35 pm | | | | |

General Announcements

- Mazal tov to David and Rashel Rouhani, their children Leora, Elana, Aaron, and Shira, and the extended Rouhani and Nuranifar families, on the birth and naming of their new daughter Sharona Rivka. Thank you for the elaborate Kiddush last Shabbat in honor of the Simcha.
- Mazal tov to Larry and Maurine Sobin on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Dani Sobin, this Shabbat in West Hempstead.
- Youth News: Mazal tov to Emily Feldman and Jordan Barth who were recently profiled in the "Inquiring Photographer" column of *The Jewish Planet*, and to Daniel Klein who was appointed co-captain of the Rambam Varsity Hockey Team.
- □ Condolences to Barry and Meredith Brown and their son Miles and to Barbara Brown on the passing of Barry and Barbara's mother Esther Brown a"h. The burial was in Har Hamenuchot Cemetery in Jerusalem. Barry is sitting shiva in his home 105 Patton Boulevard in New Hyde Park, and beginning Saturday it will continue out of town, while Barbara is sitting at her home, 87-06 Barrington Street in Jamaica Estates, (718) 657-8436.
- Refuah Shelemah to Oscar Berenberg who is recovering at Parker Geriatric Institute, Room 354.
- Thank you to Vita Barth and Jesse Vogel for the respective repairs of the Parochet and Torah Cover.
- □ To sponsor Kiddush, please contact Howie or Lisa Lerner. To sponsor Seuda Shelishit, please contact Dovid Gottesman.
- ☐ The Shul Office is now on regular schedule: Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30-4:30 and Fridays 9:30-3:30.
- □ To request assistance from the Bikur Cholim Committee, or to volunteer your help, please contact Karen Klein at karenklein1@optonline.net or at 917-558-2451.
- □ To assist the shul pay for its capital improvements with no additional cost to you, please purchase Food Certificates for A & A Foods, Mazur's, Pathmark, Stop and Shop, and Waldbaum's; "Chesed Dollars" for use in many kosher food and other Jewish-related businesses; or American Express, Barnes and Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Blockbuster, Home Depot, Old Navy, Phone, Sears, and The Gap Gift Cards. Contact the shul office or one of the following individuals:

| Art Feldman | 516-227-0707 | afeldman@farrellfritz.com |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Paige Finkelstein | 718-343-4821 | paigeecake@aol.com |
| Rena Gombo | 718-343-3855 | renajoyce@aol.com |
| Ilene Horowitz | 718-470-9474 | ilenemarc@earthlink.net |

Upcoming Events:

NEQJCC Installation & Awards Reception

This Sunday, October 28th, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Bellerose Jewish Center, 254-04 Union Turnpike
For reservations/journal ads, call NEQJCC (718) 225-6750 x247

Ladies' Pre-Siyum Tanakh Presentations

Shabbat afternoon, November 3rd at YINHP Contact Nehama Teitelman if you would like to present

Siyum Tanakh – Melaye Malka

Saturday night, November 10th at 7:00 p.m.

Tri-Community Blood Drive at YINHP

Sunday, November 11th

Ladies' Shiur

Monday, December 3rd
Hosts: Ellen and Larry Barth
Speaker: Nehama Teitelman

Shabbat Bikur Cholim

This week, Parashat Vayera, we mark Shabbat Bikur Cholim, in conjunction with the Bikur Cholim Coordinating Council of the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services. Rabbi Teitelman's sermon will be "Beauty is in the Eye of the Beholder: 'Models' for Bikur Cholim."

With its proximity to several hospitals, YINHP has a long tradition of Bikur Cholim and we present a message from Karen Klein, Chair of our Bikur Cholim Committee as well as a letter just received by one of its numerous beneficiaries.

This year our shul members have been active across a broad spectrum of Bikur Cholim activities. Guests who have familiy members at out local hospitals have been hosted for meals and overnight, honoring a long-standing tradition of our shul. Visits have been made every week to support patients and their families at Long Island Jewish Hospital, Schneider Children's Hospital, Zucker Hillside Hospital, and Parker Jewish Geriatric. Requests for assistance have been received and fulfilled from families in our own community and from visitors from across the country and around the world, from as far as Italy and South Africa. From our teens to our seniors, many of us have participated. In addition, we have assisted our own members with rides to shul events and classes, doctor's appointments, and medical tests.

We have accomplished much, but there is always more that we can do. Why not volunteer your time as a host, driver, or visitor, or make a financial contribution to the Bikur Cholim Fund? You may contact Rabbi Teitelman (for hosting) or Karen Klein (for driving, visiting, and donations) to discuss how you can help carry on Young Israel of New Hyde Park's proud tradition. You'll find that giving is its own reward.

Karen Klein, Chair YINHP Bikur Cholim Committee

Words alone cannot adequately express our appreciation to the Young Israel of New Hyde Park community. We ended up at Long Island Jewish Hospital over the first days of Sukkot this year because of the birth of our first child on the second day of Sukkot. The community opened its homes and hearts to us. Upon hearing why Yechiel was in the community for Yom Tov and Shabbat, the Gabbaim immediately offered Yechiel the opportunity to name our daughter. The shul provided meals for Yechiel. All of Yechiel's hosts sent back food for Eve and the other women in LIJ's maternity ward. The shul even offered to find Yechiel a place to sleep, if it was needed. The enclosed check is in appreciation of the kindness displayed by the community. Tizku L'Mitzvot!

Sincerely, Eve and Yechiel Davis Far Rockway, NY

Thank you to the Sponsors of this First Anniversary/Jubilee Edition of *The Park Page* and the Kiddush Celebrating the Occasion

Stuart and Lisa Appel

in honor of Rabbi Lawrence and Nehama Teitelman

Larry and Ellen Barth

Art and Arlene Feldman

Marty and Louella Glick

Jerry and Rena Gombo in memory of Norman Dicker z"l

Jeff and Myra Grunfeld

Leonard Halpern

in honor of Rabbi Lawrence Teitelman

Marc and Ilene Horowitz in honor of Marc's birthday

Bill and Susan Isler

Jeff and Karen Klein

in honor of Rabbi Teitelman for generating Park Page each week

Dr. Jerome and Rochelle Kutliroff

in expectation of 50 more enjoyable issues of *The Park Page* and in honor of their grandchildren Sara Hanna, Yael, Atara, and Yedida

Selig and Rita Lenefsky

Dr. Howard and Lisa Lerner

The Mandel Family

in honor of Rabbi & Mrs. Teitelman and Family

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in honor of her children and grandchildren

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Chuck and Debbie Waxman

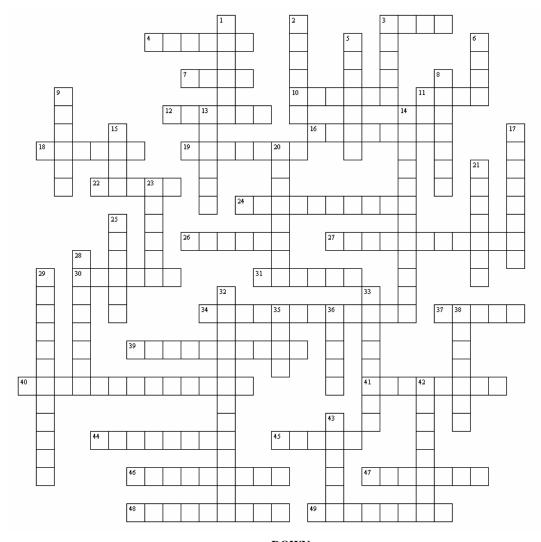
Chuck and Roz Weissman

for a Refuah Shlemah for their daughter-in-law Harriet Weissman

Craig and Adrianne Wolf

Moshe and Sharon Zucker, Tali and Yael

(Sponsorships arriving after publication will be recognized in subsequent issues.)



ACROSS

- 3 Vilna Havdala Light
- 4 With Blanchard, commentator on 49 Across
- 7 Popular Science Best Innovation
- 10 Ark-Seeker
- 11 East Coast Casualty
- 12 The Finish Line
- 16 Ranger Rick Professor
- 18 Upper West Side Shoppers?
- 19 NYSD Marching Band
- 22 Page for Psalm Twenty-three
- **24** Tu Bishvat Oneg Topic
- 26 Holocaust Art Expert
- 27 Alignment of Celestial Bodies
- 30 Wrote Misheberakh for Davening Non-Talkers
- 31 Kosher Bird?
- **34** Capital Improvement Financiers
- 37 Inter-Ocean Thoroughfare
- 39 Cardiovascular Benefit of Wine
- 40 Playing Cards Sponsor
- **41** Foil to 29 Down
- 44 Has Vast Knowledge
- 45 SEED Couple
- 46 Kiddush-Luncheon Honoree
- 47 Saturday Night Sport
- 48 Pre-Presidential Dollar Coin
- 49 Bikur Cholim Documentary

DOWN

- 1 Wrote Article about Davening Talkers
- 2 Dead Sea Scrolls Hideaway
- 3 YINHP IDF Veteran
- 5 Violent Dean
- 6 Indig Chesed Project
- 8 Shares Double-Feature with Yishaya, Trei Asar, and Kinot
- **9** Tallest Man
- 13 Aaron and Jeremiah's Branch
- 14 R. Bilitzky YCB Award
- 15 R. Kaminetsky Yeshiva
- 17 Berlin Bible Scholar
- 20 Virginia Tech Hero
- 21 Pre-cut Parasha
- 23 Oldest Man
- 25 Oueen's Habitat
- 28 Exodus Acronym
- 29 Consonantal Word
- 32 Fear of Bridges
- 33 Marathonist Homeland
- 35 Chukat Book of the Week
- 36 Atlanta Shul Deficiency
- 38 Geminated-g Word
- 42 Rosh Yeshiva's Masekhta
- 43 Shuva Alternative

All answers to puzzle clues can be found in The Park Page Nos. 1-50 and the unaffiliated Purim-edition, The Purim Parker Pager. Solutions – partial or complete - should be e-mailed to parkpage@yinhp.org, submitted in person to Rabbi Teitelman, or sent by regular mail to him at 76-48 265th Street, New Hyde Park, NY 11040. (It is acceptable, especially for those submitting by e-mail, to simply number one's answers rather than write them into the puzzle grid.) Solutions are due by Wednesday, November 7th, with the winner to be announced at the Siyum Tanakh – Bible Completion Celebration on Saturday night, November 10th. An honorable mention of all substantive submissions will be published in a future issue of *The Park Page*. Good Luck!