

BROOKLYN



Harav Akiva Plutchok, *Mara d'Asra*, writing a letter in the new *sefer Torah*.

Over 300 Gather For Hachnasas Sefer Torah at Beis Hillel In Georgetown

It was a momentous day in the Georgetown/Mill Basin section of Brooklyn, as a crowd of over 300 gathered to sing and dance throughout the streets to welcome a new Torah to its home at Congregation Beis Hillel on a recent Sunday afternoon. The excitement was palpable as members of the shul and broader community, along with family and guests, joined in the celebration of completing this new Torah that will be read and cherished for generations to come.

The *sefer Torah* was co-dedicated by the Kupfer and Finkelstein families, as well as by members of the shul and community, who also took part in the writing of the Torah. The Kupfer family dedicated the Torah *l'zecher nishmas* Reb Aaron HaKohen Kupfer, a longtime Boro Park and Deerfield Beach resident, and *gabbai* at the Agudas Yisroel of 18th Avenue. The Finkelstein family dedicated the Torah *l'zecher nishmas* Mr. Avraham Finkelstein, a Holocaust survivor and beloved longtime Georgetown resident.

Participants were treated with a lavish formal *seudah*, where notable guests addressed the crowd, including Harav Lazer Kviat, Rav of Agudas Yisroel of 18th Avenue, as well as Harav Moishe Plutchok, Rav of Kehillas Ahavas Yisrael in Cedarhurst, and the brother of Harav Akiva Plutchok, Rav of Beis Hillel.

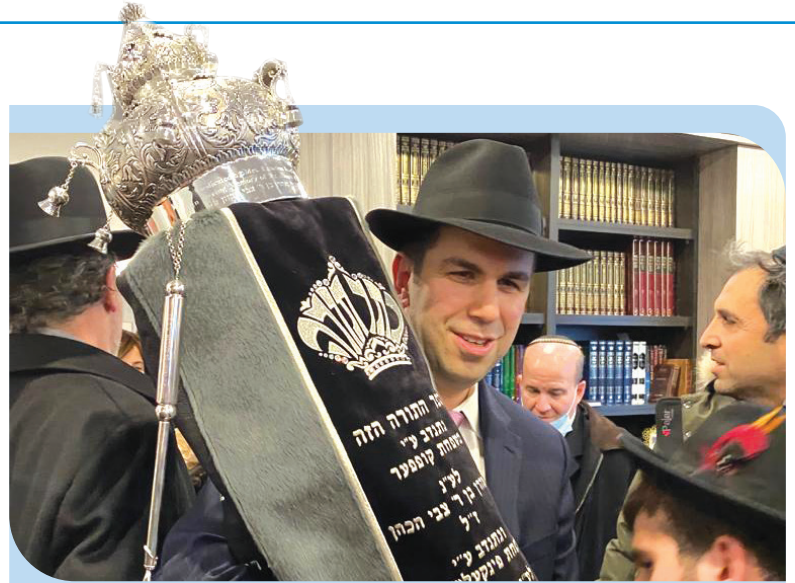
The Georgetown community, which is located a few minutes

past Flatbush Avenue and a mere 10-minute drive from the center of Flatbush, has seen beautiful growth over the last few years, with several young yeshivah families moving in. The shul, Beis Hillel, located at the corner of Ralph Ave and Avenue L, a beautiful sprawling building, has undergone a transformation recently, geared towards making the shul into a true *makom Torah*.

Rav Akiva Plutchok, son of *lbel"e* the beloved *Rosh Yeshivah* of Yeshiva Derech Chaim, Harav Yisroel Plutchok, *zt"l*, joined as *Mara d'Asra* in the summer of 2020 and has taken the shul and community to new spiritual heights. Rav Plutchok is a noted speaker as well as *beis medresh* and *mesivta Rabbi* in Yeshiva Derech Chaim, and The Cheder/Mesivta Sholom Schachna, respectively.

Under the Rav and Rebbetzin's leadership, the shul is now known as a center for *tefillah* and *shiurim* that welcomes Jews of all backgrounds, with a major emphasis on *Halachah* and growth in *avodas Hashem*. The Rav's energy and zest for all things *devarim shebikedushah* is contagious, and his warm demeanor and ability to relate to people of all backgrounds makes people gravitate towards the shul.

The Rebbetzin, Mrs. Malky Plutchok, is well known in her own right as a talented *madrichah*, and regularly hosts events for the ladies and children. In fact, from Pesach to Rosh Hashanah, the Rebbetzin spearheaded a lady's *shiur* in the shul each Shabbos afternoon, featuring noted speakers, that drew scores of ladies and girls from across the community. Consistent with recent efforts in



Reb Yehuda Kupfer carrying the new *sefer Torah*.



At the *hachnasas sefer Torah*. L-R: Reb Yehuda Kupfer and Reb Moishe Weissman leading the *Tehillim*.

Flatbush to have Brooklyn remain a *frum* stronghold filled with *bonei Torah*, Georgetown's more affordable housing and close proximity to Flatbush provides a great option.

"There are several homes that are presently in contract with sizable yeshivishe families moving from Flatbush and Kensington," says Reb Alex Kats, president of Beis Hillel. "These include families that were renting and looking to buy, as well as those who owned smaller homes and looking to upgrade. Our shul is like a family, and we welcome all families who are interested in a warm atmosphere to come and be uplifted."

Between, the Rav's weekday *Chumash* and *Halachah shiurim*, *chaburos* prepared by members of the *kehillah*, opportunities for *chavrusa*-learning, ladies' *shiurim*, Avos Ubanim on Motzoei Shabbos, Shabbos morning programming for the kids, weekly *kiddushim* and *Pirchei* for the

boys, the shul is a happening place, where there is something for everyone.

Families that live in the community are very satisfied and also appreciate the relative calm and out-of-town atmosphere that the neighborhood has to offer. Children from Torah Vodaath, Torah Temimah, Chaim Berlin, Mir, Tiferes Yisroel, Tiferes Elimel-ech, as well as a multitude of girls' schools, have company in the neighborhood.

"What we have achieved and what we are looking to continue to build is something really special," says Reb Yehuda Kupfer, vice president of Beis Hillel and Georgetown resident. "When we combine affordable homes with a refreshing out-of-town feel, great friends and less competition in a truly growth-oriented environment, with all of the Flatbush conveniences and access to yeshivos only a few minutes away, nothing can be better."