



This month in Etzba HaGalil

*A review of the news for our partners from Coast-to-Coast Canada
April 2007*

- Students from Winnipeg's Grey Academy visited their peers at the Danziger School in Kiryat Shmona this month over the course of their tour to Israel. They ran activities for local youth at the Yitzhak HaNasi school and participated in "Canada Day." Youth from Calgary's Jewish Day School visited the Har V'Guy school during their trip to Israel this month, met and toured with their Israeli peers, and commemorated Yom Hazikaron and Yom Haatzmaut together.
- On Yom Hazikaron, Canadian participants on March of the Living took part in an English ceremony led by their Israeli peers on the Maayan Baruch Leadership Institute, a year-long pre-army program of study and service. The Institute, located on the "confrontation line" in northern Israel, is a beneficiary of Israel Emergency Campaign funds. Youth from the Institute regularly participate in Mifgashim (social encounters) with Canadian youth, and this year's participants will visit Canada this summer as counselors at local Jewish camps.
- Two parks were recently built and dedicated in Kiryat Shmona, gifts from Orli Matlow and Norman Yellin in celebration of their recent Bat and Bar Mitzvahs, respectively. Orli and Norman and their families were present for the dedication ceremonies. The Mayor of Kiryat Shomna - Chaim Birbai, and representatives of UIAC and JAFI were also present.
- Thanks to generous donations from abroad, 6 special therapy rooms for children with special needs were recently opened in the Kiryat Shmona, the Galilee Panhandle and Galil Elyon, including one in the Renanim School of Kiryat Shmona.
- Over Pesach, "Livnot U'Lehibanot sponsored Matzah baking workshops, wine-making and drum circles in the bomb shelters of Kiryat Shmona. Leah Zand, director of Livnot, explained, "With the recent renovations of the shelters, we want to change the children's perception and correct their negative associations by using the spaces for positive purposes."
- For the Passover holiday, the Akim project of Kiryat Shmona distributed food coupons to needy families. Next week, participants and their families will be participating in a day of respite, including visits to the hot springs of Tveria and several other surprises.
- Tel Hai Academic College recently publicized its activities for residents of the North, including educational, health and social programs for students, local youth, and the entire community.
- The Danziger Auditorium in Kiryat Shmona was recently renovated and rededicated, thanks to support from the Jewish Community of Puerto Rico. The Auditorium is a vital cultural center for the youth of the region.