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## Yom Hakaddish Haklali Observed At YIKGH



Guest speaker Rabbi Daniel Glatstein

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## Partners In Torah Honors Rabbi Yoel Schonfeld As Part Of Winter Retreat In Stamford



SEE STORY ON P. 29

## Eldercare II: An Evening To Remember



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### Public Affairs

#### Shuls Big And Small

By Sergey Kadinsky

The recent opinion piece by Brooklyn resident Barry Katz, "The Case for Big Shuls," published in the Jan. 2, 2015, edition of *The Jewish Press*, merits a deeper look, which should include perhaps the two

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### Shabbos Inbox

#### Praying for Blue Lives

By Eytan Kobre

A real patriot is the fellow who gets a parking ticket and rejoices that the system works.  
 -- Bill Vaughan

Having recently completed tours of duty in Afghanistan and

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### Queens Jewish Link To Celebrate Anniversary Milestone At Gala Affair Next Week

SEE ARTICLE ON P. 55

### As I See It

#### Politics Makes Strange Bedfellows – Especially In Israel

By Cynthia Zalisky

With the new Israeli elections called for Tuesday, March 17, there is a lot of posturing,

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### Hooked On Healing

#### Happy. Happy. Happy.

By Caroline Schumsky

Sigh. If only...then...I'd finally be happy. The unending gimmicks we endure to try to achieve what we think we want.

Ah, yes. Allow me to show you how to be an instant cash

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## Eldercare II: An Evening To Remember



Eli Weiss, Assemblyman Todd Kaminsky, Rabbi Boruch B. Bender



Eli Weiss, Rabbi Yaakov Bender, Rabbi Boruch B. Bender, Rabbi Ephraim Eliyahu Shapiro, Shalom Jaroslawicz

**E**ldercare II, Achiezer's long-awaited eldercare conference, was a runaway success in every sense of the word. From all walks of life they came: middle-aged children, doctors, *rabbanim*, spouses – residents of Manhattan, Williamsburg, Monsey, Connecticut, Clifton, Lakewood. They all came with one goal in mind: to provide the best possible care for the seniors in their lives.

"Even if I had left half an hour into the first session, it would have been 110% worth coming," reported one enthusiastic participant.

Indeed, the sessions surpassed all expectations. People were literally turned away at the doors of several sessions, as the wall-to-wall crowd took up every available inch of space.

The concurrent sessions included:

**Asset Protection Planning**, led by eldercare attorney Ronald Spirn, which covered virtually every aspect of Elder Law. The session ran twice – both times, to an overflow crowd.



Rabbi Yaakov Bender



Dr. Zev Carrey

Photo credits: Ira Thomas Creations

**Medicare and Retirement Planning**, led by Steven Kass and Shlomo Bassalian. The room was jammed with middle-agers and seniors, eager to learn all they could about planning for the future.

**Dealing with Dementia**, led by neurologist Dr. Marshall Keilson; dementia specialist Susan Methal, RN; and Mrs. Henny Friedman, RN, whose husband currently suffers from dementia. The overwhelming amount of attendees highlighted the extreme need for information and support in this particular area.

**Caring for the Caregiver**, led by Dr. Rachel Lowinger, was filled to overflowing with caregivers of dementia patients, who headed directly from the dementia information session to this one, for a much-needed dose of *chizuk*.

**When Home May Not Be an Option**, led by Brian Rosenman, Mrs. Gittie Neufeld, and Dr. Zev Carrey, provided illuminating direction and guidelines regarding the difficult decision of placing a loved one in a rehabilitation or nursing facility.

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## Kew Gardens Hills Community Offers Meaningful Support to Children With Cystic Fibrosis

By Shimmy Blum

**O**n Monday, December 15, Kew Gardens Hills residents attended a parlor meeting on behalf of the Child Life Society organization at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Itzy Laub.

The local parlor meeting has been an annual event in recent years. Support from the Flushing/Kew Gardens Hills community is now an integral part of the organization's efforts to help the American Jewish community's children and adults with cystic fibrosis.

This year's parlor meeting was particularly dedicated to the organization's newly acquired therapeutic respite home in Key West, Florida. Child Life Society's Queens Committee, along with the local philanthropists and everyday donors who have offered generous support, have enabled the purchase and renovation of the new home to go ahead. A group of local *baalei chesed* have also arranged for a long-term commitment from community members to cover some of the new home's overhead expenses down the line.

The new home is the Child Life Society's second home that services the needs of its flagship "Lifeshine



Respite Program," which grants cystic fibrosis patients and their families fully sponsored two-week trips to Key West.

Inhaling Key West's Caribbean-like air for an extend-

ed period has been proven by the medical community to significantly alleviate cystic fibrosis symptoms. Its aquatic, high-salt properties loosen the mucus that clogs their respiratory and digestive systems. The patients' breathing difficulties and other daily hardships see significant relief for as much as 6-8 months after returning home. Lung infections and hospitalizations are reduced by about half during that period.

With the grand opening of the new home now within sight, Child Life Society looks forward to the ability to accommodate at least twice as many families a year on therapeutic respite trips as they did until now. "There aren't enough words in the dictionary to express the gratitude I feel towards the Queens community," says Rabbi Chaim Wolkenfeld, Child Life Society's founder and director. "These philanthropists, activists, and other community members have a solid partnership in assisting countless suffering families in the upcoming years, *b'ezras Hashem*."

For more information about Child Life Society and the Lifeshine Respite Program, please visit [www.childlifesociety.org](http://www.childlifesociety.org) or call 718-853-7123. Dedications for the new home are still available.

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## For A Peaceful City, We Need To Do More Than Attend A Vigil For Fallen Policemen

CONTINUED FROM P. 26

black community claims to have such bad experiences with the police, and it is also quite known that the public school system is failing many minority children with its substandard service. Are unions to blame for these results? It is not popular to say that, but it certainly is possible.

What is not right to say is what the racial arsonists like our current mayor, Bill de Blasio, and Al Sharpton are saying: that there is a systemic problem of racism in our society and in our police departments. The "civil rights" movement, as is being led today by Al Sharpton, Jesse Jackson, Louis Farrakhan – and let me add Barak Obama with his sidekick Eric Holder – is most shameful and devoid of legitimacy – as bogus as the Tawana Brawley case was. We should defang these

charlatans by legitimizing the grievances of minority communities and seeking practical solutions for them. By ignoring the grievances (whether they are clearly stated or not), however, we let the heat intensify inside a simmering cauldron and it is very dangerous when it explodes. There is also the morality of wanting fairness for our neighbors in that they should have free choice in education and safe streets from criminals and the occasional rogue cop.

We want the world to empathize with Jewish concerns when we are under fire by anti-Semitic elements; why shouldn't we empathize with minorities' concerns? If Eric Garner was a chasidic man who was taken down and killed over selling cigarettes, wouldn't the Jewish community be very upset? Right and wrong should apply for everyone.

## Yom Hakaddish Haklali At YIKGH

CONTINUED FROM P. 28

his grandfather and his grandfather's brother smuggled a pair of *riflin* into the camp and woke very early every morning to put them on. One time, a vicious Nazi in charge of the camp caught them but miraculously he grew frightened and just left.

His grandfather stated that Torah is what gave them the strength to carry on. Without it, they would have been lost in their suffering. It was the Gemara that they had memorized that kept them going. In 1945, when his grandfather was finally freed, the Allies handed him a gun and offered him

the opportunity to take revenge on his enemies. His response was, "I leave revenge to the *Ribbono shel Olam*."

Rabbi Glatstein referred to an alliance of Eichmann and the Mufti that his grandfather had recounted. This is reminiscent of Eisav and Yishmael teaming together. He then quoted the Vilna Gaon that if the two *galus* perpetrators, Eisav and Yishmael, would join together, they would destroy the world.

He shared powerful words from his grandmother's book, *Flares of Memory*, followed by the reciting of *Kaddish* and the chanting of *Kel Malei Rachamim*.

## Eldercare II: An Evening To Remember

CONTINUED FROM P. 32

**Hospital-Based Challenges of the Critically Ill Patient**, led by Rabbi Dr. Aaron Glatt, Assistant Rabbi of the Young Israel of Woodmere; Dr. Beth Popp, Director of Palliative Care and Hematology/Oncology at Maimonides Hospital; and Jonathan Rikoon, JD, partner at Loeb & Loeb – served as a perfect blend of halachic, medical, and legal information for caregivers of patients in critical care situations.

All of the sessions offered Q&A at the end from questions penned by listeners during the sessions.

The evening was topped off by the keynote session, presented by Rabbi Ephraim Eliyahu Shapiro and Rabbi Yaakov Bender, whose words of *chizuk* and inspiration left the crowd inspired and empowered to continue in their difficult but potentially uplifting role as caregivers.

Over thirty vendors manned booths offering every product and service available in the field of eldercare: from Shabbos ramps to home

health aides; pharmaceutical products to nursing homes; life insurance to estate planning; and much more. An expansive sushi and dinner buffet, compliments of Gourmet Glatt and Simply Sushi, kept the attendees satiated and energetic throughout the jam-packed evening.

The overwhelming feedback and enthusiastic response has energized Achiezer to already begin planning ahead to next year's conference, which promises to be even more comprehensive, because nowhere else in the world can you find a society more concerned about caring for our elderly population, in the very best way possible.

*Achiezer offers its appreciation to Caring Professionals, the primary corporate sponsor of Eldercare II. Audio recordings of the concurrent sessions as well as video footage of the keynote address will be available at www.achiezer.org in the coming days, or by contacting the Achiezer office at 516-791-4444. All questions, comments, and feedback are welcome via phone or online contact.*

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