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and paint and repair the building to have classrooms ready for the first students. To raise money for the teachers' salaries, these men donated their time several times a week to run bingo games, coming home after midnight with paper bags filled with dollar bills, their clothes reeking of cigarette smoke. And there was Rabbi Danny Sukenik, "Mr. Bais Yaakov" himself, who would pay the salaries of teachers from his own pocket if there was not enough money in the school's bank account at the end of the month.

These were the founders of the Bais Yaakov of Queens, who had the foresight to entice Rabbi Neuman to accept the position of principal. I know, because I was there at the time. For all of them, I say *yehi zichronom bruchim*.

Rabbi Schaye Schonbrun
Kew Gardens

Dear Editor,

The verse (Leviticus 19:18) says, "Love your neighbor like yourself, I am Hashem."

The question is asked: what connection is there between the beginning of the verse and the end? An answer can be postulated based on the view of the

Piacetzner Rebbe (The Aish Kodesh). He says that morality is a G-d-driven idea. Without G-d, we wouldn't know how to behave with each other (contrast this with the Ramban, who says morality is a natural human tendency). The beauty then is that when we respect our brethren, in fact: "Ani Hashem" is very much in the picture.

I heard a further fascinating insight into the words "love your neighbor like yourself." The key word is "like yourself," to connote someone with equal talents as yourself. After all, what's the challenge of loving someone on a lower or higher level than where you are standing: respect comes easy in those cases as no competition exists. But to love someone who you see as your competitor with equal skills takes mammoth introspection and effort.

In a shiur, Rabbi Mansour, based on the Rambam, gave a key into how not to give credence to any possible arguments in this world between you and your fellow man. The Rambam (Hilchot Deot Chapter 7:7) says that one should be *maavir* on their middot because this world is all *hevel*. With this perspective, one should deem any hurt in this world from another as meaningless. One who is constantly tending to his Olam Haba doesn't have time to waste on these kinds of tidings.

Rabbi Mansour says, the message is that "matters of this world are inconsequential."

David Sacks, a deep Jewish thinker, really puts all of these ideas into perspective. In an interview he said, "G-d is all there is. Everything exists within G-d. And the more we realize we're in a constant interface with Him, the more we can begin to do what we actually need to do in this world."

Steven Genack

Dear Editor,

In these difficult economic times, it is important to patronize your favorite restaurants and honor the employees who make them a success. Now that most of us have received our COVID-19 vaccine, let's all celebrate May 21st National Waiter and Waitress Day.

Let your server(s), cooks, and owners know how much you appreciate the excellent food and service.

Try to tip 20 percent against the total bill including taxes. If it is an odd amount, round up to the next dollar. Why not leave a 25% tip in honor of this day? If you can afford to eat out, you can afford an extra dollar tip. When ordering take out, don't forget to leave a dollar or two for the waiter or cook.

The people who work at your favorite restaurant are our neighbors. They work long hours for little pay and count on tips, which make up a significant portion of their income. If we don't patronize our local restaurants, they don't eat either. Your purchases keep our neighbors employed and the local economy growing.

Drop off a box of candy, cookies, or some other treat for your favorite waiter or restaurant staff to celebrate this day.

Sincerely,
Larry Penner

Dear Editor,

I found Larry Penner's letter concerning aid to Ukraine to be extremely off-putting. Penner criticizes the recent Nancy Pelosi-led mission to the war-torn country in snide terms. He asks why other NATO countries were not asked to shoulder part of the aid expense, frets at the impact the expenditure will have on

our budget, and prefers that the money be spent instead to secure our southern border (Letters, May 12).

Has Penner so quickly forgotten our history, how during the Holocaust, natives rejected helping Jews, whether financially or by allowing them to immigrate to the United States? Does humanitarianism cost money? Absolutely! Must we act to save Ukrainians, regardless of any impact upon our national debt? Of course!

Fortunately, despite the penury of dollar-pinchers such as Larry Penner, the House of Representatives passed the \$40 billion package with bipartisan support, and the bill will, G-d willing, soon pass the Senate and earn President Biden's signature.

Avi Goldstein
Far Rockaway, NY

Dear Editor,

I commend your newspaper, and Rabbi Doniel Drandoff, for addressing the important topic of eating disorders with sensitivity and thoughtfulness. My heart, though, truly goes out to Eliana, who is clearly in pain, knows that she needs help, and is looking for help, as evidenced by the letter she wrote to you.

I only hope that she gets herself the proper help and finds the strength inside for compassion for herself to pull herself above this painful phase.

Ricki Nadine

Dear Editor,

A lot of times people speak too much and wish that they would speak less and that there was an easy way to talk less and thus have a happier, more peaceful household.

One way to talk less is to cover your mouth with masking tape or duct tape. That can help you talk a lot less and have a more peaceful harmonious household. You can buy Gorilla duct tape if you want extra strong tape or Duck brand tape if you want a lighter brand of duct tape. Both tapes can help you talk less and thus be happier and more productive.

Thank you for printing this letter and thus improving your readers' lives.

Shlomo Klein
Brooklyn, NY

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