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JEWISH SPIRIT

phoenix community kollel magazine

**Having a Blast with
Kollel's Camp Nageela**

High Holiday Issue: Why We Pray

PHOENIX

Community Kollel

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a message from

dr. daniel lucas

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I was first introduced to the Kollel via the "Really High Holiday" program. For the first time in many years I learned why we do what we do in services as opposed to merely going through the motions. The enthusiasm of the rabbis was addicting.

I was raised in a Conservative household with an emphasis on Jewish moral and ethical values. My grandparents were ardent Zionists who maintained a 50-plus year friendship with Golda Meir. My great-grandparents emigrated to Israel in 1931 and were among the founders of the colony of Herzliya. The family history was beautifully recorded in my grandfather's autobiography "The Tale of a Litvak."

After my father died, I was looking for a place to say Kaddish. The rabbi's were probably as surprised to see me in daily services as I was being there. I had never put on Tefillin. Rabbi Holland taught me how to wear them with a useful analogy--"They need to be broken in just like a new baseball glove." Over the past two years I've seen the Kollel rabbis teach many others how to wear Tefillin. I've watched my nephew struggle with the new, taut leather.

I've gained an appreciation for our holidays and traditions and an understanding of the backbone of it all--our Torah. The Kollel rabbis teach by example. They go out of their way to make you feel as comfortable as possible in shul. They understand that everyone is on his or her own spiritual journey and needs to proceed at their own pace. They are never judgmental.

I know that I've come a long way on my spiritual journey in the past two years yet realize that I have a much longer way to go. The journey has been educational, thought provoking, and certainly rewarding. Best of all, it's been entirely pain free -- an admirable goal for any physician.

Daniel M. Lucas

Dr. Daniel Lucas
Patron of Jewish Unity

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phoenix spotlight...



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The Fun Keeps Growing at Kollel's Camp Nageela



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Getting to Know the Kollel: Rabbi Dovid & Mrs. Shira Goldman

Cover photo credit: Nageela Head Counselor Esti Kaufman

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Featured are (Bottom to Top, L-R): Chloe Breger, Naomi Lucas, Raina Meyerson, Head Counselor Devorah Wagner, Anna Engel, Rochel Landesman, Sara Turner, Counselor Itta Bracha Lipschutz, Rachel Uvaydov, Tzipora Bracha Goldman, Yaffa Holland, Malka Einhorn, Counselors Golda Friedman and Counselor Zissy Greenwood, Michael Adler, Counselors Helen Smilovic, Michal Elazary, Orly Covitch and Elisheva Levy, Rivky Cohen, Counselor Shoshona Lubart and Head Counselor Esti Kaufman

The Fun Keeps Growing at Kollel's Camp Nageela

80 Campers Make this Another Summer to Remember

Camp Nageela hosted its second fun-filled summer for 80 campers, ages 3-10, from Phoenix Hebrew Academy, King David School, and public schools throughout the Valley. The kids' excitement was overwhelming (as you can see from the photos!) and many begged their parents to cancel vacations so they would not miss camp!

The staff was the best part, with an outstanding team of counselors once again sent by Torah Umesorah's Project SEED. Coming from New York, New Jersey, Baltimore, Detroit and Toronto, the counselors brought a warmth and energy that electrified the campers, their parents and the whole community.

Six weeks of fun trips, themed days, Judaic crafts and lots of smiles and hugs all created the Nageela experience.

Pictured here is the Camp Nageela mock wedding with "Groom" Michael Adler and "Bride" Malka Einhorn. This activity gave the kids the opportunity to learn first hand about a traditional Jewish ceremony. After the "chuppah" the entire camp joined in the dancing and festivities, each one dressed as a different member of the wedding party.



Campers cool off with slurpees at 7-11 on July 11th (7/11). (Bottom to Top, L-R): Counselors Helen Smilovic, Esti Kaufman, Chumi Krupenia, Golda Friedman with Ruti Cohen, Sara Brumer, Elya Rothstein, Rory Meyerson, Shmueli Becker, Emanuel Kholdorov, Mordechai Landesman, Ahuva Holland, Michael Adler, Laili Schnitzer, Chaim Moshe Cohen, Dalia Einhorn



Being entertained by our guest magician are: (Bottom to Top, L-R) Binyamin Brumer, Sara Brumer, Baila Brumer, Sadie Friedman, Dovid Einhorn, Yael Nisanov, Rory Meyerson, Ariel Nasser, Jasmine Nasser, Ruti Cohen, Yehoshua Mann, Elya Rothstein, Raina Meyerson, Maya Zilcha, Rivky Cohen, Karina Mar, Yummy Entin



Taking a break from bowling are (L-R): Hanna Girard, Rivky Adler, Alisa Schwartz, Dalia Holland, Emily Kaplan, Elana Pantiliat and Malka Einhorn with counselors Elisheva Levy and Shoshona Lubart



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Jewish Fun & Friendships for Teens at the Summer Experience

The Summer Experience for teenage girls was once again a success, endearing itself forever in the hearts of the ten girls who attended. This year there were five SEED counselors leading the way - from Monsey, Boro Park and Flatbush, New York – all of whom resided in Ahavas Torah, the site of the camp – throughout the month.



At Ahavas Torah: Counselor Aliza Berger, Sarah Lucas, Sharon Bitton, Sloane Becker, Eliana Schnitzer, Counselors Malky Stein and Batsheva Reider, Leoni Zilcha and Counselor Ruchie Schiff.

Led by Aileen Becker along with Shira Goldman, their camp lasted for 4 weeks and included semi-weekly trips, projects, baking, swimming and Jewish learning.



At the camp good-bye party at King Solomon's Pizza: (seated L-R) Sarah Lucas, Leoni Zilcha, Counselors Malky Stein, Aliza Berger and Aliza Levitan, Sarah Schnitzer, Counselor Ruchie Schiff and Sloane Becker. (Standing L-R): Eliana Schnitzer, Sage Knapp and Sharon Bitton.

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Kollel launches Camp Nageela Zone for Boys

This summer, Nageela Zone for boys opened its doors under the leadership of Rabbi Zvi Holland and Shira Goldman. The Kollel brought in Rabbi Yona Margolese, a teacher from Seattle, to be the Head Counselor for about 15 boys, aged 7-12. The camp was based in the Phoenix Hebrew Academy.



At the Kollel: (L-R) Mordechai Cohen, Moshe Goldman, Gidon Magier, Gabi and Rafi Turner, Head Counselor Yona Margolese, Samuel and Joseph Garrel, Ezra Entin, Yaakov Landesman, Shmueli Goldman, Yehoshua Magier and Daniel Priyev.

The six-week program included sports, fun, activities, daily learning, weekly trips and constant excitement. The boys were busy with days full of activity – from woodworking & art projects to learning to tie tzitzis to basketball, swimming and hiking.

Most beautiful of all was the daily sight of all the boys in the Kollel Beis Medrash (study hall), learning together with one of the older Yeshiva boys visiting for the summer – first from the Lev L'olam summer yeshiva program and then from Project SEED.



Gabi Turner, Gidon Magier and Rafi Turner showing off the tzitzit they made during camp.

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Getting to Know the Kollel: Rabbi Dovid & Shira Goldman

The creative juices flow freely from this member of the Kollel's original 'Fab Four', from magazines to election-themed *sheva berachos*. Welcome to the home of Camp Nageela and American Jewish Spirit.

'Well thought-out' is the phrase that comes to mind when discussing the Goldman family. Listen to Rabbi Goldman lead a discussion, and reflect on his purposeful delivery as he uncovers angles hitherto un contemplated. Observe Mrs. Goldman as she balances her roles as mother and Kollel administrator, Camp Director and homemaker, and notice the planning, organization, and careful thought that creates success.

Rabbi Dovid Goldman coulda' been a lawyer. He also could have been a philosopher (though law definitely pays better!). But his heart tugged him back to Yeshivas Ner Yisroel, even after finishing law-school, because there's no substitute for the rigor of Torah learning. Rabbi G.'s passion is Jewish thought - his favorite work, The Path of the Just. And he's really determined to show you the bigger picture.

Although he has taught a variety of classes during his time at the Kollel, from Chumash to Beginners' Talmud to Maimonides, he has more recently found expression with his pen, as Founder and Editor of American Jewish Spirit. The quarterly magazine has fifteen regional editions to go along with the national publication.

Mrs. Shira Goldman is the unflappable presence in the Kollel administration that keeps things running smoothly (at least as smoothly as is reasonable!). She is the financial manager and general go-to guy (gal) when things need to get done. And she always seems to know where that lost file or stapler has gone to.

Not content with those responsibilities, last summer, Mrs. Goldman launched Camp Nageela for younger kids and, with Mrs. Aileen Becker, Camp United for teen girls, enlisting the SEED program of Torah Umesorah to provide the counselors. This year saw the addition of Nageela Zone for boys 7-13. Together with the younger mixed-gender Camp Nageela, they drew over 100 participants!

As a hobby, the Goldmans create themes for Kollel hosted sheva berachos, giving each event a personal touch in line with the newlywed couple's personalities. The thought and caring that goes into these celebrations is deeply appreciated by both families and is fondly remembered through the years.

Rabbi Dovid Goldman

- Mechina HS, Ner Israel, Yearbook Editor
- B.A., Philosophy, Univ. S. California
- J.D., Northeastern U. School of Law
- Member, State Bar of Maryland
- Passable Tennis, Golf and Ping Pong Player
- Amateur Photographer

Shira Goldman

- Yavneh HS, Cleveland, OH, Valedictorian, Midos Award & Yearbook Editor
- Beth Jacob Seminary of Jerusalem (BJJ)
- Yavneh Seminary
- B.S., Mathematics, Towson University
- Bnos Girls Youth Leader
- Sought After Dessert Chef



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