

Shalhevet

Friday, July 27, 2001

7 Av 5761

Erev Shabbat Chazon, Parshat Devarim

A Time for Tefilla

Last week, Yachad campers were asked to write their own prayers. Here are some of them:

Hashem, thank you for Israel and please protect the people who live there. Thank you for my family and for letting me come to camp, I like it very much. Thank you for giving me all the food I eat. Thank you for helping me and giving me everything. Hashem, I love you so much. *Love, Blimy*

I would like to thank you for everything. I would like to ask for enough money, enough food especially on Shabbos, to serve you and to keep me healthy. Because you are so great and special and I love you very very much. *Love, Joshua*

I love you with my heart. . . I thank you for making the world for us to enjoy and live in. *Love, Tikvah*

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This Week in Camp. . .

...Hundreds of visitors poured into Camp Morasha this past Sunday for our annual Visiting Day.

...We wished a *tzeitchem l'shalom* to all of those campers who left Morasha on changeover day, and welcomed the many new campers and staff who joined us!

...Machon and staff performed *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

...An oppressively hot couple of days made us feel the Nine Days more than ever!

Giving Blood, Saving Lives

Last week's annual Morasha blood drive turned out to be an exceptional success. An overwhelming 110 people registered to give blood, and a total of 97 pints of blood were collected from the arms of campers, machonics, kollel, Camp America and staff. This was a tremendous *kiddush Hashem*, and the blood collected has the potential to save about 390 lives. Unbelievable!

The waterfronts would like to thank everyone for the incredible turnout. They are especially grateful to the machoniks and other volunteers who helped out. Thanks also to the kitchen staff for preparing the food and to Morrie Wruble for the hot cocoa. A special *yasher koach* to Chaye Lamm Warburg and the girls' waterfront for organizing this blood drive.

Congratulations to the winners of the blood drive raffle! If you are among the lucky ones listed below, please come to the girls' waterfront or call extension 241 to claim your prize.

Michael Adler -Shmuel Auman-Judah Ausubel
Daniel Beer -Kenny Berg -Esther Berman
Aderet Block -David Blum- Rock Davis
Naomi English- Nili Epstein- Debra Fine
Chava Kamioner- Jason Koslowe-Zeke Kreitner
Asher Mansdorf -Josh Mitgang -Keren Nat
Malki Roth-Joseph Shanker-Rabbi Storch
Daniel Strauchler -Avi Warner- Craig Yagoda
Ruby Yarmush

A Giant Happy New Year

This Tisha B'av, everyone in Camp Morasha will have the chance to participate in the world's largest Rosh Hashana card. The card is being created by Jewish students throughout the world, and is being sent to Israel in time for the high holidays, where it will be read by children of families affected by terrorism. The goal is to gather at least 100,000 cards in order to express solidarity with Israel.

How does one become a part of this meaningful project? Go to the library on Tisha B'Av, where applications will be available. After filling it out, draw or write a Rosh Hashana greeting on the other side.

"This is an amazing project," says Rock Davis, librarian. "We're looking for 100 percent participation at camp."

Another Morasha Baby!

Yes, there's *one more*! Asher Eyal Colton, born May 3. Mazel tov to the Coltons!

Swim and Stay Fit Winners

Kudos to all those lappers who won prizes!

Nitzanim

Fran Berely-Emily Feldman-Nicole Goldstein
Michal Greenspan-Elizabeth Sussman-
Danielle Weisstuch

Shtilim

Valerie Goldblatt-Shoshana Koslowe
Elana Kram-Emily Hirsch-Mollie Sussman
Paige Sussman-Erin Weinreich-Erika Zauderer

Ilanot

Nili Block-Tzviya Block-Aryanna Garber
Mindy Koren-Edith Lee Koslowe-Kessia Lurie
Aviva Miller-Tali Rubin-Lisa Shainberg
Shira Sragow-Emily Steinberger
Leah Wexelbaum

Alufot, Machon and Staff

Pens

Rachel Berely-Miriam Cohen-Rock Davis
Joyce Fruchter-Ilana Gelaman-Geri Mansdorf
Sara Purow-Yael Wagner

Towels

Nava Billet-Michal Forman-Yaffa Klugerman
Chanie Oratz-Yael Renov-Barbara Simon

A special yasher koach to Rabbi Morrie Wruble and Rabbi Yitz Rosenblum, the Swim and Stay Fit Champions of the Boys' Waterfront; and the super day campers, who have completed over 200 laps!

Library Corner

Don't miss the Used Book Sale at the Library on Tisha B'Av, following tefilla!

Thank you Avi Chanales for donating *A Series of Unfortunate Events* to the Morasha Library.

Kol Hakavod to Ariel Meiri of bunk B-4 who has this summer read 14 books - over 2000 pages!

This Week's Parsha: Devarim, Shabbat Chazon

Light Candles: 7:04

Shabbat Ends: 8:11 (fast begins at 7:21)

Weather Forecast: (As of Wed):

Friday: Sunny. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 50s.

Saturday: Sunny. Skies becoming partly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms late. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the upper 50s.

Sunday (Tisha B'Av): Partly cloudy with scattered thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 50s.

This Week in Sports

By Oscar Madison

This week was a big one for golf fans. David Duval shot an incredible ten under par the final two days of the British Open to capture his first major championship. Tiger Woods, the favorite, heading into the tournament, finished a disappointing nine strokes off the lead.

In baseball, the Mets continue their mediocrity and remain in fourth place in the NL East. The Yanks went through a tough time, losing four in a row, but then rebounded with a three-game winning streak.

In cycling, Lance Armstrong continues his quest for a third straight Tour de France victory, leading by five minutes, with five stages to go.

Private swimming lessons are available at the Girls' Waterfront Sunday thru Thursday from 5-6:00 p.m. and Fridays after 3:00 p.m. Call extension 241 for more information.

Story of the Week:

Good Morning, Herr Müller

Near the city of Danzig lived a well-to-do Hasidic rabbi, scion of prominent Hasidic dynasties. Dressed in a tailored black suit, wearing a top hat, and carrying a silver walking cane, the rabbi would take his daily morning stroll, accompanied by his tall, handsome son-in-law. During his morning walk it was the rabbi's custom to greet every man, woman, and child whom he met on his way with a warm smile and a cordial "Good morning." Over the years the rabbi became acquainted with many of his fellow townspeople this way and would always greet them by their proper title and name.

Near the outskirts of town, in the fields, he would exchange greetings with Herr Müller, a Polish *Volksdeutsche* (ethnic German). "Good morning, Herr Müller!" the rabbi would hasten to greet the man who worked in the fields. "Good morning, Herr Rabbiner!" would come the response with a good-natured smile.

Then the war began. The rabbi's strolls stopped abruptly. Herr Müller donned an S.S. uniform and disappeared from the fields. The fate of the rabbi was like that of much of the rest of Polish Jewry. He lost his family in the death camp of Treblinka and, after great suffering, was deported to Auschwitz.

One day, during a selection at Auschwitz, the rabbi stood on line with hundreds of other Jews awaiting the moment when their fates would be decided, for life or death. Dressed in a striped camp uniform, head and beard shaven and eyes feverish from starvation and disease, the rabbi looked like a walking skeleton. "Right! Left, left, left!" The voice in the distance grew nearer. Suddenly the rabbi had a great urge to see the face of the man with the snow-white gloves, small baton, and steely voice who played God and decided who should live and who should die. He lifted his eyes and heard his own voice speaking:

"Good morning, Herr Müller!"

"Good morning, Herr Rabbiner!" responded a human voice beneath the S.S. cap adorned with skull and bones. "What are you doing here?" A faint smile appeared on the rabbi's lips. The baton moved to the right - to life. The following day, the rabbi was transferred to a safer camp.

The rabbi, now in his eighties, told me in his gentle voice, "This is the power of a good-morning greeting. A man must always greet his fellow man."

- From *Hasidic Tales of the Holocaust* by Yaffa Eliach, who spoke in camp this past Wednesday

The Oyster's Lesson

By Rabbi Neil Fleischman

There once was an oyster whose story I tell,
who found that some sand had got into his shell.

It was only a grain, but it gave him great pain,
for oysters have feelings although they're so plain.

Now, did he berate the harsh workings of fate,
that had brought him to such a deplorable state?

Did he curse at the government, cry for election,
and claim that the sea should have given protection?

No - he said to himself as he lay on a shell,
since I cannot remove it, I shall try to improve it.

Now the years have rolled around, as the years always do,
and he came to his Ultimate Destiny - stew.
And the small grain of sand that had bothered him so,

was a beautiful pearl all richly aglow.
Now the tale has a moral, for isn't it grand,
what an oyster can do with a morsel of sand?

This Week's Torah Thoughts

Klal Yisrael is once again faced with the task of mourning for the destruction of the Beit Hamikdash 1931 years ago. What is amazing is that the collective memories of our people have been able to keep the memory of the Beit Hamikdash so alive in our minds and in our hearts. Halacha mandates that we "sit shiva" on Tisha B'Av, for each year the tragedy of the destruction is considered to be new - for why wasn't the Beit Hamikdash rebuilt in the past year if not that we have not merited that rebuilding.

We are now closer to that rebuilding than ever before in our history, but yet the past year has taught us, that though we "own" the Har Habayit, the nations of the world will not yet allow us to build our mikdash or to rebuild our cities. So while we are so close to the "geulah shlema" we are yet so far away.

We all must do our part in this rebuilding project. On Tisha B'Av night we read Megillat Eicha, the ancient words of Yermiyahu Hanavi, as he laments for the churban. The Megilla starts "*Eicha yashva*..." While the pshat in the pasuk is how does Yerushalayim sit alone, perhaps we can understand the pasuk a bit differently as well. The navi might be asking us "*Eicha yashva?*" How are you sitting? The navi wants to know "why are we so peaceful and placid as Yerushalayim is suffering!" It is a call to action for every Jew, that we dare not sit idly by when Israel is in danger.

What can we do? Lots. First and foremost, our daily tefilot can reach the "*kisei hakavod*" of Hashem. We can give tzedakah. We can practice "*ahavat chinam*." We can try to visit Eretz Yisrael. And lots lots more. . . . but what we can't do is just sit and do nothing.

May this be the last Tisha B'Av! Have a meaningful fast.

-Rabbi Joel Cohn

Ask The Rabbi

This week, we asked Rabbi Mark Dratch, Morasha's camp rabbi, some of our campers' most common questions about observing Tisha B'Av.

Can I use deodorant on Tisha B'Av?

Please do. The prohibition of *sicha* is for pleasure, not for hygiene, so deodorant is permitted. Likewise, if the intention is for protection, such as suntan lotion, then you may use it.

Can I wear a leather belt on Tisha B'Av?

Yes. The prohibition against wearing leather only applies to shoes.

I know that I can wash my fingers to the knuckles. Which knuckles are we talking about?

We are talking about the knuckles in the middle of your hand. This means you can wash the whole fingers. If it's a very hot day, you can wipe your face with water from your fingers.

If I have a headache, can I take Tylenol without water?

That can be dangerous. If you're not feeling well, it's best to lie down and rest. And if you're *really* not feeling well, speak to your counselors.

Why can't I say "hi" and "how are you" to my friends?

Greeting someone is one of the restrictions of being in mourning, so we refrain from it on Tisha B'Av.

So what do I say to my friends when I see them?

A slight nod of the head is appropriate.

Can I brush my teeth on Tisha B'Av?

Our practice is not to.

Why don't we wear tefillin during shacharit on Tisha B'Av?

Tefillin is considered to be an adornment, like jewelry, and so on Tisha B'Av, we don't dress ourselves up. But there's still an obligation to wear tefillin, and the mourning is less intense in the afternoon, so we wear tefillin at mincha.

Campers and staff are invited to submit questions in the Shalhevet box, located in the library.

Staff Profile:

Rapping with the Ronens

If you attend shiurim (and we know you all do), then chances are that you have met Deganit and Tomer Ronen, who are here in Morasha for the first time working on Ed Staff. The Ronens are living in Riverdale, New York, for two years, where they both work as teachers at SAR until June. Afterwards, they will return to their home in Ashdod, where they have lived in Israel for seven years. In Ashdod, Tomer teaches boys at a *cheder*, and Deganit teaches first grade.

Both Tomer and Deganit were born in Israel. Tomer is the oldest of five siblings, and his family has always lived in Jerusalem. Deganit is the youngest of nine, and her parents are from Iraq. Both are Sefardim, and can tell you a thing or two about Sefardi customs. Tomer, for example, notes that many of the *minhagim* that Ashkenazim keep during the Nine Days are kept by Sefardim only during *shevua shechal bo*. While others started growing beards during the Three Weeks, Tomer was able to get a haircut: Sefardim prohibit haircuts only during the week in which Tisha B'Av occurs.

The Ronens are also great people to know if you want to improve your Hebrew. You can learn interesting Hebrew words that you probably never knew existed, such as "*lihitaklem*" (to acclimate) or "*licatleg*" (to catalog).

So what's the best thing about the USA? "The people," they both say. Both think that SAR is a wonderful school with a warm atmosphere. And it's nice that they are able to work in the same place, unlike in Israel, where the law prohibits two relatives from working in the same school. (To curtail "*protectzia*," explains Tomer.) Both are also enjoying visiting places they have never seen, such as Florida, Connecticut, New York, and Montreal, along with their children, David, 7, Shira, 6, and Adi, 2.

And what's the worst thing about living in the United States? Neither of the Ronens complain, although Tomer says he could do with some spicier food. Deganit says she misses her family, but "often we feel like people here are just like our family."

The Roving Reporter

By Daniel Gindis, Machon

Question: If you had \$1000 to spend in Camp Morasha, what would you spend it on?

"\$1000 in Camp Morasha? I would not spend \$1000 in Camp Morasha. I would spend \$100 for one drink every day and let the other \$900 grow in the bank." - ATC, Music Dept

"I would spend it on the bunk. I would get air conditioning." - Lauren Neuman, Music Dept

"Go away!" - Ron Weiss, Computer Staff

"Come back later." - Danny Beer, Machon/Computer Staff

"Replace the gym floor, but \$1000 would not cover it." - Benjy Singfer, waiter

"I don't know." - Daniella Rotenberg, Sports

"I would use the money to build an extension to my home." - Ruchie Winkler, Girls' Head Counselor

"I'd spend it all on clothing at the Morasha Sweatshop." - Lisa Lesnick, Morasha Sweatshop

"I would pay someone to do my jobs." - Jonathan Lauer, Machon

"I still don't know." - Daniella Rottenberg

"250 Pastrami Burgers." - Cobis, canteen

"I would buy many many many doggies and kitties for all of the children in the infirmary." - Zehava Bloch, Machon

"Koneh Ba'canteen." - Tomer Ronen, Ed Staff

"Food." - Goldie Ostreicher, Machon

Special thanks to Caryn Pollak and Masha Greenblatt for their help with Shalhevet last week!

Contest winners!

Congratulations to the Operations Dept, who was selected randomly from our entries, and will receive a free Powerade from the Morasha canteen! Sadly, nobody was able to completely solve all of last week's brain teasers. Last week's answers were:

1. Split level
2. Parallel bars
3. Odds and ends
4. 99.9

5. Take from the rich, give to the poor
6. Tennis shoes
7. Mixed-up child
8. Mother-in-law
9. I overate
10. A little on the large side
11. Foreign language
12. Won by a nose
13. The good, the bad, and the ugly
14. You're under arrest
15. It's a small world after all
16. Go for it
17. Wise guys

Check out this week's contest for another chance to win!

BRAIN TEASERS

Can you find the answers to these puzzles? Submit your answers with your name and bunk number in the Shalhevet box in the library. Anyone who gets them all correctly will be entered in a drawing to receive a free Powerade. If nobody gets all of them, we will give the prize to the one who has the most correct answers. To give you an idea of how to do these, the first one is done for you. Good luck!

1. Le
vel (Split level)

9. nafish
nafish

2. beating
beating bush beating
beating

10. mstickud

11. a chance n

3. long
do

12. OdOoOmO

4. ware
mholey

13. belt
hitting

14. bad bad

5. chawhoworge

15. ME
ENU RATE

6. b b
m m
u u
h h
t t

16. cover
cop

7. thingthing

8. JJJOOOHHHHNNNSSS