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UNIVERSITY REPORTS 52 NEW UNDERGRADUATE COVID CASES



NEWS

BY SHOSHANAH MARCUS,
EDITOR IN CHIEF AND
DANIELLE LANE,
MANAGING EDITOR

In an email sent to the undergraduate student body, faculty, and staff on Tuesday October 12, 2021, the COVID Monitoring Team reported that through their semi-weekly COVID testing program they have identified 52 new cases of COVID-19, 49 on Wilf campus and 3 on Beren campus. This report comes after the implementation of mask mandates in all academic buildings and mandatory semi-weekly testing.

The email clarified the responsibility of students who came in contact with positive cases, stating that vaccinated students who come in contact with a student who has tested positive does “not need to quarantine, even if they have been in close contact with a positive case, but they should closely monitor themselves for symptoms.”

Additionally the email announced that “[a]s a result of these positive cases, we have made the decision to expand the temporary mask mandate to include public spaces within housing (such as lounges, elevators, and hallways).”

Some students do not feel that these new mask mandates will have much of an effect. Racheli Jian (SCW ‘25) shared with the YU Observer regarding the expansion of the mask mandate that “not only is the problem with the [COVID] cases, but the testing isn’t organized and masking isn’t enforced. Also, expanding the mask mandate to the dorms won’t be effective because once a group of people are piled into an elevator, masks won’t do much.”

Another student (YC ‘23), who wished to remain anonymous, expressed the lack of enforcement thus far and told the YU Observer,

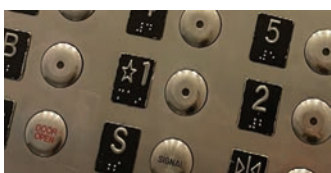
“I have consistently seen students, Rabbeim, faculty, and administrators enter and traverse academic buildings without masks and without anyone stopping them for this breach of YU procedure. Now as students continue to become sick, YU has restated and intensified its mask mandate. Only time will tell though, if the enforcement will be any stricter and for the sake of the individuals who are paying thousands of dollars to remain on campus one can only hope so.”

The email announcement went on to say that COVID testing will continue this week on Thursday, October, 14th. The tests will be located “on the Wilf Campus from 12-5 p.m. in Furst 501 and on Beren campus from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. in Room 501 in 215 Lexington” and are mandatory for all students. If one is unable to receive a test during those times, they may fill out this form prior to the testing date to request ap-

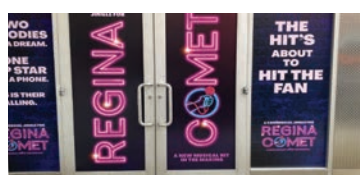
proval for an external test.

Many students have expressed having class during the allotted testing times. One student (SCW ‘23), who wishes to remain anonymous, expressed, “Personally, I have back-to-back classes during every single one of the testing hours, and I doubt I’m the only one with this problem. I can’t say I don’t understand the demand for more testing. Don’t get me wrong—it’s super annoying, but I get it. But if YU really wants to be on top of COVID cases and prevention, I feel like it shouldn’t be so hard to get a test. I really think the hours need to be expanded, and/or it needs to be a much easier option for students to get outside testing to prove that they’re COVID neg-

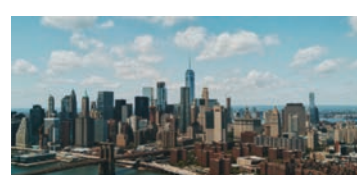
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EDITORIAL



THE DEFINING NUMBERS

BY SHOSHANAH MARCUS,
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Numbers control our lives. From grade point averages (GPA) to bank balances to body mass index (BMI) and caloric intake to likes and followers on social media, and to even the time ticking by on our clocks at this very moment, it seems that the numbers game is controlling every aspect of our existence.

While many may find comfort in this or have found “lucky” numbers to play along, others feel an overwhelming exception to fit into society’s quantitatively-driven expectations.

As college students prepare to transition from childhood into adulthood, many fall victim to this societal pressure and become obsessed with numbers. Many feel the cold rush of anxiety when thinking about their GPA, graduate school test scores, the number of days until their next exam, and even what time their next class begins. For some, this anxiety begins at a young age, especially with the immense pressure that students feel to get certain test scores and look a certain way to meet societal expectations.

At times, this fixation on quantitative measures can lead to unnecessary and overwhelming stress. Getting back a bad exam score can lead one into a tunnel visioned frenzy. The number on the scale can turn some to unhealthy behaviors. In our technologically-driven age, now more than ever people feel the overwhelming power of statistics and sums.

It seems odd, then, that we allow numbers to control us, especially considering that many well-known and societal-

“What makes life meaningful is the quality that surrounds us: **our mental and physical health, good friends and family, acts of kindness, and living an overall mindful life.**”

ly-deemed ‘successful’ people haven’t always followed the statistics for conventional ‘success.’ In Ilya Pozin’s “Why Many ‘C’ Students End Up Most Successful” Pozin states, “For every CEO of a major company that graduated with a 4.0 GPA, there are scores more who did not.” Pozin includes that some of the most successful people did not succeed in school, many even dropping out, including Bill Gates, Mark Zuckerberg, Steve Jobs, Thomas Jefferson, John D. Rockefeller, and Walt Disney. Therefore I must ask: are these numbers deserving of the regard in which they are

held?

Perhaps the numerical “failings” are not failures but rather an aspect of societal expectations in which one may not conform. Numbers may be a controlling factor in society, but they do not have to define us. One’s success and self-worth should not be measured quantitatively but rather qualitatively. Pozin explains, “What matters... in life, is pursuing goals with a sense of purpose. Having ambition and directing that ambition toward a problem.”

At the end of our lives, we won’t remember what our SAT or ACT score was; we won’t regret not getting 10,000 steps every day; we won’t even contemplate investing in Bitcoin. What makes life meaningful is the quality that surrounds us: our mental and physical health, good friends and family, acts of kindness, and living an overall mindful life.



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Please visit us at www.yuobserver.org.

FALL 2021 BEREN ELECTION RESULTS RELEASED



BY SHOSHANAH MARCUS,
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Undergraduate students on the Beren campus voted for candidates via emails sent on Thursday, October 14, 2021 with polls opening at 9 a.m. EST and closing at 8 p.m. EST. Of the 900 ballots that were sent out, 353 were started and 311 were completed.

Beren Campus students were notified of the re-

sults via an email from the Beren Election Committee on October 15, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. EST. The released results were reported as follows:

TAC Vice President of Shabbat: Adira Barber

SCWC Senior Vice President: Ellie Berger

SCWC Sophomore President: Hannah Aaron

SCWC Sophomore Vice

President: Amanda Poupko

For several positions, including SCWC Junior Vice President, SCWC Freshman President, and SCWC Freshman Vice President, no candidate was pre-approved and therefore the winning candidate must fulfill the requirements as a write-in candidate; however, none of these candidates achieved this requirement. These requirements are described in the Beren Constitution in Section III Article

K, which states that “before a write-in candidate can be declared a winner the Election Committee shall deem her eligible to run, and she must receive the most votes and at least ten percent of potential votes for her position.” The Beren Constitutional Council is currently deciding whether or not to conduct a special election for these positions.

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY LAUNCHES STUDENT

HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN

BY GABE GROSS,
NEWS EDITOR

On August 24th 2021, Yeshiva University sent out an email detailing an affordable Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) for the school year of 2021-2022. All undergraduate and graduate students who are part- or full-time are required to have health insurance. Students at both Beren and Wilf campuses

are mandated to fill out a waiver either enrolling in the Student Health Insurance Plan or waiving the YU health insurance, confirming that they have their own. As waivers need to be completed annually, this year’s deadline to either waive or enroll in the offered insurance is October 23rd.

Yeshiva University wrote

in their email, SHIP features: “Fully compliant with the Affordable Care Act (ACA), Annual deductibles: \$500 per member In-Network and Out-of-Network, Coverage at 80% In-Network and 50% Out-of-Network, In-Network Physician’s Office visits covered at 100% after a \$40 copay, Preventative care services with no deductibles, copays or coinsurance (In-Network Only).” Students will be able

to locate providers whether at home, school, or throughout the country through the UnitedHealthCare Options PPO, retail or mail order prescription drug coverage, Tele-Health services available, worldwide travel assistance including medical evaluation, repatriation, and political and natural disaster coverage,

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NEWS

ELEVATOR DROP IN BROOKDALE SPARKS DISTRESS AMONGST STUDENTS

BY ATARA BACHRACH,
WEBSITE MANAGER

Another elevator-related incident occurred this week on Wednesday, October 6, 2021 in Beren Campus's Brookdale Residence Hall. At approximately 10 PM, the elevator was on its way up when it unexpectedly dropped two stories from the 5th floor down to the 3rd floor.

Rivka Bennun (SCW '24) recounted her shock regarding the situation. "I'm really grateful I wasn't alone," she said. "If my friends hadn't been there to push me out of the elevator as soon as it stopped moving I probably would've just stood there frozen and not known what to do."

While no one was hurt, this incident is not the first of its kind. When a similar malfunction took place in May 2019 where the elevator dropped abruptly by four stories, the student inside was left sustaining a severe concussion. Following the event, YU's Chief Facilities & Administrative Officer, Randy Apfelbaum, assured students in August 2019, saying, "The safety of our

students is of utmost priority... YU has been making significant investments in building infrastructure... Over this past summer, every elevator has received an upgrade to its door locking mechanism." Since then, however, the elevators on campus have continued to act up in various ways, from trapping students inside and getting stuck between floors to complete shut-downs.

One student (SCW '23), who wished to remain anonymous, described an instance in early September of this year during which the lights began to flicker on and off and "the elevator began to go up and down with no way to stop it or control it." The student tried to use the emergency brake and contact security but received no response. "Panic took over and I just closed my eyes, hoping against hope that someone would come and do something," she explained. "Eventually, the elevator stopped... I ran out, panting, and rushed up the stairs to my dorm. It was one of the scariest experiences I've ever had." The anonymous

student elaborated on her experience, saying, "I remember feeling helpless, not just because no matter what I tried the elevator just wouldn't stop moving, but because no one was coming to help. The emergency phone went on ringing with no one picking up on the other end. Not only was I in a dangerous situation, I was completely alone."

Despite the university's attempts to alleviate the panic, unease surrounding the administration's seeming disregard for its students is on the rise. In an anonymous comment to the YU Observer, one member of the YU community stated, "It's time we've recognized that they don't prioritize our safety and as students, we need to come together and pressure the school into prioritizing us."

The sense of helplessness incited by these scenarios seems to be developing into a common trend, rapidly spreading across the student body at YU. Students across both campuses find themselves feeling frustrated and are beginning to question the school's level of care for their safety and well-being. One Wilf student

(YC '23), who wished to remain anonymous, revealed to the YU Observer, "while I understand that fixing elevators might not be at the top of the list of priority for the institution, it's little things like that [which] really show what level of care [it] has towards its students. So when we see things like the elevators failing, or the elevators just not working for multiple months on end, it does make you have to wonder a little bit where the focus is by the institution's standards."

In response to these events, Apfelbaum commented to the YU Observer on October 7, 2021, "Nothing is more important than the safety of our community, and, as of today, the elevator has been serviced and is cleared for normal use. We will continue to work with Schindler [the elevator manufacturing company] to make sure our elevators are in good working order." Regarding incidents such as these, students should direct any questions and concerns to Kyleene Planer, Associate Director of Operations in Residence Life, at kylene.planer@yu.edu.



STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE

FROM PAGE 3

wellness discounts including vision and dental care. Voluntary dental insurance is available for all students regardless of Student Health Insurance enrollment. For a complete description of the benefits available, limitations and exclusions, and FAQs, students should visit www.gallagherstudent.com/yeshiva.

Yeshiva University students had positive responses to the new health insurance plan.

Noah Meimoun (YC '24) shared with the YU Observer, "I think it's a respectable policy. YU is assuring that their student body has adequate health insurance coverage. Their arrangement also leaves a reasonable time frame to explore alternative options outside of YU's affiliated plan for interested students. Overall, pretty good job by YU."

If one is planning on waiving YU's health insurance plan for their own, the email detailed that one's own current plan must provide

coverage in New York City. If one is studying remotely (not in New York City) and has coverage for their current location, the waiver must include evidence of their current coverage. If one is an international student, put "Non US State" for their state as well as the Insurance Co. State. If one will be in the US, one must have insurance that is comparable to the plan offered by Yeshiva University and compliant with the guidelines of the Affordable Care Act.

To enroll in or request to waive the Student Health Insurance Plan for the 2021/2022 policy Year, visit www.gallagherstudent.com/yeshiva.



NEWS

KYLENE PLANAR APPOINTED AS NEW ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS OF RESIDENCE LIFE ON BEREN CAMPUS

BY MILI CHIZHIK,
NEWS EDITOR

The University Housing and Residence Life team on Beren campus has hired a new team member, Ms. Kylene Planer, as Associate Director of Operations of Residential Life (kylene.planer@yu.edu).

When discussing her past academic experiences with the YU Observer, Ms. Planer said that she obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in Television/Radio Production from Ithaca College and described herself as “a career changer from the entertainment indus-

try to higher education.” She also attended the Teachers College, Columbia University and obtained her master’s degree in Organization and Leadership in Higher and Postsecondary Education.

After graduating college, she worked as a production assistant/researcher at Stage 29 productions and then as an agent assistant at The Gersh Agency. She then moved onto working as a development coordinator at Fusion TV. After that, during her master’s program, she worked as a programming production associate and talent acquisition executive assistant

at HBO. Most recently before starting to work for YU, Ms. Planer worked for approximately 2.5 years on the Admissions team at NYU’s Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.

Ms. Planer will be working alongside Becky Ciment (Associate Director of University Housing and Residence Life), Alana Reichenberg (UHRL Manager & COVID Coordinator), and Rachel Haber (Housing Coordinator). Planer expressed that she is “beyond excited to be working with the Housing team here at the Beren campus as I’ve heard nothing but great things about the YU student body and community.”

For any further questions regarding housing or residential life, please contact Beren housing via email or visit the website.



FALL 2021 WILF ELECTION RESULTS RELEASED



BY SHOSHANAH MARCUS,
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Editor’s Note: This article has been edited to correct the spelling of one of the Wilf candidate’s names.

On October 7, 2021, the Yeshiva University undergraduate student body on the Wilf campus voted for their respective Wilf candidates in the Fall 2021 student council elections.

Students on the Wilf campus voted on October 7, 2021 with polls opening at 7 AM and closing at 11 PM. In emails sent after 12 AM on October 8, 2021, candidates and stu-

dents were notified of the results of the election.

Eli Anina was elected as YSU Freshmen Representative, receiving 59.02% of the votes.

For the YSU Sophomore Representative election, the majority of the votes came from write-in candidates, and ultimately resulted in a tie between Jake Schochet and write-in candidate, David Kohanchi. David Kohanchi was determined by the Canvassing Committee as an eligible write-in candidate following the elec-

tion. Kohanchi also fulfilled the requirement of having received over 20 votes, which, under the Wilf Constitution Article X Section 5(3), makes him eligible to win. To resolve this tie and determine the winner of this election, the YSU Council will vote and the winner will be determined by the majority vote, as stated in Article X Section 5(2) of the Wilf Constitution. In a vote on October 8, 2021, the YSU Council determined that

Jake Schochet will be the YSU Sophomore Representative, and David Kohanchi has been offered a position on the Student Life Committee.

No candidate was pre-approved for the YSU Katz Undergraduate School Representative position and no write-in candidate received over 20 votes, so no winner was selected. Another election will be held in the coming weeks to determine this vacant position.

NEWS

RABBI DR. MOSHE DOVID TENDLER PASSES AT THE AGE OF 95

BY CAYLA MUSCHEL,
ARTS & CULTURE
EDITOR

Editors Note: The following article has been modified to include a comment from Dr. Chaim Nissel.

Rabbi Dr. Moshe Dovid Tendler passed away on Shmini Atzeret [eighth day of the Sukkot holiday] last week, at the age of 95.

Rabbi Tendler, son-in-law of Rav Moshe Feinstein, was a renowned posek [halachic authority] and scientist. To many, he is remembered best for his works which integrated his halachic expertise with his scientific knowledge.

Rabbi Tendler was born on the Lower East Side in 1926, and earned a PhD from Columbia University in microbiology and semicha [rabbinic certification] from YU. In addition to Rabbi Tendler's position as a senior Rosh Yeshiva at YU, he taught Talmud, introductory and ad-

vanced biology courses, and conducted research, developing a cancer drug, Refuin. Rabbi Tendler was a leading expert on Jewish medical ethics and wrote about complex medical issues in halacha including euthanasia, end of life issues, and organ donation.

Rabbi Tendler met his future wife, Rebbetzin Shifra Tendler—Rabbi Moshe Feinstein's daughter—while Rabbi Tendler was a student at RIETS; many of Rabbi Feinstein's halachic responsa are addressed to Rabbi Tendler. His relationship with his father-in-law and scientific knowledge was a strong contributing factor in Rav Feinstein's famous halachic ruling on brain death and organ donation.

Rabbi Tendler was the leader of Community Synagogue in Monsey for over fifty five years, and is remembered at YU for his eighty years of involvement with the university. Rabbi Tendler attended MTA as a high school student, and continued on to attend RIETS and

NYU simultaneously, earning semicha and a bachelor's and masters' degree in biology while teaching shiur at MTA. Rabbi Tendler proceeded to teach Biology at YC and ascended the ranks at YU, eventually becoming a Rosh Yeshiva at RIETS. He continued to teach shiur at RIETS until this past year, despite continued health difficulties. Speaking at the funeral, Rabbi Hershel Schachter, Rosh Yeshiva of RIETS and personal student of Rabbi Tendler, said that "[Rabbi Tendler] gave his whole heart and soul to the yeshiva."

"As a renowned scientist, beloved communal leader, and preeminent rabbinic decisor, Rabbi Dr. Moshe Tendler embodied the Torah values of our community and successfully lived a life of deep learning, commitment to others and spiritual authenticity," shared President Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman in his statement to the YU Observer. "The Jewish community and the broader society were elevated by his leadership, and his absence is a loss for us all." Dr. Chaim Nissel also expressed to the YU

Observer that "Rabbi Moshe Dovid Tendler ZT"L was a giant in Torah and at the same time he was very approachable and personable. The Hespelim at his funeral were inspiring and I encourage everyone to listen to them. I am grateful for the decades long personal relationship I had with him."

In his eulogy at Rabbi Tendler's funeral, Rabbi Dr. Berman said, "In the world of Torah Umadda [Torah and science, YU's motto], Rabbi Tendler removed the vav [sixth letter of the Hebrew alphabet] and fully integrated both aspects into his life...it was who he was. For all the ways in which his sefer helped shape our own, he will be sorely missed."

Rebbetzin Tendler passed away in 2007. Rabbi Tendler is survived by eight children and over a hundred grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



IF STUDENTS HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING
COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

CONTACT YU COVID STUDENT LINE

EMAIL: CovidStudentLine@yu.edu

OPINIONS

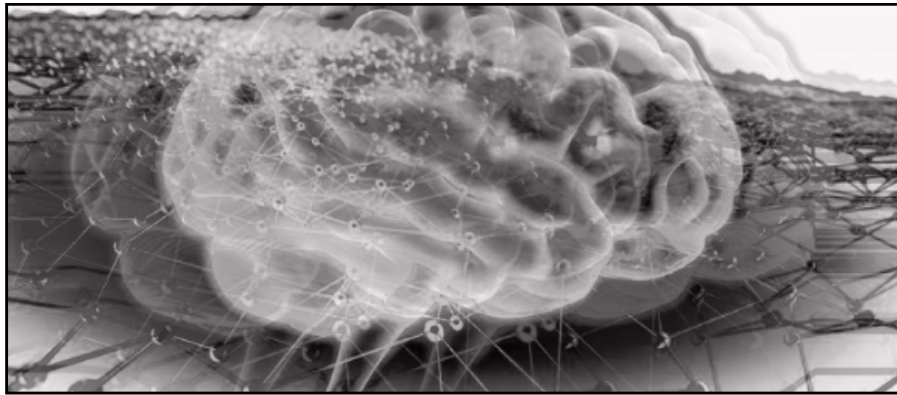
SUPER-SPEED: A PIECE DEDICATED TO ADHD AWARENESS

BY ATARA BACHRACH,
WEBSITE MANAGER

Hi! I'm Atara. And I have Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, also known as ADHD. If you've met me, you probably already knew that, and if you didn't know, now that you're reading this you're probably thinking to yourself: "Ohhhh! Yeah, that makes so much sense." Even if you don't know me, you've probably heard of ADHD before and/or know someone who has it. This October is ADHD Awareness Month, and in writing this article, I hope to positively contribute to this cause. I do, however, also strongly encourage you to do your own research, as I am only one person, and there is so much more out there about ADHD.

This is a time dedicated to removing the stigma surrounding ADHD by spreading awareness and providing access to accurate information, tools, and resources. ADHD can impact people of every race, gender, and age, regardless of their IQ level, and it is estimated to affect over 7% of children, follow approximately 33% of those kids into adulthood, and manifest in around 3.4% of adults. Its presence is not always equally obvious in those who have it, so it can—and all too often does—go easily both undiagnosed and misdiagnosed, more commonly in girls than boys.

As you've probably figured out by now, ADHD is way more than just what it seems on the surface, and it's a lot more complicated than people think. It's not just "can't sit still—can't pay attention" disorder. Of course, that can be a part of it, but it's much, much bigger than that. Despite common misconceptions surrounding it, ADHD is not a disease or a mental illness, or an "excuse for slacking." It doesn't only affect kids, and it doesn't always mean bad grades or anger-management issues. It's not developed as a result of watching television, eating habits, or poor parenting, and it's not just another name for laziness. Most of all, ADHD is not fake. It is very real, and it is most certainly not a choice. Still, there are plenty of people in today's society who continue to not 'believe in ADHD.' A great number of studies have been performed on this very topic, however, and after taking almost 100 years to get to its current place in the DSM5, ADHD is now conclusively considered a very legitimate (very not-made-up) neurodevelopmental disorder, meaning its presentation is directly related to



the actual development of the brain.

These studies have shown that the part of your brain that is responsible for managing, well, pretty much everything, looks extremely different in people with ADHD. It's called the Prefrontal Cortex (PFC) and, sitting at the forefront of your brain, it is basically in charge of all the "executive functions," which regulate things like attention, behavior, actions, and emotion. Scientists still don't know exactly why, but they found that in individuals with ADHD, there is both reduced size of the PFC as well as weakened transmission of certain neurotransmitters (the molecules that are in charge of communication throughout the body and brain by transmitting signals), resulting in a deficit of chemicals that are crucial to the optimal function of the PFC (including dopamine and norepinephrine). In other words, there isn't enough "mental fuel" to filter things in and out and to make them run as efficiently as they should.

ADHD is often compared to a race-car with the brakes of a bicycle: our brains are constantly moving at rapid-fire speed, which is so cool, but we're not always able to get them to stop when we need them to. To put it simply, people with ADHD do not have as much control over their "mental command center" as those without. According to several studies done by the NCBI [National Center for Biotechnology Information], this affects an extensive list of things, including but not limited to memory, decision making, emotional dysregulation, and other executive functions.

Of course, ADHD looks and feels different for everyone, but here's the best way I can

explain it from my own perspective: imagine if your brain was a smartphone. A typical phone is capable of providing notification settings, granting the owner control over which notifications are able to go off, when, how, and at what volume. Now imagine that same phone with a million different apps, but all of the settings were broken and you couldn't shut off any of the notifications. Loud and annoying, right? Almost even stressful. Well, that is what my brain feels like most of the time—just constant input from everywhere all at once, but no real or consistent way of filtering out what I need and what I don't, or when it's relevant.

Something else that many people do not know about ADHD is that it is a generally a comorbid disorder, meaning that it often, if not almost always, comes along with other complications. People with ADHD are at higher risk for developing anxiety disorders, mood disorders, and, without proper intervention, addiction. This is especially prevalent later in life, as the adult ADHD brain "includes a wider spectrum of emotional dysregulation and functional impairment." People with ADHD are more inclined to experience things like impaired processing, not to be confused with low intelligence, emotional flooding, black-and-white/all-or-nothing thinking, task paralysis (this can look like basic procrastination, but there's a ton going on up there when this happens that people can't see), periods of hyperfocus as well of periods of dissociation, RSD (Rejection Sensitivity Dysphoria), and all other kinds of executive dysfunction incarnate.

There is an extensive list of symptom criteria that need to be met and validated as "excessive, pervasive, and persistent," before an individual can be diagnosed with ADHD. Once diagnosed, there are several forms of treatment one can con-

sider. There are different forms of therapy and coachings, and there are also several different kinds of medication used to treat ADHD, stimulant and non-stimulant both.

Here's the thing: My brain might move and process things completely differently than someone else's, but that doesn't mean it's a bad thing. All it means is that our brains aren't wired the same way. It doesn't make any of us better or worse than the other, it just causes us to see the world through a different lens, and that can actually be beautiful. I like to use the symbol of a lightning bolt to represent my mind because it makes me supercharged with all kinds of powerful, fast-paced energy and creativity. You see, ADHD might be one of my biggest challenges, but it is also my biggest superpower. My brain is designed to thrive under excitement, sometimes even chaos, and I wouldn't change it for the world.

If you're reading this and don't have ADHD but might know someone who does, do me a favor? Try to understand that it's hard for us, too. We really just want to do things, but it's inherently more difficult for us than for the neurotypical mind. We're not intentionally trying to make your lives harder, we're really not. So if/when we fidget, accidentally interrupt you, forget our thoughts, get distracted, can never seem to do our laundry or clean our rooms, or lose our things... try to understand that it quite probably is as a result of something more complicated than it seems. We're just trying to slow down our speed-racing brains for a world full of traffic signs.

OPINION



THE HYPOCRISY OF “PRO-LIFE”

BY DANIELLE LANE,
MANAGING EDITOR

For the last fifty years, one of the most widely contested topics in the national and global political arena has been the debate over abortion and reproductive freedom. The conversation about whether women should have the right to terminate an unwanted pregnancy has been at the forefront of political activism and debate, causing most informed individuals to classify themselves as either “pro-choice,” meaning they support a woman’s right to choose what happens to her body or “pro-life” meaning they do not support any termination of a pregnancy. While both sides of the conversation make salient claims regarding their beliefs, due to the fact that it is such a contentious matter – literally dealing with life or death – there is a growing hostility between the two groups.

This tension has vastly grown over the past few months as Texas’s government voted to

ban pregnancy after six weeks. This is well before most women even know they are pregnant; most women take an at-home pregnancy test at around five-to-six weeks of pregnancy (after their first missed period) but do not receive confirmation from a doctor until 7-9 weeks. This article will not take a side on whether or not this abortion ban is moral, ethical, or even constitutional. Instead, it will seek to truly define what it means to be pro-life and how many have gotten it so wrong.

The title “pro-life” is self-explanatory. It indicates a belief in the inherent value of a human life and affords protection to all life throughout the lifetime regardless of demographic. Unfortunately, modern pro-life advocates seem to forget about the value of life after the fetus they fought so hard to protect has been born.

The only protection for life that the pro-life movement advocates for is during pregnancy. Once

the baby is born, these pro-life activists who abuse women as they enter female health clinics, who stuff mailboxes with gruesome and inaccurate literature regarding abortions, and who put bounties on the heads of those who assist women in obtaining an abortion regardless of the circumstances do not advocate for affordable child-care, access to healthy food, or safe living situations for those lives that matter so much.

The people who scoff when abortion advocates demand bodily freedom are some of the same individuals who refuse to wear a mask or get vaccinated against the COVID-19 pandemic because they believe that they should be free to make their own choices regarding their bodies. Regrettably scientists have yet to develop a vaccine against hypocrisy.

Modern “pro-life” advocates don’t care about the sanctity of life. All they desire is to control women. If they really were rallying to save lives, these “pro-life” advocates would be begging those who are

endangering others to wear their masks to protect unvaccinated children, immunocompromised individuals, and elders. They would be devastated over the death of children separated from their parents at the US-Mexico border. They would be marching in the streets at every murder of innocent black men at the hands of the police. Yet, they are silent on these genuine, life threatening matters. The pro-life movement doesn’t care about protecting life, they care about controlling women.

For those who identify as “pro-life”, I urge you to evaluate the way you advocate for the ongoing lives of the ¼ inch bunch of cells you fought so hard to protect.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING ETHICAL

BY RINA SHAMILOV,
STAFF WRITER

Internships promise college students an array of opportunities, experiences, and a work environment that will foster better networking and people skills. Although this can be true, most internships underdeliver on this promise and instead leave a weight of boredom and busywork, all the while not paying their interns much or at all.

My past two summers have been filled with internships; different ways I could keep busy to dull out the banality of the summer. Even though putting them down on my

resume made me stand out from other potential interns, I didn’t feel fulfilled in the slightest. Instead, I was doing mindless and easy work that was dumped onto me by an unbothered professional. I wasn’t paid and I didn’t get to network as much as I was promised. Furthermore, I wasn’t taught how to correct my mistakes from my superiors and was supposed to teach myself. I had surprisingly long hours and high demands, yet felt undervalued and interchangeable. At the end of the day, I cannot say that I walked away with any beneficial experience at all. The right work environment, I believe, should allow interns to celebrate their

accomplishments and improve on their fallbacks.

Meredith Gonsalves, author of “Why It’s OK To Hate Your Internships” notes that ultimately, what she needed from her internships as a teen was to figure out what she specifically did not want or like in a work environment. Even though she reflects poorly on her impressively underwhelming internship for CBS, she is nevertheless thankful to have had an experience that allowed her to sift through corporate “red flags” and determine what kind of work environment she was looking for.

I believe that the causes of internship/ intern disparities run much deeper than a general lack



of disrespect on a manager’s part. It appears that the structural setup of any internship (and even most jobs) runs much deeper due to our general capitalist, money-motivated society.

More than 40% of US internships

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are unpaid. According to the Department of Labor, unpaid internships are illegal as they employ essentially slave labor. Secretary of Labor Robert Reich outlines the very specific criteria of what would make an internship legal:

The internship benefits the employee, not the employer. An internship's compensation should be more than just a promise of a job. It does not replace paid employees.

It offers genuine education for the intern. Interns are often too scared to complain against their bosses as they fear being written off from potential employers, reports The New York Times. It appears that they are being manipulated time and again into being docile, defenseless, and obedient—the ideal worker who won't rise against their employer.

The National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), released a study in 2014 that suggests that hiring rates for those who have held unpaid internships are only 0.9% higher than those who have no internship experience at all.

But what happens to students whose parents cannot support them financially, say, if they come from immigrant families and need to both help their families out and find ways to get ahead? They end up having to reject internships and the “networking” opportunities that are promised. Some college courses require internships, which places an undue burden on those who simply cannot afford one.

You may say that they have a choice in the matter, that they don't need to pursue an internship, but I think that the toxic immortalization of capitalism ensures that workers will never have true freedom unless they exploit someone

else. Internships are only the backdrop, the playing field for the harsh reality of our times. And while I've been involved in non-profits that looked out for impoverished communities, I still believe that the nature of internships is entirely unethical. Regardless of where you go, you will be reduced to just another cog in the machine, another piece that will help the CEO of your company increase profits while undervaluing your work. Interns especially are susceptible to this, and their inability to speak out comes as a shock to no one. Yet it is appalling that their labors are being taken advantage of without so much as a worthy compensation.

AFGHANISTAN: WAS IT A MISTAKE OR A SUCCESS?

BY YAFFA GOLDKIN

President Biden has finally pulled America out of Afghanistan. Twenty years ago, former President Bush sent troops over to seek vengeance on Al Qaeda and specifically targeted the mastermind behind 9/11, Osama Bin Laden. Ten years later, Bin Laden was assassinated by America under former President Obama. America was successful in its initial mission yet continued to keep military forces in Afghanistan in fear that the Taliban would take over again. The war had been going on for nearly two decades with no sign of ending completely until President Biden decided to make good on his campaign promise; that he would not let this war continue on to a fifth US President. He made the executive decision to pull the last of our military forces out of Afghanistan after over 2,400 American deaths, tens of thousands of Afghan casualties, and over two trillion dollars spent, Biden declared—“we're out.”

Invading and staying in Afghanistan has saved many Afghans from the harsh totalitarian rule that the Taliban had been known for inflicting. Since America's invasion, women have been able to get college degrees. However, with America invading Afghanistan, it is essential to remember that it was not a “liberation mission.” It was never America's intention to protect the Afghan people, only to protect Americans from future attacks from Al Qaeda. Democracy, freedom, and other western ideals that began to sprout under American control of Afghanistan were happy accidents that imperialists have been able to point to in order to justify staying in Afghanistan. Why do we never seem to talk about the thousands upon thousands of Afghan citizens who were killed in our effort to do this? This war took over 170,000 Afghan lives, from University students to Afghan soldiers to helpless children. This is more than the population of Hollywood, Florida.

US Intelligence severely underestimated how long it would take the Taliban to take control after they left. Instead of years or, according

to the bleakest estimate of months, it took days for the Taliban to gain control of Afghanistan. No one thought it would happen so quickly. The Taliban were hiding in caves with stones and sticks for weapons, while the Afghan military were armed and being helped by US leadership. America left millions of Afghans, assuming they would be safe under the American-supported Afghan government. Unfortunately, the Afghan army lacked appropriate leadership, infrastructure, and military experience. This resulted in the Afghan military's collapse as they quickly backed down while facing the Taliban.

In the past, the Taliban control of Afghanistan has been disastrous regarding women's rights. Many women who earned diplomas free of Taliban influence, burned them in hopes that it would mean less retribution from the Taliban, who are notorious for their abuse of women. The Taliban have promised that they will not return to harsh gender oppression. They say that they have encouraged women to go back to work, and continue to educate women in schools. They said they would “honor women's rights within the norms of Islamic Law.” Of course, the quote from Zabihullah Mujahid, the Taliban's spokesperson, can be interpreted in any way they wish it to be, as Islamic law, like all laws, can be understood differently by different people. Based on the Taliban's track record, it seems unlikely that they will go back to letting women live freely and prosper in the country. When the Taliban controlled Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001, women were forced to stay at home. They were required to wear a burqa (an Islamic head-dress) at all times when outside of their home. They could not travel without a man being with them. Women could not work, and they could not continue their education after the age of eight. Music and movies were illegal, and people were publicly executed for breaking any of these rules. As a result of leaving no American presence in Afghanistan, we no longer have a way to help women maintain the rights they deserve—instead,



we will watch them slowly move back in time and lose what they had gained. There is a whole generation of women who have lived under American democracy, gone to university, been educated, and lived freely. Now, they are losing all they have ever known. This is one of the worst and hardest things about America pulling out of Afghanistan— and we no longer have a way to protect our sisters on the other side of the globe.

Currently, thousands of refugees, consisting primarily of women and those who worked for America over the past twenty years, are fleeing the country. The American University of Afghanistan was one of the largest and first private nonprofit universities in Afghanistan, America left behind six hundred students and their relatives when they refused them access to the Kabul airport. As well, there are thousands of other personal stories of Afghans who majorly helped the US now being denied entry to the US. These people are especially in fear under the Taliban, knowing they ‘helped’ the ‘enemy.’

America succeeded in many of their initial goals— Osama Bin Laden is dead and Al Qaeda is no longer the thriving entity in Afghanistan it once was. America kept Afghanistan a democracy for nearly two decades. However, now Afghanistan has fallen back under the control of the Taliban. It appears that all these efforts were for naught. So what did America really accomplish? Before President Biden took office, Trump cut a ‘deal’ with the Taliban. The idea of this deal was pretty straightforward: Trump promised to get troops out of Afghanistan within the next 14 months, by May 2021. The Taliban said they would stop letting Afghanistan be a harbor for terrorists and stop attacking US service members. Obviously, this deal was not foolproof. There was no set way to enforce the Taliban to keep their word. The Taliban immediately began escalating the violence in Afghanistan, and the UN was sure they still had ties to Al Qaeda. Despite all the evidence,

Trump pulled out thousands of troops from Afghanistan very quickly. When President Biden came into office, there were only 3,500 US Service members left in Afghanistan. Trump had left the President with an impossible decision. Biden had the choice of taking the rest of the troops out and keeping the deal or continuing the war that America no longer needed in order to protect Afghans from the Taliban. Both options were politically risky for the President. Yet, he knew what he had to do to save the country from continuing the war. The issue was how he went about it. Biden's decision and how he executed it has been highly criticized by all sides of the political spectrum. Since Biden pulled out of Afghanistan, his approval ratings have dropped significantly— almost as low as Trump's.

America has left Afghanistan. What matters now is that there are now thirteen US families whose loss is fresh and new, there are Afghan women who have been stripped of their rights, and there are thousands of citizens now living under terrorist rule. And I never want anything like this to happen ever again. We will never forget 9/11, and we will never forget this war. We see now what the aftermath of the United States meddling in other countries and other governments looks like. We stayed long after our original goals were accomplished, and this led to more lives being lost. This was all done under the guise of saving the lives of citizens that the American government doesn't actually care about. This war had nothing to do with 9/11 anymore. It had everything to do with furthering so-called imperialist American dreams. The situation in Afghanistan shows us the damage America can do to others when America only thinks about America. And this story is not yet over, because for the Afghans that we left behind another horror story is just beginning.

OPINION



THE INEFFECTIVENESS OF THE YU COVID TESTING POLICY

BY RINA SHAMILOV

The absolute ridiculousness of YU's COVID testing policy needs to be addressed.

I'm about to out myself here: in the three days since classes have resumed, I have not received a test. This isn't because I am unaware of the very potent threat that COVID poses, but because I haven't had time in my day to stand in an hour-long line to self-test. By the time my Monday classes finished, the tests were no longer being administered, so the only other option is to either come late to class or leave class early.

This system is entirely ineffective, frustrating, and a waste of time. Aside from that, however, the lines are so filled and claustrophobic that students tend to take their masks off to catch a breath, thus making the spread of COVID that much easier.

Nobody should have to go through a ludicrous process that clearly does not work. And while I commend YU for taking the necessary steps to prevent the spread of the virus, I believe there are more realistic and effective methods of doing so. For example, by delivering self-test kits to the campus dorms or by running longer hours of

test availability.

Just the other day (I came in mere moments before the line closed), a student was rejected from taking the test because it was past 3 PM. If a student misses the Monday test, their ID will be disabled. But what if, like me, they have back-to-back classes all day? Will they have to quarantine until further notice or do classes online? It's a complete mess.

Even more so, the people operating the lines are also complaining, recognizing just how ineffective the process is.

My peers have shared their frustration regarding this process. Yaffa Goldkin, (SCW 24), says that "the hours are the thing that bothers me the most- I have a part-time job in the evenings and class in

the morning and early afternoon. Only having the testing available for five hours of the day for the entire school is absolutely crazy. They need to make it longer so it's easier for people." Another student, (SCW 24), who wishes to remain anonymous, notes that "the school doesn't give long enough time periods for testing, I have class during the entire testing time and I had to leave class in order to get tested."

Although everyone is appreciative of YU's incentive to keep the student body safe, we would prefer a method that is more effective for everyone.

WANT TO SHARE YOUR OPINION?

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FEATURES



YU ALUMNI PRODUCES OFF-BROADWAY PLAY

BY DANIELLE LANE,
MANAGING EDITOR

Yeshiva University alumnus and current employee in the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (RIETS), Chaski Naor (YC '07, WSSW '10) spoke with the *YU Observer* about his current producing role in the new Off-Broadway musical, *A Commercial Jingle for Regina Comet*.

The production is a three person show composed of Broadway stars, Alex Wyse, Ben Fankhauser, and Bryonha Marie Parham known for their roles in *Spring Awakening*, *Newsies*, and *Ragtime*, respectively. Not only are Wyse and Fankhauser responsible for playing two-thirds of the roles in the musical, they are also

the writers. The Jewish duo created a fun, light hearted, comical musical with underlying Jewish themes and comedy.

A Commercial Jingle for Regina Comet is about “two nobodies dream of writing one hit song for everybody, but their day job composing jingles for commercials isn’t the big break they hoped. That is, until they’re plucked from obscurity by a world-famous pop star named Regina Comet (if destiny had a child, it would be her) and she wants them to create an anthem for her supernova pipes... and her new perfume. They’re so close to the big-time they can smell it, but following your passion

doesn’t always lead where you expect. Making a hit song can be a s**t-show.”

Naor became involved in producing through “meeting people at shows and cabarets.” He wanted to get involved with theater as a way of connecting to something he is passionate about. This is Naor’s second time working behind the scenes of a production, his first production being 2019’s *Alice By Heart*. But producing isn’t his first endeavor into the world of theater. Naor jokes that his “acting career peaked at age 11 after playing Cogsworth in a summer camp production of *Beauty and the Beast*. In his current role as producer he serves as a fundrais-

er for the show. Naor likes to tell people that his “9am-5pm is very different from my 5pm-9am.”

A Commercial Jingle for Regina Comet is running from September 27th to November 21st at the DR2 - Daryl Roth Theater.

ACTIVE MINDS HOSTS “MENTAL HEALTH & HALACHA” SHIUR

BY RABBI ARYEH LEBOWITZ

BY RIVKA BENNUN

On Wednesday, October 13th 2021, the Active Minds Club hosted a shiur by Rabbi Aryeh Lebowitz on the topic of “Mental Health and Halacha” in the Rubin Shul on Wilf campus.

Active Minds is a nonprofit organization that promotes

mental health awareness across the country. The Active Minds chapter at YU is headed by Co-Presidents Sarina Hilowitz (SCW '22), Yael Berger (SCW '23), and Shay Fishman (YC '23).

“Active Minds has co-hosted an event like this last year and it was widely successful,” Hilowitz told The YU Observ-

er. “We had a lot of students attend, signifying interest in this topic.”

Due to a successful shiur on the same topic given in the past, Active Minds once again hosted this event. When asked why specifically Rabbi Lebowitz was asked to give this shiur, Hilowitz told The YU Observer: “Rabbi Lebowitz is really well

educated, informed and passionate about the topic which is things we look for in a speaker for this type of shiur.”

Rabbi Lebowitz spoke about the relevance of mental health in the halachic system. Through various

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TELL ME YOU'RE A TIKTOKER AT YU WITHOUT TELLING ME YOU'RE A TIKTOKER AT YU, I'LL GO FIRST

BY ADINA BRUCE,
FEATURES EDITOR

If you're not on it, then you've definitely heard of it. TikTok has been making waves in the tech world as a new front-runner in the digital race to grab our collective attention. Alongside the chaotic content that includes dance crazes, lip-syncing and viral trends, students at Yeshiva University have been using the platform as a way to create a stronger campus culture.

TikTok was previously known as the music and dance sharing platform Musical.ly, changing its name after being acquired by Chinese tech company ByteDance. TikTok videos are often short clips, synced with trending background music, texts and voice-overs, also known as 'Sounds.' Recently TikTok announced it has reached 1 billion users.

As students fully return to campus, TikTok has been utilized by some students to create content specifically about YU. The form and structure of these TikToks differ among creators, but all feature unique and creative ways to interact with and comment on the larger YU community.

Dalia Adams (SCW '23), known on TikTok as 'dalia.

elyse', has been making videos about YU and Judaism since moving to the dorms in November 2020. With almost 500 followers and over 23,000 likes, Dalia makes videos that reflect on the experience of dorming, taking classes and dating at Stern. Sometimes featuring her roommate Rikkie, Dalia often answers specific questions people have about the dorms, campus and YU in general. Talking to the *YU Observer* about why she makes her TikToks Dalia answered, "I enjoy making those kinds

of videos because I found that a lot of people were able to relate to them and it was fun to

see so many people in the comments and in my messages saying that they had the same experiences. A lot of people also asked me questions about YU and told me that they found my videos helpful, so I thought why not continue?" After some time, Dalia says that her account fell into a comfortable rhythm so that "half of my content became answering questions and the other half was lighthearted videos so that people know not

to take everything so seriously."

Remy Greenblatt (Katz '24), known as 'remygoofficial', with 1400 followers and 56,800 likes represents the Wilf campus. Many of his videos feature classic TikTok trends and dances. When asked by the *YU Observer* why he makes videos about Judaism and YU he answered "It helps me connect with the students at the school who can relate to the type of video that I make, and to meet

I have been noticed by students at YU because of my TikToks and some have asked me if I'm the TikTok

other students ... it also helps me connect to the Jewish

community at large."

Run by Talya and Temima (SCW '22) (who did not want their last names included for privacy reasons), 'berenbathrooms' is a humorous account featuring the many different bathrooms on the Beren campus. "We always found it funny how colleges advertise how pretty their campuses are, and felt that YU needed to start showcasing their beautiful

bathrooms. YU ranks #5 on the list of least diverse colleges, but it does have the most diverse bathrooms (probably)", the two content creators told the *YU Observer*.

Creative and amusing, TikToks often feature an unprofessional style that enables trends to be easily reproduced. Dalia describes the process of creating her TikToks as "I'll usually just be scrolling through the app and I'll find a sound that inspires an idea." Similarly Remy says he will "start with an idea, listen to different sounds on TikTok and see how it connects with my idea." Talya and Temima have a slightly more involved process: "First we film a bathroom, we just pick one and pull something out. We try to get a lot of shots, like a shot of us walking in, a shot of the sink, a shot of the stalls ... Afterwards we will adjust the clips of the video because sometimes the shots will be too long or there will be something awkward. And then after that we will go through each shot with our roommate Elisheva and try to make a joke for each shot and

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DAF YOMI AT WILF: IT'S NOT ABOUT THE DAF, IT'S ABOUT THE YOMI

BY ADRIEL KOHANANOO

“It’s not about the Daf [page], it’s about the Yomi [daily]”, a friend of mine once told me, as we witnessed the Siyum [completion] cel-

worthwhile pursuit altogether.

It seems that many only keep up with the Daf as long as they actually finish the previous Daf

on time.

It doesn't matter if we don't get all the way to where we planned, as long as we're constantly moving forward.

However, a deeper look into the most recent

celebration of a Mesechet [tractate] in the Daf Yomi [daily page of talmud study] cycle end off with far fewer people than we remember starting with. It seems that many people hop on the Daf Yomi train at the start of every new Mesechet, yet most get off early, leaving only the dedicated few to ride all the way to the Siyum of the Mesechet.

Mesechet completed, Mesechet Beitza, can teach us the proper perspective to have after missing a day in the Daf Yomi cycle, or in any pursuit for that matter.

Mesechet Beitza is the Mesechet that discusses the laws of preparing food on Yom Tov. On Yom Tov, unlike Shabbat, one is allowed to prepare and cook food.

I once asked someone who used to do Daf Yomi why he stopped. He told me that it’s easy to start off strong, but once the Gemara starts getting difficult, it gets very discouraging and increasingly hard to put in the effort to get through the whole Daf each and every day. Eventually, he didn’t manage to finish the Daf one day, and dropped the

However, if that is what the Mesechet is about, why is it called ‘Beitza’ — ‘egg’? Sure, the Mesechet opens up talking about the rules of an egg laid on Yom Tov, and Beitza is in fact the first word of the Mesechet. However, there are many Mesechets that have different names than what they open up with! For example, look at the

first Mesechet in all of Shas [the talmudic order], Mesechet Brachot. The Mesechet opens up talking about the nightly prayer of Kriat Shema [recitation of the nightly Shema], nothing to do with Brachot [blessings]. In fact, the word ‘Brachot’ doesn’t even appear in the first Mishna! Many Mesechets are like this, which begs the question — why is the Mesechet of Talmud that talks about preparing all kinds of food on Yom Tov named after the first small section dealing with a mere egg?

The answer becomes self-evident when one thinks about the experiences we go through during a Yom Tov. Unfortunately, in our busy day-to-day lives, we can lose track of our true goals and aspirations in the sea of responsibilities we deal with in our hectic schedules. We always seem to be looking forward to those breaks, few and far in between, to finally wind down a bit and reconnect with our family and friends, and most importantly, with ourselves. When it comes to Judaism, there’s no better break than the long Yom Tov days to get

back to full power and to realign ourselves. Yomim Tovim are days infused with spirituality, rest, delicious meals and fun. It’s a time of rebirth as we enter in an exhausted and drained state of our everyday lives and exit with new spiritual goals, a fresh mindset and full of energy to reach new heights. They are days filled with unique and invigorating Mitzvot [commandments] and traditions that are always exciting to encounter year after year. No matter how low we enter, Yom Tov has the potential to lift us miles above the level we came in, and can rejuvenate us both physically and religiously.

This is accurately depicted by an egg. An egg resembles rebirth, a shell of untapped potential waiting to be released, exactly how we emerge from a Yom Tov. We come out ready to tackle our biggest challenges, fused with inspiration and renewed energy from the holiday along with all the words of Torah we learnt and

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STAFF WRITER PROFILES: YAEL SPODEK

BY AVIOR HAZAN,
FEATURES EDITOR

Each month, the *YU Observer* aims to highlight some of the YU undergraduate students who have written articles for us over the course of the semester. For the October 2021 edition, the *YU Observer* is highlighting Yael Spodek.

Name: Yael Spodek

College: Stern College for Women

Major: Education

Year: First year

Where and with whom are you spending the chagim (High Holidays)? Florida with my family.

Favorite part of being on (or back on) campus? Being

more independent.

What do you miss most about Zoom school? Being able to go to class in my PJs.

Currently Reading: Clifton Chronicles

Currently watching: Game of Thrones

Currently listening to: Anything and everything.

Coke or Pepsi? Coke 100%.

Android or Apple? Always Apple.

What’s a quote/thought/or piece of advice you have for your fellow students?: There are two things in life you should never worry about: 1) Something that you can change. 2) Something that you can’t change. Because, if you can change it then

just change it, what is worrying going to help? And if you can’t change it then you can’t change it, why would worrying help?

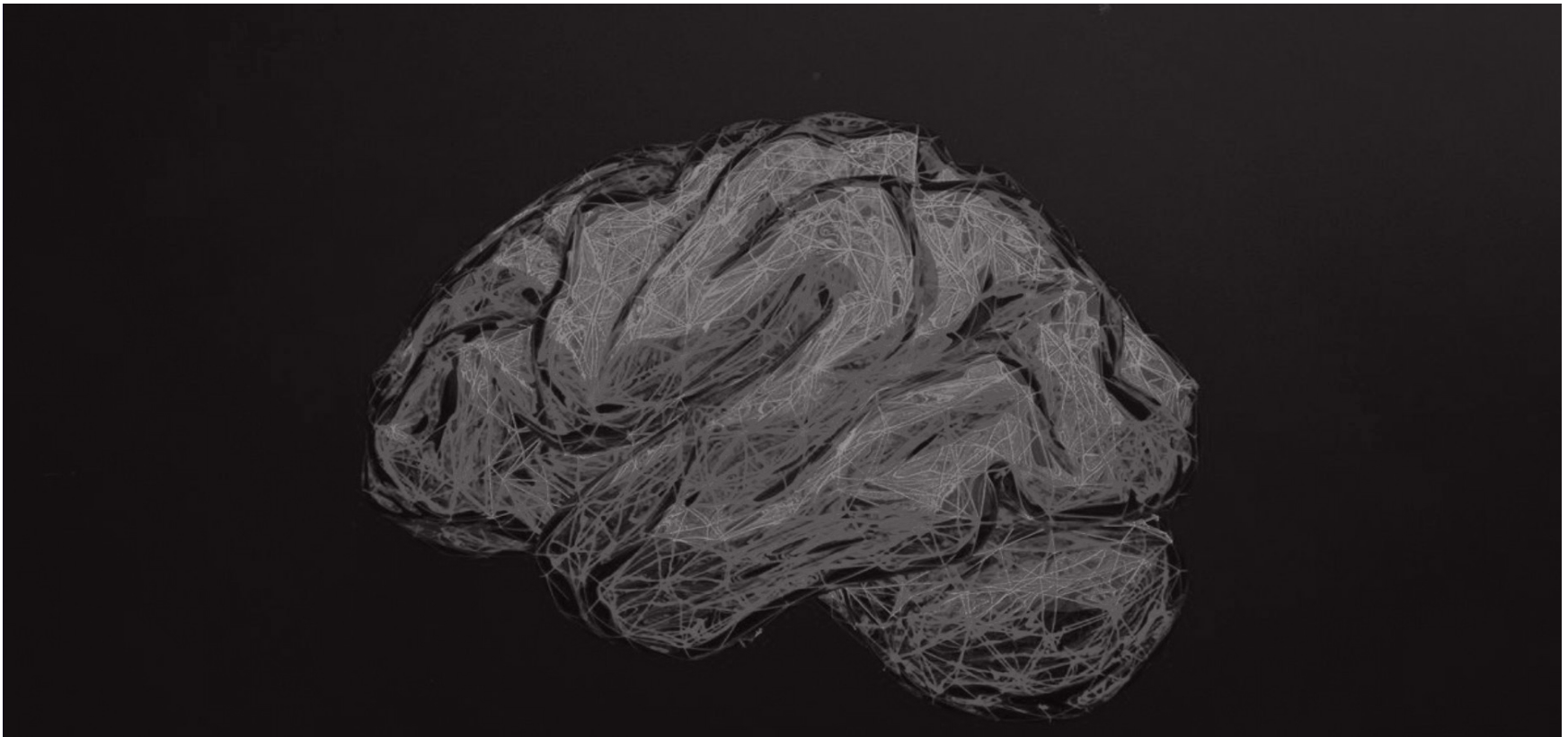
See some of Yael’s past articles here:

<https://yuobserver.org/2021/08/flames-to-future/>

<https://yuobserver.org/2021/08/breaking-the-stigma-mental-health-on-college-campuses/>



Photo Credit: Yael Spodek



RABBI LEBOWITZ

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sources, he showed that topics pertaining to mental health are woven through the fabric of rabbinic literature, often represented by the risk of ‘pikuach nefesh’ [the principle that preservation of human life overrides other religious laws].

“Mental health touches on literally every area of halacha,” Rabbi Lebowitz told students. “There is no area of halacha [Jewish law] that mental health does not in some way relate to.” Rabbi Lebowitz then went on to give examples of mental health issues as they pertain

to Shabbat [Sabbath], Kashrut

shaila which he would discuss in greater detail.

“*There is no area of halacha [Jewish law] that mental health does not in some way relate to.*”

[Laws of Kosher], Niddah [laws of female purity], Tefillah [prayer], and Lashon Harah [gossip].

For the last segment of the shiur, Rabbi Lebowitz shared with students four different shailas [questions] that he has received over the years pertaining to mental health in halacha, and allowed students to choose one

thought Rabbi Aryeh Lebowitz displayed real sensitivity to issues that unfortunately plague so many YU students,” Gabe Gross (YC ‘24), a board member of Active Minds, shared with The YU Observer.

Active Minds is known for hosting events like these at YU with the goal of spread-

ing mental health awareness around campus. Last February, Active Minds held its annual Stomp Out the Stigma event, wherein students and faculty had the opportunity to hear from four different students about their struggles with mental health.

Hilowitz commented on the importance of an event like this. “We hope that students will better understand just how much mental health is prevalent and crucial to prioritize, even as a Jew living in a Jewish community.”

TIKTOKERS

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record it.”

While the TikTokers featured don’t have quite enough followers to be considered “TikTok famous” some of them have reached some notoriety on the YU campus. “My roommate and I do get recognized more than I thought I would on campus ... I’m much more shy in person than in my videos so these initial interactions were kind of shocking for me. I was always worried that I came off as stand-offish because I never knew how to respond to people

who recognized me. I never want to come off as snobby or rude especially because that’s the opposite of everything I promote on my account. I love meeting new people though and I definitely think that is one of the most fun parts of all of this” explained Dalia. Similarly Remy describes that sometimes “I have been noticed by students at YU because of my TikToks and some have asked me if I’m the TikTok guy.”

Although offline interactions are described as pleasant, like many Jewish content creators on TikTok, TikTokers at YU have described having to deal with antisemitism on the platform. Dalia described how

“during the huge rise in anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism, I was getting a lot of threats for a few months and one or two people stuck around who I have since blocked.” Remy said how “I get a lot of negative comments. I have had anti-Semitic comments, hate comments and comments that people say that make fun of what I am doing.” However, he says that he also gets “positive comments like I love your videos, keep it up, love your content, so inspirational etc.”

Despite the wealth of content available and being made at the moment on TikTok, these YU TikTokers are filling a specific niche of entertainment. “It is so fun seeing YU related TikToks

appear on my fyp (for you page)! With an algorithm of thousands and thousands of videos, I love being able to relate to them as I scroll. Added bonus if they’re (semi) viral!” Rebecca Hyman (SCW ‘22) told the *YU Observer*. As Temima and Talya explained, “The whole account ... are all inside jokes with the YU community ... I think that’s why it resonates with so many people, everyone likes to make fun of their school and understand the references. It’s another thing where people can say ‘I go to YU and I know this inside joke and reference’ ”. As TikTok continues its trajectory it is almost certain that YU-TikTok is here to stay.

BROADWAY: THE RETURN OF BROADWAY



BY RONI LEIDER

Although it may be hard to believe, it's been almost half a year since Broadway closed its curtains on March 12, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ever since Broadway's unfortunate halt, theater lovers have been eager to return to the heart of Times Square to once again partake in this beloved form of entertainment. As of September 14, 2021, Broadway has slowly reopened its doors, and the public is thrilled to return.

As per Broadway League regulations, all attendees must be masked and fully

vaccinated to ensure public safety. The only exception to this mask policy is when one is actively eating or drinking in a designated location. These measures will help restore a sense of normalcy while keeping the audience, cast, and crew safe, as theaters are permitted to return to 100% capacity.

Broadway is absolutely essential to the identity of New York City and is one of its most defining factors. Not only is the cultural impact of this resurgence paramount, but the financial implica-

tions to the theaters, performers, staff members, as well as mutually dependent small businesses, are invaluable. The return of Broadway has been promising, and progressively the entire theater industry will thrive as it once did. Approximately 97,000 Broadway related jobs have been directly affected by the pandemic, and New Yorkers are hopeful that the reopening of Broadway will lead to fiscal stability for the industry.

Some of the first shows to open this fall include Spring-

steen on Broadway, Pass Over, Hadestown, Waitress, Six, Come From Away, and Moulin Rouge. These are only a few of the many shows set to re-open in the near future.

With the re-opening of Broadway, it is time for all theater lovers to head right back. So go buy some tickets, and support some of New York City's greatest businesses!

MORNING PAGES: A MEDITATIVE PRACTICE

BY CAYLA MUSCHEL,
ARTS AND CULTURE
EDITOR

Meditation has been a trendy practice for a while. As college students, we can certainly understand the appeal of mindfulness; our brains are cluttered with tasks and to-do lists, and we try to stay afloat on top of it all. But there are different sorts of meditation, often with differing purposes. The clutter of everyday life, in addition to hindering awareness of ourselves and our goals, often clouds creativity in particular. This leads to much-bemoaned writer's block (or painter's block, or musician's block...). A meditative practice known as "Morning Pages" is utilized by some in order to clear that clutter.

The practice of Morning Pages is the brainchild of author Julia Cameron, as detailed in

her book *The Artist's Way*. The purpose of traditional meditation is essentially to achieve a stable and calm state of mind and increase awareness of inner processes; overall, to become a more happy and grounded person. Morning Pages is a meditative practice meant to clear all the white noise from the brain and induce creativity. It involves writing three pages (Cameron recommends no more and no less) by hand every morning, shortly after waking up. Morning pages are not art and are not intended to sound well-written; the writer must avoid self-censorship.

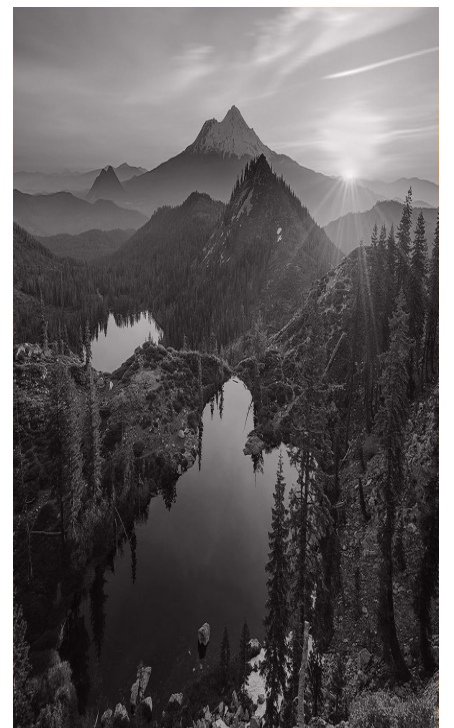
For many of us, even those of us not looking to be particularly creative, the sheer amount expected of us in everyday life can often come between us and

mindfulness. Morning Pages are intended not only to induce creativity, but to spur action and increase self-awareness. Unlike traditional meditation, however, the purpose of Morning Pages is not to calm oneself. "Unlike conventional meditation, which may lull you out of taking action, the pages magnify our discontent, pointing out actions we could take," writes Cameron, in her companion book to *The Artist's Way*, *The Miracle of Morning Pages*. If action is needed, says Cameron, it will repeatedly come up in one's Morning Pages until it is resolved.

Traditional meditation is not for everyone, and everyone's goals are different. Morning Pages may help those who don't have the attention span for traditional meditation, are looking to improve their creativity, or are looking to become more pro-

active, rather than calmer.

Writer's Note: Thank you to Dr. Ann Peters for introducing this practice to her Introduction to Creative Writing class!



SONG ANALYSIS: FROM THE GROUND UP



BY SHOSHANA
BERGER

Often, in today's media, relationships are portrayed through an exclusively sexual lens. The emotional component and the hard work necessary for successful relationships are left out of movies, TV shows, and especially songs. Today, most popular songs are sexually explicit and do not address other, deeper aspects of relationships.

In 2016, the popular country duo Dan and Shay released a song called "From The Ground Up." This song, with its slow melody and passionate deliverance, takes listeners on the journey of a young couple's life together. What stands out about this song is the lack of focus on the physical aspect of the relationship.

The song begins with the narrator explaining his grandparents' relationship, which he describes as, "More than saying I do/Kiss you goodnights and I love you." These lines convey that their marriage went deeper than romance, that their relationship was strong and well

rounded. In the second stanza, the narrator begins to describe the relationship he hopes to have with his significant other, which will mimic the one he saw between his grandparents. He sings that they will "build [their] own family/one day at a time," and then imagines the child they will have.

The chorus is two stanzas, which emphasize the importance of "build[ing] this love from the ground up," describing the value in slowly and carefully building a strong foundation for a lasting relationship. The chorus continues, "Beside you I'll stand through the good and the bad/ We'll give all that we have." This demonstrates the steadfast commitment between the couple. The narrator paints a future in which the couple will be willing to put in the hard work required for a successful life together.

This point is emphasized again in the first stanza of the second verse: "The clouds are gonna

roll/The earth's gonna shake/ But I'll be your shelter through the wind and the rain." The rolling clouds and the shaking earth are metaphors for life's challenges, for the inevitable instability and hardships. But through everything, the narrator wants to take care of his significant other, he wants them to take care of each other.

The climax of the song is the bridge, which reads: "Someday we'll wake up/With thousands of pictures/Sixty-five years in this little house/I won't trade for nothing, the life that we built/I'll kiss you goodnight and say I love you still." After all the hardships they will face, says the narrator, they will be able to look at their life together with pride; their love will still be strong, because they paid attention to each stage of the relationship. They cultivated it slowly and carefully, they stuck by each other through everything, and they had patience with life. The language in the bridge is similar to the description of the grandparents'

relationship at the beginning of the song, which illustrates that the relationship the narrator imagines himself having is similar to that which he witnessed between his grandparents.

This song is an "oldie but a goodie." In today's culture, when sexually oriented and explicit music is the norm, "From The Ground Up" remains fresh because it portrays that the deliberate cultivation and hard work put into the relationship leads to a long and happy life together.

BOOK REVIEW: DR. EDITH EVA EGER'S THE CHOICE

BY SHAYNA VADNAI

In her memoir, *The Choice*, renowned psychologist Dr. Edith Eva Eger tells the story of her survival and recovery from the Holocaust, as well as her choice to use her incredible experiences to help others. Her striking work inspires readers to look within themselves to access a deep inner strength to persevere through life's various challenges.

The youngest of three daughters, Eger was born to a Jewish tailor in Kassa, Slovakia. She grew up dancing ballet and training as a gymnast, and by the time a Nazi presence emerged in her hometown, she was a promising member of the Hungarian Olympic Gymnastics team. However, at sixteen, her beautiful life in Kassa was taken from her when she

was sent to Auschwitz. There, both of her parents were immediately sent to the gas chambers.

Eger, together with her oldest sister, Magda, miraculously survived the brutality, starvation, and death in Auschwitz. It took many months, but Eger eventually recovered from the years of malnourishment and a debilitating broken back. The two sisters were able to reunite with their third sister, Klara, who survived the war in a convent in Budapest. Eger met

and married

Eger learned to reframe the way in which she viewed her trauma- to see it as an experience that revealed her immense strength

Béla, a kind, wealthy Jewish survivor who had joined the partisans during the war. They settled in Béla's ances-

tral home and had their first child, Marianne. However, their safety and comfort in Slovakia was short-lived. Béla found himself in prison soon after refusing to join the communist party. With a clever and daring plan, Eger broke him out of prison and they immediately moved to America.

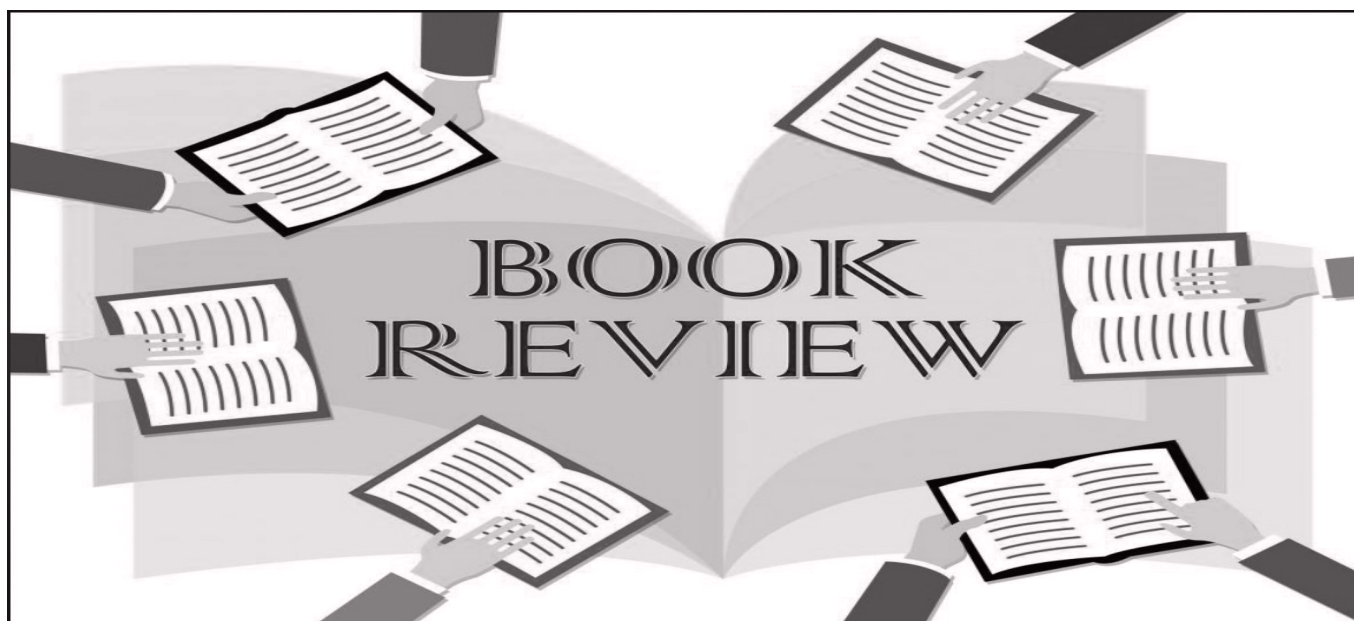
In El Paso, Texas, Eger and her husband peacefully raised three children. However, Eger continued to suffer from panic attacks,

having not reconciled her past. It was Viktor Frankl's *Man's Search for Meaning* that awakened her to the pos-

sibility of sharing her story and healing. She internalized Frankl's wise words: "Everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms- to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one's own way."

Eger attached herself to this idea: that no matter the pain or frustration, we can choose our responses and subsequent actions. She returned to school to study clinical psychology, graduating with a PhD in the field. Eger learned to reframe the way in which she viewed her trauma- to see it as an experience that revealed her immense strength - and she used this newfound outlook to help her clients apply this freedom of choice to their own lives. She explored the strength of self-talk, and how people should choose to not only practice compassion towards others, but towards themselves.

Eger's memoir contains valuable insights on how we can conquer the obstacles that come our way or that we create for ourselves. Every individual, with guidance and love, can access the inner strength to practice self-compassion, draw strength from struggles, and choose to follow a path of healing and growth. *The Choice* inspires readers to explore their own mindset and choices, and guides them on how to actualize Eger's beautiful methods.



THINGS TO DO IN NYC: BROADWAY SHOWS, BLUE MAN GROUP, AND ROOSEVELT ISLAND TRAM

BY HANNAH POUPKO

Located in the heart of New York City, Yeshiva University's campuses are perfect for exploring the rich culture of New York. This autumn, the City is packed with various events, shows, and activities. With the reopening of museums, theaters, shops, and restaurants, New York is truly the city that never sleeps. Below are a few things to add to your October bucket list.

What: Broadway Shows

This season, Broadway has launched a successful reopening. Broadway theaters can now open at full capacity and old time favorites will return to the stage. Classics such as *Come From Away*, *Dear Evan Hansen*, *Hamilton* and so much more are making a reappearance. Grab a friend and book tickets before they sell out!

Where: Broadway Show District

Price: Prices vary, tickets usually start around \$75

To find out more:
https://www.nyc.com/broadway_tickets/?gclid=C-jwKCAjwhuCKBhADEiWA-1HegOcS5RX5swsew9eAgzjY-qkDa5hhMCWn4tDrsmqO-qKvnM1Go-arsUAtxoCj8kQAvD_BwE

What: Blue Man Group

Blue Man Group is an American performance group which fuses art, music, and choreography in thrilling shows. Spectators are often left surprised and amused with the sophisticated performance. The performers are mute during the show but they play an array of instruments with paint on them to produce a beautiful color show.

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CLUBS:

CLUB PROFILE: BROADWAY @ YU

BY AVIOR HAZAN,
FEATURES EDITOR

Each month, the *YU Observer* aims to highlight one club available to the YU undergraduate community. For the October 2021 issue, the *YU Observer* is highlighting the Broadway Club.

Club Name: Broadway @ YU Club

Heads: Eli Saperstein, Sari Moskowitz, Yaffa Goldkin, Rina Shamlov

Relevant Campus(es): Beren, Wilf

What is your club's mission statement?: To provide our members and the greater YU

community with an organized, safe, and fun community to enjoy all that the greatest city in the world can offer us!

Our mission is to help students make new friends that share similar interests as well as organizing events that allow for our members to meet each other in official capacities to foster lifelong friendships outside of the club!

Why is this club important?: Torah u'Maddah [Torah and Science] is a concept that YU is proud to be a supporter of. Broadway plays allow one to experience the best of what modern culture and entertainment have to offer.

What was your pull to get involved in/start the club?: As someone who has never

been to a Broadway play but knows how much of an impact that the theater can have on a person, I wanted to start a community for the people who like me would want to join a community to experience and talk about these shows if they weren't part of one already.

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DAF YOMI

FROM PAGE 13

Mitzvot we performed. It doesn't matter how far off the path we stray — Yom Tov is our gift from Hashem to get back up with full force. It's no coincidence that the special sacrifice that was brought during the Yomim Tovim, the Korban Chagigah, is commemorated nowadays by eating an egg during the Yom Tov.

However, we can take this one step further. A chicken lays an egg everyday. Everyday is a chance for rebirth. Every morning that Hashem gifts us back our Neshama [soul] is a new chance to realign and get back to where we want to be. Although it's not on the same level as going through an entire Yom Tov, every day is another chance

to make a small change, a small step forward after falling back. It doesn't matter if we don't get all the way to where we planned, as long as we're constantly moving forward. It doesn't matter how badly we missed our aspirations the day before; every day is a new opportunity to reach into our untapped potential.

"It's not about the Daf, it's about the Yomi" a friend of mine once told me. It doesn't matter if you didn't finish the Daf yesterday, or if you didn't understand every point. Hashem wants you to just keep going. Every day is a new chance to do better, to try again, to give it your all.



THE GREAT PICKLE OF KOSHER FOOD

BY BENJAMIN GOTTESMAN,
ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

Grand Street is anything but grand. It used to deserve the pomp of its name, but now it is simply another run-down, New York City road, grayed by time and indifference. There is no tumbleweed this side of the Mason-Dixon, but there may as well be, as the specters are plentiful in American Jewry's favorite ghost town.

One need only to walk the faded pavement with any Orthodox Gen-Xer to watch the memories crawl out the basements of boarded delis and crevices of decrepit tenements. Walk the streets with a Boomer and the ghosts roar to life, invigorated by the quiet sparkle of vigor that the reteller of any good story must possess. Yet, on most days, the Lower East Side lies forgotten, a mausoleum of Jewish memory.

However, nestled away on Grand

Street, Diller N.Y.C. single handedly strives to keep the neighborhood afloat. An offshoot of the traditionally Kosher-style Pickle Guys, the creators of Diller decided that the only way to keep the tradition of yore alive was to breathe into it a modern life. They took the pickle, a culinary staple of New York Jewry for decades, and modernized it for the vegan-conscious, gastro-pub-loving, new generation of New York Jews. Deli is out and Beyond Beef is in. Gone are the hot dogs and kraut, replaced by lentil egg rolls and fried rice balls. This is a new Kosher experience, raised and ready for the cuisine of the Future.

And then, when you least expect it, the nostalgia hits. At the forefront of the menu are fried pickles, complete with a complimentary dill-based sauce. Pickles

are even in the lemonade, in a truly bizarre, once-in-a-life time, millennial-esque drinking experience. The future is here but the past remains as well. The legacy of the Lower East Side lives on.

The food is great and reasonably priced. The pickle bit

adds a fun level of novelty and shtick.

However, it is the meeting point of memory and modernity, all wrapped up in a vegan patty and fried pickle that makes Diller N.Y.C worth coming back to over and over again.

Dishes (\$7-\$20)



BROADWAY

FROM PAGE 18

What are some things your club has done in the past?:

Nothing yet! But we are excited to create an awesome experience for everyone who's ready to begin with us!

What are some plans you have for this semester/future semesters?: Of course, seeing Broadway shows is number one, but smaller events such as screening movies or Broadway-style singalongs and karaoke are all on the table!

What is your favorite OSU-provided food for club events?:

Sunkists, Chocolate, Coffee, and Tea.

How is your club adapting to being back on campus?: We are excited to be in person at YU after the world was turned Upside down, along with Broadway reopening now is the perfect time to go see all the plays!

What is your advice to some-

one looking to get involved on campus?: College (and Broadway) is a place where dreams come alive, where every experience is a chance for you to rewrite your life, where the world becomes a fantasy and dreams come true. Chasing after your ambitions and potential is what is possible here at YU. Any club, any community that you want to be a part of you can create here and now that will last in YU forever as well as

once you graduate. Yes it's crazy but I live a little crazy.

Anything else to say about your club?

Join our group chat! We will be posting all events, programming, and get-togethers there!

NYC

FROM PAGE 17

Head to the Blue Man Group for a truly one of a kind experience that you won't regret.

Where: Briar Street Theater

Price: \$49- \$69

To find out more: <https://www.bluman.com/chicago/>

[buy-tickets?gclid=CjwKCAjwhuCKBhADEiwA-1HegOXfiezFEedPAZ3b-7vwW5d-nqskDXA_yiyat-6BjJIhgUe-SraEY8keuxo-Cb3MQAvD_BwE&gclid=src=aw.ds](https://www.bluman.com/chicago/buy-tickets?gclid=CjwKCAjwhuCKBhADEiwA-1HegOXfiezFEedPAZ3b-7vwW5d-nqskDXA_yiyat-6BjJIhgUe-SraEY8keuxo-Cb3MQAvD_BwE&gclid=src=aw.ds)

What: Roosevelt Island Tram

The Roosevelt Island Tram is an amazing way to experience the spectacular views of the Manhattan skyline and East River. The tram, which opened in 1976, holds around 115 people and peaks at 250 feet. Buckle up and enjoy the ride.

Where: 254 E 60th St, New York, NY 10022

Price: \$2.25 one way, \$4 round trip

To find out more: <https://rioc.ny.gov/302/Tram>

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FEATURED FEMALE: JUDITH LOVE COHEN

BY DANIELLE LANE,
MANAGING EDITOR

Born on August 16, 1933 in Brooklyn, New York, Judith Love Cohen was a pioneer for female space engineers as well as a successful author and publisher.

Growing up, Cohen always excelled in math and science. She was so talented that by the fifth grade her classmates were paying her to do their homework. By high school, her school guidance counselor became nervous that Cohen might not choose to work in her uncle's dress shop as the other women in her family did. As an adult, Cohen once recounted the time a teacher told her that "I think you ought to go to a nice finishing school and learn to be a lady." But Judith Cohen did not want to go to finishing school, she did not want to "be a lady," and she did not want to work in her uncle's dress shop.

Rather, Judith Cohen went on to study math, science, and engi-

neering at Brooklyn College and the University of Southern California. During this time she was the only female in all of her classes. "It was really difficult psychologically and emotionally to be better than all the boys in math and science," Cohen once said

Judith Cohen did not want to go to finishing school, she did not want to "be a lady," and she did not want to work in her uncle's dress shop.

about the experience. Nevertheless she persisted and went on to become a head engineer for NASA and worked on the technology for the Minuteman missile, the Hubble Space Telescope, the Tracking and Data Relay Satellite, and the Apollo Space Program.

Of all her accomplishments, the greatest was the work she did for the Apollo 13 mission. During the 1970 mission, the crew lost power in the aircraft causing their oxygen supply

to burst. Using the Abort-Guidance System that Cohen pioneered, the crew was able to safely navigate back to Earth.

After her retirement

in 1990, Cohen went on to write and publish over 20 books including the "You

Can Be" series and A Clean Planet: The Solar Power Story to promote and encourage female scientists. Cohen has said that her main motivation for writing the books was because she believed she would have benefited from similar literature as a child, and she commented on this, saying, "[it] really would have helped encourage my feeling good about myself, that this was the direction I wanted to go. I didn't see role models. I didn't get encourage-



ment other than at home."

Until her death in 2016, Cohen continued to educate young females. She is the mother of actor Jack Black.

INVENTION OF THE MONTH: THE FIRST EVER COVID-19 PILL

BY LEIA RUBINSTEIN,
SCI-TECH EDITOR

As of Monday October 11th, Merck and Ridgeback Biotherapeutics have sought US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) emergency use authorization for their newly developed treatment for COVID-19. Known as Molnupiravir, this is the first oral antiviral treatment for coronavirus. This drug can be a major step in bringing an end to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This drug is intended to treat infected adults at risk of progressing to severe COVID-19, such as anyone over 60, or younger adults with obesity, diabetes, or heart disease. Their trial determined that Molnupiravir reduced the

risk of hospitalization or death from COVID-19 by half. Specifically, 7.3% of patients who received the drug were reported as hospitalized or dead in comparison with the 14.1% in the placebo group.

Experts expect to produce 10 million courses of treatment by the end of 2021. Thus far, 1.7

A drug that can limit the number of hospitalizations and deaths from COVID-19 is extremely encouraging and can finally be the light at the end of a very long tunnel.

million treatment courses have been sold to the U.S. government, and they are working on making the drug globally affordable, especially for lower-income countries.

Previously, the only treatment available for COVID-19 has been monoclonal antibodies that were administered intravenously in hospitals or clinics to severely ill patients. Molnupiravir is a milestone which signals the end of COVID-19 because it is convenient, relatively affordable and can reach many more high risk people. The drug is taken at home as four capsules twice a day for five days. Thus, the risk of infecting other healthcare staff or patients is avoided. Also, at \$700 for a full treatment course, it costs a third as much as the monoclonal antibody treatment.

Dr. Anthony Fauci says this drug is "very encouraging" but warns that it needs to be closely examined by the FDA. The drug works by stopping coronavirus from replicating by inserting errors into the genetic code. Women who are pregnant are discouraged from taking this drug for fear of possible birth defects.

As we are soon entering the third



year of the COVID-19 pandemic, a treatment for the virus is long due. A drug that can limit the number of hospitalizations and deaths from COVID-19 is extremely encouraging and can finally be the light at the end of a very long tunnel.

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STUDENT RESEARCH: ESTHER MILLER

BY GITTY BOSHNACK,
SCI-TECH EDITOR

Gitty Boshnack (GB): Hi Esther, thank you for taking the time to meet with me. Let's start by getting to know you a bit.

Esther Miller (EM): Hi Gitty, thank you for giving me this opportunity. My name is Esther Miller, and I am currently a junior and in my second year on campus. I am majoring in biochemistry and hope to pursue a career in the medical field.

GB: How did you get involved in this research?

EM: I had reached out to Dr. Anya Alayev earlier in the spring semester, asking her for a research position in her lab for the following fall semester. At that point, she did not have an answer for me but did offer me a position in her lab that summer. I had some days available in my summer plans, so I immediately jumped on this opportunity.

GB: What did you hope to gain from this research experience?

EM: I had never worked in a research lab before, so I was hoping to get a feel for it. I wanted to know more about the research process and also be able to contribute to worldwide scientific research. I wanted to learn new things outside of a classroom setting and get more hands-on experience.

GB: What did you study in the lab, and whom did you study under?

EM: I studied under Dr. Anya Alayev

and Dr. David Musheyev. I looked at triple-negative breast cancer cells and saw whether or not there was cell proliferation when they were treated with different medications.

GB: What does Dr. Alayev hope to achieve with this research?

EM: Dr. Alayev hopes to make progress in treatment for triple-negative breast cancer.

Triple-negative breast cancer is unique because it lacks certain receptors that are targets for treatments, making it a little more tricky to treat.

GB: Did you or the lab encounter any obstacles in the research?

EM: When performing any experiment, repetition is important to ensure that no errors are being made and that the results are consistent.

I wanted to ... be able to contribute to worldwide scientific research [and] learn new things outside of a classroom setting

We had to do the same exact experiment multiple times

in our lab since our results were inconsistent. At some points, it felt a little frustrating since the experiment took over a week to complete, but every time we redid it, we learned something new and another trick to make it more accurate.

GB: What was something that interested you from your research

experience?

EM: I had never worked in a research lab before, so getting to use all of the different types of equipment and apparatus was very interesting.

GB: What are some skills that you developed?

EM: I learned how to count cells and split them so we would be able to perform different experiments on them and have enough of them.

GB: Do you have any advice for students who are trying to get lab positions?

EM: Something that I struggled with was that I was too late for the game. Never think that it is too early to start asking professors to work in their lab. Spots are limited and fill up quickly, so if you hope to work in a lab, get working and ask everyone you can.

GB: This was so interesting! I learned so much about your productive summer. Thank you so much for sharing.

ISRAEL'S FIRST CRANIAL CONJOINED TWIN SEPERATION

BY NAOMI FRIED

For the first time in Israel, Siamese twins, connected by the head, were separated successfully on September 5th, 2021. This type of surgery has only been performed about 20 times successfully worldwide. The first successful procedure separating conjoined

twins was performed just 66 years ago, in 1955.

The term "Siamese twins" comes from Eng and Chang Bunker, a set of conjoined twins who were born in Siam. Due to their unique look, they were displayed in traveling exhibitions. Chang and Eng both married and fathered 21 children between them

before dying at the age of 64. Approximately 70% of conjoined twins are female, and females are 3 times more likely to survive. Connected at the head, the rarest form of conjoinment, the Siamese twins in Israel were separated at the age of one after being monitored from before they were born and under constant care of doctors until now.

The full first year of their life was spent preparing for this surgery. Preparation at Soroka Medical Center in Israel included learning what there is to know about performing such a surgery successfully; this is particularly difficult since there are very few experts in the area due to the rare occurrence of cranial conjoined twins.

Additionally, the twins' bodies had to be prepared for the surgery. A lot of monitoring was performed as well as the growth of skin that would be used to cover the open parts of their head once separated. The technique used in-

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CONJOINED TWIN SEPERATION

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cluded placing balloons in the skulls and inflating them to stretch the skin. Innovative technologies needed to perform the surgery were found and prepared for the surgery, and the total cost of everything totaled 7 million NIS. The operating team consisted of more than 50 doctors, surgeons, anesthesiologists, pharmacists, and more.

In a briefing, Dr. Miki Gideon, the head surgeon on this case recognized and thanked many Israeli medical technology companies that helped develop material needed for the surgery. He especially lauded the models of the twin's heads that were very detailed with brain and blood vessels so that they could work on

these models and refer to them. These models were built based on MRI and CT scans. The surgery took more than 12 hours to complete, this is very short compared to other surgeries like this which took up to 27 hours.

Innovative technologies needed to perform the surgery were found and prepared for the surgery, and the total cost of everything totaled 7 million NIS.

Another technology used was the virtual reality (VR) simulation of the

heads. With the help of remote controls, they were able to navigate on the screen. Extended reality (XR) medical visualization platform for surgical training, was used. Its 360° VR models allowed the surgeons to see all the blood vessel's locations that would otherwise have been unknown. Although the major blood vessels could have been mapped

out without this technology, the smaller yet critical vessels would have been missed, increasing the risk factor for the surgery greatly.

Dr. Miki Gideon stated that the surgery was not just successful; it was perfect.

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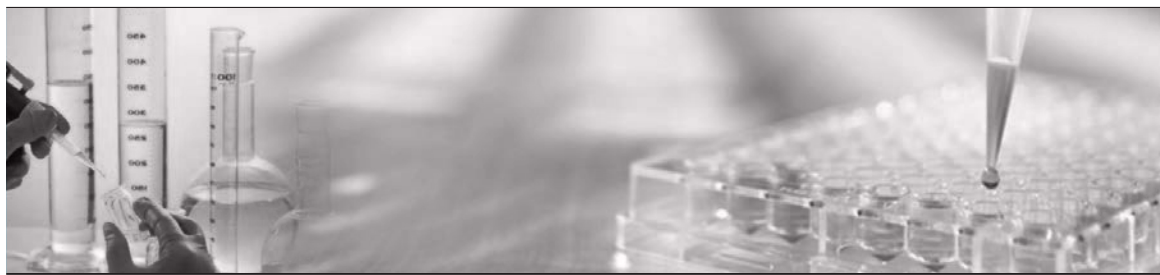
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THE DEVELOPING WORLD OF IL-2 CANCER TREATMENT

BY YONA BERZON

With a recent \$50 million Series A funding round, biotech company Tentarix is working to develop antibody-based oncology and autoimmune disease treatments. Tentarix is one of many biotech companies focusing on the development of IL-2 treatments.

IL-2 treatments are cytokine immunotherapy treatments that harness Interleukin-2, a cytokine with pleiotropic effects on the cellular immune system; they are the first effective immunotherapy for human renal and metastatic cancers. With the relatively recent discovery of cytokines as a treatment, there's been a great focus on the development in the IL-2 arena, bringing it to the forefront of the science-technology landscape.

Cytokines are proteins involved in controlling blood cells and the cellular immune system, binding to cell receptors for regulating cell development, survival, and functions. Cytokines are key to the newest forms of cancer treatments

as part of their mechanism of action includes anti-cancer activities via chemical signaling to initiate abnormal cell death and increasing the life span of normal cells. IL-2, a subset of the cytokines, specifically interacts with white blood cells to encourage more rapid cell growth and division in the immune system.

... in usage as a monotherapy, IL-2 is successful in tumor regression, but causes adverse effects when administered in high dosages

Scientists observed the effectiveness of IL-2 treatments in combination with other cancer therapies in the treatment of metastatic cancer, or cancer that has spread throughout the body. With its effects on the immune system discovered in 1976, and FDA approval received in 1992 and 1996, IL-2 is an early candidate in the development of immunology treatments for cancer. IL-2 treatments have

also been studied as monotherapies (which means looking at their effectiveness as stand-alone treatments) when given in more aggressive dosages than when used in combination with other therapies. Such usage has proved not to be favorable in cancer patients' survival rates as compared to combining IL-2 treatments with other immunotherapies

such as combining IL-2 treatments with monoclonal antibodies.

Conclusively, the future of

cytokine and interleukin research is being directed toward understanding its usage as a stand-alone treatment versus in combination with other treatment options to find the most successful version for patient survival. It is widely understood that in usage as a monotherapy, IL-2 is successful in tumor regression, but causes adverse effects when administered in high dosages.

Future research will focus on better understanding immune responses to IL-2 therapies improving efficacy, reducing toxicity, mutants, half-life improvement, and identifying biomarkers.

*** **

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BUSINESS

BUSINESS BASICS: MARKETING

BY AMALAYA TEITELBAUM,
BUSINESS EDITOR & MANAGER

If there is one thing these past few generations can agree on it is the importance of social media. Good or bad, one must admit that social media enables the fastest spread of information the news world has ever seen. Whether you're active on social media, have only downloaded the apps, or know people who do, it takes mere minutes for news to be spread. That is, however, if social media members deem it worthy enough to spread it, which is precisely why marketing and marketing strategies are essential.

Marketing is the act of driving profitable consumer action. It spans the full scope of strategies and tactics organizations use to position products and services in the marketplace and motivate target audiences to make a purchase. Marketing has a very crucial role when it comes to product success and company revenue. The process begins when a company has a product idea. They then conduct a marketplace analysis to test if the released product would be successful. Finally, the product is released and that's where marketing comes into play.

When it comes to advertising, which is the most common way to market something, it is important to remember the Four P's of marketing - product, price, place, and promotion of a good or service. Affected by internal and external factors, these concepts have a significant impact on marketing success and fre-

*...it is important to remember the Four P's of marketing - **product, price, place, and promotion...***

quently interact with each other. The Four P's inform a company of their consumers' needs or wants and potential product success or failure. Product analysis deals with variations, packaging, and services. Price analysis deals with the market rate per unit of a product, discounts, and possible payment options. Place analysis with optimal product distribution location. Promotion has to do with online and offline communication with consumers, promotion location, and the business message.

The Four P's lead to the proper



identification of the correct strategy to build your business. Known as the marketing plan, these factors combine to create the company's overall marketing strategy. The plan identifies the target market audience and identifies the business's value proposition; the overall promise of value to be delivered to the customer. The value proposition should state how a product or brand solves the customer's problem, the product benefits, and why the customer should buy from this company and not another. The marketing plan is based on the value proposition to the customer.

It is important for a business's market plan and strategy to be flexible, as market metrics and consumers'

wants or needs could change in a heartbeat. CEOs must be able to adjust the company budget at a moment's notice and must have the technology and sufficient resources to see marketing results as fast as possible. Constantly monitoring and adjusting a market plan is an essential part of running a business as it shows the most efficient way to generate sales. Without a successful marketing plan, a business may not be able to continue operating for very long.

COMPANY DEEP DIVE: SPACE X

BY ELI LEVI
BUSINESS EDITOR

While not as well known as Tesla, SpaceX is another one of Elon Musk's companies. Similar to other billionaires who have dabbled in space, SpaceX was created in 2002 to fulfill Musk's lifelong dream of creating a colony on Mars.

Elon Musk had previously started two separate companies, both of which he was ousted from, which eventually merged into what is now PayPal. Using the equity money he made from PayPal, Elon Musk gained the ability to fund SpaceX with no outside investors, leaving no chance for him to be booted from SpaceX.

There are three stages



involved in launching the SpaceX rockets. The first stage is the main engine, the

Merlin 1, that will launch the rocket into orbit. The

second stage is the kestrel engine that is used in space. The third and final stage is either the payload which would include whatever SpaceX was sending up or a capsule with humans.

Gwynne Shotwell, who is now the current presi-

*Similar to the United Parcel Service ...SpaceX would be for your **space-shipping needs***

dent and Chief Operating Officer (COO) of SpaceX, started as a saleswoman at SpaceX. By grabbing the attention of the U.S. government, Shotwell could be the main contributor to SpaceX eventually

Earth SpaceX would be for your space-shipping needs.

SpaceX secured the U.S. Department of Defense as their first client. When they launched their first rocket, the Falcon 1, in March 2006 the rocket blew up alongside the Department of Defense's payload. SpaceX then launched their second rocket a year later and while the first stage went well it also blew up. The

third try for the Falcon 1 rocket a year later on August 2, 2008, also blew up. But Elon Musk was not deterred.

When Musk started SpaceX he claimed he had enough money to fund the creation of three or four rockets, but in 2008 he had put all of his remaining money into Tesla. In the end, Musk was forced to take on an outside investment from Peter Thiel and his Founders Fund. Thiel invested \$20 million in SpaceX for a fourth launch. By September

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28, 2008, the only government that trusted SpaceX was the Malaysian government. And even they only gave them a dummy satellite to launch. The launch was successful. Elon Musk is quoted in his speech after the successful launch as saying "... as the saying goes fourth time's the charm." After that SpaceX launched the actual satellite payload successfully.

Following SpaceX's success, they moved on to phase two, the Falcon 9 rocket, which was

composed of nine Falcon 1 rockets. SpaceX then received a twelve mission contract from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to resupply the International Space Station (ISS). This was a complete change in the way NASA had run its missions. SpaceX was ideally suited to make these missions so much cheaper for NASA because SpaceX was vertically integrated. This means that all of the components for SpaceX's rockets were built in-house as opposed to the previous norm of outsourcing everything. If NASA had gone about making the rocket the way it had in the past, it

would have cost \$4 billion versus \$850 million with SpaceX. After a couple of test flights of the Falcon 9 rocket, SpaceX completed the first of their twelve missions, successfully resupplying the ISS on May 22, 2012. In 2015 SpaceX landed the first rocket ever successfully, on their fourth attempt. The way SpaceX lands their rockets is by a hover slam. Using extremely precise sensors and calculations, right before the rocket is about to hit the ground they fire the engines just to the point that it brings the rocket to 0 mph, and then the rocket touches down.

SpaceX has another rocket now called the Falcon Heavy which has three Falcon 9 engines or 27 Falcon 1 engines. There is also a website that allows you to book space on one of the rockets allowing for price transparency in a market that has never had that. In a perfect world, I think this is a great investment opportunity, but sadly SpaceX is a private company.

3 STOCK HIGHLIGHT: OCTOBER 2021 EDITION

BY JAKE SHECKTER,
BUSINESS EDITOR

Each month's edition of the YU Observer this year will include a "3-Stock Highlight" on a few stocks that have been in the news lately, have interesting stories, or provide for an interesting read. On behalf of the YU Observer, we'd like to remind everyone that these stock picks are for educational purposes only and are not to be taken as financial advice or used for investing any real cash. This month, we will be highlighting Airbnb Inc. (ABNB), PayPal Holdings Inc. (PYPL), and Netflix Inc. (NFLX).

Airbnb Inc. (ABNB)

Whether you've personally used what some are calling the "internet hub for the bed-and-breakfast industry", or simply heard it used as a household name by anyone and everyone, Airbnb's Nasdaq debut in December 2020 caused ripples (or even waves) throughout the bed-and-breakfast (BnB) industry and beyond. Although they are a new player to the stock market scene, to date, Airbnb has already reached a \$100 billion market capitalization, with over \$4 billion in revenues, and has been revolutionizing the BnB space. While there are those who begin to worry about the potential for growth with such a high market cap, \$4 billion is only a fraction of the BnB titan's capability. With reports stating that the stays for short-term vacations approaches a

nearly \$1.8 trillion worldwide market, combine that with long-term stays (of over 30 days) adding another \$210 billion and you get a beautiful \$2 trillion dollar addressable market.

After its initial public offering (IPO) of \$68 per share, ABNB stock soared roughly 223% to an all-time high of \$219.94 this past February. Barron's recently announced that equity research analysts at Cowen increased their price target on Airbnb shares from 160 to 220 (a 38% bump). With

*This month, we will be highlighting **Airbnb Inc. (ABNB), PayPal Holdings Inc. (PYPL), and Netflix Inc. (NFLX).***

COVID-19 travel restrictions beginning to display more flexibility worldwide as an increase in vaccinations slows the spread of the virus, Airbnb's shares (and stock price) have been flying lately. Health concerns and issues with the hotel industry's concentration of guests within buildings drove millions of customers to the BnB platform throughout the pandemic. With positive earnings reports and the relaxation of travel restrictions, Airbnb stock showed off an impressive gain of 9.5% in the third quarter of this year, with the travel play already making October an admirable month for the company.

PayPal Holdings Inc. (PYPL)

If you haven't used PayPal at some point yet, you either have an issue

with using/access to basic technology, or just happen to have an excessive amount of cash on-hand. PayPal Holdings, Inc. (PYPL) has had one of the best years

in its



The company also added new mobile app features such as allowing users to buy now and pay later, cash checks, receive direct deposits, and pay bills with PayPal and Venmo. And for those itching to get in on the cryptocurrency market, PayPal users can now buy, sell, and hold cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin within the mobile app. This not only provides a source of exposure to the benefits of crypto trading but the rise in Bitcoin's value (as of late) also boosts PayPal's stock in a general sense. For a world that gets more integrated into the fintech sector every day, PayPal may prove to be a crucial player for years to come.

Netflix Inc. (NFLX)

Arguably the largest use of screen time throughout the pandemic for many of us (yes, even with Zoom classes accounted for, you know who you are), Netflix continues to

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dazzle investors and customers with their stock, service offerings, and exclusive content. Shares of our favorite movie/TV streaming service have soared nearly 69% throughout the pandemic, from roughly \$370 pre-pandemic to \$625 today. Currently, Wall Street is expecting to see new subscriptions accelerate to 3.7 million for the third quarter, compared to 2.2 million subscribers in the same quarter last year and the mere 1.5 million subscribers added in the second quarter of this year. To put things in perspective, Netflix added a record 25.9 million new users

in the first half of 2020 as lockdowns across the world pushed all of us to spend exponentially more time on our screens and devices. This just goes to show the dramatic slowing of Netflix's subscription rates due to the ease of lockdown restrictions.

Now, Netflix is relying less on the novelty (or lack thereof) of increased screen time and is establishing new hit content to drive growth in the third and fourth quarters of this year. With the recent release and consequent fame of Netflix's "Squid

Game", Bloomberg reported that the series would be worth close to \$900 million to the streaming powerhouse, which is especially impressive when we think about the \$21.4 million it cost to produce. A reported Netflix record of 132 million people have watched the show in its first 23 days after release (breaking the previous viewership record held by "Bridgerton"). Additionally, with Squid Game being released well-into the third quarter of this year, Netflix is counting on this driving force to provide a sustainable boost throughout the fourth quarter and

into the beginning of 2022, not to mention the other numerous content packages Netflix holds in their pocket currently.

If you would like to learn more about the stock market and its components, you may want to look into the Yeshiva University Stock Exchange (YUSE) Club. Learn more about the YUSE at Yusegroup.weebly.com.



HOLIDAY SHOPPING AND THE GLOBAL SHOPPING CRISIS

BY BENJAMIN
GENAUER

As the secular holiday season approaches, more and more people flock to stores and malls to buy gifts for their loved ones. As this hunt begins, consumers will find that they are being met with unusual circumstances that limit their abilities to purchase what they desire. These circumstances include a global shipping crisis which, in turn, leads to supply shortages; causing difficulties for both importers and exporters trying to bring in products.

These circumstances are multifaceted and there are countless factors that led to this outcome. That being said, I would like to look into the most pressing of factors. One major factor that led to this point is, of course, the global pandemic. As the world fell to a standstill, so did most industries, including maritime shipping companies. To deal with decreased demand for their vessels, many companies made the decision to scrap their ships instead of paying for docking and maintenance. The

consequences of this decision became clear when consumer demand for products raged back to its pre-pandemic self and more so. This led to there being a shortage of ships to accommodate the increasing demand. Since the demand is high and

...consumer demand for products
raged back to its pre-pandemic self

the supply is low, basic economics tells us that the price for the shipping should be high, and that's exactly the case.

Currently, the cost to ship a container from the port of Ningbo-Zhoushan to the port of Los Angeles (both of which are some of the busiest ports in the world) costs around \$8,000 compared to around \$2,000 before the pandemic. This totals to a shocking 300% increase! One might not think that freight costs are relevant, but these costs will undoubtedly make their way into the prices of everyday products (including those holiday gifts mentioned before). This, coupled

with the fact that the Los Angeles port is struggling to accommodate the new surge of ships heading for its shores, has led to serious delays in shipping and supply (this congestion is the more potent cause of supply and demand discrepancies). For both stores and consumers,

this means increased prices and trouble keeping products on the floor. As dire as this may seem, there is resolution in sight.

President Biden has introduced a plan to keep the port of Los Angeles (LA) open 24/7 to alleviate the heavy congestion. Moreover, land-based shipping companies have promised to get containers out of the port at a quicker rate. Although these changes will ease bottle necks, a main issue affecting these ports are lack of employees to operate them efficiently. With there being a lack of human capital and a much higher volume of containers coming into the ports, there simply aren't enough employees to handle the increased

volume. Lastly, it is important to note that this congestion is not unique to the LA port but rather a serious condition at ports around the globe.

All in all, there will be significant price changes to consumer products around the world, leaving many in difficult situations, and not just for the holiday season. Especially as inflation rises and the federal minimum wage stagnates, gifts for the holidays may be out of reach for some members of the working class.

INVESTING TERMINOLOGY: VOLATILITY, DELTA, AND OPTIONS

BY ELI LEVI,
BUSINESS EDITOR

When investing, it is helpful to know some of the terminology associated with various financial services. Derivatives, options, delta, and volatility are all some examples of these different terms.

A derivative is a complex type of financial security. Some examples of derivatives include options, forwards, swaps, or futures. Options are exactly as the name implies: an option to exercise a specific action. The option gives you the right to buy or sell shares of stock. A “call” option gives the owner the right to buy a stock at a specific price in the future. The owner of a “put” option buys the right to sell a stock at a specific price in the future. Options are used as a way to hedge the upside or downside of a stock. If I own stock but I want to hedge my potential downside, I would buy a put option. For example, if I bought a stock at \$100 and I wanted to protect my downside, I would buy a put option at \$98 giving me the right to sell the \$100 security at \$98, regardless of whether the stock price drops below \$98. This brings my total possible downside or risk to only \$2 as opposed to the full \$100 (if the actual stock dropped to \$0).

Generally speaking, the movement of any given stock affects the price of the different options associated with that stock. This is called the delta. As the underlying security (stock) changes in value, so does the price of the options attached to that security. When a stock's

price changes it is called volatility. Volatility refers to the amount of movement to either the upside or the downside of stocks. The more movement the higher the volatility; the less movement the lower the volatility.

Another important term is futures or futures market. A future is another traded asset that trades based on the perceived future value of something. The futures market is in many ways similar to the stock market, but trades differently. For example, if someone is trading wheat futures and frost destroys several silos of wheat, the price of wheat futures would increase. If supply decreases then price increases. There are futures markets for most commodities and even some indices.

One commodity whose futures market is illegal is the onion futures market.

Speaking the language of the markets is the first step in understanding them.

The United States banned the onion futures market because in 1955 Vincent Kosuga and Sam Siegel cornered the onion market, shorted it, and dumped their onion shares on the market making millions in the process. Vincent and Sam bought enough shares of the onion market to allow them to manipulate the price of onion shares, otherwise known as cornering the market. Once Vincent and Sam cornered the onion market they turned heavily short, in



other words, they bet against the onion market (and that the onion market and its assets will decrease in value). The regular way a stock is shorted is by borrowing a share of the stock and selling it immediately. If the stock loses value, the bet succeeds; the stock is bought back at the lower price and the cheaper stock is returned to the person that it was borrowed from. Vincent and Sam used different methods to short the onion futures market but the idea holds. After the duo shorted the onion market they dumped all of their onion shares on the market creating an abundance of shares causing the price to drop significantly. This played right into Vincent and Sam's plan because, again, they had bet against the onion market. On August 28, 1958, the onion futures market was outlawed due to this incident.

Speaking the language of the markets is the first step in understanding them and is a step in the direction of being able to use them to our benefit.

SY SYMS ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: SHIRA LEFF KREITMAN

BY AMALYA TEITELBAUM,
BUSINESS EDITOR & MANAGER,
on behalf of the *YU Observer*

The YU Observer aims to not only share aspects of student life, but also to keep up with the activities of alumni in order to better connect current and past students. This month, the YU Observer interviewed Shira Leff Kreitman. Shira Leff Kreitman is a Sy Syms School of Business (SSSB) Graduate of 2015. She was a double major in Business Intelligence, Marketing Analytics (BIMA), and Marketing.

What made you decide to be in SSSB?

I was interested in studying some-

thing that would enable me to work right out of college, and I was interested in technology, data, and management, so BIMA was an obvious choice. I was in the first graduating class of the BIMA major!

What was your favorite part of SSSB?

The classes having to do with data and its applications to business (e.g. SQL and Business Intelligence and Consumer Insight where I learned the basics of decision making using data (such as KNN and clustering) and how businesses make cheaper, more efficient, more strategic, and more profitable decisions

based on the data of user behavior.

Out of all your classes in SSSB, which do you believe impacted you the most?

Various classes impacted me but 1 stands out in my mind: The History of Financial Crises, by Dr. Hayim Levy, who is a professor of Economics at Ben Gurion University. I love history and the liberal arts and the class was a fascinating survey of the main financial crises of the last century. Combining the practical knowledge I was learning (e.g. finance, accounting, management) with my innate love of history was a



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truly enjoyable experience. I wish I can take that class again now as I would appreciate it even more.

As a postscript, Dr. Levy was at YU for that one semester (I believe it was Spring 2013) as a visiting professor from Ben Gurion University, in Be'er Sheva, Israel. I had before then never heard of this university, despite it being one of the largest academic institutions in Israel, and though I had spent a year in Israel, I had never been in Be'er Sheva and thought of it as a backwater with camels roaming around.

Fast-forward a few years and ironically I now actually live in Be'er Sheva (after having made aliyah) and took classes at Ben Gurion University. I've always thought that subconsciously I felt less inhibited and "scared" of Ben Gurion University and Beer Sheva because I was introduced to it years before through Dr. Levy.

As another postscript, Dr. Levy later published a book on the history of financial crises and he thanked my class for helping him develop his book. He even mentioned all of us by name in the credits!

How did SSSB prepare you for your career?

BIMA was constructed to be a major at the intersection of business and technology (data) and from the time I graduated until today, I have worked at exactly the

intersection of those fields.

What do you do for a living?

I work as a conversion optimization (CRO) manager for a financial hi-tech company in Israel.

What was the biggest transitional challenge you faced going from university to your career?

I was so lonely and felt so socially isolated after having been in the incredibly motivated, fast-paced, and smart environment of YU. I miss the environment to this day.

How can one overcome the said challenge?

Mourn the loss of the environment you had - it's a loss and moving on from it

BIMA was constructed to be a major at the intersection of business and technology (data) and from the time I graduated until today, I have worked at exactly the intersection of those fields.

requires grieving. Give yourself space for that and embrace the grief, realize that many, if not most go through this after leaving the sheltered college environment (especially one like YU!). At the same time, be open to new relationships. If you are lucky to be in a healthy workplace environment, get to know your coworkers.

The social aspect of your professional life can, to some degree, fill the social void of no longer being in the college environment. Be open to close relationships with coworkers dissimilar to you in profession and personality. Your social and intellectual life will be enlarged and enriched and these people may become your new very close confidantes, especially if they aren't in your exact field or role - because then the issue of workplace politics doesn't impact your relationship as much.

If you could give one piece of advice to current SSSB students what would you say?

Go into a profession that jives with your natural skill set and talents. Don't go into a career that you don't enjoy (even if you are able to do it well) just because

it is more prestigious, earns more

money, or for other external

reasons. The people I see who

are happiest in their careers and

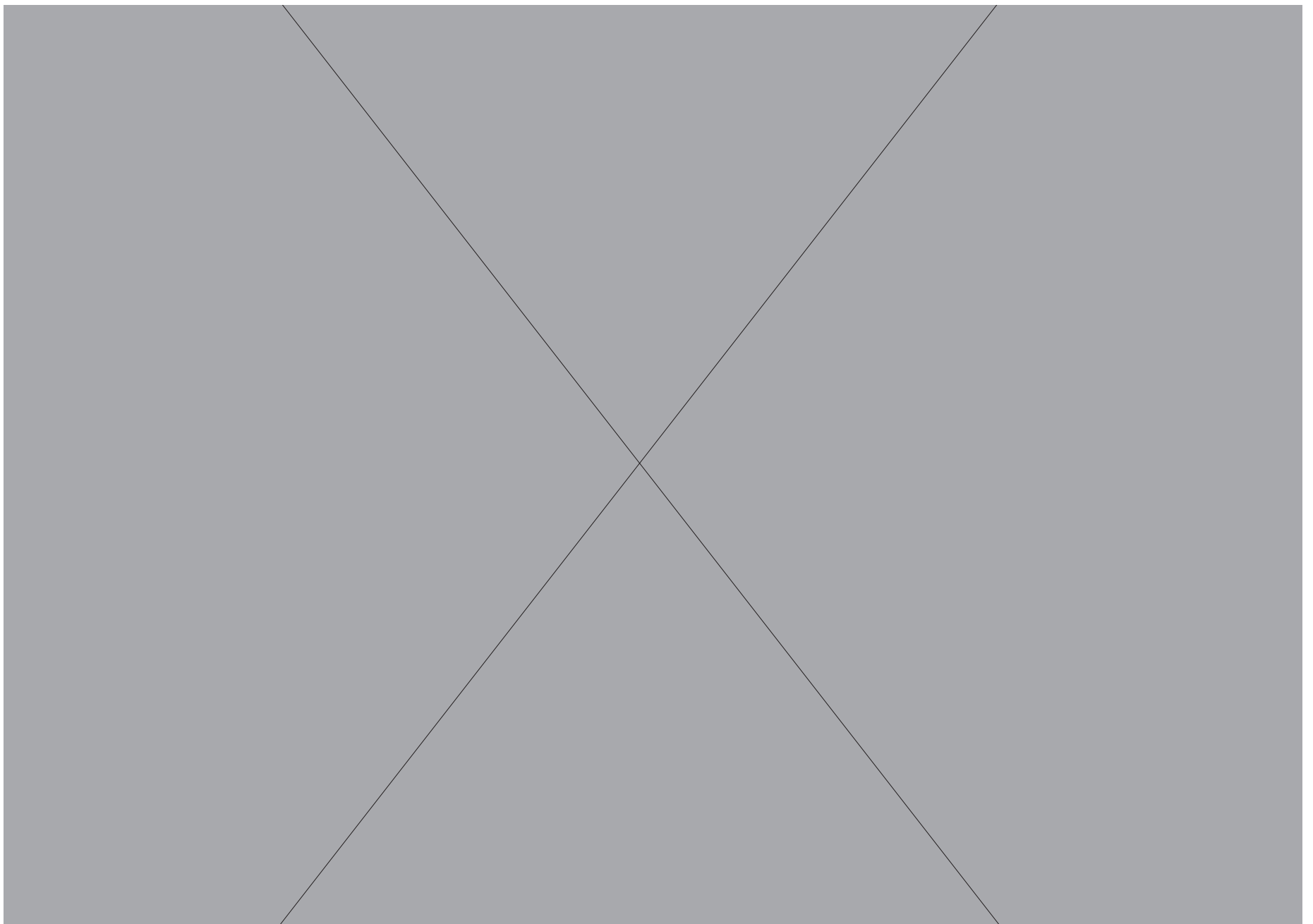
who end up accomplishing are

those who went into their careers

because they felt a natural affinity

for it.

If you are a Sy Syms alumni or know someone who is, please fill out this form for the opportunity to be featured in our next edition.





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