

שנה טובה



AKIVA HIGH SCHOOL
of the
Cleveland College of Jewish Studies

L'SHANA TOVA To Our Friends



חברי תקווה

Chevrei Tikva

Cleveland's Synagogue
with an outreach to the
Lesbian and Gay
Jewish community

P.O. Box 18120, Cleveland, Ohio 44118
(216) 932-5551

Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and
the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations.



לשנה טובה תכתבו
the agnon school

Wishing Our
Clients and Friends
A Happy and Healthy New Year

Moskal KLEIN
INCORPORATED

Jack Moskal, Richard Weiss, Ron Gross,
Paul Orchosky, Andy Goldstein, Michael Moskal

New Year Greetings To Our Friends and Patrons

MIDLAND-MARINE FOODS

DISTRIBUTORS OF THE FINEST
IN KOSHER FOODS

MANISCHEWITZ • MOTHER'S • ROKEACH
GREENFIELD • EMPIRE KOSHER
BEST KOSHER MEATS • TABATCHNICK FOODS

4540 Commerce Ave. 391-1005

Best Wishes for
a Happy, Healthy and
Prosperous New Year



Sparkling Clean Homes, Inc.
271-2961



For Singles 20's thru 40's

HIGH HOLIDAYS

In search of holy snail:

ARI ZIVOTOFSKY Freelance Writer

The traditional prayer shawl, customarily adorned with white threads dangling from each corner, has been sprouting a new color on its corners. The story behind this begins in the Bible, continues through the Talmudic period, makes a big comeback in the early part of this century and is continuing to be played out in modern chemistry labs and yeshivot today. First, the background:

One of the most familiar ritual garments, one that is found in virtually every synagogue, is the *tallit* (ritual prayer shawl). It originated as a four-cornered cloak worn in ancient times on which *tzit-tzit* (ritual fringes) were attached to each corner.

The *tallit's* origins are found in the Book of Numbers in a section customarily recited twice daily as part of the *Shema*. There, the Jews are commanded to attach fringes on all four-cornered garments, not only those designated for prayer, as a reminder of G-d's presence. When the four-cornered cloak gave way to other garb, Jewish men began wearing a "mini-tallit," known as *arba kanfot* (four corners), or *tallit katan* (small tallit), under their shirts all day. Additionally, we are all familiar with the large tallit worn during all morning services except on Tisha B'Av and at the Yom Kippur evening service.

The material portion of the tallit has very few religious dictates. It is usually a large woolen rectangle, traditionally white with black or blue "racing" stripes across the front and back. This design and colors were the impetus for the modern Israeli flag. In recent years, some have taken to designing multicolored, "modern" tallitot. Jewish law has little objection to this as long as it is large enough to be deemed a garment, has the *tzit-tzit* properly attached, and, preferably, is wool.

The one area that is usually not tampered with, however, is the strings, the actual *tzit-tzit*. They are white on almost all modern tallitot. But it has not always



PHOTO / DEBRA LEX

Bar mitzva trainee wears a *tallit* (prayer shawl). The Bible requires that one thread of the *tzit-tzit* (threads) on the tallit must be blue and made from a sea creature known as a *chilazon*.

been that way. The Bible actually requires that one thread on each corner be *tchelet*, a special shade of blue that was made from a sea creature known as a *chilazon*. This blue string was considered the principal feature of the *tzit-tzit*. A highly prized dye, literally worth its weight in gold, *tchelet* was scarce, even in ancient times, and was used by ancient royalty.

During the Talmudic period, the Romans issued edicts against the Jewish *tchelet* industry, forcing it underground. Following the Arab conquest of Palestine, the secret of how to make *tchelet* was effectively lost and, by the mid-eighth century, the fringes Jews wore on their garments were only white.

MOHELS from page 79

pros and cons and get appropriate informed consent, he says.

Dr. Ross says he is comfortable with mohels who are not medical doctors performing the procedure. "The mohels often do a better job," he concedes. "They have a tremendous amount of experience." By contrast, a hospital circumcision is often performed by an intern, who has very little experience in surgical procedures.

Dr. Kiva Shtull has been working as a mohel here for a decade.

Shtull says Jewish parents who refuse to circumcise their sons "do not have the ability to confront the feelings of their religious identity or sexual identity."

Far from scarring their new baby for life, he says, "It is the parents who have already been scarred for life. They use this (circumcision) as a lightning rod, as a cause," to hide their lack of religious identity.

Shtull, the only local mohel who is also a medical doctor, says he uses pain relief for the baby, including Tylenol and topical anesthetic. The babies do feel pain, he admits, "but they do not feel pain the way we do."

The willingness and desire of most Jewish parents, from the most marginal or secular to the most religiously observant, to circumcise their sons is also very powerful, says Shtull. "It is a very emotional statement on the part of parents. They are making a public statement and a commitment to make their child a member of the Jewish people."

New Year Greetings
To Members and Friends

**FOREST CITY
HEBREW BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION
and Women's Auxiliary
RONALD HILL, PRESIDENT**

David Resnik, Imm. Past Pres.
Neal Glaser, V. Pres. Dan Kaufman, Treasurer
Ron Wolfe, Fin. Sec. Harold Resnik, Corr. Sec.
Bill Szabo, Fred Zimmerman, Charles Elinsky, Trustees

The Ratner Schools Staff
Wishes all of our Families
a Healthy, Happy New Year!



MONTESSORI and DAY
of Park Synagogue

4900 Anderson Road • 291-0033

**NEW YEAR GREETINGS
LABOR ZIONIST ALLIANCE
OF CLEVELAND**

BARUCH ZAREMSKY
Chairman

EVELYN LEVY
Treasurer



REMEMBER
CLEVELAND
HOLOCAUST

Thank You For
Your Support

**BEST WISHES
FOR A HEALTHY,
HAPPY NEW**

a fringe benefit

The story of the rediscovery of tchelet is a multipiece puzzle full of intrigue, deception, deduction and logic. Its major players include archaeologists, marine biologists, chemists, sailors, the leader of an Hasidic sect, a former chief rabbi of Israel and some good friends of mine in Israel — a physicist and a dentist.

The first piece in the puzzle was a chance encounter in 1858. French zoologist Henri de Lacaze-Duthiers was

Authentic tchelet are now being worn for the first time in more than 1,300 years.

on a scientific expedition when one of the fishermen on his boat took a snail, broke it open and smeared it on his shirt. The fisherman boasted that the yellow stain would soon change color in the sunlight and, when that happened, Lacaze-Duthiers immediately realized that the snail (of the *Murex Trunculus* species) was the long-lost source of some of the ancient dyes.

Unaware of Lacaze-Duthiers' findings, Rabbi Gershon Henoch Leiner, an Hasidic rebbe from the Russian-Polish town of Radzyn, published a pamphlet in 1887 announcing that he was to begin searching for the lost chilazon sea creature in an effort to bring back the tchelet (blue dye) to the Jewish people. After studying marine specimens in an aquarium in Naples, Italy, and being tricked by a duplicitous chemist about the dying process, Rabbi Leiner set up a factory to produce a dye he thought to be tchelet. He used the cuttlefish *Sepia Officinalis*, a type of squid, for his dye. Within two years, 10,000 of his followers, the Radzyner Hasidim, were wearing his tchelet.

In 1913, then Chief Rabbi of Ireland (and later of Is-

rael) Isaac Herzog wrote a doctoral dissertation on the subject of Hebrew prophology ("the study of purple" — a word Herzog coined). He requested from the Radzyners samples of their tchelet, as well as details of the manufacturing process.

Much to Herzog's surprise, he found that the Radzyner tchelet was no more than the popular inorganic dye known as Prussian Blue and, thus, was most likely not the true blue tchelet. Ironically, while discrediting the Radzyn tchelet, Herzog was responsible for saving their process for future generations. When the survivors of Radzyn made their way to Israel after the Holocaust, it was Herzog who provided the information needed to re-establish their tchelet industry, which flourishes in Israel to this day.

Meanwhile, Herzog was aware of strong evidence associating the *Murex Trunculus* snails with the chilazon sea creature, including the work of Lacaze-Duthiers. Among other things, he knew archaeologists working in Tyre and elsewhere on the Mediterranean coast had uncovered mounds of *Murex* shells; thus, he felt strongly that *Murex Trunculus* could be the chilazon.

Within the last few decades, many of Herzog's questions regarding *Murex Trunculus* had been addressed by a group of Israeli professors and rabbis, who have also worked out the details of the ancient dyeing process. Within the last two years, a non-profit organization in Israel, Ptil Tekhelet Foundation (972-2-933-420), was established in an effort to produce tchelet and make it available to the general public.

This effort has included the participation of a number of my friends who go scuba diving in different port cities on the Mediterranean for *Murex Trunculus*. There is strong evidence that it is the chilazon sea creature. A number of prominent rabbis have accepted the *Murex Trunculus* snail as the long-lost chilazon sea creature, and tzit-tzit with possibly authentic tchelet are now being worn, even by some men here in Cleveland, for the first time in more than 1,300 years.



L'Shana Tova
From My Family To Yours ...
A Happy and Healthy New Year
Natalie Shapiro
Shapiro Funeral Services

New Year Greetings To Our Many Friends

MORSE GRAPHIC ART SUPPLY CO.

1938 Euclid Avenue - 621-4175
27800 Chagrin Boulevard - 831-7100
6849 B Pearl Road - 886-6770
25005 Center Ridge Road - 835-1390
8020 Broadmoor Avenue - 953-4466

Best Wishes For A Happy, Healthy & Prosperous New Year

L'shanah Tovah

JANET KAZDIN
HUNTER'S RUN REALTY
Boynton Beach, Florida
1-407-738-1116 1-800-414-8683

A Healthy and Prosperous New Year

Ridge Road Auto Parts

Daniel Rothstein • Maurice Leiser
3741 Ridge Road
281-1400

לשנה טובה

Join us at
Congregation
Shaarey Tikvah
26811 Fairmount Boulevard
Beachwood, Ohio 44122
765-8300



L'Shana Tova
from
Judge Janet R. Burnside

Paid for by the Comm. for Judge Janet R. Burnside
P. Shlonsky, 19208 Lomond Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio 44122

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR

BARRI-LEE CLEANERS

"Serving You With Quality Cleaning For Over 44 Years"

13911 Cedar Rd. (Cedar Center)
28700 Chagrin Blvd. (Opposite Eton Square)
3231 Warrensville Ctr. Rd. (at Almar, Shaker Hts.)

371-1717

לשנה טובה תכתבו

NESHKIN CONSTRUCTION CO.
3214 St. Clair Ave.
241-3397

Wishes all our friends
happiness, prosperity and good health
in the coming New Year.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS
From
SUNSHINE INDUSTRIES

Manufacturers and Distributors
of Quality Cleaning Products
Since 1914

1111 E. 200 St. 383-9000

לשנה טובה

BELKIN PRODUCTIONS, INC.
Mike and Jules Belkin
and Their Families



FRIEDMAN, LEAVITT & ASSOCIATES

2193 South Green Rd.
382-6400

Wish their clients and friends

NEW YEAR GREETINGS
To All Our Friends



NEW YEAR GREETINGS
To Our Members and Friends

AJ Congress