

# Travel

## The Adventures Of Laizer And Aharon

By Aharon Bauman, Laizer Shtundel and Elly Warman

With the summer almost here, it is harder to keep ourselves occupied on those long *Shabbosim*. After *davening*, *Kiddush*, lunch, playing board games, napping, and learning for a couple of hours, many Orthodox Jews ask the same question – what do I do for the next five hours until *Mincha*?

dergo continuous evaluation and assessment in an effort to constantly provide the most effective, unique and relevant programming for teens today.

In addition, Project Extreme recently opened the only *glatt* kosher therapeutic girls school in North America called the Miryam Ghermezian Academy (MGA). MGA is a therapeutic, residential setting where healing begins for girls and their families. It assists girls ages 13 to 17 in overcoming the emotional or behavioral struggles that can keep them from living fulfilling lives and having healthy social and familial relationships.

MGA is founded upon the belief that every girl is unique. Because each child possesses a distinct compilation of experiences, talents, relationships, and struggles, MGA offers a treatment program that is custom-

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**WHERE ARE**  
**Laizer & Aharon?**  
**WWW.PROJECTEXTREME.ORG**



Project Extreme, in conjunction with The Jewish Press, would like to provide entertainment for both you and the kids. A weekly article detailing the adventures of Laizer and Aharon, as they send back report of their travels to The Jewish Press news desk, and raise money for a great cause.

We don't want to spoil the surprise by telling you everything about the voyage of these brave yeshiva boys. But what we can tell you is that the real adventure will involve a 2000 Buick Century, gourmet *glatt* in the Five Towns, a place where the sun doesn't set for three months a year, some polar bears, and perhaps an interview with a mama grizzly.

"The Adventures of Laizer and Aharon" will not just be about entertainment. It is also about raising money for Project Extreme. Project Extreme is a full service non-profit organization providing innovative programming and solutions for teens at risk, their families and communities. Project Extreme uses a combination of experiential and intellectual learning opportunities to provide the social, educational and emotional support that our teens in need require and benefit from.

Project Extreme hosts a broad array of short and longer duration programs designed to assist teens in need and their families in addressing and overcoming the various challenges they are facing by providing them with:

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**Bashaim**  
*Continued from p.16*

I like, but I'm really glad that there's an opportunity like this for the dancer."

As I watched the rest of the program and later looked at the arts exhibit and shopped at the booths, I realized how wise the rebbetzin was. Forty years ago there were no Orthodox synagogues in town, twenty years ago there were only two small ones, and today

**Laizer & Aharon**  
*Continued from p.63*

ized to meet her special needs and help her become more confident, secure, and healthy. By combining the best features of a boarding school, a treatment facility, and a transition program, it is able to provide a safe and nurturing environment for its students, giving them the support and tools necessary to thrive.

So join us on the adventure of a lifetime, as Laizer

and Aharon traverse the rugged terrain of North America. Follow them weekly in The Jewish Press as they reveal all of the information you will need to join in on the adventure. And become a sponsor of an organization that goes the extra mile for our youth.

The adventure starts June 21. To sponsor Laizer and Aharon, go to [www.ProjectExtreme.org](http://www.ProjectExtreme.org). Become an Explorer Sponsor at one penny a mile x 12,000 miles = \$120. Become a Voyager Sponsor at three pennies per mile x 12,000 miles = \$360. Become a Pioneer Sponsor at five pen-

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On Yom Kippur afternoon, Dad would pull out last year's *etrog*, studded with cloves, to revive our flagging spirits with its fragrance.

*Raphael Grunfeld's book "Ner Eyal on Sed-*

**Grunfeld**  
*Continued from p.67*

er and can no longer perform this beautiful *mitzvah*.

**Shafier**  
*Continued from p.68*

With such varied and assorted rationales, it seems there is no shortage of creativity when it comes to hating the Jew. The cause of the hatred doesn't matter. The only thing that really matters is that people truly hate them.

What Rashi is teaching us is that there is no plausible reason for anti-Semitism. It can't be explained because it makes no sense. When you look into every

cause, not only doesn't it answer the question as to why, you quickly find another circumstance where that cause wasn't present, yet the hatred was still there, as powerful and pervasive as ever.

The pattern that emerges is that there is no logical reason for anti-Semitism until you focus on the real cause – that the Jew represents Hashem. We are Hashem's people. When a non-Jew looks at a Jew, he sees Hashem, and that image is not always attractive to him.

This concept carries a huge lesson for us. While we

betzin found a lot of good in that.

Through her simple answer to my question the rebbetzin taught me that judging favorably means more than finding excuses for a person whose behavior is questionable. It can mean stepping back and looking at the big picture. From that perspective, the negative shrinks in importance. This seems obvious, but for me it is a new way of looking at the world. May God help me to see the big picture so that I can judge favorably – with greater ease.

nies per mile x 12,000 miles = \$600. Become a Voyager Sponsor at 10 pennies per mile x 12,000 miles = \$1,200. Become a Lewis and Clark Sponsor at 25 pennies per mile x 12,000 mile = \$3,000.

List of sponsors so far:

**Explorer:** Mr. and Mrs. Bauman; Tzvi Kahan; Yoily Lebovits; Esty Lebovits; Anonymous; Brian Shtundel; Susie Shtundel; Avi Stern; Perele Wigz; Rabbi Chaim Zelikovitz.

**Pioneer:** Glatt Mart.

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*er Moed" (distributed by Mesorah) is available at OU.org and your local Judaica bookstore.*

*Comments to the writer are welcome at [Rafegrunfeld@gmail.com](mailto:Rafegrunfeld@gmail.com).*

may forget our holiness and our destiny, the nations of the world are always there to remind us: we are different, and our role is unlike that of any other nation.

If we recognize and live up to our role, we are exalted, revered and respected. When we fail to recognize our unique destiny and absorb the cultures of the times, we are sent reminder after reminder of our unique place among the nations.

*The new Shmuz book, "Stop Surviving and Start Living," is available in stores, at [www.TheShmuz.com](http://www.TheShmuz.com), or by calling 866-613-TORAH (8672).*

## Shoring Up Israel's Treasure-Rich Coastline

By Karin Kloosterman

No one knows when she lost her head or arm, but the 1,500-year-old sculpture believed to depict the Roman goddess Aphrodite rolled out into the Mediterranean Sea last December, looking as fresh as the day she was made. Her discovery after falling out from an escarpment onto the coast of Ashkelon, a southern Israeli city near the Gaza Strip, highlights Israel's growing need to protect its eroding coastline.

A new government initiative worth \$135 million will turn about 10 miles of stretches of the Israeli coast into a series of reinforcements and public parks to be enjoyed by locals and tourists. Some of the parks will run through archeological sites of interest.

Geological archeologist Dr. Beverly Goodman, from the University of Haifa's Leon Charney School of Marine Sciences, stands to receive some of the much-needed funds for her research on coastal tsunamis and underwater geo-archeological surveying.

She tells Israel21c that coastal protection is a social, cultural, economic and environmental imperative. "The coastal area is extremely important because so many infrastructure facilities lie on the world's coastlines," she says, "whether it's a power station; a cosmopolitan area like Tel Aviv, which includes hotels and tourist sites; and, of course, nature areas. These are all things that rely on the coastline being protected, and kept stable and somewhat reliable."

Goodman explains that the economy of every country is impacted by how its coastline is protected. "The majority of the world's population lives on the coastline, within one kilometer. And daily life is most heavily impacted there. If you look at a nighttime map of the earth, you can make out the conti-

nents by looking at the coastal regions. This shows how dominant the coastline regions are," she says.

Working in and around Caesarea, where she has surveyed underwater archeology remains and geophysical properties of the ancient port city built by the Romans, she hopes at least to record what is underwater and on the beach before more culture is lost through natural erosion processes or damaging winter storms.

"What we are looking at in Caesarea, on the coastal cliffs, is that we have areas where the coastline has changed so much – and we actually have antiquities that are being eroded into the sea."

Last December, a devastating winter storm hit the length of the Israeli coast, exposing archeological remains. The storm temporarily closed down the modern-day Caesarea National Park and caused great damage to the ancient port city.

Goodman had just finished recording details about the seafloor and archeological remains. After the storm, she returned to her underwater lab to find that some 80 percent of what she'd surveyed had been destroyed or washed away.

This makes Goodman very relieved to know that the State of Israel will support this unique cultural heritage site.

"For the short term, we don't know how to protect what's there and we want a record before it's destroyed. That's the purpose of [my] research, from the protection aspect. I am also looking at geo-archeology research questions. Within those coastal features, we are studying the sediment and what happens over time."

Her field of underwater archeology is almost as old

as scuba diving itself, but studying ancient tsunamis – including one that is thought to have devastated Caesarea thousands of years ago – is very cutting edge.

Rather than doing a lot of excavating, she says, "one can go to a site and get a cut section of archeology without having to dig for it. We are also working on the coastline on the beach, sometimes barefoot – and underwater, of course, where we are diving and using excavation equipment."

Besides the geological aspects of her work, the intimate human side of what she sees underwater fascinates Goodman. Personal items she locates underwater can be quite exciting. A 2,000-year-old sandal caught her attention not long ago. Perhaps it was once worn by a fisherman?

"It was something that seemed so real to me," she says about the size 7 men's sandal that is being prepared for display. "It was something so personal and I know the annoying feeling when you lose one sandal," she says. Other ancient items she's unearthed include women's hair combs and earrings.

According to the Israeli government, the new coastal protection fund will allow for a network of public parks along the coastal area from southern Ashkelon to northern Haifa.

The parks will reinforce precipitous slopes that fall off periodically, damaging real estate and even occasionally killing beach-goers who don't heed the warnings to sunbathe away from the dangerous coastal escarpments.

The area began to take shape after King Herod built the world's first artificial port in Caesarea, in 22 BCE, to be the seat of the Roman government. The ancient Jewish historian Josephus noted that "the firmness of his building could not easily be conquered by the sea."

(Israel21c)

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