

The Military Yeshiva Academy of Israel

# BNEI DAVID ELI

T I S H R E I 5 7 7 8



We wish all our alumni, friends, students and the entire House of Israel  
a sweet New Year of joy, of good tidings and the realization of our hopes and dreams.

## Invitation to the Dedication of the Beit Midrash for Bnei David's pre-army mechina

**Chol Hamoed Sukkot Sunday, 18 Tishrei 5778  
(8 October, 2017) PAGE 2**



## 30 years and 30 hours of giving back with love to the mechina

3,315 Bnei David students, alumni, rabbis and their families, as well as friends of Bnei David from throughout Am Yisrael answered our 30-hour appeal to "give back with love" to the mechina and raised NIS 3,950,000 toward the completion and furnishing of the new Beit Midrash.

After 30 years, it was high time to build a permanent Beit Midrash for the mechina. Last Sukkot the cornerstone ceremony was held and construction has been in

full swing ever since. In order to boost the fund-raising efforts, a special project was launched and on September 6-7 the students, rabbis and entire staff reached out to everyone they knew, via

personal phone calls and posts on the social networks. A prior agreement with certain friends of Bnei David assured the fund raisers that every shekel they raised

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## Bnei David at 30

Bnei David's pre-army mechina program marked the beginning of its 30th academic year on Rosh Chodesh Elul (23 August), with **120 new students** in the **first year program in Eli** and **43 students** in the **Maaleh Ephraim branch** of the mechina, which was founded in 2015.

The advanced yeshiva program in Eli welcomed **60 new students** and **Midreshet Danielli** increased its enrollment to **53 young women**. The **post-army Beit Midrash** also has more students than last year, bringing the total of new students at Bnei David Institutions in the 2017-18 academic year to **300** and the **total student body to 700 young men and women**.



The mechina students began the year with a bicycle tour of the surrounding hills, followed by a bus trip and the traditional hike up Sartaba Mountain, overlooking the Jordan valley. A new logo has been designed in honor of Bnei David's 30th year, and many special events are being planned. ■

The Military Yeshiva Academy of Israel  
Yeshiva for Discharged Soldiers  
Advanced Yeshiva • Ma'ale Ephraim Branch  
Midreshet Danielle for Young Women



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## Report from the building site

The construction of the main Beit Midrash for the mechina is progressing well, and we hope the students will be able to start learning there by November. The outside of the building is in its finishing stages and the interior infrastructure is almost complete, including the connection of electricity, telephone, water and sewage systems. We recently began work on the landscaping and pathways, which will make the entire campus wheelchair accessible. The construction has been documented with frequent photos and flyovers using a drone camera. If you will be in Israel during Sukkot we invite

you to view the resulting films, which will be screened at the dedication of the Beit Midrash on 18 Tishrei (8 October). ■



## 70 students in the Maaleh Ephraim branch

**Bnei David's Maaleh Ephraim branch now numbers 70 students from all over Israel. We wish the new students and staff members a successful and productive year.**

During the year the students go on many field trips to learn more about Israel and

meet some of the special people who helped build this country in its early days. On one such trip the students met with Moshe Moskowitz, one of the founders of Gush Etzion, who at age 92 is still involved in the development of the settlements there, and heard his inspiring life story. ■

## Remembering Hadar Goldin z"l

Hadar Goldin has still not been returned to Israel for proper burial. During the summer his father, Simcha Goldin, came to Bnei David to talk with the students and called on them to join forces with him in increasing public awareness and lobbying the government to pressure Hamas to return Hadar's body. As a parting gift to Midreshet Danielle, girls in the class of 2017 decided to paint one of Hadar's mottos on the dining room wall: "In life you can choose – to be preoccupied with yourself or to become involved in greater things." ■



"The stone cast aside by the builders has become the cornerstone"

(Psalms 118:22)

## Invitation to the Dedication of the Beit Midrash

**The dedication of the Beit Midrash for Bnei David's pre-army mechina will take place during Chol Hamoad Sukkot, Sunday, 18 Tishrei 5778 (8 October, 2017)**

4:00 p.m. Welcoming guests

4:30 p.m. Procession with Sifrei Torah, singing and dancing  
Installing the Sifrei Torah in the Beit Midrash  
Greetings and Divrei Torah

**"Rejoice in your festivals" – All are welcome**

The Military Yeshiva Academy of Israel  
Yeshiva for Discharged Soldiers  
Advanced Yeshiva • Ma'ale Ephraim Branch  
Midreshet Danielle for Young Women



For further details call **02-9407888**

Musical accompaniment  
**YONATAN RAZEL**



We can help you plan activities for during the day in the Eli-Shilo area





## Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked visits Midreshet Danielli



Midreshet Danielli was honored with a visit from Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked at the closing event of the academic year last June. Minister Shaked spoke about the empowerment of women and the importance of their contribution to the Jewish state and the Jewish People. This event was also attended by Mr. Moti Sonnenfeld who spoke about his daughter Danielle, z"l and the perpetuation of her special spirit at Midreshet Danielli. Over the course of the year the students met with influential women in Israel, including Avital Sharansky, who shared the story of her life and her life beside Natan Sharansky, a Prisoner of Zion in Russia who became the head of the Jewish Agency in Israel.

The new academic year began on Rosh Chodesh Elul (23 August), and Midreshet Danielli in the town of Tapuach welcomed 53 girls who had just graduated from high school and



were embarking on a year of studies in preparation for National Civilian Service. On opening day most of the girls came accompanied by their parents, and among them was a graduate of the very first Bnei David mechina class. 30 years after his own graduation from the program, he was bringing his daughter to learn at Midreshet Danielli. During the first week of classes the new students spent a special day learning with the first graduating class of Midreshet Danielli, who are now National Service girls. ■



**Bnei David in brief**

## Post-army yeshiva bonding hike

During the summer vacation students at the post-army yeshiva went on a nature hike along the Mishmar stream that flows from the Judean Desert into the Dead Sea. Over the years the tradition of such annual hikes has become an important bonding activity for building and strengthening friendships between new and veteran students, friendships that continue in the Beit Midrash and afterward. ■



## Celebrating Independence Day in Ra'anana

On the eve of Independence Day students from the advanced yeshiva traveled to Ra'anana, to rejoice with the local residents. After the festive evening prayer service at Moriah synagogue,

during which Rav Sadan addressed the congregation, Mayor Zev Bielsky joined the singing and dancing and thanked the students for bringing their added joy and energy to the celebrations. ■



## Jubilee year for united Jerusalem

On Jerusalem Day hundreds of Bnei David students participated in walking tours of Jerusalem, tracing the routes taken by the IDF brigades that liberated the city 50 years ago. The students then joined the thousands of young people who had come to the capital to sing and dance through the streets, waving giant flags all the way from downtown to the Western Wall plaza. ■







## △ The challenge of keeping Shabbat in public

Students in the Chai Roi leadership program tackled the major issues in Shabbat observance in the public domain, particularly the work of the police and the Israel Electric Company. The students also met with Rabbi Zvi Yosef Rimon in Jerusalem, to learn about the challenges of running hospitals on Shabbat, and with the head of the halacha and technology department in the IDF Rabbinate who showed the students some of the technological advances that make it possible for the IDF to protect Israel's borders while observing Shabbat. ■



## △ Shabbat in Hebron

Students in the advanced yeshiva recently spent an exciting Shabbat in Hebron, where they had the privilege of praying at the Meaarat HaMachpela and learning about the complexities of living in and developing the tiny Jewish neighborhood there, surrounded by hundreds of thousands of Arabs. ■

## Keeping in touch with alumni▷

Over the summer Rav Yoel Rechel visited with many alumni currently serving in the IDF, both in the field and at special alumni events at Bnei David, including study days, class Shabbat programs, and bar mitzva events for the sons of Bnei David alumni. Sometimes Rav Rechel is joined by other rabbis from Bnei David on visits to army bases, where they give shiurim to the soldiers. This year we were also able to bring these soldiers copies of Volume 3 of a compilation of shiurim by Rav Eliezer Kashtiel, whose publication was made possible thanks to the generosity of our friends. ■

## ◁ Midreshet Daniellialumni

We are also keeping in touch with our alumni from Midreshet Danielli. who are bringing their energy and dedication to



their National Service. The week before Rosh Hashanah the girls who graduated last year returned to the midrasha for a special Shabbat with the new students, and we are in the process of publishing a book, "Conversations in Preparation for National Service," based on the shiurim of Rav Amir Sandler. ■

## ▽ Certificates of Excellence for Bnei David alumni reservists

On 3 Tammuz (27 June) Israeli President Reuven Rivlin presented certificates of excellence to outstanding reserve battalions for their achievements and contribution to Israel's defense. Among the 16 commanders awarded certificates for their dedication, determination and high motivation were 4 alumni from Bnei David. ■



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during this special campaign would be matched with two shekels. The initial goal was NIS 1 million, which would be tripled with the matching funds, for a total of NIS 3 million, to complete the construction of the building. Thankfully this goal was met within 26 hours, and in the remaining four hours the focus of the campaign was shifted to raising money to furnish the Beit Midrash. Am Yisrael continued to shower

Bnei David with love and the final sum raised was NIS 3,950,000. Throughout this special campaign there were constant updates on Bnei David's Facebook page, and we would like to thank everyone who helped make this campaign a success. There are still many dedication opportunities available. Please send a message to [trumot@bneidavid.org](mailto:trumot@bneidavid.org) for further details. ■



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