



YHSA NEWSLETTER

By the Students For our Community

SEPTEMBER 2020 • ELUL 5781

Sukkos Message

Sukkos is a "zeicher l'yetzias Mitzrayim", a remembrance of our leaving Egypt, so why is it that Sukkos is celebrated in this time of year, as opposed to in Nissan, when we were actually taken out of Egypt?

It is known that the mitzvah of sukkah is celebrating the clouds that surrounded and protected us on our journey through the desert, like a sukkah. The Vilna Gaon, Rabbi Eliyahu Kramer zt"l (1720-1797) explains that these clouds disappeared when the Jewish people did the sin of the golden calf and only returned on 15th of Tishrei when they began to build the Mishkan. This date corresponds to Sukkos.

Why are we celebrating the clouds the second time around? There is a story in the Gemara (Chagiga 15a), Rabbi Meir went to Acher in the outskirts of the city to meet him. Upon arrival Acher asked him What do you say is the meaning of the verse, 'Gold and glass cannot equal it (Iyov 28:17)? R. Meir answered, 'These are the words of the Torah which are as difficult to acquire as vessels of gold and glass.' He said to him, 'Not so did your teacher Akiva explain it; but his interpretation was: as vessels of gold and glass can be repaired if broken, so can a disciple of the Sages recover his learning if he has lost it.

I've heard a special thing about glass that when broken and then rebuilt it is considered more beautiful than it was originally. It is fitting to celebrate the return of the Clouds of Glory even more than the original clouds. Passing through Yom Kippur and entering Sukkos, we are like the broken glass, and through teshuva have been rebuilt even more beautifully than ever.

By Shauly F.

Ask the Schacha Rav

Dear Schacha Rav, Shlita

I am a 90 year old man and (k'nayna hara) I have two grandchildren that are both ten years old. I pay them \$5 dollars an hour to build my sukkah each year (a great bargain if you ask me!) but they just can't pick up the palm leaves from the palm tree. I was wondering if I could use the easy (and inexpensive) home depot fencing mats? It seems like I keep hearing different opinions each year...

Sincerely,

Alter Yid

My Dear Alter Yid,

Fortunately, I was actually the one who paskened this halacha on the crc website - so I can tell you all about it! Here is the story. The simple answer is YES! you can use them...BUT were are concerned about maimid (supporting the schach by the metal or other such materials) The metal threadings on the schach might be supporting itself! Therefore, you MUST turn them the opposite way of the wooden support beam so they are supported even without the metal. Now, don't worry I'm not just going to leave it at that! You see, when I first paskened this halacha, people were were calling me up and telling that the schach was breaking and was falling apart causing more sun then shade! So...if you want to use them you need to add multiple layers of mats or you can add palm on top. I hope this will make the job easier for your precious aineklach!

Schacha Rav AKA Shimon E.



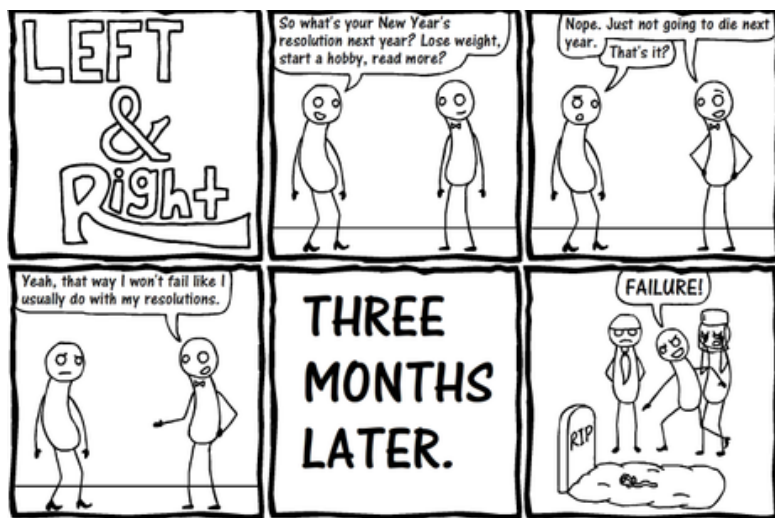
As small as a Needle; A Teshuva Lesson

The Shulchan Aruch states that one needs to blow the shofar from the narrow side and not from the wide side. If one does blow from the wide, the blow is defective. This raises the question, if one goes through such an effort to blow from the wide end, why is the blow defective?

The Rambam says that the Shofar inspires Jews to do Teshuva. The Midrash Rabah writes in regards to Teshuva, פתחו לי פתחו של מחט ואני אפתח לכם פתחים שתהיו עגלות נכנסות – “Make a small opening like that of the head of a needle, and I will open for you an opening through which caravans can enter.”

The 2 openings of the Shofar represent the Jew’s miniscule effort to do Teshuva and the ginormous opening Hashem makes. One might be hesitant to do Teshuva thinking it is too difficult, when in fact all one needs to do is make a “small opening”, i.e. make an effort and Hashem will make a “big opening” i.e. help you tremendously. Blowing through the wide end is a metaphor to those who think that doing Teshuvah is extremely difficult and even if one puts in much effort, he won’t accomplish much. When we blow from the narrow end we are conveying that all one needs to do is make a “small opening” and Hashem will make an enormous one.

Yitz Z and Elan N :D



by
Sammy G. and Alvin G.

Mussar Update:

“During the month of Elul we have been learning the Orchos Chaim L'Rosh. It's split into 6 parts so we actually finish the whole thing weekly! Now that this is the third time we finished it it feels like the lessons have really sunk in.”

By Shmuel Y.



We tend to think we always fail our resolutions... THINK SMART! You CAN beat the system this year.



WOODSHOP: BUILDING YESHIVA'S SUKKAH

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A word from our Corporate Sponsor: Mitzvah of Tefilla

Machzor Challenge

Keep your finger on the place this yom tov the entire davening!

HIDDEN LETTERS PUZZLES

CAN YOU FIND THE HIDDEN O?

Glimpse into the Future

by A.F.

It's 2040 and the world is a different place from 20 years ago. People stand just 2 feet apart, masks have gone the way of the fanny pack, they are still available but only from overpriced luxury brands but no one uses them, and the world is still suffering from an extreme shortage of toilet paper. All of this is child's play compared to the craziest things going on, the emotional meltdowns.

Young adults ages 18-20 are not in a healthy emotional state. They are unnaturally obedient and good. For the first time ever, students have been going through high school wishing the days were longer, and refusing to stay up late for reasons other than studying. Colleges who had been accommodating students of a much different nature for over 100 years have mandated that the incoming class go through a year of therapy to normalize them and to find the root of the problem.

The lead therapist at U.C. not for Covid L.A. explains, "when a baby sees their parents face they develop confidence for their teenage years. When the parents face is not visible or is concealed by a piece of fabric, for example during the pandemic of 2020, the child does not develop this confidence and will remain meek and obedient, doing whatever they are told."

The greatest concern is the parents of these teens who have had emotional meltdowns. The utter lack of stress was just too much for them. Parents had anticipated so much anxiety throughout their children's journey through high school that they felt they had no choice but to imitate the behavior they had expected for years. There is now widespread acceptance of such behavior, and parents are acting out like rebellious teenagers and rising up against society for not allowing them to have fun as young adults. "we deserve justice!" says Greta Thunberg, a leader of this movement, "Now that the world hasn't ended I need another thing to fight for." 33-35 year old adults have been caught attempting to get fake id's that say they are 14 and speeding around, hoping to get pulled over and show the cops their identification, proving the fact that they are not old enough to drive.

2040 is crazier than ever.



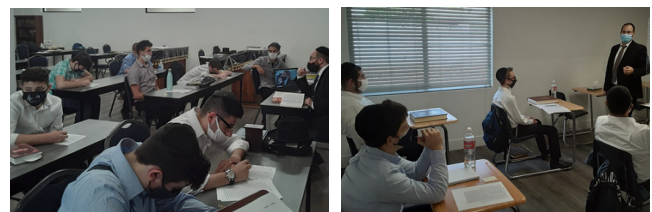
VOLLEYBALL



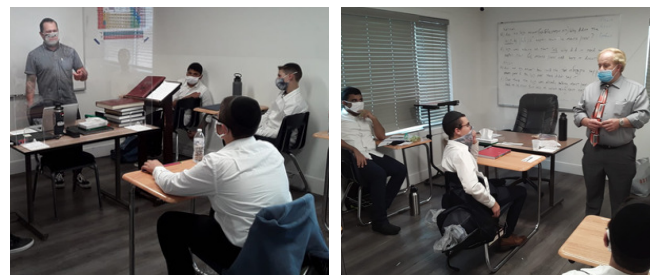
KEEPING UP A GREAT ATTITUDE!



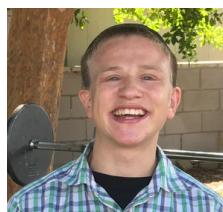
CELEBRATING SHACHARIS ATTENDANCE!



LIMUDEI KODESH



GENERAL STUDIES



COVID Interview with Joshua Kikirov:

Josh, How did you feel transitioning from home to yeshiva since Covid?

I feel my time being used more productive than from during the Covid lockdown.

What did you do during Covid and what did you learn?

I learned to appreciate how important it is to have a schedule.

During the lockdown, which rabbi in history would you want to be with and why?

Moshe Rabbeinu! He spoke to Hashem directly. We could finally know what we are doing wrong - to fix it.

Covid-19 Humor*

Hey did you hear? Hand sanitizers are 70% alcohol. Make sure you save some for next Purim!!!



I mastered the fake smile with the mask . . . A little tip: it's all about your eyes.

I Used to go to shul, but now there is no kiddush . . . #Covid-19

*If you are not satisfied with these jokes, sorry ... Covid happened, and we lost our **sense** of humor

By Shimon E. & Moshe L.

COVID Interview with Yaakov Almoslino:

Yaakov, How did you feel transitioning from home to yeshiva since Covid?

I feel a lot less stressed out getting back into my normal routine!

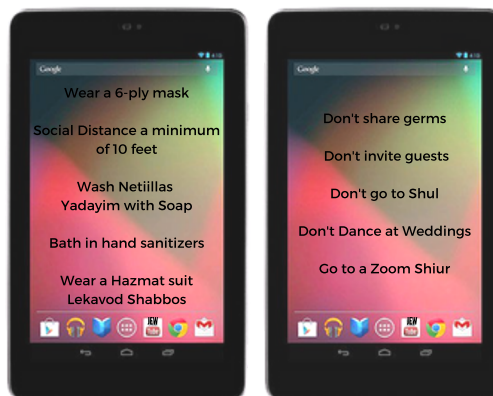
What did you do during Covid and what did you learn?

I was able to spend more time with my family in a way that I would not have otherwise. I also learned that "rolling with the punches" is very important.

During the lockdown, which rabbi in history would you want to be with and why?

Rav Moshe Feinstein. He seemed to have a simple way of dealing with difficult problems.

The 2 Tablets of 2020



By Daniel G.

*"The Yeshiva boys are great.
They did a terrific job."
- M.R.*



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Bikur Cholim

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