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Dear Editor,

Dear Editor,

Rav Orlovsky recently gave a shiur and presented a wonderful chiddush. He probed the question of why we eat dairy on Shavuot. His experiential answer is quite extraordinary. He explains that on this yom tov we become transformed through the Torah so that we have the ability to infuse kedusha into everything. Dairy foods on their own have no inherent kedusha, but that's just the point. Our kedusha on this yom tov has the power to transform anything mundane into something holy.

Steven Genack

Dear Editor,

I usually do not have the time to sit and read much, but one thing I do try to read each week, is your editor's note. I am curious to see what piece of Jewish news took your interest during the week, and what your spin is on it.

I was surprised to see that this week's column on Memorial Day claimed that many of us do not personally know veterans. I believe both of my grandfathers were in the army. I will take this opportunity to write about my paternal grandfather, a"h.

My grandfather was raised in pre-war Germany, came to America, was drafted, and ended up going back to Europe as a soldier in the American army. We didn't really hear much about those days when he was young. But as he got older, we would hear little tidbits here and there.

Much of his history as a soldier was pieced together when my father was sitting shiva for him.

For whatever reason, clearly only *min hashamayim*, very early into their travels from the U.S. to Europe, the general asked my grandfather to make him breakfast one day. The general was so satisfied with my grandfather's culinary talents, that he appointed my grandfather as his personal breakfast chef. This probably saved my grandfather's life, as his "job" freed him from combat duties.

Ironically, you chose to note the Battle of Normandy. My grandfather was there. He personally witnessed the carnage and suffered the loss of friends and people with whom he served. It was not until I was much older that I learned this information. I still shudder whenever I see or hear any reference to that part of history. I can't imagine what he went through. Yet, he still pulled himself together as a frum Yid, picked himself up, dusted himself off, and came back to Washington Heights. He met my grandmother, a survivor of multiple concentration camps, and together they built a home, full of Torah and Yiras Shamayim. Although he passed away a number of years ago at the old age of 97, I will always remember the picture of him in his army uniform sitting proudly among the many family pictures that crowded my grandparents' home.

Yehi zichro baruch.

Miriam R. Rozen

Dear Editor,

I greatly appreciate your editorial last week focusing on the significance of Memorial Day. I spent many years living in Manhattan down the block from

Continued on page 10

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"Matan Torah"
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Readers Poll

Do you eat a dairy meal on Shavuot?

87%
YES

13%
NO