

Off-Peak Megilah
Reading Schedules

COMMUNITY

Volume V No. 6
Adar 5766 March 2006



The Amazing Transformation

Shimi Illuzini, Israel's greatest illusionist reveals the details behind his greatest feat

PHOTO: MORRIS ANTEBI



**Tribute to Zaken Hamekubalim,
Rabbi Yitzhak Kaduri zt"l**
Aryeh Zev Narrow

The Power to Influence
Rabbi Eli Mansour
www.CutePDF.com

Gesher Yehuda Hires Sheryl Becker as Director of Operations

The Gesher Yehuda School, an extraordinary academic institution for high potential children with learning disabilities, announced the addition of Sheryl Becker as Director of Operations. Ms. Becker spent 13 years as the proprietor of a successful special event planning company and immediately prior to accepting the position at Gesher, was a Development Executive in The Lawyers Division of UJA-Federation of New York. The combined experience will enable her to expand and build Gesher's well-respected reputation within the Sephardic community.

As the school grows and continues to fill a vital need within the community, Ms. Becker's goal is to make certain that the parents of these children understand that utilizing Gesher's nurturing environment can not only improve each child's life, but also have a positive impact on the entire family.

The Gesher Yehuda School's future plans include an extensive new state of the art building complete with a technology center and swimming pool. For more information about the school's programs please call 718-714-7400.

P'eylim/Lev L'Achim Wants Your Old Cell Phone

They're probably cluttering a drawer in your house somewhere – those unused cell phones that you traded up from or only worked on your previous plan. As functional products, you can't bear to just drop them in the trash – someone might be able to use them. So you're left with a mess of phones, batteries and chargers that you just don't know what to do with. If you see yourself in this situation, P'eylim/Lev L'Achim wants to help. Donate your unwanted, used cell phone to them and be comforted to know that not only is your old phone not going to waste – it's going to help a great cause. For more information call 917-562-9680.

Frumster Celebrates 500 Married Members

Frumster.com, the Orthodox online Jewish matchmaking service, has achieved the milestone of having made 250 (virtual) trips to the *Huppah* (wedding canopy). Averaging 18 matched members a month, Frumster has become the most successful Jewish dating-for-marriage service on the Internet. The landmark match comes as the website reaches its fourth anniversary

“What appeals to me most about

Frumster was it made me feel very hopeful that I was going to find somebody,” says Beckie, who used Frumster to find her soul-mate, and married in November.

“You never knew who was going to be on, and there were so many opportunities. I felt Frumster opens more possibilities, especially for Orthodox matches. I like the feeling that it eliminates the blind dates.”

In a Frumster first, both Beckie and her daughter found their soul-mates through the website, and celebrated their weddings 18 months apart. “Currently we are actively working on trying to get other single friends to go on Frumster, so they can experience the same joy we have,” Beckie's daughter Channie says.

Channie married Tzvi, who was hesitant to use Frumster at first. “The whole idea of placing my hopes and *shidduch* desires into a

**On Pesach you work so hard to get rid of every crumb...
Pesach is about buying from somewhere you trust...**

KOSHER CORNER

SERVING YOU YEAR ROUND WITH
THE HIGHEST STANDARD OF

KASHRUT!

AFTER PURIM WE WORK
OVERTIME TO REMOVE
ALL CHAMETZ FROM
OUR LOCATION
CREATING
A ONE
OF A
KIND
PESACH
SHOPPING
EXPERIENCE!
MANY IN STORE SPECIALS!
EVERYTHING YOU NEED FOR PESACH!

WE DELIVER!
718-375-3442
F: 718-504-3818

**492 Kings Highway
(Btwn Mcdonald & E.2nd)
Brooklyn, NY**

EVERYTHING KOSHER LI' PESACH!

Receive a \$15 Kosher Corner
Gift Certificate for every \$250
you spend (exp. 3/31/06)
excluding shmurah matzah
& matzah meal



**Our Fruits & Veggies
are TOP QUALITY
See, Feel & Taste
the Difference!**



**PLEASE NOTE:
Throughout construction there will ample parking in the back.**

website did not appeal to me.” But he decided he didn’t have time to wait for *shadchanim* (matchmakers) and gave Frumster a try.

“I needed something that would allow me to respond on my own schedule. When I saw how the website was set up, I was quite impressed. It was modest, serious, and extremely easy to navigate.” It did not take long for people to start taking an interest in his profile.

Derek Saker, Director of Marketing for Frumster, believes that much of the site’s success can be ascribed to rigorous screening and on-going controls. “It is a very personalized, hands-on service, which helps to ensure as genuine a pool of sincere members as possible,” he says.

Members conduct searches and contact potential matches anonymously through the discreet Frumster network. Saker believes that Frumster’s secure and comfortable dating environment empowers singles to take charge of their own dating destiny. Many marriages are cross-continental. “It started to essentially provide a more secure and modest dating environment with insightful profiles that asked the right questions relevant to observant Jews,” Saker says, “and to address the growing singles crisis.”

The full-time Orthodox staff screens all members. For North American clients, the Passaic-based staff frequently conducts phone interviews with new applicants. The access to more information means immediate investigation and action is taken when complaints are received.

Frumster continues to draw sincere singles of all ages and all observant *hashkofot* (ideologies), including Orthodox, Litvich, Carlebach and Yeshivish.

Chocolate + Photography = Chocolography?

Take the picture of your choice, transfer the image using edible ink onto premium chocolate, and what do you have? Cholography! The process, perfected by Brooklyn based Chocolate House, makes for a deliciously edible party favor, business promotion or a thoughtful and personalized *mishloah manot*. The exclusive manufacturer of Kosher Chocolography (under the Debretzin Hashgacha) in Flatbush and Borough Park, Chocolate House can create everything from CDs to unique centerpieces for a party. As an extra special attraction, a Chocolography technician can even set up at special events, putting pictures of guests on the chocolate moments after taking their picture.

Free Bakashot Class for Young Boys

Future *Hazanim* (cantors) now have the unique opportunity to be trained by expert *Hazan* Menahem Mustacchi on *Bakashot* of Shabbat according to the Halabi traditions. The class is being hosted at Shaare Zion every Shabbat after *Musaf* from 11:20 am to 12:00 noon in Synagogue # 3. All boys age six and up are encouraged to join and parents are welcome to visit.

Daily Tehillim List Via E-mail

Praying for others is not only a nice thing to do – it is actually a documented technique for getting your own prayers answered by Hashem. By subscribing to the community-wide daily *Tehillim* e-mail, you can get an extensive list of names of fellow community members who are in need of our prayers to help bring them back to health. Subscribe at prayersneeded@refuahshelemah.com 

Classes by SANE SOLUTIONS, LLC & Chava Levy, LCSW, RN (347) 743-5997

“Insanity is doing the same thing and expecting different results.”

Stop the insanity in your life. Do something different. See results.

BRAIN GYM(R) 101

beginning March 9

Daytime: Tuesdays 1pm-3:30pm

Nighttime: Tuesdays 7:30 pm-8:30 pm

Brain Gym’s system of simple movements integrates the mind-body connection and facilitates whole-brain learning. Identify stressors, find new choices, undo learned helplessness, and respond differently. Learn to release learning blocks, activate the brain for integrated learning, set appropriate goals, and anchor new learning so it is permanent.

STRESS RELEASE I

April 24

Simple solutions to identify and release the physical, emotional, and mental effects of stress; alleviate performance anxiety; and diffuse stressful memories. Identify blocks to success, positive self-image, and improved finances. Test for and correct conflict between both brain hemispheres.

UNDERSTANDING PERSONALITY

April 25

Learn to recognize the basic personality traits that underlie normal behavior, predict peoples’ future behaviors, why certain situations are stressful, how to be more successful in life and business by learning to communicate more effectively. Understand how birth order affects personality, determine your money personality, and more. Prerequisite: Stress Release I

OVERCOMING ADVERSITY

April 26-27

The single most important factor determining whether you get sick or stay healthy is your personality. We’ll look at traits of stress hardiness, resiliency, and the immune-competent personality to find ways to strengthen your ability to handle stress and improve health. Lots of opportunity for personal growth! Prerequisite: Stress Release I

OPTIMAL BRAIN ORGANIZATION PROFILES

May 15-17

Discover how each side of the brain specializes in helping us perform different tasks. Identify and balance your learning style-there are 32- to facilitate whole-brain learning. Prerequisite: Brain Gym 101.