

Shabbat Tazria Metzora
Iyar 2-3, 5767
April 20-21, 2007

Candle Lighting: 7:22 PM
Shabbat Ends: 8:24 PM

Weekly Bulletin

VOLUME I

FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2007

2 IYAR, 5767

ISSUE XXX

Chabad Women's Circle

A monthly group established to create an atmosphere of inspiration, creativity and camaraderie

Shabbat: Sanctifying Time, Space and Self

Bronya Shaffer, Lecturer, AskMoses.com Scholar

Quilt a Richly Patterned Throw Pillow

Sharry Pollock, Expert Quilter

Hosted by Beth Kern – 190 Riverside Dr. #6C * Entrance on 91st St.

Tues., April 24, 2007 • 8:15pm – 9:45pm \$5.00 couvert

R.S.V.P. • cwc@chabadwestside.org • 212-864-5010 *Light refreshments served*

Esther Miriam Fried • Rivka Kugel • Sarah Ossey

Paul and Aviva Sitruk are sponsoring this event in memory of Aviva's grandmother, Chana Bas Esther

WEST SIDE PIANO

Emil Vajda

Pianist and Teacher



212-724-0124
westsidepiano.com

251 W. 92 St. Apt 2A2
New York, NY 10025

ONGOING CLASSES

MONDAY EVENINGS 8:15 pm

IN-DEPTH TANYA
with Rabbi Meir Ossey
AT THE CHABAD SHUL

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

10:45–11:30
PATHWAYS TO THE SOUL
a Class for Women
with Rabbi Shlomo Kugel

Coffee & Discussion
AT THE HOME OF
DEBORAH & DAVID SHIMKO
500 WEST END AVE. APT. #8C

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS 8:30 pm

PRACTICAL HALACHA
with Rabbi Yisroel Fried

AT THE HOME OF
NAAVA & DANNY ECKSTIEN
20 WEST 87TH ST. APT. #1B

SHABBAT

9:00 am
THE CHASSIDIC PARSHA
with Rabbi Yisroel Fried

1 hour before Mincha
RAMBAM SHIUR
with Rabbi Yisroel Fried
at the Chabad Shul

101 WEST 92ND STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10025 212-864-5010
www.chabadwestside.org
chabad@chabadwestside.org

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Halachic Times

Week of April 19 - 25

Earliest Tefillin (latest of the week) :5:19 AM
 Latest Shma (earliest of the week) :9:30 AM
 Torah Reading: Tazriah-Metzorah (Leviticus 12:1 - 15:33)
 Haftorah 2 Kings 2:7 - 20 (Haftorah for Metzorah)
 Earliest Kiddush Levana .Tues., 4/24, 12:45 & 13/18 AM

Shabbat Parshat Tazriah - Metzorah

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

Candle Lighting :7:22 pm
 Mincha :7:30 pm
 Dvar Torah Rabbi Fried
 Kabbalat Shabbat :8:00 pm

SHABBAT, APRIL 21

Parshah Class :9:00 am
 Shacharit :9:45 am
 Dvar Torah Rabbi Ossey
 Kids Shul & Junior Minyan :11:00 - 12:15

Kiddush is sponsored by Abraham Altman in honor of the birth of a baby girl, Sarah, to Dr. Stephen and Rochel

Fried approx. 12:30 PM
 Rambam :6:25 pm
 Mincha :7:25 pm
 Ma'ariv & Havdallah :8:25 pm

Each week, a Video of the Rebbe is shown after Havdallah.

Daily Minyan:

Sunday & legal holidays: :9 AM
 Monday & Thursday: :7:15 AM
 Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: :7:30 AM
 Rosh Chodesh: :7 AM

Learn Rambam everyday at
www.chabadwestside.org/dailystudy/rambam.asp

Chametz after Pesach

Chometz that was owned by a Jew on Pesach should be avoided - even after Pesach. This includes Jewish stores that did not sell their Chometz. It is advisable that for a month or so after Pesach, Chometz should be bought from stores that are known to have sold their Chometz. Fairway stores have done so, and it is permitted to buy Chometz there.

Please note that this prohibition applies to “real” chometz, like bread, crackers, pasta, and grain cereals and the like. It does not apply to other foods though they might not be Kosher for Passover nor does it apply to foods which have wheat as an ingredient but are not primarily made out of grain.

Halachic Corner - Omer questions

interesting questions posed by our readers

Question: What are some of the important points about counting the Omer?

Answer: Ideally, one should count the Omer every night during Ma'ariv. Ma'ariv should be prayed after nightfall, Tzeit Hakoachavim. However, many Shuls hold Ma'ariv earlier in the evening, since nightfall can be late at this time of year (as late as 8:30 PM.) Many Shuls will count the Omer with the appropriate blessing at that earlier time, when everyone is in Shul for Ma'ariv. One should, in such a case, recount the Omer later in the evening without a Brachah.

Some have the custom of recounting the Omer during the day, just in case they may have forgotten to count the night before.

If one did not count the Omer for an entire day, one cannot continue saying the Brachah for counting the Omer on subsequent evenings. Of course, one should continue to count the Omer, even though no they are no longer reciting the brachah.

One should bear in mind that if one only counted the Omer earlier in the evening (before nightfall) but did not count it again at night or if one forgot to count during Ma'ariv altogether but counted the Omer the next day during the day, one can still continue to count the Omer on subsequent nights with a Brachah.



Chabad ELC

Chabad ELC
101 West 92nd Street
166 West 97th Street

Phone: 212-864-5010
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www.chabadwestside.org
celc@chabadwestside.org

Concert Rehearsal

Quite a number of CELC families enjoyed a preview of the New York Philharmonic's concert for young children this past Friday afternoon. The



children had a wonderful time and we were glad that so many of you were able to participate. Many thanks to Educational Enrichment Coordinator **Judy Federbush** (Jacob Greenwald, PK) for initiating and coordinating this great family event.

Start Shopping!

Register at the Boxtops Marketplace and have a percentage of your online shopping benefit the CELC PA! It's fast, simple and **highly effective!**



<https://www.boxtops4education.com/login.aspx>

Next Week at CELC



Monday, April 23	<u>Yom Ha'atzmaut</u> Music 97 Bookworms PK
Tuesday, April 24	Music 92
Wednesday, April 25	Library Day 97 Kinderdance 92
Thursday, April 26	<u>PK Trip to Belvedere Castle / Ornithology II</u> Kinderdance 97

After School Update

Our spring after-school classes are well underway!

92nd Street Soccer

Our first soccer class was a wonderful success. If you're interested, there's still room to join! After-school soccer runs from 12:45 - 1:30 on Wednesday afternoons.

NEW! 97th Street Soccer Class

Due to great demand, an additional soccer class will open at 97th Street. The new class will be on Tuesdays at 2:45 pm. Please contact Debbie if you are interested in participating in this class.

Volunteers Needed!

Our After-School classes are a wonderful program that we all appreciate. There are a variety of ways you can help keep things running smoothly. Contact Debbie for volunteer opportunities.



After-School Classes Coordinator
Debbie Rudt (Adam, N2)
(212) 501-8834 / debrudt@rcn.com



Aron and Ariel (NT)

Laptop Search

Have you recently upgraded to a new laptop? Donate your old one to Chabad ELC, get a tax write-off and a mitzvah at the same time!

We are looking for a basic laptop that can be used for classroom and teacher training purposes. Please contact the school office for more information.



Mazal Tov! Mazal Tov! Mazal Tov!

Malaika Amon and Anthony Bregman upon the birth of a baby girl! Best wishes to **Akira** (PN3), **Atticus** (New Toddlers) and the entire family.

Morah Leah Mayteles (N2) upon her engagement to **Eliyahu Morrison**. Best wishes to the Mayteles and Morrison families.

Morah Esther and Yitzchak Sitorsky (N2) upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son **Menachem Mendel**. Best wishes to **Yaakov Tzvi** (T97) and the entire family!

Rabbi Yisrael and Esther Miriam Fried (N2) upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son **Avremel**. Best wishes to **Shmuel** (N2), **Raizel** (T97) and the entire family!

Save these Dates



PN, N, PK Trip to Van Saun Park - Tuesday, May 8

Pre-Nursery, Nursery and Pre-K classes will go to Van Saun Park in Paramus, NJ for our annual school-wide field trip.

Toddler Trip to Central Park Zoo - Wednesday, May 9

The Toddler classes will go to Central Park Zoo for our first class field trip.

NO SCHOOL - Shavuot / Memorial Day - Tuesday, May 22 - Monday, May 28

There will be no sessions Tuesday, May 22 - Monday, May 28. Regular sessions will resume on Tuesday, May 29.

Chabad Annual Dinner - Monday, June 4

The Chabad Annual Gala Dinner will be at Pier Sixty at Chelsea Piers on Monday, June 4.

PA Oneg Shabbat - Shabbat, June 9

Shabbat afternoon end-of-year family get together sponsored by the PA.

Last Day of School - Wednesday, June 13

There will be 12:30 dismissal for all classes on the last day of school.

Mad Science

Our Nursery and Pre-K classes are mad about science! Mad Science is a program that introduces scientific concepts to children in a meaningful and exciting way.

Thursday's program engaged the children in entertaining demonstrations and provided opportunities for the children to safely experiment with the chemical properties of dry ice. The presentation simultaneously educated and entertained, making it a wonderful success on all fronts.

It is your generous support of the Parents' Association that enables us to enjoy such wonderful programming. Thank you!



Happy Rosh Chodesh Iyar!



We celebrated Rosh Chodesh, the first day of the new Hebrew month Iyar, this week.

Some of the classes made hats in honor of the special day and everyone enjoyed a sweet ice cream dessert. The Hebrew word Iyar is an acronym for the phrase "*Ani Hashem*

Rofecha, I am God, your healer" (Exodus 15:26). May it be a happy and healing month for us all.

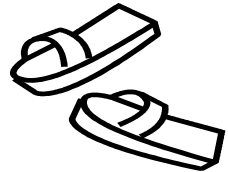
Don't Lose It!

Summer Camp Season is Almost Here!



Hang on to all your great stuff this summer. With **Mabel's Labels'** stick-ons, your children will come home with their sports equipment, towels, swim bags and even their water shoes!

Help support the PA while getting your family organized! Ensure that 15-20% of your order goes directly to the PA by logging on to:



www.chabadelc.mabel.ca

If you have any questions or would like more information about this program, please contact Chaviva Kaplan (Einav, PN1) at 212-724-3430.



Mabel's Labels offers a wide selection of stick-ons, iron-ons, allergy alerts and even shoe labels. Mabel's Labels are tough, cute and easy to use. You can personalize labels with names, initials and even fun icons for non-readers. The labels are dishwasher, microwave, laundry & kid tested.

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

Parshat Acharei - Kedoshim

Friday, April 27

Candle Lighting7:29 PM

Saturday, April 28

Shabbat ends8:33 PM

Pirkei Avot Chapter 3

**Ba'al Korehs
Welcome**

If you or someone you know can layn a Parshah - we would love to have you layn at Chabad. Whether you want to refresh your Bar Mitzvah Parshah or you want to prepare a new one, please call our office.

KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Sponsoring a Kiddush is a great way to share you Simchah or special family event with the community!

Kiddushim can be sponsored to celebrate a birthday, graduation or to commemorate the Yahrzeit of a loved one. Kiddush sponsors are encouraged to share some words of Torah at their Kiddush. Kiddushim cost \$300, \$400 or \$500.

To sponsor a kiddush, please email Rabbi Fried at ryf@chabadwestside.org, or call at 212-864-5010 x 14.

Kiddush Schedule:

Shabbat Tazriah - Metzorah, April 21,

Kiddush is sponsored by Abraham Altman in honor of the birth of a baby girl, Sarah, to Dr. Stephen and Rochel Fried

Shabbat Acharei - Kedoshim, April 28,

Kiddush is sponsored by Ben Goldstein in honor of the Yahrzeit of his mother; Channah Bat Yehoshua HaKohen, 13 Iyar

Shabbat Emor - May 5,.....

Kiddush is available

Shabbat Behar - Bechukotai - May 12,

Kiddush is available

PIRKEI AVOT

During the summer months, we say Pirkei Avot, Ethics of the Fathers. There are a number of reasons for this. Some say that during the longer summer Shabbat afternoons, there is more time, so we should add an extra bit of learning. Others say that, especially during the weeks before Shavuot, as we prepare to receive the Torah, we should learn the part of the Torah which discusses Torah ethics and values - the subject matter of Pirkei Avot. The Rebbe puts great emphasis on this important custom. He even stated that though it appears from the Alter Rebbe's writing in the siddur (see Siddur Tehillat Hashem p. 211) that the Chabad custom used to be to only say Pirkei Avot until Shavuot, we should nonetheless say it the entire summer, right up to the Shabbat preceding Rosh HaShannah.

**IMPORTANT DATES ON THE CHABAD CALENDAR - 2
IYAR**

The second of Iyar, this Friday April 21, is the birthday of the fourth of the Rebbeim of Chabad, R. Shmuel, the Rebbe Maharash. He was born in the year 5594 (1834).

One of his famous teachings was "L'chatchila Ariber" which teaches that if we come upon an obstacle to a task we are involved in, or an obstacle to a mitzvah or project or good deed which comes our way (or we pursue), we should overcome the obstacle in the most direct manner. The Rebbe Maharash explained that while some people propose that when confronted with an obstacle the best route is to go around, or under it -- l'chatchila ariber -- from the start, go over it.

The Rebbe Maharash mentioned this concept -- which has been the constant battle cry of Lubavitch outreach workers all over the world -- in reference to one who finds himself faced with an obstacle. "The whole world says, first try to go under or around an obstacle. If this doesn't work, then go over it," the Rebbe Maharash noted. "But I say, 'In the first place, go over,'" he declared.

What does it mean to go over an obstacle right away rather than trying another method to pass an obstruction? In confronting obstacles to all good endeavors, one should take the most ambitious and aggressive approach. One cannot remain passive, hoping that the situation will change by itself or that the obstruction will magically disappear. It must be approached as a challenge. And, as such, it should be afforded one's utmost attention and energy.

TORAH FAX

So To Speak?

One of the strangest phenomena the Torah records is the one discussed in this week's parsha concerning a house that was afflicted with tza'ra'at (incorrectly translated as leprosy), a form of lesion that affected people's bodies, clothing and even their homes.

Upon discovering this "disease" on one's house, the owner of the home would call a Kohain to determine whether it was truly afflicted with tza'ra'at. The Torah states that the owner should inform the priest that "There appears to me to be something like a lesion in the house."

Rashi notes the indirect way the homeowner presented his discovery to the Kohain. Instead of saying "There is a lesion," he states "There appears to me something like a lesion in the house." This is to teach us, that even if the person was well versed in the laws of lesions, nevertheless he should never state categorically that he saw a lesion. He must wait for the priest to come, examine it, and declare it to be lesion.

But what is wrong for the homeowner to state clearly that he saw a lesion if that is indeed what he saw. Why the added qualifier "like"?

One answer is that the entire phenomenon of tzara'at, our Sages tell us, was a reaction to lashon hara. Lashon hara is usually translated as slander or gossip, or simply speaking ill of others. However, a broader way of rendering this phrase is: bad use of language. Obviously, the worst violation of poor or bad use of language is when we use it to hurt others, but it is not restricted to that extreme form of abuse. To counter lashon hara one must not only avoid speaking ill of others but they must also speak in the most refined and elegant way possible.

To explain: The most pronounced quality that defines our humanity is our ability to speak. Indeed, when dividing all levels of existence into the four categories of the inanimate, vegetation, animals and humans, the term used to describe humans is "midaber-a talker." The power of speech is what differentiates us from animals.

Speech is the bridge between the two worlds of self and other. When a person speaks, others can be part of the thought process, unlike thought. But, speech is also unlike action where the person's intimate involvement is not detected by the outside. When a person speaks, their feelings are clearly expressed. The verse "his soul leaves him as he speaks," expresses how profound speech is. Speech is thus truly a Divine power that enables us to express our inner feelings to others.

This ability to relate to others one's most intimate feelings is a gift that G-d gave to humans. Therefore, when one takes this exquisite gift and uses it poorly, it is a serious breach of trust. It is comparable to one who takes a piece of jewelry given as a gift and uses it to remove filth.

In addition to the fact that speech is a rare Divine gift, speech also has the capacity to unlock hidden aspects of our personalities. Kabbalah teaches us that positive speech can make the latent positive energies surface, while negative speech can do the same with regard to hidden or suppressed negative energies.

We can now understand why the Torah does not want the owner of the house to state categorically that he saw a lesion in his house; yet the

Kohain must make that very declaration.

According to Jewish law, only the Kohain can declare the house unclean and subject it to purification. Thus, the Kohain must state clearly that there is a lesion and the house is unclean. He cannot use euphemisms or vague statements. Clarity about matters of law and behavior override the importance of refined and positive language.

But the owner of the house, whose declaration has no effect anyhow, must be more sensitive than others to not state categorically that there is a lesion. And this so for several reasons:

First, tza'ra'at was a reaction to the malevolent use of speech. Surely, when one goes through the process of cleansing oneself from improper speech, one must be more conscientious than the average person in selecting a less negative way of articulating one's thoughts.

Second, since negative language can actually activate dormant negative energy, this individual would only be strengthening his weakness. Only the Kohain who is identified with the trait of kindness, must be blunt in his declaration so that he can "surgically" remove the negative influences from the person who was afflicted with tza'ra'at.

Third, just as there is a prohibition against speaking ill of others, one should not disparage oneself needlessly. Some people have a tendency to be very harsh on themselves, thinking that it is good to be self-deprecating and humble. In the pursuit of the noble trait of humility, some will actually grossly exaggerate their own deficiencies and cause themselves harm in the process.

On the other hand, it is crucial that we do not overlook our faults. If we see a "lesion" developing we must do something about it.

By using the term "like" a lesion, the owner of the house satisfies both demands. He is conscious of his potential spiritual malady (of which the lesion was a physical manifestation) and is taking action to deal with it, while at the same time not jumping to conclusions and exaggerating the extent of the malady.

We are living in the most sensitive time of history. As we have stated repeatedly in so many of our weekly messages that we are standing on the threshold of the future Redemption. In this precarious position-it's not easy to stand on a threshold for too long-our "house," figuratively speaking, seems to us to be afflicted with serious lesions.

The Torah therefore exhorts us not to be too harsh in our own self-condemnation. But, we should not put ourselves down and we ought never become hysterical in our own self-judgment.

In addition, our Sages tell us that the way to correct the negative forms of speech is to engage in positive forms of speech; to be generous with your praise of others. Additionally, we should spend more time utilizing our Divine gift of speech for Torah study and prayer.

All the positive energy that we will generate through our positive speech (as well as thought and action) will finally help to push us off the "threshold" of Redemption into the Redemption itself.

Moshiach Matters...

Since we are now at the conclusion of the era of exile, anticipating "the footsteps of Mashiach," then most certainly "the day is short," while "the work is much," for there is already an abundance of Torah and mitzvos to be dealt with. The Rebbe Moshiach - It's a Jewish issue. For more info, visit www.moshiach.com