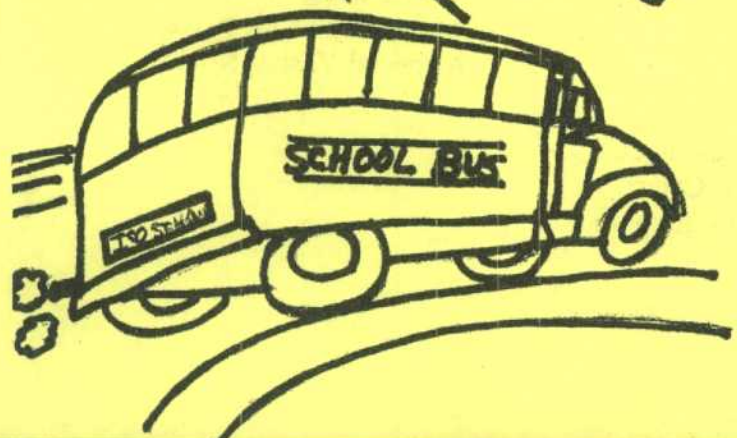
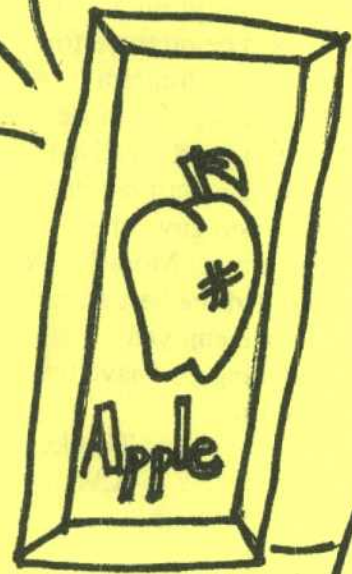


Back To School Issue 6

# SHALHEVET

1998

שנה טובה





## From the Camp Director's Chair:

Dear Camp Family,

Yes! that is what we become the moment we arrive at camp. One large camp family with many little families in each division and each bunk. Hopefully we have gotten closer and nicer to each other as our summer days rolled by. The season went by so quickly because our days were filled with wonderful activities and events. Our memories will be filled with the many exciting moments we experienced this summer thanks to our Head Counselors who hired such a great staff, our counselors for caring and being there for us, the sport staff for helping us improve our athletic skills, woodshop, arts & crafts for helping us create beautiful things, the dance department for helping us kick up our heels with gusto and exuberance, the drama

and music department for moving us deeply and raising our spirits, our teachers for enabling us to enjoy so many events, the overnight staff for taking us OUT to dinner and to the great outdoors, the camp mother's for wiping away tears and making sure that campers ate and had clean clothes, the water front staff for the new skills we developed on water as well as tubing, skiing and rafting down the Delaware, the chefs and cooks and kitchen staff who prepared our high powered energy foods, and our waiters and dining room staff who served us with a smile, to the canteen staff for all that "junk," to all our doctors, nurses and entire infirmary staff for keeping us healthy, to the library staff for those great stories and encouraging us to read so much that we plan to continue once we get home, for all the Torah and midot we learned from our Teachers, to our drivers who took us where we had to go and brought us what we needed from Kibud to supplies, our house keepers for taking care of our bunks, Camp America for setting up

and helping in the kitchen, to the bakery in the kitchen for those delicious additional calories, and to the new baking program for showing us how to bake and decorate so we can now impress our moms, our Division Heads for listening and helping us solve our problems and always being there for us, to the Program Department for those exciting and creative programs, last but not least you guys, the campers of Morasha '98 you had the best attitude and we enjoyed watching you have the best time.

Thanks.  
A.W.



Dear Moshe Berl,  
Thanks for transforming the Pargod into a truly exotic place. A special Yashar Koach.  
A.W.



Dear Marv,

Our resident chief Role Model, Refuah Shlemah and may we share good news.

עד מאה ועשרים שנה

A.W.

## Machon '98

Dear Machon,

What can I say?

You have met and surpassed all of our expectations. You worked well in your bunks and specialty areas. You served as role models for younger campers to aspire to.

We watched you grow with great enthusiasm and appreciation. In short you were an inspiration to us all. It was a pleasure listening to your Divrei Torah and your thoughts at Hadracha.

We look forward to your assuming leadership roles in your respective communities and hope to welcome you back on staff next year. Shana tova & Thanks. A. Wahrhaftig



As another summer draws to a close, let us reflect upon this year's camp theme, which was קבוץ גלויות. Every Jew counts, the following as an excerpt from the introduction to this year's camp study guide.

We are limbs of the same body, the Talmud teaches. If while slicing food, the right hand inadvertently cuts the left, would the left hand then vengefully act in kind and wound the right? The Jewish people, in its long trek across the horizon of history, stands at a most momentous time. The most all encompassing vision of our ancient prophets of the return of Hashem's graces can be encapsulated in three Hebrew words:

ושבו בנים לגבולם

(Jeremiah 31). We are the generation fortunate enough to be alive when this prophecy is being realized. More Jews made Aliyah in the last decade than in any period in Jewish history since the days of

Yehoshua.

When our ancestors left Egypt, Chazal say that they streamed into the Yam Suf in 12 different columns and yet walked together as one towards Matan Torah. They traveled through the desert in 12 different camps, all facing the משכן in the midst of their camp. Today, Jews again move in many different columns and even observant Jews serve Hashem according to many different customs.

The campers and staff at Morasha stem from many different backgrounds and we may stand in somewhat different columns in our service of Hashem. We are Ashkenazim and Sephardim. Some of us have more of a Chassidik background, some more of a Misnagdishe background and some neither. We wear yarmulkes of all shapes, sizes and fabrics. But each and every one of us counts towards the Jewish goal of תקון עולם and casting a light unto Hashem's world, which will be much brighter if we carry the torch by incorporating these

messages.

May we all enjoy a successful and healthy year.

כתיבה וחתימה טובה

Rabbi Allen Schwartz  
(Camp Rabbi)



On Tisha B' Av, a number of campers wrote letters to American soldiers. These letters, along with Machzorim which we covered, bound and saved from burial will be sent to Jewish American Soldiers for Rosh Hashana & Yom Kippur. Here are some of the messages the campers wished to convey:

Hi Mr. Soldier,  
You have defended our country. Thank you. The commercial, "Be all that you can be," has really come true for you.

Sincerely,  
Shlomo Yaros

Dear Soldier,

Hi! my name is Michal Gabriella Wagner. You probably don't know but you're doing a very big mitzvah which means good deed. Thank you for saving and protecting us.

Love,  
Michal Wagner

Dear Soldier,

I hope you will be all right. My name is Shimshon, I am 10 years old. I live in Israel. I am very short. I hope G-d will take care of you, and you should be matzliach. I like basketball.

Shimshon Rapaport

Dear Soldier,

Thank you very very much for protecting our country. It means a lot to me that you are risking your life for the good of the U.S.A. I wish only the best to you. I hope every day to you is happy.

Sincerely yours,  
Jared Sussman

## The Mitzvah of Tzedaka: צדקה

בפרשתנו מדובר, בין היתר על מצוות צדקה. מהמילים "פתוח טתפתח את ידך" אנו לומדים

שיש ציוו לפתוח את היד ולתת לעני והבטחה שאם

נפתח פעם אחת נלמד לפתוח עוד הרבה פעמים, כי מצוות צדקה באה ללמדנו לתת, ולעורר בנו רוח נדיבות ומעבר לזה מובטח לנו שאם נתן צדקה הקב"ה יוסיף על ממונינו כאמור במשלי: "י"א, כ"ד" יש מפזר ויוסיף עוד"

העוסק בצדקה זוכה בקיום מצווה, במעלות טובות ובברכת ה'. הגמרא בבא בתרא י"ה" אומרת: גדולה צדקה ה שמקרבת את הגאול יהי רצון שנוכה בגאול שלמה במהרה, במשנה מסכ' אבות ה, טז נאמר: "יתן ויתנו אחרים, חסיד"

סיפור-

Rabbi Yechezkel Landau, the famed rabbi of Prague and author of *Noda B'Yehudah*, was once asked to contribute to a fund to ransom Jewish captives, which was a common problem in Eastern Europe. The delegation explained that 300 *rendlich* were needed to free a Jew from captivity. The

*Noda B'Yehudah Noda B'Yehudah* went into a side room and returned with 290 *rendlich*. "This is my contribution. Please solicit the rest of the money from others." he said.

The rabbi sensed that the collectors, although thrilled with the

donation, wondered why he had chosen not to complete the *mitzvah*, when it was in his power to give another ten *rendlich*. He explained, "You have forgotten the mishnah: *One who wishes to give himself but wants others not to give berudges others.* I want others, as well to share in the *mitzvah*."

According to the Chofetz Chaim it is this principle that underlies the interesting contrast between the support systems of secular and Torah institutions. A secular institution, such as a university, is often funded by one wealthy benefactor who is ready to endow fully the building of its structures. Yeshivot, on the other hand,

must solicit hundreds, if not thousands, of small contributions in order to fund even a modest building. The reason is that all Jews must have a share in the support of Torah. G-d, in accordance with the dictate of the mishnah, does not

allow one person a monopoly on philanthropy. He added that the merit of supporting Torah study is so great that it can only be shared by the masses of Jews; no individual is worthy of the entire merit.

מהמילה "נתן" הנותנת  
להקרא ישר והפוך ניתן  
ללמוד שהנותן גם מקבל

יהר שבימי אלול אלה  
נוכה כולנו להוסיף  
בצדקה בזוכרנו האמירה"  
תשובה ותפילה וצדקה  
מעבירין את רוע הגזרה"  
המון תודה לכולם,  
במיוחד לאיילון אליין!

שבת שלום  
-ברוריה-



## Readathon

### Scores are in & the winners are:

G7- Michal Wagner  
G8- Rachel Grosser  
G9- Jaclyn Ostreicher  
G10- Andrea  
Kimmel/Aliza Veroba  
G11-Shayn Abramson/  
Alex KeEstenbaum

B16- Moshe Schwartz  
B17- David Baruch  
B18- Yaakov Kolb/  
Ariel Meiri  
B19- David Kukin

### Special Honorable Mention goes to: Chaim Cohen & Sammy Bienenfeld

Congratulations to all the participants in this summer's Readathon. Thanks for making it the most successful Readathon in Camp Morasha's history.

-Rock-

A special thanks to Shulamit & Joel Cohn for donating Malbim Chumash in memory of Harav Akiva ben Eliezer Zvi Predmesky.

Also thanks to the Warburg & Storch families who contributed books from their personal libraries.

# Daf Ed



## THE MEDIUM IS THE MESSAGE

Rabbi Neil Fleischmann

Hashem tells us this week, in our parsha, that He has put a blessing before us all. Rav Samson Raphael Hirsch points out that the introductory words of Parshat Re'eh may be taken at face value. Rather than stating that if we listen then we WILL BE blessed, the pasuk states that the blessing IS if we listen. Besides any reward that we will one day receive, the mitzva itself is reward. As Rav Hirsch so beautifully puts it, "With every Mitzva we do, we bless ourselves".

This is an important idea to remember. That's why Moshe Rabbeinu emphasized this point in his last talk with Am Yisrael. In last week's parsha too, he mentioned this idea in a way that we sometimes overlook and miss.

In Parshat Eikev Moshe suggests that Hashem doesn't ask for much from us. But then he goes ahead and lists all the things that Hashem asks, and it sure does sound like a lot, (to fear Hashem, follow his ways, all his laws, and much much more)!!! But the Ramban kindly & wisely draws our attention to the end of the list, where Moshe adds 2 words - "letov lach"/ "for your own good". If someone (it doesn't matter if it's a parent, a counselor, a coach, or even G-d) asks us to do something, it really is not asking too much, if all that they ask is for our benefit).

As a great Summer ends it's time to appreciate the good in our Summers and in our lives. We are all blessed by having been in the positive Torah villiage which is Morasha. This beautiful environment and relaxing time can serve to remind us that following Hashem's Word gives us the best life anyone could ever dream of.

In one of the terrific shows of the Summer there was a line which connects to the idea that keeping the Torah itself is the biggest and best reward of all. Tevye says to Hashem, "I know that we're the chosen people, but could you do us a favor and choose someone else for a while?!!" I disagree with Tevye, and so does our "tradition". Being chosen by G-d was a blessing, and is the greatest gift of all. May we all be blessed by Hashem, and bless ourselves, with continued growth in Torah, throughout the year, and for the rest of our lives.