



NINE  
DAYS  
BEGIN  
TODAY

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ראש חודש אב  
פרשת מטות-מסעי

# News Of THE WEEK

## NINE DAYS OF AV BEGIN TODAY

Today, Rosh Chodesh Av, marks the beginning of the saddest period of the Jewish calendar year, The Nine Days. The Mishna tells us that once Av begins, joy and happiness is to be lessened. Our activities take a more serious nature. We do not listen to music, do laundry, swim for pleasure, or eat meat (unless we are fortunate enough to attend a Siyum).

The Nine Days lead up to Tisha B'Av, to be observed next Sunday, on which we fast and mourn over the destruction of the Beit Hamikdash.

Listen for announcements of special camp activities for this significant period.

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## SHTILIM STAR IN MANY MOONS

Shtilim took to the stage for the opening production of Morasha's Drama Season under the direction of Ricki Zibbit last Tuesday and Sunday in the Mercazia.

Starring in Many Moons were Tzipporah Winkler, Charles Fagin, Erica Wolf, Rachel Blum, Elizabeth Parker, Yitzie Shapiro, David Sanders, Noam Cohen, Pirchei Lifshitz, and Susan Helft.

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## DAY CAMP WINS SHIRIAH; GIRLS PLACE SECOND

As always, the winner of this year's SHIRIAH held Wednesday night in the Mercazia was Day Camp. The Girls took second place.

Top vote of the night went to an original composition with both words and music by Jeff Braverman of the Music Department.

Machon, together with their counterparts from Camp Bnei Brith, also participated.

Gilad Lerer, Morasha Music Director, did an outstanding job of coordinating the event.

The Boys are bound to win next year !!

## CAMP LIBRARY PURCHASES NEW ADDITIONS

In order to enrich the summer's enjoyment several new books have been purchased by the library under the direction of Rabbi Dr. M. Orlan.

In the reference area Adin Steingaltz's pioneering commentary to the Masechet Peah of the Talmud Yerushalmi is prominent. To complete the volumes of the Steinsaltz Bavli commentary Masechtot Yebamot and Ketubot were bought.

The 10 volume set of Kaf Hachayim bolsters our Halacha section. A wonderful commentary on the Torah by R. Yaakov Meklenberg called haketav Vehakabbalah is now available in the Chumash section along with the 2 volume set of the Mizrachi in large format.

One of the great contributions to the study of Mishnah has been the commentary by Pinchas Kehati- Three of the volumes have been translated into English are on the shelves along with the two complete sets in Hebrew. The fourth volume on Menegrove's Translation of Sefer haHinuch containing Sefer Bamidbar and Devarim has also been added.

The new additions in the Parasha Hashavua section are Tal Hermon and Parasha U'Pishrah. The latter being a unique publicistic approach to the weekly Torah reading.

For many years thousands of people had attended the Yahrzeit sheurim of Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveichik. Now a volume entitled Yeme Zikaron has recently been published containing a Hebrew translation (these shiurim were originally delivered in Yiddish.) This book circulates.

A number of books on the lighter side which have been purchased will be outlined next week.

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## HAZEL TOV

Hazel Tov to the entire Oratz family on the Bar Mitzvah of Moshe Mordecai this Shabbas on the Old Pargod. Moshe Mordecai was the first Morashanik to be born in Honesdale, Pa.

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SPEAKER TONITE:

Rabbi Hershel Billet, 10:15, Pargod

# TORAH THOUGHTS

OUR FACULTY WRITES....

## ON THE NINE DAYS

By Rabbi Steve Richter

As we begin the Nine Days the concept of Ahavat Chinam becomes more and more pronounced. The Gemara Sanhedrin records that Reb Zarah lived in a town where hoodlums and robbers were found. He always spoke with them and befriended them. The Chachamim of that generation objected to his actions. How can a Talmid Chacham like Reb Zarah associate himself with the dregs of society they asked.

When Reb Zarah passed away these same Chachamim asked: Who will daven for Kl'al Yisroel in a Shaat Tzarah (Time of Trouble)? Immediately they did T'shuvah.

Didn't these Chachamim know how to daven to Hakodosh Boruch Hu? Why were the t'filot of Reb Zarah so special?

It was Reb Zarah who was compassionate to those around him despite their shortcomings. Therefore, it was only he who could ask for the compassion, mercy and sensitivity because he himself acted in the same manner.

During the Nine Days we should try our best to capitalize on using these Midot of Reb Zarah.

In this Z'chut may we be zocheh to see the rebuilding of the Beis Hamikdash Bimhayrah V' Yamaynu.

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## AN EXCERPT FROM GROWTH THROUGH TORAH

Sforno comments on this week's Parsha: When a person has the ability to protest and remains silent, his silence is similar to verbal consent. When you do not say something to disagree it is as if you agree with what was said or done.

A practical application: Someone might say something in your presence that is improper. Whenever your silence can be interpreted as agreement you have an obligation to speak the truth.

A D'VAR TORAH ON.....

## PARSHAT MATTOT-MAASEI

By Ben Weiner, YP Kollel

In Parshat Mattos/Maasei we learn of G-d's commandment to Moshe Rabbenu to execute revenge on the Midianites for the sins which they caused B'nai Yisra'el to commit. The Torah says that Moshe sent out an army led by Pinchas the Kohain which defeated the Midianites and killed their kings including Bilaam the Prophet. This battle therefore is the conclusion of a story which began two parshiot ago with Bilaam's attempted cursing of B'nei Yisroel then led to B'nei Yisroel's sins with the Midianites and then to Pinchas' act of valor in killing Zimri and Cosb' bat-Tzur which led to the Midianite downfall. We can gain further insight into the sequence of events by analyzing each of the main character's individual motivations behind their actions.

Chazal say that "In Israel no prophet like Moses rose again" - but one rose up like him in the nations - Bilaam. Bilaam was one of the greatest prophets of all time, says R. Chaim Shmuelowitz in "Sichos Mussar" but he brought about his own downfall by using his tremendous G-d given abilities for the bad instead of the good. He twisted G-d's words around for his own benefit, and lived a terribly immoral life. Bilaam knew better - he knew he had immense powers, but chose to live on this merit alone submitting to his worldy urges for his whole life and still assuming that he'd die a death as honorable as Abraham's.

Pinchas on the other hand was basically devoid of such merit before he killed Zimri. He acted out of his own zeal for the sake of Hashem and only then did he receive membership in the Kehuna (Rashi). Therefore since his zeal to do that which was not even expected of him but what he knew was right exactly opposed Bilaam's lack of zeal to do what he should have known was right (follow G-d's word). Pinchas was selected by Moshe to lead the army against the Midianites and bring about Bilaam's demise.

Moshe even though he knew he was bringing his own death ever closer acted with unwavering faith and without hesitation.

# צמוד צבר

בימי האמבטיה

"מה את דוֹעֵה? האניה נפגעה וזה כחם שמן..."



טוב לצאתה

התבסקחה הקטנה

"משה" אמר המורה, "אתה מדבר בלי שום הפסקה?"  
 "לא, המורה," ענה לו משה, "לפעמים רחל מפסיקה אותי."

האדם צוה השנה

החרף הגיע, ורפי מסביר לחבריו:  
 "לאבא שלי יש קרחת, כי הוא עומד בשלכת..."

הנושא והנושא

"אמר לי, יוסי," שאלה המורה, "למה החבור שלך מלקלח?"  
 "אבל המורה," מצטדק יוסי, "הלא בקשת שנכתב על הנושא לכלוכית..."

על שלשה דברים / לאה גולדברג

אמר הדיג היורד לים  
 על שלשה דברים העולם קים -  
 על מי הימים,  
 על חופי היבשת  
 ועל זגי המצולה העולים בְּרֶשֶׁת.

אמר האכר המזכיל מחרשה:  
 עומד העולם על דברים שלשה -  
 על אדמת השדות,  
 על גשמי שמים,  
 ועל לחם מוצא בועת אפים

אמר האגון בכיתו הבודד:  
 על שלשה דברים העולם עומד -  
 על לבו של אדם,  
 על יפי הטבע,  
 על בטוי הדברים בצליל וצבע.

אמר האדם הפוקח עיניו:  
 עשרו של עולם מה נפלא ומה רב -  
 בקרבך

ולכד בלפי כְּבִרְשֵׁת  
 העולם ומלואו,  
 המצולה, היבשת,  
 ואורות וצללים  
 וחגים וחלון,  
 ומלים וצלילים  
 ושדות שבלים  
 וכל צבעי הקשת.

# Shalhevet

# Features

## STAFFER OF THE ISSUE

\*\*\*\*\* BARBARA DEUTSCH

"MORASHA is not just camp. It's a mystical experience." evaluates our new Rosh Machon Barbara Deutsch.

Peppy, bright, and full of life, Barbara blends right in with her charges. Busy at work cutting out bowties and planning BBYO Day as she was being interviewed, our Rosh Machon was typically doing more than one task at a time.

For most of the year Barbara is the Program Director and Student Activities Coordinator of the Yeshiva of Flatbush Middle School (450 kids) where she also teaches history to seventh and eighth graders. She used to be a secretary at Camp Seneca where her son Dov attends. Her daughter Rachel (G 15) is a Nitzi and Meredith (G 11) is in Morasha for the sixth summer. Her husband commutes to Morasha weekly.

How did she get to Morasha? "Rabbi Wahrhaftig conned me into it and Tully Besser backed him up." ("Now I'm glad I came.")

Barbara holds a B.A. from Hunter College in Education and History and a Master's from Brooklyn in Reading Remediation. In addition she's earned a success record in making Shiduchim (helping people find their Basherts) "I specialize in the over 30's."

Our newcomer sees Morasha as a big happy family- a friendly place with everyone wanting to help- a great staff, excellent & plentiful food, a wonderful Shabbat experience with Kollel/Machon interaction and Jay & Charlie in the Maodon kitchen, and on and on.....

Her goals for the summer: To help Machoniks experience a summer to remember, not to step on too many toes, to be nice to Mark, find Avraham a bank account, help Esti pass ALS, increase Atata's wardrobe, & find free time for Nati to do important things.

Hatz'acha Barbara and welcome aboard!

---R.S.

## CAMPER CLOSE-UPS

As the Camper Close-Up column gains in popularity (second only to Roving Reporter) more Morashaniks will be spotlighted. This week's interviews took place outside the Bondis (Not on class time Rabbi Rhein.)

DONNY APPEL (B 8), ROCKY SCHECHTER (B8) and DAVID ROSENFELD (B 11) all live in Queens attend the Yeshiva of Central Queens and claim basketball as their favorite activity. Donny lives in Jamaica Estates has a brother in Mechina and one on staff and hasn't decided what profession he'll go into.

Rocky has a brother in Nitzanim lives in Hillcrest and wants to be an orthodontist or lawyer. Rocky and Donny are both 13.

David is 14 and lives in Kew Garden Hills. His sister is in Nitzanim and when he grows up he wants to be a fireman- unless he changes his mind.

TZIVKA GRUNFELD (B 7) comes to Morasha all the way from Los Angeles where he attends Hillel Hebrew Academy. He's 13 years o'd. has a brother in Shtilim also claims basketball as his favorite activity and aspires to be a lawyer.

BEHIR SABBAN (B 8) is a Sefardi from Riverdale where he attends SAR. His brother is a Nitzi and his favorite activity is baseball. Behir also wants to be a lawyer.

JOANNA STEINLAUF (G8) and SHANI FENIG-STEIN (G8) represent the girls' contingent from L.A. Both are 13 and attend Hillel Academy. Johanna likes waterskiing her brother is a JC. Johanna's future plan? To be an Anchorwoman on TV news!

SHANI'S sister will be coming to camp in August. How's this for a profession: Shani wants to be a proembryo biologist. Ask her what she will do.

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