

**The Yagdil Torah Mega Win Early-Bird Special Winner**



(Top) Winner of 2008 prize trip to Israel, Mr. Isaac Gottvenger from New York (L), meets with Harav Zvi Braverman (R), President of Yagdil Torah, while visiting Israel for Lag BaOmer.

(Bottom) Winner of the Yagdil Torah MegaWin Early-Bird Special for \$6,000, Harariel Yosefov of Israel (L) receives his prize from Harav Zvi Braverman (R).  
Want a second chance to win? Enter now to be among the first 1,000 donors and gain a chance to win the next Early-Bird Special for \$4,000!

**Book Review**

Reviewed by Chaim Schwarz

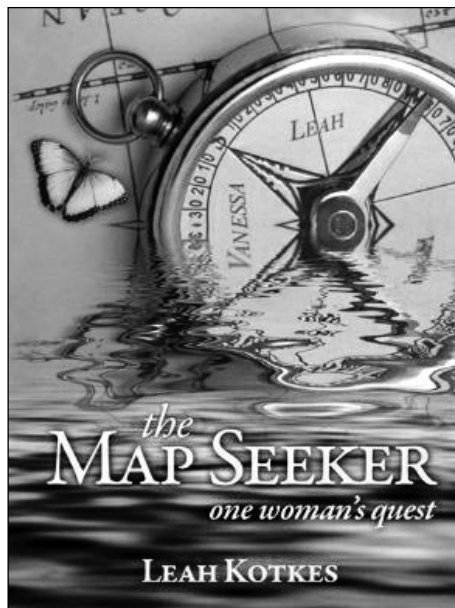
Leah Kotkes has had an eventful life. As a religiously uncommitted British teen, she began a career in fashion publicity and was soon associated with the industry's rising stars.

Glamorous though it was, fashion did not afford her the opportunity to pursue what she felt was her true calling, writing. Vanessa, as she was then called, switched careers, and began writing in the newsroom of ITN. She soon found herself involved in another passion — the search for truth. Seeking a map, a guide to a meaningful, fulfilled existence, Vanessa found *Yiddishkeit* and changed her name to Leah.

Today, Leah Kotkes is at the forefront of a burgeoning print movement in the Torah world. Her writing is elegant, her viewpoint honest and introspective. She plays language like a violin as she portrays the pathos and grace that she has found in reality and inside herself. *The Map Seeker*, her first book, tells the story of her quest. Leah documents her struggles and successes from girlhood to motherhood, her embrace of *Yiddishkeit* and her survival of a divorce that threatened to destroy her.

Mrs. Kotkes has also established an initiative called Lifework to open the door for other women who write. Lifework offers seminars, writing clubs, mentoring and referrals for writers who are experienced or who are trying to write for the first time. Many well-known authors, editors and publishers, including Sarah Shapiro, Yaffa Ganz, Aviva Rappaport and Mimi Zakon, have joined Mrs. Kotkes in giving seminars and mentoring authors. Lifework also publishes a writers' journal called *The Writer's Journey Seminar* for its annual seminar.

In conjunction with the release of *The Map Seeker*, Leah Kotkes has been hosting workshops and meet-the-author talks in



**The Map Seeker: One Woman's Quest**

By Leah Kotkes

Israel Bookshop Publications

the U.S., Canada and England. She is visiting Lakewood, Boro Park, Monsey, Toronto, Montreal, Stamford Hill, Golders Green and Manchester. Women who write, or who dream of writing, have found this an exciting opportunity to explore publishing possibilities, develop writing skills and learn about themselves through writing.

Through *The Map Seeker* and Lifework, women around the world can experience Leah Kotkes's journey, and discover and document their own.

*The Map Seeker: One Woman's Quest* is available at Judaica stores everywhere, or from Israel Book Shop Publications. Call (732) 901-3009.

Please join us for an afternoon luncheon to benefit

# Tikvas Efraim

at the house of our esteemed  
**Mrs. Chany Rosenberg** שנתנד

Sunday, May 24, 2009 א"ת  
12:00 - 5:00 PM  
Program begins at 2:30 PM  
1368 57th Street

Emcee  
DEVOIRY FISHER

חברת הטוב Awarad  
DEVOIRY WEBER

חסד Awarad  
MALKY STAHL

Inspiring Guest Speaker  
BREINDY HERSHKOWITZ  
HEROINE IN THE BOOK MY LIFE ON WHEELS

Original comedy presentation by the renowned  
**Malky Weingarten**

New inspiring video presentation  
Win grand vacation package!  
Win other valuable prizes at our Mini Auction!

Knowing that my medically fragile son spends a few hours daily at Tikvas Efraim, gives me the capabilities to tend to the needs of my other children. Tikvas Efraim does what no one else does. It reaches my son's Yiddish Neshoma - the Tachlis of his mission on the earth!

*A Mother*  
The sheer delight and remarkable transformation on the face of my client, during the hours he spends at Tikvas Efraim is amazing to see. It is what keeps him going for the rest of the day.

*A Nurse*  
My brother comes off the van looking so serene and relaxed. The time he spends making Brochos, donning Tefillin and learning Aleph Beis has a powerful effect on him. The imprint it leaves on his holy Neshoma is visible.

*A Sibling*  
Tikvas Efraim is there because to date, despite the proliferation of Yeshivos and special educational centers, there are still children who are not receiving a Yiddish education, or any education at all.  
Tikvas Efraim is there to Daven, learn and teach Torah and Mitzvos to precious Neshomas, who unfortunately have no opportunity to attend Yeshiva.  
Tikvas Efraim is there to ease the burden of parents whose children with special needs return home as early as 2:30, and require an endless amount of stimulation and care.  
Tikvas Efraim is there to provide constructive recreation, and behavioral therapy by highly trained experts who reach the soul of each child through music and play. Each child is appreciated for what he or she can do, and encouraged to achieve his or her maximum potential.  
Tikvas Efraim needs your help in maintaining and broadening its programs to provide much needed services on Sundays and legal holidays, and to accommodate more children waiting to be accepted into the program. Your generous donation will help us achieve these goals.

**Luncheon Coordinators**  
GOLDY DEUTSCH  
RUCHY GROSSMAN  
CHAYA KISNER  
DEVOIRY WEBER

**Committee**  
ESTY FEDER  
MALKY FRIED  
GOLDY MENCZER  
MALKY WEBER  
MIMI WEISS

**Hostesses**  
RUCHY BARHORIN  
ALINE BENDER  
RIVKY DEMBITZER  
FRIDI FAIBISH  
BETTY FASTEN  
GIFTY FASTEN  
FAIGA B. FEFERKORN  
LEAH FEIGELSTEIN  
GERIE FISHER  
RUKY FISHMAN  
SURY FOGEL  
SURIE FRANKEL  
JANIE FRIEDMAN  
GIFTY FRIEDMAN  
SHANDY GROSSMAN  
MALKY GROSSMAN  
TOBY HALPERT  
YEHY HALPERT  
AIBY KATZ  
SURI KATZ  
TOLEZY KATZBURG  
ZISZY KOT  
RECY KURTZ  
CHAYA LANBAU  
TOBY MOSHEIT  
GIFTY ROTH  
FRITZ ROTENBERG  
MIRIAM ROSEN  
CHAYA SURI ROSENBLUM  
FESSY ROSENFELD  
MIRIAM RINDA RUBIN  
FRITZ SCHIMMEL  
STOUSHY SHAPIRO  
MALKY SILBERMAN  
LEAH SHENGART  
PEARL SHRA  
TZURITZ TRICHMAN  
LEAH UNGER  
SARA WEBER  
HENNY WEBER  
GIFTY WEBER  
RUCHY WEITENSTEIN  
RUCHY ZANGER

**Shloimy and Miriam Spira, Founders**  
**Goldy Deutsch, Co-Founder** **Reisy Englander, Program Director**  
Kindly make checks payable to Tikvas Efraim. All donations are tax deductible.  
1363 40th St Brooklyn, NY 11218 Tel: 718.377.TIKVA We accept Visa and Mastercard

**TGI Furniture** cordially invites the community to the

## Shevuos Maftir Yonah Tent Sale

WHERE EVERY CUSTOMER IS A WINNER  
SUNDAY, MAY 24TH  
10:00 A.M.-5:P.M.

COME CHECK IT OUT YOURSELF AT  
1534 62ND ST  
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

WE will be giving AWAY PRIZES  
EVERY HOUR 1" H

LAVISH milchige buffet  
will be SERVED AS USUAL

HOURS: SUN - 11:30-6  
MON-THURS: 11-6

COME AND BRING THE  
CHILDREN FOR  
SOME GOODIES

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MAFTIR  
YONAH PROGRAM INCLUDE:

*Seating Program*

Stationary sofas AT \$499

NON RECLINING sofas AT \$599

RECLINING sofas AT \$699

ALL RECLINERS DRASTICALLY REDUCED!

*Dining Program*

TABLE & TEN CHAIRS'  
AT AN UNBELIEVABLE PRICE:  
**\$1995**

5 PIECE DINETTE SET AT  
**\$299**