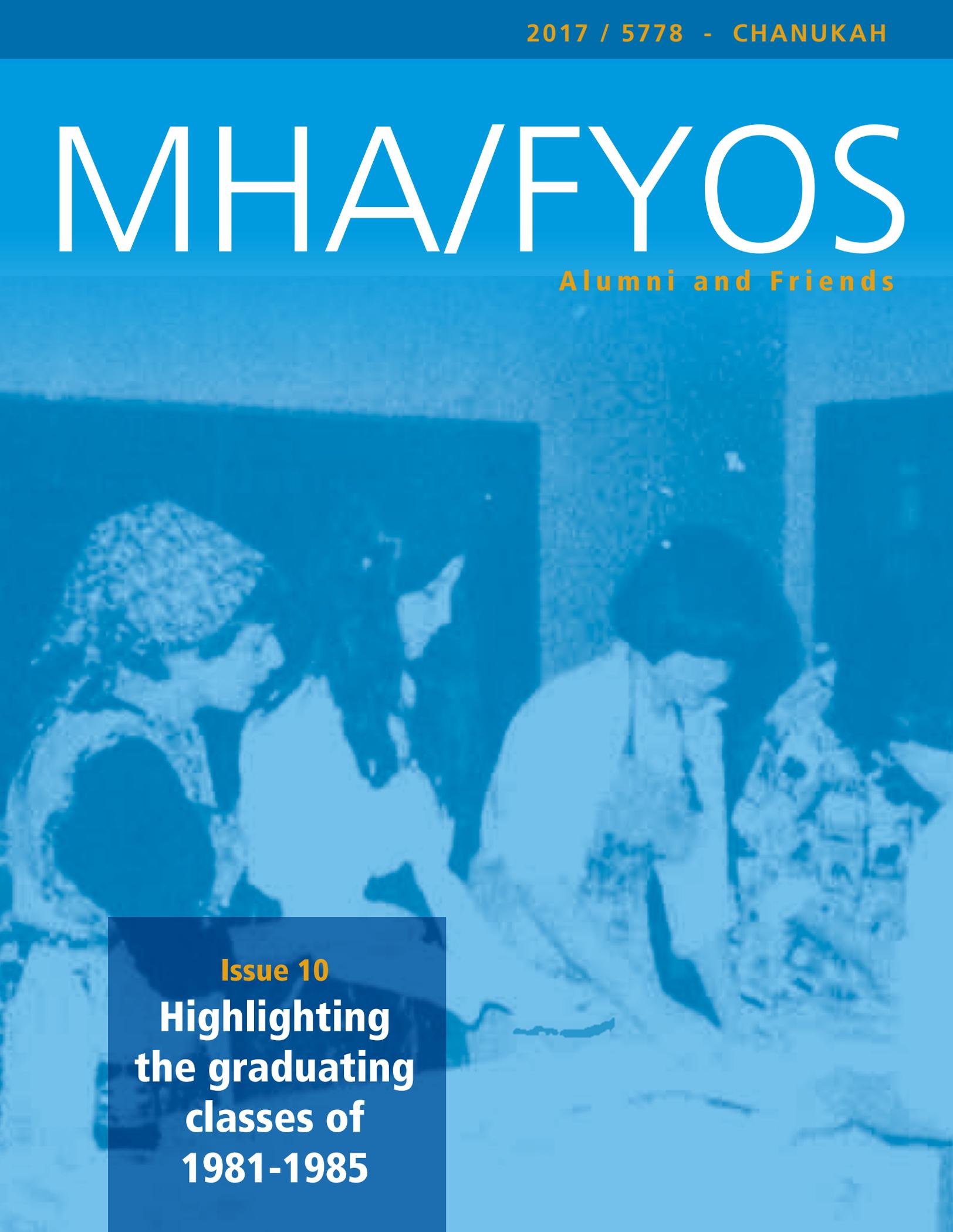


# MHA/FYOS

Alumni and Friends



**Issue 10**  
**Highlighting**  
**the graduating**  
**classes of**  
**1981-1985**

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This newsletter is dedicated  
in loving memory of

## Kimberly (Kimmie Barger) Wilkes (YOS '84)

May her memory be a blessing.

## MISSED AN ISSUE? ARCHIVES

Click on each link to enjoy past issues!

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**Issue 8, Pesach 2017**

**Issue 9, Rosh Hashanah 2017**

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Feinstone Yeshiva of the South

**COVER PHOTO:** Mrs. Noreen Freiden (left), former president of the PTA, guides **Michelle (Shapiro) Bardos** (MHA '79) and daughter **Melissa (Freiden) Friedman** (MHA '79, YOS '83) in the preparation of *sufganiot*, donuts traditionally eaten on Chanukah.



## MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

Joanne Kahane, alumni committee chair

# 3

Dear MHA/FYOS alumni,

With this issue of the MHA/FYOS alumni



newsletter, we reach two significant milestones: Our archive now numbers in the double digits, and we've completed three years of publication! Our very [first issue](#) was sent out for Cha-

nukah in 2014.

This newsletter was an experiment. We had no idea how it would be received and whether alumni would be interested in reading it, much less take the time to participate by submitting questionnaires, photos, memories and more. Our concerns were unwarranted; from the very first issue, the response has been overwhelming.

When I was in Israel this past summer, I met an alumnus of our school for the first time. As soon as I said my name, he recognized it from these pages and said, "I love the alumni newsletters; please keep them coming!" Editor **Amara Levine-Reich** (MHA '94, FYOS '97) and I are proud of what this project has

evolved into. It is a labor of love for us both, and we volunteer with joy.

We express our gratitude to everyone who has played a role in getting us to this point. We especially appreciate your ongoing assistance in locating "missing" alumni. Our mailing list grows a little with each issue. So, as we celebrate our newsletter's third birthday, we look forward to continued support from alumni like you in keeping the publication interesting and relevant.

In response to the article from [Issue No. 9](#) ("Capital improvements continue with complete overhaul of *beis midrash*," page 20), we have received numerous inquiries from alumni interested in dedicating *seforim* (holy books) in the new *beis midrash* (Torah study hall). If you have experience with construction or remodeling, this next statement will not come as a surprise: the renovation project is running a bit behind schedule. The school is awaiting the delivery of custom-made furniture installations (such as the *aron* to house the Torah scrolls and the *bima* platform, among others), and the craftsmanship is taking longer than anticipated. We are hopeful for completion by March 1, so the dedication ceremony will

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## MESSAGE TO ALUMNI

Joanne Kahane, alumni committee chair

take place sometime after that. Our goal is to include information about *seforim* dedication opportunities in our Pesach issue (No. 11).

Thank you to all who have expressed interest in getting involved.

We hope to see many of you over Martin Luther King Weekend in January 2018 for the annual alumni basketball game (see page 18 of this issue for details). Everyone is welcome to attend, and all graduates of our boys' high school are invited to play on the alumni team. (There has been some confusion in previous years about how one gets on the alumni team. Personal invitations are not extended; you just need to express interest, reserve your spot on the team, and be present on game day!) If you would like to play in the alumni game, please

email [Coach James Nokes](mailto:Coach James Nokes), the school's athletics director. The alumni game is a wonderful occasion for reconnecting with friends old

and new, so please join us, either as a player or a cheering spectator.

During this Festival of Lights, may the small but significant light that radiates from our Southern city continue to be the *shamash* that lights the path of Torah and *avodah* (service) for all those who come out of our school and community carrying

its glowing torch.

*Chag Sameach* – wishing you a joyous holiday!

**Joanne Kahane**

*Alumni Committee Chair*

[joannekahane111@gmail.com](mailto:joannekahane111@gmail.com)

**We look forward to continued support from alumni in keeping the publication interesting and relevant.**



My fellow alumni,

Benjamin Franklin is quoted as saying, "Without continual growth and progress, such



words as improvement, achievement and success have no meaning."

The hallmark of any successful organization is its dedication to improvement, and we at the MHA/FYOS are no

different. We have a long and storied history with many successes to date. We might even be justified in relying on our past successes to shape our future. However, that is not who we are. We are an organization that understands that the past is but a tool to learn from, and our ability to constantly improve while holding true to our mission is what truly makes us great.

We have much to be proud of with regard to the physical improvements made to our campus, including our newly renovated *beis midrash* (Torah study hall), gym and front offices. (Photos of those enhancements are featured in the [ninth](#), [sixth](#) and [fourth](#) issues of this publication, respectively.) We have made significant improvements to our educational offerings. We have hired administrators who are dedicated to working with parents on maximizing each child's individual potential. We have brought on teachers with the experience and credentials desired by other distinguished local schools. We have invested in teacher and

staff development to ensure our faculty and administration are up to date on current and cutting-edge educational methods. We have been focused on public relations, social media exposure and parent engagement and have every intention to continue doing so.

As we approach the holiday of Chanukah, we find a similar theme play out in our lighting of the menorah. There is a famous *halachic* debate: On the first night of Chanukah, should we light one candle and increase by one each subsequent night, or start with eight lights and decrease by one each night? In practice, we follow the opinion that calls for increasing by one light each night. Our Sages teach that one rationale for increasing by one light each night is that we "ascend in holiness and not descend." The added light each night reminds us to continually improve and increase our spiritual light, as that is the highest level of performance.

With all the notable improvements we've made, the MHA/FYOS may not look like the same school you remember. However, our underlying mission has not changed, and our product remains just as impressive.

Wishing you all a wonderful and meaningful Chanukah,

**David Katz (MHA '88)**

*President, MHA/FYOS Board of Trustees*

[dkatz@terminix.com](mailto:dkatz@terminix.com)

# 6

## D'VAR TORAH

Rabbi Simcha Mirvis (MHA '85)

Chanukah is known as the “Festival of Lights.” Yet, the Hebrew word “*chanukah*” actually means dedication, referring to the dedication of the Temple. That same Hebrew root, “ח-נ-כ” is also the root of the word *chinuch*, which means education. So, Chanukah is both the Festival of Lights as well as the holiday of education. What is the connection between the lights of the menorah and education?

The answer lies in the beginning of *Parshat B'Ha'alotcha*, the Torah portion that we read on the last day of Chanukah. Instead of saying the *kohen* (priest) would “light” the menorah, the Torah says “*b'ha'alotcha*” – when you “elevate” the light. The famous biblical commentator Rashi derives from here, “שתהא שלהבת עולה מאליה” – the *kohen* would hold the *shamash* (used to kindle the other lights) against the wick of each light until the wick caught fire and the flame arose on its own.

Noted 19th-century scholar Rabbi Shimshon Rafael Hirsch said that this formula is the recipe for *chinuch* throughout the generations. It is not the goal of a teacher or parent to constantly sustain our children’s light and illumination so that they become dependent on our holding the *shamash* to them. If so, their flame would only be kindled as long as our *shamash* is near them; it would cease to burn if our flame was no longer in direct contact with them.

Rather, the goal of teachers is to make themselves superfluous. Then, the light arises and is kindled on its own. This is the goal of *chinuch* – to raise children who, after receiving the light from the *shamash*, develop their own path and connection with Hashem and the Torah.

I feel this to be true of my roots at the MHA, where, for more than 11 years, the light of the Torah shone toward me, thanks to wonderful teachers who used their *shamash* to ignite a spark. Then, over the years, as I left Memphis and went to Israel, I used the light given to me by my parents and teachers until my own candle was kindled. Now, I use that candle to kindle the lights of my students and my family.

Wishing you all a happy and light-filled Chanukah!

**Rabbi Simcha Mirvis** (MHA '85) is a noted lecturer and mentor devoted to engaging and inspiring a diverse range of people in Israel and abroad. He serves as founding director of the [Tsfat Legacy Center](#), a resource and library dedicated to revealing the spiritual treasures of the holy city of Safed to Jews around the world. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Bar Ilan University, an MBA from Boston University and rabbinic ordination from the Chief Rabbinate of Israel. He lives with his wife Elisheva and their eight children in the Old City of Tsfat.



Victor Shine (MHA '79, YOS '83)

The holiday of Chanukah commemorates the victory of the tiny band of Maccabees over the more powerful Greek army. At stake was our freedom to live as commanded by Hashem in His Torah. Our way of life was threatened by those who wished to compel us to become secular. They sought to replace learning Torah with learning in their universities and living a hedonistic life.

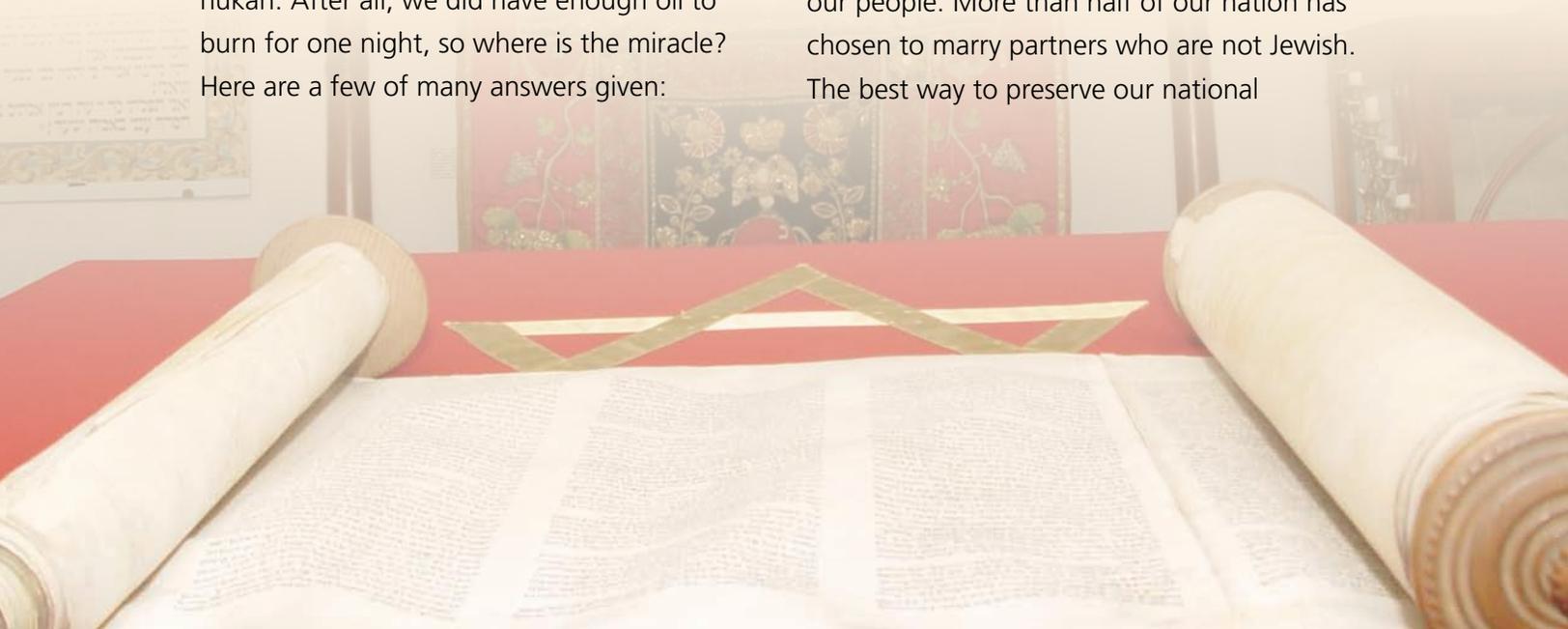
After winning the battle, we tried to re-establish the Holy Temple and its service, including the lighting of the menorah. The holy menorah required ritually pure (*tahor*) oil, and only one flask was found that had the intact seal of the *kohen gadol* (high priest). The flask contained enough oil to burn for only one night, and it would take eight days to procure new *tahor* oil. The oil in that single flask burned for eight nights instead of one, and that was a miracle we celebrate to this day.

The *Bais Yosef* (OC:670), Rabbi Joseph Karo's commentary on the *Tur*, questions precisely what we celebrate the very first night of Chanukah. After all, we did have enough oil to burn for one night, so where is the miracle? Here are a few of many answers given:

- Only one-eighth of the amount of oil usually needed per night was poured into the menorah, yet it lasted the entire night—including the first.
- Alternatively, the entire contents of the flask were emptied into the menorah, yet the flask remained full.
- Or, the flask was emptied into the menorah, yet it was not depleted at all by the next day.

Many more answers are given that go beyond the scope of this article. I most prefer the answer of the *Pri Chadash* (R. Hezekiah da Silva of 17th century Tuscany), which highlights the message I hope to convey: Winning the war against overwhelming odds was itself a miracle, one which we specifically celebrate on the first night.

The word *chanukah* means dedication. What does Chanukah mean to those of us living during the final *galut* (exile), in the moments before the final redemption? There is a continuing battle for the hearts and minds of our people. More than half of our nation has chosen to marry partners who are not Jewish. The best way to preserve our national



# 8

## D'VAR TORAH

**Victor Shine** (MHA '79, YOS '83)

identity is by investing in Jewish education. We must recognize and thank those who uproot their families to move to cities that are not yet centers of Torah. Dedicating their lives to spreading Torah is the greatest possible way to perpetuate the victory of the Maccabees over the secular Greeks.

When I was five years old, my family returned to live in Memphis. The year was 1970, two years after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The city had just begun to bus in children from different neighborhoods in order to racially integrate the public schools. It was a time of violence and controversy. My parents therefore chose to enroll me at the Memphis Hebrew Academy, even though we were not (yet) religious. One of the dedicated teachers I met there was Rabbi Mordechai “Lenny” Yor-mark, z”l. (He always insisted on being called “Mr. Yormark.”) His teaching went far beyond the classroom. He also ran an *oneg Shabbos* program at the Baron Hirsch East, when it was still based in a trailer on Yates. Sometimes my brother **Mark** (MHA '82) and I were the only ones who came, but he still made certain that we enjoyed ourselves.

I remember that Rabbi Yormark played the violin, as did I. He never, ever lost his temper, even in a room full of rambunctious seventh graders. He set a wonderful example for how we should conduct ourselves—to be refined and humble. I fondly recall his daily glass of tea, which he made with an immersion heater. He drank it as he taught us the intricacies of Hebrew *dikduk* (grammar) and language.

His entire family made us feel accepted and valued, and I am fortunate to keep in touch with some of the Yormarks to this day.

I imagine it might have been easier to live in Brooklyn, New York, surrounded by plenty of Jewish institutions. But Rabbi Mordechai and Rebbetzin Miriam Yormark, of blessed memory, dedicated themselves to bringing Jewish education where it was truly needed. Everyone who passed through the doors of the Hebrew Academy owes a debt of gratitude to all the pioneers who put Memphis on the Jewish map and made it possible to learn Torah in Tennessee. Let’s think of them on the first night of Chanukah, when we celebrate the eternal victory of Torah over hedonism.

**Victor J. Shine** (MHA '79, YOS '83) lives in Brooklyn, New York, with his wife, Yona, and his father, Norman. The Shines have four children and three grandchildren. He is the CEO of the luxury apparel brand Yona New York, which promotes inclusive-sized fashion. He also serves as *gabbai rishon* (first sexton) of Flatbush’s Congregation Shaare Zion and is a member of Brooklyn Community Board 15, the Flatbush Jewish Community Coalition and the Jewish Community Council of Marine Park.



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'83

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR AND ALUMNI CHAIR

Community Responses

# 9

*We welcome your feedback on the alumni newsletter at [alumni@mhafyos.org](mailto:alumni@mhafyos.org). Here are some of the responses we received to Issue No. 9.*

The job you do pulling this all together for the newsletter is really amazing! It's a big undertaking—so many people, years and memories! The "Have Torah, Will Travel" piece in the last issue was very cute. *Kol ha'kavod* [well done] to you!

**-Chana (Anet Yaffe) Silver**

*MHA '76, YOS '80*

It was so wonderful to read about one of my favorite teachers, Mr. Thomas Johnson, in the last issue. I had him for Civics in ninth grade and for English grammar and literature in ninth through twelfth grades. He was a fun teacher! He led class discussions whenever possible and taught us a lot about American politics along with our English lessons. In addition to the classroom instruction, he coached each student individually through writing assignments. He was so warm and encouraging, and I really learned a lot from him.

Whenever I hear the phrase "good teachers teach subjects, great teachers teach students," I think of Mr. Johnson, along with Dr. Jerry and Mrs. Shelley Kutliroff and Rabbi Efraim

Greenblatt, z'l. I am so grateful to have had them all as my teachers.

**-Basya (Goldfein) Israel**

*MHA '87, YOS '91*

Thomas and I wanted to let you know what a nice job you did with our interview in the last issue. You spliced and contexted us into a smooth and coherent whole. It's taken us 36 years to get a similar result! Thank you for all your good work on the alumni magazine.

**-Mrs. Abby Johnson,**

*former MHA/FYOS faculty member*

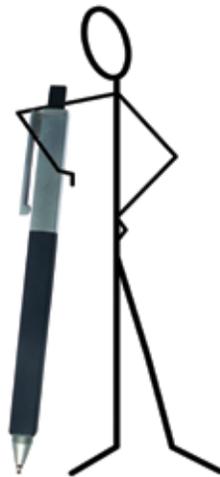
You continue to do a fabulous job on the alumni newsletter! Not to take anything away from your marvelous work, but I wanted to politely correct one minor detail from the last issue. On page 4, you referenced the burial of old *seforim* [holy books] from the school's *beis midrash* at the Beth El Emeth Cemetery; after my parents' death 13 years ago, the cemetery was dedicated in their memory and is now known as the Zalowitz Beth El Emeth Cemetery. My mother, Jeanette Zalowitz, of blessed memory, was a past president of the MHA Ladies Auxiliary.

**-Stuart Zalowitz, father of**

**Daniel Zalowitz (FYOS '94) and**

**Stacy (Zalowitz) Sanderson (MHA '88)**

*Note from the editor and chair: We always strive for accuracy and regret the omission. Our thanks to Stuart for the correction.*



# 10

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR AND ALUMNI CHAIR

### Community Responses

On behalf of several friends and fellow alumni, I wish to correct a mistake that appeared in the last edition. A trivia question from the eighth issue asked when was the first time a Yeshiva basketball team won a championship in the Jewish Community Center (JCC) league. The answers in the ninth issue said it was in 1975, when the Yeshiva B team won the B league. That is incorrect; during my junior year in 1973, I helped captain our team to the championship in the A league.

We were coached that year by the extraordinary and legendary Freddie Marton. I don't remember all the players on that team, but I know it included **Joel Katz** (MHA '69), **Steve Graber** (MHA '70, YOS '74), **Larry Graber** (MHA '71, YOS '75), **Mark Wender** (MHA '70, YOS '74), **Yitzchok Mitnick** (YOS '73) and Eli Levin. We had to beat a very tough Peres AZA team to win the title. To this day, Freddie often reminds me about that championship season and reminisces about how great the memories are for him. Shortly thereafter, he left to attend medical school in Italy.

**-Ira Thomas**  
MHA '70, YOS '74

*Note from the editor and chair: We sincerely regret the error and appreciate Ira setting the record straight.*

I noticed you listed **Kimberly Barger** (YOS '84) among the alumni you have been unable to contact. I regret to share the news that Kimmie was hospitalized due to complications

from illness and passed away unexpectedly in 2015. Prior to her passing, she was happily married to David Wilkes. Their daughter Rachel graduated from the David Posnack Jewish Day School in Davie, Florida, in 2016. Rachel is presently in seminary in Beit Shemesh, Israel, and will attend Stern College for Women in fall 2018.

Kimmie was a lovely person who was full of life and exuded southern charm and warmth all the days she graced this earth.

**-Julia (Barron) Steiner**  
YOS '83

Thanks so much for your efforts on the newsletter. I find it very enjoyable! I was pleased to learn that the *yeshiva beis midrash* has been renovated and that *seforim* [book] dedication opportunities will be available. It would be a *zechus* [merit] that I could do in memory of my parents [Rabbi Yaacov and Mrs. Sharon Goldfein, z'"]. Thank you.

**-Rochel (Goldfein) Rosenberg**  
MHA '83

*Note from the editor and chair: We are awaiting information from the MHA/FYOS board of trustees regarding the dedication of the new beis midrash and its seforim; see the message from Joanne Kahane on page 3 of this issue. We thank our alumni for your interest and will let everyone know as soon as details on the dedication opportunities are available.*





## Births: Mazel Tov to...

Debbie and **Hugh Freiden** (MHA '72, YOS '76) of Memphis on the birth of two granddaughters in one week! Adam and **Meirah (Freiden) Weiss** (MHA '04, FYOS '08) of Miami Beach, Florida, welcomed daughter Sarit Yaffa on Nov. 12. Mazel tov also to big brother Zev Michael. On Nov. 18, Adam and **Ariella (Freiden) Schwartz** (MHA '01, FYOS '05) of Forest Hills, New York, welcomed baby girl Amalia, who joins big brother Liam.

Rabbi Yisroel and **Julie (Brown) Roll** (MHA '75, YOS '79) of Baltimore, Maryland, on the Oct. 26 birth of grandson Asher Simcha to Avromi and Rivka (Roll) Teitelbaum of Jerusalem. Mazel tov to big sisters Leah Zahava and Sara Nechama.

**Scott** (FYOS '99) and **Sarah (Richstone) Saltzman** (FYOS '00) of Denver, Colorado, on the Sept. 25 arrival of daughter Daisy. Mazel tov also to big brother Max.

Leah and **Josh Graber** (MHA '99, FYOS '03) of Chicago on

the Oct. 31 birth of their son, Solomon "Solly" Miles/Shalom Raphael. Mazel tov also to grandparents Pammy and **Glenn Graber** (MHA '74, YOS '78) of Woodmere, New York, and big sisters Adella and Aviva.

Scott and **Miriam (Samborg) Levson** (MHA '04) of Silver Spring, Maryland, on the Oct. 16 birth of son Eli Yosef. Mazel tov also to big sister Shoshana.

## Engagements/ Weddings: Mazel Tov to...

Rabbi Yosef and **Sorah (Goldfein) Goldstein** (MHA '85) of Lakewood, New Jersey, on their son Chaim's Nov. 2 marriage to Raizel Hirschman. The wedding took place in Lakewood, also where the couple is residing.

**Josh Baum** (MHA '02, FYOS '06), son of **Lee** (MHA '74) and **Shelby (Winestone) Baum** (MHA '77) of Memphis, on his engagement to Shelley Kier. The couple is planning a March 4, 2018, wedding in Woodbridge, Connecticut, and will make their home in New York City.

**Chaim Eli Safier** (MHA '02, FYOS '06) on his engagement to Emily Pogrud. They will wed Sept. 2, 2018, in Chicago, where they will also live.

**Yossi Klein** (MHA '08) on his forthcoming marriage to Binie Harlig. They will marry in Florida and plan to make their home in Brooklyn, New York.

**Shifra Ehrenkranz** (MHA '10), daughter of **Bart** (YOS '77) and **Cindy (Cooper) Ehrenkranz** (MHA '76, YOS '80) of Memphis, on her engagement to Yitzchak Barer. The couple will marry in Brooklyn on Jan. 8, 2018, and will live in Jerusalem, Israel.

## Bnei/Bnot Mitzvah: Mazel Tov to...

**Raffie** (FYOS '94) and **Sarah Leah (Stein) Freiden** (MHA '91) of Memphis on the Nov. 5 celebration of their daughter Dena's bat mitzvah. Mazel tov also to grandparents Pam and **Jeffrey Freiden** (YOS '72) and Essie and **Mike Stein** (MHA '68, YOS '72), all of Memphis.

# TRIVIA ANSWERS

FROM  
ISSUE 9

# 1996-2000

Thanks to everyone who sent in responses to the trivia questions featured in our [ninth issue](#).

**Heather Braverman** (MHA '98, FYOS '02) won our last trivia quiz. She will receive her tin of goodies from Ricki's Cookie Corner – owned and operated by **Ricki (Thomas) Krupp** (MHA '66, YOS '70) – in time for Chanukah.

Heather got  
**5 out of 12**  
correct answers.

*Here are the correct answers to the trivia questions from issue No. 9:*

1. What nickname did MSG students give to the dictionary that sat on Mr. Thomas Johnson's desk?

ANSWER: Big Red.

2. What did Mrs. Karin Schmitt bring to school every December as a special treat?

ANSWER: Kosher Christmas cookies.

3. What was Mrs. Karin Schmitt's familiar response to complaints about the air conditioning?

ANSWER: "It's not cold in here; turn it all the way up!"

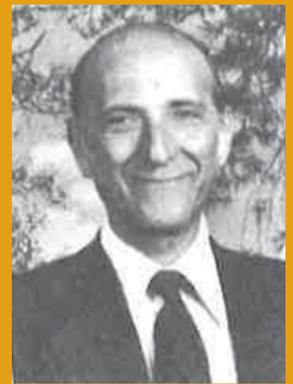
4. During the freshman kidnap of **Yoni Freiden** (MHA '96, FYOS '00) and **Shmuel Bergman** (FYOS '00), which two seniors were in the car with them when they got pulled over by the police for having expired tags? (Bonus question: Who was driving?)

ANSWER: **Chaim Lubin** and **Josh Kahane** (both MHA '93, FYOS '97). Lubin was driving.

5. What special Sunday morning program did the MSG introduce in 1999?  
ANSWER: Mother/Daughter Learning.
6. In what year was the first CYHSB Steak Dinner held?  
ANSWER: 1993.
7. Which school team went undefeated in 2000 and won first place in the city's Park Commission Youth Athletics league?  
ANSWER: The MSG Bruins won the 14-and-under division for basketball.
8. Who directed the school's 1999 production of "The Parent Trap"?  
ANSWER: Rose (Zeitlin) Gold (MHA '95, FYOS '99).
9. Who played the reunited twins in the school's 1999 production of "The Parent Trap"?  
ANSWER: Tali (Bacaner) Levy (MHA '00, FYOS '04) and Jessica (Baum) Sukhodolsky (MHA '99).
10. In what year was the first (and last) "annual" Science Derby held?  
ANSWER: 1998.
11. The dedication of what took place on Nov. 9, 1997?  
ANSWER: The Rose Margolin Beit Midrasha at the MSG.
12. In 1991, the sixth grade ran a campaign encouraging other students to do what?  
ANSWER: Drink milk.

# RABBI MORDECHAI YORMARK :

*Man of many talents and a lasting impact*



Everyone who knew Rabbi Mordechai Yormark, z'l, during the 32 years he served the Memphis Jewish community in various capacities recognized his natural penchant for teaching and connecting with students young and old. It is therefore somewhat surprising that Jewish education was not the career path on which he intended to embark.

A native of Brooklyn, New York, Yormark served in the U.S. Army and earned a bachelor's degree from Yeshiva University and a master's degree at Columbia University. (He received rabbinic ordination later in his life.) In 1949, he married his beloved Miriam. An ardent Zionist, he aspired to move to Israel; his bride suggested that they remain in New York for their first year of marriage. One year turned into more, and the Yormarks built their lives here in the U.S.

He was a gifted violinist and accomplished composer. In his early 20s, Yormark auditioned

for a position in the Boston Symphony Orchestra. When he learned he would have to perform on Shabbat, he declined their offer and pursued other professional avenues. He worked as a sportswriter for several years, and when the magazine for which he wrote

closed down, he joined the educational staff of the National Council of Young Israel.

With a growing family, the Yormarks began exploring opportunities to make a meaningful difference outside the New York metropolitan area. He soon received two job offers: one in Cleveland, and the other in Memphis, as director of youth and education at Baron Hirsch Synagogue (then located on Vollintine in Midtown). Largely sight unseen, the Yormarks took

a chance and relocated to Memphis in the mid-1950s.

Under Rabbi Yormark's direction, the congregation's religious school—designed to enhance the Jewish education of those not



*Rabbi Yormark and his daughter **Judy (Yormark) Mernick** (MHA '75, YOS '79), circa 1987.*

enrolled in a day school—grew to more than 500 students. Additionally, when Baron Hirsch established a satellite campus in East Memphis, Yormark filled in where needed at both locations—as rabbi, *chazzan* (cantor), *gab-bai* (sexton) or *ba'al koreh* (chanter of the Torah portion).

“Though my father was reserved by nature, my mother always told him to bring people home with him from *shul* [synagogue],” said

**Judy (Yormark) Mernick** (MHA '75, YOS '79). “I have nice memories of many ‘strangers’ joining us at our family’s Shabbos table.”

Rabbi Yormark also became heavily involved in the Orthodox Union’s National Conference of Synagogue Youth. He accompanied middle and high schoolers from Memphis to events all across the South and eventually became NCSY’s southern regional director.

On top of these professional demands and his familial obligations to Miriam and their five children—**Joel** (MHA '66), **Elliot** (MHA '68, YOS '71), **Daniel** (MHA '72), Judy and **Lisa** (MHA '79, YOS '83)—Yormark also taught at the MHA for more than 30 years. Generations of students vividly recall his lessons from their elementary school years.

“I was privileged to have Rabbi Yormark [as my teacher] in both second and fourth grades,” said **Rabbi Simcha Mirvis** (MHA '85). “We started learning *chumash* (Bible)

in second grade and *mishna* (Talmud) in fourth grade. He was my gateway to both facets of Torah, the written Torah and the oral Torah.”

Mirvis believes Rabbi Yormark was ahead of his time in embracing experiential teaching

methods. He still remembers his fourth grade class planting *esrog* seeds in clear plastic cups and checking on their progress at the window sill each day.

“When they sprouted, we took them home,” Mirvis said. “My *esrog* tree eventually grew to half my height and lived for many years by the kitchen window of my childhood home. Besides being an amazing connection to the *mitzvah* (as well as a botany lesson), the whole process was symbolic of how teachers plant seeds. What sprouts is something you continue to build on, and everything you become somehow rests on that foundation. Rabbi Yormark offered an amazing combination of content and hands-on learning experiences. He helped us plant, but we had to



Rabbi Yormark reading from the Torah at morning davening, circa 1984.

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## RABBI MORDECHAI YORMARK

Man of many talents and a lasting impact

water, and with a little help from the sun and Hashem, it bore fruit.”

Mirvis and other students recall Rabbi Yormark turning off the lights and whispering that he was about to share with the class the secrets of the Torah. “I felt very important and it made me pay attention to his stories about Rashi and Rambam,” said **Ellen (Wolff) Silverman** (MHA '85, YOS '89). “It made a strong impression on me. Rabbi Yormark always had a warm smile on his face.”

Yormark developed a curriculum to teach students at the MHA about the land of Israel, which he held so dear. He conveyed the history, laws and geography in a way that only someone with such deep feelings for Israel could. “He instilled in us a true love for *Eretz Yisrael*,” said **Jennifer (Whitman) Lehrfield** (MHA '77, YOS '81). “Rabbi Yormark was the perfect example of an *ish emes* [man of truth]. He embodied and emulated the *middos* [traits] of a true *anav* [humble man].”

Rabbi Yormark is best known for teaching by example. “I remember him as a kind and sweet man who always had an incredible gentleness to him and the way he approached students,” said **Jonathan Epstein** (MHA '82, YOS '86). According to **Rabbi Daniel Whitman** (MHA '82), “Rabbi Yormark was an exceptional person and an inspiring teacher. The priceless loyalty to *Yiddishkeit* [Judaism] wasn't something I remember him discussing, but rather, something I remember him living.”

Rabbi Yormark retired from his duties at Baron Hirsch and the MHA shortly before his passing in 1988. The MHA dedicated a newspaper ad—drafted by family friend and community leader Irby Cooper, z'l, and then-general studies principal Dr. Jerry Kutliroff—in his memory:

He will be missed, this expressive man who spoke quietly but strongly. He will be missed, this humble man who walked in dignity but with great professionalism. He will be missed, this simple man who possessed such complex intricate thoughts and ideas; this showed clearly. He will be missed, this man of rectitude, who emerged, however quietly, as a leader.

And so does the Academy/Yeshiva lose one of its greats—a teacher of 30 years' service, a teacher beloved by students, a teacher whose death brought an outpouring of feeling and expression from students present and past.

“It was during the week of *shiva* [mourning] that we truly began to understand how many lives our father had impacted and changed,” Mernick said. “The letters and stories came pouring in. We were overwhelmed with a sense of pride and longing.”

The Yormarks' five children—all of whom now have children and grandchildren of their own—are continuing their parents' legacy of Jewish education. Joel teaches in South

## RABBI MORDECHAI YORMARK

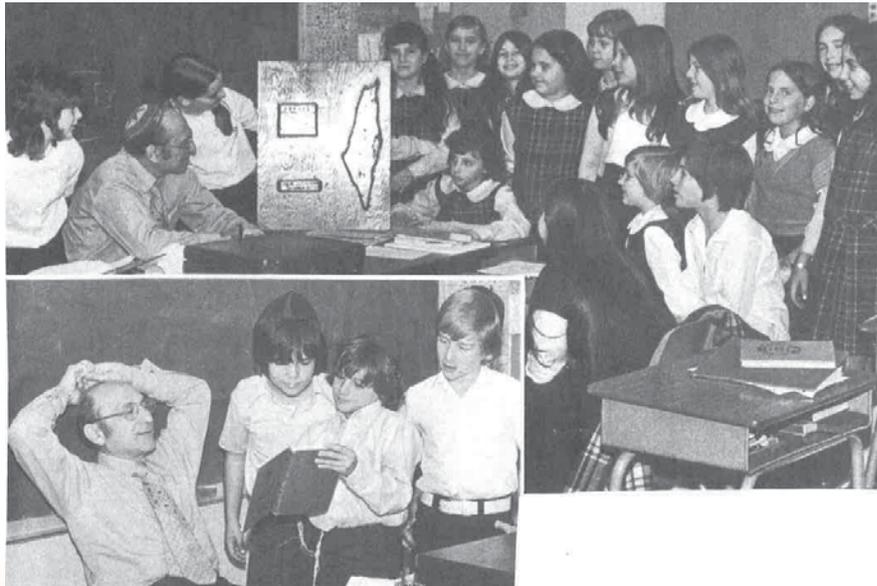
Man of many talents and a lasting impact

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Bend, Indiana. Elliot (who now goes by the name Eliyahu) and Daniel are school rabbis in Brooklyn. Judy works as an executive assistant at a day school in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, and is involved with the [Jewish Women's Renaissance Project](#). Lisa and her husband, Rabbi Nosson Neuman, run a girls' school in Far Rockaway, New York, called Bais Yaakov

Ateres Miriam—named after her mother, Mrs. Miriam Yormark, z'/.

“Though we have all left Memphis, our memories travel with us wherever we go,” Mernick said. “To this day, my siblings and I bump into people who share stories of how much they learned from our father.”



*Rabbi Yormark in full teaching mode, instructing the six grade girls (top right) and fifth and six grade boys (bottom left) in 1974.*

# CHEERING FOR MHA/FYOS ATHLETICS

By Coach James Nokes, MHA/FYOS athletic director

In athletics, change is inevitable. Student athletes graduate, underclassmen mature into juniors and seniors, conference alignments change, fields undergo renovations, and new coaches are hired. Even uniform styles and colors change from year to year. All of these changes took place in the MHA/FYOS Athletics Department during the off-season, and the early returns have been stunning.

One of our program goals for the coming year is for alumni and school supporters around the world to be able to tune into the action of their alma mater and follow their relatives and friends currently participating in MHA/FYOS athletics. We are working toward broadcasting every athletic event on the [Coach Nokes/MHA Athletics Facebook page](#). Recorded football and cross country events are already archived there, and we will share live basketball broadcasts on the page, too; be sure to follow us on Facebook!

We are hopeful that alumni will return to the MHA/FYOS to continue the tradition of the Irby and Bernice Cooper Alumni Basketball Game on Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018, at 8 p.m. We're expecting another raucous, sold-out crowd in our beautifully renovated gym. If you can't be there in person, please tune in on Facebook. Please contact me ([james.nokes@mhafyos.org](mailto:james.nokes@mhafyos.org)) or by phone at the school office, 901-682-2400) if you are interested in playing in or attending the game, or to support the program by purchasing an alumni jersey.

Perhaps our most ambitious plan for the athletics program is the establishment of a

"Booster Club." This is an opportunity for individuals, small businesses and corporations to support the ever-growing needs of our Athletics Department and help us bolster the visibility of the Macs in the community.

Nearly every other school we compete against has fans decked out in team gear; having our own Booster Club will enable us to offer MHA Athletics gear to our die-hard fans, as well. We've launched our efforts with the creation of #GOMACCABEES window decals. (How timely for Chanukah!) Coming soon are

"Property of MHA Football" and "Basketball" T-shirts. We will gladly ship decals and shirts outside of Memphis; just [email me](#) your order (and shirt size) so you can proudly represent our school in your community.



Coach James Nokes

Our football and baseball fields offer ample space for advertising, as does our basketball court. This winter, we will begin offering a range of opportunities for advertising. Please [contact me](#) if you or someone you know is interested in promoting their business and supporting our teams.

We welcome and appreciate enthusiastic support from our fans near and far. Whether you're out of town, out of state, or out of the country, the MHA/FYOS Athletics Department will do all we can to bring you as much live-streaming basketball action as possible. And of course, if you are in town, please stop in for a game and help us cheer our Macs to victory!

# 1981-1985

## TRIVIA

Regardless of when you graduated, have some fun with these trivia questions. Send your answers to [joannekahane111@gmail.com](mailto:joannekahane111@gmail.com). The person who gets the most answers correct (or in the case of a tie, the earliest respondent) will win a tin of Ricki's Cookies, made by **Ricki (Thomas) Krupp** (MHA '66, YOS '70). Good luck!



1. What did the boys do in the home economics room to annoy their teacher during a late-day class?
2. What did **Mr. Herbie Rosenberg** (MHA '70) place in the gym for students' snacking pleasure?
3. Students used wire hangers to "steal" what from the Kindergarten room on Shabbos mornings?
4. Which general studies' principal led the implementation of cooperative learning and pushed for getting rid of individual classroom desks?
5. What game did the third grade girls especially love to play during recess?
6. Who was the reporter on the Purim broadcasts by Rabbi Yosaif Silverman, z'l?
7. What award did Rabbi Yosaif Silverman, z'l, give to students for memorizing the prayer and Biblical song "*Az Yashir*"?
8. When the student government opened a school supply store, what commodity was their biggest seller?
9. What was Mrs. Phyllis Wahl's favorite poem?

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## TRIVIA

Classes of 1981-1985

10. Who played **Rabbi Nechemiah (Harry) Kibel** (MHA '65, YOS '69), z'l, in the Purim *shpiel* in the early '80s?
11. Who taught the girls' advanced biology class in 1983?
12. What was the theme of the school's 1984 yearbook?
13. Whose laugh could be heard echoing through the halls of the Yeshiva wing?
14. Which teacher refused to reveal his/her middle name?
15. Whose briefcase inevitably fell open, with things flying everywhere?
16. Whose home was rolled in toilet paper?
17. Where did the after-school spade games take place?
18. Who frequently had to knock on the door of the girls' bathroom to get students to class?
19. What was stored in the Yeshiva freezer, giving students an opportunity to "sample" them?
20. What did Mr. Marvin Rubenstein have to remove from the school building because students were using it during class?
21. Who was traumatized by the students in Mrs. Abby Johnson's first English class at the Yeshiva?

22. Reminiscent of TV detective Kojak, which teacher sometimes greeted students with a lollipop in his mouth and a warm “who loves ya, baby?”
23. Who sent students to “take a break” when they were acting up in class?
24. What was so disappointing about the school field trip to the Tasty/Wonder Bread Factory?
25. Which student was kicked out of her ninth grade math class for saying “yes, ma’am” to a new teacher from New York, who thought the student was “sassing her”? (Bonus question: Who was the teacher?)

# WESTERN ROUNDUP

THE 2018 GALA AUCTION

The annual auction has been a mainstay of the MHA/FYOS Parent/Teacher Association (PTA) calendar for many years and continues to be one of its largest fundraisers. The 2018 Western Roundup gala auction and dinner will be held Sunday evening, Jan. 28, in the refurbished MHA/FYOS gymnasium.

“Auction guests are invited to join in on the fun theme of this year’s event by dressing in their best western attire,” said PTA co-president **Stacy (Zalowitz) Sanderson** (MHA ’88). “All Memphis-area alumni are invited to join us for dinner and the auction on Jan. 28, and we look forward to seeing our beautiful gym filled with more than 300 parents and friends of the school.”

To enable alumni and other supporters to participate from afar, the big event will be preceded by an online auction Jan. 14–24. Registrants will have the opportunity to bid via the web on premier prizes like Disney theme park passes, gift cards from national retailers,

kitchen appliances, hotel stays, jewelry, Judaica items, an Amazon Echo voice-controlled device and more. The full auction catalog will be available soon at [mha.schoolauction.net/auction2018](http://mha.schoolauction.net/auction2018). There is also an [MHA Auction Facebook group](#), where event updates are shared regularly.

Proceeds will benefit the school’s scholarship fund, ensuring that the MHA/FYOS can offer an outstanding education, combining general studies excellence with traditional Torah val-

ues, to those in need of tuition assistance.

“The online auction is a great way for alumni near and far to purchase something

they want or need and support their alma mater at the same time,” said event co-chairs Esther Katz and Chana Dina Goldblatt. “You won’t want to miss this opportunity!”

For more information about the 2018 Western Roundup gala auction, call the school office at 901-682-2400 or email the event chairs at [mhaauction@gmail.com](mailto:mhaauction@gmail.com).



# The MHA/YOS Classes of 1981-1985 *Where Are They Now?*

**Jennifer (Whitman) Lehrfield** (MHA '77, YOS '81) lives in North Miami Beach, Florida. Now retired from teaching, she is the mother of six children, four of whom are married.

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She fondly recalls playing kickball on the school playground. Her favorite teachers were Rabbi Mordechai Yormark, z'l, Rabbi Yosaif Silverman, z'l ("Of course, not while I was his student," she teased), Mrs. Joyce Casada, Mrs. H. Krieger and her mother, Mrs. Emily Whitman.

'81

"I would love to come back to Memphis and take a walk down memory lane," Lehrfield said. "I miss everyone and would love to reconnect." Her email address is [jennlehr@mac.com](mailto:jennlehr@mac.com).

**Dawn (Posner) Goldstein** (MHA '77, YOS '81) and her husband, Avi, live in Far Rockaway, New York. They have five children, three of whom are married and one who is engaged, and they are grateful for their growing family. She works as an occupational therapist for children under 5.



"I am grateful to have grown up in Memphis, and attending the MHA was a strong part of it," she said. "Telling people I am from Memphis always opens doors. It's a wonderful legacy that my children appreciate, even though they grew up in New York."

Goldstein has fond memories of school productions, visits from members of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra led by Vincent DeFrank and a school trip to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, where she first

saw a computer. She thinks often about "coloring in Rabbi [Yosaif] Silverman's class and enjoying it—even while pretending we were too old to enjoy it—and listening to his broadcasts before Purim; hearing Benny stories from Rabbi [Efraim] Greenblatt; working on the school newspaper and being allowed to use that machine in the office to print them; and seventh and eighth grade performances. I have wonderful memories of high school, including throwing

77

'81

frisbees down the hall low enough so that Mrs. [Phyllis] Wahl couldn't see them through the window of her office door."

Among her favorite teachers were Rabbi Shraga Herskowitz, **Rabbi Nechemiah (Harry) Kibel** (MHA '65, YOS '69), z'l, Rabbi Mordechai Yormark, z'l, Mrs. Emily Whitman and the late Mr. Jack Baxter.

"My friendships with MHA alumni extend beyond my class," Goldstein said. "It is always a pleasure to catch up with friends when I visit Memphis or, especially, when we make or attend *simchas*. During mourning, it was also a comfort to reconnect with friends who knew my family." She can be reached at [andgoldstein@gmail.com](mailto:andgoldstein@gmail.com).

**Eli Fink** (YOS '81) came from Brooklyn, New York, to attend our school as a dorm student. He went on to earn a medical degree and now works as a physician specializing in physical medicine and rehabilitation. He lives in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, with his wife, Davida; they have nine children and three grandchildren. Their son Ovadyah is married to alumna **Aviva (Katz) Fink** (MHA '08, FYOS '12), the daughter of Chavi (Nayowitz) Katz and **Ronnie Katz** (MHA '70, YOS '74); the young couple lives in Kochav Yaakov, Israel.



"There is an amazing sense of community in Memphis," Eli Fink said. "Thank you for welcoming me during my years at the Yeshiva."

He wants to set the record straight: "Pins are for hats; pens are for writing—I really do love the southern accent, though!"

While Fink admits that he didn't always pay careful attention to his teachers, "the *Rosh* [Rabbi Meir Belsky, z'l] had a positive influence on me." His email address is [efinkmd@gmail.com](mailto:efinkmd@gmail.com).



**Julia (Barron) Steiner** (YOS '83) was a boarder who came to Memphis from Hollywood, Florida, to attend the Yeshiva of the South. She now lives in Cooper City, Florida, with her husband, and they are the "super proud parents" of three sons in their 20s. She works as a certified personal trainer for women and children at the David Posnack Jewish Community Center in Davie, Florida.

"My year at the YOS left a lasting impression and changed my life," Steiner said. "I remember it fondly, as I do the people who made it so memorable. I have vivid memories of the Purim *shpiel* and the many hours we spent working on the yearbook. It was a unique experience—one that will never be duplicated." Her favorite teachers were the late Mr. Jack Baxter and Mrs. Basya Belsky.

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Graduates of 1981-1985

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She hopes her classmates are healthy and well, and she would love to hear how everyone is doing. She can be reached at [writeabouthowinc@gmail.com](mailto:writeabouthowinc@gmail.com).



**Jeff Baum** (MHA '80, YOS '84) and his wife, Greta, live in Boca Raton, Florida, where he works to provide equity for commercial real estate transactions. They are the parents of five children, ages 13 to 23. His email address is [baumer712@yahoo.com](mailto:baumer712@yahoo.com).



**Rabbi Michoel (David) Coleman** (YOS '84), originally from Savannah, Georgia, lived in the boys' dormitory while attending our school. He now resides in Brooklyn, New York, and works as a rabbinic coordinator in the *kashrut* division of the Orthodox Union (OU). He and his wife are the parents of four sons and a daughter.



He has particularly fond memories of the Purim *seudah* (festive meal) at the yeshiva. His favorite teacher was Rabbi Meir Belsky, *z'l*—"also known as the *Rosh*," Coleman said. He can be contacted at [mce151188@yahoo.com](mailto:mce151188@yahoo.com).

**Lauren Fineberg** (YOS '84) lives in Jerusalem, Israel, and is the coordinator of volunteers at Pantry Packers, the food distribution arm of the nonprofit organization Tzedakah Central/Colel Chabad. She has three children, the oldest of whom is married and has two children of her own.



"I am blessed to have all my children living in Israel," Fineberg said. "And I am especially thrilled to be able to spend time with my two beautiful Sabra granddaughters, Rachel and Ayelet."

She can be reached at [LBFineberg@gmail.com](mailto:LBFineberg@gmail.com).



**Howard Zimmerman** (MHA '81, YOS '85) lives in Memphis and works as a digital marketing technology consultant. He still fondly remembers the school's Purim *seudah* in 1984. His favorite teacher was the late Mr. Jack Baxter. His email address is [zimmerman.howard@me.com](mailto:zimmerman.howard@me.com).



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## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Graduates of 1981-1985

**Rabbi Daniel Whitman** (MHA '82) and his wife Susie are proud parents living in Lakewood, New Jersey, where he studies Torah in the Beth Medrash Govoha *kollel*.

'82

"I continue to feel the responsibility of upholding the legacy of the Memphis community that was transmitted to me by my *rabbaim*, parents and grandparents," Whitman said. All these years later, he still draws inspiration from the dedication of those who diligently studied Torah at the Yeshiva of the South. His favorite teacher was Rabbi Zvi Belsky.

He fondly remembers the times he shared with classmates and can be contacted at [donielwhitman@gmail.com](mailto:donielwhitman@gmail.com).

**Jonathan Epstein** (MHA '82, YOS '86) and his wife, Leslie (Brenner) Epstein, live in Memphis, where they are raising a son and a daughter. He owns and operates Running Pony Productions, a full-service video production and digital marketing company.

'82  
'86

"There's no doubt the education we received at the MHA/YOS was unique," Epstein said. "I am constantly grateful to have had such a wonderful Jewish day school education as my foundation. The people—friends, teachers, *rabbaim*—all shaped my life."

As a lover of writing and history, his favorite general studies teachers were the late Mr. Jack Baxter, Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Abby Johnson, and Mr. Eric Berman. The Judaic studies teachers to whom he felt most connected were Rabbi Efraim Greenblatt, *z'l*, and Rabbi Ephraim Weingot.

Epstein's email address is [jepstein@runningpony.com](mailto:jepstein@runningpony.com).

**Ronit (Sauer) Brakha** (MHA '83, YOS '87) lives in Memphis and teaches first grade at the MHA. She and her husband, former faculty member Menashe Brakha, are the proud parents of three children: **Molly (Brakha) Hagler** (MHA '07, FYOS '11), who recently returned to Memphis with her husband Ari to attend medical school at the University of Tennessee; **Natanel Brakha** (MHA '09, FYOS '13), who got married in November and is completing a master's degree in accounting; and **Racheli Brakha** (MHA '11, FYOS '15), a student at Yeshiva University's Stern College for Women.

'83  
'07  
'11  
'09  
'13  
'87  
'11  
'15

"We have lived and worked in the amazing Memphis community through great times and not-so-great times, and everyone has celebrated with us and assisted us through thick and thin," she said. Her email address is [ronit.brakha@gmail.com](mailto:ronit.brakha@gmail.com).

[brakha@gmail.com](mailto:brakha@gmail.com).



**Steve Gold** (MHA '85) lives in Lake Worth, Florida, and works as the manager of the Mattress Firm store in nearby Wellington. His parents, Raenell and **Samuel "Brooks" Gold** (MHA '57, the school's first graduating class), live close by, as does his sister Myra, a former MHA student who is now the mother of two sons.

"The Hebrew Academy played a pivotal role in my growth and development as a member of the Jewish community," Steve Gold said. "I'll always have a connection to the community I grew up in."

"With the exception of just three years, I was a student at the Hebrew Academy from the time I was 3 (Pre-K) until I was 14 (eighth grade). My favorite times were when I was learning the basics, with Mrs. Miriam Greenblatt, z'l, in first grade and Rabbi Efraim Greenblatt, z'l, in third grade. They gave me my background and did everything they could to make learning fun. When I came back to the school for eighth grade after three years away, I was behind my classmates and struggled. Rabbi Efraim tutored me on Sunday mornings at his house so I could catch up. My classmates, with whom I had been together since Pre-K, welcomed me back as if I'd never left."



"When I graduated from eighth grade, I felt a great sense of pride, knowing I was receiving the same diploma that my father did 28 years earlier. My grandparents, Rose and Jack Gold, of blessed memory, part of the original group of founders of the Hebrew Academy, were there that night as well."

"I'm very thankful for the relationships that have been built over the last 43 years. I am also glad for the reconnections we've made through social media. I love reading my classmates' posts, and although I do not have a wife and kids of my own, I enjoy seeing everyone's family pictures online." Gold's email address is [stevenwgold@comcast.net](mailto:stevenwgold@comcast.net).

**Sorah (Goldfein) Goldstein** (MHA '85) lives in Brooklyn, New York, with her husband and family. They recently celebrated the marriage of their first child. She works part-time as a legal secretary.



"Of course, my father, Rabbi Yaacov Goldfein, z'l, was my favorite teacher," she said. "But not just because he was my father. He ran a rather atypical classroom with plenty of opportunities for each student to progress as far as he/she could."

Her email address is [sgoldstein505@gmail.com](mailto:sgoldstein505@gmail.com).

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## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Graduates of 1981-1985

**Chaya (Russ) Feigenbaum** (MHA '85) teaches kindergarten and is the Judaic studies coordinator for grades K-2 at the Torah Day School of Dallas, Texas. Her husband, Rabbi Aryeh Feigenbaum, is the spiritual leader of Dallas' Congregation Ohr HaTorah. They are the parents of seven children, the oldest of whom is married and living in Israel and the youngest of whom is 9. Her email address is [cfeigenbaum@tdsd.org](mailto:cfeigenbaum@tdsd.org).



**Rachelle Zeitlin** (MHA '85) is a high school history teacher living in Phoenix, Arizona. She is the proud mother of one daughter, now a senior in high school.



She hopes her classmates are doing well. "Eighth grade was a great time, especially the Chicago trip," Zeitlin recalled. She remembers her class enjoying songs like Phil Collins' "Sussudio," Madonna's "Crazy for You" and hits by the late artist Prince. Among her favorite school memories is the time Phil Collins' music was played on the loudspeaker.



She can be reached at [rzeitlin@cox.net](mailto:rzeitlin@cox.net).

**Ellen (Wolff) Silverman** (MHA '85, YOS '89) lives in Brooklyn, New York, with her husband, Yitzchok; they are the parents of seven children. She works at a local day care center.

"Even in New York, I have a part of Memphis with me," Silverman said. "I have met classmates and schoolmates who had children in the same schools as mine and even in the same class!"

Her favorite memories of her school days are of the holiday of Sukkot, going *sukkah* hopping around the neighborhood and attending the *chol ha'moed* roller skating events organized by Rabbi Yaacov Goldfein, z'l. Among her favorite teachers was Rabbi Mordechai Yormark, z'l.



*Want to connect with other MHA/FYOS alumni?*

**JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!** 



The MHA kindergarten graduates of 1974, taught by Mrs. Eva Loskove and Mrs. Nadolyn Karchmer. Front row (from left): Marla Wilk, Jill Pogoloff, **Margo (Wender) Gruen** (MHA '82), Oliver Attias, **Joey Loskove** (MHA '82), Jennifer Manis, Peninah Kabakoff, Louisa Beck. Second row (from left): **Allison Rabinowitz** (MHA '82), **Angela Snyder** (MHA '82, YOS '85), **Peninah (Fink) Salid** (MHA '82, YOS '85), Jenny Okeon, Laura Gilman, Jody Kornblum, **Tamar (Belsky) Sokol** (MHA '82, YOS '85), Andrea Sabesin, Myra Gold, **Robin (Friedman) Musicante** (MHA '82), Allison Rosen. Third row (from left): Todd Gruen, Richard Werman, Adam Siegal, **Beryl Whitman** (MHA '82), Steve Cohen, **Mark Shine** (MHA '82), Brian Israel. Fourth row (from left): Marshall Oser, **Daniel Whitman** (MHA '82), Mark Salky, Scott Fortas, **Ehud Kamin** (MHA '82).

*Special thank you to Margo (Wender) Gruen for helping us identify all of those pictured here. Of note, her now-husband, Todd Gruen, is standing two rows behind her in this photo!*



Longtime MHA Jewish music instructor Mr. Moshe Schmell with students in 1985. (*Fun fact: His daughter-in-law, Shani, is the graphic designer of this publication.*)

# flashbacks



The school's safety patrol included (from left) **Simcha (Simmy) Mirvis** (MHA '85), **Lauren (Chafetz) Roth** (MHA '84, YOS '88), **Ephraim Kutner** (MHA '85), **Anna (Fink) Kaminetsky** (MHA '84, YOS '88) and Yehuda Belsky.



The MHA basketball team in 1982. Front row (from left): **Charley Burch** (MHA '82), **Jonathan Epstein** (MHA '82, YOS '86), **Yaakov Russ** (MHA '83), **Mark Shine** (MHA '82). Back row (from left): **Scott Kimmelman** (MHA '83), **Alex Matusevitch** (MHA '82), **Ehud Kamin** (MHA '82), Coach Martin Kelman, **Ira Lit** (MHA '82), **Joey Loskove** (MHA '82), **Michael Cohen** (MHA '82) and **Howard Pries** (MHA '82).



Eighth grader **Simcha (Simmy) Mirvis** (MHA '85) traveled to New York City to address attendees of a fundraising banquet for Torah Umesorah – the National Society for Hebrew Day Schools. Representing day school students, Mirvis spoke on the importance of Jewish education. (See page 6 of this issue for a d'var Torah by Rabbi Mirvis.)

*flas*



The 1977 staff of the school newspaper, *The Sheliach* (Messenger). First row (from left): **Orly (Kamin) Ohana** (MHA '79), **Ilene (Brown) Kravetsky** (MHA '78, YOS '82), **Jennifer (Whitman) Lehrfield** (MHA '77, YOS '81), **Dawn (Posner) Goldstein** (MHA '77, YOS '81), **Barbara (Lebovits) Moskowitz** (MHA '77), **Tami (Vogel) Eiseman** (MHA '79, YOS '83), **Victor Shine** (MHA '79, YOS '83). Second row (from left): **Elaine (Weinreich) Katz** (MHA '79, YOS '83), **Melissa (Freiden) Friedman** (MHA '79, YOS '83), **Aaron Katz** (MHA '78, YOS '82), **Patti (Moss) Kling** (MHA '77), **Debbie (Bernheim) Novak, z'l**, (MHA '77), **Lois (Ostrow) Goldberg** (MHA '77, YOS '81), **Ida (Rubenstein) Blindman** (MHA '77), **Lisa (Yormark) Neuman** (MHA '79, YOS '83), **Jeff Rabinovitz** (MHA '77), **David Cooper** (MHA '78, YOS '82), **Laurie (Manis) Scheidt** (MHA '77), **Freddie Diamond** (MHA '78), **Debra (Loskove) Silverstein** (MHA '79, YOS '83), Margot Lit. Back row (from left) **Michael Attias** (MHA '79), **Ronnie Lebovits** (MHA '79), **Steven Sauer** (MHA '79).



Staffing the MHA student government supply store in 1977 under the supervision of faculty advisor Mrs. Elizabeth Davis (far right) are (from left) **Aaron Katz** (MHA '78, YOS '82), **Karen (Sigel) Futter** (MHA '78), **Beryl Thomas** (MHA '77, YOS '81), **Lisa (Yormark) Neuman** (MHA '79, YOS '83) and **Jan (Slutsky) Hanover** (MHA '77, YOS '81).

bbacks

## IN THE NEXT ISSUE

The eleventh issue of our newsletter is scheduled for publication sometime around Pesach. In it, we will highlight the eighth and twelfth grade graduates from the years 2011-2015. Members of those classes will receive questionnaires by email (or regular mail) sometime in February 2018. Please return your completed survey promptly so that you can be included.

Our feature story in that issue will spotlight Mrs. Talya Tsuna, who has been a member of our school's faculty for nearly 20 years. If you have any stories, photos or memories of Mrs. Tsuna that you'd like to share, please send them to Joanne Kahane, alumni chair, at [joannekahane111@gmail.com](mailto:joannekahane111@gmail.com) or to her attention at the school's mailing address below.

Also, be sure to submit your "Mazel Tov" events so we can include them in the Alumni News section of our next issue. Thank you!

