

DEAR TORAH TIDBITS FAMILY



RABBI AVI BERMAN

Executive Director, OU Israel



Despite the *nisayon* and miracle of giving birth to Yitzchak at the age of 90, Sara Imenu, was blessed to be in his life for 37 years. We can only imagine how special growing up in Avraham and Sarah's tent must have been. The modeling of Emunah and Hachnasat Orchim, the countless students and converts that came through their doors, and the Shabbat candles that lasted from week to week must have left an invaluable impression on Yitzchak Avinu. Avraham's sending Eliezer to search for Yitzchak's wife and his marriage to Rivka illustrate Yitzchak building his own home with a partner who shares his mother's righteous qualities.

Parents are their children's rocks. They not only provide for them financially, but they should be their children's #1 cheerleaders and role models. Those of us blessed to be parents and grandparents (and I pray that those of you waiting to be parents are blessed with this bracha soon) realize that we will do all in our power so that our children feel loved and cared for. We pray that our children know we are

always looking out for them.

Despite the significance and impact that Sara had on Yitzchak, this parsha always saddens me. I think of how blessed I am to have my parents in my life and mourn for Yitzchak losing his mother at a relatively young age. Every year, this parsha brings to mind many friends and acquaintances who have lost their most precious guardians.

Not a week goes by when I don't hear about families who have lost a parent and someone is collecting tzedakah for the family. Whether it be a phone call from a tzedakah organization, request at minyan, brochure, or radio ad, these stories pinch my heart. Not only do these families have to deal with the loss of a loved one, advocate, and role model, but many are struggling with how to pay their bills and put food on their tables.

This reminds me of an OU lay leader who encouraged everyone to get life insurance. He once told me that he would buy life insurance for young couples as a wedding gift in an effort to promote its importance.

Dedicated L'iluy Nishmat
חיה בת ר' יצחק הכהן ע"ה
Helen Schiffmiller a"h
whose 3rd Yahrzeit is on
כ"ו מרחשון

In Loving Memory of
א"ל Archie Greenhaus ז"ל
יחזקאל בן ישעיה ז"ל
On his 50th Yahrzeit
כ"ו חשוון
Avraham & Malka Greenhaus and Family

A parent is so much more than a financial resource – a parent is everything. Parents provide their children with self-confidence, support them as they learn to walk, teach them to drive, encourage them to be independent, and the list goes on and on. We all hope and pray that we will be here for our children into old age. Yet, unfortunately we know that this is not always the case, and as parents part of our *Hishtadlut* should be buying life insurance in the event that chas v'shalom our family needs it.

In 2016, I was approached by Rabbi Hillel Horowitz who told me about a new organization he was starting. Keren Yachad is an innovative community fund in which families join by paying a 36 NIS one-time membership fee. When a member of the fund G-d forbid passes away, a financial advisor assesses the family's financial

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situation and collects a maximum of 64 NIS/month from the members of the fund to help the families who recently lost loved ones. It is recommended that families join this fund in addition to having life insurance policies. Keren Yachad provides its members with a way to help the families of orphans as well as additional coverage for the members' children in case of tragedy. To date, Keren Yachad has 25,175 members. If you are not familiar, I encourage you to visit their website to learn more: www.kyachad.co.il.

While we plan for the future, we must focus on maximizing today. No matter the age(s) of our children, it is important that we ask ourselves "how can I be a better parent?". Raising our children is the most important "job" we are blessed with, and it is our obligation to be the best parents we can be for our kids. Just like we prepare for our professional jobs by taking courses and learning from experts, we should do the same for parenting. Unfortunately, we are not always aware of resources to help us in this area. As such, OU Israel,

OU Israel wishes a warm

MAZAL TOV

to Rabbi Moshe and Mindy Hauer
and family on the wedding of their
daughter

Chana Shoshana to Moshe

שתזכו לבנות בית נאמן בישראל!

in conjunction with our partners at Iriyat Yerushalayim (Jerusalem Municipality), recently launched The OU Israel Parenting Center which aims to help us become better parents and addresses parenting challenges unique to Olim families. I encourage you to take a look at the ads in Torah Tidbits for upcoming events and take advantage of this Parenting Center to be the best parents we can be today.

Wishing you an uplifting and inspiring Shabbat,



Avi,

Executive Director, OU Israel

aberman@ouisrael.org



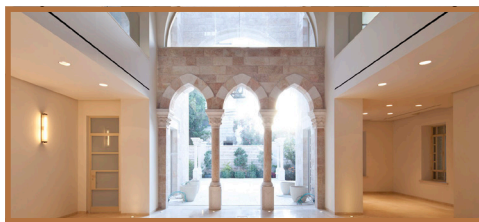
JOIN THE FUN!

Have your photo appear on the cover of
Torah Tidbits!

Take a picture of something special that relates to the theme of the Parsha. We will select a photo most suited that speaks powerfully to our TT readership.

Please send your high resolution photos to aarong@ouisrael.org
(Image will be cropped to this size:
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**We are looking forward to seeing
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