

Community News

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bring my team back to visit Bruriah this year," he said. "We felt it was extremely

prepared me for my career."

As she prepared to present her module to students, she shared that finance "is something important to know for life. It's never too early to start under-



Bruriah alumna Ilana Schwartz of Fairlawn, NJ (in black with scarf), now a PwC specialist, returned to share her expertise with students.

important to share our program with the young women of Bruriah because opportunities in finance ought to be made equally available to both men and women."

Building on modules shared with the other divisions, 25 PwC professionals, ranging from first-year associates to senior managers, covered topics that included money management, budgeting, credit, trustworthiness as it pertains to lending money, and investing.



RTMA alumnus Sammy Rosenzweig of Hillside, NJ, Class of 2008

Most exciting for Bruriah students and faculty alike was the presence of a Bruriah alumna among the PwC team, Ilana Schwartz of Fairlawn, NJ.

Having graduated from Bruriah just four years ago, Schwartz attended Michlalah in Israel and then Yeshiva University's Stern College, finally earning her CPA in accounting. She joined PwC just three months ago and was thrilled to be chosen as part of the visiting team.

"I was very nostalgic driving here this morning," she said. "Bruriah gave me a strong work ethic and a very well-rounded education overall, which really

standing what goes into saving, planning, and money management."

Also in attendance as part of the PwC team was RTMA alumnus Sammy Rosenzweig of Hillside, NJ, class of 2008. This was his second year joining the team and presenting to students of the Jewish Educational Center.

The PwC visit is one of several financial literacy and personal/professional development programs planned for the JEC this academic year. PwC will be back in the spring of 2015 to visit with Yeshiva of Elizabeth and RTMA students. There is also an alumni networking for young professionals event scheduled for **January 7, 6:00-8:00 p.m.** at Congregation Ohav Shalom in New York City. A panel discussion on estate planning covering logistical, financial, legal, and *halachic* topics is being planned for later this winter, and a presentation on lessons in self-presentation by renowned executive coach Raleigh Mayer is tentatively slated for the spring.

For more information about any of these upcoming programs, please e-mail alumni@thejec.org or call 908-355-4850 ext. 6248. ♦

Chanukah Celebrants Welcomed At The White House


By Ben-Tzvi

In what has become a White House tradition since the administration of President George H.W. Bush back in the '90s, a ceremony is held to honor the Jewish community by inviting leading Jewish communal leaders and individuals who interact with the administration on various levels impacting the community.

Over the years, the magnitude of the reception at the White House has evolved into a *glatt kosher* affair with dedicated times for *Minchah* and *Ma'ariv* that has greatly enhanced the experience for the observant participant.

Chanukah this year was no exception as President Obama hosted two separate receptions to accommodate the many invitations extended to a diverse Jewish community. The idea of two receptions was instituted by the Obama adminis-

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tration and featured personalities such as Ambassador Stu Eizenstat, Secretary of the Treasury Jack Lew, Israeli Ambassador Ron Dermer, and numerous Jewish members of Congress.

"The announcement by President Obama at the onset of his remarks regarding the release of Alan Gross caused great joy for everyone at the White House Chanukah reception, and the personal acknowledgment by the president regarding the great importance of *pidyon shvuyim* underscores the sensitivity to a central tenet of our faith by a dignitary no less than the president of the United States. It was

a testament to the level of acceptance the community has risen to—only in America," said Ezra Friedlander, CEO of the Friedlander Group.

Agudath Israel trustee Chaskel Bennett remarked, "It is always an honor to be invited to the White House and in particular to be one of the representatives of the Orthodox Jewish community at the invitation of the president. The United States has historically proven to be a *medinah shel chesed* (a benevolent country) and after the Holocaust the broader Orthodox community thanks Hashem for allowing us to flourish on these welcoming shores. It is also incumbent to say thank-you to our highest government officials on behalf of a deeply



Davening Maariv in the Red Room



Chaskel Bennett, Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley, and Howard Friedman

grateful community. Chanukah at the White House is one such opportunity."

Rabbi Abe Friedman, a community leader and law-enforcement chaplain who works closely with various federal agencies within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, thanked the president in person at the Chanukah reception for the close cooperation between the government and the Orthodox and *chassidic* communities. The president responded, "That's why we invited you, Rabbi."

"Having been invited to the White House on the day of Alan Gross's release was a unique opportunity to express our appreciation to the president," said Joseph B. Stamm, CEO of MedReview, which is now celebrating its 40th

anniversary of service to the healthcare industry.

Representatives of numerous Jewish organizations attended, in particular, representatives from a myriad of Orthodox Jewish groups that work closely with the administration, including Agudath Israel of America, the Orthodox Union, Chabad, and many others. Some notable Orthodox attendees included Malcolm Hoenlein of the Conference of Presidents; Rabbi Michael Miller of the JCRC; Nathan Diamant and Allen Fagin of the OU; Bob Levy and Farley Weiss of the National Council of Young Israel; Rabbi Chaim Dovid Zwiebel, Duvi Gross, Abba Cohen, Chaskel Bennett, and Leon Goldenberg of Agudath Israel; Rockland County legislator Aron Wieder; renowned attorney Nathan

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Lewin; Chaplain Abe Friedman; Ezra Friedlander; activists Howard Friedman, Stanley Treitel, Benny Polatsek, Rabbi Daniel Ginsberg, Joe Stamm, Yoel Lefkowitz, Chanina Sperlin, Yaakov Behrman; and many others. The events were conducted under the auspices of Rabbi Levi Shemtov of the Washington Chabad whose organization certified the kosher preparation and serving of the food and who also arranged the private *Minchah* and *Ma'ariv minyanim*. ❖

Touro Hosts IT Executive Forum

The Touro College Graduate School of Technology (GST) recently hosted a panel of information-technology executives who shared their experiences in the industry. The five panelists recalled their paths to success, debated best practices in IT, and offered career advice to the students.

The panel consisted of Abe Cytryn, chief technology officer at Magzter; Shay David, Ph.D., cofounder and chief revenue officer at Kaltura; Hal Friedlander, chief information officer for the New York City Department of Education; Evelyn Fuhrer, managing director at the Promontory Financial Group; and Phil Teplitzky, chief technology officer and managing director of HPSquared.

Among the topics covered were which skills one must learn before entering the job market; how to prepare for interviews; the differences between working in the public and private sectors; professional etiquette; and tips on becoming valuable employees.

Hal Friedlander spoke about how he started his career in the "dot-com boom," building websites for small businesses and startups. He described how he and his friends went knocking on doors of different shops around the corner. "We went to our friends and family and asked, 'Hey, do you want us to build your website?'"

"Meanwhile," he says, "we were still figuring out how to do this."

He stressed that it's important students believe they are making an impact, no matter how small their position or company is. "I am crazily optimistic. I really believed that we were making a difference to the bottom line," he said. "I didn't care that we were building Garden State Lumber's website—I just cared that we were working."

Abe Cytryn advised students to ask themselves where they will enjoy spending most of their time and energy. "Know your key attributes, and choose a field you're passionate about," said Cytryn. "I have been very fortunate to have never worked a day in my life, because from day one I have spent it on growing and learning."

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DAFYOMISHIURIM In the 5 Towns Far Rockaway Area

4:30 am	@ Yeshiva Sh'or Yeshuv – Mishnah Berurah: Rabbi Shmuel Grossman
5:00 am	@ Yeshiva Sh'or Yeshuv – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Shmuel Grossman
5:15 am	@ Y.I. of Woodmere – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Rafael Fink
5:30 am	@ Chofetz Chaim Torah Center – Cedarhurst @ Rabbi Neiman's Shul – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Yossi Schonkopf
5:45 am	@ Agudah of L.I. (Rabbi Reisman) – Magid Shiur: Rav Shmuel Witkin @ Kehillas Bais Yehudah Tzvi (the Red Shul)
6:00 am	@ Agudah of L.I. – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Dr. Mermelstein @ Aish Kodesh – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Shalom Fried, Rabbi Daniel Fink @ Rabbi Blumenkrantz's shul @ CBEY: Island Ave., Woodmere – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Shalom Rosner @ Yeshiva Sh'or Yeshuv – Magid Shiur: Rabbi David Greenblatt
6:10 am	@ Beis Medrash of Cedarhurst – Rabbi Spiegel
6:15 am	@ Cong. Beis Avraham – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Henoch Grumet @ Beis Haknesses of North Woodmere
6:30 am	@ Agudah of West Lawrence – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Moshe Brown @ Young Israel of Law/Cedar. Maggid Shiur: Yale Fishman/Yaakov Shalev @ Y.I. of Oceanside @ Rabbi Katz's Shul in Far Rockaway – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Pinchas Birnhack @ Y.I. of Woodmere – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Aron Glatt @ Congregation Beth Shalom – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Yechiel Weberman
6:45 am	@ Shaaray Tefila – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Kalish @ The White Shul – Magidei Shiur: Rabbi Kanner @ Agudah of the Five Towns – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Ephraim Edelstein @ Agudas Yisroel of Long Island – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Tzvi Flaum
7:00 am	@ Agudah of L.I. – Sunday ONLY – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Dr. Mermelstein @ Congregation Beth Avraham – Sunday ONLY @ Yeshiva Gedolah of 5 Towns – Magid Shiur: Rav Yitzchok Knobel @ Young Israel of Law/Ced. – Sunday ONLY – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Yale Fishman
7:09 am	@ Far Rockaway LIRR 3rd car from the end – Direct to Penn Station Magid Shiur: Rabbi Kodesh

7:10 am	@ Agudah of Bayswater @ Mesivta Ateres Yaakov, 131 Washington Avenue
7:15 am	@ Aish Kodesh – Sunday ONLY @ Kehillas Bais Yehudah Tzvi (the Red Shul) @ Chabad – Maple Avenue, Cedarhurst
7:30 am	@ Agudah of L.I. (Rabbi Reisman) In Library – Magidei Shiur: Rabbis S. Kohn, N. Schweid, R. Flegman @ Congregation Heichal David – Sunday ONLY
7:35 am	@ Y.I. of Woodmere – Sunday ONLY – Magid Shiur: Rabbi R. Fink
7:45 am	@ Kehillas Bais Yehudah Tzvi (the Red Shul) – Sunday ONLY @ Beth Shalom – Sunday ONLY – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Yale Fishman @ Rabbi Blumenkrantz's shul – Shabbos ONLY
7:50 am	@ Far Rockaway LIRR front section of the last car – Direct to Penn Station
7:55 am	@ Lawrence LIRR – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Pesach Lerner
8:00 am	@ Shaaray Tefila – Sunday ONLY – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Kalish @ Agudas Yisroel of Long Island – Sunday ONLY – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Tzvi Flaum @ Mesivta Ateres Yaakov, 131 Washington Avenue (Shabbos Only)
8:10 am	@ LIRR Far Rockaway Branch, in the last car of the train, which makes stops at Inwood, Lawrence, Cedarhurst and Woodmere at 8:22 am Magid Shiur: Rabbi Menachem Adler
8:15 am	@ Beth Shalom – Shabbos ONLY – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Yale Fishman
8:45 am	@ Agudah of L.I. – Sunday ONLY in library @ Sunday mornings at Beis Tefilah – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Shaya Richmond
10:15 am	@ The White Shul – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Matt Cohen
12:50 pm	@ Cedarhurst Center – Ground Floor Conf. Room – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Lichtenstein
8:00 pm	@ Agudah of L.I. – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Nachum Katz @ Aish Kodesh – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Simcha Weingott @ Y.I. of Far Rockaway – Magid Shiur: R' Daniel Martin and R' Avraham Bachrach
8:15 pm	@ Cong. Beis Medrash of Cedarhurst – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Dovid Spiegel
8:30 pm	@ Y.I. of Oceanside @ Congregation Heichal David
8:45 pm	@ Yeshiva Sh'or Yeshuv – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Dovid Metz @ Rabbi Blumenkrantz – Magid Shiur: Rabbi Yosef Friedler
9:00 pm	@ Agudah of L.I. – Magid Shiurim: Rabbi Lichtenstein/Rotating Chaburah @ Agudah of West Lawrence – Rabbi Brown's Shul @ Agudah of Bayswater @ Beis Tefilah – (Tues. – Thurs.) Maggid Shiur: Rabbi Ephraim Edelstein

Rabbi Ephraim Frenkel – Menahel
Mrs. Aviva Zakutinsky – Program Director

Sh'eefa is a part-time, post-Israel seminary located in the beautiful facility of Kehillas Aish Kodesh in Woodmere. We offer various shiurim and programs that take place on Sunday mornings and every night of the week. Sh'eefa provides a warm environment where young women can become inspired, strengthen their hashkafos and volunteer in various local chessed opportunities.

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