



June 8, 2012

יה' סיון תשע"ב



**Student Spotlight Team of 2012**

**פרשת בהעלתך**

**Candle Lighting 7:52 PM**

**Rabbi Binyomin Luban  
Rabbi Yisroel Y. Niman  
Rabbi Mordechai Palgon  
ראשי הישיבה**

**Dvar Torah -** *by Rabbi Yisroel Y. Niman, Rosh HaYeshiva*

Issue 20

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with a Bang



Most of us are very confident that our fear of Hashem and commitment to mitzvos will protect us from any negative influences that we

might be exposed to by our secular environment and friends, and all the more so from individuals who are involved in ludicrous behaviors.

After examining Klal Yisroel's behavior in this week's Parsha, we realize that we should not be so complacent and confident that we will withstand such influences.

The Erev Rav (mixed multitude), Egyptians who had joined Klal Yisroel as they were leaving Mitzrayim, began voicing numerous complaints regarding their menu in the desert. They complained about the lack of meat (which was patently false), the lack of "free" fish (which meant free from mitzvos), and about the manna (which tasted like any delicious food item they wanted except for the 5 vegetables which were not good for nursing mothers). This in turn caused and "inspired" the rest of Klal Yisroel to

**Dvar Halacha - When to Wash** *by Yehoshua Lehrfield, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade*

Contrary to popular belief, the sink outside the *Bais Medresh* is more than just a convenient washing station for *Hamotzie*. The *Shulchan Aruch* (Orach Chaim 92; 4) clearly states that one is required to wash his hands before *tefillah*. He even goes so far as to say that if there is no water readily available, one must travel at least one *Mil* (about 18 minutes) to get some. In fact, the *Mishna B'rura* suggests the possibility that if one needs to wash his hands and neglects to do so, his *tefillah* may be nullified! Fortunately, the *Mishna B'rura* explains that this requirement only applies to cases where one knows that his hands have been dirtied. This includes touching a part of his body which is usually covered, scratching his head, or soiling his hands in

join them in their complaints to Moshe.

Rav Yehuda Leib Chasman, in his sefer *Ohr Yahel*, compares this to adults who, upon passing by children sitting on the floor complaining about their boredom with their toys, join them on the floor and also complain.

Why should any member of Klal Yisroel who had personally been an eye witness to the miracles in Mitzrayim and by the Yam Suf, received the Torah at Har Sinai, and was a recipient of the miraculous manna served with water from Miriam's well, be motivated to join the Erev Rav, who were far from the elite of the Jewish community?

We see that even great people (who are known as the Dor Deah - generation of wisdom) can be affected by the subtle but strong influence of their peers and neighbors, the Erev Rav. The tendency to "join the crowd" and do what everyone else is doing is a powerful and decisive factor, at times more so than intellect and saychel, in determining one's behavior. We need to always be on guard from the pernicious influence of those with whom we associate, while at the same time strengthen ourselves through the learning of Torah.

any visible way. If, however, one isn't certain that his hands are dirty and no water is readily available, he need not seek after water. Rather, he should clean his hands by simply wiping them on something else.

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## 5 Tips for Hatzlocha on Finals By School Counselor Eli Feldman, LMHC

### 1. Know Yourself!:

Discover your personal learning style. If you are a visual learner, make flashcards & charts; an auditory learner - record your voice. Perhaps mnemonics, rhymes or song work for you.

**2. Brain Foods** like almonds, salmon and other omega 3's, as well as lots of water, have been showing up in research studies to increase focus, concentration and memory.

**3. Cheer Up!** Test takers that were happier, & getting along with friends and family, did slightly better than their hostile, depressed peers.

**4. Have a Positive Attitude!** Believing (even if it seems slightly delusional) that you will do well, has been associated with increased test scores.

**5. Be Realistic!** Nobody knows ALL the answers. Don't let a wrong answer depress you. Know yourself and have realistic expectations.

Answer to last issue's question:

Q. Which Parsha in the Torah contains the highest number of named births, and how many of those are recorded in that parsha?

A. Bereishis, with 19

## Y.T.C. Ending with a Bang by Zev Sugerman, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

As the year comes to a close, things at YTC are ending with a bang. This past Shabbos was the 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation Shabbaton. The senior

class and their parents came to Toras Chaim to spend a memorable Shabbos with all the Rabbeim to cap a fond end to their unforgettable years of high school. The 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation was on the following Sunday; as part of the program, some students spoke, reminiscing about their years in high school.



Rabbi Bentzion Shafier, Director of *The Shmuz*, speaks at YTC

On Monday, Rabbi Shafier, founder

of *The Shmuz*, addressed the entire High School and Bais Medrash. He spoke about how to realize one's full potential. He mentioned the great athletes in history who have broken physical barriers to prove that things which are seemingly impossible are feats any normal person can accomplish. He reiterated the importance of having a productive summer and believing in what each person is capable of doing.

On Tuesday, enforcing the idea that everyone can achieve greatness, there was an



Rabbi Mordechai Palgon, Rosh HaYeshiva, and Mr. Ari Lampert, President of YTC, presents diplomas at graduation

Award Ceremony in which students from each class were given awards and new members were inducted into the National Honor Society. It showed each student how capable they really are and provided everyone with inspiration which will last until the next school year.

