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פרשת בלק

News of the Week

APPOINTMENT OF NEW DIRECTOR HEADS SEASON'S INNOVATIONS

The appointment of a new camp director heads the list of innovations that mark the beginning of another highly promising season at Camp Morasha.

Rabbi Abraham Wahrhaftig, moving up after four years as Assistant Director, began his Morasha career in 1965 as an Ilanot counselor. Subsequently he served as Division Head of Ilanot and Shtilim, took off two years, and then came back as a member of the Educational Staff for the next 15 years.

The most dramatic change Rabbi Wahrhaftig noticed throughout the years: "The transformation of an old dilapidated campsite into a stunning environment for a high quality Torah/Ruach summer program, primarily to the credit of my predecessor, Zvi Reich."

"With everyone working together in the spirit of *achdus*, through an attitude of mutual encouragement and support- personal and technical- and with each of us helping one another, we're all headed for a wonderful summer," concluded the new director.

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NEW STAFF AND FACILITIES READY FOR NEW SEASON

Numerous new staff members and several new facilities are all in place as the 5750 camp season gets underway. New staff members include Michal Goldberg as Dramatics Head with Alan Braverman (brother to Jeff) as her assistant. Boys' Machon has a new head- Louis Wienerkur. Dena Kerner is in the new position of Infirmary Administrator, and Michael Eisenberg is new on Ed Staff.

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THE THREE WEEKS TO BEGIN ON TUESDAY

The THREE WEEKS, the saddest period in the Jewish calendar year, will begin on Tuesday with the Fast of Shiva Asar B'Tammuz.

Since on Tammuz 17 the tragedies of the destruction of the Bais Hamikdash began, culminating in its destruction on Tisha B'Av, our behavior reflects that of a person in mourning throughout these three weeks.

The Three Weeks is a time for all of us to reflect on our actions, since T'shuvah, not only fasting, is prime on both Shiva Asar B'Tammuz and Tisha b'Av. The activities which we engage in during this time should be of a more serious nature. Pay careful attention in Shiurim to learn what behavior is appropriate at which time.

Let's hope that this is the last year in which we must observe the Three Week mourning period, and next year may we all be in Yerushalayim.

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MAZEL TOV...MAZEL TOV...

Mazel tov to our Camp Director Rabbi Abraham and Joyce Warhaftig on the Bar Mitzvah of Yaakov this Shabbat at Morasha. Extended Mazel Tov to siblings Lisa, Michal, and Yael, and to grandparents.

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OPENING NIGHT RUACH FILLS PARGOD

Opening night at Morasha filled the Pargod with song and ruach to an SRO crowd. Sandy Sudberg with Jeff and Vicki led the music and Shayne Schwed and Girls' Staffers danced. Rookie Billet delivered a meaningful D'var Torah and new Drama Head Michal Goldberg and Alan Braverman her assistant, introduced the plays of the forthcoming season.



TORAH THOUGHTS



OUR FACULTY WRITES. . .

"OUT OF SIGHT"

By Doniel Schreiber

"When Balak, son of Tzipor saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites, the Moabites became deathly afraid, because the Bnei Yisroel were so numerous, and they dreaded the Israelites....."

What did Balak really see? Some Meforshim explain that he saw not so much what had physically taken place, but that rather he was wise enough to perceive the truth. What truth is this? That everything affecting Bnei Yisroel including the wars they waged, was not the result of superior courage or strength but of special assistance from Hashem. Realizing that G-d was waging war for Bnei Yisroel, Balak concluded that no quantity of weapons or armies could prevail to defeat the Jews. Instead, he thought, perhaps the only way to destroy the Israelites is through acts of magic and incantation, and therefore called for Bilaam to use sorcery against Bnei Yisroel. In contrast to Balak, however, the populace of Moab sought to offset the numerical superiority of the Jews by forming various alliances and building a large army.

Although Balak was a **roshoh**, he was clearly greater than his own people. He was able to recognize the hand of G-d in mundane world events. He was not blinded or misled by what he saw, but rather he perceived and understood what laid before his very eyes.

May we be zocheh, especially in these times of great change and reform throughout the globe, to perceive the hand of Hashem, and to understand that just as HE controls the events of the globe, HE also is involved in the daily events of each and everyone of our lives.

A D'VAR TORAH ON

PARSHAT BALAK

By Raphael Willig, YP Kollel

In this week's Parsha, Parshas BALAK, we find the fascinating episode of Bilaam and Balak's attempt to curse Bnei Yisroel. The Torah tells of Bilaam's attempts to curse Bnei Yisroel, but all that Hashem would permit him to say were words of blessing. Bilaam says **Mi mana aphar Yaakov?** (Who has counted the dirt of Yaakov?) Rashi explains that Bilaam was praising Bnei Yisroel for the Mitzvos they do with dust, dirt, and ashes. At first glance this is startling. Why is Bilaam praising Bnei Yisroel for mitzvos they do with dirt. What significance did Bilaam see in these Mitzvos?

Harav Chaim Yaakov Goldvicht, Rosh Ha-Yeshiva of Yeshivas Kerem B'Yavneh, shlita, suggests that these mitzvot in particular impressed Bilaam because they were done with dirt. Bilaam saw that Bnei Yisroel used everything, even dirt and dust, in serving Hashem. This concept of using natural and material things for **kedusha** is unique to Bnei Yisroel. The non-Jews of that time saw the spiritual world as far removed from their everyday life. Bnei Yisroel, though, were able to sanctify everything in their lives, even dirt and dust.

I think that this lesson is particularly relevant here in camp. During the summer we are more involved in playing ball, swimming and other such activities and less involved in our formal Torah studies. However, it is now that we have a unique opportunity to do mitzvos. For example, the competition on the ballfield presents opportunities to make peace between people and improve our midos. The relaxed atmosphere of camp is conducive to the sanctification of the natural and material worlds which impressed Bilaam so long ago.

Good Shabbos.

(אגדה)

בִּירוּשָׁלַיִם הָיָה שְׁנֵי
אֲחִים. לְאִחַ הַמְּבֹרָךְ הָיָה
אִשָּׁה וְיָלְדָהּ. וְהָאִחַ
הַצָּעִיר סִי לְבָדֵד. לְשְׁנֵי
הָאֲחִים הָיָה שָׂדֶה אֶחָד.
הֵם עָבְדוּ בַשָּׂדֶה יָסֵד.
יָסֵד חֲרָשׁוֹ. יָסֵד זָרְעוֹ
וְיָסֵד קָצְרוֹ.

הַגִּיץ זָמַן הַקָּצִיר.
קָצְרוּ שְׁנֵי הָאֲחִים וַחֲמִילְקוֹ
בִּיגִיטָהּ אֶת הַחִיסָה. הֵם
שָׂמוּ בַשָּׂדֶה עֲרִימָה אֶחָד
בַּשְּׂבִיל הָאִחַ הַמְּבֹרָךְ
וְעֲרִימָה אֶחָד בַּשְּׂבִיל הָאִחַ
הַצָּעִיר. שְׁתֵּי הָעֲרִימוֹת
הָיוּ שְׁוֹת בִּיגִיטָן.

בְּאוֹתוֹ לֵילָה חָשַׁב
הָאִחַ הַצָּעִיר: "לָאֲחִי יֵשׁ
אִשָּׁה וְיָלְדָהּ. מִגִּיץ לֹא
יֹתֵר חִיסָה מֵאֲשֶׁר לִי.
אֲנִי סִי לְבָדֵד — וַמִּסְפִּיק
לִי בֶקֶץ מַעֲט חִיסָה." הוּא
יָצָא בַלַּיְלָה לַשָּׂדֶה. לָקַח
חִיסָה מִהָעֲרִימָה שֶׁלּוֹ
וְהַעֲבִיר אֶל הָעֲרִימָה שֶׁל
אֲחִיו.

בְּאוֹתוֹ לֵילָה לֹא יָכוֹל
הָיָה גַם הָאִחַ הַמְּבֹרָךְ
לִישוֹן. הוּא חָשַׁב: "לִי
יֵשׁ אִשָּׁה וְיָלְדָהּ. וְאֲחִי
סִי לְבָדֵד. אֲנִי שָׂמֹם בְּאֵשְׁתִּי
וְיָלְדִי. וְאֲחִי יֵשׁ לֹא שְׂמִיחָה
בֶּקֶץ בַּחִיסָה שֶׁהוּא מַגְבִּיל.

הָאִחַ
הַצָּעִיר

הָאִחַ
הַמְּבֹרָךְ

מִגִּיץ לֹא יֹתֵר חִיסָה
מֵאֲשֶׁר לִי." קָם הָאִחַ
הַמְּבֹרָךְ מִמִּישְׁתּוֹ וַיָּצֵא אֶל
הַשָּׂדֶה. הוּא לָקַח חִיסָה
מִהָעֲרִימָה שֶׁלּוֹ וְהַעֲבִיר
אוֹתָהּ לְעֲרִימָה שֶׁל אֲחִיו.
בַּבֹּקֶר קָמוּ שְׁנֵי
הָאֲחִים וַיָּצְאוּ לַשָּׂדֶה. הֵם
הִסְתַּכְּלוּ עַל שְׁתֵּי עֲרִימוֹת
הַחִיסָה וַרְאוּ: הָעֲרִימוֹת
שְׁוֹת זֶה לְזֶה. לֹא הָיוּ
הָאֲחִים מִטָּה קְרוֹה. אַךְ הֵם
לֹא אָמְרוּ דָּבָר אֶיִשׁ

לְאֲחִיו. בַּלַּיְלָה הַבָּא שׁוּב
הַעֲבִיר כָּל אֶחָד חִיסָה
מִהָעֲרִימָה שֶׁלּוֹ לְזֶה שֶׁל
אֲחִיו. אַךְ בַּבֹּקֶר הָיוּ שְׁתֵּי
הָעֲרִימוֹת שְׁוֹת בִּיגִיטָן...
חָשַׁב כָּל אֶחָד בְּלִבּוֹ:
אִסְלָה כָּל הַלַּיְלָה וְאֶרְאֶה:
לְמָה הָעֲרִימוֹת שְׁוֹת
בַּבֹּקֶר? בְּאוֹתוֹ לֵילָה
לָקַח שׁוּב כָּל אֶחָד חִיסָה
מִהָעֲרִימָה שֶׁלּוֹ וְהִזִּיךְ
לְשֵׁם אוֹתָהּ בְּעֲרִימָה שֶׁל
אֲחִיו. בְּאֵמֶצֶע הַדֶּרֶךְ הֵם
נִפְגְּשׁוּ...

הִתְחַבְּקוּ הָאֲחִים. נִשְׁקוּ
זֶה לְזֶה וְהִירְכוּ אֶת אֱלוֹהִים
עַל הָעֲהָבָה שֶׁנָּתַן בְּלִבָּם.
הַאֲגָדָה מְסַפֶּרֶת: בְּמָקוֹם
שֶׁבוּ נִפְגְּשׁוּ שְׁנֵי הָאֲחִים —
קָם בֵּית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ.

SHALHEVET FEATURES

MACHON MUSINGS

By Shana Feiner

Many campers around camp tend to question the role Machoniks play in this camp. Are we just CIT's? Do we sleep all day? Well, with the summer just beginning, we have been able to show what we're all about—thanks to YACHAD.

This past Wednesday evening Yachad-NCSY arrived. This group consisted of 12 very special young adults who travel the East Coast for two and a half weeks out of the summer. With abundant enthusiasm and aesthetic artwork Machon greeted our newly-met friends. The evening began with a dinner, or rather, an indoor barbecue. But ruach came to the scene in the Pargod when we sang and shook the floors with our dancing until the shelves in the artroom below began to tumble down. Comic drama impersonations were performed, and after introducing the Yachad members to the famous Morasha "canteen scene", we wished them a good night's sleep in the guest house and anticipated the events of the next morning. We were not disappointed.

Beginning the day with the mitzvah of kibud av v'aim, Machoniks assisted Yachad members with letter writing to their parents followed by painting a wooden Morasha road sign. Consistent with the theme—shomayim v'aretz Machoniks arranged for a special shiur for Yachad members to teach and learn about Maaseh braishis. Combining learning and fun, Yachad members had to answer questions for which they were awarded a puzzle piece. The goal was to put all seven puzzle pieces (corresponding to the seven days of the week) together.

The remainder of the day was well spent in sports, art participation, and newly-formed friendships. Yachad members left with grins and fond memories, while Machoniks sensed a feeling of happiness for having fulfilled a great mitzvah, and anticipation for forthcoming chesed and exciting programs.

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! CAMPERS CLOSEUPS !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

This week's Campers were seen Close-Up between Shiurim outside the Bondi Complex.

ADAM DACHS is going into Grade 9 at HAFTR. He lives in Woodmere, has one brother in camp, wants to be a lawyer when he grows up, but now his favorite camp activity is swimming.

JACOB KUPIETSKY, who also wants to be a lawyer, comes from Los Angeles where he'll attend 9th grade at YULA. His favorite activity is basketball.

ETAN POMERANZE of Bunk 15 will attend Grade 10 at the Chorev School. Right now he lives in Teaneck. He's in camp with a JC sister and a brother in B 6. He has decided to be a trader in currency when he's old enough.

VIVI SEPTIMUS of G 9 will be going to Grade 9 at Central. She lives in Jamaica Estates, her favorite activity is tubing, and she's aspiring to be an historian.

Yael WAHRHAFTIG, G 4, lists visiting the director as her favorite Morasha activity. She's in Grade 7 at Yeshiva of Flatbush and will some day be a fashion designer.

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DAY CAMP DILLIES

QUESTION: WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT DAY CAMP?

Answers:

Yael Harari: My mother

Rachel Koller: the counselors

Avi Kilimnick: Sitting around

Ruby Yarmush: Sports

THE OLDER ILANOT

P E R S P E C T I V E

By Yael Balsam & Jill Jedwab
Co-Counselors G -9

This week's topic:
Overnight - the day after

When we found out about our overnight our reactions were quite diverse. Yael, being one of those Morasha old-timers (you know the type- she made the Nitzi- staff climb) was not what you would call optimistic; well aware of what she would be facing- her sole comfort would lay in the fact that this would be our one and only overnight this summer. Jill, on the other hand, a Morasha new-comer (you know the type- eager to try every new experience Morasha has to offer) was very excited by the prospect of the overnight. She was quoted to have said before the overnight, "Sleep outside by the campfire without a tent, of course I want to do that."

And so they set off- three bunks (G 7, 8, & 9) 41 girls, 6 counselors, Rebecca, Ayal, and Yechiel (our overnight experts imported from Israel). Although the walk wasn't far, we worked up a sweat being that we were all wearing leggings and sweats tucked into our socks to avoid Lyme's disease.

Collapsing in front of the campfire our mouths began to water- in anticipation of the forthcoming food. It seemed that Jill's expectations were correct as the ruach intensified with the help of Vicki Simon and E-lan Yaish's excellent voices and Josh Wachspress' enthusiastic strumming. Coupled with these was the beautiful display of fireworks that we were witness to. Our bodies warmed from the fire, our spirits warmed by the ruach and our stomachs filled with the many hotdogs, potatoes, chicken, beans, corn, and marshmallow fluff were quite content until Rabbi Steve appeared and told us that the same dinner was served in camp.

As you can well imagine not much sleep was had by anyone especially the staff.

By 7AM everyone was ready to depart for what they now fondly call home- the BUNK !

MAZEL TOV

SHALHEVET extends a special Mazel Tov to Nitzi Division Head Aviva and Ed Staff Member Doniel Schreiber on their recent marriage. Morashaniks participated in Sheva Brochot in their honor Monday and Tuesday.

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NEW STAFF AND FACILITIES
READY FOR NEW SEASON

(continued from page 1)

Changes in staff positions include Ahuva Epstein from Ed Staff to Associate Head Counselor. Michelle Sarasohn is assisting the camp director after waterfront hours. Frieda Wadler is now Boys' Camp Mother. Doniel Schreiber has gone from Kollal to the Ed Staff and Eitan Orlian who started Morasha in the cradle has now grown to be a member of the Ed Staff.

New facilities include a new music center which will soon be completed across from the old music room. A new waiting area and expanded dock are in operation on Girls' Dock and the path on Girls' Campus has been paved. A new dock has been set in place on Machon/Kollal campus. More new courts and bunks have also been added.

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SHALHEVET STAFF

Rita Siff.....Editor

Malkie Mufson, Ruchie Sasnowitz, &
Chani Diamond.....Production

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LAUGH A LITTLE...

From SHALHEVET, Vol. III, No. 7- 1976

Day Camper Chumi Besser : I liked being on stage and getting an orange balloon pussycat.

SHALHEVET SPECIAL

ABOUT THE "THREE WEEKS"



Mourning — Symbol of Hope

Someone once asked Reb Yoseif Dov of Brisk, "Tell me, Rabbi, what is the use of all of this mourning and sadness between *Shiva Asar B'Tamuz* and *Tisha B'Av*? Couldn't we do just as well without it?"

The rabbi answered, "Let me give you an example. Once there was a fire that destroyed many homes. Some of the homeless people search the ruins to find things that may have escaped destruction. Others don't bother looking! Those who look are the ones who expect to rebuild their homes. The others have probably given up and don't even want to make the effort."

"Our mourning is the same way. We remind ourselves of the destruction of the *Bais Hamikdash* because we haven't given up. We are looking forward to the coming of *Moshiach*."

Like Son, Like Mother

A little boy once came to Reb Chaim of Brisk with a question, "My mother wants me to ask the Rabbi if I may eat meat during the first nine days of *Av*."



Reb Chaim studied the pale, thin boy and answered, "Yes, my child, you may

eat meat. And tell your mother that I said she may also eat meat."

The other members of the Brisk rabbinical court asked Reb Chaim how he could tell if the mother's health was so poor that she was permitted to eat meat.

"It's very simple. If a child is thin and undernourished, then his mother is eating less than he."

To Use Just Once

Rabbi Abraham Kamai of Mir once went to buy a Book of *Kinos* (Lamentations) for *Tisha B'Av*. He argued that the price was too high and bargained over every penny. The book seller was surprised because Rabbi Kamai was a good customer who *never* complained about the price of anything. The rabbi explained,

"When I buy *seforim* (books), I don't mind paying the regular price because I will be using the *seforim* for years; for all that use they are worth the money. But



Kinos? By next year *Moshiach* will be here! Why should I overpay for a *sefer* that I will use for only one day?"

In the same vein, Rabbi Mordechai of Lechavitz used to say that if people truly believed in the coming of *Moshiach*, they would not put away their *Kinos* for the following year.

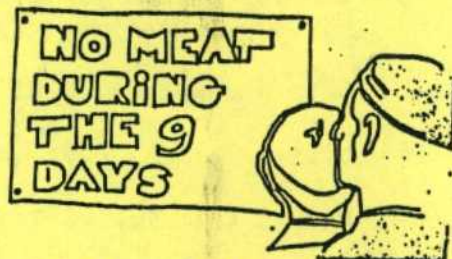
Check the Kashrus

Rabbi Elia Chaim Meisles of Lodz paid special attention to the needs of children from poor families. He established for them a Yeshiva where they would have their meals and he arranged for the townspeople to provide food and clothing. One year the crops were bad and food was very expensive. To make matters worse, the Yeshiva found it difficult to raise money for food and the other expenses. The com-

mittee that was in charge decided that they would save money by cutting out meat during the Nine Days.

Reb Elia Chaim heard about it and was upset. Here in the United States enough nourishing food is available so that children can be well fed even without meat. But in Europe many years ago, nutrition was a serious problem. Reb Elia Chaim sent for the head of the Yeshiva committee and said,

"I want you to know that the food being given to the children is against the Torah law."



"Don't worry, Rabbi," arrogantly answered the chairman, "we are giving no meat at all during the Nine Days."

"That's exactly what I mean," said Reb Elia Chaim. It is forbidden to give dairy meals to children from poor families. Their health is not good and they must be given meat every day."

Only the Truth

Rabbi Levi Yitzchock of Berdichev was famous and beloved for always finding good things to say about Jews no matter how bad they may have seemed. Once, on *Tisha B'Av*, he saw a Jew openly eating and drinking. The Rabbi said,

"My son, you must have forgotten it is *Tisha B'Av*."

"No, Rabbi, I know what day it is."

"Then you don't know it is forbidden to eat."

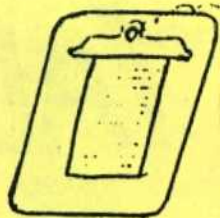
"No, Rabbi, I know that, too."

"No doubt you are in poor health and unable to fast."

"Wrong again, Rabbi. I wish all Jews were as healthy as I."

Reb Levi Yitzchock looked up towards heaven and said, "Rebboni Shel Olam, see how honest your children are. This man would rather admit that he is a sinner than tell a lie!"

reprinted from *Usmanim*



ROVING REPORTER

QUESTION: WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE LIKED TO BRING FROM HOME TO MAKE CAMP EASIER ? ? ?

ANSWERS:

- Simone Rudoff, JC, G 8: My aerobics teacher
- Ilana Bresler, JC, G 5: My mother
- Shirley Storch, Office Manager:
Loehmann's, Entemann's, & pasta
- Zahava Weitzner, Jodi Suss, Day
Camp Counselors: Babysitters
- Cara Rochwarger, G 8: TV
- Nitzan Pelman, G 7: A phone
- Debbie Platnick, G 7: My room
- Chana Schoffman, G 7: Airconditioning
- ShanaChaya Auman, G 14: A microwave
- Mimi Sampter, G 16: My bed
- Yael Sudberg, G 14: My brother
- Moshe Zigelman, B 2: Nintendo
- Larry Schwed, Ed Staff: My mother-in-law
- Shulamith Motechin, Machon Couns. (finally):
A refrigerator for the Machon Girls' Lounge
- Bunk 16: A golf cart
- Warren Cinamon, Machon: R.M., my talking parakeet
- David Hochbaum, B 3: My nieces and nephews
- Sruly Balsam, B 5: Daniel Dauber
- Ari Raskas, B 4: A supply of cubbies
- Jill Jedwab, CC, G 9: My dog Farley
- Sruli Spodek, B 18: My VCR
- Tami Feiner, G 13: A pizza shop
- Yonatan Reich, B 17: A camcorder
- Karen Fisher, G 5: A heater
- Judah Goldberg, B 6: Privacy
- Morris Mosseri, B 2: My computer
- Azriel Rausman, B 7: A jacuzzi
- Eli Polak, B 2: A maid
- David Rosman, B 7: Cable
- Ari Gross, B 9: My car
- Steven Miller, B 12: My skateboard
- Zev Fischer: Respect
- Y. Kramer, B 18: A house
- Dovid Wadler, Ed Staff: Nothing. I've got it all
- Shoshana Rudinsky and Lizzie Parker, G 9: Tru
Tasteless Jokebook I, II, & III
- Rachel Boim, G 7: A water cooler
- Rina Goldberg, G 7: My shower
- Yehuda Fruchter, Machon: DJ's
- Josh Lovinger, B 18: A refrigerator
- Roni Shapiro, B 4: Coca Cola
- Sean Rosenblum, B 7: A fan