



I N S I D E
PIDYON B'CHOR...TWO SHOWS...CHAMPIONS..
STAFFER...TORAH...IVRI...ROVING...
LOOKING BACK...OHED...ALUFOT...DAYCAMP..
NITZIS...SHTILIS...

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ערב ראש חודש אלול

פרשת ראה

News of the Week

PIDYON BICHOR AT MORASHA

by: Benjy Epstein and David Sandel

On Sunday Machzor Aleph boys celebrated a very unique *Pidyon Bichor*. It happened like this. One day in Rabbi Wadler's Gemorah class we were learning about the obligations that a father has to his son. One of those obligations is *Pidyon Bichor*. *Pidyon Bichor* is a *Mitzvah* where the father must redeem his 31+ day old son by giving a Kohen five silver dollars. We learned that if the father did not redeem his son, then the son must redeem himself upon reaching *Bar-Mitzvah* age. One of the students in the class spoke to Rabbi Wadler about his having to redeem himself! This special individual is Avraham Bogoraz. Avraham is an immigrant from Russia who didn't have the opportunity to practice *Mitzvot* until coming to America. Since coming to America he has learned Hebrew and English in under a year, and is busy catching up on all the *Mitzvot* he missed, including the *Pidyon Bichor*. The ceremony was very beautiful, and everyone was very excited for Avraham. After the actual ceremony, there was singing and dancing as Avraham was raised up on a chair. We all wish Avraham much *hatzlacha* in his new life.

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MORASHA READY FOR MORASHIA

"We're all ready," revealed Rabbi Mordecai Besser, Program Director of Camp Morasha, speaking for this year's Color War Coordinating Committee which he chairs. Campers never know...The eagerly anticipated highlight of the camp season may start at any time...

Serving with Rabbi Besser on the Coordinating Committee are Michelle Sarasohn, assistant to the director, and Debby Yarmush, former waterfront head. With such professional direction, we're sure to experience a top notch program.

Get ready...get set..

TWO SHOWS IN ONE WEEK DELIGHT MORASHANIKS

A second dramatic production this week will delight Morasha audiences just as the Nitzi/Day Camp presentation of "Disney in Review" last Wednesday brought raving reviews.

Once again under the creative, talented direction of Michal Goldberg, assisted by Neil Bromberg and Jonathan Tropper, Morasha campers- this time the Ilanot- will present "Kate" to the whole camp on Sunday. Cast in leading roles are Gili Perl, Noam Cohen, Michael Shimansky, Esther Resnick, Joseph Etra, Tova Renov, Danielle Wasserman, Shira Abromowitz, Adam Klein, Naf tali Balsam, Jamin Werblowsky, Avi Newmark, Yossi Cohen, Karen Zelenetz, and Ayala Zolton.

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MAZEL TOV

***To Rena Cohn and parents Rabbi Joel and Shulamith of the Ed Staff on her Bat Mitzvah being celebrated tonight
***To Estee Schiff on her Bat Mitzvah on Sunday
***To Adam Klein for putting on T'fillin for the first time on Wednesday
***To Dr. Anna Wruble, the nurse, on having achieved a PhD in nursing.

WELCOME BACK

To Shelley Berman and to Elan Schwed and parents Shayne and Larry. We missed you.

ROSH CHODESH ELLUL

Rosh Chodesh Ellul begins tonite- a very significant time of the year for each of us. Let's all take advantage of Ani L'Dodi V'Dodi Li.

BLOOD COUNTS

Ninety-five pints of blood were contributed in this year's Blood Drive. Yeyasher Koachem to all who participated.

SPEAKER TONITE

2. Rabbi Joseph Grunblatt of the Queens Jewish Cent



TORAH THOUGHTS



OUR FACULTY WRITES. . .

A D'VAR TORAH ON

ON PARSHAT EKEV

PARSHAT R'EH

By Rabbi Eli Lerner

By Evan Rubin, JSS Kollel

(Oops. We apologize. A D'var Torah on this week's Parsha appeared last week.)

At the end of last week's Parsha, the Torah commands us **...l'ahavah et Hashem... v'davkah bo** - to love Hashem and to cling to Him. Rashi (quoting the Gemara) asks how is it possible to cling to Hashem who is compared to an All Consuming Fire. The answer given is that one who associates with **talmeidei Chachomim** is considered to have associated with **Hakodosh Boruch Hu**.

There may be another way to understand this Posuk. Recently at a gathering of Machon and staff, someone related an insight that he had heard many years ago from Mr. Abraham Carmel, z"l. Mr. Carmel was a Roman Catholic priest who eventually converted to Judaism and became a **ger tzedek**. When asked what attracted him to Yahadut he responded that it was the framework of Halacha establishing a "24 hours a day" relationship with G-d. This is the idea of **U'ladavkah bo** - a constant awareness of Hashem's presence and the individual's ability to relate to Him on a personal level.

As Mr. Carmel understood so well, **u'ladavkah bo** is not only a demand. It is also the granting of a wonderful opportunity given to no other people on earth - to establish an intimate relationship with the **Ribono Shel Olam**.

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From.. LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

The Gemara cites the verse..."And give you mercy" to show that one of the basic traits of the Jewish people is that of being merciful. The essence of compassion is being able to imagine yourself in someone else's situation. It is the resulting softness of the heart that makes one sensitive to other's suffering.

The last topic discussed in this week's Parsha of **Re'eh** is that of the Sholosh Regolim, the three pilgrimage festivals of Pesach, Shevuos, and Sukkos. In the final two posukim of the parsha, after detailing certain particulars about each yom tov, the Torah makes a general statement. The accepted English translation of the Posukim tells us that all Jewish males are required to appear before Hashem in a place chosen by Hashem on each of the three regalim. We cannot come before Hashem empty-handed, but we must give as much as we can in accordance with the **bracha** that Hashem has given us.

The first perek of **Mesechet Chagiga** helps us to understand those posukim. The **Gemara** derives that all "free" Jewish men are required to bring two **korbonot** every Yom Tov, **Olos r'eah** and **Shlomei Chagiga**. The first Mishneh states the minimum requirements for each **korban**, one being one portion of silver, the other being two, and a **machlokes** between Hillel and Shammai exists as to which is which. A later Mishneh tells us what the other requirements of the **korbonot** are. The **Tannah** states that someone with a large family and little money brings many **shlaymim** and few **olos**, while someone in the opposite situation brings many **olos** and few **shlaymim**. About someone who has a small family and little money the aforementioned minimum requirements are learned. As for one possessing a large family and abundant means, the posuk says, "Every man as he is able according to the b'racha given him by Hashem."

As the time of **Bias goale Tzedek** comes closer every day, learning these Halachot becomes steadily more important. In Yertza Hashem may we be able to put the words of **Mesechet Chagiga** to use in the third Beit Hamikdash in Yerushalayim.

1/18/80 JRE

