

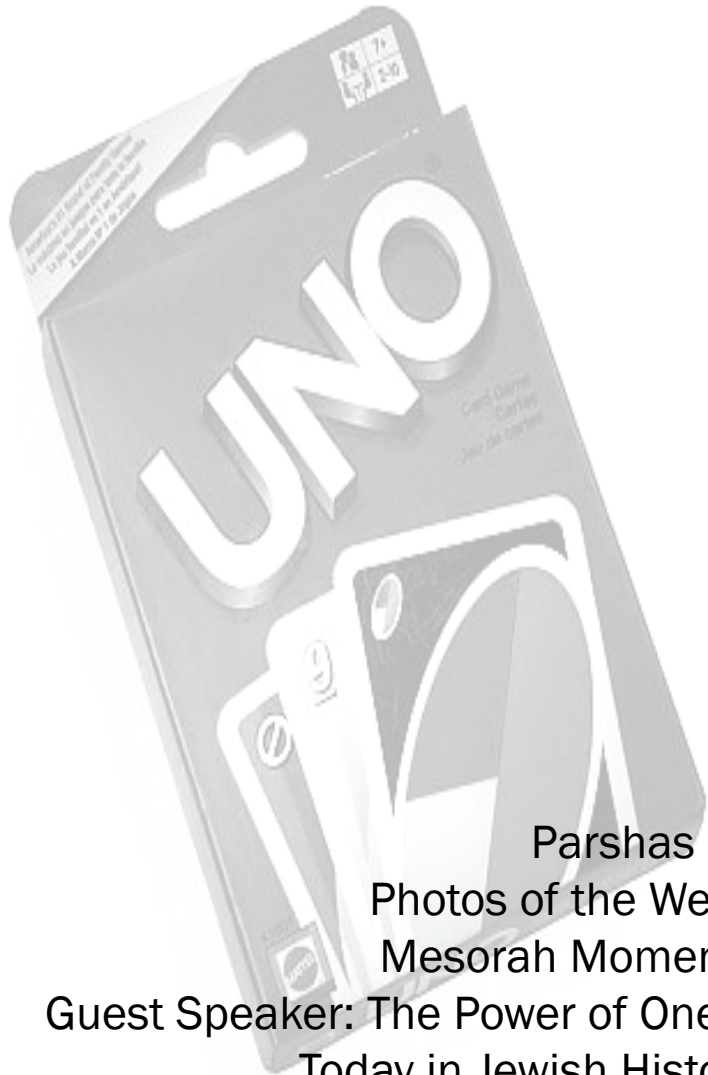
Mesorah Magazine

The Weekly Magazine of Mesorah High School for Girls

Volume 1, Issue 5

ד' שבט תשס"ח

January 11, 2008



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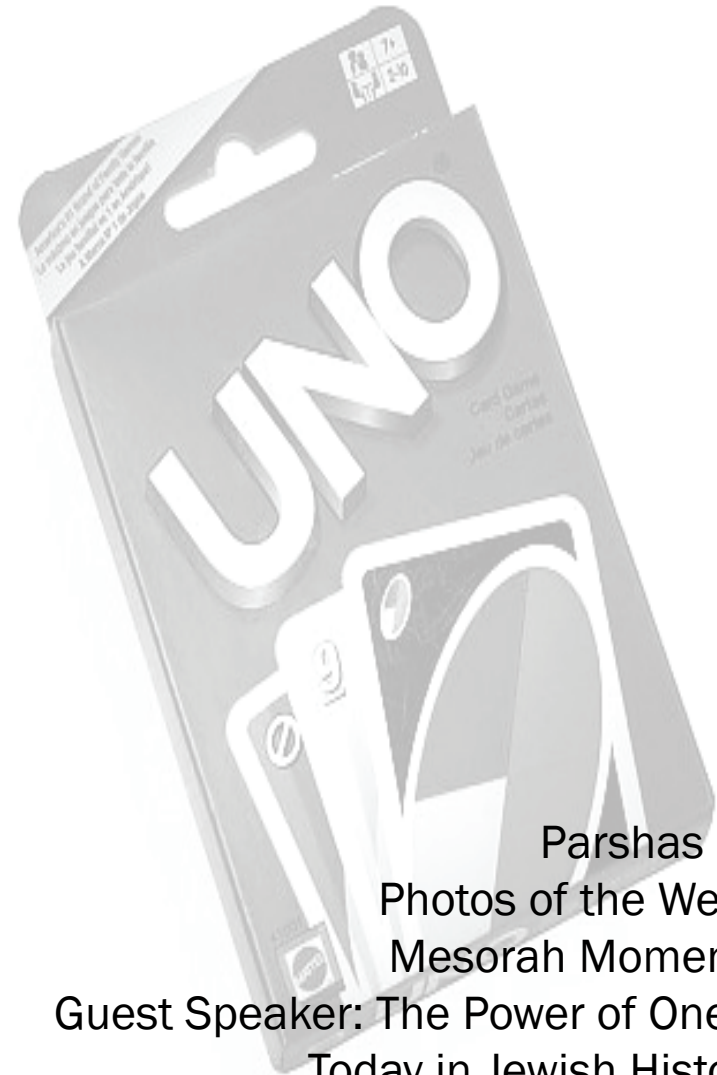
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From the Editors

Dear Reader,

What an exciting week full of activities. From Mrs. Glazer's educational speech to a really fun Rosh Chodesh Shevat activity with Torah Day School of Dallas's 8th grader girls, everyone had a great time. Thank you so much to everyone who helped make those events possible. Production is coming along great with everyone putting in so much work staying after school and practicing dance, drama, and choir. Also, our great committees are doing a really professional job organizing everything such as props, costumes, headpieces, tickets, ads, and more! We really appreciate your help. Enjoy all the articles written by you this week! We're looking forward to having articles from our amazing teachers beginning in next week's issue. Stay tuned!

Your Editors,

Natali Elfenbein Aliza Schick

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Natali Elfenbein and Aliza Schick

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Natali Elfenbein, Aliza Schick,
Chana Greene, Brocha Klein

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SPECIAL THANKS TO

Rabbi Kosowsky, Mrs. Rich

Mark Your Calendar:

January 16- Progress Reports

February 6-7- Rosh Chodesh
Adar Aleph

February 11 (tentative)-
Production 2008!!!

February 13- Ricka and Boruch
Leib's Wedding



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Parshas Bo



Who Is a Leader?

The issue of national leadership is grabbing headlines around the world. What better time for learning the Torah's view of leadership than this week's פרשה which tells of פרעה and משה leading their respective nations. Let's first look at פרעה. 'ה sent one plague after another against the Egyptian people, trying to convince them to "Let My people go." The water supply was ruined in דם, the animals died in דבר, and the crops were destroyed in ברד. The people themselves were subjected to lice, boils, darkness - you name it. And as the months of plagues wore on, the Egyptian people became more and more convinced that it was in their best interest to let the Jews go! Everyone was convinced- everyone except פרעה. Why? Because for פרעה, this was not merely a practical issue of saving the country. This had become a personal battle between himself and פרעה. 'ה had spent years building up his image as an immortal god and wasn't about to be upstaged by the g-d of "those lowly Jewish slaves." How does one become a leader? In the secular world, a person voluntarily runs for office, usually out of a desire for power. Contrast this to Torah leadership, where there is no term of office and no contracts. The Talmud even suggests that a leader shouldn't accept money from the community he serves - so they don't "own" him. His integrity must not be tainted by salary negotiations or a board of directors. One becomes a leader only because the people respect his character and trust his judgment. He doesn't go in search of the honor. They approach him and they ask him to become their leader. In fact, a Torah leader will resist the honor. When first approached by 'ה at the Burning Bush, משה protested: *"Who am I that I should take the Jews out of Egypt?!"* The רמב"ם lists the qualifications for Jewish leadership: "A Jewish leader must be a scholar in both Torah and secular wisdom, God-fearing, non-materialistic, a seeker of truth, mitzva observant, and modest." Wouldn't the world be different today if all leaders were accountable to such standards?

Adapted from aish.com

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Mesorah Moments



- "Ssssss....."
- We have only one word for this "moment"- **MOUSE**
- "Ahhhh! Seminary interviews!!!"
- "Don't forget your Quidditch robes!"
- Fake fire drills...



Rosh Chodesh Teves Activity

by Aliza Schick

On Tuesday of this week, we had an exciting Rosh Chodesh Shevat activity along with our guests, the eighth grade girls of GDSD, Leah Selmar, and Mrs. Ziemba. For our first game, we separated into our teams: Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw, Slytherin, and Gryffindor for an animated game of "Mafia," followed by a...well, loud cheering contest. Then everyone settled down on the very comfortable lunchroom floor for lunch. As our awesome student council presidents, Hila Hoffman and Hila Moyal finished setting up our Quidditch game board, the girls put on their Quidditch robes and made up some more cheers. Then the Quidditch matches began: two games, each with two different teams, were played, and in the final game the two winning teams competed. Congratulations to team Ravenclaw, winning with over 1000 points! Thank you so much to Gova Epstein, Hila Hoffman, Arielle Newman, and many other girls (sorry if we forgot you) for coming to school at four in the morning to redecorate for Rosh Chodesh! This month's game is UNO, and each week has a different theme. We can't wait to see what our student council has in store for us for the rest of this month!

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By Brocha Klien and Chana Greene

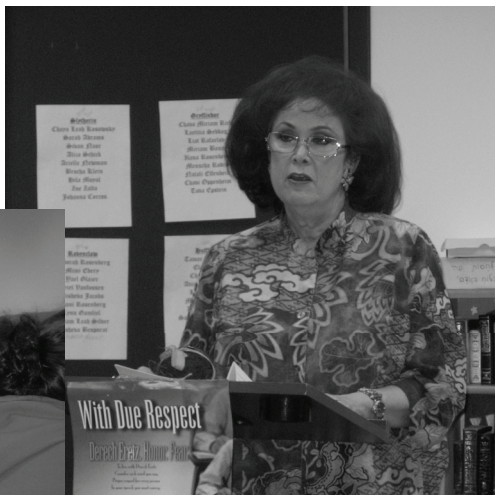
On Monday morning, we had the first of many speakers organized by Mrs. Banarer to talk to us about various occupations that we might be interested in. Thank you so much to our first speaker, Mrs. Glazer, for teaching us some invaluable lessons. Her inspiring story taught us many important lessons, including the power of one individual and how much they can affect others. Mrs. Glazer's father loved ranches and bought a weekend ranch for him and his family about an hour and a half's drive away from his house in Winona County, Texas. This small settlement was meant to be filled with orchards and farming. Despite this promise, the lands were turned into one of the country's largest toxic waste dumps, resulting in dangerous effects on the health of Winona's citizens. These poisonous gasses and chemicals caused stunted growth, blindness, no hair growth, nose bleeds, cancer, and even premature death. To help her family and the people of Winona, in 1992 Mrs. Glazer founded an organization called Mothers Organized for Stopping Environmental Sins. MOSES appealed to the government at both state and federal levels to stop the dumping of waste into Winona. It was a great struggle. MOSES took the issue to court, countersuing major corporations who had sued her for public embarrassment, which she felt were frivolous charges. Mrs. Glazer turned to Winona's people, asking them to give donations and organizing picket lines and marches on government buildings. This fight caused so much controversy and violence that Mrs. Glazer was forced to send her children away— both for their health and for their safety. No one would drive in her car, which had become a moving target for MOSES's opposers, because there were constantly being shots fired at her and she was forced to live with a bodyguard. Mrs. Glazer and MOSES finally succeeded, 6 years later, but it was too late for many of Winona County's citizens, who already had permanent damage to their physical health. Mrs. Glazer wrapped up her presentation by taking questions and summarizing a very important lesson: one individual, a lawyer, environmentalist, or just someone who feels strongly about fighting for what is right, can affect the entire world.

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MOSES's story kept all the student interested.



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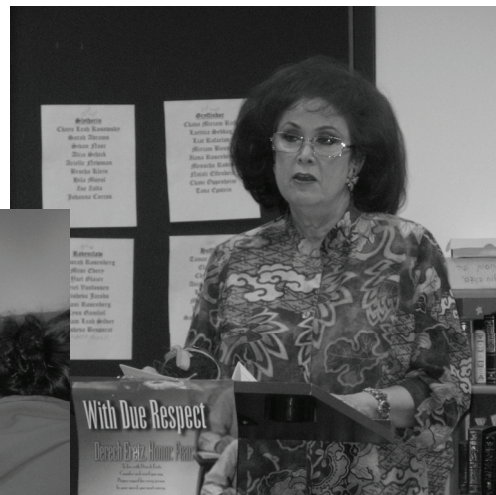
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Yahrzeit of Rabbi Moshe Leib of Sasov. He was well-known for always initiating greetings with others as a way of showing his love for fellow Jews.

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Don't forget to give the seniors your yearbook pictures ASAP!!!

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mesorahhighschool.org



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