



MY VIEW

Exceeding Expectations

BY: HANNA ROITMAN



I came to Bais Yaakov of Denver from Mexico for 11th and 12th grade. I can't believe how quickly the time flew by and that now I am a graduate. I was always busy learning, studying, and at the same time enjoying myself. I have so many fun and memorable times from my years at Bais Yaakov.

In addition to the special teachers that I learned so much from, I enjoyed the Retreats, Shabbatons, snow tubing, and even a pool party! These events allowed me to get to know people better and gave me the opportunity to connect with everyone.

When I first came to BYD I had worries. I wasn't sure how I was going to handle living in a dorm. I was also concerned about how I was going to keep up with the academic level of BYD classes which were on a higher and more challenging level than I was accustomed to, especially because the classes were in a different language than I was used to.

It turned out that I loved it all! The experience made me grow in so many ways. I learned how to take care of myself and grew in my independence. I learned the vital skills of listening to others, sharing spaces with others, and how to be a more responsible and considerate person. I feel very accomplished about my academic achievements as well. I am so grateful that I was able to have these wonderful experiences in BYD.

Hanna Roitman is a BYD 2023 graduate.

BYD Happenings



Crowdfunding Campaign '23

BY: Rabbi Avrohom Dovid Karnowsky

Each year, as we gear up for our annual matching campaign, we brainstorm a campaign theme that would accurately convey the pulse of the school in that particular year.

This year we asked the students themselves if they could describe in one word what Bais Yaakov Denver means to them. They responded with a varied list of words which we made into a word graph on the campaign page.

Based on their feedback, we created a theme called "Thriving. Growing. Learning In 2023." This conveyed our mission to be a school that enables our students to thrive, grow and learn in a unique environment with a teaching style geared towards the



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Up Close with Mrs. Dora (Krausz) Segan-Kohanim '99 *Flipping Houses and Pancakes*

BY: MRS. ALIZA CHERNITZKY

It only takes a couple of minutes speaking with Mrs. Dora (Krausz) Segan-Kohanim for anyone to feel as if one is talking to a good friend. It is also immediately apparent that one is talking to an industrious, hardworking, wise, and authentic woman. Dora is an out of the box thinker, an innovative and capable entrepreneur, who loves and prioritizes her family.

Many of these traits are embedded in Dora's DNA. Her parents, Dr. Steven (YBL" C) and Mrs. Vicki (Z" L) Krausz are the founders of JCAN- the Jewish Children's Adoption Network, an organization that ensures that Jewish children in need of adoption are placed in Jewish homes. In fact, three of Dora's five siblings are adopted, two of whom have Down Syndrome. "Growing up I got to meet a lot of people through my parents' work. This led to me feeling comfortable speaking to all kinds of people." Dora used her ability to feel comfortable with a variety of people during her high school experience as well. "In BYD I made a concerted effort to connect with all different types of girls and to grow my friendships with them."

Dora continues, "I was exposed at an early age to the knowledge of the complexity of life, of people's pain. Some of the stories that these children had were pretty horrific. Nothing surprises me." One would think that Dora's childhood experiences had the potential to make her into a bitter adult. However, just the opposite is true- Dora's joy of life shines through as the conversation is punctuated by her frequent smiles and laughter.



Dora's husband, Mordechai, fled Iran at the age of 13, traveled by camel (!) and eventually made his way to Baltimore, Maryland to learn in Yeshivas Ner Yisrael. Today Dora and her husband continue to live in Baltimore where Mordechai works in real estate and Dora homeschools her children. "Two of my classmates, Rebecca (Lapin) Masinter and Chana (Fellner) Gerstein also live in Baltimore and homeschool. They encouraged me to try it. Once I made the change I was hooked."

Teaching comes naturally to Dora as she has an immense love for learning. "When I was younger, I actually wanted to be a librarian!" After graduating from BYD, Dora earned a degree in geography and received certification in

Geographic Information Systems (GIS). While working towards her degree, Dora taught sewing and geography in BYD.

Not only did Dora teach about other countries, but she also loves cooking cuisines from all over the world. "I cook a little bit of everything- European, Persian, Jamaican, Asian, Italian... you name it!" During Covid, one of Dora's kids exclaimed, "Ma, your food is so good! You should write a cookbook!" It was that comment that led Dora to start a blog on her website, www.Flippinghousesandpancakes.com, and to publish her first cookbook this past November entitled "Flipping Houses and Pancakes: Kosher Recipes and Kitchen Design Tips from an Amateur Professional."

Dora's cookbook is unique in that it not only has delicious and easy-to-make recipes, but it also speaks to the space in which those recipes are made: The kitchen. "One day my husband asked me to design a kitchen for a rental house that we owned. After all, he knew I had some experience with hand drawn maps! I did some research and then put my geography and mapping skills to work. The results were surprisingly amazing!" After designing her own kitchen and one for a friend, Dora felt she had the skills to do this on a larger scale. Today Dora does designs and layouts for entire homes with great attention given to each minute detail. Dora's cookbook has received great feedback. To purchase a copy, visit Amazon.com.

Mrs. Aliza Chernitzky is a BYD 1996 graduate and current Educational Assistant at Beth Jacob High School.

Alumnae and Staff Mazel Tovs

ENGAGEMENTS:

Tammy Koinov to Moshe Aviel Ben Mordechai
Carmielle Bean to Nosson Friedman
Miss Miriam Malka Gross to Yaakov Esral
Miriam (Erlanger) Joseph – son Mordy to Shani Rabinowitz
Mrs. Chani Kagan –son Shmully to Malky Landman
Chana Chaviva (Beren) Goldstein-daughter Nechama Faygel to Mendel Krawiec
Shoshana (Kubie) Azatchi's daughter

WEDDINGS:

Chani Warga to Aryeh Gurvich
Elisheva Vayavodkina to Fulli Shain
Bracha Popack to Shmuel Mayteles
Esther Gittel Shifrin to Meir Levy
Bracha Zussman to Yitzy Rand
Chagit Blidshtein to Chanel Menat
Sheerly Spitzer to Yitzchak Kapetas
Taly Carmona to Shmuel Wykoff
Chumie Wasserman to Yitzchok Zelinger
Faige (Kulefsky) Gruman – son Shaya to Chava Beckerman
Yosefa (Roberts) Uhr –son Moishe to Sori Freier
Chana (Schwab) Elbaz – daughter Michal to Avrami Senter
Hindy (Gertzulin) Anton – son Binny to Miriam Bider
Batya (Wasner) Brach – son Volvi to Ruchy Engel

Freide (Londinski) Goldstein – daughter Malky to Dovi Lichtenstein
Esti (Wolman) Feigenbaum – daughter Tova to Aharon Rabinowitz
Susan (Fleider) Efrogmson –son Yosef Gershon to Sorah Stoll
Segal (Don) Schonfeld – daughter Esti to Avrohom Yitzchak Loewi
Baila (Lauer) Eisenberger – daughter Aidel to Dovid Weintraub
Aliza (Indich) Chernitzky – son Yosef Chaim to Chanie Levinson
Shulamis (Erlanger) Muller – daughter Adina to Shuey Wilhelm
Celia (Lewit) Feder-grandson Dovid to Libby Friedman

BIRTHS:

Yael (Schweitzer) Andibo-Chana
Chaya (Krausz) Moseson –Leah
Hadar (Spitzer) Lavi – Leora Chana
Meira (Simblit) Liebman-Chana Leah
Riki (Goldberg) Kushnir – Azriel Mattisya'
Chana Rochel (Kruk) Urszuy - boy
Fraida (Rosskamm) Balaban-boy
Alicia (Meta) Beteck – twin girls
Dikla (Ushdi) Laniado – Margie
Baila (Berkowitz) Krancer – Miriam

Syma (Steinberg) Davidovich – girl
Nechama (Meyer) Siderson – Meir Simcha
Suri (Meyer) Walles - Esther
Tzipora (Schwab) Portowicz – Rivka Rosa
Ceci (Burch) Lavian – girl
Shira (Tessler) Melamed – Avraham Moshe
Mrs. Esther Melamed – grandson, Avraham Moshe
Devora (Bornstein) Levinson – granddaughter, Sophia Simcha
Adina (Grossman) Krausz – granddaughter, Leah
Michal (Schwab) Seidemann – granddaughter, Adina
Rochelle (Fine) Einhorn – grandson, Ahron Leib
Rachel (Hazan) Pattashnick – granddaughter, Eliana Yaffa
Debbie (Stewart) Friedman – grandson
Chaya (Wagner) Meyer – grandson, Meir Simcha and granddaughter, Esther
Avigayil (Schwab) Steinharter – grandson, Shlomo Yechiel

BAR MITZVAHS:

Mrs. Chani Kagan – Aryeh
Aliza (Indich) Chernitzky – Yaakov Yisrael
Miriam (Erlanger) Joseph – Chaim Simcha
Chaya (Shleifer) Berelowitz – Yehoshua Eliyahu
Shulamis (Erlanger) Muller - Elchonon
Riki (Goldberg) Kushnir - Shuey Noach

STUDENT PROFILE

Where There Is a Will There Is a Way

Meet Naomi Turiansky from Ukraine

Where are you from originally?

I was born in Yerushalayim. For a few years my family moved back and forth between Ukraine, Belarus, and Israel. When I was 6 years old, we officially moved to Ukraine.

Tell us about your family.

My father is from Latvia and my mother is from Odessa, Ukraine. I'm the second oldest of seven children BH. My father is a mashgiach and shochet. He often travels to South America for work. My mother is a stay-at-home mother.

Tell us about your experience when the war broke out between Russia and Ukraine.

The war broke out at night when we were home. Although I could hear explosions, they were not yet targeting my city. I am an early riser and was the first in my family to find out the next morning that the war broke out. I woke up my mother as my father was in Israel at the time. Our bags were already packed since the previous week we had traveled to Kiev to renew our passports "just in case". As a precaution we kept the bags packed. My mother told us to take showers and pack some food, gather documents, and then we waited for instructions from community leaders.

What happened next? Community leaders were prepared, and a few weeks earlier had ordered buses and organized people into groups with assigned leaders. We received a text that the bus would be at shul at 3pm. We went by bus to Moldova. Usually, the trip takes three hours. That day it took twelve! We



stayed in Moldova for a week. The community there found a hotel that was very old and abandoned, but available. I was so cold and cramped. But the people there were so nice. The shul provided us with food. We went to buy an urn to have something hot. The saleslady had pity on us and gave us one urn for free and one at an extremely discounted price. After a week, we moved to Covasna, Romania, where we stayed for another week. The accommodations there were much better. After that week we moved to Neptune, Romania, where my family lived for over a year. It is a beach town, and the closest store was an hour away. Kosher food was four hours away. Now my family lives in Bucharest, a more practical choice.

What made you interested in attending BYD?

I was looking for higher learning opportunities. Although my school was religious, the students

who attended were on varying levels of observance. I wanted to be in an environment that was more homogenous. I asked the Rav in Odessa, Rabbi Bakst, for suggestions and he suggested BYD. He knew of BYD since other girls from Odessa had attended the school after Rabbi Schwab's trip to Odessa years ago.

How was your adjustment to America?

Being Jewish here is different. In Ukraine, the people were more serious. Here everything is with love and fun.

What is your favorite part of BYD?

I like the way they teach *limudei kodesh* here. Previously, due to the varying levels of students, we didn't learn texts inside like we do at BYD. We were only taught the stories of Tanach. In Bais Yaakov of Denver they teach you the life lessons. It might even be one of the questions on the test!

What are some of your hobbies and interests?

I love to write poems in Russian. I play piano and study music theory. I like some Russian literature. I enjoy sports and used to take karate lessons. I am fluent in four languages- Hebrew, English, Ukrainian and Russian. I understand Polish.

Is there anything else you'd like us to know?

My mother says about me that "*Ein lecha davar sheomed befnei haratzon*"- where there is a will there is a way. I wanted to come here and despite all the obstacles I did it and continue to grow!

Notices

Asbestos Announcement

This notice is to inform all interested that a mandatory Asbestos Hazard Emergency-Response Act (AHERA) school inspection was performed at the Beth Jacob High School in 1988 and an AHERA management plan for the school was accepted. The management plan is available for viewing by interested parties, Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., and Friday 8:00 a.m. through 3:00 p.m., at the administrative office in the high school,

5100 W. 14th Ave. Copies will be available for \$25 within five days of written request. The few remaining asbestos-containing building materials are kept under the semi-annual surveillances required by law and are conducted by our trained personnel. In compliance with the law, Beth Jacob arranges for periodic re-inspections. Mr. Don Gallard is the designated person/local education agency.

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

Young women of the Jewish faith are admitted as students at Beth Jacob High School of Denver with all the rights and privileges, without regard to race, color, national or ethnic origin.

Crowdfunding Campaign '23 *Continued from page 1*

generation and year we live in -2023. And in honor of 2023, we set a campaign goal for \$223,000.

This year's campaign was our most successful one to date. We reached our initial goal and for the first time ever, reached and surpassed our bonus-round goal! The students were a huge part of the campaign's success. The girls had their own call center from which alone raised a whopping \$50,559. Overall, 40 teams raised \$251,617 from 644 donors!

All of this is a testament to our devoted students, alumnae, parents, friends, and supporters from around the world. Whether by leading a team, calling a friend, or personally donating, we are overwhelmed with gratitude to everyone who participated. Teamwork and inspired students led to this year's successful crowdfunding campaign.

Rabbi Avrohom David Karnowsky is the Director of Development at BJHS.

Batya

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RECIPE CORNER

Timeless Classics

BY DEENA SANDOCK ABRAHAM



As someone who has been cooking and baking for a number of years, I've tried many recipes. Some of the recipes that I've tried were not impressive or worthy of making a second time. Other recipes have become family favorites and have been made countless times over the years. These recipes often become the ones that we rely on. We know that they taste good and will be well-received.

Recipes that are easy to make with ingredients that are readily on hand quickly become the "go-to" recipes on which we come to rely on the most. It is so helpful



to have a number of simple, basic favorites that can be made when something is needed quickly or without much advance notice. I have some of these tried and true recipes, and my family is always happy when they are prepared and shared.

A number of years ago, the recipe for cookie sticks which appears below first made its rounds in my community. Shared by a community member who was previously not known for sharing her recipes, it was an instant hit.

Since then, these cookies seem to be made by everyone. I'm not sure that many people even know who the originator of the recipe is anymore.

This recipe is simple to make and delicious to eat. The only tricky part is that the logs should be cut in strips before they cool down and harden a bit.

Otherwise they will be difficult to slice.

MRS. RUBIN'S QUICK CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE STICKS

½ c. sugar
½ c. brown sugar
½ c. oil
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 egg
1 ½ c. flour
½ tsp. baking soda
½ tsp. salt

1 c. chocolate chips
½ c. chopped nuts (I omit the nuts and replace them with more chocolate chips.)

Mix the sugars, oil, vanilla, and egg in a bowl until smooth. Stir in the flour, baking soda, and salt. Divide the dough into two halves. Shape each half into two strips that are about 15x3" on parchment paper lined baking sheets. Make sure to leave space between the strips of dough, as they will expand as they bake. Sprinkle chocolate chips and nuts (if using) over the top of the dough. Lightly press the chocolate chips into the dough. Bake at 375 degrees for 7-9 minutes. After removing from the oven, allow to cool for a couple of minutes. Slice each of the four strips into 1" slices while still warm. (As noted above, once they have cooled it will be hard to slice them so make sure to cut the strips while still warm.)

Deena Sandock Abraham is a 1990 BYD graduate.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Riki Goldberg Kushnir Class of '01



now work with children ages 0 – 3 in their homes. My area of expertise is working with clients recovering from a stroke. My work has taught me that we take so many basic abilities for granted!

I have also learned the meaning of perseverance from the kids I work with.

My children know that my closest friendships are those from high school. Our teachers made us feel that we mattered. We gained so much academically and beyond. The time management skills that I learned in high school prepared me to juggle my current responsibilities. My years at BYD were so meaningful and I am grateful for my experience!

After attending seminary in Eretz Yisrael, I lived in Denver for 2 1/2 years to get my undergraduate degree in Biology. I then got married and went to graduate school for OT. My husband is an electrophysiologist which is a specialty of cardiology. We currently live in Passaic with our wonderful children who are my most influential teachers! I have been working as an occupational therapist for the past fourteen years. I started out in a hospital setting and

FROM THE DESK OF MRS. BRURIA SCHWAB

The Horn of Plenty



Life is full of decision making. Some decisions are simple; others are trying, challenging, and even exhausting. What's for lunch? What's for supper? With closets full of styles and colors, what do I wear today? (Hint: Prepare the night before if you want to make it on time for work☺.) How lucky are the girls-they have a uniform!

Looking through the eyes of our early former USSR students at a supermarket, we became more aware of the dilemmas. You need a bar of soap. Why are there so many kinds on the shelf? Which laundry detergent should we buy? Shampoo? How many kinds of apples are there?

A herring used to be, well, a herring. Now there is a "herring bar" at events; multiple cuts of meat... how many parts does a cow have? We have become a nation of foodies, wine mavens, and our children are candy connoisseurs!

Which school should we send our children to? Which Yeshiva?

Baruch Hashem we live in a time of abundance, a time of plenty. But what does the decision making process do to us? Chazal tell us about this type of confusion when they teach us "There is no greater joy than resolving doubts." We can assume, therefore, that without resolved dilemmas, joy is absent.

Could this reality be part of the reason for the lack of happiness in our generation that has so much of everything? We deliberate, we agonize, we second guess, and happiness fails to fill us. Along with it gratitude is forgotten also. Appreciation is missing.

How do you stem the tide? We are not asking Hashem to G-d forbid make the world poor and our pantry bare. All we can do is to limit excess in our private lives and use self-restraint. We will do a big favor to our children if we model for them how to live frugally, yet happily. Let's read the above lines again. Maybe we'll come up with a few more ideas!

Mrs. Schwab is the religious studies principal of Beth Jacob High School.