

The Yizraelite – No 2257 Date: 21.5.26

Kibbutz Yizrael - Cyber Edition

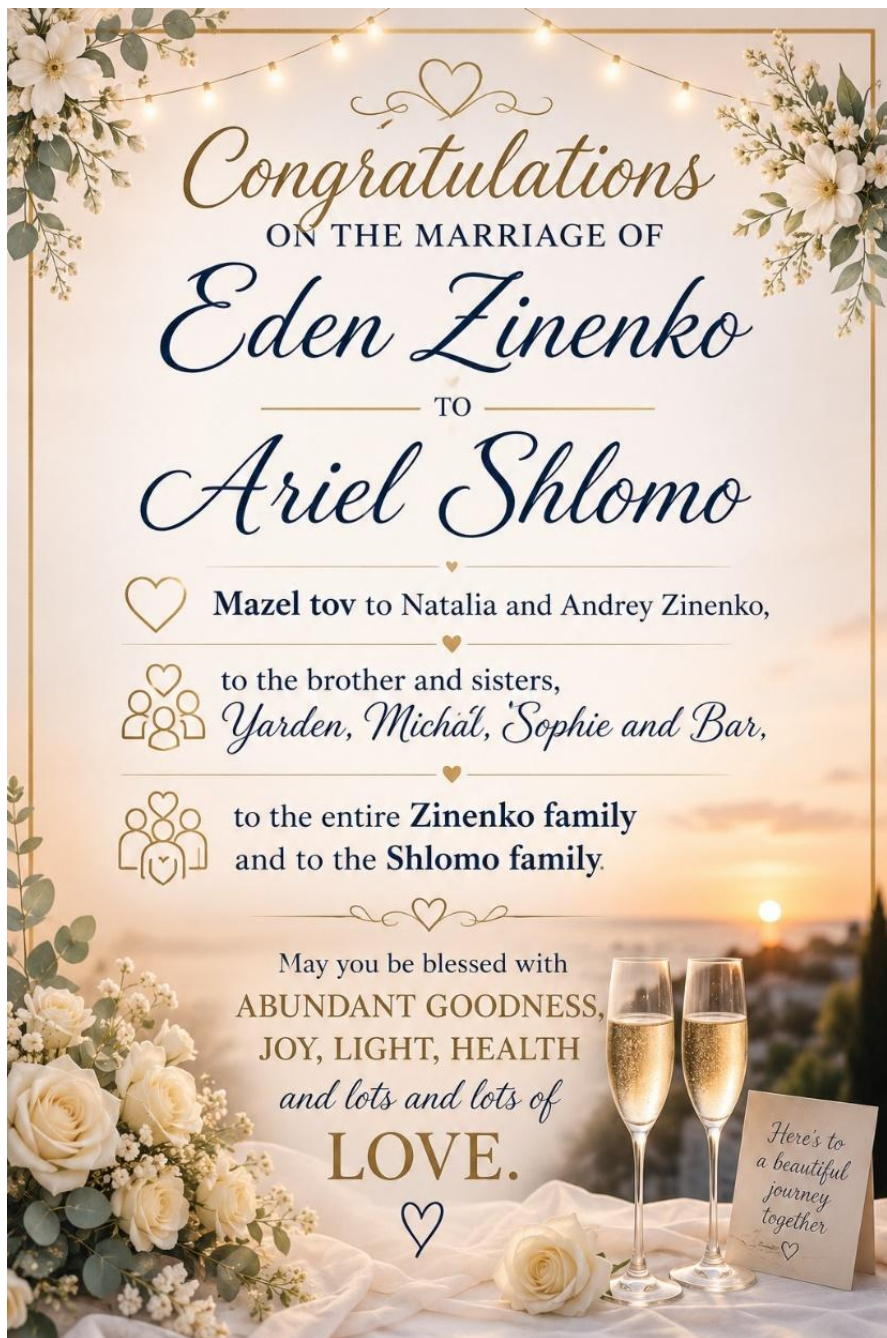
Reut's Editorial: "The mitzvah of bringing the first fruits is the mitzvah of celebrating the ability to fulfil the Torah, to transform it from a commandment given at Sinai into a living act in the Land of Israel. It means realising the journey from bondage and slavery in Egypt to a life of freedom and labour in the Land of Israel. In order to sustain a life of freedom in the Land, there is a need to build, within it, a just society of free people who are not enslaved. Otherwise, the Torah will once again become, instead of a Torah of life, a Torah kept only in the heart."

Shitim Institute Team, Archive of the Holidays,



Let us hope that this Shavuot, the third of the three pilgrimage festivals, will bring days of ceasefire on the northern border. May the residents of the cities, kibbutzim and moshavim enjoy days of quiet and prosperity. May the Harvest Festival, which concludes the agricultural season that began with Sukkot, also mark the end of the days of "cleared for publication" announcements, and a striving towards agreements of peace.







SHAVUOT 2026 SCHEDULE – FOOD BRANCH



Ahead of the Shavuot holiday weekend, attached is the Food Branch activity schedule for Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Happy holiday!

Thursday, 21.06.26

Morning

- Breakfast, as usual, 07:00–09:00
- Expanded vegetable market, 07:00–12:00
- Distribution of Shavuot food for those eating at home, 09:00–11:00
- Distribution of food for Friday night dinner, for everyone, 09:00–11:00

Lunch

- Setting tables ahead of the holiday evening, 11:00–11:30
- Light lunch outside the dining room, 11:30–12:45

Evening

- 18:45, Festive meal served at the tables

Friday, 22.06.26

- Shavuot brunch, 09:00–12:00
- Please note, there will be no dinner in the dining room

Saturday, 23.06.26

- Shabbat brunch, 09:00–12:00

Once again, we ask most emphatically, please do not enter the branch refrigerators. Everything intended for distribution will be placed on the serving counters and/or in the vegetable market refrigerators. The products/vegetables in the branch refrigerators are intended for the branch's ongoing work and are not for taking home.

Please avoid unpleasantness.

Cooks, team leaders and dishwashing-duty volunteers, please attend the briefings.

From the Desk of the Committee Appointments Committee

The Committee Appointments Committee is issuing a “Call for Candidates” and invites members to submit their candidacy (*or suggest names - Ed*) for the following positions:



- Public Representative on the Health Cluster council, election by ballot, four-year term.
- A manager from the Community Services Branches to serve as a representative on Community Management, election by ballot, four-year term.

Candidates may submit their nomination to any member of the committee until 04.06.26.

Kinneret Govrin, Albert Rosilio, Liran Penn, Navot Assaf, Dotan Savir, Shelly Edelstein, Hedva Sharabani

Tikun Leil Shavuot

The poster features a night sky background with a large, illuminated missile monument. The text is in various colors and fonts, including a large green 'GAN HATIL' and a yellow 'THURSDAY 21.05.26'. There are icons for a calendar, a clock, and a person painting. The bottom part shows a child painting a wall with flowers and paint buckets.

**THE RESURRECTION OF
GAN HATIL**

**BRINGING THE MISSILE
GARDEN BACK TO LIFE**

**THURSDAY
21.05.26
21:00**

The public is invited,
from **YOUNG GENERATION**
and up,
to an evening of
PAINTING, REPAIRS
and **RENEWAL.**

**PLEASE COME IN
CLOTHES SUITABLE FOR PAINTING
AND WITH CLOSED SHOES.**

Modeling the Future Together.

Meet. speak. listen.



150 kibbutz members have already registered for the discussion groups – what about you?

The first stage of the social process is approaching the finish line, and we don't want you to remain outside the circle.

Only 4 meetings remain, with fewer than 20 places still available. We are especially looking forward to seeing you on the following dates:

- Thursday, 28.05.26 at 18:00
- Thursday, 11.06.26 at 18:00



Don't miss your place around the table.

Registration on Kehilanet – under Appointments and Diaries.

The Steering Committee of the Social Process

*****8

In Honour of Jerusalem Day – Excerpts Read by Jerusalem-born Members at Last Friday's Kabbalat Shabbat

Maya Shaliv: Stones, Scents and Blessing: The Jerusalem Heart of the Mizrahi Family



Growing up in Jerusalem is unlike growing up anywhere else. It means living inside a mosaic where time seems to stand still, yet the streets are always alive. For me, Jerusalem is not merely a city on the map, it is a cargo of memories engraved in stone, flavour and scent.

The beating heart of my childhood was in Nachlaot, in the home of the Mizrahi family, my mother's family. To grow up there meant that the border between home and

street hardly existed. The narrow alleyways were a direct extension of the living room, and the inner courtyards were filled with the aromas of dishes rising from small windows and the sounds of neighbours calling to one another across the street.



The family's true pride was the shop. In the centre of the market, exactly where the bustle reached its peak, stood the Mizrahi family fruit and vegetable shop. That was where I learned what it truly meant to be Jerusalemite: Grandfather, with rough working hands and smiling eyes, holding deep conversations about life while weighing gleaming red tomatoes. And presiding over it all was Grandmother. She sat in a small corner, her hands always occupied, shelling beans, cleaning grape leaves or arranging the produce as though it were made of diamonds. Grandmother taught me that food is a language of love. She handed out blessings instead of change and always made sure no needy neighbour returned home without vegetables for Shabbat. "The blessing is not in the money," she would tell me in rolling Jerusalem Arabic, "it is in the hands that give."

But the real magic happened on Shabbat. After the Friday siren had fallen silent and the city entered its complete stillness, our Shabbat took on another hue. I remember the excitement of travelling to the Old City. Since regular transport had stopped, we would go to the station for the "Arab bus". Riding it felt like passing between worlds, the smell of the leather seats and the language changing around us were only the introduction to the magical maze awaiting us within the walls.

In the alleyways of the Old City, time worked differently. We walked on the slippery stones polished by millions of feet before ours, moving between light and shadow. One moment beneath the blue open sky, the next inside a cool, dimly covered passage scented with spices and roasted coffee. The highlight was always the tiny hummus restaurant hidden in the alleyways, where we sat surrounded by the smell of cumin and olive oil, wiping warm hummus with fresh pitas from the oven. And for dessert, the magnificent special knafeh, with its salty-sweet cheese stretching beneath the hot

syrup. That taste, melting in the mouth amid the coolness of the stone alleys, was the sweetest memory of Shabbat.

When we returned by bus towards Nachlaot, the Jerusalem quiet wrapped itself around us once again. I would come home carrying the taste of sugar syrup and the scent of ancient alleyways, straight into the familiar peace of the neighbourhood. That return, from the bustle of the Old City to the domestic quiet of Nachlaot, gave me the feeling that the entire world existed here, between those two places.

Even today, far from those alleyways, I carry Jerusalem within me. It taught me to listen to silence, to honour the past and to seek humanity within the crowding. Anyone who grew up among the stones of Nachlaot, with Grandmother's blessings and the wonderful flavours of the Old City, will always carry within them the scent of earth on fresh vegetables and the warmth of the Mizrahi family, my true home.

Momi Cohen: Jerusalem Day is a national holiday celebrated in Israel today, the 28th of Iyar, marking the unification of the city of Jerusalem under Israeli sovereignty.

I was born and raised in Jerusalem. I enlisted in 1966, before the Six-Day War, when the city was still divided. The unification officially took place in 1967 from a political perspective. By then I had moved away with a Nahal group. While I was with the group, East and West Jerusalem were united.

At times there is terror in the city, as well as messianic violence and bullying. In my view, true unification means unity, peace and tolerance, and that is the state we hope will come to Jerusalem and to all of Israel. (*Amen – Ed*)



Ahead of a Discussion in the Education Council – Noga Harpaz

At the upcoming Council meeting, two central issues concerning the daily lives of the children and youth in the education system will be discussed.

We feel it is important to share with the public the background and developments that led to these matters being brought forward for discussion:

2. Activity Hours and Holiday Days in the Education System

Following discussions held with the education teams, various needs emerged from the field regarding activity hours and the holiday schedule. The teams shared the day-to-day challenges they face, alongside a desire to refine the responses provided to the

children, parents and the teams themselves. As a result, the need has arisen to examine possible adjustments that will provide the best response to the changing reality, while maintaining a balance between the needs of the families, the children and the system.

2. Paid Work for Teenagers

In 2018, a decision was made by the Secretariat regarding paid work for teenagers, allowing youth to work only within the kibbutz framework (mainly babysitting), out of a desire to support young families.

Since then, reality has changed, and today we are witnessing an expansion of paid work both on and off the kibbutz.

In practice, some of what is currently taking place does not align with the existing decisions and with the values of the cooperative kibbutz, which sharpens the need for renewed consideration. This situation raises questions concerning the balance between commitment to the community, studies and social life, alongside the desire for financial independence.

In light of this, the need has arisen to re-examine the policy, define boundaries and conditions, and discuss the educational and communal implications of the issue. The matter will be discussed in the Education Council and later brought before Community Management.

Update from the Absorption Committee



Ahead of the Shavuot holiday, we are pleased to share an update regarding the absorption visits on Kibbutz Yizrael:

This coming summer, four families will arrive to begin the absorption process, having completed the screening stages and been in contact with us for nearly two years. All the families are arriving with great anticipation of joining our kibbutz, becoming a meaningful part of it, and after searching for a warm community where they can both contribute and feel enriched in return.

Ahead of their arrival, we are inviting them to take part in the Shavuot holiday celebrations and to meet their accompanying families and the community. The families will be hosted here over the Friday–Saturday weekend.

We are happy to publish the families' details here and invite everyone to welcome them with a smile 😊

- **The Segal-Gutman Family** (Yoav and Mia): together with their children Neta (9), Eliya (7) and Dror (4), are coming to us from Moshav Hever. Yoav is a ben meshek, the son of the late Philippa and Benny, and he met Mia when she served here on Kibbutz Yizrael as a teacher-soldier with Garin Tzabar. Yoav is an educator and Mia is a social worker. The liaison from the Absorption Committee is Naomi Shechter, and the accompanying family is the Nagar-Penn family (Liran and Haim).

- **The Ben-Yishai Family** (Ron and Chen): together with their children Noam (6), Niv (5) and Neta (3), are coming to us from Afula. The Ben-Yishai children have been educated in our education system since infancy. Ron is an engineer at Elbit Systems, and Chen is a teacher at Yad LaHamisha School. The liaison from the committee is Nitzan Rivlin-Feldman, and the accompanying family is the Elul family.

- **The Shechter-Cohen Family** (Dan and Tamar): together with their son Carmi (2), are coming to us from Beersheba. Dan works for the Tekuma Directorate (and is expected to move to the Northern Rehabilitation Directorate), and Tamar is a product manager at a start-up company. During the weekend visit, the family will stay in an apartment on Kibbutz Yizrael. The liaison from the committee is Tzach Sassi, and the accompanying family is the Abramovitz family.

- **The Kodrin Family** (Shlomit and Michael): together with their children Neta (12), Shaked (10) and Adam (7), are coming to us from Kibbutz Nachshon. During the weekend, the family will stay in an apartment on Kibbutz Yizrael. Michael is a project manager at Elbit Systems, and Shlomit is a clinical social worker. The liaison from the Absorption Committee is Yoni Brauman, and the accompanying family is the Ilan family.

Submitted by Karen Eilon Brustein and Eviatar Assaf



Summary of the Planning Committee Meeting – 27.04.26

Present: Vicky Hollander, Revital Zelas, Shlomo Levy, Benny Sigal, Erez Peleg, Barry Feldman, Zahava Rosilio, Axel Levin.

Agenda:



1. Request from members in the Rugby Neighbourhood
2. Electricity storage
3. Leave of absence

4. Request regarding bicycle sheds from members in the Rugby Neighbourhood

Eviatar Assaf joined the meeting in order to explain the request on behalf of several families. The families requested permission to erect bicycle sheds in the public area of the neighbourhood. The request was either for an individual shed for each house or a larger shed shared by every two houses. The requested location was outside the private plots, in order to avoid placing a shed in front of one of the house windows.

The public area is planned as a landscaped space, including shrubs, trees and grass. The committee discussed the request and decided, in accordance with common practice on the kibbutz, that operational needs for a ground-level or permanent home should be resolved within the private garden area.

In the specific case of the Rugby Neighbourhood, the front gardens are 3 or 5 metres deep up to the entrance veranda, and the side gardens are approximately 3 metres wide. In addition, the front of the house includes the wall of the safe room (Mamad), which has no window, while the side of the house has bathroom windows positioned high on the wall. The committee therefore believes that it is possible to construct bicycle sheds in several locations within the private garden without blocking windows: relatively far from the house in the front garden, attached to the wall without a window, or on the side of the house beneath the window. **Request denied**

2. Electricity Storage

The committee again discussed the request to place three containers for electricity storage in the area of Poultry House 3. Contrary to what may have been understood from the company representative during the Economic Council meeting on 02.02.26, there is no intention to enlarge the area or increase storage capacity beyond the original request. The system is intended for the needs of the kibbutz.

In addition, the company requested that the Planning Committee not alter the positioning of the containers, since in a different arrangement the operational area required for maintenance would not be accessible. The committee accepted both the

explanation and the request not to change the placement of the containers. **Request accepted.**

5. Leave of Absence

Axel announced that she is going on an extended leave. She will have only very limited email availability. Members may contact Shlomo or Erez, and the committee will continue to function under their responsibility.

Recorded by: Axel Levin

Reflections (or Perhaps Misgivings) of My Heart About the Social Process – Lilach Ron Harpaz

Modeling the Future Together.
Meet. speak. listen.



When I was young, and travelling around Israel and the world, people often asked me: how can you live on a kibbutz?

How can you live when everything is decided for you, when they tell you where to work (once, it really was like that...), where you will live and what you will wear. I always laughed and said, do you know what Yizrael's greatness is? That it knows how to give the individual room to breathe. That Yizrael, as a collective, understands that not everything needs to be rigidly enforced, but that people should be allowed to grow within this bubble, to change, even if it was not accepted by others in the kibbutz movement.

And it is true. Yizrael was among the first kibbutzim to change family sleeping arrangements, to allow members to study what they wanted and not only what was "needed", to permit private possessions, private cars, outside work because a person wanted it, not because the movement demanded it, and many other things that many kibbutzim around us and throughout the country did not allow.

That is what sustained Yizrael as a cooperative kibbutz, even after this "phenomenon" almost disappeared.

I do not want to open a discussion here for or against change. I ask everyone to be involved in the process. Change will come, there is no other option, but will we, Yizrael, once again know how to allow the individual to grow within the bubble, so that it expands rather than bursts?

Lilach Ron Harpaz

*The writer's opinion was clearly expressed in the discussion circle held last Thursday. You are invited to express yours as well.
Action Forum "On the Way to the Ballot Box".

On the Social Process – Uri Gilad

Modeling the Future Together.
Meet. speak. listen.



I read Hanan's recommendation in the last newsletter, suggesting that we hold a preliminary vote on the question of "whether to privatize" before continuing with the social process. While I was considering whether, and how, to respond to this statement, my eyes were drawn to something remarkable: immediately following Hanan's article, the newsletter editors placed a well-reasoned response in the *Philo-Sophia* column (I took the liberty of quoting it separately from the satirical article itself, which is highly recommended reading):

"My meeting on the future of the kibbutz has been scheduled for the end of the month. I was dragged into it against my will — they snatched my phone and a third party signed me up. It made me think about the things that I would genuinely want to discuss. This is a turning point for all of us. Our future is in our own hands. We must face the future together, with courage and with a sense of shared destiny, and in that spirit, I present my thoughts and look forward to hearing your visions for the years ahead."

I will not try to compete with Phil's writing abilities, but as someone who deeply believes in processes of this kind, and as a member of the Steering Committee for the process, I would like to share my own perspective.

As I understand it, the worldview reflected in Hanan's words is a dichotomous or binary one: "either you are in favour of privatisation or you are against it." Moreover, the proposed way of shaping our lives — deciding by vote — is itself based on the same dichotomous approach: we vote, the majority gets what it wants, and the minority does not.

For most of my professional life I have worked in the field of digital hardware, and I can assure you that reality is not binary. (Hmm... I assume only hardware engineers will relate to that statement, and perhaps I really am trying to compete with Phil after all.) In one of the discussion groups I attended, a member spoke about the way the kibbutz decided, several years ago, on what became known as "the car question." That member explained that although he had been on the "winning" side, with the benefit

of hindsight he realised that the entire process had been flawed, and that perhaps we all ended up losing.

I believe that using the same model of thinking and expecting a different outcome is not a recommended course of action. I also understand that changing this dichotomous pattern of thinking, so prevalent in the world around us, is an extremely difficult task. I cannot promise that this process will lead to agreements, nor can I be certain that it will reduce the suspicion toward those who think differently. What I can say, as someone who has lived and evolved within cooperative groups for the past thirty years, is that when a discussion focused on values and on clarifying what truly matters to me replaces a discussion focused on fixed positions, an opportunity is created to reach understandings.

I invite everyone who has not yet participated in one of the meetings to attend. I also recommend preparing for the meeting in advance: clarify for yourselves what is truly important to you, both as individuals and as people living on a kibbutz.

I wish all of us a challenging and shared journey ahead.

A way of song and an old familiar road.

[YouTube link to the song referenced in the article](#)

Uri Gilad

On Saturday, 9.5.26, the senior team faced a tough match against the league leaders, Maccabi Tel Aviv.



In a fast, physical and aggressive game, Tel Aviv led from the start and managed to hold off Yizrael's comeback attempts. A fine try by Harel Baruch midway through the second half, along with several successful penalty kicks by Maayan Levinson, brought Yizrael closer on the scoreboard, but the Tel Aviv team managed to respond with a try

and a penalty of their own and defeat Yizrael.

The final score was 27–16 to Tel Aviv.

The next match, the league final, will take place at Hadar Yosef Stadium in Tel Aviv on Saturday, 23.05, at 16:00.



RUGBY
2025/26 LEAGUE FINAL
SATURDAY, 23.05 AT 16:00
HADAR YOSEF STADIUM

Illustration of a scrum in progress with players from both teams (yellow and blue) competing for the ball. The background shows a crowd of spectators.

TEL AVIV RUGBY 1973 **MACCABI TEL AVIV VS. HAPOEL YIZRAEL**

COME AND CHEER ON THE TEAM!!
SHAVUOT ACTIVITIES NOTWITHSTANDING

DEPARTURE AT 14:00
FROM THE PARKING LOT BY THE DINING HALL.

PLEASE REGISTER ON KEHILANET.



Election Day is approaching rapidly (the date has not yet been set), and here on Kibbutz Yizrael we are entering an organised and transparent preparation process.

We intend to provide the public with a bi-weekly update in the newsletter, and invite everyone in the community to participate in any way they see fit in matters related, directly or indirectly, to the elections.

The forum team met on Sunday for joint planning, division of responsibilities and preparation of a timetable for the coming period. A number of possible activities were discussed, including:

- Signage and publicity around the kibbutz and surrounding area.
- Setting up booths for party registration and participation in activities.
- A Yizrael election Hyde Park Day.
- Creating phone-based games to encourage awareness and turnout on Election Day.
- Lectures and discussions with outside speakers, for example Major General (res.) Nimrod Sheffer.

We would be very happy to receive additional ideas for activities, contributions to the newsletter and initiatives from every political direction, so that Yizrael can truly be an active and engaged community on the way to the ballot box.

Nitzan Rivlin Feldman, Zohar Assaf, Elad Ilan, Hanan Shaliv

2026 Swimming Pool Season Guidelines – Arnon Matalon



As we prepare for the full opening of the 2026 swimming season at the pool, we would like to refresh a number of important guidelines to ensure a pleasant, safe and respectful swimming experience for all users.

Rules of Conduct

Please read all the rules carefully and make sure that children **and guests** are aware of them as well.

1. **No entry to the pool area without a lifeguard present.**
2. Please follow the lifeguard's instructions and assist them in carrying out their duties.
3. Obey all warning signs.
4. No running around the pool.
5. Diving backwards or doing flips is prohibited.
6. Do not jump into the water after running. *(It is both dangerous and carries grass into the pool - ed)*
7. Swimming in the small pool is the responsibility of the parents and must be under their supervision. The lifeguard's attention is directed primarily towards the main pool.

8. **Children using floaties are permitted only in the shallow area, and an adult must be in the water with them.**
9. All long hair must be tied up.
10. Yizrael children from Grade 7, aged 13 and above, may come to the pool without adult supervision. Children younger than this must be accompanied by a responsible adult **over the age of 18**.
11. Anyone suffering from infectious conditions, lice or open infected wounds is not permitted to enter the water.
12. Parents of babies must ensure that they wear swim nappies intended for pool use.
13. Parents are asked to accompany young children to the toilets. **Children must not be allowed to relieve themselves on the lawns, tree trunks or in the bushes.**
14. **No dogs are allowed in the pool area.**
15. When the pool is crowded, inflatable mattresses may not be brought under the shade net, and ball games may not be played there.
16. No eating or drinking in the pool or at the pool edge.
17. Before leaving the pool, please return all utensils, tables and chairs to their places and collect all your rubbish. Please do not leave leftover food in the refrigerator.
18. Users of the barbecue area are responsible for cleaning it after use.
19. Pool reservations for events should be made through Kehilanet: "Services and Reservations" → "Service Requests and Forms" → "Pool Reservation for Events". A detailed procedure for reserving the pool for events appears in a separate document.
20. Please shower before entering the water.

Guests at the Pool

On weekdays, a member wishing to send a guest to the pool unaccompanied must contact the pool manager (Arnon) for approval. He will coordinate with the lifeguard.

First-degree family guests under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult over the age of 18.

At night, on Fridays, Saturdays and holidays, guests who are not first-degree family members may not enter the pool without accompaniment by a kibbutz member (a member, **not a kibbutz child**). This is due to the large number of swimmers and the difficulty for the lifeguard to supervise the pool and recognise everyone present.

Hosting groups will not be permitted on Friday nights, Saturdays and holidays without approval from the pool manager and accompaniment by a kibbutz member.

Please note: Lifeguards have been instructed to ask unaccompanied guests to leave the pool area.

The role of the lifeguard is not a simple one. Some members are unwilling to take on this responsibility because of the level of accountability involved. Please help the lifeguards carry out their role.

For any questions, comments or complaints, please contact the pool manager (Arnon).

Lifeguards for the 2026 Season

The weekday lifeguard, Sunday through Friday, is **Tzofnat Mor**.

Tzofnat will begin opening the pool on Fridays from 15.05.26, and on all weekdays from 31.05.26.

End of the season: Simchat Torah, 03.10.26.

Duty Lifeguards:

Arnon Matalon, Eyal Tirosh, Gil Hillel, Tzofnat Mor, Eddie Solow, Amir Darom, Ron Granot, Achi Levin, Dotan Savir, Arnon Matalon, Ohad Ziv, Rotem Agmon.

Wishing everyone a pleasant and safe swimming season,
Arnon Matalon

The Cornerstone of the Children's Farm on Sarid

– Yisrael Mor Sarid

From: *When I Was a Short Child*, a collection of stories by Israel Mor

The problem of escaped prisoners has always existed. From the moment the bolt is locked, a person begins thinking about how to rejoin those on the other side.

The Scene

Today, a modern cotton gin stands there, near the Kfar Baruch junction. "When I was short," there was a spring of murky water there, over which the shepherds of Sarid would clash with Arab shepherds until 1947. Then the Arab neighbours left the area and fled as refugees, while a few of them survived and maintained good neighbourly relations.

Every Hanukkah holiday, a cousin named Danny, who came from Jaffa, would come to visit me. This Danny had a strange custom: he would give himself Hanukkah money. How, you ask?

On the first day he would arrive at Sarid, stay for a few days, and return to Jaffa with a haul of male frogs, which he would sell to institutions for research purposes. One day, I think it was the fifth candle of Hanukkah, or maybe the third, they announced the escape of the prisoner Nachman Farkash. And we, as usual, went down to the spring to catch frogs...

While we were wandering about, we suddenly heard a rustling in the bushes and a sneeze. "It's Farkash..." Danny whispered to me. "I heard on the radio that he likes to be alone and live by himself..." A few seconds later there was another sneeze, and of course the general hysteria gripping the country seized us too, and we fled from the spring as fast as our legs could carry us.

The area around the spring would more rightly have been called a swamp. The reeds and papyrus, the branching tamarisks and the fig trees all made it possible to stay there for a long time. Danny always said that if not for the frogs, the mosquitoes' buzz and the clouds of mosquitoes and flies, it would really be paradise.

The next day we went down again, and the sneeze repeated itself. Then Danny's father came to take him home to Jaffa with his "haul". When he saw there was no "haul", he asked what had happened. We told him that we thought Nachman Farkash was hiding by the spring, and that my father didn't believe it and had no time for our nonsense.

Danny's father recruited my father, and the whole group of us went down to the spring so that we could catch a few frogs and not ruin Danny's regular "clientele". The adults stayed at the lookout point, because they did not want to dirty their Shabbat shoes. We went down below.

"We'll cover you from here... Go, collect frogs and come back... If 'Farkash' bothers you," my father said with a wink, "we'll come down to help you."

We were frightened, but we went down, our terrified eyes turned backwards. As soon as we reached one of the puddles, we heard the sneeze, followed by the squelch of footsteps among the papyrus. We began screaming and running back, when suddenly the fathers passed us, running wildly and unrestrainedly, broad smiles on their faces.

We froze in place, startled and afraid, as we heard them wrestling among the reeds and papyrus, which were moving violently. "Grab him from behind..." "Careful, he's

kicking..." "Give me the rope..." And there were thuds, too. Then silence and stillness descended.

"What happened?" I asked Danny.

And he answered, "I heard on the radio that Farkash was a boxer and also national champion. He must have beaten them..."

Suddenly we heard them panting and cursing something in Romanian, their mother tongue, and then they emerged. First Danny's father, glowing all over, and behind him my father, holding a string from a bale of straw, and behind him... a donkey!

The whole procession returned to Sarid, shoes muddy, cheerful and happy, and in addition to the frogs, we also had a donkey. Sometimes I rode him, sometimes Danny, and we were delighted. The donkey wandered around Sarid for quite some time. Naturally, they named him "Farkash".



They built him a house of red bricks, which became the cornerstone of the animal farm that exists to this day and is well worth visiting. *

A few months later, an Arab neighbour named Abdullah appeared and asked whether we had seen a donkey. Of course, we had. We returned "Farkash" to him with some regret, because he had become an attraction.

We rode him, "gave him a whack", and learned that he could kick too, and how! He kicked and struck, after all, he had been named after the former national boxing champion, hadn't he?

Israel Mor-Sarid

Note by Nitzan Mor-Sarid, Israel's son: When the story was first published, in 1985, the animal farm still existed. Today it no longer does.

First story, Alon No. 351, 27.12.85.

Diving into the Archives

It is a moving experience for parents to go up on stage with the babies born that year...

Forty years ago, Nitzan and I did not go up on stage with our twins, because Nitzan and the twins had not yet been released from the maternity ward. We missed out, but we do not feel deprived in any way... Here is a photo from the Bikkurim ceremony in 2017. The babies (held by their parents), from right: Geva Dashevski, Hallely Sadur, Ella Epstein-Cohen, Eden Abramovitz, Moran Ziv, Alma Epstein-Cohen, Nir Assaf, Emily Amerik.



Submitted by: Jules Feldman



Beacon on the Hill

Programme of Activities from 24–28 May 2026

Every day from 8:30 to 12:00: coffee, cake, conversation and board games

Sunday 24.5.26

- 7:00 Walk with Shlomit and Peter
- 9:00 Gathering with coffee, cake, conversation and board games
- 10:00 Seeing the World

Monday 25.05.26 |

- 8:00 Pedicure with Limor Moualem (appointments required)
- 9:00 Gathering with coffee, cake, conversation and board games
- 10:00 Preparing grape leaves with Ramzia

Tuesday 26.05.26 |

- 9:00 Gathering with coffee, cake, conversation and board games
- 10:00 Behind the Songs of Yoni Rechter with Galia Shemi or Gentle Movement with Maya Mental
- 16:30 Meeting with the Grinshpon family at Or B'Giva

Wednesday 27.05.26

- 9:00 Gathering with coffee, cake, conversation and board games
- 10:00 Lecture with Rochela Matalon
- 17:15 Chair Exercises with Michal Shaanan

Thursday 28.05.26 | 9:00 Gathering with coffee, cake, conversation and board games
| 10:00 Film with Galia Shemi – “The Mumbai Puzzle Boy”

Shavuot 2026

HOLIDAY EVENTS

THURSDAY, 21.5

- 18:45 – Festive dinner and short ceremony
- 20:00 – Coffee and cake at the moadon for adults
- 21:00 – Tikkun Leil Shavuot in the Till Garden

FRIDAY, 22.5

- 17:30 – Bikkurim ceremony in the field

SATURDAY, 23.5

- 16:00 – Chaklaida, Midrachov mall and Coffee House

A joyful Shavuot holiday to the entire Yizrael community!

CELEBRATING THE BIRTHDAYS OF THOSE BORN IN MAY


FRIDAY EVENING


29.5.2026


AT 20:00

IN THE MOADON



DID YOU KNOW?

- 

● **Goat's milk is one of the most widely consumed types of milk in the world.** Some sources claim that more people drink goat's milk than cow's milk because goats are common in developing regions.
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● **A whip produces its cracking sound because its tip moves faster than the speed of sound.**
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● **Until the early 1970s, whale oil was used to lubricate car transmissions.**


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● **When the United States entered World War I, its military air service numbered some 50-80 personnel.**

Submitted by: Yitzhak Peleg

ENGLISH IS FUN - with Rahel

Accidental Bloopers

The following statements are collected from insurance forms in which drivers were asked to explain their disasters in the fewest words possible. In these cases, driving skills and writing abilities seem to go together.

- + Coming home, I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I didn't have.
- + A truck backed through my windshield and into my wife's face.
- + In an attempt to kill a fly, I drove into a telephone pole.
- + I had been learning to drive with power steering. I turned the wheel to what I thought was enough, and found myself in a different direction going the opposite way.
- + An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my car, and vanished.
- + I had been shopping for plants all day and was on my way home. As I reached an intersection, a hedge sprang up, obscuring my vision, and I did not see the other car.

- + A gentleman behind me struck me on the backside. He then went to rest in a bush with just his rear end showing.
- + The indirect cause of the accident was a little guy in a small car with a big mouth.
- + The telephone pole was approaching fast. I was attempting to swerve out of its way when I struck my front end.
- + As I approached the intersection, a Stop sign suddenly appeared where no Stop sign had ever appeared before. I was unable to stop in time to avoid the accident.
- + I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law, and headed over the embankment.
- + The guy was all over the road. I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him.
- + A pedestrian hit me and went under my car.
- + To avoid hitting the bumper of the car in front, I struck a pedestrian.
- + I was sure the old fellow would never make it to the other side of the road when I struck him.
- + I saw a slow-moving, sad-faced old gentleman, as he bounced off the hood of my car.
- + The pedestrian had no idea which direction to run, so I ran over him.
- + The pedestrian ran for the pavement, but I got him.
- + I was unable to stop in time, and my car crashed into the other vehicle. The driver and passengers then left immediately for a vacation with injuries.
- + When I saw I could not avoid a collision, I stepped on the gas and crashed into the other car.

.....more next week

Credits and More:

Editor of Hebrew Newsletter: Reut Shaliv

Translator and editor of The Yizraelite: Eddie Solow (Edi-tor)

Proofreader: Chazz Broadhurst

Office staff: Irit Cohen, Danit Duvdevani Kirshberg and Hedva Shaharabani

Disclaimer: The Edi-tor and translator does his best to provide an accurate reflection of the Hebrew Alon. Please be warned that it is not a direct translation. The original Hebrew text is the official version. This is of particular importance when it comes to decisions and procedures!

Not all the material published in the Hebrew newsletter appears in “The Yizraelite”. Considerations of length, readers’ interest and the Edi-tor’s ability to grapple with the subject matter, determine what is included.

Two editions of the Yizraelite. We publish two editions. **The cyber edition** includes more colour photos and occasionally additional long articles. The hard copy is printed in black and white, and therefore there is no point in printing colour photos. We are also limited in length because of printing costs. The hard copy is distributed at the beginning of the following week; therefore, adverts for events that have already taken place over the previous weekend do not appear in the hard copy. Even if you prefer reading the hard copy, we encourage you to scroll through the internet version over the weekend.

Please take into account that we use AI when translating. We proofread, fact-check, and correct the text, but errors may still be overlooked. Be warned.

Note: readers are encouraged to submit letters to the editor, photos, and material for inclusion that does not appear in Hebrew Alon.