

## AROUND THE FIVE TOWNS

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Matter," was presented by the Russian American Foundation and Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty, in cooperation with RAJE and the Council of Jewish Émigré Community Organizations (COJECO). The legislative breakfast offers a unique networking opportunity for Russian American business owners and community leaders to meet with New York City and state lawmakers. Lyudmila Yakhnina, director of Jewish Educational Project Gesher-COJECO and John Lisyanskiy, assistant legislative council, also received educational leadership awards at the breakfast forum. This event was presented as part of the 8th Annual Russian Heritage Festival, which was founded by the Russian American Foundation and *The Daily News*, in cooperation with Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and the City of New York. ❖

### Top Honors At Rambam Mesivta

Over 40% of students at Rambam Mesivta Maimonides High School stu-



Mr. Ira Schildkraut (at left), Mr. Hillel Goldman (second from right) and Rabbi Yotav Eliach (right) with some of Rambam's AP Scholars.

dents have earned AP scholar awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP exams.

The College Board's advanced placement program provides willing and aca-

demically prepared students with the opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses while still in high school. Students who excel at these exams can earn college credit and receive advanced

placement status upon entering college.

The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on students' performance on AP exams. Rambam Mesivta students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average score of at least 3.5 (on a scale of 1-5) on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. Rambam students qualifying for this distinction were Aaron Akhavan, Jacob Bernstein, David Drory, Jonathan Drory, Gavriel Novick, Jason Sloan, and Joseph Szpigiel.

In addition, 10 Rambam students qualified for the AP scholar with honor award by earning an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. These students are David Abramov, Benjamin Goldman, Gavriel Guterson, Azariah Hacoheh, Steven Herzberg, Daniel Katz, Daniel Klein, Elisha Pearl, David Salman, and Michael Schwab.

Rambam students achieved AP Scholar Award status by completing three or more AP exams with scores of 3 or higher. The AP scholars are Daniel Blickstein, Daniel Feldman, Eric Forkosh, Zach Neuman, Kevin Perlitsh, Asher Roberts, Zachary Sherman, Eric Sprung, and Jared Wiesel.

Principal Yotav Eliach stated: "We are very proud that our students are continuing the tradition of excellence that is the hallmark of Rambam Mesivta." ❖

### Kids Of Courage

On Wednesday, October 20, noted *askan* and political activist R' Yechiel Landau and his family hosted a group of children and volunteers from Kids Of Courage for a *kumzitz* with Menachem Krauss in their home. Kids Of Courage ([www.kidsoc.org](http://www.kidsoc.org)) is a volunteer based non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of children and young adults with serious medical diagnoses.

The children had an amazing time singing with their counselors and friends. Senate Majority Leader John Sampson and his staff stopped by as well to join the fun. ❖



### Israeli Breaks Chess Record At Jewish Agency-Sponsored Event

Israeli chess master Alik Gershon, who immigrated to Israel as a boy from Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine, broke the Guinness world record in simultaneous chess games on October 22 in Tel Aviv. The Jewish Agency for Israel sponsored the event, in tribute to the contribution of immigrants from the former Soviet Union to Israeli society over the last 20 years. Gershon, 30, played against 525 people in 18 hours in Rabin Square, out-seating Iran, which held the world record. Gershon won more than the required 80% of

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