



# TEAM Spirit

TORAS EMES  
ACADEMY OF MIAMI  
Samuel Aba & Sisel Klurman  
Elementary School  
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday, February 5, 2010  
Candle Lighting 5:50 PM

פרשת יתרו

### ★STAR STUDENTS★

- |                            |                         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Malka Anton★S.S.           | Yonatan Kalendarev★T.S. |
| Tzvi Anton★T.S.            | Binyamin Kanoff★T.S.    |
| Ethan Aronov★T.S.          | Mutty Koot★S.S.         |
| Zevi Berkowitz★T.S.        | Yitzzy Lind★T.S.        |
| Esther Simcha Botton★T.S.  | Yitzi Meisels★A.S.      |
| Liba Brody★T.S.            | Eli Mizrahi★S.S.        |
| Avital Cohen★S.S.          | Yardena Reboh★T.S.      |
| Miriam Dreyfuss★S.S.       | Noam Schultz★S.S.       |
| Shmuel Chaim Dreyfuss★T.S. | Esti Schwartz★T.S.      |
| Dina Ellenbogen★T.S.       | Yocheved Sobol★S.S.     |
| Hadassa Grossman★S.S.      | Shelomo Sutton★S.S.     |
| Avrami Flamholtz★S.S.      |                         |

### TEAM PLAYERS

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Yosef Alber        | Atara Laks        |
| Gavriel Aminov     | Miriam Lesnik     |
| Rebecca Balgley    | Mutty Koot        |
| Chana Dreyfuss     | Dani Levy         |
| Shira Feldman      | Avi Nash          |
| Tzvi Flamholtz     | Zohar Reboh       |
| Yochanan Gittleson | Penina Rosenbaum  |
| Tye Hilel          | Benjamin Rubinov  |
| Shuey Jeger        | Elisheva Sharfman |
| Yonatan Kalendarev | Tzipori Wechsler  |
|                    | Sara Winter       |

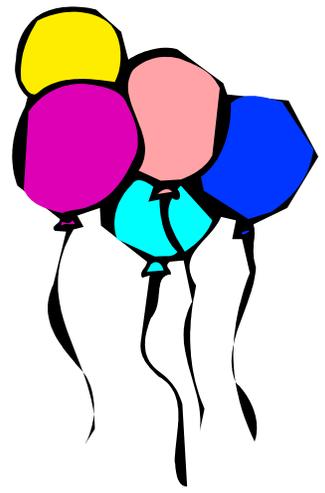
**PLEASE NOTE: REGULAR SUNDAY CLASSES FOR BOYS GRADES 3-5.**

**PLEASE NOTE  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12 - NO SCHOOL  
RABBI YOSSI HEBER INSTITUTE  
FOR TEACHERS**

**THIS SUNDAY!**

### FAMILY FUN DAY

**Can't wait to see you there!  
This Sunday,  
February 7  
T.Y. Park in Hollywood  
12:30 - 4:30 PM**



Thanks to the generous parents who are sponsoring our Fun Day (Give or Get credit for sponsors-names will be listed next week) there will be no charge to our families except for the minimal costs of purchasing food.

**Directions to T.Y. Park:**  
**I-95 Exit on Sheridan Street (west) for 1/2 mile**  
**Right on North Park Road approx. 2/10 mile**  
**Right turn into the park.**  
**Pay park entrance fee of \$1 per person (over the age of 5)**  
**Follow signs to the left after entrance to Pavilions 5, 6, & 7.**

### OPEN SCHOOL DAY

Open School day will take place on Presidents' Day, Monday February 15. Please mark your calendars and join us for an 'open school experience' as we sit in on the children's classes from 9:45-11:45. Also note that classes on February 15 are from 8:00 – 1:00 and there is no lunch on that day.



### HATZALAH OF MIAMI-DADE

Please see the attached letter for specific information on using Hatzalah's services.

## PROJECT DERECH

This week we started the category of Derech Eretz B'maaseh--proper behavior in the way that we act. The topic this week is to **Knock before Entering** a room or house and generally maintaining the privacy of others. Please keep sending in those Derech notes--the kids love them!

## REFUAH SHELAIMA

- Ruchama Aliza Sara Chana *bas* Esther Liba
- Bina *bas* Chaya
- Chana *bas* Shaindel
- Mordechai *ben* Ora Yehudis

## MAZEL TOV

To Mr. and Mrs. Ronen Carny and family on the birth of a son and a daughter.

To Rabbi and Mrs. Nechemia Feigenbaum and family on the birth of a daughter.



תינוק

To Rabbi and Mrs. Yerucham Goldenberg and family on the birth of a daughter and to Rabbi and Mrs. Elchonon Goldenberg and family on the birth of a granddaughter.

To Dr. and Mrs. David Bistriz and family on the birth of a grandson, born to their son Kasriel and Rochela Bistriz.



To Rabbi and Mrs. Avi Wakszul and Mr. and Mrs. Chaim Meisels on being honored at the North Miami Beach Community Kollel Annual Dinner.

## MISHNAYOS PROJECT

We are now entering the final week of our extracurricular learning program for boys in grades 3 – 5. Please continue to fill up your charts through Sunday, February 14. Yasher Koach boys! Keep up the great work. We are so proud of the enthusiastic participation thus far and anticipate a rousing finale.

A big Yasher Koach to our three groups of Masmidim who each completed their respective Mesechta at the weekly Mishmar learning groups. We look forward to celebrating these great accomplishments at the conclusion of our Mishnayos program.

## DATA BANK

The Data Bank quiz will take place this coming week. Good luck!!

## PLEASE CHOOSE "CHOSEN WORDS"!

We need your help in order to continue providing this publication! We hope you are enjoying this year's editions of "The Chosen Words," which appear bi-weekly in this TEAM Spirit newsletter. This inspirational newsletter by the Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation enhances your homes every other *Erev Shabbos*.

Please consider partaking in the \$360 sponsorship, in memory, in honor of, or for a *Refuah Shelaima*, which will be printed at the bottom of each Chosen Words that appears in our weekly newsletter for the entire school year. To sponsor, please call Mrs. Zisquit at 305.947.6000 and send in a check for \$360, made out to Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation, with your dedication request. Thank you for your help!



**TORAS EMES  
ACADEMY OF MIAMI**  
Samuel Aba & Sisel Klurman  
Elementary School

Rabbi Kalman Baumann  
*Principal*

Rabbi Noam Grossman  
*Assistant Principal*

Dr. Deborah Lerer  
*Secular Studies Principal*

Mrs. Naomi Bloom  
*Early Childhood Director*



Erev Shabbos Parashas Yisro, 5770

Dear Parents,

Our three-year old Nursery students, along with their older counterparts, are all coming home this Shabbos well aware of 'Little Har Sinai'. The prerequisite of humility for *Kabbolas HaTorah* is a universally recognized Jewish value. In fact, the *Kli Yakar* comments on the *Pasuk's* (*Shemos 19:2*) switching from plural to a singular description of the Jewish People's encampment around *Har Sinai* – ...*Vayeechun Shom Yisrael Neged HaHar*, was to point out that they made peace with each other upon seeing and recognizing the lowly stature of *Har Sinai* relative to other mountains. This was because they realized that *Hashem* desires humility and submission – otherwise the greatest event in human history would have been staged in a more grandiose setting. By recognizing the value of humility, they were able to make peace with each other, and put aside their quarrels and envy, which stem from a self-centered desire for honor and power.

How do we teach humility to our children? Isn't humility a contradiction to self-esteem? These are excellent questions. Inculcating the value of being submissive when appropriate, and being assertive when called for, lies at the center of healthy human social development. *Moshe Rabbeinu* was the humblest person who ever lived, yet this same humble man acted decisively, boldly and firmly when he shattered the tablets in full view of his rebellious followers at the incident of the Golden Calf, and subsequently rallied and saved the rest of *Klal Yisroel* at a moment of great danger.

Teaching humility to our children is first and foremost accomplished through proper role modeling. How do we refer to others at our dinner table, how do we greet strangers, especially *Meshulachim* at the door, how much deference do we show to our *Rabbonim*, do we speak respectfully about authority figures in our, and especially our children's lives? Do we appropriately deflect *Kovod* that comes our way? Do we verbalize our appreciation to *Hashem* for the good things in our lives, and do we accept and submit when things don't go the way we hope for?

Won't greater humility lessen our children's self-esteem? Nothing could be farther from the truth. Humility is not self-denigration and feeling lowly. True humility is recognizing one's own self-worth, and valuing one's talents and abilities, together with a realization that all of one's attributes are a gift from *Hashem*, and that a person owes every attribute and accomplishment to *Hashem*. Only a person who is self-confident and self-assured can integrate such a worldview without feeling diminished. We are great, because *Hashem* has endowed us with greatness – therefore we humbly submit to His will and to the realization that we can take credit only for our efforts in spiritual growth – everything else we have is a gift from *Hashem*.

A truly humble person is a happy person, satisfied with his lot in life who harnesses *Hashem's* gifts to reach greater spiritual heights. Leading our children on such a path is the key to their success in life and to an enduring peace and love among all of *Klal Yisroel* and indeed, mankind.

Have an uplifting Shabbos,

Rabbi Kalman Baumann  
Principal

# TORAS EMES ACADEMY OF MIAMI

February 2010

שבט-אדר תש"ע

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 י"ז	2 י"ח	3 י"ט	4 כ	5 כ"א	6 כ"ב  יתרו  Candle Lighting 5:50
7 כ"ג  FAMILY FUN DAY 12:30-4:30	8 כ"ד	9 כ"ה	10 כ"ו	11 כ"ז	12 כ"ח RABBI YOSSI HEBER DAY SCHOOL TEACHERS' INSTITUTE  NO SESSIONS  Candle Lighting 5:55	13 כ"ט  משפטים פרשת שקלים
14 ל  ראש חודש	15 א OPEN SCHOOL DAY SESSIONS 8-1  PRESIDENTS' DAY  ראש חודש	16 ב	17 ג	18 ד	19 ה  END OF SECOND MARKING PERIOD  Candle Lighting 5:59	20 ו  תרומה
21 ז  ZAYIN ADAR OBSERVANCE OF THE CHEVRA KADISHA	22 ח	23 ט	24 י  FIRST GRADE CHUMASH PARTIES	25 י"א  TAANIS ESTHER  REGULAR SESSIONS	26 י"ב  REGULAR SESSIONS  Candle Lighting 6:03	27 י"ג  תצוה פרשת זכור
28 י"ד  פורים   NO SCHOOL						



YESHIVA TORAS CHAIM  
TORAS EMES ACADEMY OF MIAMI  
Bais Medrash Zichron Ezra  
Rohr Middle School  
Klurman Elementary School

# 14th Annual Learnathon

The Entire Community is Invited to Participate in this Exciting Yom Iyun

1 ADAR 5770 / MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2010

12:00 - 7:30 PM

MIDDLE SCHOOL / 1051 N. MIAMI BEACH BOULEVARD

HIGH SCHOOL / 1025 NE MIAMI GARDENS DRIVE

NORTH MIAMI BEACH

## Schedule and Featured Speakers

### At Our Middle School Campus

12:00 - 12:30 PM

**Rabbi Hershel Becker**  
Topic to be Announced

12:30 - 1:15 PM

Rabbi Abraham Benzaquen, Rabbi Yitzchok Lefkowitz, Rabbi Ephraim Leizeron  
Rabbi Yisroel Ruck, Rabbi Yitzchok Selmar, Rabbi Nesson Spero

1:15 - 1:50 PM

**Rabbi Gedalya Glatt**  
Cheshbon HaNefesh: The Internal Inventory

1:50 - 2:00 PM

Mincha

2:00 - 2:10 PM

Refreshments

2:10 - 2:50 PM

Rabbi Noam Grossman, Rabbi Yonason Horowitz, Rabbi David Levine,  
Rabbi Avrohom Meth & Rabbi Avrohom Yachnes

### At Our High School Campus

1:45 - 2:00 PM

Mincha

2:00 - 2:30 PM

Break

2:30 - 3:15 PM

Rabbi Moshe Matz, Rabbi David Sharfman, Rabbi Neal Turk &  
Rabbi Pinchas Weberman

3:15 - 4:00 PM

**Rabbi Ephraim Shapiro**  
Kiddush Hashem: "Ohr LaGoyim"

4:00 PM

Dismissal for Rohr Middle School Students

4:00 - 4:45 PM

Rabbi Kalman Baumann, Rabbi Yitzchok Goodman, Rabbi Yaacov Gross &  
Rabbi David Lehrfield

4:45 - 5:15 PM

**Rabbi Gedalya Glatt**  
Cheshbon HaNefesh: The Internal Inventory

5:15 - 5:30 PM

Mincha for Guests | Refreshments

5:30 - 6:00 PM

Chavrusos - Bais Medrash

6:00 - 6:45 PM

Rabbi Hillel Abramson, PhD, Dr. Norman Bloom, Rabbi Avraham Goldman & Rabbi  
Meir Shaffren

6:45 - 7:30 PM

**Keynote Address:**  
Rabbi Binyomin Luban, Rosh HaYeshiva

7:30 PM

Ma'ariv followed by Dismissal

For further information, or to be a sponsor of this meaningful event, please call Rabbi Mordechai Palgon at 305-944-5344.



# HATZALAH

MIAMI-DADE

**STARTING THIS SATURDAY NIGHT  
- JANUARY 30TH -  
AT MIDNIGHT**

Dear Community Member:

We are pleased to announce that Hatzalah of Miami-Dade is commencing its operations as a volunteer emergency response service in your area. Over the past two years we have been gathering resources to be able to provide a supplementary emergency response service to residents of North Miami Beach and Aventura. With gratitude to Hashem, we are now able to begin our coverage in these areas. In this letter you will find information on what Hatzalah is, how to contact Hatzalah, and in which areas we are currently responding.

Hatzalah of Miami-Dade, Inc. ("Hatzalah") is a volunteer not-for-profit organization. Our primary mission is to save lives by providing basic life support services in those vital first few minutes of an emergency situation until an ambulance arrives, with appropriate sensitivity to the religious and cultural needs of our community. While we are supported and staffed by the Jewish community, Hatzalah provides care at no cost equally to all who are in need, regardless of race, religion or ethnicity.

After you call 9-1-1, Hatzalah can be called for any medical emergency, 24/7/365, including on Shabbat, Yom Tov and even Yom Kippur. If you are unsure whether Hatzalah should be called, **make the call**. During an emergency, and especially on Shabbat, some people have a tendency to search for a Hatzalah member they already know, by going to their home or Shul, or calling them on the phone. This can result in significant delays in obtaining help and is strongly discouraged. Calling the Hatzalah emergency number is the most reliable way to obtain help quickly.

Hatzalah of Miami-Dade is not a replacement for 911. We do not provide emergency or non-emergency transport. Our service is designed only to act as bridge until an official ambulance can arrive. We strongly encourage you to call 911 for all serious emergencies first – or at the same time as you call Hatzalah. This will insure that needed transport and Advanced Life Support services are not delayed. Hatzalah dispatchers will always ask whether 911 has already been notified, and will call 911 on your behalf if you have not yet called them yourself.

Hatzalah's primary operational area is outlined in red in the following map. These are the areas where our members live and work and are usually available to respond.

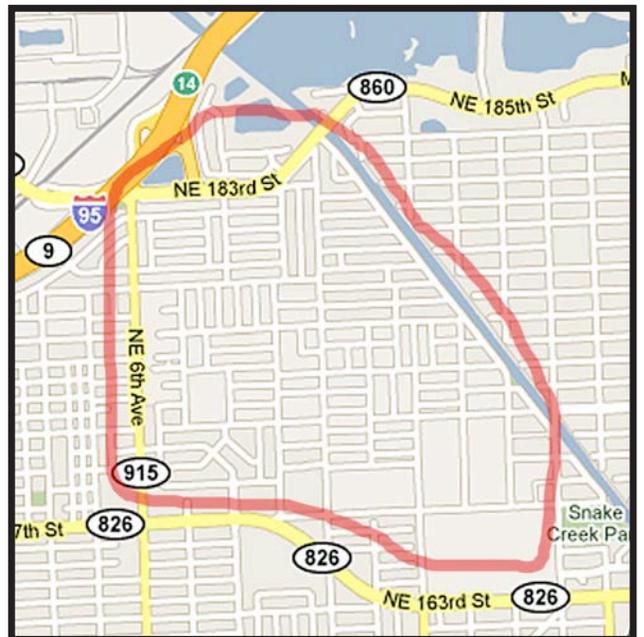
EMERGENCY LINE

# HATZALAH 305-919-4900

## AVENTURA AREA



## NORTH MIAMI BEACH AREA



**HATZALAH OF MIAMI-DADE, INC.**  
1110 NE 163rd Street • Suite 5 • North Miami Beach, FL 33162 • Ph: (305) 490.5274  
[www.miamihatlah.com](http://www.miamihatlah.com)

# chosen words

## Personal Growth

### A Real Brachah

Gratitude is a trait of refined people. The brutish person grabs and runs, but the refined person recognizes the care and consideration shown by the giver, and acknowledges it with an expression of thanks.

Reciting a brachah is our expression of thanks to Hashem for the vast creation he puts at our disposal. As the refined people we all want to be, it doesn't do to just send a mass-produced, impersonal thank-you note to our Benefactor. Something more personal, more heartfelt, is in order. One way to make it personal is to think about the miracle of food—a patch of earth produces a loaf of bread; a piece of wood gives forth a juicy red

apple; clouds of vapor produce cool, clear water. If you didn't see these feats right in front of you, you could never conceive of them.

Another way is to put your own stamp, your own style on a brachah. For one person, a tune might make it come alive. For another, simply enunciating each word slowly might enhance it.

Reciting a brachah serves another important purpose. It enables us to continue the work of Avraham—proclaiming the Name of Hashem. A Jew knows that Hashem's presence fills the universe. But it is our special responsibility to unveil that presence for the rest of the world. Each time we say a brachah, proclaiming

## Torah Tools for Personal Growth

### Inspiration



### Ideas



### Excellence



### Success

Hashem as the creator, we fulfill that obligation.

And our act affects the object of our brachah as well. It transforms it from a material to a sanctified object, from a sandwich to a testimonial to Hashem's existence.

The ability to say a brachah is more than an obligation. It's a brachah in itself.

*Adapted from "What's Wrong With Being Happy?" by Rabbi Yisroel Miller, with permission from Mesorah Publications*

## Effective Prayer

### Tefillah Speaks

*The Message is in the Word*

Tefillah is not just spoken. It speaks to us—if we learn to understand its words and their facets of meaning.

In the opening blessing of Shemoneh Esrei, we mention the "chasdei Avos." This is translated as the "lovingkindness of the Forefathers," meaning all three Forefathers. Yet only Avraham is traditionally associated with the trait of kindness. Yitzchak is connected to the fear of Heaven, and Yaakov to truth. Is it accurate, then, to mention all the Avos in connection to chesed?

Only when we look at the real meaning of the word chesed do we see that it embodies all three Avos and their primary traits. Chesed's defining characteristic is selflessness, the ability to live for others, to dedicate oneself to a greater cause. The Avos's traits of kindness, fear of Heaven and truth are all encompassed within that definition. By understanding that, we understand the full meaning of what this tefillah is saying to us.

Every word of tefillah is fashioned with many brilliant facets. Like a jeweler assessing a gem, we can only comprehend *continued on back*

## Better Relationships

### When the Best Isn't Best

"You deserve the best."

"Be the envy of your friends."

"Get the finest money can buy."

While these messages may help sell zillions of dollars in consumer items, they also exemplify an ideal that runs exactly contrary to Torah.

When we actively draw attention to our possessions and accomplishments, we do our neighbors

a great disservice. We encourage them to stumble over the Torah's prohibition against envy.

What do our exquisite suits, dresses and hats evoke in a family dressed in hand-me-downs? When we treat our child to a birthday extravaganza with clowns and rides, how do the cake-and-ice-cream children feel? And envy doesn't always arise from money. Do we discuss the joys of parenthood with the childless? The strains of raising a talmid chacham with the parent of a slow child? The expense of clothing a kallah with someone who can't find a shidduch?

Moshe personifies the Torah's teachings on the imperative to avoid *continued on back*



*"The real winner is the one who avoids causing envy."*



Published for **Toras Emes Academy of Miami** by the **Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation**

# Righteous or Self-Righteous?

Someone interferes with a person's davening... breaks his last whole shmura matzah... keeps him from getting to a shiur... Surely, Hashem wants this outrage avenged, he reasons. As he rants and raves, he thinks of himself as Pinchas, wielding a sword to defend Hashem's honor.

But is this anger really for the sake of Heaven? Rarely. More frequently, such a person is not a Pinchas, but a grown-up version of a two-year-old throwing a tantrum because Mommy wouldn't let him "help" wash the dishes. In his mind, he's mad because his effort to do good has been thwarted. But Mommy understands that, if his real goal was just to serve her, he would gladly back off and let her finish. Obviously, he has his own agenda.

Similarly, when we believe

we are angry because our effort to serve Hashem is being thwarted, we should consider that it was Hashem who threw the obstacle in our way. The mitzvah we had set out to do was supposed to be a means to fulfill His will. Now, dealing with the obstacle has become our means to fulfill His will. If we're seriously trying to attend to Hashem's agenda rather than our own, becoming angry has no place on the schedule of events.

Pinchas is the paradigm of righteous indignation. It's important to note that the Torah traces his lineage to Aharon the Kohen, the pursuer of peace. From this we learn that Pinchas' anger was ultimately a means to peace, and any righteous anger must meet this test. A person whose primary focus is on making peace

“Are we attending to Hashem’s agenda, or our own?”

might find that, in a rare situation, anger is the only means to that end. Otherwise, there's nothing righteous about anger.

**Shabbos Table Discussion:**  
How can you judge whether your own anger is truly for the sake of Heaven?

*Adapted from, "Anger: The Inner Teacher," by Rabbi Zelig Pliskin, with permission from the author*

## When the Best Isn't Best

*continued from front*

causing envy. When Hashem offered him the chance to lead the Jewish people out of slavery, Moshe declined. More than he wanted to rescue his people and serve Hashem, he wanted to avoid the appearance of besting his older brother. Only when Hashem told Moshe that his leadership would make Aaron "happy in his heart," did Moshe accept.

Do you deserve the best? Maybe so. But if it can spare others the pain of envy, second best is even better.

**Shabbos Table Discussion:**  
What makes something an extravagance?

*Adapted from "Love Your Neighbor," by Rabbi Zelig Pliskin, with permission from the author*

## Tefillah Speaks

*continued from front*

hend each word's value when we examine each facet and register its light.

**To Do:** Learn the inner meaning of a specific portion of tefillah.

*Adapted from "Shemoneh Esrei," by Rabbi Avraham Chaim Feuer, with permission from Mesorah Publications*

## Dedications

לע"נ  
אדירה חנה ע"ה בת שת יבלח"ט  
Adira Boltshauser, a"h  
גלב"ע ל' מרחשון תש"ע  
ת.נ.צ.ב.ה.

*We gratefully acknowledge our generous sponsors for making this publication possible.*

# Wholehearted

The Skulener Rebbe zt"l was once hospitalized for an illness. Due to his precarious condition, his heartbeat required constant monitoring. When the Rebbe was at rest or occupied with mundane matters, his heart would beat at a rate of 80 beats per minute. However, whenever he would recite a brachah or pray, the reading would jump to 160 beats per minute.

To the Rebbe, each brachah and each tefillah was an occasion to muster every drop of his energy and concentration. His heartbeat reflected the effort and fervor with which he recited these words. All those who observed the phenomenon could only conclude that they were witnessing empirical evidence of one man's devotion to G-d. But the monitor was only confirming what the Rebbe's students and followers already knew; he literally put his heart into his tefillah.

**Shabbos Table Discussion:**  
What can we do when, despite our resolutions to have more kavanah, we find ourselves slipping back?

*Adapted from "Something to Say," by Rabbi Dovid Goldwasser, with permission from Mesorah Publications.*

Index Reference 412



**Chosen Words is a biweekly publication of the Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation**

HaRav Shmuel Kamenetsky, shlita, Chairman Rabbinical Board

Rav Nafotli Jaeger, shlita, Rabbinical Editorial Supervisor

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**✉ We welcome your comments!**  
Letters to the Editor  
Chosen Words/CCHF  
361 Spook Rock Road  
Suffern, NY 10901

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## CALL TODAY TO ENTER THE RAFFLE: 845-352-3505 EXT.113

**The Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation**  
361 Spook Rock Road, Suffern, NY 10901. Phone: 845-352-3505 ext. 113

## RAFFLE DEADLINE: MARCH 16, 2010