

## The Yizraelite – No 2147 Date: 23.2.24

### Kibbutz Yizrael

**Edi-torial.** The good news is that we have had excellent rains this year! Plenty of rain spread out nicely, so there is very little damage. It looks as if we are headed to break the record. See the Rain Table page 2. My friends and I went for our weekly hike on Tuesday. We hiked in the Southern Golan area. The sun was shining, and water was flowing everywhere. I believe they are pumping water out of the Kinneret, so they won't have to open the Deganya dam wall gates. Pity, I would love to see that rare sight.

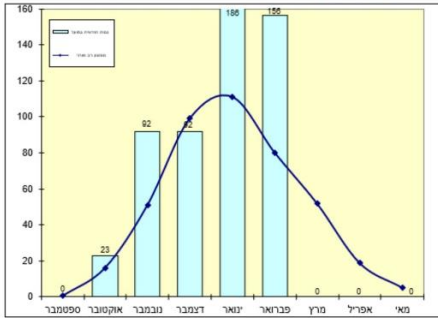


This is a road, not a river!

20/2/2024 **נתוני גשם חורף 2023 - 2024**

מ"מ	1	ב-24 השעות האחרונות (עד 08:00) ירדו -
מ"מ	87	ב-7 ימים האחרונים ירדו

מ"מ	156	מתחילת חודש פברואר 2024 ירדו -
מ"מ	549	מתחילת עונת 2023 - 2024 ירדו -
מ"מ	331	ממוצע רב שנתי - עד היום
	+66%	שינוי מול ממוצע רב שנתי - עד היום



חודש	מ"מ	ממוצע רב שנתי (מ"מ)
ספטמבר	0	0.38
אוקטובר	23	16
נובמבר	92	51
דצמבר	92	99
ינואר	186	111
פברואר	156	80
מרץ	0	52
אפריל	0	19
מאי	0	5



## Rainfall Winter 2023-2024

Multi-year average to date: **549 mm**

As compared to the multi-year average to date: **+66%**

### Rainfall Table

Month	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	Apr	May
Total	0	23	92	92	186	<b>156</b>			
Average	0.38	16	51	99	111	80	52	19	5

Daniel Rosenfeld – Manager of Agriculture

## From Reut Shaliv's Editorial

On February 26, 2024, a petition that I am party to, submitted by "Mothers at the Front" relating to the conscription law, will be considered by the High Court. The petition was submitted months before 7.10 (additional petitions on this subject were submitted by other organisations, and they were also submitted before 7.10). Now, in addition to the outrage over the intention to grant a blanket exemption from military service to the ultra-Orthodox, there is also anguish over the decision to extend the

regular military service, to raise the age at which reserve service ends, and to add to the number of days a reservist can be required to serve each year.

Only four and a half months have passed since the outbreak of the war, which was planned by our enemies to mark the anniversary of the trauma of the Yom Kippur War. The images and stories of the heroism of the soldiers (the few against the many), are still not fully known and 134 hostages remain in the Gaza Strip.

Miluimnikim are slowly being released, to the joy of all of us on Yizrael, but they know that they will probably be called up again, to the northern border). The families of the hostages are fighting for their return. Many families throughout the country are mourning the loss of their loved ones. Almost every day, one or more names of the fallen soldiers are "allowed to be published". And yet, there is an intention to enact a law that will exempt part of the population from duty. Exempted because they belong to a family that thinks there is no need for core studies, that a woman's voice should not be heard by men, and that it is good to live on charity or on undeclared untaxed income.

There are those who will be required by law to enlist in the army, to risk physical and/or mental injury, to risk the loss of their lives in order to protect the State of Israel, and there are those who will not even give service a second thought. The state will not be able to exist for long if the number of people who do not contribute to its economy, increases.

On Monday we will know which way the scales tilt.

Shabbat Shalom!

## **A Reminder about Work and the Elections for Local Authorities**

**Next Tuesday, 27/02/24.**

This day is a public holiday day and will be in the format of Shabbat rostered shifts.

The kibbutz branches are asked please, to prepare accordingly.

Kinneret Govrin, H.R.



## Emergency Readiness Team Exercise (Tsachi)

This coming Wednesday afternoon 28.2, we will hold a comprehensive exercise. We will be testing all the existing platforms.

We will also be testing the public announcement system; the kibbutz WhatsApp groups and Kehilanet. Of course, we will preface all announcements with the words: "Targil' Targil' Targil" ("drill drill drill") If God forbid there is an actual Emergency, we will announce: "Ze Hoda'at Emet" ("this is a true emergency").

There will probably be lots of messages, please be patient, it's only one afternoon, please don't leave the group or silence your phone.

Please explain to your children in advance that there is an exercise that day and they may see people running or hear public announcements. This is a good time to practice with your children!! We hope you all will take an active part in the practice.

We will also be testing out the sending of messages by the "heads" of neighbourhoods. Please cooperate, so that in an actual emergency, things will work smoothly.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Lilach Ron Harpaz



## The Edelsteins Have Moved House



At last, we have moved and are settled into our new home (above Hammatal Assaf).

Personal thanks: to Shachar Levy and Einan Grosser, Itzik Shechter, Amir Beutler, Matthew Emerick, Shlomo Levy, Barry Feldman, Alon Reuven, Ishai Levy and Uri Gilad - each one helped in their own way.

Thanks to the Brin-Dolinko family (our adoptive family), Leora Kamilian and Jo Feldman (liaisons on behalf of the absorption committee), Aviva Beutler and the building staff.

And last but not least, to all the friends who helped us with everything involved in moving house. Thank you for your friendship, willingness, and effort...

We wish for the safe return of the soldiers soon and may the hostages return home soon, safe and sound.

With appreciation and admiration - Kfir, Maor, Shelli and Niv Edelstein



## Hosting Evacuees on Yizrael

### Timeout to say: Thank You...

**Thanks to Sarit Laviv** who took it upon herself to build a framework for the children of the evacuee families for ages 1.5-3 years old. Sarit did an admirable job. With great sensitivity, she built it up from scratch in a short time. The nursery school "Arava" is still in operation, but now under the responsibility of Yael Oster, the preschool director.

Sarit, thank you for 4 months of very significant work in this challenging period.

**Thanks to Idan Orozco**, who for about two months has been running "Arava" - a social education framework for the children of the hosted families on Yizrael. The children enjoyed varied activities, companionship, a daily routine, laughter and great fun. Idan, good luck with your studies and thank you for doing something important and meaningful for these children.

**Thanks to Itzik Shechter and Shlomo Cohen** who cooked dinner for the families staying on the kibbutz. Always with a smile and a huge heart, you gave the families another moment of contentment in the complex reality they found themselves in.

Thanks to the boys and girls of the Chevra Bogeret, and a number of other young people in the younger generation, who have not been in their rooms for 4 months... thanks to you all this is possible!!!

We take this opportunity to thank the Yizrael community which has embraced the displaced families for about 4 months. We have a wonderful community.

Hoping for better days

Eyal Tirosh and Keren Stamper Kagan



## Community Management Meeting Summary - 18.2.2024

Present: Erez Peleg, Maor Persai, Talia Arad, Ilana Peleg, Limor Griman, Yifat Segal, Stas Gavrillov, Shlomo Levy, Inbal Adler, Kinneret Govrin, Yifat Assaf

Absent: Tamir Blass, Ishai Levy (recruited)

### Agenda

**1. Appeal on the fertility procedure** - the participation of the kibbutz in financing private procedures other than through the health services. Invited - Liran Penn (on behalf of the Health Cluster), the appellants: Esti Mittelberg, Inbal Pezaro, Netta Cohen (Netta did not attend)

About a month ago, the community management approved a procedure that deals with the issue in question. After publication, an appeal was lodged on some of its sections. The hearing dealt with this appeal.

The appellants - thank you for your full support until today, when the kibbutz financed the full costs of the process. We wish to raise several points that, in our opinion, were not taken into account in the procedure and involve costs.

The issue is complex, questions were asked in the discussion, and the various options were explored.

**It was decided:** the procedure will be returned for further discussion in the health cluster and will be brought to the community management for approval. After that, the updated procedure will be published to the public.

## **2. Babysitter Procedure**

The procedure dates from 2016. The arrangement deals with the possibility of receiving babysitting services for children up to the age of 10, at the expense of the community, for up to 10 hours a week, when both parents work/study.

The H.R. proposal is to cancel the procedure. In the discussion it was said that the procedure encourages its use as a first solution without looking for other solutions. The arrangement is suitable for a very small number of cases, for example when the spouse is abroad for work and his partner also works long hours. The question of single parents was discussed. It was also said that the arrangement is not relevant when both spouses are studying, and that in such cases they should prioritize family. In addition, the arrangement is not relevant even when it comes to work when there is an extended family on the kibbutz. H.R. receives few applications and usually they are rejected due to lack of reasonableness. The situation is that there are very few families who need a babysitter. It was said that the only families whose needs should be taken into account are the families who do not have extended family on the kibbutz.

**It was decided to cancel the procedure.** You can contact the H.R. administration in cases where the help of babysitters is required for work only. The service will be provided at the discretion of the H.R. administration (Kinneret).

Erez Peleg and Yifat Assaf

## Education Council Meeting Summary - 13.2.2024

Participants: Uri Ayalon, Avishag Sharoni, Yael Oster, Yifat Assaf, Nofar Brin Dolinko, Neta Ratzin Blass, Noam Freiman Levy, Adi Goldstein Ilan, Einav Nagar, Sarit Laviv, Limor Griman.

Guests: Tal Daron, Rotem Hillel.

- **Updates**

1. The community management approved three requests for investments in the field of education - installation of security cameras in three kindergartens, construction of a protected room for Duvdevan Kindergarten, replacement of a roof in a nursery. All three are awaiting the approval of the Economic Council.
2. We are starting a process with the youth's parents, regarding the use of alcohol by the youth. Next week there will be a lecture for all parents, after which a process of three meetings will begin for parents who choose and commit to the process. The purpose of the process is to build a coalition of parents - formulating a joint parental statement and joint action with the youth on this issue.

- **Alternative schools' procedure.**

The original procedure was written 7 years ago, in 2017. On the one hand, the procedure defined the transition process of a child to an alternative school (which is not Ein Harod or a special education school) and, on the other hand, established generous financial support for each child.

The Education Forum put together a proposal for the Education management to change the procedure and adapt it to the current reality: parents will not be required to obtain the education system's approval for the transition. Instead, there will be a conversation to coordinate expectations. Along with this, the financial support will be reduced.

- In the discussion there was a reference to the fact that not all children and not all parents find a solution for the childrens' schooling in Ein Harod or in the special education frameworks offered to them, and it is important to allow (also financially) more options.

- On the other hand, it is said that every parent wants a quality solution for their child and the choice to go to a private school is a family choice, like the choice to enroll a child in classes that cost more than the budget. Every family can choose where they put their money.

It was also said that parents can decide where their child will be educated and yet the departure of a child from the common school has consequences and the parents must be aware of them. It is important to coordinate expectations.

- The kibbutz's participation in funding should not differentiate between tuition and transportation.

**It was decided:** the kibbutz will reimburse the parents the cost of the basic tuition (which is equivalent to the tuition in Emek Harod) and in addition up to 25% of the balance. The total reimbursement will not exceed NIS 3,500 per year.

The decision will come into effect from March 2024 school year. The complete procedure will be published on Kehilanet.

• **Steps to reduce the education costs for 2024.**

**Background:**

In the month of December, the budget request of the Education Cluster for 2024 was presented to the community management. Total requested budget: NIS 5,518,640

In light of the cumulative gap between the budget requests and the community's sources, the community management instructed us to reduce the budget by

NIS 300,000 (which is about 5% of the total budget)

**A list of options compiled by the Education Forum to meet the cut goal was presented:**

1. Cancelling a refund for lunch for students who stay at school for a long day and return after 3:30 p.m.

In the discussion, it was said that it is not understood why the issue of fixed feeding is part of the education budget. The solution should be provided by the food branch and its budget.

**It was decided:** the education system will coordinate with the food branch. As of March 2024, no more refunds will be given.

2. Reductions/increases of income in early childhood:

- Tuition fees increase for non-preschool children from the 2024 school year.

- Reduction and increased efficiency in the purchase of consulting and training services.



- There was a proposal from the members of the council to examine the possibility of postponing the opening of the kindergartens on Fridays to 07:30. The issue will be investigated.

### 3. Reductions in social education:

- All the reduction proposals are painful and were made with great thought after a reduced budget had already been submitted.

- Our understanding is that it is not possible to reach the scope of the required reduction without also reducing the scope of activity in terms of days and hours.

#### **The proposals and decisions:**

- Reducing the activity hours on Fridays: Tlaton Carmel will open at 08:00 and Tlaton Tabor will open at 09:00.

- During the school holidays: Reducing the activity hours of Tlaton Tavor only - opening at 08:30.

- During the school holidays: the Tlaton will not work on Fridays, days when relatively fewer children attend, and the educational activity is not significant after the busy activity week.

- Adding a day to the summer preparation days (also in preschool)

- Reduction in the joint activities of all the children

- Saving labour costs

- Reduction in consulting and training services.

The question of escorting transportation to school came up for discussion. The cost of the escort is very high, because two guards are required who start the workday about two hours earlier - one guard accompanies, and a second guard returns with them. The annual cost is about NIS 37,000.

It was said that escorting the shuttles is a red line and there is no way we can consider sending children to school without an escort. A suggestion was made to check if it is possible to use volunteers for this purpose.

Parents of the education system will receive a detailed update on all changes.

Most of the changes will be implemented as of 1/3/2024.

Summarised by: Limor Griman, Eshkol Coordinator



## Health Council Meeting Summary - 19.2.2024

Present: Tamar Sanker, Liran Penn, Yifat Mizrahi, Rotem Agmon, Biff Markham Oren, Aviva Beutler, Talia Arad.

Absent: Dana Baum, Inbal Adler.

### Agenda

#### 1. Updating and adjusting sections in the health basket – spectacles section

Some data on this section based on 3 years previously:

About NIS 200,000- NIS 230,000 per year is spent on spectacle refunds.

There are about 100-110 users in total, of which about 16-20 are children under the age of 18.

Procedures were examined from other kibbutzim. Most of them encounter the same dilemmas.

The question arose as to why the kibbutz funds optical sunglasses for people who wear spectacles, since we are all equally vulnerable to the sun regardless.

Subsidy for laser surgeries to remove glasses: should any reimbursement be allowed? What % subsidy? In the long run, it will save us money on spectacles, so it makes sense to participate.

No decisions were reached, and it was decided to continue with the discussion. In the meantime, there are no changes in the Spectacles Procedure.

#### **3. Events/activities sponsored by The Health Cluster:**

In April, World Health Day will be celebrated. The Health Cluster will strive to organise some activity to mark this day, suggestions are welcome.

Talia Arad



## **Information and reminder about entitlements for Klalit Mushlam insurance**

Mushlam insurance includes a wide variety of services that are not included in the basket of services under the law.

Insurance consists of two levels - gold and platinum, I will occasionally try to update the public, without being burdensome, on sections that may help or be relevant.

### **Clalit Gold (Mushlam Zahav) Medical Coverage:**



This coverage is known to all of us and is financed by the kibbutz.

Gold (Mushlam Zahav) policyholders are entitled to 3 consultations per calendar year with a private specialist doctor.

For example: worried and must see a dermatologist, but the next appointment is only in two months?? You can contact a private doctor within the consultation quota and advance the appointment significantly.

The cost of the consultation will be NIS 150, the receipt can be submitted to the medical secretary for reimbursement.

All this on the condition that the consulting doctor is included in the list of specialist doctors who are recognised as consultants with "Clalit Gold", and of course this must be verified in advance.

The quota cannot be accumulated from year to year, and it is important to monitor usage so as not to exceed the quota.

- A pregnant woman is entitled to an additional consultation relating to her pregnancy.
- Members over the age of 60 are also entitled to an additional consultation.

For more details, go to the Clalit website. You can also contact me, or the medical secretary, and we will endeavour to help.

### **Clalit's Platinum Coverage.**

This can be added privately at the member's expense.

In certain cases, it will be worthwhile to take the platinum coverage. You can cancel the coverage after you have received the treatment planned. A few examples:

1. Pregnancy - Platinum coverage allows for a more extensive pregnancy basket that contains more than what the kibbutz reimburses under the gold coverage.

The service can be utilised from the date of joining the program.

2. Laser surgery to remove spectacles - Platinum coverage allows a significant discount for this procedure for insured persons over the age of 18 and up to the age of 60 selected clinics (there is a selection).

The service can be utilised **6 months** from the date of joining the program.

3. Aesthetic surgeries - Platinum customers are entitled to a variety of plastic surgeries and aesthetic treatments at a large discount.

The service can be utilised **12 months** from the date of joining the program.

4. Dental treatments - a wide variety of preventive dental treatments for NIS 34 (for example: fillings, extractions, root canal treatment) at Clalit Smile clinics throughout the country (for example, it can be suitable for financially independent kibbutz children).

The service can be utilised utilised from the date of joining the program.

**Monthly cost for platinum coverage according to age range:**

19-30            36.56 NIS

31-39            43.06 NIS

40-49            45.12 NIS

50-59            49.30 NIS

60-64            63 NIS

65-69            75.50 NIS

70 and over 76.33 NIS

The website of Clalit Platinum has more information regarding the various entitlements, clinics, and discounts.

Those who want to join the platinum plan, are welcome to contact Yifat Mizrahi. You will be charged every month if you choose to join it.

Talia Arad



## **Small Business Committee Meeting Summary - 6.2.24**

Present: Kinneret Govrin, Maor Persai, Irit Mor, Anna Abramowitz, Shimon Zelas.

Invited: Erez Peleg.

Agenda

### **1. Moran confectionery - Business Plan**

Moran started her entrepreneurship 6 years ago, on Kibbutz Gadot. Since moving to Yizrael, she has worked in 3 locations - all of which were not suitable for her pastry shop. In the coming month, Moran will reopen the business in a renovated hut in the small business complex.

At this stage, Moran will continue to work 40% of her time in the pastry shop in the hope of reaching a full-time position if there is demand and economic viability.

The bakery products include cakes, cookies, workshops and more.

Customers: Kolbo Yizrael, friends, minimarkets in various kibbutzim, Or B'givah and more.

It will be possible to sit and have coffee and cake on the renovated premises.

The committee decided to approve the plan.

## **2. Summary of small businesses 2023**

Shimon presented the summary of each of the businesses.

The revenues of all 24 businesses amounted to NIS 3 million, an increase of 29% from 2022. One of the reasons for this is due to new businesses. Most of the increase is from customers outside of Yizrael.

The contribution to the community amounted to NIS 1.85,000,000 an increase of 28%.

## **3: Information and Sundry**

Shachaf Halevi has opened her tattoo clinic.

Written by: Shimon Zelas.



## **The Implications of the Cut in the 2024 Food Branch Budget**

Shalom everyone,

Further to the publication in the Alon last week, we hereby detail the implications of the expected cut in the 2024 budget of the food branch: (Prepare yourselves... Ed)

- The vegetable market will be reduced in variety, quality of vegetables and quantities, on weekdays as well as on Fridays.

Please exercise restraint in taking home and consider the other members.

We also remind you that taking vegetables will only be done from the market shelves and under no circumstances should you enter to take them from the branch's refrigerators (even if it is only one lemon, half a cabbage or 2 zucchinis...).

- In the children's sandwich corner, the mini vegetables will be discontinued, and regular vegetables will be served.

It is the parents' responsibility to assist their child in cutting the vegetables and preventing waste.

We also remind you that the sandwich products are not intended for taking home. They are intended for children 1st-12th grade only and are not intended for members.

- Cancellation of the chocolate machine. After the existing stock is finished, the machine will be removed.

- We will reduce the activity of the branch's culinary consultant, and reduce labour costs (laying off workers, I suppose – Ed).

We thank you in anticipation for your consideration in maintaining order and cleanliness, as well as you're understanding that the service may be affected a little, since we are trying to do more with less... We will also take the opportunity to thank again the various volunteers who help us, as well as the duty shift workers!

- Reduction in food costs - unfortunately, processed food will be used more (saving labour costs and depreciation), and the use of different and more expensive raw materials will be reduced.

Here, too, we would appreciate your help and commitment in demonstrating restraint in the quantities taken home.

Remember, crockery should not be taken out of the dining room at all (not even if you intend returning it tomorrow), and that entering and taking from the branch's refrigerators is strictly prohibited. Please equip yourself with appropriate containers ahead of time.

All the raw materials that may be taken home are in the area of the dining room itself (the vegetable market, the bread cabinet and the serving lines - cold and hot). If you did not find what you were looking for there, please ask one of the dining hall employees (before they are laid off – Ed), and remember, **no** is a legitimate answer - unfortunately not everything is possible.

**In conclusion**, without your help and commitment to the cutbacks and the rules, it will be very difficult for us to meet the set budget goal. We are all in the same boat and strive for the same goal - we would appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

We are available for clarification and questions.

Best regards,

The Food Branch and Community Management.



## **Response to "Management Committee Meeting Minutes from February 7, 2024"**

Section 3. Discussion of the community budget 2024, preparation for the council:

*"It was decided:*

*A. The Executive Committee approves bringing the budget as presented to the Economic Council for approval.*

*B. Our proposal for dealing with the deficit of 4 million NIS is to take a "bridging loan", and a recommendation to the Economic Council, when opening the key, to bring a permanent solution to the issue of the gap, with the understanding that the shape of our lives has changed, and to close the current loan first."*

Shimon says: According to a decision of the asefa, the community management must bring a proposal for a balanced budget. That is to say, the community's income is equal to the community's expenses.

It is not possible for the community to take a loan to finance the current expenses of the community, which actually means that the community will take a loan to finance the bonus for members!!

I suggest we demand the management bring a proposal for a balanced community budget.

Submitted by: Shimon Zelas

### **Jeremy's Response to Shimon:**

Every opinion deserves to be discussed. As I tried to convince you in our conversation, the place to discuss opinions is in the economic council and not on the pages of the Alon. It saddens me that after so much management experience, you chose to write to the Alon, instead of raising the subject in the proper place.

## Yes, Dafka Danny Atar

Next week, on Tuesday, the elections for the head of the regional council will take place. Oved Nur withdrew from the race and now everyone must choose who they will vote for. I hear a lot of talk around the dining room tables. Much of it is baseless and inaccurate. Chaverim, check before you spread gossip. There is a great deal of fake news out there!

I have been around a long time.... I remember a time when a Kibbutznik was the head of the council. We didn't have it so good then. I was so jealous of the kibbutzim in the neighbouring councils, in the Beit Shean Valley and the Jezreel Valley that I “dared” to support a Moshavnik for the head of the regional council. I was hoping that maybe something would change... and indeed it did change for the better. It took time, but in retrospect, things changed for the better.

A few years later, by virtue of my position as kibbutz secretary, I represented the kibbutz in the council plenary. We were presented with all kinds of plans that we were asked to approve. I admit that I thought they were unrealistic pipe dreams for a poor council like "Gilboa".

Dani Atar explained that without property tax revenues from an industrial zone, the council will never have the means to improve the level of services for residents. He presented plans for an industrial zone and today Mevo'ot is booming and growing all the time.

There was a time when we were afraid of shopping in Afula. Terrorists crossed the border freely from the Jenin area. There were frequent stabbings and bombings in Afula. The government was dragging its feet on the security issue. Danny Atar took the lead. He moved mountains, found donors and the fence between us and the Palestinian authority was erected in no time. It has been protecting us ever since.

I don't need to tell you how much Dorot B'Gilboa adds to the quality of life of the pensioners in the area. Another dream that Dani Atar fulfilled for us.

Perhaps Danny's most important achievement is the good relations he forged with the Arab villages. We enjoyed the fruits of his endeavors during the Earth Day events, when the Jezreel Valley Arabs did not riot. The escaped prisoner from Shata prison was not given shelter in Tamra. Maybe that too is connected.

I too, know that the man is not perfect. He broke the building laws and built a swimming pool that exceeded the boundaries of his property. In the end he was forced to make changes. Perhaps it is that very chutzpa that is the required quality to get the



job done. Nevertheless, for the head of my regional council I am looking for a person with drive and connections. Someone who can promote projects, manage the council's employees and keep the contractors from cheating him (for our sake).

I will vote for Danny Atar for the regional council because the man is a doer, he is a bulldozer who knows how to move mountains. He has connections in the right places.

When it comes to the head of a council, there is no shame in asking what he can do for us. The council should serve us. Kibbutz Yizrael needs a head of council who can help us promote plans, obtain approvals, intervene on our behalf in public bodies such as Netivei Israel (Road authority), the electric company, the water authority, Rami and Keren Kayemet.

In short, in my opinion, we need Danny Atar at the head of our regional council.

Written by: Eddie Solow



## **Democracy According to Danny Atar**

A new custom has come to the region, or more precisely - to the Gilboa Regional Council - elections under threat.

Read Snir Friedman's letter (from the Ramat Zvi settlement) to the residents of his settlement:

"Dear Residents of Ramat Zvi

...the fact that he (Dani Atar) will be the next head of the council (and this is a fact, friends) and will enjoy much support on our moshav, can only help us.

The head of the council has the ability to direct budgets, set priorities. He is the "owner of the house" (Ba'al HaBayit – Ed).

Each settlement receives the minimum and often the head of the council is the one who decides or influences who will receive more than that minimum. This is politics and I did not invent it.

Think logically, wouldn't you want him to be in our favour? Want to help us? What is the motivation of the head of the council to solve problems or give extras to a settlement, most of whose members voted for another candidate?

As someone who has lived politics in the Gilboa for over 20 years, and as someone who cares a lot about the moshav - I have no doubt that if we go to the polls and elect

Danny with a high percentage, it is better than a situation in which a result obtained reflects partial or reserved support on our part, while in other settlements Dani receives strong support.

Let's do what will best serve our interests..."

### **The Response of Hadas Shaked, candidate for the presidency of the regional council:**

"A campaign that is conducted in this way indicates the way the council will conduct itself hence forth. A discourse based on threats, lies, intimidation is not an option at all for us. I condemn this method of working. We have seen where such discourse has brought us in our country.

If we don't wake up now this will be our reality for the next five years.

This is exactly the alternative I am bringing to Gilboa - politics that serves the residents and not the other way around. As head of the council, each settlement will receive the best service regardless. This is my commitment to you.

Go vote to ensure a different future for all of us. Now is the time for change. There won't be another chance.

### **"Vote on 27.2 and vote Hadas Shaked."**

And a few of my comments: (Nitzan Rivlin Feldman)

1. Snir Friedman ran, until recently, for the head of the council. At the time he said the following (February 2023):

"What do you think about Dani Atar's running for council presidency again? "In my opinion, he is looking for a job. He was head of the council here for 21 years. What he did, he has already done. I don't think he can contribute to Gilboa in the future. ... He left without looking back, he forgot everyone here. He was away for seven years and people remember that. He did good things and a little less good."

2. In June 2023, Snir announced:

"After several meetings with Danny Atar, we see eye to eye on the future of Gilboa, on most of the issues. I believe that Dani is the right person to lead the Gilboa in the upcoming elections. ... The Gilboa is a part of me, and I intend to continue to take an active part in doing and promoting the region just as I have done in recent years (as CEO of the economic company in Gilboa) - because the Gilboa comes before everything. "

I want to say - Snir is not merely a council resident who expresses his opinion. He is Dani Atar's partner in the campaign and his language of temptation / threat expresses Dani Atar's way and spirit. And the question arises, which Snir to believe? The one of February 23 or the one of June 23?

3. One of the despicable practices used by Dani, Snir and their partners is to belittle the opponent, presenting her as insignificant, unconsidered and unimportant, hopeless. "The numbers speak" they declare. And we have not yet seen any reliable survey by a recognised survey company that verifies these announcements.

4. I have never voted for a person who is not worthy, in my opinion, and it doesn't matter how strong a bully he is and what the polls say about his chances. Even if he threatens. On the other hand - I will always vote for someone I believe in. I believe in Hadas's integrity, her ability and her skills, even if someone declares that she has no chance.

5. If everyone votes according to their faith and knowledge and not according to their fears - there is a chance that the best and most suitable person will be elected.

In light of all this, I will vote this coming Tuesday, enthusiastically, for Hadas Shaked.

Nitzan Rivlin Feldman.



## **Dispelling Myths Regarding Property Rights in Kibbutzim**

Following the meeting in the pub with Na'aman Institute researchers on the subject of:  
**Dispelling myths regarding property rights in kibbutzim**

On Thursday, February 15, 2024, a fascinating lecture was held in the pub on the subject of the Israel Land Authority's land policy in kibbutzim and moshavim. The first part was a lecture by Professor Rachel Alterman, professor (emeritus) at the Technion, an expert in urban planning and law, and the second part was a joint lecture by Dr. Micha Drori, head of the legal department of the kibbutz movement, and a leading researcher in the field of kibbutzim in the current study.

Following the interesting evening, which was organised by Dr. Guy Kagan, an evacuee from the north and Doron Kagan's brother, the Alon was given Professor Alterman's

letter to the members of Yizrael on this subject (an article similar in spirit published in the Jerusalem Report was forwarded to Eddie, for the Yizraelite), and also a few words from Doctor Kagan for the members of Yizrael. See article on page 23 – Ed)

**Dr. Guy Kagan - who organised the lecture at the Yizrael pub - writes:**

Our goal in the research team at the Technion – Na’aman institute - is to dispel myths about the land ownership in kibbutzim and moshavim. We are happy to meet with communities in the various regions of the country, or in places where evacuees now live. You are welcome to contact us on the research page of the Shmuel Na’aman Institute website at the Technion, or by email: [guyka@sni.technion.ac.il](mailto:guyka@sni.technion.ac.il)



## Letter to the Editor



**Greg Bass**

Wed, 21 Feb,  
11:25 (1 day  
ago)

Hi Eddie

The newsletter is looking really good! Well done. The pictures included are amazing (great). All in all, reading the newsletter makes it an enjoyable experience. I really liked the volunteer tiyul article. Made me a little (a lot) sad that I could not be part of it. A lot of amazing volunteering is happening, even my 80-year-old sister did a stint picking, I think, grapefruit.

Anyway, I see that you at least are well as well as the others mentioned in the article. Love to Dani

Regards. Greg Bass

Always happy to hear from our (many) overseas readers. (Hint Hint – Ed)







# Kibbutzniks are vassals

**DID YOU** know that the lauded kibbutzim in Israel have no legal property or housing rights, almost like vassals under feudalism?

Many of the victims of the massacre by Hamas on October 7 were members of the communal villages (kibbutzim) located close to the Israel-Gaza border fence. A fact largely unknown by the public, even in Israel, is that both the land and the housing are owned by the state, and property rights are in many ways worse than under feudal landlords.

You may have thought that the kibbutz, as a collective, owns the land, which would be managed according to the collective will of its members. This, too, is inaccurate. The kibbutz owns not a centimeter of land – not the housing or the agriculture or the industry. This means that when the family assets of the massacred are assessed, they are likely to be minimal. No real property value to bequeath to the surviving family members or to the kibbutz association. This is the situation after three generations of self-sacrifice of living in an initially remote area



A view of houses in Kibbutz Kfar Aza four months after the October 7 attack. As in all kibbutzim, not a single centimeter of land is owned by the kibbutz or households, not even the houses in this picture. The state owns all.

of pre-state Israel and under prolonged and extreme security threats that varied from period to period.

The absence of either collective or private real-property rights holds for all the kibbutzim across Israel – some of them with seven and eight generations of history since the founding members. Each and every kibbutz has periodically faced security threats during pre-state and state years. After the establishment of the state, some kibbutzim volunteered to set up in the most difficult climatic areas in the southern desert and along the Jordan Valley. Despite the physical hardships, the kibbutzim have been conducting globally exemplary farming productivity, creating innovative industries, services and technologies, and contributing to regional and national public good well beyond their 2% representation in the population.

Under the canopy of state land ownership, the Israel Lands Authority (ILA) also acts as a regulatory agency, over and above the regular state regulators (land-use planning, taxation). The ILA continues to invent a variety of rules that intervene with the day-to-day lives at both the kibbutz and individual levels. The facts of the onerous rules that the state imposes on the lives of these exemplary communities have never been part of public discourse. The idealistic nature of the kibbutz members, their perpetual sense of public service, alongside

their no-complaints legacy, have allowed the state to retain the antiquated notion of state-owned land, long after the state gradually privatized urban housing over the years. State land ownership in the communal villages is one of the last vestiges of the centralist and quasi-socialist institutions that characterized Israel's early years. These have been removed from almost every walk of life except the controls over the communal villages' lives.

There is also an ugly side to the perseverance of the state land-ownership anomaly. Given the above facts, it's hard to believe that kibbutzim and their members, everywhere in the country, have in recent decades become targets for political incitement under the myth that they are a "privileged rich elite" class.

With no real estate assets, the facts are, of course, the opposite. Apparently, it is easy to generate jealousy-driven disinformation against a minority. What the rest of the population see is the well-managed green villages with excellent self-supplied education

and cultural services. Community cohesion has also succeeded over decades in producing housing that is modest but egalitarian.

No researchers before us have ever addressed the land policy imposed on the kibbutzim. Our socio-legal-empirical research seeks to lift the veil from the archaic and unjust state land policy which has become entrenched and blind to the outside world. With the use of a variety of theories and methods drawn from law, economics, sociology, and public policy, the Neaman Institute of National Policy Research at the Technion has launched groundbreaking research to reassess the axiom that the state should continue to own the land where the kibbutz members reside and work. ■

*Rachelle Alterman is a Technion professor (emerita) of urban planning and law and a senior researcher at the Samuel Neaman Institute for National Policy Research. She is a member of the Israel National Academy of Sciences and founding president of the International Academic Association on Planning, Law, and Property Rights. The research team includes Dr. Micha Drori; Adv. Efrat Aviram Vas; Dr. Avi Shneider; and Dr. Guy Kagan. For further details or interest in participating in this project, contact: kibbutzim@sni.technion.ac.il*



## **Notes from the Music School – Dorit Fink**

### **Beautiful Days.**

On Saturday night, 10.2.24, we held the 17th "Bo Shir Ivri" show in Beit Tsizling in memory of the late Vered Halevi.

Over the years, the show has become a defining cultural event for all the people of the valley, especially the residents of the Gilboa Regional Council, with the musical management and logistical organisation being the responsibility of the Music School.

All the performances - both by the soloists and the ensembles - were on a high level. It's amazing to see what accomplished singers we have here, in the valley.

The subject this time was Yehudit Ravitz's songs, mainly songs she composed herself. The name of the show was "Beautiful Days". And indeed, the show exuded hope. The link sections were taken from various interviews, in which she told about her creations and the birth of each song.

Yehudit herself was invited to the show, but at the last minute had to cancel, and sent us these words which were projected on the screen:

"Good evening. This is Yehudit Ravitz. To all the participants of the evening - musicians, singers, artists, and to all the residents of the Gilboa - good evening! I have been there many times, and I will come to visit again. But not tonight. I want to wish you success. Enjoy the songs. This is very exciting for me. It's a great honour for me that you chose my songs. Hoping for better days... I wish... a kiss and a hug to all of you. 'Good evening'.

Indeed, very exciting. Here are two of the many warm responses we received: "It was a charming and well-polished show. Thank you for letting our children participate in and experience such an event. It was very

exciting for them and for us. (from one of the parents)

Thank you all. Like every year - it was lovely. It is a privilege to participate in this project. It's just pure love. Really enjoy meeting and participating. (from one of the participants) - Dorit Fink





## Little Tips for Big Emotions - Gaya Sankar

### The Power of Intention - Part one



Our words, our thoughts, create the reality in which we live.

Sounds counterintuitive, right?

After all, it seems that the one who moves, who creates, who acts - is our body. No?

But try to remember the last time you walked into a room that contained angry or tense people. Remember the feeling that entered your body in this atmosphere? Even if not a word was said in the room, you could literally “feel” the unpleasantness and the tense atmosphere in your body.

Now remember the time you entered your parents/grandparents/grandchildren/good friends’ home, a place where joy and peace filled your heart, the love that flowed from the other side met the love that flowed from you, and even without any action you had a good feeling.

Our thoughts, and certainly our words, generate vibrations. Although they are invisible, just like radio waves, they nevertheless produce a certain frequency, which meets the surrounding frequencies.

When I am under stress, think angry, scared, hostile thoughts, etc., or even express them in words - I unintentionally create a wave that does not match the natural vibration, and is therefore rejected by it. This power struggle, between the different frequencies, requires energy and weakens our system.

On the other hand, when I think positive or compassionate thoughts, when I assume a loving intention, a constructive wave friction is created that strengthens the material.

An amazing way to demonstrate this is the rice experiment. It was first performed by a Japanese scientist named Masaru Emoto, who created a series of experiments investigating the effect of words on matter.

This is how to do it ... (recommended for everyone - for children and children at heart):

Take three identical jars and place an equal amount of rice in each of them, and an equal amount of water to cover as well (you can also do this with cooked rice, without water).

Place the jars next to each other, and for a period of about two weeks to a month treat each one differently:

One jar is spoken to with words of love: what beautiful, loved, delicious rice, smells good, etc.

The second jar is spoken with words of anger or hatred: disgusting, smelly rice, I don't like you, etc.

The third jar is completely ignored.

After a while, you'll start to see a change in each of the jars (I don't want to tell you what will happen, so there won't be a spoiler).

Since the first time, this experiment has been performed countless times. This is a small, everyday example that shows how much words and intention influence the material. You are welcome to try it, have fun, and share the results with me.

Anyone who wants to, is welcome to watch a short clip about the experiment on YouTube under the title "Dr Emoto rice experiment."

Good luck and good intentions,

Gaya



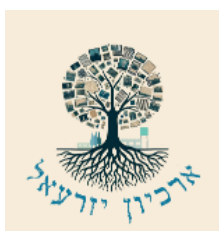
**We are excited to present the logo of the Yizrael Archives!**



Many thanks to Danielle Assaf for the design.

The Yizrael Archives Team

Jules Feldman and the Tsafnat Mor.



## **From the Jubilee Book - "Light on the Hill"**

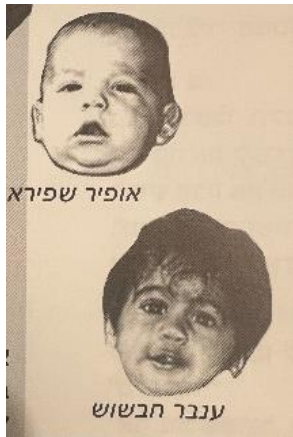
Fourth decade: Society

Inflation in all areas

In the statistical summary of the United Kibbutz Movement's population for 1978, we are in second place in terms of birth rate - 225 children.

22 babies were born, even though the forecast was that 9 children would be born!

April 1979



And here are some of the children about whom the above passage was written, in a photo taken ten years later.

On the back of the photo were written only the names of the Yizrael children. (Tsafnat would be happy to add the names of the other children - please contact her):

Sitting back row: (from right) Inbar Havsshush, Shaked Feldman, Yoav Segal, Ilana Peleg (teacher).

Standing: Erez Solow and Shimri Haviv.

Sitting front row: (from right) Amir Beutler, Avital Zilas, Yuval Alterlevi, Ofir Shapira, Sue Nof (Metapelet) 3rd grade, Tu B'Shvat, 1989



## **Almond Blossom Festival**



**24/2/24 10:00 - 12:00**

**Creativity Corner; Tractor Rides; Navigation Game; Coffee Corner.**

**Pita Oven; Hot Soup.**

**In Usual Spot**

**Lifts from Car Park - details on Kehilanet**



## **Sportiyulim Presents**

**16.3.24**

**Multi Route Tiyul**

Bike Ride – Long and Short

Hike – Long and short.

Motorised tour

Registration by the 11.3.24

In the end everyone will meet up and be spoiled

**STRANGE ANIMAL LAWSUITS** (continued)

**The plaintiffs:** Barley growers in Autun, France

**The defendants:** Rats

**The lawsuit:** In 1510 the rodents were charged with burglary, having eaten and destroyed the barley crop. A young lawyer named Bartholomew de Chassenee was appointed to defend them. When the rats failed to appear in court, Chassenee successfully argued that since the case involved all the rats of the diocese (the area under jurisdiction of one bishop), all of them should be summoned. When the rats failed to appear again, Chassenee argued that it was because they were scared by “evilly disposed cats which were in constant watch along the highways”. Since, by law, the rats were entitled to protection to and from court, the plaintiffs “should be required to post a bond” that would be forfeited if the cats attacked the rats on their way to court.

**The verdict:** Unknown, but the publicity from the case helped Chassenee to establish a reputation as a sharp lawyer. In fact, many historians now regard him as one of France’s greatest lawyers.

**The plaintiff:** The Grand Vicar of Valence, France

**The defendants:** Caterpillars inhabiting his diocese.

**The lawsuit:** In 1584 the Grand Vicar excommunicated the insects for causing destruction to crops, and ordered them to appear before him. When they didn’t appear, a lawyer was appointed to defend them.

**The verdict:** The lawyer argued his case but lost. The caterpillars were banished from the diocese. When the caterpillars failed to leave, the trial continued until the short-lived caterpillars died off. The Vicar was then credited with having miraculously exterminated them.

..... more next week



**Programme for 25/02/24 – 29/02/24.**

**Daily 08:30 – 12:00 – coffee, cake, chats, board games**

**Sunday 25/02**

Opening the week with Monica.

09:10 Zoom Lecture – Around the World with Ravit Havshush – Sardinia / Secrets of the Stone

10:30 Ceramics room open with instruction from Ziv Ben Bassat

**Monday 26/02**

08:00 Pedicure with Limor Mualem (by appointment only)

09:30 Trip to Pnai Li

16:00 or B'Givah is open for a get together over coffee.

**Tuesday 27/02**

REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

**Wednesday 28/02**

09:30 Nature is Blooming with Hammutal

14:00 Ceramics room open with instruction from Ziv Ben Bassat

**Thursday 29/02**

07:00 Pedicure with Na'ama Baum (by appointment only)

10:00 Movie screening with Galia Shemi

17:15 Exercises on chairs with Michal Sha'an

## **Credits:**

Translated and edited by: Eddie Solow

Proofread by: Biff Markham Oren

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**Disclaimer:** The Editor 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!!!