

New Kollel opens studies

The Pittsburgh Kollel Bais Yitzchok, the new institute for advanced Torah and Judaic Studies in the Greater Pittsburgh area, opened and began its study sessions on Tuesday, Feb. 7—heralding the first day of Adar I, the traditional Jewish month of Joy.

"After a long and arduous period of preparation, this historic undertaking has now come into being," said Rabbi Shaul Kagan, Rosh Kollel (a dean of the Kollel).

In announcing the opening, the Deans, Rabbi Kagan and Rabbi Avraham Pessin, paid tribute to the rabbinic and lay leaders, as well as the community at large, for their support and encouragement.

Currently, the institute has seven young scholars in residence, mostly drawn from the Beth Medrash Govoha of Lakewood, N.J. They will devote themselves to pursuing higher research in Torah and Talmudic studies.

They will also offer classes on various levels so that everyone in the community may benefit. These plans will be announced as they are developed.

The Institute is housed in the new and modern annex of Congregation Shaaray Tefillah at 5741 Bartlett St. in Squirrel Hill. In a message to the Kollel, Isadore Zweig, president of Shaaray

Tefillah and a benefactor of the Kollel, noted:

"We of Shaaray Tefillah are privileged to have our facilities put to use as a center for Torah learning. We consider part of the reason for our continued operation as a synagogue in Squirrel Hill to utilize our physical plant as a learning center for the Kollel. We believe in these efforts to expand the study of Torah on an adult level which we will continue to support, and we hope for the success of the magnificent venture in Torah education."

In acknowledging Mr.

Center lifters win medals

Three members of the Jewish Center's Oakland weightlifting room won honors at the Beaver Valley Open Weightlifting Meet held recently at Ambridge.

Myron Roth won a first place medal in the 123lb class with a total lift of 112½ kilos. Jim Fairman took third place medal in the 114lb class with a total of 100 kilos.

Bernie McDonough, the Center's weightlifting instructor, broke the United States Masters (45-49 year olds) record with a lift of 267 pounds in the clean & jerk. Bernie now holds all the national records in that class.

Zweig's announcement, Rabbis Pessin and Kagan jointly commended the Congregation for their "genuine and effective support of the new Pittsburgh Kollel, by giving this institution of advanced Torah learning and research, its first home. We express the prayerful hope that the Pittsburgh Kollel will merit the confidence and continued and expanded support of the Jewish community of Pittsburgh."

The Rabbinical Board of Greater Pittsburgh, chaired by Rabbi Bernard A. Poupko, greeted what it termed "a major event in our community" with the following statement: "Pittsburgh is privileged to have joined the ranks of the many metropolitan centers in North America which have established Kolllels.

"As astute students of Talmudic law, these men are the guardians of our heritage that continues to give life and vigor to the community. They form the backdrop for the Jewish community as diligent scholars and teachers of Jewish values, that give meaning to our existence as a people. We welcome them with our warm blessings and assurances of strong and continued support, and share their hopes and aspirations for success and fulfillment."

Plans are being formulated for a community-wide celebration marking

the opening of the Kollel in mid-March.

The offices of Kollel Bais Yitzchok are located at 5706 Bartlett St., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15217. Telephone: 521-9514 or 422-5357.



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