

2015 / 5776 - ROSH HASHANAH

MHA/FYOS

Alumni and Friends

Issue 3

**Highlighting the
graduating classes
of 1965-1970**

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This newsletter is dedicated in loving memory of members of the graduating classes of 1965-1970 who are no longer with us.

Mark Braunstein (YOS '69)

Robert Feldbaum (MHA '68)

Sidney Gontownik

(MHA '70, YOS '74)

Rabbi Nechemiah (Harry)

Kibel (MHA '65, YOS '69)

Lissy Schick (YOS '68)

May their memories be a blessing.

Joanne Kahane, alumni chair

Amara Levine-Reich (MHA '94, FYOS '97), editor

Shoshana (Yaffe) Cenker, contributing writer and copy editor

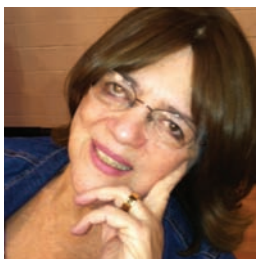
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Feinstone Yeshiva of the South

Dear MHA/FYOS alumni,

The month of Elul is a time, we are taught, of *new beginnings*...



First, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the 2015 graduates of both the MHA and FYOS. This is truly a time of *new beginnings* for you as you enter

the distinguished community of MHA/FYOS alumni. As you thumb through the pages of our alumni newsletters, take note of where life has taken those who walked the halls of our school before you. You have large shoes to fill. Our alumni have made names for themselves in every field of endeavor, so you should feel great pride in joining their ranks.

I would also like to welcome the many alumni who are receiving this newsletter for the first time, another *new beginning*. The alumni newsletter was inaugurated last year with two issues. [Issue No. 1](#) came out at Chanukah time and highlighted the very first graduating classes from our school, from the years 1957-1964. Just before Pesach, we published our [second issue](#), which highlighted the graduating classes of 1991-1996. If you did not receive those newsletters, it means we did not have your contact information at that time. You can use the links above to view those two issues; if those don't work for you, please contact me by email or through the school, and I will find a way to get copies to you.

We continue our ongoing efforts to track down the esteemed graduates of our school, with the goal of finding all of our 1,000-plus

alumni. To date we have contact information for just over 60 percent of them. **We need your help!** If you are in contact with any alumni who have not been receiving the newsletter, please send me their contact information and I will reach out to them. Email addresses would be preferable, but I am happy to use regular mail.

The Memphis Jewish community at-large is also experiencing a *new beginning*; this summer, we welcomed 11 new families to town! Newcomers always revitalize a community, and there is excitement in the air as we get to know all of our new neighbors. Of course, this move represents a huge new beginning for those 11 families, too, and we wish them much *hatzla-cha* (success) in their new jobs, new classrooms and new homes.

While the first day of school always marks a *new beginning*, this year it was new in different ways.

First, we had the enormous privilege of welcoming our new head of school, Rabbi Benjy Owen. The children were greeted on their first day by his smiling face and exceptional warmth, which automatically put smiles on their faces. He has brought a new energy and vitality to the school that is felt by every person who enters the building.

And speaking of the building...another *new beginning*! This summer, our beloved

60-year-old structure was given a much-needed facelift. No, not the outside; the facade still provides the familiar, comforting and welcome sight of our campus. But when you enter the building, you are transported, almost magically, into a beautiful, modern facility that is designed to be safe, comfortable and conducive to learning for all. The excitement on the first day of school was palpable as the students entered, and we watched their mouths and eyes open wide.

At 8:30 a.m. on Aug. 19, the first day of school, I stood in the parking lot in front of the building, surrounded by the entire student body, faculty, staff and dozens of parents. I felt a single tear drop from my eye as we watched Rabbi Owen say the *bracha* (to which the entire assemblage responded "Amen") and hang a shiny new *mezuzah* on the front door of the school.

At this time of year, when Hashem opens the gates of heaven and implores us to renew and refine ourselves, let us take advantage of this climate of *new beginnings*. May Hashem be receptive to all of our prayers and grant us a year of joy, health, growth, inspiration and peace.

Please let us continue to hear from you.

Joanne Kahane

joannekahane111@gmail.com

**The month
of Elul is a
time of new
beginnings.**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joel Siegel

Dear MHA/FYOS Alumni,

I hope that y'all have had a wonderful, relaxing summer!



It is a pleasure to once again address our community of alumni, this time on the verge of the *yamim noraim* (High Holidays) of Rosh Hashanah and Yom

Kippur. Not only are we about to enter a new Jewish year, but at our beloved MHA/FYOS, we are ushering in a new era in our illustrious 67-year history.

This past spring, the members of the MHA/FYOS board voted unanimously in support of hiring **Rabbi**

Benji Owen as our new head of school.

Rabbi Owen comes to Memphis with more than a decade of administrative experience as the assistant head of school and dean of Judaic studies at the Northwest Yeshiva High School in Seattle. He is passionate about utilizing vigorous, textual analysis to sharpen the minds of our students. He also possesses genuine enthusiasm, warmth and *menschlichkeit*. In only his first few weeks of living in Memphis, he has already energized the MHA/FYOS community. Not only has he met with numerous school parents and stakeholders, but he has also played a major role in initiat-

ing and coordinating this summer's renovation of the school's front office and corridors. His impact was perhaps best summarized by MHA Past President Jonathan Kaplan, who told me that "Hashem smiled on the MHA community when He gave us Rabbi Owen."

Another important addition to our school's administration is our new chief operating officer, **Dr. Bradley Karasik**. Dr. Karasik has spent the past 11 years working in administrative capacities at Yeshiva University and

Touro College, so he brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to his new job at the MHA/FYOS. I am confident that Dr. Karasik will strengthen our front office and the interaction between the school's administration and parents, alumni and the

greater MHA/FYOS community.

With both of these new hires, we have taken important steps in creating a firm foundation for our school's future. Next time you visit Memphis, please stop by the school, meet Rabbi Owen and Dr. Karasik, and ask for a tour of the new and improved MHA/FYOS facility.

Wishing you and your family a *shana tova*,

Joel Siegel

President, MHA/FYOS Board of Trustees

JoelSiegel2@gmail.com

**We are ushering
in a new era
in our school's
illustrious 67-
year history.**

Dear Margolin Hebrew Academy/Feinstone Yeshiva of the South alumni and friends,

Some introductions are in order. My name is Rabbi Benjy Owen, and I came to Memphis in July to assume the position as head of school of the MHA/FYOS. I am also privileged to be teaching in the high school this year. My



wife, Jodilyn, and our teenage son, Jeffrey, join me here in Memphis, while our daughter, Julia, attends Stern College in New York City.

In our short time in Memphis, my family and I have experienced some of the outstanding traits that the community offers: a broad landscape of Jewish institutions, warmth (both social and meteorological), accessible Torah scholars and a rich Jewish memory.

I intentionally use the word memory in lieu of a similar word, history. History describes what happened and is a cold and dispassionate record of past events. Memory has no such constraint. It is a perspective. It describes what is experienced. Because it is dependent upon the individual's awareness, memory is alive. Memphis has a living and breathing Jewish memory.

Our *mitzvot* are oriented toward memory over history. As the Torah tells us, *zachor et yom hashabbat lekadsho* – remember the Shabbat

day to sanctify it. *Lema'an tizkor et yom tzetcha me'eretz mitzrayim* – in order that you will remember the day of your exodus from Egypt. *Zachor et asher asa lecha amalek* – remember what Amalek did to you. By prompting us to relive our national memory, these *mitzvot* cause us to reconnect with our nation's ideals and to forge ties with our fellow Jews.

Alumni of the MHA/FYOS are a critical part of the school's memory, not only its history. The MHA/FYOS of today is shaped by the influence of those who previously walked its halls.

Our alumni are now MHA/FYOS teachers, parents and board members. Our alumni are dedicated MHA/FYOS volunteers and make the school a priority when donating time and money. Today's MHA/FYOS

students are strongly affected by the impact you made yesterday and that you continue to make today.

As we enter a new school year and a new Jewish year, I hope that you will reflect on your MHA/FYOS memories and contribute to memory-building for the next MHA/FYOS generation. I also hope that you will help me settle into my new position by contacting me and sharing some of your favorite memories from your time at the MHA/FYOS.

Shana tova u'metuka,

Rabbi Benjy Owen

Head of School

benjy.owen@mhafyos.org

**Memphis has
a living and
breathing Jewish
memory.**

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D'VAR TORAH

By Rabbi Menachem Greenblatt (MHA '69)

The story is told of a king who would travel on occasion to convene town hall meetings throughout his provinces. He was, in earnest, interested in what his subjects had to say and to entertain their concerns. One of his scheduled meetings was to take place at a particular location at a particular time one evening. Great excitement was generated by the populace as they anxiously awaited the arrival of his majesty. As scheduling would have it, the king and his entourage were running late — several hours late, in fact.

One individual became impatient and returned home, planning to join the meeting when the king would eventually arrive. When he got home, he fell asleep, missing the town meeting altogether. He awoke the next morning feeling distraught and journeyed to the king's palace to arrange a personal meeting and share the concerns he

intended to express the night before. Upon reaching the regal gates and sharing his story with one of the palace officers, he was told that not only would it be impossible to meet the king, but that the royal secretary would not even relay his message. Why? Because he had shown blatant disregard for the king's

honor by leaving the assemblage, returning home and refusing to expend the effort to personally greet the king.

The saintly *Chofetz Chaim*, of blessed memory, tells us that while it is true that Hashem is accessible to each of us anytime throughout the course of the year, we may lose our access if we blatantly show Him a lack of respect by failing to greet Him when He “comes to town” to visit with us. This is where we find

ourselves at the present time. The period beginning with the Hebrew month of *Elul* and continuing through Yom Kippur is referred to as *y'mei haratzon*, or days of goodwill. It cuts both ways, says the *Sfas Emes*; if we create within ourselves the will to forge a relationship with Hashem, then He will respond in

kind and more than reciprocate. He will demonstrate his unbridled love for us and bestow His bountiful blessings upon us.

Let us not squander the opportunity. Let us not “sleep through” the event. In fact, throughout the month of *Elul* and on Rosh

If we create within ourselves the will to forge a relationship with Hashem, then He will respond in kind and more than reciprocate.

By Rabbi Menachem Greenblatt (MHA '69)

Hashanah, the *shofar* is sounded for the purpose of awakening us from our slumber. Hashem craves a relationship with each and every one of us; let us not let Him down.

Hashem's kingship on Rosh Hashanah is manifested most acutely when we, His chosen people, relate to one another with a sense of *achdus*, or unity and brotherly love. I believe that the noble enterprise of unity has been the crowning jewel of the school now known as the Margolin Hebrew Academy since its very inception. This precious institution has always stood out in my mind as a model for all day schools to follow.

May Hashem continue to shower His *brachos* (blessings) on this wonderful school, and may

we all be inscribed in the book of good life and prosperity.

Rabbi Menachem Greenblatt, son of Rabbi Efraim and Mrs. Miriam Greenblatt, zt'l, is spiritual leader of the Agudas Israel congregation in St. Louis, Missouri. We thank him for sharing these words of Torah with our alumni.



HAPPY 95TH BIRTHDAY, RABBI SEYMOUR KUTNER!

Members of the MHA/FYOS community recently had the privilege to share in the celebration of Rabbi Seymour Kutner's 95th birthday. Rabbi Kutner is one of the founders of the school and a pillar of the Orthodox community in Memphis. His children traveled to Memphis Aug. 7-9, from as far away as Israel to be with their father and the extended Academy community for this momentous occasion.

We wish Rabbi Kutner continued good health until 120!



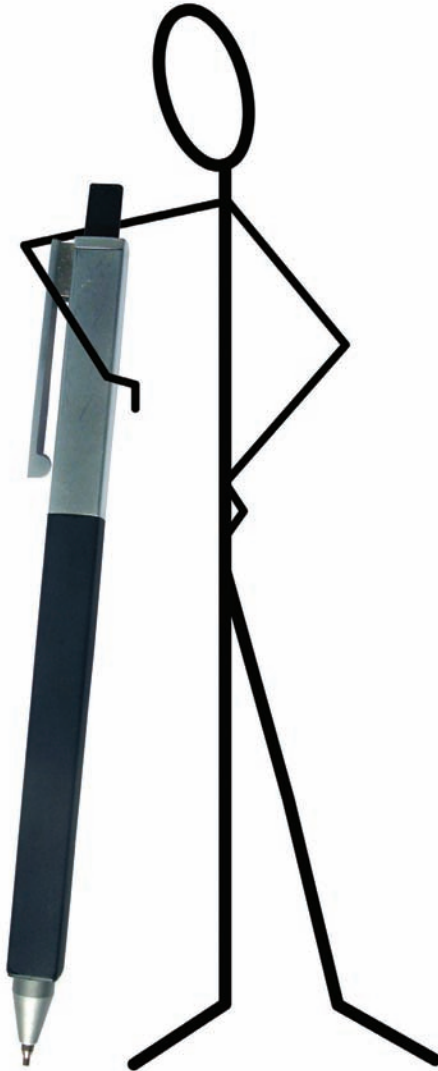
Rabbi Seymour Kutner (front row, left) is pictured here on his 95th birthday with his children (clockwise from left) **David Kutner** (MHA '67), **Gail (Kutner) Silver** (MHA '60), **Barbara (Katz) Kutner** (MHA '64, YOS '68), **Lynne (Kutner) Levine** (MHA '65) and **J. Alan Kutner** (MHA '62).

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR AND ALUMNI CHAIR

Community Responses

We welcome your feedback on the alumni newsletter at alumni@mhafyos.org. Here are some of the responses we received to Issue No. 2.



Thank you for adding me to the newsletter email list. I just saw the latest issue. How great! I can't wait until my year comes up to be featured.

-Laurie (Wieder) Spalter,
MHA '81, YOS '84

The second issue was even better than the first one! What an absolutely phenomenal effort and result! You are really to be commended for this labor of love. The quality, the variety, the exciting memories it elicits — all testaments to the richness of our institution. May you be blessed for your efforts, and huge thanks from all of my family for your exceptional execution of this ambitious idea. *Kol hakavod!*

-Pace Cooper,
MHA '77, YOS '81

I wish these alumni newsletters came out weekly! So much fun to be able to catch up on everyone's whereabouts and take a stroll down memory lane. I am not sure where those photos of me surfaced from, but they are great memories! Keep up the great work!

-Adena Konetz,
FYOS '97

Thank you so much for all of your time and effort working on this! The alumni newsletter is such a pleasure to read.

-Elana (Sadetsky) Avis,
MHA '93, FYOS '97

These alumni newsletters are absolutely beautiful. Thank you to everyone who puts lots of energy and work into this!

-Jenny (Steinberg) Sved,
MHA '99, FYOS '03

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR AND ALUMNI CHAIR

Community Responses

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Wow! The alumni newsletter is amazing!

-Dr. Brad Somer,
*past president of the MHA/FYOS
Board of Trustees and father of
Shoshana (Somer) Mehler (MHA '07,
FYOS '11) and Shmuel (MHA '09) and
Akiva Somer (MHA '10, FYOS '14)*

The second issue of the newsletter was great!

-Emma (Kaplan) Rapps,
MHA '01, FYOS '05

Hello from long ago and far away! I met the folks representing Memphis at the Orthodox Union's Jewish Communities Fair in New York, and they gave me copies of the MHA alumni newsletters. What a pleasure to get back in touch! I understand that some computer glitch left my name out of the list of favorite teachers; you can fix that in an upcoming issue! In all seriousness though, we have many very fond memories of Memphis and the wonderful people we were privileged to know there. We send our best regards to everyone, especially our fellow Laurie Lane residents from long ago.

-Rabbi Mordechai Kruger,
former MHA/FYOS faculty member

I commend you on working to engage the alumni of the Academy through this newsletter. I was surprised, however, to see that the pages featuring *divrei Torah* in each of the first two issues included a picture of wording from an actual *sefer Torah*, which renders printed copies of those pages as *shaimos*. Online viewing is not a problem, but printed copies should not be thrown away. I hope you'll be more careful with the design of future issues of the newsletter.

-Rabbi Abe Sharp,
MHA '67

*Chair and editor's note: We thank Rabbi Sharp, now of the Chicago Rabbinical Council, for bringing this to our attention. If you have printed copies of our first two newsletters, please treat the *divrei Torah* pages as *shaimos*. We will indeed be more careful with future editions and apologize for our oversight.*



Shana tova!

TRIVIA ANSWERS

FROM
ISSUE 2

1991-1996

Thanks to everyone who sent in responses to the trivia questions featured in our second newsletter. Overall, people did not do very well on this quiz; are your memories fading as you get older?

The winner of our second trivia quiz is **Elisha Kutliroff** (MHA '93).

Lish got

12 out of 22
correct answers

We will overlook that many of the questions were about his father, Dr. Jerry Kutliroff. He has already received his tin of Ricki's Cookies.

Here are the answers so you can see how you did.

1. In what year did the boys' high school basketball team win Tier 2 at the Yeshiva University tournament for the first time?
ANSWER: 1995.
2. In what year was the first Alumni (basketball) Game held?
ANSWER: 1992.
3. Why was a giant map of Israel strategically placed on a particular wall in the hallway of the school in 1994?
ANSWER: To hide the giant crack and dent created when one of the high school boys was thrown into the wall.
4. In what year did the boys' dorm on campus reopen?
ANSWER: 1993.
5. What is the name of the character in Rabbi Greenblatt's Friday stories?
ANSWER: Benny.
6. What was Dr. Kutliroff's unique method of doing seatbelt checks on school trips?
ANSWER: Stop short and see who went flying.

7. What are the five Cs regarding a blech that Rabbi Manny Nissel taught in his *Hilchos Shabbat* class?

ANSWER: *chaud* (hot), cooked, covered, contact and concentration.

8. What problem did Mrs. Chana Silver have on a school camping trip that only Rabbi Baruch Perton could fix?

ANSWER: She got a tick on her stomach.

9. What important role did the fifth graders play in the junior high production of Shakespeare's "A Comedy of Errors"?

ANSWER: They provided music with instruments they built themselves in science class.

10. What Billy Joel song did the high school boys sing while carrying the Torahs out of the building during the fire?

ANSWER: "We Didn't Start the Fire" ("We were busy learnin' while the school was burnin'...").

11. Who played Anne Frank in the girls' school performance of "The Diary of Anne Frank"?

ANSWER: **Marcia Wogan** (MHA '92, FYOS '96), now Masha Ginian.

12. Who played young Rossum in "Universal Robots" when it was performed at the school science fair in February 1991?

ANSWER: **Chaim Lubin** (MHA '93, FYOS '97).

13. What made it difficult for people to attend the junior high school production of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" in 1994?

ANSWER: The great ice storm of 1994.

14. Before the AP Biology exam, Mrs. Ann Ivins used to give her students a wooden acorn with LGO written on it; what did LGO stand for?

ANSWER: Life goes on.

15. When was the name of the school changed from the Memphis Hebrew Academy to the Margolin Hebrew Academy?

ANSWER: Dec. 1, 1991.

16. When was the Yeshiva of the South renamed the Feinstone Yeshiva of the South?

ANSWER: 1994.

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TRIVIA ANSWERS

Classes of 1991-1996

17. What was Mrs. Chana Silver's favorite Latin expression?

Answer: Carpe diem (seize the day).

18. Mrs. Karin Schmitt taught her students the KISS principle. What does KISS stand for?

ANSWER: Keep it simple, stupid.

19. What tasty treats did Mrs. Karin Schmitt bring to her students each December?

ANSWER: Kosher Christmas cookies.

20. Which MHA administrator wrote with a calligraphy pen in very tiny handwriting?

ANSWER: Dr. Jerry Kutliroff.

21. During the great ice storm of 1994, the power was out for 10 days and **Josh Kahane's** (MHA '93, FYOS '97) pet parakeet Perky froze to death. Who delivered the eulogy at the funeral? Where was Perky buried? What else is buried in that same location?

ANSWER: *This one caused some confusion, and we found there to be conflicting opinions on the answer. In the interest of accuracy, we contacted the parties involved and ultimately went back to the original tape of the event. Benzi Radinsky spoke at the funeral, but the formal eulogy was delivered by **Josh Finegold** (MHA '92, FYOS '96). Perky was buried in the field by the eastern wall of the Yeshiva wing of the school, where a copy machine was also buried.*

22. This photo was taken at a Jr. NCSY shabbaton. Two of the friends in this photo went on to marry brothers, thereby becoming sisters-in-law. Identify these two young ladies and who they married.

Answer: **Miriam (Amy) Goldstein** (MHA '89, YOS '93), pictured third from right, married **Michael Kahane** (MHA '91, FYOS '95), and **Elana Krupp** (MHA '92), pictured second from right, married **Josh Kahane** (MHA '93, FYOS '97).





“ [Mrs. Krohn] was honored to work at the Academy and absolutely loved it there”

In Memory

Mrs. Emily Morris Krohn, z'l

On March 24, 2015, the MHA/FYOS family suffered a great loss with the passing of Mrs. Emily Morris Krohn at the age of 91. Krohn began working at the Academy in the late 1950s as a kindergarten teacher and later served as the school's assistant principal.

Born in Nashville in 1924, Emily Morris earned a degree from the Peabody College of Education and Human Development, which is now part of Vanderbilt University. At the age of 20, she wed Karl Krohn, to whom she would be married for 70 years, until his passing just six weeks before her own. The Krohns settled in Memphis in 1952, and she joined the faculty at the MHA shortly thereafter.

“My mother was honored to work at the Academy and absolutely loved it there,” said Krohn's daughter Suzanne Haykal. “She felt appreciated at the Academy and like she was contributing to something. She was there when Rabbi Meir and Mrs. Regina Belsky were there, and she just adored both of them.”

In the 1960s, Krohn had to leave the job she loved at the MHA to care for a sick family member. “She wouldn't have stopped work-

ing at the Academy had she not been needed at home,” said Haykal, who lives in the Memphis suburb of Germantown. “She especially loved the Shabbos parties the school had on Fridays.”

Considered the emotional anchor of her family, Krohn is best remembered for her unconditional love and generosity. Always thinking of others, the Krohns were active in community service throughout their lives. They volunteered together at various Memphis-area organizations, including the Alzheimer's Day Services on Hickory Hill Road, where for 25 years they worked to help people suffering from the debilitating disease live with dignity and respect.

The MHA/FYOS family sends its condolences to Krohn's four daughters — Haykal, Elizabeth Ragen of Michigan, Jeannette Krohn of Arkansas, and Cindy Dockery of Georgia — as well as her 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. May her memory be a blessing.



Births: Mazel Tov to...

Mousha and **Rabbi Yehuda (Jeffrey) Kaplan** (MHA '67) on the birth of a grandson, who was named Simcha Bin-yamin at his *bris* on Pesach. The proud parents are Yisroel Meir and Shevy Kaplan, who live near the senior Kaplans in Far Rockaway, New York.

Steve Wruble (MHA '74, YOS '78) of New York City and Simone Wruble of Teaneck, New Jersey, on the birth of a granddaughter to Eric and Ariella (Wruble) Bloom of Riverdale, New York. Sadie Emma was born on Aug. 13, making Jacob a big brother.

Rabbi Yisroel and **Julie (Brown) Roll** (MHA '75, YOS '79) of Baltimore on the birth of twin granddaughters. The girls were born Aug. 21, to Daniel and Rina Esther (Roll) Bortz, also of Baltimore, and have been named Sara Chaviva and Adina Channa.

Nancy and **Mordechai (Marty) Wolff** (MHA '80) of Brooklyn, New York, on the birth of a grandson. The proud parents are Shmuel and Esti (Wolff) Fleischer of Lakewood, New Jersey. He was born late in July and has been named Noam Aaron.

Joanna and **Paul Friedman** (MHA '84) of Houston on the Dec. 5, 2014, birth of a daughter, Stella Blake. Mazel tov also to big brother Geoffrey Ray.

Larry Hartstein and **Shoni Mirvis** (MHA '89, YOS '93) of New York City on the Aug. 5 birth of a baby boy, Ziv Matan Avraham. Mazel tov also to grandparents David and **Lynnie (Katz) Mirvis** (MHA '62).

Judi and **Noam Nahary** (YOS '93) on the birth of Hannah Paige on April 13. Mazel tov also to Hannah's older sisters Jordana and Maya and to proud grandmother Bracha Nahary, who taught at our school for many years.

Yuri Fayner (MHA '91, FYOS '95) and his wife Emma on the June 12 birth of a baby boy, named Noah Abel. Mazel tov also to big brother Jacob.

Akiva and **Sarah (Katz) Tarkieltaub** (MHA '91, FYOS '95) on the birth of a daughter, Racheli, on Aug. 14. Mazel tov also to grandparents Esther and **Allan Katz** (MHA '65, YOS '69) and to older sisters Shayna and Chaya.

Dayna and **Phillip Klitzner** (MHA '92, FYOS '96) of Seattle on the birth of a baby girl, Avigail Shira, on May 20. Mazel tov also to her four older sisters, Shani, Miriam, Naomi and Adina.

Micha and **Bracha (Lubin) Hyman** (MHA '96) of Nahliel, Israel, on the birth of a baby boy, Hillel Simcha, on June 23. Proud older siblings are Zahava, Elisheva, Nehemia and Emunah.



Beny and **Esther (Schachter) Fridman** (MHA '96) of Modiin, Israel, on the birth of a baby girl, Hadar Sara, on Aug. 21. Mazel tov to grandparents Mendy and **Marilyn (Weinreich) Schachter** (MHA '71) of Cleveland, Ohio, and older brothers Yedidiah and Yakir.

Yaakov and **Danielle (Freiden) Gold** (MHA '98) of Jerusalem on the May 29 birth of a baby girl, Eliana Yaffa Leah. Mazel tov also to grandparents Melanie Freiden and Dena and **Brad Freiden** (MHA '75, YOS '79), all of whom live in Israel, too.

Leah and **Josh Graber** (MHA '99, FYOS '03) of Chicago on the birth of a baby girl, Aviva Mae, on May 1. Mazel tov also to big sister Adella and grandparents Pammy and **Glenn Graber** (MHA '74, YOS '78).

Three other members of the MHA class of 1999 and FYOS class of 2003 who, remarkably, all welcomed new babies on Aug. 3, 2015!

Rena and **Mathew Cherny** (MHA '99, FYOS '03) of Englewood, New Jersey, had a boy named Marcus Julian, making Jamie a big brother.

Ari and **Shirli (Freiden) Gotlib** (MHA '99, FYOS '03) of Detroit had a boy, Jacob Noah. Proud older siblings are Max, Sophie and Alex. Mazel tov also to grandparents Debbie and **Hugh Freiden** (MHA '72) of Memphis.

Simon and **Gila (Graber) Livi** (MHA '99, FYOS '03) of Great Neck, New York, had a girl, Jamie Rachel. Her proud older brothers are Aiden, Ethan and Liam. Mazel tov also to grandparents Tova and **Roy Graber** (MHA '76, YOS '80) of Memphis.

Josh and **Tali (Bacaner) Levy** (MHA '00, FYOS '04) of Teaneck, New Jersey, on the birth of a baby girl, Serena Ella, on Jan. 15.

Aaron (FYOS '06) and **Sophie (Bacaner) Leach** (MHA '02, FYOS '06) on the birth of a son, Benjamin Samuel, on March 5. Benji was born in Englewood, Colorado, but the family now resides in Memphis.

Scott and **Miriam (Samborg) Levson** (MHA '04) of Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania, on the birth of a baby girl, Shoshana Bluma, on May 10.

Avi and **Barbara (Plotitsa) Satt** (MHA '04, FYOS '08) of Far Rockaway, New York, on the birth of a baby girl, Talia Rose, on Aug. 20. Congratulations also to big sister Elana.

Yehudah and **Sarah (Heching) Yaakovs** (FYOS '09) of Jerusalem on the birth of a baby girl, Chaya Esther, on Aug. 22.



Engagements/ Weddings: Mazel Tov to...

Ephraim and **Anna (Thomas) Kotkes** (MHA '65, YOS '69) of Far Rockaway, New York, on the June 1 marriage of their granddaughter Atara Levine to Elimelech Sperling in New York. The bride is the daughter of Charles and Rivka (Kotkes) Levine, also of Far Rockaway, where the newlyweds live.

Mazel tov to Jerry and **Peninah (Seiger) Insel** (MHA '70) of Baltimore on the marriage of their son Yitzi to Arielle Taragin on Aug. 9. The wedding took place in Baltimore, where the couple also resides.

Sylvia and **Erwin "Bubba" Albert** (MHA '71) on the engagement of their daughter Wendi to Jason Stec of Chicago. A June 19, 2016, wedding is planned at Baron Hirsch Synagogue in Memphis, where the couple will reside.

Sara Cherny (MHA '02) on her engagement to Jeffrey Mond from East Brunswick, New Jersey. The wedding is planned for July 3, 2016, in Memphis, and the couple will reside in New York City.

Issac Krupp (MHA '06, FYOS '10), son of Michael and **Ricki (Thomas) Krupp** (MHA '66, YOS '70), on his engagement to Kimberley Azaria of Los Angeles. The wedding will take place after the first of the year in Los Angeles, where the couple will reside.

Yitzi Ehrenkranz (MHA '06) on his engagement to Chaya Miriam Adler of Baltimore. Mazel tov also to Yitzi's parents, Bart and **Cindy (Cooper) Ehrenkranz** (MHA '76, YOS '80). The wedding will take place on Nov. 12 in Baltimore, where the couple will reside for five months before moving to Israel.

Molly Brakha (MHA '07, FYOS '11), daughter of Menashe and **Ronit (Sauer) Brakha** (MHA '83) of Memphis, on her engagement to

Ari Hagler. A Nov. 8 wedding is planned in River Vale, New Jersey, and the couple will reside in the Washington Heights neighborhood of New York City.

Aviva Katz (MHA '08, FYOS '12) on her Aug. 27 wedding in Memphis to Ovadyah Fink, son of Davida and **Eliyahu Fink** (YOS '81) of Cleveland, Ohio. Mazel tov also to Aviva's parents, Chavi (Nayowitz) Katz and **Ronnie Katz** (MHA '70, YOS '74) and grandparents, Libby and Rabbi Joseph Nayowitz. Chavi Katz and Libby Nayowitz taught at the school for many years, and Rabbi Nayowitz was one of the first principals of the MHA. The couple will live in the Rechavia neighborhood of Jerusalem.

Tzipporah Besser (FYOS '09) on her engagement to Ephraim Rose of Baltimore. They will wed in Baltimore in April and reside there, too.

Jamie Epstein (MHA '10, FYOS '14), daughter of **Mike** (MHA '62) and

**Amy (Thomas) Epstein**

(MHA '71) of Memphis, on her marriage to Ruvy Gibber in Lakewood, New Jersey, on July 30. The couple lives in Chicago.

Bnei/Bnot Mitzvah: Mazel Tov to...

Sara and **Daniel Kutliroff** (MHA '86, YOS '90) of Chicago on the June 20 bat mitzvah of their daughter, Daphna. Mazel tov also to grandparents Dr. Jerry and Shelley Kutliroff of Memphis, former teachers and administrators at the MHA/FYOS.

Hanielle and **Ari Sauer**

(MHA '90, FYOS '94) of Memphis on their twin daughters Lee and Magen becoming b'not mitzvah on June 14.

Dayna and **Phillip**

Klitzner (MHA '92, FYOS '96) of Seattle on the Sept. 6 bat mitzvah of their daughter, Miriam Tziporah.

Yitz and **Shuli (Kutliroff)**

Singer (MHA '93) of Elizabeth, New Jersey, on the bar mitzvah of her son Yitz Targin on June 13. Mazel tov also to grandparents Dr. Jerry and Shelley Kutliroff.

Yoni and **Shoshana (Stein)**

Safirstein (MHA '93, FYOS '97) of Chicago on their daughter Rena becoming a bat mitzvah on Jan. 3. Mazel tov also to grandparents Essie and **Mike Stein** (MHA '68, YOS '72) of Memphis.

Daniel and **Tanya (Korosty-**

shevskiy) Shenfield (MHA '97) of Scottsdale, Arizona, on the occasion of their son Jacob becoming a bar mitzvah. The family celebrated in Israel in June.

Mazel tov!

Send us your alumni news for the next issue at alumni@mhafyos.org.



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GRAND HOMECOMING WEEKEND marks alumni basketball game silver anniversary

For the past 24 years, the high school boys' varsity basketball team has played an annual game against a team of the school's graduates. To mark the 25th anniversary of the "Alumni Game," the MHA/FYOS will host a celebratory homecoming weekend Jan. 15-17, 2016, and you're invited!

All alumni, faculty, friends, spouses, parents and students are welcome to attend the homecoming weekend festivities. Members of the Memphis community will provide Shabbat meals and home hospitality to those visiting from out of town. On Saturday night, Jan. 16, everyone will come together for the **25th Annual Irby and Bernice Cooper Alumni Game**. Expect an intense matchup as the alumni team looks to defend its 2015 win with a lineup that will include recent FYOS graduates home from college for winter break! Finally, a Sunday brunch on Jan. 17 will send our homecoming attendees off in style.

Attending our homecoming weekend and Alumni Game is not only a great opportunity to meet new members of the community and rekindle old friendships; it's also a meaningful way to contribute to the continued expansion of the school's extracurricular activities program.

"The athletics program at the school has grown to include cross country, flag football, baseball and golf, and we are always looking for ways to grow the program even more," said Coach James Nokes, MHA/FYOS director of athletics.

"In grades 1-12, there are more than 20 teams involved in extracurricular athletics. Our student athletes also have a new strength and fitness center in which to train, as a weight room has been built on the gym stage."

According to Coach Nokes, extracurricular athletics for the new school year commenced Aug. 27 with the West Tennessee Cross Country League Jamboree. The Cooper Yeshiva High School for Boys' (CYHSB) record for the 5K race was set last year by Avi Lavin, with a time of 17 minutes, 51 seconds; **Rena Osdoba** (MHA '13)

broke the Goldie Margolin School for Girls' (GMSG) record with a time of 26:57. "With our new strength and fitness facility now in place, expect a vigorous chase for the records this fall," Nokes said.



Coach James Nokes

Participation in the Jan. 16, 2015, Alumni Game is open to all CYHSB varsity basketball alumni. The fee to play is \$60, and sponsorships begin at just \$100; college-aged graduates can participate by making any donation they can afford. All players in the Alumni Game will receive a commemorative 2016 Alumni Game Dri-Fit T-shirt.

If you are interested in joining us for homecoming, helping with any of the weekend's activities, participating in the Alumni Game or simply sharing your ideas about the school's athletic program, please contact Coach Nokes at james.nokes@mhafyos.org or 901-682-2400.

We hope to see you at the homecoming weekend in January 2016!



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Rabbi Nechemiah Kibel, z'tl

In the 1969 MHA/YOS high school yearbook, the classmates of **Harry (Nechemiah) Kibel** (MHA '65, YOS '69) wrote of him, "We are confident that he will make himself known as a leader wherever he goes." Their prediction was indeed correct; while many esteemed alumni emerged from the graduating classes of 1965-1970, few left as indelible a mark on the school and the Jewish world at large as the late Rabbi Kibel.

Born in Memphis in 1952 to Holocaust survivors Moshe and Helen Kibel, Nechemiah attended the MHA and YOS through 12th grade. A studious and thoughtful young man, Kibel received awards for excelling in both general and Torah subjects. An essay Kibel composed as a teenager about protecting himself from the temptations of sin reflects that his levels of scholarship and spirituality were far beyond his years:

They say a fool is one who makes the same mistake twice. Then I must be the king of fools. I have not done it twice, but hundreds upon hundreds of times... Each time I refuse to be caught in the trap again. For a few days, I will succeed, but by then my memory will have become

dim. I will start to rationalize. Before I know it, it will have slipped and fallen, and once again the cycle will start... I must never remove my training wheels.

In his senior yearbook, Kibel's classmates wrote about him:

Always interested and willing to try something new, Harry has contributed much to his school and class. His strength... provided the hard core of stability for the Yeshiva as it grew. His religious zeal and commitment to diligent Torah learning were the standard-setters for the entire Yeshiva.



After graduation, his dedication to Jewish observance and intense Torah study continued to grow as he learned under the tutelage of Rabbi Meir Belsky, who moved to Memphis from New York in the early 1960s to head the MHA. At the age of 20, Rabbi Kibel began his lifelong career as an educator, teaching in the new boys' and girls' high schools. Together

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RABBI NECHEMIAH KIBEL

In Loving Memory

with Rabbi Belsky, Rabbi Kibel helped to build the YOS into a renowned institution of Torah learning that attracted students from near and far.

Also at the age of 20, Rabbi Kibel married **Ranelle Evensky** (MHA '66, YOS '70), to whom he would be married for 33 years. Together they built a large, beautiful family.

Rabbi Kibel's pedagogical philosophy focused not just on teaching young people about Judaism, but also how to love Judaism. "Curriculum is important, but reaching a student's *neshamah* [soul] is what Torah is all about," he told *Rayonos* magazine in the '90s. Rabbi Kibel's students remember his unique ability to reach their hearts by relating to them on their level, rather than as an authority figure.

One MHA/YOS alumna recalled how Rabbi Kibel helped restore her faith in G-d after she experienced a horrific car accident, followed by an extensive hospitalization and several surgeries. "Step by step, Rabbi Kibel slowly led me back into a relationship with Hashem," she said. "Ultimately, my faith was even stronger after the accident than it was before. I owe my life, both physical and spiritual, to Rabbi Kibel, *zt'l*." This alumna is now a Torah educator herself, teaching in several Israeli seminaries.

Rabbi Kibel transitioned into an administrator role in the 1980s, serving as Judaic studies principal and executive director of the school

in partnership with General Studies Principal Dr. Jerry Kutliroff. One of Rabbi Kibel's former students recalled, "We all remember the feeling of being sent to the principal's office for disciplinary action. I was once sent to Rabbi Kibel's office, but I turned out to be lucky, as this was no ordinary principal's office. He decided then to learn *Mesilas Yeshtarim* ["Path of the Just" by Rabbi Moshe Chaim Luzzatto, a famous text on ethics and character-building] with me, and our daily learning together lasted for a long time."

In 1989, Memphis' loss was Ohio's gain; the Kibels moved to Cincinnati, where they played a major role in founding the Regional Institute



Circa 1988, Rabbi Nehemia Kibel, then-MHA executive director and Judaic studies principal, is pictured (left) on a rainy morning with Dr. Jerry Kutliroff, then-MHA general studies principal. This photo is a testament to Rabbi Kibel's humility, good nature and commitment to the school.

for Torah and Secular Studies (RITSS), a girls' high school with boarding facilities. They were also fixtures in the Cincinnati Community Kollel. Through those institutions, the Kibels influenced the lives of hundreds of students in Cincinnati and beyond.

Rabbi Kibel's life was tragically cut short by a rare form of lymphoma. After months of aggressive treatments — during which he courageously maintained his routine of thrice-daily prayer and regular Torah study — Rabbi Kibel passed away Nov. 20, 2005, at the age of 53. His legacy as a gifted educator, scholar and community leader lives on through his children and grandchildren and the thousands of people whose lives he changed for the better.

"The world is not quite the same without Rabbi Kibel in it," said former student **Pace Cooper** (MHA '77, YOS '81) at a Cincinnati tribute dinner in his teacher's honor shortly after his passing. "The void is palpable, pronounced and very noticeable. How I wish I

could call and speak to Rabbi Kibel, to enjoy his warmth, his inspiration, and of course, his indelible humor.

"And yet, unlike others who are taken from us and sometimes forgotten, his mark and

his image are fresh in our hearts and will be prevalent in all that we do forever. That was Rabbi Nechemiah Kibel — someone who changed each of us for the better, whose inspiration allowed us to make permanent and ever-growing strides as inspired, committed and Torah-loving Jews. All those touched by Rabbi Kibel will never forget his greatness and the

impact he continues to have in our lives."

In honor of Rabbi Kibel's 10th yahrzeit (anniversary of his death) this fall, his son Yaakov is publishing a compilation of his father's divrei Torah, along with letters he received and eulogies given in his memory. For more information or to order a copy, please contact Yaakov Kibel at 732-730-1655 or ydkibel@gmail.com.

[WE] WILL
NEVER FORGET
HIS GREATNESS
AND THE
IMPACT HE
CONTINUES TO
HAVE IN OUR
LIVES.

In loving memory

1965-1970

TRIVIA



Regardless of when you graduated, have some fun with these trivia questions. Send your answers to joannekahane111@gmail.com. The person who gets the most answers correct (or in case of a tie, the earliest respondent) will win a tin of Ricki's Cookies (made by Ricki (Thomas) Krupp, MHA '66, YOS '70).

1. In 1970, math teacher Rabbi David Abrahamson gave the boys in his class the opportunity to do a *mitzvah* by helping a member of the community move his pharmacy to a new location. Which pharmacy owner was the beneficiary of that *chesed*?
2. What was the name of the 1969 high school yearbook?
3. What 1957 MHA graduate taught Latin in the early years of the Yeshiva of the South?
4. When did the Yeshiva of the South first open its doors?
5. How did math teacher Mr. William Sullivan routinely respond to student complaints?
6. With what memorable phrase did Mr. Robert Smith open many of his science classes?
7. When was the Yeshiva building dedicated? Who was the guest speaker at the dedication?
8. When was the first school newspaper published, and what was it called?
9. When did the Yeshiva boys first play basketball in the JCC league?

10. What was the organization known as GOYS?
11. Which student defined dorm life as "an endurance test"?
12. Which teacher was known for saying, "Don't worry about the 'whys,' but know the 'whats'"?
13. What game did a certain class of second graders play when their teachers were out of the room?
14. Where were the playground and swings at the school originally located?
15. In the "Last Will and Testament" of the 1969 yearbook, the graduating class left one student "a good night's sleep." To our knowledge, she is yet to get one. Can you name this hyper-energetic alumna?
16. Can you identify the year in which this class graduated (see photo)? How many members of the class can you name?



The MHA/YOS Classes of 1965-1970 *Where Are They Now?*

Roberta (Burman) Bomzer (YOS '68), who now goes by the name **Rochel**, was one of about 10 students from Houston, Texas, who attended the school. After graduating from the YOS, she earned a bachelor's degree from New York's Queens College and a master's degree in guidance counseling from Nova Southeastern University in Florida. For nearly 36 years she has been married to Rabbi Moshe Eliezer Bomzer; they have six married children and are expecting the arrival of their 20th grandchild in the coming months. The Bomzers live in Albany, New York, where they have been a driving force in the Jewish community. After leading Albany's Congregation Beth Abraham Jacob for 28 years, he is now the *rav ha'machshir* (certifying rabbi) and she is a *mashgicha* (kosher supervisor) for the Vaad HaKashruth of the Capital District.



"Even though I don't keep in close touch with my classmates, I often think about my two years in Memphis," Bomzer said. "When I moved in with Rabbi Yosef and Mrs. Maxine Rottenberg, it was the first time I'd ever slept away from home. I'd never had my own room before, either! Also, I'll always remember that **Vivian Atlas** (YOS '68) and I lived at the home of Al and the late Betty Thomas for a little while, and with her cooking I must have put on 10 pounds in a few months!"

Bomzer said it was during her time in Memphis that she received one of her most cherished pieces of advice. "As I was learning more about Judaism, Rabbi Meir and Rebbetzin Regina Belsky emphasized the importance of taking things slowly and not rushing too much change too quickly," she said. "They encouraged me to take on one thing at a time, rather than a bunch of things, and I've relied on and quoted that advice many times since." She invites her classmates to contact her at rebbetzin36@gmail.com and to let her know if they are ever in Albany.



Julia (Cohn) Schiller (MHA '65) now goes by the name **Yehudis**. She and her husband, Rabbi Mayer Schiller, had the "beautiful experience" of living in New Square, New York, for more than five years and currently reside in Spring Valley, New York. She works as a file clerk for an alarm company, and her husband is a

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Graduates of 1965-1970

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well-known author who teaches Judaic studies at the Marsha Stern Talmudical Academy/Yeshiva University High School for Boys (also known as MTA) in Manhattan and English and American history at Yeshiva Bais Shraga in Monsey. They have two married sons (one in Monsey, who drives for Monsey Trails, and one in Brooklyn, who owns a kosher pizza shop), 12 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. “Our family is very international,” she said. “One of our daughters-in-law lived in Brussels and Spain, one granddaughter-in-law is from Manchester, England, and one grandson-in-law, who is the spice of life, is from Antwerp, Belgium!”

“My favorite memory from the MHA is Georgia the cook telling us when she was making chili and hot tamales,” Schiller recalled. She also loved when Rabbi Efraim Greenblatt, *zt'l*, would tell stories of his life in *Eretz Yisrael*, the land of Israel.

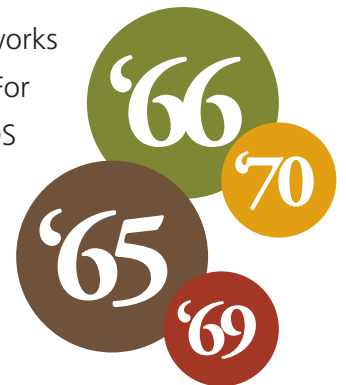


Laurie Cooper (MHA '65) lives in Memphis with her husband, Donny Emerson. They have four children — **Rabbi Dov Emerson** (MHA '91) and **Sarah (Emerson) Helfand** (MHA '95, FYOS '98) of Los Angeles; **Rabbi Michael Emerson** (MHA '99, FYOS '03) of Queens, New York; and **Denah Emerson** (MHA '01, FYOS '05) of New York City — and 10 grandchildren.

An alumna of Harvard University, Cooper works as an attorney. Her favorite MHA memories include performing “Pinocchio” in the fifth grade and shabbaton sleepovers at the school with the girls from St. Louis. She fondly remembers her favorite teachers, Rabbi Joseph Nayowitz, Rabbi David Rebibo and Rabbi Benjamin Wolmark. Her email address is lcooper@coopercompanies.com.

Ranelle (Evensky) Kibel (MHA '66, YOS '70) lives in Baltimore, where she works part-time as a physical education teacher at a Bais Yaakov girls' high school. For 33 years she was married to **Rabbi (Harry) Nechemiah Kibel** (MHA '65, YOS '69), *zt'l*, who is profiled in this newsletter. She is the matriarch of a large family “with lots of little Nechemiahs and other beautiful grandchildren,” she said.

“My favorite part of school at the MHA was that we were like a family,” she recalled fondly. “I wish everybody a *shana tova!*” Her email address is ranellekibel@gmail.com.



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Ricki (Thomas) Krupp (MHA '66, YOS '70) and her husband Michael live in Memphis and have six children — **Dovid Krupp** (MHA '88) and **Ari Krupp** (MHA '91) of Baltimore; **Elana (Krupp) Kahane** (MHA '92) and **Aviva (Krupp) Lewis** (MHA '02, FYOS '06) of Memphis; **Hershel Krupp** (MHA '97) of New York; and **Isaac Krupp** (MHA '06, FYOS '10) of Los Angeles — and 15 grandchildren, five of whom now attend the MHA. She owns and operates the world-famous bakery called Ricki's Cookie Corner. The Krupps were recognized as Guests of Honor at the MHA/FYOS Scholarship Banquet in June 2015 for their years of dedication to the school. She can be reached at rickiscookies@aol.com.

Elaine (Riesenberg) Mael (MHA '67, YOS '71) lives in Baltimore and works as a librarian at Towson University. She can be contacted at elainemael@gmail.com.



Rabbi Abe Sharp (MHA '67) and his wife Ronna live in Chicago, where he works as the business manager for the Chicago Rabbinical Council. They have four married children (living in Chicago; Boca Raton, Florida; West Hempstead, New York; and Brooklyn, New York) and seven grandchildren. He has fond memories of “the warm atmosphere between the students and the staff” at the MHA, he said. His favorite teacher was the beloved Rabbi Efraim Greenblatt, of blessed memory. He hopes all his classmates are well and invites them to contact him at asharp@crcweb.org.



Mike Stein (MHA '68, YOS '72) serves as managing director of investments for Wells Fargo Advisors in Memphis. He and his wife Essie have five children — **Sarah Leah (Stein) Freiden** (MHA '91), **Reuven Stein** (MHA '98, FYOS '02) and **Bracha (Stein) Einhorn** (MHA '04, FYOS '08) of Memphis; **Shoshana (Stein) Safirstein** (MHA '93, FYOS '97) of Chicago; and **Dvora (Stein) Weisfogel** (MHA '96, FYOS '00) of Hillside, New Jersey — and 13 grandchildren, two of whom now attend the MHA.

“I am grateful for the tremendous role models I had throughout my 12 years at the school, who taught me by their actions outside the classroom what it means to be a Torah Jew,” Stein said. His favorite teachers, he said jokingly, were



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Graduates of 1965-1970



“the ones who didn’t kick me out of class. They were all great.” He wishes his classmates a *shana tova* and hopes everyone is doing well. His email address is michael.stein@wellsfargoadvisors.com.



Sherry (Rosenberg) Gans (MHA '68, YOS '72) and her husband Moshe are the parents of a son and a daughter and live in Lawrence, New York. She can be reached at moshegans@verizon.net.

Francie Schneider (MHA '68, YOS '72) lives in Memphis with her sister Ellen and is in her 44th year working in the office at the MHA/FYOS! Among her favorite memories from her days as a student is “going to the drug store to buy candy” during her senior year, she said. Schneider’s favorite teacher was Mrs. Eva Loskove. Her email address is pandab53@yahoo.com.



Rabbi Menachem Greenblatt (MHA '69), son of beloved Academy teachers Rabbi Efraim and Mrs. Miriam Greenblatt, of blessed memory, lives in St. Louis, where he has led the Agudas Israel congregation since 1986. He and his wife Tova, who is principal of the Esther Miller Bais Yaakov High School, have 10 children; seven are married with children of their own. They feel especially blessed that two of their married daughters live nearby in St. Louis.



“I have so many memories of my time at the MHA, but one in particular of 55 years ago looms large,” he said. “Our kindergarten teacher — Mrs. Miriam Cheruff, of blessed memory — would not allow us to buy snacks for the bus ride home at noon. She didn’t want us to ruin our appetite for lunch. But somehow, my father, *zt’l*, would sneak me a bag of potato chips, which I would share with **Zevi Wolmark** [MHA '69] as we clandestinely indulged while hiding at the back of the bus.”

Like so many MHA/FYOS alumni, his favorite teacher was “hands down, my father, Rabbi Efraim Greenblatt, *zt’l*,” and not just because he snuck him potato chips. His message to the Memphis Jewish community: “Please keep *chinuch* [Jewish education] at the pinnacle of your priorities. Without the MHA, Memphis would never have thrived as a leading Jewish community.” Rabbi Greenblatt hopes his classmates are “all living fulfilling and productive lives. I think of ‘y’all’ more often than you think of me!” He can be reached at mgreenblatt@agudastl.com.

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Randall Chapman (MHA '69, YOS '72) is now known as **Rabbi Reuven Chapman** and is network administrator of the Star-K kosher certification organization in Baltimore. He and his wife have three married children (two in Baltimore and one in Florida) and enjoy being grandparents. Rabbi Chapman's email address is reuven@comcast.net.



Karen (Katz) Rubenstein (MHA '69, YOS '72) and her husband Marvin live in Memphis and have four children (pictured at right) — **Rebecca (Rubenstein) Gutman** (MHA '93, FYOS '97) and **Benjamin Rubenstein** (MHA '00, FYOS '04), both of

Baltimore; **Rachel Rubenstein** (MHA '06, FYOS '10), now living in Israel; and **Aaron Rubenstein** (MHA '08, FYOS '12), who attends Yeshiva University in New York City — and two grandsons. After years of working as a registered nurse in labor and delivery, Rubenstein opened the Thermography Center of Memphis. "It's in memory of my mother [Pearl Katz, zt'l], who passed away from breast cancer," she said. "My goal is to help in the prevention and very early detection of the disease."



Her most cherished memories of attending the MHA are the friendships she made with her teachers and fellow students. She had a few favorite teachers but especially remembers Mr. David Cotton. "He was a great teacher. He stood way over six feet tall, and we used to love watching him fold himself up into his tiny sports car," she said. Rubenstein would love to hear from her classmates at kjkr55@gmail.com.

Louis B. Chapman (MHA '70, YOS '74) is an attorney. He and his wife Elaine



live in her hometown of Passaic, New Jersey; they have four children and two grandchildren. "I was the classmate from Houston, Texas, and you received me well," Chapman said of his fellow students. "I remember our years together fondly, and I learned many of life's lessons together with y'all." His favorite memories



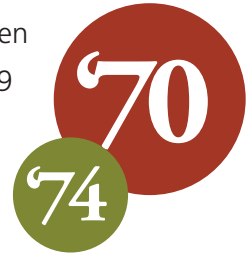
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from his time at the MHA include going on bus rides to Nashville, and his most beloved teacher was Mr. David Cotton. Chapman can be reached at louchapman@optonline.net.

Lisa (Epstein) Garfunkel (MHA '70, YOS '74) and her husband Nosson have been married for 40 years. They live in Savannah, Georgia, and have six children and 19 grandchildren. Her email address is shulie9@aol.com.



*Want to connect
with other
MHA/FYOS
alumni?*

**JOIN US ON
FACEBOOK!**





The March 25, 1964, edition of Memphis's daily newspaper *The Commercial Appeal* featured a story about the 4th grade class at the MHA, who, under the guidance of their teacher Mrs. Cecil B. Conrad, became pen pals with a sea captain stationed in South Vietnam during the throes of the Vietnam War. The class tracked the daily progress of the captain's ship on a map in their classroom. The captain sent them letters, weather maps, foreign currency, books, literature and stamps.

In the accompanying photo, which also appears on the cover of this publication, **Mike Stein** (MHA '68, YOS '72) reads a recent letter from the captain. Looking on are (clockwise from top-right) **Sherry (Rosenberg) Gans** (MHA '68, YOS '72), **Mike Epstein** (MHA '68), **Robert Feldbaum, zt'l** (MHA '68), **Morris Loterstein** (MHA '68, YOS '72), Mrs. Conrad, **Randy Fishman** (MHA '68), **Aaron Thomas** (MHA '68, YOS '71), **Rochelle (Greenblatt) Lapidus** (MHA '68), **Mark Clemons** (MHA '68), **Jerry Gontownik** (MHA '68, YOS '71) and Irwin Bornblum, zt'l.



Photographed as 11th graders in 1969 were (from left) **Ricki (Thomas) Krupp** (MHA '66, YOS '70), **Marilyn Silverman** (YOS '70), **Leah Ann (Lamensdorf) Kleinfeldt Kirzner** (YOS '70), **Harvis (Ellman) Gerber** (YOS '70), **Joel Yornark** (MHA '66) and **Ronald Kleinfeldt** (MHA '66).

flashback



The kindergarten graduating class of 1960

(Although we consulted with a number of alumni, we could not identify everyone in the photo. If you can fill in any of the missing names, [please let us know](#).)

Front row, seated on floor (from left): **Carole Epstein** (MHA '68), [unknown], **Sherry (Rosenberg) Gans** (MHA '68, YOS, 72), Stuart Cohen, [unknown], [unknown], **Morris Loterstein** (MHA '68, YOS '72), **Jeffrey Freiden** (YOS '72), **Mike Stein** (MHA '68, YOS '72), [unknown].

Middle row, seated in chairs (from left): [unknown], [unknown], [unknown], **Maidee Skopp** (MHA '68, YOS '72), **Jeffrey Parker** (MHA '69, YOS '72), Sammy Young, Vicki Fallon, [unknown], [unknown], **Aaron Thomas** (MHA '68, YOS '71).

Back row, standing (from left): **Mike Epstein** (MHA '68), **Debbi Cooper** (MHA '68, YOS '72), **Randy Fishman** (MHA '68), Irwin Bornblum, zt', [unknown], Joel Rebibo, **Mark Clemons** (MHA '68), **Rochelle (Greenblatt) Lapidus** (MHA '68), **Marcia Thomas** (YOS '72), [unknown], **Jerry Gontownik** (MHA '68, YOS '71).



Around 1963, two NBA players visited the school and practiced dribbling in the gym with students (from left) **Lee Hanover** (MHA '69), **Aaron Thomas** (MHA '68, YOS '71) and **Mike Stein** (MHA '68, YOS '72). If you remember who the NBA players were or how they came to visit the MHA, [please let us know!](#)



IN THE NEXT ISSUE

We are planning to send out our fourth newsletter sometime around Chanukah. There, we will highlight the 8th and 12th grade graduates from the years 2001-2005. If you were in those classes, you should be receiving a questionnaire by email in October. Please return your completed survey promptly so that you can be included.

In that issue, we will feature a story about Mrs. Sandy Gersten, who served as elementary school principal during those years and continues to serve in that role. If you have any stories, photos or memories of Mrs. Gersten that you'd like to share, please email them to Alumni Chair Joanne Kahane (joannekahane111@gmail.com) or send them to her by mail at the school address listed below. Also, remember to submit your "Mazel Tov" events so we can include them in the Alumni News section of our next publication. Thank you!

