

COVERAGE BY
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Congressional Candidate Bruce Blakeman (L) and Assemblyman Phil Goldfeder (C) at Avigdor's Helping Hand BBQ event.



Assemblyman Phil Goldfeder (C) and Councilman Donovan Richards, Jr. (L), at the Young Israel of Bayswater and Wavescrest Senior Center's first annual health fair on Sunday.

Avigdor's Helping Hand Holds Ninth Annual Five Towns Fundraiser In Lawrence

On Monday, September 1, the Far Rockaway and Five Towns community turned out to show support for Avigdor's Helping Hand, at the Ninth Annual Labor Day Weekend Barbeque. The popular, well-attended event took place at 7:00 p.m. at the gracious home of Mr. and Mrs. David Moradi in Lawrence. The first fundraising event for Avigdor's Helping Hand was held at the White Shul. For the last seven years, the event has been hosted by the Moradis, as was the case this year as well.

Over a thousand guests attended, and all of them thoroughly enjoyed themselves while supporting Avigdor's Helping Hand at the same time. Thanks to the wonderful weather, the venue appeared even more inviting, and the event was as successful as ever. Catering was provided by Michael Schick, and music by Aaron Teitelbaum. Thanks to Mr. Yanky Brach of Brach's Supermarket, who donated the sushi, and to Birch Event Design for the flowers donated for the event.

Both the Kew Gardens and Five Towns communities were well represented; numerous politicians attended as well. Borough President Melinda Katz made a presentation, announcing that the Queens Borough President has decreed September 1 Avigdor's Helping Hand Appreciation Day. A Chinese auction was held at the BBQ, with numerous lovely donated prizes. A wonderful time was had by all and Avigdor's Helping Hand truly appreciates the support.

Avigdor's Helping Hand is an all-volunteer non-profit organization with no administrative costs. There are no offices, rent or other expenses — not a *perutah* is used other than to help families. Avigdor's Helping Hand helps people across the United States, providing financial assistance to orphans who are getting married and to widow(er)s in the year following the loss of the primary breadwinner.

Avigdor's Helping Hand is a registered IRS charity and a 501c3 *tzedakah* organization. Since it began a few years ago, the organization has distributed over \$3.7 million dollars and made close to 550 *chasunos*. They have also helped 150 families get back on their feet in the year following the loss of a spouse. The annual Labor Day BBQ helps to make all of this possible. To contact Avigdor's Help-

ing Hand please call 718-568-9720 or email AHH@Avigdorshelpinghand.org.

BBQ Fundraiser For One Israel Fund

On Thursday night, September 4, One Israel Fund held its annual BBQ fundraiser. Guests from near and far attended to show support for this organization, something that is especially needed in these difficult times. The BBQ, which was graciously hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Joel Mael at their Lawrence home, was a successful and well-attended event. The presence of many politicians was also noted. All proceeds raised at the event will be allocated towards preventative security and emergency medical equipment in the southern communities on the Gaza border and other areas under similar threat.

The One Israel Fund has been working nonstop to assist the communities in the south of Israel during and since the war. One Israel has already distributed over \$300,000 worth of equipment to fortify and protect the communities along the Gaza border. In addition to its regular efforts throughout Yehudah and Shomron, the Fund has been contacted by security teams along the northern border as well. The Fund also continues to help those who were uprooted from their homes in Gush Katif and Northern Shomron in the summer of 2005.

Hachnasas Sefer Torah At Yeshiva Darchei Torah Next Sunday

On Sunday, September 14/19 Elul, the friends of Aaron Sholom Tepfer, *a"h*, will be dedicating a *sefer Torah* in his memory in conjunction with his first *yahrtzeit*. The *kesivas osiyos* will take place at the Tepfer home from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. A procession will then begin at 3:40 p.m. from the

Heyson building at the yeshiva to the junior high building. The *sefer Torah* will be brought to its new home in the junior high school Beis Medrash at Yeshiva Darchei Torah. To join or contribute, please contact Rabbi Avrohom Bender at abender@darchei.org or Mr. Ariel Berko at arielberko@hotmail.com.

First Annual Community Health Fair

The entire community was invited to attend the Community Health and Wellness Fair on Sunday, September 7. The fair was held at the Wavecrest and Bayswater Neighborhood Senior Center at 2716 Healy Avenue in Far Rockaway from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Over 40 businesses and organizations participated. Admission was free. In addition, there were free health screenings, food samples, assorted classes and a FDNY Fire Engine Tour. There were also many free giveaways to take home. Special thanks to Russo's Pharmacy for their assistance at this event.

The fair was brought to the community by the Wavecrest and Bayswater Neighborhood Senior Center, along with Assemblyman Phil Goldfeder and Councilman Donovan Richards. The Wavecrest and Bayswater Neighborhood Senior Center is sponsored by Young Israel Programs, Inc. and is funded by the New York City Department for the Aging.

9/11 Memorial to Take Place in Cedarhurst

A memorial ceremony will be hosted by the Village of Cedarhurst on Thursday, September 11 at 6 p.m. The ceremony will mark 13 years since the tragic and infamous day of terrorism. The ceremony will take place at Andrew J. Parise Cedarhurst Park at the intersection of Cedarhurst and Summit Avenues, across from Village Hall. Students and faculty from the Lawrence

School District, along with officials from the Village of Lawrence and the Lawrence-Cedarhurst Fire Department, will take part in the event.

Bruce Blakeman Endorsed for Congress By Amb. John Bolton

After attending and participating in a Lawrence fundraiser for Bruce Blakeman, Ambassador John Bolton made his first endorsement in the State of New York today by supporting Bruce Blakeman's campaign for Congress in the 4th District. As the United States' former Ambassador to the United Nations, John Bolton is known as an expert in foreign affairs and national security. Mr. Blakeman is the Republican-Conservative-Independence Party nominee running against Kathleen Rice for the open seat that the GOP has targeted for November's elections. Mr. Blakeman is also known as a strong supporter of Israel.

Another Season of Youth Groups at Shaaray Tefila

The Youth Department at Congregation Shaaray Tefila is proud to announce the start of another wonderful season of Shabbos morning youth groups at the shul. People of all ages are welcome to enjoy *davening*, stories, games, *parashah*, prizes and of course, nosh. The youth groups begin again *Shabbos Parashas Ki Savo*, September 13, and are run from 9:15-11:15 a.m. For more information please call or text Chavy Gros at 646-515-5845 or Rabbi Walkin 347-524-3864.

To submit a mazel tov, an idea for the Rockaway riddle or news about important events in your school, shul or organization located in Far Rockaway or the Five Towns for Hamodia, please contact Henya Gordon at longislandink@hamodia.com.