

SPECIAL EDITION



Shalhevet

Sunday, June 27, 2004

8 Ta'amuz 5763

First Day of Camp!

Inside:

Theme Thoughts

New Man and Woman on Campus

Upcoming Events

Name the Horse Contest

Round of Riddles

A very warm welcome to all campers and staff members! We are so excited about the coming summer and all of the fun and unique programs and activities that are planned for you. Here are some upcoming events we thought you might be looking forward to:

- Surprise Activity in the Mercazia - Tonight!!
- July 4th BBQ
- Shiriah - July 4
- Machzor Aleph Trip Day - July 5
- Publication of next week's Shalhevet - July 2



The editorial staff of the Shalhevet wants to take this opportunity to invite all ideas, articles and comments. We want your input. Please leave any ideas of suggestions in the Shalhevet box in the library. Looking forward to a wonderful summer!!!

Name the Horse Contest

One of the new and exciting activities in camp this summer is horseback riding!! There is only one problem. We have 20 horses and none of them have names! That's where you come in. If you have the perfect name for one of our fine steeds, enter to win a special trail ride around camp on "your" horse.

Here's how you do it: Look for the pictures of each of the horses that will be posted in the dining room in the coming days. Submit an entry form by bringing it to the Boys' or Girls' HC office. Watch and wait to see if you've won! Good luck to all!

New to Camp Morasha - Boys and Girls Beit Midrash Programs


Stop by the girls' Beit Midrash in Bondi 2 (temporary location) and the new Beit Midrash on Boys' Campus. Come meet the members and learn more about this exciting new program!

Can't wait to see you there!

Rounds of Riddles

Do you know the solution to these riddles? This is a set of practice questions. The real ones will be in the next issue of Shalhevet. Enjoy!

1. What comes once in a minute, twice in a moment, but never in a thousand years?
2. The more you take, the more you leave behind. What are they?
3. It's been around for thousands of years, but it's no more than a month old. What is it?
4. What belongs to you but others use it more than you do?
5. What holds water yet is full of holes?

where are they? 
Answers in next issue

New Man and Woman on Campus

As you all get settled into the routines of camp and meet your bunk mates, counselors and division heads, we don't want to forget about the boys' and girls' head counselors, who are both in Morasha for the first time this summer.

Mrs. Carol Rhine is thrilled to be in Morasha this summer. She is filled with enthusiasm and excitement as she looks forward to the coming weeks. If you see Carol hanging out in the dining room, it might be because her husband, Judah will be running the show there at meal times. Make sure to wish Carol a big mazel tov on her daughter Jessica's wedding last week! Her other two children, Jennifer and Kevin are in camp this summer and are excited to be here too!

Just in case you wanted to know if Carol was qualified for the job of HC, she has 5 years of previous experience as a head counselor and has "come out of retirement" to be with us this summer. She is a nurse year-round and has served in that capacity in various camps in the past.

What is Carol looking forward to? She's really excited to work with you, the campers, together with the rest of the wonderful staff to help give each and every one of you a great summer. She loves the positive attitude of everyone around her and knows that the summer is going to be amazing!

What are some of the things that Carol wants to see this summer? She can't wait to see everyone treating their friends and bunk mates with the respect that they deserve and reminds us all to "treat everyone the way we would want to be treated". Davening is very important to Carol and she looks forward to joining each division as they begin their day with *tefilah*.

As we begin our summer together, Carol reminds us that everyone has a lot of positive qualities to offer others and together we can help to bring Morasha to a new level and make it the best camp in Pennsylvania!

Matching the anticipation and excitement of his female counterpart, Rabbi David Friedman can't wait for camp to start! While he may be new to Morasha, David has been a staff member in camp for over 30 years and a head counselor for 25 of them! A proud grandfather of six and father of three (a son and twin daughters), David has lots of experience with kids in his personal life as well. He teaches *gemorah* in the Moriah School of Engelwood and lives in Teaneck with his wife, Debbie.

What makes David come to camp year after year? His love of kids! He loves working with the campers, seeing their smiling faces and helping to make sure they have a good time. His favorite thing about camp is seeing the campers happy and enjoying the outdoors. He loves the *ruach* and is sure there will be a lot of it.

What he doesn't like is seeing kids in the bunks. Camp is a great place and there is so much available to take advantage of. He urges all campers to participate in all of their activities. He reminds everyone that even if something is new or different, the way to go is to try it out and do your best. Counselors and specialty staff are here to enhance your summer and to help each and every camper improve his skills in a wide variety of areas.

David's message to all the campers is that the staff is always open to talking to any camper about anything. He employs an "open door policy" and promises to listen to anything you have to say. So stop by the boys' HC and introduce yourself and take him up on it—I know he wants to hear from you!

Theme Thoughts

BY RABBI MARK DRATCH

Welcome to God's living room!

A strange way to start a column in the Shalhevet, no? And a strange way to speak. But!

This summer's Camp Morasha theme is meant to help us appreciate Hashem's greatness not only in *Torah* and *mitzvot*, but through the nature and the world He created as well. *Mah rabu ma'asekha Hashem* (How great are your creations, Hashem!) is just one of hundreds of *pesukim* that speak of how Hashem's greatness can be seen in nature. And the first of the *birkat Keriyat Sh'ma* reminds us of this twice a day.

So, as you leave your schools and shuls in the city, as you leave your houses and bedrooms and playrooms behind, don't think of camp as just a place to play ball, to be with friends, to learn some Torah and to swim in the lake, but think of the trees, grass, animals and lake as chances to understand parts of Hashem that we can't understand in the paved streets of the city.

It took Hashem six days to create the world, and the seventh day was Shabbat. We are at camp for seven weeks! So each week will be devoted to one day of creation.

Week One: Light and Darkness

Week Two: The Sky

Week Three: Trees and Flowers

Week Four: The Sun, Moon and Stars

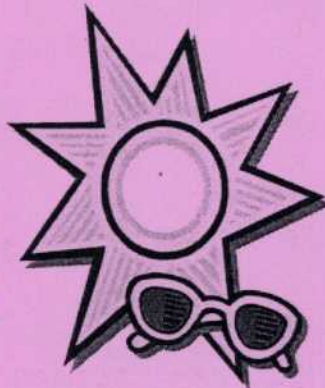
Week Five: Fish and Birds

Week Six: Animals

Week Seven: Shabbat

We have all kinds of great and fun things planned during shiurim, arts and crafts, and night activities that will help us understand more about each day of creation and more about the world we live in.

It says in *Pirke Avot* 3:7, Rabbi Shimon said: If a person is walking on the road and learning *Torah* and interrupts the learning, and says, "How beautiful is this tree!" or "How great is this field!" he has committed a sin.



What kind of sin is this? And what's so wrong with admiring nature? Rabbi Lamm explained that the sin was not in admiring nature at all, but was being *mafsik*, thinking that appreciating nature is not a part of *Torah*. Now that doesn't mean that when we are sitting in *shiurim* or in the *Beit Midrash* that it's O.K. to space out and to stare out

the window! What it does mean is that we can find ways to appreciate *Torah* and to learn about Hashem not only in a *sefer*, but also in the clouds, the fields and the animals as well. Have a great summer!

Attention All Campers and Staff:

Shalhevet is looking for reporters. If you are interested in writing an article or d'var Torah for an upcoming issue of Shalhevet please contact Chavie at extension 250 or put a note in the Shalhevet box in the library!