



STAR-K Kosher Certification Administrators Address YU/RIETS Yarchei Kallah Rabbinic Alumni

By Margie Pensak

Rabbinic alumni from Yeshiva University's Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (RIETS) visited STAR-K Kosher Certification's offices, during their Yarchei Kallah, held in Baltimore, Maryland, April 22-24. Participants traveled from as far away as Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, and Oakland, California, for this annual event for American and Canadian Rabbonim, coordinated by Rabbi Jacob J. Schacter, University Professor of Jewish History and Jewish Thought and Senior Scholar at Yeshiva University Center for the Jewish Future.

"One of the highlights of our trip to Baltimore was the opportunity to meet with the leadership of the STAR-K who

graciously hosted our group at their offices," said Rabbi Schacter. "We came away very impressed by the work the STAR-K does in the field of kashrus supervision and research."

Rabbi Daniel Korobkin, Mara D'Asra of Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation ("The BAYT"), sent STAR-K the following letter of appreciation for hosting the Yarchei Kallah: "Thanks so much to STAR-K for having our chaburah as your guests. It was truly a wonderful experience. Definitely worth the trip of flying all the way from Toronto... It is truly inspiring to see a Rav who speaks his mind and expresses his shittos openly, even if his position may not be agreed upon by other kashrus agencies. This was very refreshing for all of us.

We all felt very welcome by the STAR-K to call upon your resources in the future for shailos and consultations. Thank you again for the wonderful experience."

Rabbi Judah Dardik, senior rabbi of Beth Jacob Congregation in Oakland, California, also felt that the long trip was very much worth it. "As a community Rav, my life revolves around teaching Torah to varied segments of community in a variety of different ways. For me, coming to a Yarchei Kallah is a breath of fresh air; a chance to be a Talmid (student) again for a few days. It is worth every minute to come across the country to sit and learn from Rav Schacter, Rav Heinemann and Rav Frand. I go back to my community refreshed and full of new ideas in learning

to share and build upon with the Oakland Bay Area community."

As Rabbi Shmuel Silber, Rav of Suburban Orthodox, Congregation Toras Chaim, and host of the Yarchei Kallah, summed up the event: "Yeshiva University is committed to its musmachim and their continued success in serving Klal Yisroel. We had very meaningful experience learning from Rabbi Dr. Schacter, spending time at Ner Israel with Rabbi Frand and Rabbi Weisbord and a wonderful afternoon at the STAR-K with Rabbi Heinemann, Rabbi Holland and Rabbi Frankel. We emerged from the Yarchei Kallah recharged, rejuvenated and more thankful for the incredible zechus to serve the Jewish people."



POLICE REPORT

LCSW Assists Police in Arresting Man with Outstanding Warrant

Once again, LCSW has proved its value by helping police make yet another arrest. LCSW helped police make an arrest Tuesday of a man with an outstanding warrant on his head.

Shortly after 3:00 Am, an LCSW member patrolling the Squankum area noticed a man acting suspiciously, walking in and out of private properties and between vehicles.

The LCSW volunteer called police. Officers arrived on the scene and located the man, taking him into custody due to an outstanding warrant from Ocean County.

After observing the man for several minutes walking in and out of private properties and between cars, the member phoned police.

Police arrived and located the man, still being watched by the member.

Several minutes later, the man was taken into custody for an outstanding warrant from the County, an LCSW coordinator said.



LCSW ASSISTS POLICE IN MAKING YET ANOTHER ARREST.

HAZ-MAT Called in After Thermometer Leaks Chemical in Home

The HAZ-MAT team from Berkeley was called in to Lakewood last Thursday after a thermometer broke and leaked a dangerous chemical substance.

A homeowner reportedly called Poison Control after noticing a substance leaking from the broken device. Since the thermometer, which was an older model, contained mercury, which can be extremely hazardous, the Health Department reached out to the



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HAZ-MAT team.

The Coventry Square home was evacuated as HAZ-MAT officials removed the mercury.

Man Took Backhoe to Steal Landscaping Stones

Police got a call about a man operating a backhoe on Pinehurst Drive around 3 a.m. Monday, and soon after they arrived, officers realized he was stealing landscaping stones.

When Officer Patrick Kearns arrived, he spotted the 62-year-old moving stones with the excavator. Police

determined the suspect was moving the stones from a nearby construction site because he wanted to improve his own landscaping.

Gregory Bourtilier, 62, of Pinehurst Drive, Lakewood, was charged Monday with theft of the excavator and the stones.

He was sent to the Ocean County Jail, Toms River, with bail set at \$20,000.