

**Day to Day**

continued from page B17

on the subject of writing a *sefer Torah*, as well as a short biography on Reb Efraim Fishel Feldman, z"l.

The *seudah* concluded with an address by the *gabbai* of the Tzemach Tzaddik Vizhnitz Beis Medrash in Montreal, who thanked Reb Chaim Moshe on behalf of the community. The Tzemach Tzaddik community of Williamsburg gave a certificate of honor to Reb Chaim Moshe, delivered by Rav Yirmiyahu Goldhirsch and Rav Yisrael Baruch Stein, who expressed their gratitude for Reb Chaim Moshe's support of their community.

**Survey: Most Israeli Jews See Torah as 'Book Of Jewish Heritage'**

Almost every Israeli has a complete set of *Tanach*, a *siddur*, or a *Chumash* in his home, according to a survey published by the Panels Institute. Only 5% of those polled said they had none of these items.

An overwhelming 63% of respondents said they had studied some sort of Jewish text in the last six months, with 22% of those polled saying they study on a daily basis.

However, the most popular classification of the Torah was as a "book of Jewish heritage," with 80% of respondents from all walks of religious life identifying it as such. Just 10% thought it was best characterized as a means of binding Jews to Jewish law.

**Bnei Brak Mayor Yaakov Asher in N.Y.**

Newly installed Bnei Brak Mayor Rabbi Yaakov Asher is visiting the United States to launch the Development Fund for Bnei Brak.

With a population of over 160,000, Bnei Brak is home to one the largest concentrations of chareidi Jews in the world. The Development Fund for Bnei Brak aims to attract foreign investment to Bnei Brak and promote projects to enhance the quality of life for its residents.

According to Ezra Friedlander, CEO of the Friedlander Group, which represents the Bnei Brak Fund, Rabbi Asher's visit aims to enable him to meet with important communal and business leaders from across the spectrum of the Jewish community. Rabbi Asher wants to focus on initiating projects with potential investors in the realm of recreation and special education.

Bnei Brak is synonymous with the timeless values of Jewish tradition, and boasts a myriad of chassidic centers, shuls and famous yeshivos. Additionally, the vast majority of the New York Jewish community shares a close kinship with Bnei Brak, both familial and communal.

For more information pertaining to Mayor Rabbi Asher's visit, please contact the Friedlander Group at BneiBrak@FriedlanderGroup PR.com or by calling (718) 436-5555 ext. 101.

**Tefillin of Rav Yitzchak Kulitz, zt"l, Returned**

Following a report in *Hamodia* about tefillin that had been found in Switzerland, a pair of expensive tefillin purchased by Rav Yitzchak Kulitz, zt"l, the long-time Rav of Jerusalem, was identified by his son, Rav Nachum Kulitz.

The tefillin were stolen during a train ride in Switzerland. This pair, along with five others, was discovered in a sales center by an *avreich*, who sent them to the Pe'er Institute in Bnei Brak. After seeing the article in the Hebrew *Hamodia*, Rav Kulitz contacted the institute and discovered that one of the pairs were his.

The tefillin, purchased 40 years ago, were extremely *mehudar* and carefully chosen by the Rav.

**Rabbi Litzman Seeks to Cut Smoking Rate With Better Enforcement**

Deputy Health Minister Rabbi Yaakov Litzman is considering new measures to bring down the smoking rate in Israel.

His proposals include charging tobacco companies a fee to cover the cost of antismoking advertisements and education; restricting or eliminating cigarette vending machines; increasing the cigarette tax by an additional NIS 2 per package; prohibiting tobacco companies from sponsoring youth and sports events; and demanding regular reports from municipalities on how they are enforcing no-smoking laws.

Rabbi Litzman — a confirmed tobacco opponent, unlike his predecessor, Yitzchak Ben Yizri, who had smoked for more than 65 years — added that smoking is no longer permitted in his ministry's headquarters. "If a staffer has to smoke here, he should look for work elsewhere," he said.

Israel Cancer Association Director General Miri Ziv noted that, on average, an Israeli dies every hour from tobacco-related diseases — a total of 10,000 people a year.



Bnei Brak Mayor Rabbi Yaakov Asher shows Ezra Friedlander (L.) sites in Bnei Brak for potential projects.

*Join us  
Summer  
2009  
for a  
great  
time...*

**SOUTH FALLSBURG, NY  
845-434-7000**

Ramada Jerusalem Hotel

*We Love Kids*

*Rates for Tourists*

*July 1 - September 17, 2009 (inclusive)*

|                                   | 7-13 nts | 14-21 nts | 21+ nts |
|-----------------------------------|----------|-----------|---------|
| 2 Adults + 1 child (1 room)       | \$188    | \$178     | \$168   |
| 2 Adults + 2,3 or 4 chd (2 rooms) | \$306    | \$296     | \$286   |
| 1 Adult + 1 or 2 chd (1 room)     | \$188    | \$178     | \$168   |
| 1 Adults + 3 or 4 chd (2 rooms)   | \$306    | \$296     | \$286   |

The rates are per night, in US \$, including Israeli breakfast and service charge. The rates are for the total number of rooms on the line. Child 2-17 years old.

- Elegant large rooms, spacious lobbies, restaurants & bars
- Free large indoor & outdoor pools, health club & sauna
- Complimentary shuttle service to the Old City (weekdays only)
- Supervised children's activities & adult entertainment (August)

**RAMADA.**  
JERUSALEM

*Leave the Rest to Us.*

Glatt Mehadrin under: Badatz Rabbinate  
Jerusalem, Orthodox Union ©  
Ruppin Bridge at Herzl Blvd,  
POB 3369, Jerusalem 91033 Israel  
Tel: 972 2 659 9999, Fax: 972 2 651 1824  
E-mail: ramadajerusalem@netvision.net.il  
www.ramadainternational.com