

## Yeshivah Ohel Dovid - An Innovative Approach

By Yanky Greenberger

Although we have witnessed the unprecedented growth of yeshivos the world over, the needs of one small but growing segment of *bonei Torah* have not been addressed. These are post-high-school and *beis medrash bachurim* who want to start planning for their future while still in a yeshivah environment, whose sights are set on leading productive lives while maintaining their yeshivah connection.

Yeshivas Ohel Dovid, located in Montvale, N.J., just ten minutes from Monsey, is addressing the needs of these *bachurim*, under the able leadership of Rabbi Yechiel Richard, Rav of Pomona, N.Y. Rabbi Richard is an alumnus of the yeshivos of Slonim, Brisk and Lakewood, and a former rabbinic coordinator for the Orthodox Union.

Yeshivah Ohel Dovid is changing the yeshivah landscape by offering *talmidim* solid *sefarim* in *Gemara* and *halachah* along with the skills necessary for today's work environment. The learning consists of an *iyun seder* with *chavrusos* alongside the *kollel yungeleit*, as well as an in-depth *Gemara shiur* given by the *Rosh Yeshivah*. *Shiurim* in *hashkafah* and *halachah* are offered, with an emphasis on application to everyday life. A night *sefer* is offered every night in the Monsey area.

Rabbi Bentzion Shafier of "The Shmuz" (a popular 45-minute Torah lecture) gives a weekly talk at the yeshivah, and Rav Shraga Feivel Zimmerman, Rav of Gateshead, England, gives a weekly *parashah shiur* via webcam. Rabbi Ari Senter, kashrus administrator of Kof-K kosher supervision, gives weekly *shiurim* on a variety of contemporary kashrus issues. Other renowned speakers are fea-

tured regularly.

On the career front, the yeshivah offers two tracks, college and vocational. Each *bachur* receives experienced guidance tailored to his strengths and qualifications. The yeshivah makes every effort to place him in a job or internship during the year. To date, many alumni have successfully entered the workforce in the fields of accounting, financing and nursing home administration, to name a few.

For those who would like to obtain a college degree, the yeshivah has partnered with Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU) in New Jersey, a highly respected university whose degrees are recognized by most colleges and universities nationwide. Many yeshivah alumni have used their FDU bachelor's degree to enter master's programs in accounting, medicine, law and other fields. As a result of this partnership, Ohel Dovid is able to give up to 72 credits for its Judaic studies program. FDU offers a choice of courses on the yeshivah's campus, given in the afternoon, for men only, with male professors. With diligence, a student can complete the degree in approximately one year.

Yeshivah Ohel Dovid caters to the needs of intelligent young men who are striving to blend a strong connection to the Torah world with the realities of today's work force.

In the words of the *Rosh Yeshivah*, "Everyone can be productive and feel fulfilled." Staff members help each *bachur* set a schedule that combines learning, studying and/or working, enabling him to pursue his goal of earning a *parnassah* and remaining a *ben Torah*.

For more information, please contact Yeshivah Ohel Dovid at 201-326-3740.

## 2010 Farmers' Markets — Yeled V'Yalda WIC

The Yeled V'Yalda Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program is committed to promoting healthy food choices and eliminating barriers to good health. The farmers' market is a wonderful opportunity for WIC participants to get quality fruits and vegetables. During the 2010 farmers' market season, families enrolled in the WIC program are eligible to receive \$24 in checks for fresh fruits and vegetables from the New York State WIC program, to be redeemed at New York State farmers' markets from July through November.

Yeled V'Yalda WIC promotes farmers' market season, working in partnership with a

network of local farmers to ensure that WIC participants take advantage of the availability of fresh, nutritious and affordable food. One-on-one nutrition education counseling provides advice for using the farm-fresh fare, and during nutrition classes participants recount their farmers' market experiences, sharing recipes and ideas. The extensive Yeled V'Yalda WIC nutrition resource library offers informative, creative handouts in several languages with tips for selecting, preparing, and storing farmers' market produce.

The sixth annual Farmers' Market Redemption Campaign is now under way. Program participants can redeem New York

## Sh'eiris Hapleitah Film on Survival in DP Camps Touches Thousands

By Sara Kosowsky

During the recent period of the Three Weeks, over 15,000 people across North America, Israel, Australia and Europe attended 160 showings of the Holocaust documentary called *Sh'eiris Hapleitah, The Remnant That Escaped*.

*Sh'eiris Hapleitah*, the second in the *Yizkereim* series of Holocaust documentary films, tells the story of the concentration camp survivors after their liberation, living in displaced persons (DP) camps. The film shows their tremendous resilience and determination to rebuild their shattered lives as Yidden.

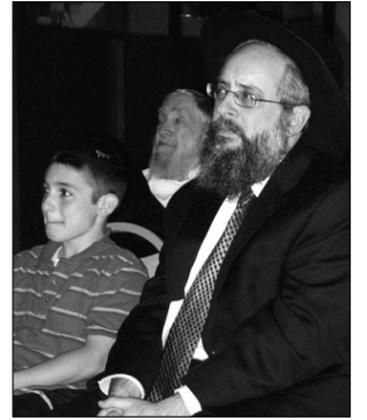
Many are familiar with stories of the Holocaust. However, not as well known is what happened to the refugees after liberation, including the nearly 200,000 Jewish concentration camp survivors left homeless and stateless. The film combines documentary footage, photographs and interviews with Holocaust survivors and the rabbis and family members

who helped them, and Lieutenant Meyer Birnbaum, a Jewish American soldier who helped liberate the camps.

The survivors had many physical needs, but they also had strong spiritual needs. The film recognizes organizations around the globe that helped facilitate this renewal, and shows how the *sh'eiris hapleitah* were impatient to reclaim their spiritual lives. They procured *sefarim*, created yeshivos and Bais Yaakovs, and formed *batei din* to address their unique halachic issues.

Rav Aharon Kotler, *zt"l*, said at that time that the Jewish community had to provide the *sh'eiris hapleitah* with a means of spiritual rejuvenation. Some of the Vaad programs included establishing yeshivos and children's homes, and providing *mohelim* and *shochtim*. The survivors themselves built a *mikveh* in the Zeilsheim, Frankfurt, DP camp.

"They did not ask for money or help; they just built it on their own," said the legendary Gavriel "Mike" Tress, *z"l*, an



Rabbi Doniel Lander and son at recent Yizkereim event

emissary of the Vaad, about the dedication of the *mikveh* in December 1945.

For more information, contact [info@yizkereim.com](mailto:info@yizkereim.com).

"*Sh'eiris Hapleitah*" is a project of *Torah Umesorah*, *Zechor Yemos Olam*, and the *Rabbi Leib Geliebter Memorial Foundation*, founded as a pledge to the generation that was lost that we will not forget them or their dreams.

## Marty Markowitz Salutes HASC Center And Pomegranate Partnership

By Aron Klein

It was a special day at Pomegranate when Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz came for a visit. His purpose was to recognize the partnership of Pomegranate, a state-of-the-art food emporium, and HASC Center, an agency that provides a full range of services to people with developmental disabilities. Mr. Markowitz delivered a proclamation honoring the store for providing employment for those with special needs.

In conjunction with HASC Center's Supported Employment Program, Pomegranate has given Yitzchak, one of its program participants, a unique opportunity to realize his dream of gaining employment and earning a living. Yitzchak, who was present for the reading of the proclamation, shared his joy with the borough president. Mr. Avraham Banda, proprietor of Pomegranate, expressed his satisfaction with this exceptional program and with his dedicated employee.

State Farmers' Market Nutrition Program checks to purchase their produce. The farmers' market also accepts electronic benefit transfer/food stamps (EBT) and cash. Participants who use their checks at their local farmers' market may bring a receipt to Yeled V'Yalda WIC for a nutrition-related prize.

New York State WIC pro-



L-R : Dr. Chaim Wakslak, Clinical Director HASC Center; Avraham Banda, Proprietor, Pomegranate; Yitzchok, Program Participant; Marty Markowitz, Brooklyn Borough President; Abe Eisner, President Board of Directors, HASC Center; Shmiel Kahn, Executive Director, HASC Center; Avi Sacks, Assoc Exec Director HASC Center; Yisroel Rosenthal, Supervisor, HASC Center's Supported Employment Programs

HASC Center's Supported Employment Program, funded by the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPDD), affords men and women with developmental disabilities the opportunity to hold competitive jobs in their communities. Through job coaching and individualized training, program participants learn new job skills and

interpersonal skills, and they become increasingly independent and successful in the job.

For over two decades, HASC Center's Supported Employment Programs have successfully placed many men and women with special needs in gainful employment in their communities. To learn more about these opportunities, call (718) 535-1953.

motes healthy lifestyle habits through a number of programs, including "Eat Well, Play Hard" and "Fit WIC."

Yeled V'Yalda WIC is part of Yeled V'Yalda Early Childhood Center, a provider of Head Start and Early Head Start services in Brooklyn and Staten Island. In addition to Head Start and WIC, Yeled V'Yalda provides comprehen-

sive services to children and their families that include early intervention, special education, facilitated health insurance enrollment, and other health services through Ezra Medical Center.

For more information about Yeled V'Yalda WIC, please call Nechama Stolzenberg, YVY WIC director, at (718) 686-2124.