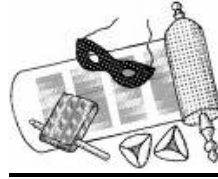


March 2009

Adar - Nissan, 5769

בס"ד
אדר - ניסן תשס"ט



Stony Brook Hebrew Congregation Newsletter

This month's services schedule

Date: March	Candle lighting	Evening Service	Shacharit/ Mincha *	Kriat Shema	Mincha/ Maariv *	Shabbat Ends
6-7	5:31 pm	5:30 pm	9:30 am	9:10 am	6:50 pm	6:33 pm
13-14	6:39 pm	6:35 pm	9:30 am	10:03 am	6:30 pm	7:41 pm
20-21	6:46 pm	6:40 pm	9:30 am	9:56 am	6:40 pm	7:48 pm
27-28	6:54 pm	6:55 pm	9:30 am	9:50 am	6:45 pm	7:56 pm

* Starting March 14th, Mincha will be at the Beit Midrash, followed by Seudat Shlishit and Maariv.

Weekday Shacharit – Mondays and Thursdays at 7:00 am.

Weekday Mincha/Maariv – At Delancy Street Café 15 minutes before sunset.

Learning

Tuesdays at 8:00 pm – Weekly Talmud class led by Rabbi Roffman in the Beit Midrash.

Special events in March

Matanot L'Evyonim & Maos Chitim (Food for Needy on Purim & Passover) –

Donations for needy Israelis to be able to enjoy Purim & Passover can be made at

<http://www.yadeliezer.org/site/home.php>.

Ta'anit Esther – Monday, March 9th. Fast begins at 5:52 am and ends at 7:34 pm.

Purim Night – Monday, March 9th, at 7:00 pm on campus. Social & costume contest afterwards.

Purim Day – Tuesday, March 10th. Shacharit will be at 8:00 am on campus (Megillah reading at 8:30 am). All are invited to a Purim Seudah at Rabbi Roffman's house at 4:30 pm at 51 Hawkins Rd. RSVP at mosher@topshot.com.

Rosh Chodesh Nissan – Starts on Wednesday night, the 25th of March, and ends on Thursday night, the 26th of March.

Nachas News

- Happy Birthday to Shlomie Lederer, Louise Linkoff, Yitzchok Linkoff, Shmuel Strey, and Chana Ebin.
- Happy Anniversary to Shlomie & Baily Lederer and Moshe & Riva Roffman.

Kiddush

Kiddush this month is sponsored by David & Alexis Klonsky.

Interesting Questions Asked to the Rabbi

Below are a few of the more interesting questions that I've been asked over the last year. I've changed the names and a few of the details to protect anonymity.

Arachnophobic Housewife: Rabbi, I found a spider floating in my soup, what do I do?

Rabbi: The *Shulchan Aruch* says that although insects are forbidden to eat, they do not add good taste to other foods when cooked together. So you can just remove the spider and eat the soup.

Arachnophobic Housewife: Yuck! I'm not going to eat the soup! I just wanted to know if the pot is still kosher.

Rabbi: Yes, the pot is still kosher.

Jackie Paper: "Rabbi, I have a Kimono Dragon called Puff that I keep in a cave by the duck pond, and sometimes I forget to feed it before *Shabbos*. Am I allowed to bring him a deer that I caught before *Shabbos* and let it loose in the cave for Puff to catch and eat, or is this a problem of killing on *Shabbos*? Also, does it make a difference if Puff becomes invisible before he eats the deer?"

Rabbi: "As you know, the Torah prohibits killing animals on *Shabbos*. However, here you are not doing the killing. It is totally up to Puff to decide to eat or not.

A second issue could be that the 10 commandments tell us to also keep our animals from doing work on *Shabbos*. But the *Shulchan Aruch* says that this only means to prevent them from doing work for us. So you couldn't have Puff push your baby stroller on *Shabbos* if the *Eruv* went down. But animals owned by Jews are allowed to do work for their own needs. So as long as your dragon is killing for its own needs, you don't have to stop it. We don't even need to rely on the *Chachmei Chelm's* invisibility leniency"

Biden: "Rabbi, am I allowed to dye my hair black? I don't want my boss to think that there is a generation gap between us."

Rabbi: "The *Shulchan Aruch* does not allow men to dye their hair to get rid of grey since this is something that only women regularly do. However, the *Shach* does permit men to dye their hair grey, so maybe you can convince your boss to dye his hair."

Pupaleh: "Rabbi, I would like to buy a motorcycle but my mother says that if I do, she will die from worry, or maybe have a heart attack. Am I allowed to buy one even though it may kill my mother?"

Rabbi: "The Torah commands us to listen to our parents, so if your mother had told you "I forbid you to buy a motorcycle," you would have to listen to her. However, here she never told you not to buy it. She merely gave a prognosis that she would die if you did, so the question is do we believe her, or do we just assume that she is exaggerating. In the laws of Yom Kippur the *Shulchan Aruch* gives a case of where a patient says he needs to eat or he may die, and a doctor says that the patient will be fine if he fasts. The *Shulchan Aruch* rules that we listen to the patient and not the doctor because it is possible that a person can understand his own pain better than a doctor. Therefore, even if a doctor would tell you that your mother won't die, you would have to believe your mother and would not be allowed to buy the motorcycle."

Purim Sameach!