

THE Jewish Home

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Family Newspaper

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Around the Community



Hundreds Gather for Pidyon Peter Chamor



Ohel Opens New Campus



Rav Brudny Focuses on Chinuch at BBY

Shabbos Parshas Noach
3 Cheshvan, 5778

Candle Lighting Time
6:01 pm

Sponsored by



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REMEMBERING

SIMCHA (SAM) BELSKY, A"H
1986-2018
A MAGICAL SMILE, A MAGNANIMOUS HEART, THE BEST FRIEND OF MANY,
AND THE CREATIVE MIND BEHIND THE JEWISH HOME PAGE 96

Is Israel Ready for War?

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Around the Community

Pidyon Peter Chamor



On the second day of chol hamoed Sukkos more than a thousand people gathered in Monsey to watch a most unique event organized by JEP/Camp Nageela.

Just before Yom Kippur, Camp Nageela's petting zoo had a very exciting arrival. A firstborn male baby donkey came along, triggering a very special mitzvah called pidyon peter chamor. This mitzvah, found in Shemos 13:13, is one of a series of mitzvos that require Jews to give or redeem their firstborns. A firstborn donkey is

redeemed by a sheep that is given to a kohen.

As the hour of redemption approached, the baby donkey, its mother and the sheep were dressed up and waited patiently as the crowds gathered. Several of Camp Nageela's staff who work with the animals on a regular basis were on hand. There were many honored rabbanim on the stage, including Rabbi Dovid Cohen, shlitza. JEP/Nageela's Rabbi Dovid Shinker explained the background of the mitzvah to the crowd and a kinyon



was made to make all the people who had previously bought shares in the mitzvah official partners in the ownership of the baby and the sheep. Rabbi Ami Cohen, who originally arranged the donkey coming to Nageela, made a bracha on behalf of all the partners, and one of the partners handed the sheep to the kohen. The kohen announced that the donkey was redeemed and permitted for use. Then the music and spirited dancing broke out as the crowd excitedly unified in this mitzvah.

Many Five Towns residents traveled to Monsey to be at the event, some not even realizing that the donkey was technically a Five Towns resident as well. People were glad to have a chol hamoed activity that was in keeping with the holiness of yom tov and something that children will remember for a long time.

For more information about JEP/Nageela, visit jepfi.org or campnageela.org.



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