

## Speaker Sheldon Silver Honors Former Chairman Of The RWCCC

Following the July 9 Congressional Gold Medal ceremony honoring the life and achievements of Raoul Wallenberg, a brief reception was held with a special presentation by New York State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver to

honor Peter Rebenwurz, who was the chairman of the Raoul Wallenberg Centennial Celebration Commission (RWCCC) and whose father-in-law, Alexander Herman, was saved by Raoul Wallenberg.



(L-R) Congressman Chaka Fattah; Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center; Stanley Treitel; Rabbi Yitzchok Fleisher, of the U.S. Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad; Dr. David Moskovits, president of the Endowment for Democracy in Eastern Europe; Peter Rebenwurz, chairman of the Raoul Wallenberg Centennial Celebration

Commission, N.Y.S. Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver; Ezra Friedlander, CEO, the Friedlander Group; Leon Goldenberg; Joseph B. Stamm; Rabbi Elie Abadie; Willam Nussen; Ben Hoffman; N.Y.S. Assembly member Phil Goldfeder.

### Dating Primer

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he jumped at the chance. Their first date was as good as Naftali could ever expect. Ziva got his sense of humor right away, and their conversations just flowed. It had been four years since Naftali had felt such a connection, and he felt stronger about Ziva each time they got together. Ziva was also excited about their relationship. This was the first time she ever went out with someone more than four or five times. They got engaged after a few months of dating.

Naftali and Ziva were full of excitement at their vort, and began looking at wedding halls the next day. They soon realized they had different ideas about the type of wedding they each wanted – Ziva spoke about buying a Vera Wang gown, a chuppah made of orchids, and a high end menu. Naftali would have been happy getting married in a school gym adorned with balloons, but he figured that every girl dreams of a beautiful wedding and didn't want to take that away from his future wife.

As the wedding plans fell into place, the couple started to shop for furniture and look for apartments. Here, too, it became clear that they had very different expectations. Ziva only wanted to consider apartments in upscale neighborhoods, and to shop at exclusive furniture stores. "I'm 29, I've paid my dues, and since I make a good living I'd like to live nicely," she explained. Naftali was shocked. Not only did he expect to live in a "regular" neighborhood, but his true dream for them was to save money so they could move to Israel one day. This became the subject of their first argument, since Ziva did not want to live in Israel and was angry that Naftali had never discussed this with her. Soon, the couple realized that there was another major difference between them. Naftali had expected Ziva to fully cover her hair, and learned that Ziva was buying hats for shul but didn't want to otherwise cover her hair. There were other hashkafic differences they had never spoken about. As time went on, Naftali and Ziva had a long talk, decided it was clear that they were going in different directions, and ended the engagement.

Ziva and Naftali agreed that, "We got engaged too soon. We needed to talk about all of these things beforehand. We would have realized that we have too many differences and that we couldn't work them out enough to be able to get married."

Like Naftali and Ziva, some daters jump into engagement before they know enough about each other's goals, plans, and expectations. Others take the leap with blinders on – not seeing potential problems that need to be addressed before a couple decides to marry. We'll discuss that next week.

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