

THE MICAH UPDATE

Inside this issue:

Message from Mark	1
Mazel Tov, Micah!	2
In Memory of Hillary Silver	3
Camp Northbound	3
Social Action Update	4
Micah News	5
Birthdays	6
Camp Champions Event	6
Important Reminders	6

MESSAGE FROM MARK

NOVEMBER 2015

Halloween has come and gone and the leaves are all falling from the trees in New England. I was up at camp a couple of weeks ago and got a chance to see the beauty of nature as Bald Pate Mountain changed colors from green to gold, red, and orange. What an amazing sight.

Included in this newsletter are updates on the Micah community. Our growing Micah family includes many engagements, weddings, birthdays, and new Micah Minis. Make sure you see the picture of our head chef, Will Huntress, and his wife, Trish, who were married at camp in the chapel just last month. There is also a great recap of many of the social action projects Micah was involved with this past summer. Please keep letting us know about all the great happenings in your lives so that we can share them with the whole Micah community.

Be sure to read the special letter from Cheryl Boyarsky (mom to Danny, Jake, and Max in B15 2015) that is included on page 3 of this newsletter. The Micah community thanks Cheryl for her constant support of the Silver family. She reminds us that all we do to instill the Jewish value of *tikkun olam* throughout the summer at Micah doesn't end when we pack up and leave Bridgton, Maine.

As our Fall Newsletter is reaching you, the year round crew is finishing up the yearbook which will be sent to 2015 campers and staff before Thanksgiving, hiring staff for next summer, and recruiting the last few campers for 2016. Mike Fusco, our Facility Manager, is hard at work in Bridgton, Maine getting camp ready for the upcoming winter and starting the process of replacing nine cabin floors in the Boys' and Girls' Areas. As this school year progresses, just know that we are all working to get Micah ready for another amazing summer!

We look forward to sending out the yearbook in a few weeks and to seeing everyone who can make it to the 2015 Micah Reunion in Dedham, MA on Sunday, January 10, 2016 (Evite to follow).

Have a great fall and enjoy the newsletter!

Mark



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www.campmicah.com

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P.O. Box 67414
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467
617-244-6540

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156 Moose Cove Lodge Rd
Bridgton, ME 04009
207-647-8999



Be sure to "like" Camp Micah on Facebook so you can be one of the first to hear exciting news!



MAZEL TOV, MICAH!

ENGAGEMENTS

We're excited to announce the engagements of the following former campers and staff. Stay tuned for their wedding pictures in the future!



Brian "Ralphie" Murphy (founding camper, B15 2004, 2007 - 2010 football, soccer, waterski staff) proposed to his girlfriend, Leighton Conley, in April of this year.



Not to be outdone by his twin brother, **Doug "Moose" Murphy** (founding camper, B15 2004, 2007 - 2010, 2012 football and waterski staff, 2014 Micah in Israel staff) proposed to his girlfriend, Steph Dilorio, in May.



Jamel Torres (2010 - 2011 Maintenance Staff) got engaged to Avery Dandreta in April.

MARRIAGES

First comes love, then comes marriage! Congratulations to these former campers and staff members that recently tied the knot.



Dani (Murmur) Stamford, former camper (G14, 2004) and counselor (2007 - 2010 hockey staff and waterfront lifeguard), and **Ross Stamford** (2010 soccer staff) are the newest couple that met at Micah to walk down the aisle. So many Micah friends gathered to celebrate with the happy couple on October 11, 2015.



Rachel (Shea) Pastoriza (2002 - 2003 staff, 2009 Prowler Unit Leader) married Jason on October 16, 2015. What a beautiful fall wedding in NYC! Micah friends, **Erin (Radant) Arnio** and **Andrea (Hanssen) Olitzky**, were bridesmaids!



Will Huntress (currently our Head Chef and a staff member since 2004) shared his wedding vows with **Trish (Lara) Huntress** (kitchen staff since 2013) on October 10, 2015 in our gorgeous outdoor chapel at camp in Maine.



Rob Cohen (2003 - 2004 wilderness staff) married Sara in October 2015.



Stacy (Weinberg) Tyman (2009 - 2011 ropes course staff, Wilderness Team Leader, and Judaic Coordinator) married her husband, Joe, in a beautiful outdoor ceremony in Vermont on June 14, 2015.

BABIES

We are so excited to introduce you all to the newest members of the Micah family.



Jennine (Shulkin) Clark (2005 boat driver/waterski staff, 2006 Timber Unit Leader, and 2007 Assistant Girls' Head Counselor) and her husband, Phil, welcomed their son, Bryson Scott, on July 29, 2015.



Janelle (Kelly) Rearick (2007 & 2008 general sports staff) and her husband, Ryan, are the proud parents of Jack, born on July 15, 2015.



Lauren (Quint) Grosack, founding staff member at Micah, and her husband, Mike, became proud parents to Leah on July 2, 2015.

BIG BIRTHDAY



Happy 75th birthday to our beloved Rabbi Emily Lipof! We wish we could all be together to celebrate Rabbi Lipof's birthday on November 5. Be sure to give her a special "H - A - Double P - Y" cheer at your dinner table!

Do you have big news or a lifecycle event you want to share with the Micah Community? Email Kate Monge (kate@campmicah.com) and send pictures!

NORTHBOUND #10

IN MEMORY OF HILLARY

It's amazing to think that it has been ten summers of Micah's partnership with the Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Dorchester. These past ten summers have brought the gift of camp to hundreds Camp Northbound campers. This summer, like the nine that came before it, was life changing for so many of the campers and staff that were part of the Northbound experience. We're counting down to summer number eleven!

This year, Camp Northbound celebrated it's tenth summer by pulling out all the stops. Days jam packed with activities, Color War (complete with Northbound's own version of the Micah Marathon and rope burn), a carnival on the softball field, and a special celebratory banquet made this year's week-long adventure in Maine the highlight of many campers' summers.

Camp Northbound wouldn't be possible without the hard work and collaboration of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Dorchester staff and the Micah staff members who stay on for another week of work after what was already a long summer. This summer, we'd like to give a special shout out to Scott "Flick" Flickinger (former Micah Boys' Head Counselor) who once again returned to 04009 to act as this year's Camp Northbound director.



Dear Micah Families,

As many of you know, my friend, and Camp Micah mom to Brad and Justin Silver, lost her battle with blood cancer this summer. Micah was truly the salvation for those boys.

On November 11th, myself and a friend are organizing a blood drive in her memory. I know that most of you live outside of New Hampshire, but I thought it would be so wonderful to start a Micah donation on her website, SilverPlatterFoundation.org. If you go to the website, you can donate there. Then please send me an email with your name (and a note if you would like it passed onto the family) and I will make sure the donation was received and keep track of monies raised by Micah families.

I know it would mean a great deal to Rob, Justin, Brad, and their family.

Very kind regards,

Cheryl Boyarsky
 cheryl@nhprintmail.com
 (mom to Danny, Jake, and Max Boyarsky - B15, 2015)



Donate Blood In Memory of Hillary Silver

Hillary was a wife and a mother of two boys ages 12 and 15. Over the course of 9 years living with multiple myeloma, an incredibly painful and debilitating blood cancer, Hillary received countless blood transfusions. At times those transfusions were literally the only thing keeping her alive. Hillary lost her courageous battle on July 4th of this year.

The Silver Platter Foundation was established to honor Hillary's strength and courage, and to help those afflicted as she was. The Foundation provides goods and services to families affected by adult blood cancers with minors living at home. You can visit our website, SilverPlatterFoundation.org, and like our Facebook page "The Silver Platter Foundation, Inc." to learn more.

Blood Drive
Please Join Us. Help save a life.
Silver Platter Foundation

Temple Adath Yeshurun
 152 Prospect Street
 Manchester, NH 03104

Wednesday, November 11, 2015
2:00 PM – 7:00 PM

For an appointment, please visit redcrossblood.org
 Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).



redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767

MICAH IN ACTION, SOCIAL ACTION!

Social Action was in the forefront of our daily lives at Micah this past summer! We had a very enthusiastic and creative group of Summit Mitzvah Makers who helped take the lead on so many of our community service projects. All of these activities were not possible without the time and desire of our Micah campers to help out and make a difference in our world. Thank you to each and every camper for volunteering their time, their ideas, and their enthusiasm for our social action activities. Below is a recap of some of the projects that our community took on this summer.

Israel Defense Forces

This summer, our social action mission focused on the Israel Defense Forces. By showing support for the IDF, we were letting the brave young men and women who help to defend our Jewish Homeland know that we cared and thought about them. The IDF has been guarding the State of Israel since Israel's independence in 1948. At the age of 18, most Israelis are drafted into the IDF to defend Israel's borders and guarantee the safety of our people. The money we raised is used to help care for wounded soldiers, to help care for families of fallen soldiers, to support lone soldiers from all over the world, and even to grant college scholarships to veterans.

We began by sending several boxes of t-shirts and socks to Israel for the IDF from our campers. We thank all of you who so graciously sent your campers to camp with these needed donations. During the summer, the Summit Mitzvah Makers organized several activities to raise money and teach about this worthy cause. The campers bought raffle tickets with extra money or change from trip days. It is truly wonderful to know that our campers made the choice to donate to such a worthwhile cause. We had a couple of "Pie In Face" raffles where the campers were allowed to "pie" one of their counselors. We raffled off golf cart rides with our famous chauffeur, none other than our director, Mark. Campers were escorted by golf cart to some of their activities. The Micah In Israel trip brought back some items from Israel for a raffle, including IDF t-shirts.

The Mitzvah Makers re-established a Camp Micah classic, the Micah Dodgeball League. The Critters and Prowlers competed together and the Timbers and Prowlers competed together. Campers set up teams consisting of campers and one or two counselors. Each team chose their team's name, paid entry fees (to be donated to the IDF), and the games began. Fun was had by everyone over the couple of weeks of the tournament. All in all, we raised more than \$600 for the IDF.

Alex's Lemonade Stand

Alex would be very happy to know that Camp Micah continues to carry on her legacy. Alex was diagnosed with neuroblastoma, a type of childhood cancer. She had a lemonade stand when she was four years old to help other sick children. She died when she was only eight years old. Her parents set up this inspirational foundation in honor of Alex who dreamed of helping doctors find a cure for cancer. Thank you for helping us with our lemonade stand on Visiting Day. We raised more than \$300.

Project Linus



Over the past several years, we have been making blankets for this worthy cause. There are hundreds of chapters throughout the United States that make homemade blankets and distribute them. These blankets are given to comfort children who are seriously ill, traumatized by some event in their lives, or otherwise in need. We added another 60 blankets from Camp Micah to the 5.7 million blankets that have been made nationwide. Our blankets are distributed locally in Maine.

Bridgton Health Center

Our campers have continued to volunteer to spend time with elderly residents at the local senior center in Bridgton. We share cheer and conversation. We lead Bingo, we sing with the

Bridgton residents, we play twister as the residents look on. This year, for the first time, we were invited to join the residents for a musical performance and we even played charades. Bringing smiles to the residents for the short time we are there, makes them forget about their troubles. They hear about the residents' children, lives, and they get to talk about themselves. The campers always leave with the understanding that they made a difference in the residents' lives for the time we were there.

Other Social Action Activities



We assembled soup jars to donate to Community Kettle, the local organization that gives meals to the those in need in the area. We wrote letters to Israeli and American soldiers to say thank you and to show support. We made cards and baked cookies for the local firefighters and police officers. We made coloring books for the emergency room in the Bridgton Hospital. We put together goody bags for children in local shelters. We made dog biscuits for the local animal shelter. We even

had a group of Critter boys who wanted to help out the dining hall staff and decided to set their tables for dinner to give the hardworking staff a break.

Your hearts would fill with pride to watch our campers give some of their free time to help others. As we all know who work with your children, we have an incredible, giving group of campers in our Micah community!

We would like to, once again, thank **Sondra Kaminsky** for her tireless efforts and commitment to Social Action. The amount our campers and staff gain from her each summer is truly immeasurable!

THANK YOU, MICAH!

We received the following message from **Randy Swartz**, 2007 sports staff:

To the wonderful campers of Micah and Staff,

On behalf of my army unit here in Israel, I send you much love and thanks. When these young Israeli 18 year olds graduate high school, they must serve and defend the land by joining the military. Some items are taken upon them to buy themselves, such as white t-shirts and warm socks. I know for a fact that not all these young men and woman have the resources to purchase these items. Some have lost parents. Some are simply dealing with the stress of this extraordinary change in their lives. Therefore, by donating these materials to my unit you have impacted a soldier's life in a very positive way. You have made a difference. You have done a MITZVAH.

As you know, Judaism does not ask us to help others, it requires us to help others. To be a Jew, one must remember that we were once the stranger in Egypt, so we must go and seek to help the stranger. I am so tremendously proud to be an alumni of a Camp that encompasses these values. Way to go! Kol ha-kavod!

*Sincerely,
Sgt. Randall T. Swartz
and the Soldiers from the Nahal Brigade,
Battalion 931
Operational Company Mivtzait*



If you have a social action project you're connected to during the school year, please let us know so we can share it with our community. Email social action news to kate@campmicah.com.

MICAH NEWS

Gallery 302 Art Awards

Each summer, **Sue Woron**, our Creative Arts Team Leader, coordinates camper entries into an art exhibition at a local Bridgton gallery over Visiting Day Weekend. She shared the following news with us about the 2015 award winners at Gallery 302 in Bridgton, Maine.

We are pleased that the following Micah Campers were uniquely honored by Gallery 302. We laud the high quality of artwork that the 2015 campers produced this summer. We are so proud of all our exhibitors and of ALL of our campers who take risks and explore the visual arts!

- | | |
|--|---|
| Lily Abrams
1 st Place
Ages 12-17
Painting | Lily Abrams
1 st Place
Ages 12-17
Mixed 3-D Media Dream Catcher |
| Daniel Alepa
Honorable Mention
Ages 6-11
Painting | Julia Gershowitz
3 rd Place
Ages 12-17
Ceramic Cup |
| Abby Gurevich
1 st Place
Ages 12-17
Ceramic Cup | Jake Franklin
2 nd Place
Ages 12-17
Fiber Art Proddy Flower |
| Emily Novak
2 nd Place
Ages 12-17
Ceramic Mug | Ben Lawrence
3 rd Place
Ages 6-11
Wood Napkin Holder |
| Chloe Berg
1 st Place
Ages 6-11
Wood Shelf | Lila Goldstein
1 st Place
Ages 12-17
Batik Bandana |
| Group Project
1 st Place
Mixed 3-D
"Birds of A Feather" Sewn Birdies on Branch | |

- Shoshana Blumenfeld
Zeke Cochin
Avery Dunaisky
Julia Goodwin
Ari Reith
Daniel Ruskin
Jonah Schwartz
Zara Skolnik



An Appalachian Trail Adventure



Thanks to **Kenny Hillstrom** (2012, 2013, 2015 staff) for sharing news and pictures about his trip with **Gretchen Egan** (2015 staff). Micah friendships and a love of nature don't end when we all leave camp in August!



Immediately following the end of camp this summer, Gretchen and I embarked on a hiking trip on the Appalachian Trail, using nature and the mountains to decompressing and to prepare for whatever adventure life had in store

next. For those not familiar with the Trail, it spans from Georgia all the way to Maine, a distance of over 2000 miles. We began at Springer Mountain in Georgia and hiked 110 miles to Franklin, North Carolina, where we decided to stop after 8 days. We encountered ample wildlife (bears, snakes, and wild pigs, to name a few) and many friendly, good people out on the trail who were out there for the same reasons as we were. Through it all, we were and are thankful that we have the opportunity to enjoy nature's wonders, and thankful for Camp Micah allowing us to share our passion through the hiking program. We feel that hiking is good for the soul, no matter the age, and cannot wait to see everyone again out in the mountains next summer!

-Kenny

2015 Yearbook

For those who attended or worked at camp in 2015, if your address has changed since this summer, please let us know so your yearbook can be mailed to the correct location. Changes can be emailed to mike@campmicah.com

Goodnight Micah

When we hear of Micah alumni growing their families (like the many you read about on the Mazel Tov, Micah page), we send a gift of our book, *Goodnight Micah*, to the new baby. We've heard from many Micah families that they'd love their own copy of *Goodnight Micah*! If you'd like us to send you a copy, please send a check for \$28 per book (which includes the cost of shipping), payable to "Camp Micah" with "Goodnight Micah" in the memo field to our winter address and we'll get a copy out to you right away.



Camp Micah
P.O. Box 67414
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467



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

September

Amy Albert, Eli Altschul, Jonah Berg, Olivia Bunter, Hannah Churwin, Mike Churwin, Zeke Cochin, Gabe Cohen, Sam Coté, Samantha Fineman, Kendall Geffen, Marah Goldman, Ezra Goldstein, Kenny Hillstrom, Marina Jacob, Naomi Kaplan, Jared Kaplowitch, Sammy Katz, Caro Lipsitz, Sam Marram, Sarah Merriman, Chloe Moss, Lisa Pearlman, Brendon Rigney, Benjamin Rigney-Carroll, Julia Rothstein, Aaron Rotter, Daniel Ruskin, Andrew Sandler, Micah Sher, Monica Siegel, Nate Simmons, Wendy Temple, Martha Terhaar, Alina Wadness, Lucas Webster.

October

Lily Abrams, Shae Aiguier, Haley Ali, Ryan Altman, Ari Andriola, Sadie Andriola, Philip Bard, Isabel Basow, Evan Berg, Harrison Braver, Isaac Cohen, Marley Cumbbee, Marshall Ehlinger, Sam Gallimore, Ben Gold, Jonathan Grobstein, Noa Helmbrecht, Alex Hull, Riley Iris, John Janes, Sam Land, Nate MacDonald, Sadie MacDonald, Teresa Martinez-Laredo, Charlie Messinger, Nathan Meyers, Isaac Mukamal, Tony Padilla, Brady Payne, Margaret Quigley, Jay Rauch, Anthony Resnick, Eric Rosenblum, Austin Satinsky, Jacob Schuster, Jacob Solomon, Aleksandra Sowa, Lexi Tuch, Jason Waldman, Sam Waldman, Bret Wood.

November

Caroline Bailen, Mark Borghesani, Laurence Bourque, Sam Breyfogle, Marsie Cohen, Evan Dubowsky, Shaun Dubowsky, Avery Dunaicky, Sydney Finn, Iscaiah Freedman, Lauri Gallimore, Benja Gordon, Joelle Gross, Asher Hamori, Liam Herron, Denica Hill, Will Huntress, Joely Kessel, Alex Korotkin, Sam Krugman, Lindsay Lao, Ben Lawrence, Paula Levine, Joel Linkewer, Jake Litchman, Ethan Littmann, Charlie Margulies, Maya Metser, Moriah Morgan, Lexi Pollard, Ben Rakatansky, Bella Reith, Matt Rosenblum, Julia Ruskin, Mason Santos, Jolie Savenor, Lexi Schwartz, Kristen Shabe, Matt Shusterman, Jake Sofro.

STAY CONNECTED



"Like" Camp Micah on Facebook to keep up to date on exciting news and important info.



Follow @campmicah on Twitter during the off-season and throughout the whole summer.



Follow campmicah04009 for great throwback pics and amazing shots throughout the year.

JOIN US!

THE CAMP CHAMPIONS CELEBRATION

Camp Micah is a proud sponsor of this year's Camp Champions Celebration, celebrating the true spirit of camp and helping to bring the camp experience to the region's children in need. 100% of net proceeds benefit ACA New England's Campership Fund. We'd love to see you at the Friday, November 13 event at Fenway Park. The 2015 Camp Champions Award will be presented to Lisa Loeb, Grammy nominated singer/songwriter and summer camp advocate & philanthropist. The Camp Champions Celebration makes it possible to provide children in need from CT, MA, ME, NH, RI & VT the opportunity to thrive at summer camp. There is no greater gift than the gift of a summer camp experience! Contact Mark (MarkL@campmicah.com) for more information. If you're interested in attending, visit www.acanewengland.org/camp-champions.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- Camp is nearly full! We have waiting lists for most grades for this coming summer. If you have friends or relatives who are interested in attending Micah this summer, they should call the camp office (617-244-6540) to check on availability right away.
- Mark your calendars for the Summer 2015 reunion! This year, our reunion will take place on Sunday, January 10, 2016 from 10:30 am - 12 pm in the Boston area. More information and an official Evite will be sent to 2015 families soon. We hope to see everyone there!
- Want to be mentioned in our next newsletter? Send updates on your own social action projects, lifecycle events, and other newsworthy items to kate@campmicah.com. Don't forget to include some pictures!