



THE MICAH UPDATE

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In this Issue:

- Message from Mark*
- Social Action*
- The Memorial Garden*
- What was New*
- Northbound '08 recap*
- The Havel Wedding*
- News and Happenings*
- Recipe*
- Birthdays*

Message from Mark

I'm sitting in our Chestnut Hill office a few days before Rosh Hashanah and yet another hurricane is moving up the east coast. It is pouring outside and will be for the next few days. Boy, it really feels like second month at camp this past summer. Just fewer people to feed!

It was a great summer. Camp was full and the Micah community was strong. As of today we currently have both a Girls' and Boys' waiting list for 2009. Although we do have some spaces left in scattered grades most of the camp is filled. If you know of anyone interested in Camp Micah for this coming summer - siblings, family or friends - please have them call us sooner than later, as space is limited.

We have also been receiving a lot of Parent and camper questionnaires which we take very seriously and help us to continue to improve camp every summer. Many important issues come from these evaluations and I will be compiling these issues and sending out an evaluation overview with my comments later in the fall. One specific and important issue that I have seen that is worth mentioning here is that some parents want more feedback on how their child did at camp. I just want to remind everyone that I am always happy to speak with any parent about how a specific camper has done at camp. This includes a summary of counselor evaluations that are written each summer on each camper. Please feel free to call me during the school year if you would like that feedback. Please note that any significant issues that arise during the summer are always discussed with parents at that time.

I hope that the school year has begun well and that everyone is settling in to their annual routine. For those of you celebrating the Jewish New year we send our good wishes for a happy, healthy and sweet new year. May you be sealed for good in the book of life?

L'shanah Tova!

Mark

CONDOLENCES

The Micah Community is a family. As such, it is always hard when one of our own is saddened by grief. Our thoughts and prayers are with Hillel Todres, his mother Judith and their family as they mourn the loss of his father David Todres who passed away on September 26, 2008 after a long, courageous battle with Cancer. Funeral Service to be held at Temple Ohabei Shalom, 1187 Beacon Street, Brookline, MA at 10:30am Sunday September 28, 2008.



THIS SUMMER'S SOCIAL ACTION



A Family Art Project at Camp Sunshine

A main component of Camp Micah is to better ourselves, others and the community around us, Tikkun Olam. This summer was no different and in fact Social Action at Camp Micah flourished. Headed by Sondra Kaminsky our campers took part in a wide array of projects to help those in need.

We continued our relationship with Camp Sunshine by donating over 1,100 books to their new library. Each CIT went to Sunshine twice during the summer to volunteer and some of our prowlers and timbers were able to go there to take a tour and participate in activities with their campers. In addition the entire Micah staff was invited to Sunshine during staff week for a tour and an information session so they could learn about the wonderful things Camp Sunshine does and pass this information on to our campers.

This was also the second summer our campers volunteered at the Bridgton Senior Center. Twice a week one cabin along with Sondra, their counselors, and a song leader would go and spend time with the residents of the center. They would play games, read, sing songs or just be someone with whom they could talk to. When the campers would return they would talk about what a great experience this was and how they couldn't wait to return.

On Shabbat morning, first session, many of our campers worked on making soup bowls to sell for the Community Kettle in Bridgton, ME. These soup bowls were sold to parents on Visiting day and we raised \$413 for a great cause. Thank you so much to all of the parents who purchased one. Each soup bowl came complete with a recipe for soup from our Chefs.

Finally we also donated seven homemade blankets to the Linus Project out of Portland, Oregon and made pillows for the Children's Hospital of Maine. We would like to thank all of our Campers and especially Sondra for the wonderful work they did in helping to make our world a better and slightly more humane place to live.



Hard at work on the soup bowls

A RUN AND A HAIRCUT FOR A GOOD CAUSE



On October 11th Amanda Singer will once again be running in the Boston Athletic Association Half Marathon. Amanda will not only be running for herself but will also be running for the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and The Jimmy Fund. She is looking to raise \$500 for these great causes! Good luck Amanda! If you are interested in donating please e-mail

Amanda at: singer.amanda@gmail.com



On September 14 Kate Mikesh, our very own assistant girl's head counselor, cut her long red hair and donated it to Locks of Love. Locks of Love is a charitable organization which takes human hair to make wigs for cancer patients. To make this event a little more memorable one of our campers, Josh Schegolev, did the honors. Let's just hope he kept everything pretty even.



ALUMNI DAY AND THE MEMORIAL GARDEN DEDICATION



On July 13, 2008 Camp Micah held its second annual alumni day. Alumni from summers past came to see their friends, former counselors and their summer home, Camp Micah. Alumni were welcomed to enjoy what camp has to offer; be it the pool, the lake, or just spend time catching up with each other. About 60 alumni came and everyone seemed to have a great time. In conjunction with alumni day The Camp Micah Memorial Garden was officially dedicated.

The Memorial Garden was built in honor of those former campers we lost last year; Zach Carson, Jeremy Kritzman and Scott Silberman. After lunch, the entire camp, along with Zach Carson's parents and grandparents, made their way to the site of the Memorial Garden. The ceremony opened with Mark talking about each of the three campers; sharing fond memories and telling of their contributions to camp. Next was a prayer and a few words by Shari Churwin. After Shari, Mr. and Mrs. Carson gave a heartfelt speech about Zach's long battle with cancer and how special Camp Micah was to him. The Carson's then went on to thank the Micah community for all of their support in raising funds for the Zach Carson Foundation. The ceremony

concluded with Julie and Laura Bergstein singing a beautiful rendition of "You've Got A Friend". Although it was a sad day it was a great way to remember those we have lost and come together as a community



The Memorial Garden is a place for reflection and peace for those who want to remember or just have a moment of silence. It is located at the edge of the softball field overlooking the baseball diamond. It features a memorial stone, a stone walkway and three benches.

Julie and Laura Bergstein



WHAT WAS NEW AT MICAH THIS SUMMER

THE LADDER

An exciting new program called the ladder replaced the outpost this summer. Based on the story, Jacob's Ladder, it is an overnight program designed to challenge campers and teach them how to work as a team. For completion of certain tasks bunks were able to earn a rung on the ladder. Although the rain made it difficult the program made great strides and those who participated really learned about themselves and their bunkmates. We look forward to growing the program even more next summer.



The Ladder Site

THE EDGE

Another new addition to the summer was The Micah Edge. The Edge is a program for Summits only where they are afforded the opportunity to specialize in a certain area of camp. Each Edge participant was given a personal coach who tracked their progress and made sure they were working towards achieving their goals for the summer. Besides a personal coach campers were given extra time at their specialty and when appropriate a personalized fitness/workout routine.



Asher and his coach Matthew Crosby

CAMP NORTHBOUND 2008



The Awards



The Northbound Crew



Talent

When Camp Micah closed the gates on the summer of 2008 not all of us packed up and went home. Instead, we began to get ready for the third summer of Camp Northbound which ran from August 18th– August 23rd. In partnership with The Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation and The Boys and Girls Club of Dorchester 150 inner-city children from the clubs were brought to Micah for a Week to experience summer camp.

The campers participated in a wide variety of activities which included: Sports, arts and crafts, the waterfront, hiking and ropes. For many the top activity choices were waterskiing and the zip line, I mean who can blame them! But the fun did not stop there; We held a dance, had an amazing talent show and campfire and of course a one day Color War which blue won for the third year in a row. Go Green!

As with Micah, awards are given to the campers and this year a new award was added, The Scot Tatelman Award. The “Tate” award is presented to one boy and one girl who exemplify camp spirit in the same way Scot did. Camp Northbound was Scot’s idea and it is something that is very dear to him. We saw this as a great way to honor him and the work he has done for Northbound since he was unable to return this summer to run the program.

Northbound campers hard at work writing letters.



The children are able to come to Northbound for virtually no cost thanks to the generous support of donors to the Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation. To say thank you, the campers are asked to write one letter to a donor. The letters range from a simple “thanks” to elaborate accounts of everything they have done that week. As we glanced through these letters we saw how special this week is.

Camp Northbound would not be possible without the help of those Micah staff who stay for an extra week. This year 50 plus Micah staff members stayed and did an amazing job, especially our Head Counselor Scott Crook. Scott took on the task of running the day to day operations of Northbound to make sure all went smooth and I must say it did! Awesome job Scott and thank you to all of the Micah Staff members who worked Camp Northbound 2008

It’s funny to see how quickly the kids get “taken over” by Camp. It only takes a meal or two for the cheers to start, “Biggest Unit”, “We run this camp”, and “whatever cabin 08” (Thanks G-14 08 huh), are some of the ones we heard. In addition to the cheers, it’s the smiles on their faces as they are heading to an activity and the look in their eyes at the last Campfire that make this experience so worthwhile. A camp experience is what they came for and an unforgettable camp experience is what they took home. We can’t wait for Camp Northbound 2009....see ya there!



ADAM AND EMILY SAY I DO AT MICAH



The first Camp Micah Wedding in our 8 year history took place at the end of the summer between Camp Micah ending and Camp Northbound beginning. As you may remember during summer 2007 Adam Havel, our Head Boys Counselor, proposed to his long time girlfriend Emily Edmondson on Bald Pate Mountain. After a year in the Making (and I'm sure no headaches) Adam and Emily said I do on Saturday August 16th in the Chapel On The Hill. The wedding was attended by family and friends who spent the weekend at camp, staying in the bunks and taking full advantage of the lake, pool and activities. A lavish cookout took place on Friday with the wedding and the reception on Saturday. All of the amazing food was catered by Micah's two favorite chefs, Jason Kriger and Scott Schnetzky.

The entire weekend was beautiful until about an hour before the wedding when the skies decided to open up (much like second session). Due to the unpredictable yet predictable weather everything was pushed back about a half hour. By then the rain had stopped and gave way to a beautiful ceremony. Emily looked exceptionally stunning as she made her way down the aisle. Adam in his casual finest had the biggest smile on his face realizing how lucky he was. What an amazing time the weekend was and from the entire Camp Micah Family we wish the newlyweds the best of luck and many more happy summers at Camp Micah.



To find out more engagement news read below!

IT MUST BE A SUMMIT THING

Well first there was Andrea and then Havel. In a newsletter last year we jokingly talked about a common theme among former summit unit leaders getting married. Well guess what? The tradition continues!



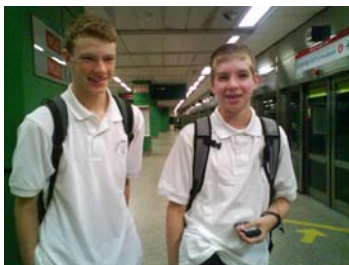
Josh and Misty at Camp

About a week after the Havel wedding **Josh Hawk, the 2007 Asst. Summit Unit Leader, proposed to his longtime girlfriend and 2008 Girls Summit Unit leader Misty Cain** on top of Bell Mountain in Hiawassee, GA. Josh was ever so the gentleman by getting down on one knee and asking Misty to be his wife! (Don't worry she said yes.)

Congratulations you two. Does this mean something is on the horizon for Ryan Rhoades?

A LONG WAY FROM MICAH

The Rozen-Levy Boys in Singapore



Micah is truly going global. Did you know we have campers living all over the world? It's true: From Sharon to Singapore Micah has truly become a global community. Some of the countries our campers live in are Canada, China, England, France, Israel, Spain and The Netherlands. It's

funny to think how a place like Micah makes the world seem a bit smaller.



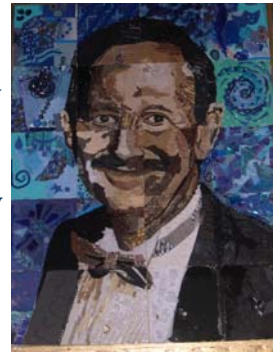
NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

AND THE AWARD GOES TO...

During the summer of 2007 our campers set out to do something very creative to honor Uncle Milt. Under the direction of Sue Woron, our campers created a collage of tiles that, when pieced together, create a smiling portrait of Uncle Milt. The Portrait hangs, fittingly enough, in The Uncle Milts Performing Art Center and is on display for everyone to see.

This summer Sue submitted the work to the Gallery 302 exhibit where it won first prize. The Gallery 302 exhibit is an annual event where local artists are afforded the opportunity to showcase their work. It's a great event for the community and Camp Micah is proud to take part of each summer

Congratulations to all of the campers, art staff and Sue who participated in creating this magnificent and unique piece of art! It's a great way to provide a smiling reminder of what we at Camp Micah stand for.



Kate Mikesh has been named the **Reform Judaism youth worker for the month of September**. The award is a national award given out by the Union for Reform Judaism. When not at Camp, Kate serves as the Director of Informal Education at Temple Ohabei Shalom in Brookline, MA. Kate was nominated by Shari Churwin who serves as the Education Director at the Temple and, of course is our Program Director.

As the Director of Informal Education, Kate serves as the director of the high school program, she heads the *Madrichim* (teaching assistant) program for post B'nei Mitzvah student, she coordinates all five youth groups (grades 1-12), acts as an advisor to the high school youth program (OSTY) and oversees all youth events at the synagogue.

Congratulations to Kate on being a great youth leader at Camp Micah and away!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

We want to know what's going on with you. Make sure you keep the Micah office up to date with all the happenings. Something exciting happen? Let us know and we will include it in the next newsletter! Make sure to send a picture too if you have one. We hope everyone has a great school year! You can send news to:

steve@campmicah.com

Summer 2008 Reunion!!

Date: Saturday January 17, 2008

Time: 7:00-9:00 pm

Location: TBA

KRIGER'S COOKING CORNER

Everyone's Favorite...Oatmeal Raisin Cookies!!!

Ingredients: 1/2 lb. butter (unsalted)

2 cup (light) brown sugar

Beat both in mixing bowl on high speed until lighter in color. 3-5 min

1 egg

1/4 cup milk

Mix into butter/sugar on low speed until incorporated

1/2 teaspoon salt

2 teaspoon baking soda

1 2/3 cup flour

2 cups oats

1/3 bag of raisins

Add one at a time and slowly mix in each. add oats and raisins at the same time.

Scoop 6x4 on cookie sheet, bake at 350 for 10-12 min.

enjoy, Jason



H-A-DOUBLE P-Y YOUR BIRTHDAY'S HERE SO DON'T BE SHY

Happy Birthday to all our campers and counselors who celebrate their birthday in September, October and November!!!

September

Monica Siegel Naomi Kaye
 Sam Marram Abi Alexander
 Erin Siegel Janelle Kelly
 Adam Maxwell Caitlin Alexander
 Andrew Sandler Sean McGrimley
 Austin Cohen
 Reid Grinspoon
 Asher Lovesky
 Rivka Lipschitz
 Simon Gee
 Alison Kraft
 Jason Hurvitz
 Jessica Rubin
 Daniel Weinstein
 Alina Wadness
 Ethan Cote
 Julia Fallman
 Edward Gould
 Sally Rifkin
 Zoe Federman
 Brett Halperin
 Josh Halpryn
 Tyler Brunstein-Ellenbogen
 Abigail Schneider
 Joanna Gajeka
 Jeremy Moskowitz
 Agnieszka Sajak
 Scott Crook
 Michael Churwin
 Avi Cohen
 Z



October

Alan Lipchin Andy Hopper
 Stephanie Malis Sam Ottinger
 Ben Gaynor Jen Gleason
 Sasha Eppelbaum Ryan Kosow
 Mathew Shanck Emily Felber
 Shahar Itzhaki
 Troy Joseph
 Sam Gallimore
 Nathan Landau
 Jackie Teperman
 Josh Kirson
 Jacquelyn Malis
 Jay Rauch
 Eliana Rich
 Katherine Rich
 Matt Arbesfeld
 Emily Seltzer
 Samson Kampler
 Dan Krant
 Kara Kurland
 Basia Schwartz
 Samantha Land
 Jacob Solomon
 Robby Gershowitz
 Ari Shaller
 Jared Virusso
 Ali Cooper
 Shira Ben-David
 Danielle deBairos
 Dina Tyson
 Josh Geller
 David Pransky



November

Evan Rocco Shawn Plante
 Jared Curtis Blaine Mercado
 Jason Schwartz Lauri Gallimore
 Noah Adler Laura Bergstein
 Matthew Levitan Kye Welsh
 William Settel Omri Hazan
 Ariel Polokoff Ali Mills
 Hannah Most
 Rachel Spiro
 Jesse Spivak
 Alexandra Benjamin
 Stephanie Baril
 Laura Furman
 Amaia Berasategui
 Michal Goderez
 Michael Fuchs
 Ben Mogul
 Lee Grinspoon
 David Imber
 Joelle Gross
 Benjamin Powell
 Isaiah Freedman
 Josh Schwartz
 Alexandra Khrizman
 Emma Caplan
 Matthew Rosenblum
 Hillary Haspel
 Erin Pinta
 Michael Weinstein
 Rachel Gallimore
 Amanda Singer

