

ISRAEL ROUNDUP

EMMANUEL

Emmanuel Marks Its 40th Birthday

The *chareidi* city of Emmanuel in the Shomron is marking its 40th birthday.

To celebrate this milestone, the city held an event on Isru Chag that attracted thousands of people, including Rabbanim and public officials from around the country.

The celebration, held in the city's Chabad Square, began with moving songs by children's choirs of Talmudei Torah in the city.

A presentation was given on the history of Emmanuel, which has doubled in size and is home to a host of new schools and *batei medrash*.

Rabbi Moshe Zer recounted how he had acquired the lands on which Emmanuel was established, the difficulties involved and the many prayers that accompanied him.

A second presentation highlighted the development of Emmanuel in recent years. It showed new neighborhoods being built, the educational institutions that were inaugurated in the last year, and personal stories of residents.

Five veteran members of Emmanuel were given "Yekirei Ha'ir" certificates:



Chief Rabbi of Yerushalayim Harav Moshe Shlomo Amar

Rabbi Yehuda Elharar, Chabad *shaliach* in the city for some 40 years; Rabbi Avidan Sigon, a teacher at the Ohalei Yaakov Shul of the Bnei Yosef network, who works as a volunteer on the city's firefighting team and Home Front Command; Harav Moshe Singer, founder of the Slonim Kollel and the Friends of Emmanuel Fund that has boosted construction in Emmanuel; Rabbi Gershon Friedman, who together with his wife heads the city's volunteer organization Amichayil, which accompanies all the city's residents, providing

help and support for mothers, the elderly, large families and more; and Dr. Uri Pinsky, who receives patients at all hours of the day and night, and is always ready to provide professional, respectful medical treatment.

Chief Rabbi of Yerushalayim Harav Moshe Shlomo Amar spoke about Sukkos and Simchas Torah and then added his personal joy upon seeing "a city of unity – apart from the importance of unity and peace in and of themselves, they are also a vessel that contains *brachah* and brings that *brachah*



Harav Moshe Singer, founder of the Slonim Kollel and the Friends of Emmanuel Fund

to each and every family in the city."

Local Council Head Rabbi Eliyahu Gafni noted that we should also remember those who laid the foundation stones of the city, mentioning earlier mayors and *askanim*. Later in his speech, he noted that "the city's construction boom is surely a hardship for residents, as they are effectively living in a big construction site, but we will all be benefitting from it. When our city was founded, its slogan was 'A city that's a home,' and Emmanuel will remain as such even when the

home grows and expands. It is our duty to maintain this sense of community and belonging."

Musicians Beri Weber, Naftali Kempf and Raphael Melul performed together with the Menagen Orchestra, as did children's choirs of the local Talmudei Torah.

Minister of the Economy and Industry Eli Cohen, MK Rabbi Uri Maklev, MK Rabbi Yossi Taib, Yad Vashem Chairman Danny Dayan, heads of the Yesha Council, former local council heads of Emmanuel and other public officials were in attendance.

RAMAT BEIT SHEMESH

Chol HaMoed Sukkos Event Held on Anglo-Chareidi Aliyah

Dozens gathered at the large *sukkah* of Rabbi Danny Myers of Ramat Beit Shemesh Alef on Chol HaMoed Sukkos for an event that brought three perspectives on *aliyah* among the Torah-observant communities. Dozens more took part via Zoom. Speaking were Rabbi Yosef Kamenetsky, who recounted his family's *aliyah* and how his grandfather, Harav Yaakov Kamenetsky, *zt"l*, viewed *aliyah* within his family and as a Torah leader; Deputy Mayor of Afula Rabbi Menachem Gold; and Rabbi Nesanel Cadle, Rav of an American *kehillah* that recently made *aliyah* as a group to Afula.

Rabbi Cadle related his *kehillah's* challenges in the process of adjusting to Israeli life. He explained that, among other things, the *kehillah* was spurred to make *aliyah* by a diminished sense of physical

security in America, and even more due to the recent shifts in social values to the left that are being pushed aggressively and permeating all areas of society, at the youngest ages.

Rabbi Gold, who immigrated decades ago as a young man together with his parents, discussed the vast difference between the challenges that existed when he made the move to Afula as a young *avreich* years ago, and the reality on the ground today in places far from the country's central region.

Rabbi Kamenetsky, son of Rav Nosson, *zt"l*, shared some of the history of the first small wave of American *chareidi aliyah* after the Six Day War in 1967, when he came with his family as an almost bar mitzvah-aged child. He shared his grandfather's initial reservations about American *chareidim* making such a move, and



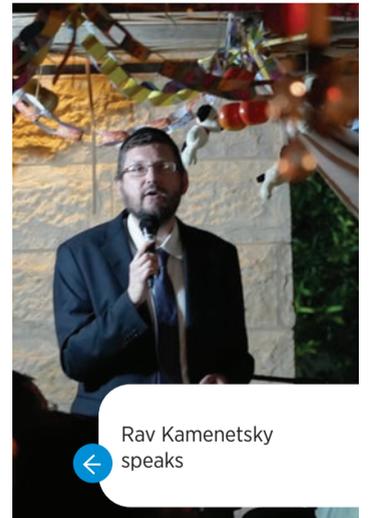
Rav Cadle speaks

what developed over the course of the following two decades that made Reb Yaakov reconsider and become more open to the idea of Americans moving to Israel.

In the second part of the event, the speakers discussed the unique contribution that

Anglo *chareidi olim* make both to the Israeli *chareidi* community and Israeli society at large.

The event was arranged by the Kedushas Tzion organization. The Avira D'Eretz Yisroel organization, which promotes out-of-town communities in Eretz Yisrael, gifted the partici-



Rav Kamenetsky speaks

pants with an abridged preview edition of a book by R' Yoel Berberman, which includes essays by many Anglo *chareidi* immigrants to Eretz Yisrael about their perspectives and experiences. The full book is set to be published within the next few months.