



Shalhevet

Erev Shabbat Parshat Korach

Friday July 1, 2005

24 Sivan 5765

***Welcome to
Camp Morasha 5765!***

Inside:

What's New in Camp

What's New in the Real World

What's New in Israel

What's New in Sports

Parsha Pointers

Theme Thoughts

Roving Reporter

Brain Teasers

Welcome one and all to what is sure to be another fun and exciting summer at Camp Morasha. By now, I'm sure you're all wondering,

What's new in camp this year?

Stop by Bondi 5 to check out the newest edition to the Girls' Campus daily schedules, **ceramics**. Our local expert is Sandy Weiner, who can't wait until her kilns are up and running. At ceramics, campers will have the opportunity to make something out of clay, let it dry and then place it in the kiln for bisque firing where it will turn white. Next they will paint and glaze it. The final step is a second firing which makes the piece durable and shiny. We are looking forward to seeing the fruits of your labor, including family portrait plates, Pesach salt water dishes with frogs, mugs, candle holders, vases and many more.



Just in case you were worried, we are happy to reassure you that **horseback riding** is back and better than ever. Fortunately, we have an expanded staff of wranglers and many new rider friendly horses. This allows for each bunk throughout the camp to be scheduled for this favorite activity once a week! They have cut new trails and can't wait to take you all out for a ride! They may even have a rodeo for really good riders at the end of the summer. What they are most looking forward to though, is getting Rabbi Spodek and Mr. Shalom Lamm up and riding this summer.

As Shiriah quickly approaches, the **music** department is preparing for an exciting and inspiring evening. This year's theme will be *k'doshim t'hiu lachem*, with three categories of songs, *kedushat ha'am*, *kedushat hamishpacha* and *kedushat ha'adam*. We can't wait for practices to begin as we look toward the event with great anticipation!

The **library** is open and has already begun to lend out many exciting new books. Following last year's success, there will be book clubs that will meet throughout the summer to discuss predetermined books. The staff club will be reading *Adjusting Sights* by Chaim Sabato. Stay tuned for announcements regarding the selection for the camper book clubs. As always, the *New York Times* will be



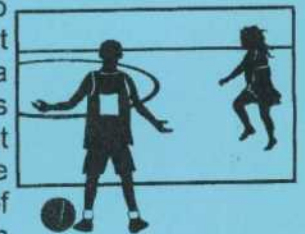
delivered daily, but remember boys, no tzitzit, no sports. Stop by and visit to check out the *seforim*, adult and childrens' books, magazines and Torah tape library.

This year's **mishlach** from *Eretz Yisrael* is the largest one to date, containing 32 young men and women whose presence will be felt in every area of camp. They will be organizing and conducting *leilot tzavah* (army nights), overnights, *sichot* on *Shabbat*, and a full day event called *Yom Yisrael*. They will also be initiating a long term project called Understanding the Disengagement???. Make sure to stay tuned.



Coming off of an extremely successful inaugural summer, the Batei Midrash Programs, **BMP** and **MMP** are back and better than ever. We welcome Rabbi and Mrs. Bednarsh who will be giving shiurim to the members of the programs. Anne Gordon has returned to head up the MMP and Yehuda Chanalel looks forward to leading the BMP. The boys' program plans to offer *chaburahs* to Older Ilanot and Alufim boys and the girls will benefit from *chaburahs* for Alufot and Machon girls. Look for lots of food, especially *chulent*, on boys' campus and remember that the *batei midrash* are always open and all can't wait to meet you and learn with you!

Good news, for all you **sports** fans out there. Camp Morasha will be participating in the Wayne County Athletic Association tournaments again this year. Check out the repainting of the lines on the 2 basketball and volleyball courts outside the boys' sports shack. The mercazia was also repainted, making it a great place for indoor games on a rainy day! Rabbi Richter is thrilled about the two things that make boys' sports great - the campers, who come from all of the best yeshivot and high schools combined with a staff made up of *b'nei Torah* with tremendous athletic ability, making this summer's sports experience one that is sure to be unparalleled in Morasha history! The girls' sports staff can't wait to start playing Ultimate Frisbee with the campers from Older Shtilim and up. The trampoline is already up and running and they eagerly await the set-up of the tether ball pole which should provide some intense games real soon.



Walking alongside the lake, you can't miss the newest addition to the **waterfronts** on both campuses,

the 14 foot high icebergs, used for climbing up and sliding down into the cool, refreshing water. The waterfront staff can't wait for the campers to come down and use them! Girls' WF welcomes a new and old staff and looks forward to the continuation of Swim and Stay Fit with great new prizes.

Starting this week, campers will have the opportunity to make beads and erasers, as well as projects like Jerusalem sand art in **Arts and Crafts**. Check out the international staff in the **Woodshop** including members from *Eretz Yisrael*, Manchester, England, New York and Kansas (that's a foreign country, isn't it?)



The **drama** department is excited about the two plays that will be performed by the campers this summer, *Beauty and the Beast* (Machzor Aleph) and *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Machzor Bet). Staff and Machon can try out to participate in *The Odd Couple* (female version) by Neil Simon.

With lots of new young, talented staff, including three members from *Eretz Yisrael*, the **educational staff** is raring to go! *Shiurim* this summer will focus on the theme of the summer, building the community. Do you know how many current ed staff members were here in Morasha as Nitzanim or Day Camp? Can you guess which ones? There are even more than there were last year! Ask your *shiur* teacher if he or she was a Nitz!

While not new to camp, Meryl Meitelis is new to her position as the **Dining Room** Supervisor. She is joined by returning **kitchen** supervisors David Blumenthal and Micheal Scharf and returning **chefs** Ira Tannenbaum and Moshe Eichner. *B'teiavon!*

Look for fun, cool **dances** for Nitz Girls and Day Camp this summer. Come to the pavilion to meet Yonina Bersson at 12 PM daily to find out more!

Our **nature** department will be headed by two members of our *mishlachot*, Hadas and Shai. They have exciting events and activities planned and can't wait to greet you all over the light of a campfire!

Always a favorite here at camp, **Rock Climbing** will continue to challenge and excite us all. The staff includes a few returning members as well as some new ones and they are planning to play



music as climbing takes place, conduct races and tie two campers together, causing them to have to climb at the same pace. Stop by and see if you are up for the task.

Fishing is back this summer with Avraham Tanev, chief fisherman. If you enjoy this activity, you've come to the right place as the Morasha lake has many bass, pickerel or perch that are ripe for the catching.



Let's not forget about the **Day Camp**. The youngest members of the Morasha family are busy enjoying their brand new sand and great new green chairs. They also look forward to going horseback riding weekly.

What's New in the Real World ?

Governor Pataki and Mayor Bloomberg unveiled a radical redesign of the Freedom Tower planned in Lower Manhattan on Wednesday: a 77-story glass-clad skyscraper that would sit atop an almost impermeable 200-foot concrete and steel pedestal, overlooking the memorial intended to honor those who died at the World Trade Center.

A fish as big as a bear was caught by villagers in northern Thailand, according to a report released yesterday. The 646-pound Mekong giant catfish, caught last month, is believed to be the largest freshwater fish ever seen.

Imagine having 200,000 bees covering your body -- and *still* not setting a world record! Philip McCabe of Tipperary, Ireland, was aiming for the world mark of 350,000 bees (a staggering 87 1/2 pounds), but fell about 150,000 bees short. McCabe said that had it been warmer than 63 degrees, the bees would have followed their docile queen, which rested on his chin.

What's New in Israel?

"We must leave the Gaza Strip in order to build Israel," said Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, addressing the annual Caesarea Conference on economics in Jerusalem. Sharon's address maintained a positive
(continued on page 7)

Parsha Pointers

This Week's Parsha: Korach
Candle Lighting: 8:22 PM
Motzai Shabbos: 9:30 PM
Sof Z'man K'riat Shema: 9:18 AM (Gr"a)
Sof Z'man Tefilah: 10:34 AM (Gr"a)

BY RABBI YEHUDA BALSAM

At the beginning of this week's *parsha*, we read the story of Korach's rebellion against Moshe Rabbeinu. Korach's lineage was similar to that of Moshe and Aharon and he therefore felt that he should be entitled to a similar position of leadership. He therefore joined forces with others who felt that they had been ignored and should have been given more significant roles to play in the hierarchy of the *b'nei Yisrael*, and together, they set out to prove their point. However, had their true motives been apparent to the masses, no one would have taken their rebellion seriously and they would have been written off as "power hungry". Thus Korach devised a plan that would help him gain sympathy among the masses.

Rashi, citing the *medrash*, explains that he gathered 250 leaders, mostly from *shevet Reuven*, and cloaked them in garments comprised completely of *t'chelet*. He brought this imposing group before Moshe and asked him whether these garments required *tzitzit*. Moshe answered that they indeed did need to be adorned with *tzitzit*, and Korach began to laugh at him. His reasoning was simple. If the entire goal of wearing *tzitzit* is so that one will see a single strand of *t'chelet*, why should a garment that composed of thousands of *t'chelet* strands not be exempt? Korach's goal in staging this spectacle was to discredit Moshe as a Torah leader. If Moshe was truly

Hashem's choice as the ultimate teacher of Torah, how could he have made such an obvious mistake in *halacha*; one which is apparent to anyone who analyzes the situation. Thus it seemed clear that Moshe was not Hashem's choice to be the only leader of the *b'nei Yisrael*, and he had simply usurped the power for himself.

We are all aware that Korach was indeed mistaken, but the question is why? Why wasn't his argument just as valid as Moshe Rabbeinu's? After all, logic seems to be on his side, and the garment should not need to be adorned with *tzitzit*? Rav Yosef Dov Soloveitchik explains that the root of Korach's error was that he thought that Torah was a discipline that could be understood by anyone possessing a keen and intelligent mind. If one is capable of thinking in a logical fashion, then their arguments bear as much weight as those of a seasoned *Torah* scholar. This is, however, not the case at all. Just as every type of science has its rules of study, and must be analyzed using a thorough knowledge of the subject, so too *Torah* is a discipline that is governed by its own rules and Godly logic. If someone visits the doctor and is diagnosed with a particular ailment, they would be foolish to waste their time explaining to the doctor why it is logically impossible that they might have contracted this disease. Logic has nothing to do with it. The tests, which are governed by their own biological and chemical rules have determined the scientific reality, to which everyday logic plays little or no role. The same is true for *Torah* and *halacha*. A great scholar, one capable of *paskening halachot*, must train himself

(continued on page 5)