

BNEI DAVID ELI

CHANUKAH 5777 Bulletin | 2016



BNEI DAVID INSTITUTIONS WISH ALL OUR FRIENDS, ALUMNI AND STUDENTS A VERY HAPPY CHANUKAH, A HOLIDAY FULL OF LIGHT, HEROISM AND JOY

THE VOICE OF HASHEM IS GLORY (HADAR)



Several hundred people participated in a joyous event on 18 Tishrei (October 20), during Chol Hamo'ed Sukkot, when a new Sefer Torah was welcomed into Bnei David's Beit Midrash and the cornerstone was laid for the new mechina building. The Sefer Torah was donated by the Falic family in memory of Lt. Hadar Goldin HY"D, a graduate of Bnei David who was killed during Operation Protective

Edge in July 2014, and whose remains have not yet been returned to Israel for proper burial.

Hadar's class from Bnei David prepared a special chupa, adorned with the same pattern of fruits and flowers as Hadar had designed to decorate the invitations to his own wedding, which unfortunately was never held. Hadar's classmates are married under this chupa, and

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Pouring foundations and building walls



The foundations of the new Beit Midrash for Bnei David's mechina have been poured and construction has begun. *continued on page 2*



The Military Yeshiva Academy of Israel | Yeshiva for Discharged Soldiers | Advanced Yeshiva | Jordan Valley Branch | Midreshet Danielle for Young Women

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THE VOICE OF HASHEM IS GLORY (HADAR) *continued*

it was used in the procession welcoming the new Sefer Torah, whose mantle also bears these decorations. Hadar's parents, sibling and relatives participated in the procession, along with members of the Falic family and Bnei David's rabbis. After the Sefer Torah was installed in the Aron Kodesh in the sanctuary, everyone went back outside to lay the cornerstone for the mechina, and at this auspicious event the foundation was poured. Construction is now in full swing and we hope to complete the Beit Midrash by next year, in time for the opening of Bnei David's 30th year. ■



to build a permanent building for the mechina, and at this auspicious event the foundation was poured. Construction is now in full swing and we hope to complete the Beit Midrash by next year, in time for the opening of Bnei David's 30th year. ■

Pouring foundations and building walls

continued

When we poured the foundations we wondered what we could put into the foundations to bring blessing to the building.

Our deliberations ended when the earthworks consultant who came to examine the depth of the foundations and the strength of the bedrock leaned over to peek into the construction pit and his kippa fell to the very bottom. Now the building will be standing on that kippa and we hope that Hashem will bless the building and all who come to learn there. Construction is in full swing and the builders are



working hard on the walls of the ground floor. We are continuing our fundraising efforts for this building and invite everyone to partner with us. For details regarding dedication options please contact Lior Shtul at: liors@bneidavid.org. ■



Helping the fire victims

Bnei David's students are among the hundreds of volunteers participating in this national effort. Over the past two weeks several groups of students have gone to Neve Tzuf to help the families whose homes had been destroyed in the terrible fires set by Arab terrorists on Friday night, November 25th. Some groups of students helped the families remove whatever they could salvage from their homes, while others trimmed burnt trees and cleared them away from the houses. The residents of Neve Tzuf welcomed the boys and thanked them for all their help. The students will continue to assist in the rehabilitation of the forests throughout the country. ■



A mezuzah for the northern wing of the dormitory



Thanks to the generosity of our loyal supporters, Bnei David has completed the construction of the northern wing of the dormitory complex.

72 students in the advanced yeshiva can now enjoy comfortable beds and improved living conditions. Rav Eli Sadan, Rav Yehuda Sadan, Rav Eliezer Kashtiel and the students participated in the mezuzah affixing ceremony. ■



Midreshet Danielle hosts Maccabi Tel Aviv players

The Elitzur Shomron basketball club recently played a game against veteran Maccabi Tel Aviv players in a game held at Kfar Tapuach, home of Midreshet Danielle. The game was held in memory of Malachi Rosenfeld HY"D, who was killed on his

way home to Kochav HaShachar following a basketball game in Eli. Several of the Elitzur Shomron players were Bnei David alumni. After the game the players showered in the Midrasha dorms and were treated to a meal in the dining hall. ■

Opening the academic year at the Ma'ale Ephraim branch



The Ma'ale Ephraim branch of Bnei David began the academic year with 56 students. One Friday last month they went on an in-depth tour of the area to learn about their surroundings and get to know the new and veteran residents of the Jordan Valley communities.

They met with immigrants from France, had a refreshing swim at a settlement near the border with Jordan, and learned about the date plantations all along the valley. Nearly 2,300 tons of dates are harvested here and exported to countries all over the world. The students heard how Israel has made this desert area blossom, and how Israeli date palms produce more

than twice as many dates as the palm trees of the nearby Arabs.

This part of the country has had a turbulent past, and the commander of the Jordan Valley brigade told the students about the IDF's skirmishes here, the responsibility of the officers and soldiers and the importance of community involvement and active participation in the processes that Israeli society is undergoing. By the end of the tour the students had gained many new insights into the work of developing this area and about the good people who are partners in the great mitzvah of settling Eretz Yisrael and working together to bring prosperity to the region. ■



A Sefer Torah in memory of Shai Wallstein

Lt. Shai Wallstein HY"D, graduated from Bnei David in 1991 and was killed in battle in Lebanon in 1994. Last month his family welcomed a Sefer Torah dedicated to his memory, to the Shalom Yisrael synagogue which is named after him. Rav Eli Sadan, Shai's friends from the class of '91 and current mechina students participated in the

procession, singing and dancing with the Sefer Torah. "Writing a Sefer Torah," said Rav Sadan at the ceremony, "is a continuation of the life's work of the person in whose memory the Torah is being written. Shai was an exceptional student, a quiet leader and a man of tremendous vitality, who accomplished much in his short life." ■

Learning field navigation by starlight

Part of the pre-army training at Bnei David includes learning how to navigate day and night with a map and a compass. After Sukkot and before the winter set in, the mechina students went to the south of the country for a few days of navigating exercises, led by Bnei David alumni who have completed their IDF service. ■



Bnei David's 17th lottery

The many Bnei David alumni and supporters who donate on a regular monthly basis help us to meet the challenges of the heavy costs of maintaining Bnei David Institutions.

Every two years we hold a special lottery among all our donors, and this year over 1,700 tickets were sold. Since Bnei David is currently in "building mode," the theme for the prizes for the 17th

lottery, held at the beginning of Kislev (December), was also "building." The first prize was the professional interior design of a room plus a gift certificate for furniture, valued at NIS 6,500. The second and third prizes were also gift certificates for housewares or home handyman equipment. Thank you again to our many supporters and congratulations to the winners. ■

Chai Roi student meet with heads of Israeli industries



At the end of October the Chai Roi students went on a field seminar trip that began at the Agriculture Ministry's offices to learn how the ministry is strengthening the State of Israel. The ministry's director general, Shlomo Ben-Eliahu spoke to the students about proper time management and the decision-making process. Yishai Gotvilig, a graduate of the Chai Roi program and a senior aide to the director general, spoke briefly about his personal experience working in the public sphere.

A tour of Israel Aerospace Industries facilities was also led by a Bnei David alumnus – Amit Schwelb, who graduated in 1998. The tour included the various

divisions of the industries and a preview of the employment opportunities the students could pursue. The students visited the cyber control center, the hangar where unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) are kept, and the Amos communications satellite control center.

The tour left the students with a better understanding of the tremendous power and influence of the aerospace industry, which is waiting for bright minds and motivated workers.

The final session of the day was a discussion on the various groups in Israeli society and the importance of working in harmony with them all, for the betterment of society and Israel as a whole. ■

Spreading Torah and Zionism across the ocean

Many communities abroad would like a shaliach to come from Eretz Yisrael and bring the spirit of Zionism and faith in the Jewish People, the Torah and the State of Israel. Torah MiTzion is an organization dedicated to meeting this need and sends single and married shlichim to communities around the world. Several Bnei David alumni have already spent a year or more in such communities and a new group of shlichim has begun preparations for the next school year. One Bnei David shaliach, who is currently in Memphis, Tennessee, relates that he always felt intrigued by this type of work and building connections with Jews from all over the world.

"I knew that this was important to me and felt I had the ability and motivation necessary for this mission. I believe that if a person is capable and suitable for being a shaliach, he should seriously consider it. Each person in his own way manages to touch all sorts of people with the spirit of his shlichut, and I think that everyone brings something different with him and can strengthen the connection between the Jewish People and the State of Israel. I also believe that it is very important for the type of people who graduate from the Beit Midrash in Eli to go out to Jewish communities around the world. There is a special atmosphere of Israeliness surrounding people from Eli and it is important for Diaspora Jews to encounter this spirit and understand the motivation and the ideology nurtured by faithfulness to the Torah and the teachings of the rabbis at Bnei David. Being a shaliach is an amazing and challenging experience – a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to do something truly meaningful that brings happiness and a sense of satisfaction." ■

Keeping in touch with our soldiers – closing a circle



Graduates of the class of 2012 have now completed their three years of compulsory IDF service. From boot camp through officers training courses and major military operations, Bnei David's rabbis constantly keep in touch with the soldiers. Most of the class of 2012 was

discharged during the summer, and we are very happy to see over 30 of them back in our Beit Midrash. About 50 of that class are continuing in the IDF as career officers, but they continue to return to Bnei David for special events and alumni Shabbat programs. ■



Battalion commander completes a tractate with his soldiers

Lt. Col. Uri Levi, the battalion commander of the Nahal Haredi brigade, completed the study of a tractate of the Talmud in honor of his late mother's yahrtzeit. He celebrated this siyum with his soldiers on the base near Shilo. We wish Uri success in his position and many opportunities to continue his Torah studies. ■

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