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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

BY LARRY GORDON

Presidential Posturing

The jockeying and posturing for position to get the attention of American voters on the part of those who covet the job of President of the United States has begun in earnest. While it seems that Hillary Clinton and several others have been running for the position for years, the next few weeks are what can be characterized as getting down to the nitty-gritty. Beginning with the Iowa caucuses and

several early state primaries, voters will be able to finally begin expressing their feelings and reactions to the tens of millions of dollars in ads that have been directed at them for what seems to be a political eternity.

I hope that periodically over the next year we will be able to utilize this space to analyze and express my

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Letters to the Editor

Torah And Knowledge

Dear Editor,

I'd like to thank Avi Meir for his article "Knowledge is Good" (December 14); his is a most articulate letter of support for Yeshiva University and all it stands for. However, his assumptions about *Torah u'Madda* and Dr. Lamm, I believe, are misguided, and his formulation of the position of his *rebbeim* (if they are meant to represent the entire

yeshiva world), I also believe, is wrong.

He quotes from Dr. Lamm's book that "Torah, faith, religious learning on one side and *madda*, science, worldly knowledge on the other, together offer us a more overarching and truer vision than either one set alone. Each set gives one view of the Creator as well as of His creation, and

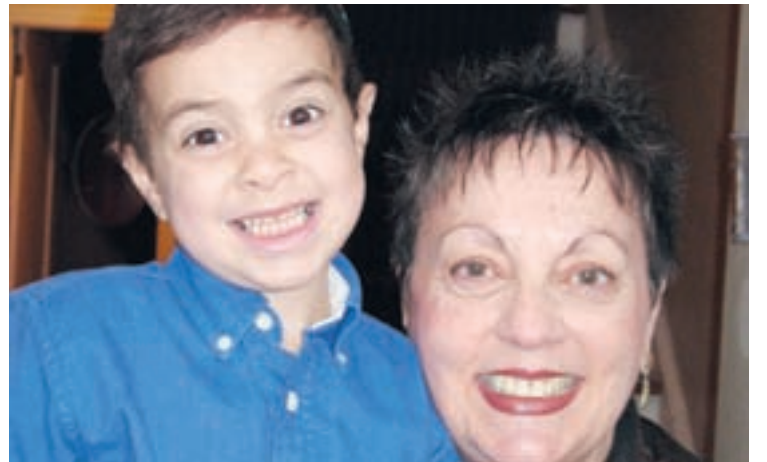
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Teen Clowns Big Hit



At the Lev Leytzan Chanukah melaveh malkah in Jerusalem: Robbie Schonfeld, Shlomo Golombeck (Ateres Yaakov), Srully Burnstein, Levi Shapiro (YFR), Dr. Neal C. Goldberg, Eliezer Seidenfeld (DRS), Mottie Widroff (Ateres Yaakov), Moishe Schonfeld (Ateres Yaakov), Dovy Lebowitz (YDT), Rabbi Shmuel Rabinovitch (Rav of the Kotel), Betzalel Cohen (Derech), Rabbi Yaakov Pinsky, Efraim Molinsky (Bobov), Josh Schonfeld (Ateres Yaakov), Zachy Adler (DRS), and Etan Stern (NSHA). See Page 64

IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE



Hannah Reich Berman, 5TJT columnist, with her five-year-old grandson, Zev Wolff, who is battling neuroblastoma. The family needs to raise three million dollars to adapt an existing drug so that it can benefit Zev and others with his condition. Please help by sending a donation to Zev's Fund, P.O. Box 58, Cedarhurst, NY 11516 or at www.zevsfund.org. See Page 51

HEARD IN THE BAGEL STORE

Because Everything Is In It

BY LARRY GORDON

I would have thought that by now Rabbi Shmuel Lichtenstein might have given up. But I was only guessing or speculating and was, of course, hoping that he would not. The young rabbi lives in Far Rockaway with his wife and family and studies at the Kollel Avreichim on Beach



Rabbi Shmuel Lichtenstein

Continued on Page 10

Waterboarding And The CIA Tapes

Halachic Musings

BY RABBI YAIR HOFFMAN
DIRECTOR, TIFERET CHAYA
PROGRAM FOR GIRLS

There is a concept in the Torah of *mitzvos tz'richos kavanah* (See *Shulchan Aruch Orech Chaim* 60:4). Essentially, this means that in order to fulfill a *mitzvah*, the one who performs it must have intent to do so. Although

Continued on Page 15

NINE INCHES OF SNOW?!

Our Aliyah Chronicle, Part 68

BY SHMUEL KATZ

Sorry to have missed you all last week; I got (can you believe it) tonsillitis and was actually sick at home, in a lot of pain for the beginning of the week. So I didn't have a chance to recap our Chanukah break. I had been scheduled to fly to New York after lighting candles on the last night of Chanukah but had to reschedule that, as well.

Continued on Page 13

CANDLE LIGHTING
Dec. 21 – 4:12 PM
Dec. 28 – 4:17 PM

Adeline S. Zucker Family Center ensures that her legacy of *chesed* and *tzedakah* will live on." ❖

Yom Iyun To Benefit Zev Wolff

On December 25, you can make a difference by joining and/or sponsoring a *yom iyun* at the Young Israel of Woodmere to benefit Zev Wolff, a five-year-old boy who has neuroblastoma.



Zev Wolff with his grandmother, Hannah Reich Berman.

The schedule is as follows: Rabbi Dovid Fohrman, "Difficult Stories in *Sefer Bereshit*: Understanding Yehuda and Tamar and *mechirat* Yosef," 10:00 a.m.; Rabbi Dr. David Shatz, "Worship of the Heart: Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, *zt'l*, on the nature of prayer," 11:00 a.m.; Rachel Mansdorf Jesselson, "Estate Planning and *Halachah*: Did Warren Buffet get it right?" 12:00 p.m.; Tova Renov Katz, "Making a Good Marriage Better: Torah insights and practical strategies for enhancing your marriage" (for women only), 12:45 p.m.; Rabbi Yisroel Reisman, "Lesson in *Chizuk*," 2:00 p.m.; Yael Klein Leibowitz, "Shimshon: Heroic tragedy or tragic Hero?" 3:00 p.m.

Sponsorships are available for Zev's Fund, Inc. A total of 500 sponsors at \$1,000 each will allow them to reach \$500,000. The sponsorship levels are: Full day: \$5,000; Half day: \$2,500; Platinum: \$1,000; Gold: \$500; Silver: \$250; Bronze: \$100; Caring friend: \$50.

For more information, please contact Asher Mansdorf at amansdorf@aol.com. Tax-deductible checks can be made out to Zev's Fund, Inc., P.O. Box 58, Cedarhurst, New York 11516. ❖

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McCain Names Israel Lobbyist As Jewish Advisor

BY SARAH MORRISON

American presidential hopeful Senator John McCain has appointed Mark Broxmeyer as his Jewish Advisor. Broxmeyer, a native of Long Island, is a real estate magnate and former head of a powerful pro-Israel lobby. He was recently asked by Sen. McCain to serve on his National Finance Committee, where he will remain in addition to serving in his new position.

Broxmeyer graduated from Hofstra University in 1972 and went from there to co-found and become president of the multi-million dollar Fairfield Properties real estate agency in 1973.

He has been a large contributor to McCain's campaign, but Broxmeyer has given much more to politics

besides money. Former President George Bush Sr. appointed him to the

Broxmeyer is considered an authority on Israeli security issues.

Board of Directors of the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York, and he

has served on New York Governor George Pataki's Board of Directors of the United Nations Development Corporation.

Broxmeyer also is highly involved with one of the most powerful pro-Israel lobbies, chairing the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs (JINSA), a right-wing Washington-based Israel advocacy and research institution. JINSA promotes cooperation between Israel and the United States on such crucial matters as security, missile defense, weaponry, terrorism, and the increase of weapons of mass destruction throughout the world.

He is considered an authority on Israeli security issues. Through JINSA, Broxmeyer has consulted with high-level security officials and diplomats from all over the world to help reinforce Israel's relationship with the U.S. and other key allies to achieve global peace. He often appears on television and radio news broadcasts as a reliable source on security issues. (Arutz Sheva) ❖

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| Horav Doniel Lander | Horav Mordechai Finkelman |
| Horav Mordechai Krauss | <i>Mashgiach Ruchani</i> |
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