

## Tehillim Kollel Goes Global

BY YOEL KRAUSZ

*Tehillim Kollel, of Tehillim minyan fame, is currently in the final stages of establishing an independent division in Eretz Yisrael. There will be five minyanim in total, located in various cities across the holy land, reciting the entire Sefer Tehillim on a daily basis on behalf of Klal Yisrael.*

It has been nearly five years since the founding of the first Tehillim Kollel in the New York area, where 60 paid *bnei Torah* recite the entire *sefer Tehillim* every morning at three locations. *Baruch Hashem*, the Tehillim Kollel is proud to announce the next stage in its efforts to encourage the recital of *Tehillim* among world Jewry, the opening of branches numbers four and five, in Eretz Yisrael.

The Tehillim Kollel has taken upon itself to promote and increase the use of this treasured inheritance. Tehillim Kollel has already established three branches, in Boro Park, Williamsburg and Monroe, where *minyanim* have been convening for years to finish the entire *Tehillim* every day, 365 days a year.

Residents of Jewish communities in these areas are welcome at any of the *Tehillim* locations at any time, to join the heartfelt prayers and beseech the Heavens for all their needs.

Tehillim Kollel is now planning to open branches in Eretz Yisrael; plans are currently being formed for branches in Canada and the United Kingdom as well.

In the first phase of its international expansion, the Tehillim Kollel is setting up an independent network of branches in Eretz Yisrael that will adhere to the same standards as Tehillim Kollel in New York. "Tehillim Kollel Eretz Yisrael" will have its own offices to oversee the running of its branches. The office is currently busy reviewing applicants who would like to join the *minyanim* and setting up the new branches around the country.

The first two branches, to be located in Yerushalayim *ih hakodesh* and in Meron respectively, will, with Hashem's help, begin convening as early as the coming Tammuz. Plans are also underway for additional branches in Bnei Brak and Meron.

Tehillim Kollel Meron, under the spiritual guidance of Harav Yoshe Kahane, will be convening every morning at the grave of Rabi Shimon bar Yochai. On weekdays, members of the *Tehillim minyan* will travel to the *tzivun* from their homes in Tzfas. On Shabbos and Yom Tov, when it is not possible to travel to Meron, the *minyan* will convene to recite *Tehillim* in a predetermined *beis medrash* in Tzfas.

Tehillim Kollel Yerushalayim

will be located in the Toldos Aron shul in the center of Meah Shearim, and will function under the spiritual guidance of Harav Mendel Eisner. The windows of the shul face Har Habayis. Inevitably, prayers uttered directly before the gates of Heaven are uttered with special concentration and intensity.

Tehillim Kollel carefully handpicks the members of its *minyanim*, accepting only serious young men and *talmidei chachamim* who appreciate the significance of praying for their Jewish brethren. The two new branches will consist of 20 members each, bringing the total number of Tehillim Kollel *minyan* members around the world to as many as one hundred. These members receive a generous stipend for their daily prayers on behalf of Tehillim Kollel sponsors in particular and *Klal Yisrael* in general.

As it works to expand its holy work on the global level, Tehillim Kollel is constantly receiving requests from Jewish communities throughout the world to establish new branches and bring the protection of the *Tehillim*'l to other communities as well. Indeed, we are looking forward to our next project, the creation of additional branches in England and Canada. Additional details will be announced in the near future.

## Jewish American Heritage Celebration

As proclaimed by President Obama and the United States Congress, May is Jewish American Heritage Month. Despite years of oppression and persecution, Jews have always risen up to help bring improvement and progress to society. For more than 350 years, Jews have been making major contributions to American culture, including arts, science, medicine, sports, business, government and military service. The annual ceremony in the U.S. Capitol with the participation of Members of Congress and coordinated by The Friedlander Group to be held on Wednesday May 22, will honor five individuals, each of whom are pillars of the Jewish community.

Honoring the myriad contributions and achievements of Jewish Americans in the United States, Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman-Shultz explained, "Jewish American Heritage Month – to increase tolerance and raise awareness about ... the depth and breadth of contributions of Jews through 350 years of Jewish life in America ... through every walk of life is incredibly important."

Harvey Kaylie, together with his wife Gloria, have been stalwart supporters of OHEL for over a decade. Since 1969, OHEL has been helping people of all ages surmount everyday challenges, heal from trauma, and manage with strength and dignity during times of crises, in the realm of foster care, housing, outpatient counseling and day programs.

The Edmond J. Safra Synagogue, the dream of Mr. Edmond J. Safra, z"l, the world-renowned banker and philanthropist, is celebrating its 10th anniversary through the dedication and generosity of Mrs. Lily Safra, his beloved wife. The synagogue has flourished and become home to the Sephardic community of New York's Upper East Side.

It is an active element to the growth of the Jewish congregation under the leadership of Rabbi Elie Abadie, M.D. The Luncheon will feature 10 prominent families from the Upper East Side.

Founded over 40 years ago, The Rothenberg Law Firm LLP is exclusively dedicated to representing injured people of every race, gender and creed, and is an outspoken opponent of attempts to limit the rights of injury victims. The firm has earned national prominence and recognition for its cutting-edge work in product liability, traumatic brain injury, wrongful death, medical malpractice, and construction litigation. The Rothenberg family of lawyers includes parents Allen and Barbara, and six of their eight children who work in the firm.

Simcha Eichenstein is a senior advisor to New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli and is considered a rising star in NYS government. He upholds the highest ethos of Jewish commitment to public service and has earned the respect of elected officials from across the political spectrum for his integrity, and overall keen insight to the various challenges facing NYS.

Daniel E. Kestenbaum is the founding director of Kestenbaum & Company, a New York City-based boutique auction house dedicated to the sale of rare books, manuscripts, ceremonial and fine art. Kestenbaum & Company is now the largest niche Hebraica auction house in America, having sold to date more than 30,000 lots at auction of rare and antique Jewish rarities. With 25 years in the auction business, Daniel is an expert consultant and appraiser in his specialized fields of rare Hebrew books and manuscripts, Judaica antiques and fine arts.

For more information please visit: [www.TheFriedlanderGroup.com/JewishHeritageCelebration](http://www.TheFriedlanderGroup.com/JewishHeritageCelebration)

### ADVERTORIAL

## Yeshivas Bein Hazmanim Gaining Momentum

Two years ago Rabbi Shmuel Reich was in Kiryat Sefer. It was *bein hazmanim*. He entered the *beis medrash* and was overwhelmed by the sight of nearly 300 *bachurim* and *yungeleit* sitting and learning Torah! His research revealed that Rabbi Mayer Werschner and Reb Michoel Streicher had established this – Yeshivas Bein Hazmanim – with incentives to get boys excited about it.

When Rabbi Reich decided to implement the program in the United States, Reb Michoel Streicher was glad to team up with him. Reb Michoel offered step-by-step guidance and sponsored the entire project.

Currently, Reb Michoel is *menahel hamosad* in America and running Yeshivas Bein Hazmanim, which has been successful beyond his expectations.

This past *bein hazmanim*, 75 boys learned in the Slonimer *beis medrash*; 45 in Harav Wosner's shul. Other shuls and *batei medrash* also hosted the yeshivah, and every boy who was part of it got a prize for the hours he learned. Many have already re-registered for the next *bein hazmanim*.

At the event in Rabbi Babad's

shul (Tarnapol) this past Sukkos, the Kossover Rebbe, *shlita*, spoke warmly and gave out prizes. The Mattersdorfer Rebbe, *shlita*, Harav Simcha Bunim Ehrenfeld, delivered *divrei chizuk*, and the Karlsburger Rav, Harav Yechezkel Roth, *shlita*, extolled the significance of learning when yeshivos are not in session. Harav Gavriel Czinner, esteemed *posek*, described the *s'char* for Torah learning. Master *maggid* Rabbi Leibish Langer recounted stories. Rabbi Reich himself spoke warm words about *chashivus haTorah*, followed by Rabbi Samet's stirring *drashah*, during which many of the *bachurim* took notes.

Rabbi Yehoshua Elimelech Weichbrodt's speech was inspirational. Rabbi M.T. Feldman closed the program, which was followed by dancing and singing (including an appearance by young Boruch Streicher).

After a heartwarming *kumzitz*, participants were tested on *Shas b'al peh*. Reb Michoel Streicher's latest best-selling CD, *Emor Me'at Va'asei Harbeh*, was distributed to all the participants.

A repeat "performance" the

next Motzoei Shabbos at Kehillas Machzeh Avrohom featured an overflow crowd. Hundreds of thank-you phone calls poured in to Reb Michoel's house.

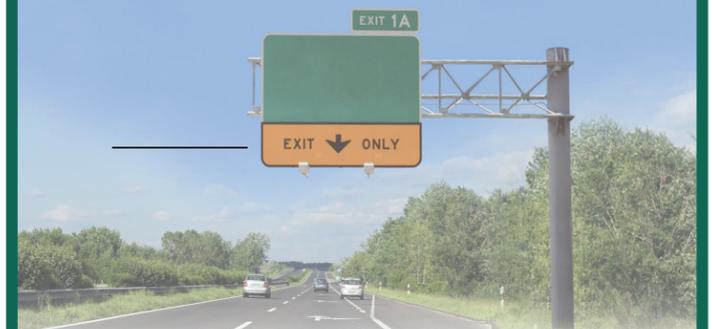
Reb Michoel, famous composer of *Ein Aroch Lecha*, attracted 50,000 to his event in Bnei Brak at the *Siyum HaShas* there.

"Everyone talks about Yeshivas Mordechai Hatzaddik. People make an effort to learn for a half-hour on Purim," says Reb Michoel. "But what about the three months of the year of *bein hazmanim*?"

Reb Michoel is currently visiting communities to institute Yeshivas Bein Hazmanim, speaking to Rabbanim and gathering sponsors. Many cities have expressed interest. With the *kol Torah* strong and joyful even *bein hazmanim*, may we be *zocheh* to hear the *kol shofar* of Moshiach very soon.

To order a CD of the event, send \$50 to Koach HaTorah, 1274-49th Street, Brooklyn, NY, 11219. Proceeds benefit Yeshiva Bein Hazmanim. If you would like your shul to participate in Yeshivas Bein Hazmanim, please contact (347) 639-7346.

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