

**FYI:**  
Shechitah

THE MONSEY  
**View**  
OUR TOWN'S WE

FREE  
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פרשת בא  
ג' שבט תשע"ט

**There's a  
Place for  
Everyone at**  
**Mein  
Platz**

A HAVEN OF RECREATION AND PRODUCTIVITY  
FOR MONSEY CHILDREN, TEENS AND ADULTS

IT'S **Meat** ON THE **Menu**

**The Butchers' Best**

MONSEY MEAT EXPERTS SHARE PRIME ADVICE

**Anything Foreign  
In My Frank?**

WHAT'S THE HYPE ABOUT HOT DOGS?

**Do-It-Yourself Jerky**

YOU'LL LOVE THIS PROTEIN-PACKED  
SHELF-STABLE SNACK!



# A Place

FOR YOU AND YOU  
AND YOU

*Individual time at Mein Platz  
for every cherished member*

One day, Rabbi Dovid Aron Frankl pulled up in front of his home to a sight that piqued his curiosity. A young boy from the neighborhood, just 10 years old, sat hunched over a scrap piece of wood, hammer in hand, intently banging into it nail after nail. His face was set in a scowl, part intense concentration, part distress. Attuned to children, Rabbi Frankl bent down to the boy's level and inquired what it was that he was doing. Was he working on some project?

The boys lifted his eyes, a storm brewing in their depths.

"My rebbi sent me to the menahel today, because... I did something," he blurted out, and continued to share what a miserable day he'd had, and that he was now letting out his frustration with the materials in his hand.

And what if he would be left, not with a useless scrap of wood, but a shtender on which to learn? Rabbi Frankl wondered as he parted from the child with a few encouraging words.

And there, on the stoop in front of his home, an idea was born.



## A PLACE TO RECHARGE

A *mechanech* with years of experience working with teens in local *yeshivos*, Rabbi Frankl envisioned setting up a sanctuary for children, a place flowing with positive energy where they could recharge and acquire skills in productive recreation. Rabbi Frankl wanted the chance to instill in children success and build their confidence, all while gently guiding them, stroke by loving stroke.

"Many children don't know what success is, how success feels," Rabbi Frankl says, explaining that most children who struggle simply have not been taught another way. "And when a child tastes success, knows how good it feels, suddenly he wants to know success in a *blatt Gemara*, too."

## ANSWERING THE CALL

Rabbi Frankl posed the idea to *rabbanim* and *mechanchim*, and the response was passionate. Not only did he get heartfelt *haskamos*, but each Torah leader and *mechanech* urged him to launch this

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much-needed endeavor. His years of experience in *chinuch*, rounded out by his creative skills, made Rabbi Frankl the perfect candidate to establish a program to fill this crucial need.

"The Gemara in Chullin says that one should give young children old *keilim* to break," Rabbi Frankl's *rav* told him, pointing out that many children need an escape from the frustration they face, and he pushed him to go ahead and provide Monsey children with a safe sanctuary to de-stress.

"When a child does not get along with authority, peers, or even family members, it usually stems from unreleased tension," Rabbi Frankl shares. Giving them a productive outlet changes children — and Mein Platz can attest to that every day.

From the start and throughout its operation, Rabbi Frankl has been discussing every step with



*daas Torah* and is in touch with local *menahalim* on a daily basis, working with them to ensure that every child's experience is optimized.

## JUST WHAT WE NEED

"When seeking recreational options for my sons, I'm always hard-pressed for ideas," Mrs. Stein, a mother of several energetic boys, shares. "An activity is either not in vogue with our lifestyle, or instructors do not match our level of *heimishkeit*. But trust me, my boys need to let off steam somewhere. Otherwise we all suffer." Mothers all over share her predicament.

Mein Platz offers just what had been lacking in our community: classes led by *heimishe* staff of which each member is not only skilled in their field, but is a *mechanech* par excellence with experience in bringing out the best in children.

You can't get more *heimishe* than Mein Platz, and the wholesome atmosphere that the children absorb within their walls. And of course, the entire facility is technology-free — cell phones do not enter the place.

## SELLING TIME

We all have the vision of giving each of our children individual attention. But with large families, *kein ayin hora*, and overwhelming schedules, parents often can't carve out that quality time for every child. Time is a priceless commodity, and had it been for sale...

But you can buy time! "We sell individual time for your child," Rabbi Frankl says. "We take the time to focus on your child. To give each one individual attention." How do they manage it? The equation is simple: outstanding staff, small classes — even one-on-one in some cases — and a re-



## Boys Program

Sunday: Guitar 6 p.m. | Singing 7 p.m.

Monday: Miniatures 5:15 p.m. | Woodworking 7 p.m.

Tuesday: Piano 7 p.m. | Guitar 8 p.m. | Self-defense 9 p.m.

Wednesday: Arts and Crafts 7 p.m.

Thursday: Exercise 7 p.m. | Violin 8 p.m.

## Girls Program

Sunday: Dance 3 p.m. | Art 4 p.m. | Music 5 p.m. | Drama 6 p.m.

Monday: Culinary 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Art 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Guitar 5:30 p.m.

Thursday: Ballet 5:15 p.m.

Friday: Music 10 a.m.



spect for children and their abilities.

Mein Platz's motto encapsulates this goal: "Every child is one caring adult away from success."

### FOR YOU AND YOU AND YOU AND YOU

Mein Platz is for everyone — a child looking for a kosher, healthy outlet; a child who wants to hone a skill; a child who is struggling in school; a child with a difficult home situation; a child with a creative streak that can be cultivated to build him; or anyone who simply wants to relax in a *heimishe* environment.

At Mein Platz, children and teens can learn English in a fun and engaging manner, take art, music, work on miniature and woodworking projects, take exercise classes, and so much more. Their newest offering is a science group where participants can learn and experiment, channeling their natural curiosity into a constructive pursuit.

Of course, a recreation center is not a substitute for professional care

**"When a child tastes success, knows how good it feels, suddenly he wants to know success in a blatt Gemara, too."** *Rabbi A.D. Frankl*

when it is needed, but, as one school psychologist whom Mein Platz consults with regularly says, "I can't give the kids in therapy what you give them at your center." The staff at both the boys and girls locations are trained as mentors so they can draw out their students and make each interaction with children and teens a meaningful one.

### A PLACE FOR THE GIRLS

Too good of an idea to keep for boys alone, Mein Platz quickly expanded with a separate division launched especially for girls, directed by Mrs. Zissy Rosenberg. Mrs. Rosenberg oversees the classes — among them dance, cooking, baking, ballet, music, graphic design and inspirational classes — for girls from elementary school, high school and even for women.

### EXERCISE WITH AN EDGE

Before the sun even rises at this time of year, Mein Platz is already



pulsing with energy to the beats of the exercise class for boys and men. This rigorous workout is led by instructor Zalmen Danziger, who gets the men who decided to ditch the gym and join this bootcamp-style class in shape the right way. There are two classes daily, one at 7 a.m. and another at 9 p.m.

### THE STORIES

Running such an operation doesn't leave much time for rest, but it's the success stories that energize Rabbi Frankl. He speaks of the boy who was being bullied in *cheder* and how their staff zoned

**Parents often can't carve out that quality time for each child individually. But Mein Platz can!**

in on his singing ability — and along with his beautiful voice, his self-confidence soared. He now attends school with his head held high. Rabbi Frankl also speaks about the child who'd come in after school each day like a hurricane wind, and after signing up at Mein Platz where he unwinds in a healthy manner, is a changed child at home. Then Rabbi Frankl speaks of the child with selective mutism who slowly found her voice at Mein Platz and then went on to speak in school.

### SO MUCH MORE THAN RECREATION

There's a lot happening behind the doors of Mein Platz, with classes and lessons taking place from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. The morning starts with exercise class for boys and men. Throughout the

school day, Mein Platz sees boys coming and going for private tutoring, individualized classes in many subjects, and amazing learning programs, like the newly launched Mila d'Mila program under Rabbi Yaakov Menachem Hirsch that breaks boys into the world of Gemara. The afternoon finds the place a hub of recreational activities of all sorts with attendance of children from all over Monsey. Courses geared for teens and adults are scheduled in the evening.

### GROWING, GROWING AND EXPANDING STILL

From its humble beginnings in Rabbi Frankl's basement, Mein Platz keeps growing. Due to overwhelming demand and expansion, Mein Platz's boys program is relocating once again, this time to a beautiful 5,000-square-foot location at 51 Main Street in the heart of Monsey. The girls program will move to the 3 Edwin Lane location.

With an eye to the future, Rabbi Frankl keeps advancing his goal of making the world a better place for so many, one child at a time.

Because Monsey's children need someone to believe in them, to embrace them and to tell them with confidence, "Yes, you can, and you will!" And no one does that better than Mein Platz. ■

*Monthly memberships, regular promotions and family discounts keep Mein Platz affordable for all. For more information about Mein Platz, call 845-520-5445.*

15 most professional and dedicated teachers



5,000 square feet of adventure

Monsey's only *heimishe* recreation center

20 activities  
2 separate locations for boys and girls