

# Shalhevet

Friday, June 28, 2002

18 Tamuz 5762

Erev Shabbat Parshat Pinchas

Welcome  
To  
Camp Morasha!!!

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## Welcome!!!

Summer 2002 in Camp Morasha has officially begun and we're so excited! To all the familiar faces – we can't wait to continue where we left off last summer. To all the new campers and staff members – we're looking forward to showing you around and welcoming you into our ever-growing Morasha family.

So – let's not waste any more time, let's look around, ask about and find out . . .

## Whats New in Camp Morasha?

As the boys pulled into camp, you couldn't help but notice the beautiful new **shack at the boys waterfront**. As usual, Tzvi and his able staff are ready to provide you with a summer filled with fun water activities and the new shack will certainly help them do just that.

In order to ensure the safety and security of all our campers and staff, a very **convenient path** has been paved that will lead you from the bottom of the dining room straight to boys campus.

Looking for a place to play ball on boys campus during those busy hours of the day? Look no further – the **lower courts** have been fixed up and are all ready for some very exciting games of basketball.

The minor changes made in the **canteen** have really given it a whole new look – a higher ceiling, a new paint job and a ping pong table are sure to make it even more inviting to campers and staff members alike.

**Girls Waterfront** reports that they now have a banana boat that seats 6, a tremendous water trampoline (prepare to get very wet!) and they will be continuing their very successful Swim and Stay Fit program, so stay tuned to find out about fun prizes.

The **Music Department** is thrilled (you can't even imagine how thrilled) to welcome back Randi Wartelsky (nee Sorscher). They can't believe that Shiriah is already here and they were working hard even before you got here to ensure that it will be the greatest Shiriah ever. In order to remember *acheinu kol beit yisrael*, even on one of the most joyous nights in camp, they have selected one song for each campus that will reflect the current situation in Israel. A representative of each campus will explain the words and everyone in the audience will get a copy of the text.

**Ed Staff** is proud to introduce their young and dynamic new members. Rabbi Jeff Holman, Rabbi Jeremy and Ilana Spierer, Mordechai Diskind (formerly a boys campus division head), Pasha Rosner (formerly on day camp staff), Rabbi Daniel (check out his cool accent) and Elisheva (granddaughter of a very important person at Camp Morasha) Liss are sure to make this summer both educational and enjoyable for all.

**Fishing?!?** At Camp Morasha?!? You did read that correctly. There is now a fishing dock and an instructor — what an exciting addition to the boys campus schedule!

The **Drama Department** is enthusiastic about their upcoming productions. Machzor Aleph will be starring in *Mary Poppins* and Machzor Bet (and anyone else who's interested) will be putting on *The Sound of Music*. Alufim will perform in *The Letters of Yonatan Netanyahu* and Staff will provide us with a very moving drama entitled, *Whose Life is it Anyway?*

The **Dance Department** is already in full swing with an exciting performance by the girls counselors on opening night. The biggest and best dances straight from Israel will be taught by our returning dance instructor, Dina Brilliant. And, following the tremendous success of last year's girls campus Salute to Israel production, there is another one already in the making – stay tuned for more details.

**THE MORASHA SWEATSHOP IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS!!!**

- Rain Ponchos!
- Mesh Shorts!
- Long Sleeve T-Shirts!
- Scrubs!
- Fleece Blankets!

*Come check out all the new Morasha-Wear!*

Located beneath the Pargod  
Open Monday-Wednesday  
1:30-3:30 (during rest hour), or by  
appointment, call Lisa Lesnik at  
ext. 229.

## Whats New in the Big Wide World?

President Bush declared that Palestinians must elect a new leader before the United States can support an independent country for its people.

A law that gives girls and boys equal opportunities in sports and education programs celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary this week.

Local leaders in Afghanistan elected a president to head their war-torn country.

Fans at Busch Stadium observed 57 seconds of silence (Darryl Kile's uniform number was 57) before the St. Louis Cardinals' first home game since the untimely death of their pitcher.

## Weekend Weather Forecast

(as of Wednesday, June 25):

Friday: Partly cloudy with highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 50s.

Shabbos: Sunny with highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 50s.

Sunday: Partly cloudy with highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 60s.

**Parsha:** Pinchas

**Light Candles:** 7:19

**Shabbos Ends:** 8:28

**Pirkei Avos:** 6th Perek

# Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Skunks (But Were Afraid to Get Close Enough to Find Out)

## Do skunks like children?

With calm, reasonably quiet children who are willing to listen and learn to handle them properly, skunks are extremely receptive. But, if a child is behaving aggressively or chasing them, they are very likely to spray or try to bite.

## What do skunks eat?

Their diet is widely varied. Most of their diet consists of different types of vegetables. But, they also love fruits, chicken, dairy products, fish and many types of junk food. However, many preservatives, such as sulfur dioxide and MSG, found in our foods can be fatal to skunks. Chocolate is very deadly, as are seeds, nuts and red meat.

## Do skunks have sharp teeth and claws?

Their teeth are sharp, but their claws are not. Their claws are simply used for digging, not for ripping. While certainly capable of biting, a skunk that is handled gently and that has a good diet will do so very rarely.

## How long do skunks live?

Skunks have a relatively long life span, many times living well into their 20s.

## Can skunks be kept as pets?

Skunks can be descended at about 4 weeks of age. As with any type of animal, they are not for everyone, but for those people with patience, understand-

ing and a sense of humor, they are wonderful, affectionate and cuddly pets. They can be housebroken by placing a litter box, with newspaper, in a corner that they choose and they will go there.

## Are all skunks black and white?

NO! Skunks come in many different colors including, many shades of brown, grey and blonde. There are albino skunks that are white with pink eyes. There are even lavender skunks. They can have 2, 4 or 6 stripes. Sometimes they have spots or swirls mixed in amongst their stripes. Their tails come in all different shapes and sizes – they can be as different as we are!

## Do skunks make noises?

While skunks are virtually silent animals, they do sometimes make a soft bird-like whistle that is generally a sign of curiosity or affection. If they are angry or afraid they might make a loud, jarring screech.

*Do you enjoy writing?*

Do you want to see your name in print?

*Did you do something exciting this week, or know of something interesting, that you would like to share with the whole camp?*

Then . . .

Shalhevet is the place for you.

Call Yafa Storch at extension 265 or put a note in the Shalhevet box in the library and we will be sure to include your articles and/or ideas!

# PARSHA PAGE

## Dv'ar Torah

By Rabbi Joel Cohn

The first week of camp is filled with promise and hope. We are all looking forward to fun, relaxation, making new friends and mastering new skills. We have the luxury of leaving the hot city behind and enjoying the bucolic beauty of Lake Como, Pa.

At the same time that we anticipate all these new things, the parsha stresses to us the importance keeping our regular routines, "שנה שנים ליום תמיד" כבשים בני.

The *korban tamid* represents the consistency that is required in our *avodat Hashem*. Every morning and every afternoon, every day of every year, the *korban tamid* was offered – no exceptions.

So it is too with our *avodat Hashem*. Though there will be much that is new and exciting this summer, we must always remain consistent in our performance of *mitzvot*. Camp is a wonderful place to elevate our *tefila*, *talmud torah* and *mitzvot ben adam lchaveiro*. Please God, these will all remain *tamid* with you.

One of the tragedies that befell *am yisrael* on *shiva asar b'tamuz* was that the *korban tamid* ceased to be brought. When our *avodat Hashem* is inconsistent it is truly a reason to fast. By making sure that our performance of *mitzvot* is consistent we hope to regain our ability to bring the *korban tamid* and all other *korbanot* in the *Beit Hamikdash*, *in yerushalaim ir hakodesh bimheira byameinu*.

## Sedra Stats

- 41<sup>st</sup> of the 54 *sedras*;
- 8<sup>th</sup> of 10 in *Bamidbar*
- Written on 280 lines in a *Sefer Torah* – 2<sup>nd</sup> most in the Torah
- 168 *psukim* – 2<sup>nd</sup> most in the Torah, 2<sup>nd</sup> most in *Bamidbar*
- 1887 words – 9<sup>th</sup> most in the Torah (what a drop!), 2<sup>nd</sup> most in *Bamidbar*
- 7853 letters – 4<sup>th</sup> most in the Torah, 2<sup>nd</sup> most in *Bamidbar*
- Contains 6 of 613 *mitzvot* – all positive. 1 of only 6 *sedras* in the entire Torah that have only positive *mitzvot*.

## Torah Trivia

1. How old did a Jew have to be in order to be counted in the census that Hashem commanded Elazar to take?
2. How many Jews were counted, in total, in that census?
3. What was the name of Amram's wife?
4. From which mountain was Moshe able to view all of Israel?
5. What is the law regarding the inheritance of a man who died and has only daughters, no sons, to leave his property?