

Connecting the Dots in Medical Mystery Saves Woman's Life

The call came in to Chayim Aruchim's hotline from a distraught son. His 89-year-old mother had been diagnosed with cancer. She was sent to



to think of someone who would be willing to take a risk in the interest of saving the patient's life.

It was Mt. Sinai Hospital to the rescue, as a doctor there

took on the case. Since the original surgeon was slow to send the files, the Mt. Sinai doctor made a personal trip to pick up the records. He looked over the information, consulted with a few colleagues, and told Chayim Aruchim that not only was success a possibility, but the clock was ticking. The patient was not likely to survive more than 48 hours if she wasn't operated on.

The new doctor performed three separate procedures. He inserted a feeding tube, closed the hole that had been left by the previous surgeon, and flushed out all of the accumulation. A few days later, a CAT scan showed that the hole was shrinking and the fluid that was draining through a stent was lightening in color, a sure sign of improvement. Within a few more days, the hole was completely closed. The patient regained consciousness and was weaned off the respirator that she had been on for almost three months. The doctor insisted that the patient be given food in order to speed the healing process. She has since been discharged to a rehabilitation facility, where she has begun physical therapy to help her regain her strength.

The lesson learned here? Never give up and always look at the entire picture to make sure that everything adds up.

"We try our best to always be realistic," says a Chayim Aruchim staff member. "We know that not every situation has a positive outcome, but we have seen over time that when something doesn't sound right, it is important to dig further and find answers, because there is usually a solution. Chayim Aruchim's knowledgeable rabbis understand medical issues, are committed to seeking solutions to keep patients alive, and have good contacts with highly professional committed physicians."

The son was unwilling to concede defeat and neither was Chayim Aruchim. The continuous accumulation of fluids seemed to suggest that a hole hadn't been properly closed up during surgery. The Chayim Aruchim staff couldn't help but wonder if the doctor had made a mistake and if the other physicians they had consulted were covering for him. They tried

out of the picture. He doesn't even live in the United States. He does nothing toward the support of his ex-wife and child.

As a result of her dire financial situation, this single mother could not scrape together rent and had to move back to her childhood home, her mother's home, along with her daughter. She is, however, doing everything she can to give her daughter a *yeshiva* education.

Still, the most she can manage is around \$100 a month.

This woman is putting her entire tax refund toward tuition, and is going without basics in order to give her child basic *Yiddishkeit*. Clearly, this is a deserving family, and one well worth the investment of an Oorah scholarship. The entire office felt refreshed reading that report and resolved to work a little bit harder at the work they do.

But there was just a bit more to Rabbi Beyda's email, because an experience like this always deserves *hakoras hatov*, which, of course, the good rabbi felt keenly at that moment. He ended with, "Thank you for giving me the opportunity to see upfront the *gadlus* of a *Yid!* This is what Oorah is."

He's so right. That's exactly what Oorah is.

Rabbi Beyda, you will be much missed at the Oorah office. We wish you *hatzlachah rabbah* going forward.



Oorah Nachas Files

The Gadlus of a Yid

— BY MRS. VARDA EPSTEIN —

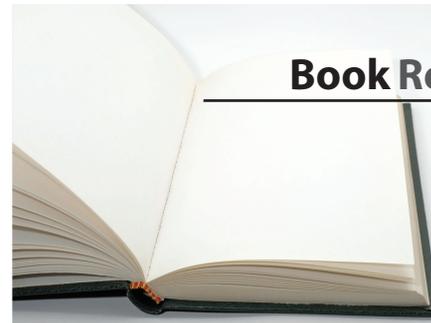
It is not unusual for someone at Oorah to just have to share the details of a moving phone call or email with everyone else at the office. That's what happened to Rabbi Yehuda Beyda, who worked for Oorah until quite recently. He'd just hung up the phone with the mother of a girl who had just been granted an Oorah scholarship for the coming school year.

Rabbi Beyda was moved to circulate an interoffice email: "I just got off the phone with someone whose daughter will, *iy"H*, be getting an Oorah scholarship for next year, and I have goose bumps all over. I wish I would've recorded the conversation, so that you can hear the gratitude and emotion in her voice as she said, 'Thank you! Thank you!' over and over again. She was so overcome with happiness that her daughter will be able to get a Jewish education, she had no words."

This happens all the time at Oorah: The office workers get vicarious pleasure from the work of their colleagues and it's always emotional and holy, because of the nature of the work Oorah does. This was certainly a welcome email that gave *chizuk* to all, but Rabbi Beyda was not quite finished. He explained the home situation of this family.

It seems that the mother he spoke to is a single mom. The ex-husband is completely

Book Review



Helping Businesses Grow Their Bottom Line

The new book, *So, What's The Bottom Line? 76 Proven Marketing Tips & Techniques for Building Your Business and Personal Brand* by Yitzchok Saftlas, offers business fundamentals and proven experience-based tactics for the success-driven individual.

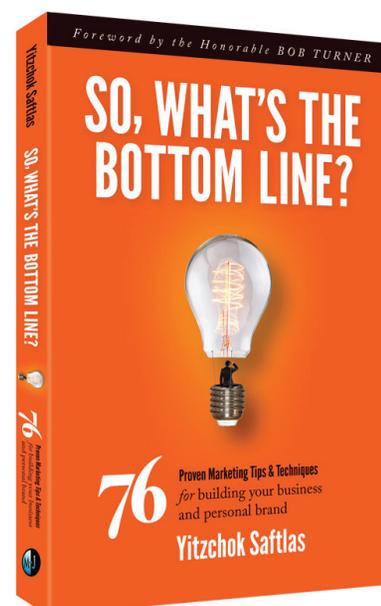
So, What's the Bottom Line? covers a wide array of topics relating to the business world, from marketing initiatives to communication, customer retention to strategic planning, and everything in between. With short, motivational chapters and clear and concise action plans relating to each topic, business professionals will find this new book to be easy to implement on the road to success.

Yitzchok Saftlas is a marketing expert who has worked with all types of people, events, and organiza-

tions. His insights and advice compounded with his down-to-earth writing style and personal anecdotes make for an enjoyable, instructional read for the fast-paced, career-oriented individuals of today.

Perfect for salespeople, marketers, seasoned executives, or entrepreneurs just starting out, *So, What's the Bottom Line?* offers clear direction guaranteed to garner results and lead to success in the field. Experience-based tactics and common-sense ideas point out the obvious yet often overlooked human aspect of business and marketing, and demonstrate how to use human relations to further your business goals.

For any businessperson looking to grow the bottom line and develop an informed, proven, successful approach, Yitzchok Saftlas' new release, *So, What's the Bottom Line?* is a business library essential.



Managing Anxiety Workshop

Dr. Paul Foxman spoke at last week's workshop for therapists, educators, and parents about managing anxiety. Hosted by Rifka Schonfeld of Strategies for Optimum Success (SOS), the workshop provided key information about understanding and managing anxiety in children, teenagers, and adults. Participants learned of new tools for dealing with the very relevant and potentially devastating issue of anxiety. DVDs of the six-hour workshop are available for purchase.

The next workshop in the SOS series will be led by Michelle Garcia Winner on her revolutionary program for chil-

dren and adults called "Social Thinking." Social thinking is what individuals do when interacting with other people: namely, they think about them. Most people take social thinking for granted, as it is generally an intuitive process that considers the points of view, emotions, and intentions of others. The workshop is a great resource for all therapists, educators, and anyone who wishes to communicate more effectively (especially within the *parsha* of *shidduchim*).

Sign up for an early bird discount.

For more information or to register visit www.rifkaschonfeldsos.com or call 718.382.5437