



Youth News

December 14, 2013
11 Tevet 5774

Kestenbaum Family Youth Department
Youth Director: Natalie Williams

BJ BETH JACOB

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SPECIAL COUNSELOR INTERVIEW IN THIS ISSUE!!

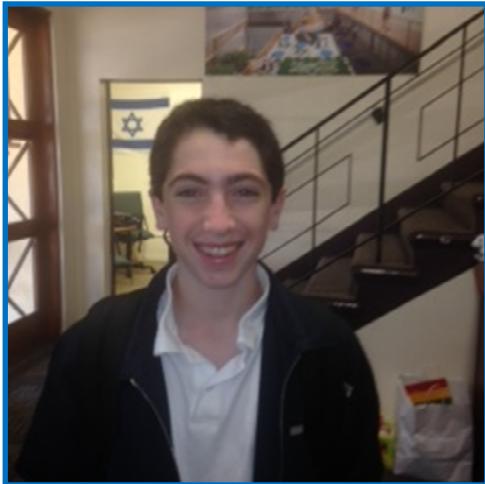
Parshat Vayechi

Yosef brings his two sons, Efraim and Menashe, to get one last blessing from Yaakov. Customarily, when giving a Bracha, one is to put the right hand over the older son, Menashe and the left hand over the younger son, Efraim. The two boys approach their grandfather, older on the right and younger on the left. Suddenly Yaakov crosses his arms so his right hand is over Efraim, and his left hand is over Menashe! Yosef figures that old age must be affecting Yaakov's arms, so he moves to switch Yaakov's arms back. But before he can do it, the *Bracha* is bestowed: Yaakov asks *Hashem* to send a *Malach* (angel) to protect Efraim and Menashe the same way he was always protected. He prays that the two will keep the faith of the *Avot* (forefathers) and deserve to be called *Bnei Yisrael*. Finally he asks *Hashem* to make their descendants strong and multiply like fish once they return to the promised land, *Eretz Yisrael*. Yosef can't hold back any longer. He asks his father why he put his right hand on Efraim's head instead of Menashe's. Yaakov tells Yosef that even though both sons will have holy descendants, he's giving Efraim the extra push because he knows that in the future, a descendant of Efraim will be so great that he'll freeze the sun in the sky as he leads the conquest of Canaan. This great leader is none other than Yehoshua bin Nun, who takes the reins after Moshe. Yaakov adds one more *Bracha*. In the future, when parents bless their kids, they will say, "May *Hashem* make you like Efraim and Menashe."

Happy Birthday to.... Reva Egorin, Maya Praw, Judah Stern, Sarah Dahan, Andrew Melamed, Jessica Melamed, Solomon Bollag, Talia Corn, Natan Epstein, Dalia Segar, Lauren Ashkenazi, Judah Pardau, Noah West, Talia Abel, Alexa Denitz, Boaz Garellick, Emmet Garellick, Jedidiah Pardau, Yaakov Shlomo Wilk, Anna Sternberg, William Lawrence, Benjamin Lawrence, Jack Talansky, Akiva Brookler, Baron Conzevov, Giselle Joffe, Benny Alagem, Tara Samson, Yisrael Wilk, Eliezer Zucker, Emma Conzevov, Lior Ronen, Edward Czuker, Noam Goldberg, Yitzchak Posy, Ayla Frankel, Benjamin Portnoy, Shaine Arnold, Gedalya Hirchman, Deborah Markson.

Word Search! *Efraim, Yoseph, Bracha, Hands, Switch, Blessing, Hope, Ancestor*

M	O	G	N	I	S	S	E	L	B
D	T	L	B	V	E	P	O	H	R
Y	Y	H	C	T	I	W	S	I	F
A	E	O	L	O	R	H	N	N	I
F	H	F	S	S	D	N	A	H	J
G	G	C	R	E	U	T	S	K	B
G	R	M	A	A	P	U	N	T	I
O	M	R	S	R	I	H	S	U	K



Featured Counselor:

Jacob Weiss

Birthday: November, 6

School: Maimonides Academy

Group: 7-9 year olds

Favorite Game to play with my

Group: Jump Rope and Parsha!

Hobbies: Skateboarding and

Reading

Jokes:

An Israeli man named Itzik was returning home from a fishing trip at the Sea of Galilee. He was flying down the highway, going way too fast. He felt secure amongst a pack of cars, all traveling at the same speed. However, it wasn't long before he saw flashing lights in his review mirror and pulled over. The officer handed him the citation, received his signature, and was about to walk away when Itzik stopped him. "Officer, I know I was speeding," he started, "but I don't think it's fair. There were plenty of other cars around me going just as fast, so why did I get the ticket?" The officer tilted his head and gestured at the fishing gear stowed on the passenger seat. "I see you like fishing," he said. "Ummm, yes I do... so?" Itzik replied, confused. The officer grinned as he turned to leave. "Ever catch ALL the fish?"

Kids Recipes!

Delicious Surprise Cookies

1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour

3/4 cup cocoa powder

1/2 teaspoon baking soda

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/2 cup (1 stick) Margarine

1 cup sugar

1 large egg

1/2 cup soy milk

1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

12 large marshmallows, cut in half horizontally

Chocolate Frosting

STEP 1

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, cocoa powder, baking soda, and salt; set aside.

STEP 2

In the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, cream together margarine and sugar until light and fluffy, about 2 minutes. Add egg, soy milk, and vanilla,



and beat until well combined. Add reserved flour mixture; mix on low speed until combined.

STEP 3

Using a tablespoon or 1 3/4-inch ice cream scoop, drop dough onto ungreased baking sheets, about 2 inches apart. Bake until cookies begin to spread and become firm, 10 to 12 minutes.

STEP 4

Remove baking sheets from oven, and place a marshmallow, cut-side down, in the center of each cookie, pressing down slightly. Return to oven, and continue baking until marshmallows begin to melt, 2 to 2 1/2 minutes. Transfer cookies to a wire rack to cool completely before frosting.