



A SECOND GENERATION AT BNEI DAVID

The school year at Bnei David began on Rosh Chodesh Elul (August 21), with 50 more students than last year. There are now a total of 450 students in all of Bnei David's programs, and for the first time we are welcoming a student whose father studied here - in the very first mechina class. Now his son is following in his father's footsteps. Bnei David is also welcoming several students from abroad, from Hungary, Australia and

France, plus one student who made Aliyah from the United States, alone, just one month before the start of the school year. Another student made Aliyah to Eli from France with his family 10 years ago. The family later moved to Efrat, and now the boy has returned to Eli to study at the mechina.

In preparation for the new school year the dormitories were renovated and we purchased new beds for the students and new benches for the Beit Midrash.

Bnei David also rented three houses that have been converted into dorms for the additional students.

Soon we will begin construction on a new wing of the dormitory building, with 8 rooms that will accommodate 48 students. The new wing will cost about NIS 1.5 million, of which NIS 800,000 has been raised. We hope to raise the rest of required sum soon, so that all the mechina students can be housed in the dormitory building. ■



The first graduates of the Chai Roi program start new jobs



Last year Rav Eli Sadan's booklet, "The Path of Religious Zionism" was translated into English. We began distributing the booklet to Jewish communities in the U.S., Canada, England and South Africa, and we received good responses to the ideas and the vision. In the wake of the booklet, Rav Sadan was invited to a number of communities. He spent a Shabbat in Teaneck, New Jersey, where he spoke at the Bnei Yeshurun, Keter Torah and Rinat Yisrael synagogues, in Hebrew and English, relating the story of Bnei David and its contribution to the IDF and the State of Israel. Following that Shabbat visit, Bnei David gained many new friends in New Jersey.

Rav Sadan was also invited to address the annual dinner of Mizrachi in Johannesburg, South Africa. He spent a week there, speaking with community leaders and members, Bnei Akiva groups and school students, spreading the message and spirit of religious Zionism wherever he went. Rabbi Doron Peretz, the rabbi of Mizrachi in South Africa, made the arrangements for Rav Sadan's visit to South Africa.

At the Mizrachi dinner, Rav Sadan spoke to the over 500 participants about


the dreams of Jews throughout the generations and about the realization of those dreams in our times. The community members listened attentively and after the half-hour speech many people came over to Rav Sadan to thank him for sharing the vision with them.

Following Rav Sadan's trip to South Africa, Bnei David has many new friends who believe in our path and its positive influence on Israeli society. Rav Sadan is now planning a trip to the Bnei Akiva community in Los Angeles after Pesach, as part of a group of rabbis from the religious Zionist movement who will be visiting L.A. We are continuing to nurture our relationships with communities the world over and invite all our friends to tour Bnei David when they visit Israel, to see the developments here first hand, and to meet with the rabbis and students. ■



The Chai Roi Institute for Public and Civic Leadership, in memory of Major Roi Klein, z"l, was founded three years ago, with the aim of training discharged religious IDF officers to bring their skills and dedication to all areas of public service in Israel - men of faith in the practical world. The program is headed by Rav Roni Glass, who invests all his energies in guiding and directing the students, who learn in the post-army Beit Midrash while pursuing academic degrees in nearby universities and colleges. The curriculum includes special lectures and field trips to acquaint the students with all aspects of Israel's public institutions. Upon completing their studies, Chai Roi graduates are committed to working in the public sector, and several of last year's graduates have already begun to work in the public sector - at government ministries, in the security establishment, education and other civil service jobs.

At the recent graduation ceremonies the students were addressed by their rabbis, who wished them success in all their future endeavors. ■



Bnei David in the IDF

Bnei David graduates serve in all IDF units and fulfill their duties faithfully and with total commitment. Below are two stories about Bnei David graduates. B., who attended the mechina in 2007, completed a naval commando training course a few months ago, and has signed on for an additional year and a half in the career army, as required of all commandoes. The defense minister, chief of staff and the commander of the navy attended the festive graduation ceremonies at the navy's training base. At the end of the ceremony the newly graduated commandoes, in their clean white dress uniforms, ran into the sea, hugged each other and sang for joy. B.'s rabbi-mentor from Bnei David attended the ceremony and offered him words of encouragement for the continuation of his IDF service. ■



Duvdevan undercover unit commander receives citation for excellence

Lieutenant Colonel A., a commander of a Duvdevan counter-terror undercover unit who graduated from Bnei David in 1990, will be receiving a citation for excellence. He will soon be completing his tour of duty as Duvdevan commander and is being transferred to senior command position. In the past few years A. has been awarded the Chief of Staff's medal, along with his entire unit, for operations he led in the Gaza Strip, and other top awards for excellence from the chief of staff. We wish A. success in the future of his army career. ■



Bnei David's Advanced Yeshiva publishes its first book

The Advanced Yeshiva at Bnei David now has about 70 students, 32 of whom joined the program earlier this month. Last year's students surprised their teacher, Rav Ilan Moravsky, with a beautifully bound, printed edition of selected lectures and study sessions from last year, when the students learned the Talmudic tractate of Baba Metzia. Rav Moravsky has been teaching at the advanced yeshiva for several years, with an emphasis on in-depth study of the Mishna and Gemara. We wish Rav Moravsky and his students every success in their studies in the coming year. ■



An asphalt path - For many years there was only a dirt path leading to the dorms. Now, thanks to assistance from the Binyamin Regional Council, all the paths to and around the dorm have been covered with asphalt. ■



As the New Year approaches
we wish all our students, graduates and friends
around the world

happiness and good health
Shana Tova

The rabbis and staff of Bnei David



Building Bnei David Institutions

Construction on the post-army yeshiva building is progressing at an impressive pace. The building was planned by architect Irwin Sadan, Rav Sadan's father, in conjunction with the Platin architecture firm from the neighboring settlement of Shilo. The architects frequently visit the site, to oversee the fine details and to help choose the finishing materials. The outside of the building has been completed, and the work is now focusing on the internal infrastructure - air conditioning, plumbing and electricity. We are currently planning the furnishings such that the Beit Midrash will accommodate as many students as possible. The main donors for the building toured the site and expressed their satisfaction



with the quality of the work and the speed of the construction. We are continuing to raise funds for this project and hope to hold the dedication ceremonies during Pesach. ■

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