

MY NEW HOME IN TEL AVIV

Jordan Sapir

Dear friends:

I'm writing from my new home in Tel Aviv, sitting in my room and peering out of my window, where every Friday morning I see the streets bustling with people. Although it's similar to the hustle and bustle in the streets of New York, I know that planning on Friday morning in Israel means that the entire country is preparing for Shabbat. It's the most comforting feeling to know that all the people here are working toward the same goal.

Friday mornings aren't the only days that the comforting feeling takes hold of me. When I first arrived in Israel, I was nervous about the different holidays. "With whom will I celebrate?" I asked myself. I didn't want to impose on anyone.

To my relief, I soon began to realize that in Eretz Yisrael there are two things that are assured. I will never find myself short of a single bite to eat, nor will I ever lack a table at which to enjoy the food. I think that I am already booked for Shabbat dinners and holidays until the year 6008.

I remember being really disappointed last year because we couldn't go to Israel for Pesach. But, when I said "Next year in Jerusalem," I guess I really meant it. This Pesach was great. I spent Seder with family in Hedera and we had a wonderful time. Everyone here was more than hospitable. It felt as if I was invited to almost every Seder table in Israel!

This Pesach, as we read the Haggadah, I had visions of the previous Pesach, when I was standing at the podium of the Beginners Service (where Rabbi Buchwald thoughtfully volunteered me for that week's *D'var Torah*). I never could have imagined when I was standing before the congregation that I would have the courage to make Aliyah to Israel.

And yet, it was only a matter of days after arriving in Israel on a lay-over on my way to Shanghai, for a job offer (and probably to live there), that I realized that Israel was not just a pit stop. I had traveled to Israel many times before, but this was the first time that a feeling of great exuberance overcame me. I no longer desired to travel to a foreign land where the people didn't understand me, where everything would be a struggle -- finding kosher food to eat, finding a place to daven. I realized that I am the happiest and the most fulfilled in life when I am in Israel.

I can certainly attest to the fact that the Beginners Service prepared

BEGINNERS SERVICE



me for my journey. When I first arrived, I received phone calls from family of friends in the states, friends of friends, distant relatives, all wondering why I hadn't come to them for a visit and a meal.

This is what Aliyah is all about -- wholeness.

I feel the same wholeness when I bring my flat mates together for a Shabbat dinner, in our home, as a family.

I can recall the first few Shabbat dinners I prepared. I live with all Israelis who are not religious, and I asked, "Who wants to say Kiddush?" Excitedly, one of my roommates volunteered to recite the Kaddish. I jokingly told her that we are all

humanitarians and that I'd be happy to say a mourner's prayer for the meat, but only after we say Kiddush. As we say here in Israel *l'at l'at* (step-by-step). It won't be long before I have taught my Israeli roommates everything that I know from Beginners Service.

Life has been great for me here in Israel. It has always been my dream to live here. All of the students from my college's Hillel who come on Birthright trips call me when they arrive, and I show them around Tel Aviv. They all say that it is so inspiring to see me here when they visit, and it makes them think of how realistic a possibility Aliyah really is.

Now I have the true sense of what family, tradition, and togetherness mean. Making the decision to live in Israel was my first step toward the fulfillment of that dream.

So friends, I am writing from my new home, to tell you about my new life, with hopes that one day I will have the pleasure of hosting one of you at my Shabbat table. If I promise to let you say Kiddush, will you join me?

Shabbat Shalom from Eretz Israel,

Your Friend,

Jordan Sapir

Jordan Sapir (formerly Latoya) was born in Michigan and moved to New York as a young adult. After pursuing a career in modeling and acting, she began studying at Baruch University, from which she has since graduated with a degree in Journalism and Political Science (May 2007). After visiting China, Jordan decided to move to Israel. She currently lives in Tel Aviv, where she hopes to pursue a career as a foreign correspondent for broadcast news.

CONGRATULATIONS AND MAZAL TOV

ENGAGEMENTS

Vick Braun and Daniel Epstein

Mazal Tov to parents

Marta and Joseph Braun

Brynne Sarter and Dr. Elliot Eliashvili

Mazal Tov to parents Judith and Dr. Joseph Eliashvili

Monica Schroer and Steven Hafif

Michelle Wolf and Prof. Ira Weiss



BAR/BAT MITZVAH

Zev Aaron Cohen

Mazal Tov to parents Nancy Jacobs and Leonard Cohen

Moshe Yitzchak Bezael Jacober

Mazal Tov to parents Vardi and Dr. Lenny Jacober

Sofie Rose Somoroff

Mazal Tov to parents Samantha Verrone, and

Irina and Michael Somoroff

TSETCHEM L'SHALOM (To live and/or study in Israel)

Latoya Sapir

CONDOLENCES

Family of Peter Howard

Allen Kaye, on the loss of his father, Sol Kaye

SPEEDY RECOVERY/REFUAH SH'LAIMA

Elisheva bat Miriam

Francesca bat Emma

Reuven ben Baila

CONGRATULATIONS

Ari Moses upon receiving the Tribute Award at GoKosher.com's first annual Dinner

Peter Howard

Known to many as "Mr. Broadway," Peter preferred to be called by his Yiddish name, "Chuna," at the Beginners Service. He arranged the dance music, composed the incidental music and/or conducted the orchestra for many of Broadway's biggest hits of the last half century. Before he moved to a nursing home two years ago, Chuna attended the Shabbat Beginners Service regularly, and frequently prayed at the daily Lincoln Square Synagogue morning minyan. His memorable performances at the Beginners Purim and Chanuka parties and at the Beginners 30th Anniversary celebration will long be remembered.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Fri June 6, 2008 - 3rd of Sivan
 Morning Services7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting6:49 PM
 Candle Lighting8:06 PM
 Mincha6:45 & 8:10 PM

Sat June 7, 2008 - 4th of Sivan Nasso
 Daf Yomi7:00 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Class6:55 PM
 Mincha7:55 PM
 Maariv/Shabbat Ends9:06 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv8:15 PM

Sun June 8, 2008 - 5th of Sivan EREV SHAUVOT
 Morning Services7:10 & 8:30 AM
 Candle Lighting8:07 PM
 Mincha8:10 PM
 Maariv8:56 PM

Mon June 9, 2008 - 6th of Sivan SHAUVOT
 Morning Services4:50 & 9:00 AM
 Bible Class7:10 PM
 Daf Yomi7:25 PM
 Mincha8:10 PM
 Yom Tov candles after9:07 PM
 Maariv9:07 PM

Tue June 10, 2008 - 7th of Sivan SHAUVOT
 Daf Yomi7:15 AM
 Morning Services8:00 & 9:00 AM
 Bible Class7:10 PM
 Talmud Class7:25 PM
 Mincha8:10 PM
 Maariv9:07 PM
 Yom Tov ends9:07 PM

Fri June 13, 2008 - 10th of Sivan
 Morning Services7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting6:53 PM
 Candle Lighting8:10 PM
 Mincha6:45 & 8:15 PM

Sat June 14, 2008 - 11th of Sivan Beha'alotcha
 Daf Yomi7:00 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Class7:00 PM
 Mincha8:00 PM
 Maariv/Shabbat Ends9:10 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv8:20 PM

Fri June 20, 2008 - 17th of Sivan
 Morning Services7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting6:56 PM
 Candle Lighting8:13 PM
 Mincha6:45 & 8:20 PM

Sat June 21, 2008 - 18th of Sivan Sh'lach
 Daf Yomi7:00 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Class7:05 PM
 Mincha8:05 PM
 Maariv/Shabbat Ends9:13 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv8:20 PM

Fri June 27, 2008 - 24th of Sivan
 Morning Services7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting6:56 PM
 Candle Lighting8:13 PM
 Mincha6:45 & 8:20 PM

Sat June 28, 2008 - 25th of Sivan Korach
 Daf Yomi7:00 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Class7:05 PM
 Mincha8:05 PM
 Maariv/Shabbat Ends9:13 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv8:20 PM

Thu July 3, 2008 - 30th of Sivan ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services7:00 & 7:40 AM

Fri July 4, 2008 - 1st of Tamuz ROSH CHODESH INDEPENDENCE DAY
 Morning Services7:00 & 8:30 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting6:56 PM
 Candle Lighting8:13 PM
 Mincha6:45 & 8:20 PM

Sat July 5, 2008 - 2nd of Tamuz Chukat
 Daf Yomi7:00 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Bible Class7:05 PM
 Perek Class7:05 PM
 Mincha8:05 PM
 Maariv/Shabbat Ends9:13 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv8:20 PM

Fri July 11, 2008 - 8th of Tamuz
 Morning Services7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting6:53 PM
 Candle Lighting8:10 PM
 Mincha6:45 & 8:15 PM

Sat July 12, 2008 - 9th of Tamuz Balak
 Daf Yomi7:00 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Bible Class7:00 PM
 Perek Class7:00 PM
 Mincha8:00 PM
 Maariv/Shabbat Ends9:10 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv8:15 PM

Fri July 18, 2008 - 15th of Tamuz
 Morning Services7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting6:49 PM
 Candle Lighting8:06 PM
 Mincha6:45 & 8:10 PM

Sat July 19, 2008 - 16th of Tamuz Pinchas
 Daf Yomi7:00 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Bible Class6:55 PM
 Perek Class6:55 PM
 Mincha7:55 PM
 Maariv/Shabbat Ends9:06 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv8:10 PM

Sun July 20, 2008 - 17th of Tamuz SHIVA ASSAR B'TAMUZ
 Fast Begins4:29 AM
 Morning Services6:50 & 8:30 AM
 Mincha7:50 PM
 Fast Ends8:54 PM

Fri July 25, 2008 - 22nd of Tamuz
 Morning Services7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting6:49 PM
 Candle Lighting8:01 PM
 Mincha6:45 & 8:05 PM

Sat July 26, 2008 - 23rd of Tamuz Matot
 Daf Yomi7:00 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Bible Class6:50 PM
 Perek Class6:50 PM
 Mincha7:50 PM
 Maariv/Shabbat Ends9:01 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv8:00 PM

Fri August 1, 2008 - 29th of Tamuz
 Morning Services7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting6:42 PM
 Candle Lighting7:54 PM
 Mincha6:45 & 8:00 PM

Sat August 2, 2008 - 1st of Av Masei ROSH CHODESH
 Daf Yomi6:55 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Bible Class6:45 PM
 Perek Class6:45 PM
 Mincha7:45 PM
 Maariv/Shabbat Ends8:54 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv7:55 PM

Fri August 8, 2008 - 7th of Av
 Morning Services7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting6:34 PM
 Candle Lighting7:46 PM
 Mincha6:45 & 7:50 PM

Sat August 9, 2008 - 8th of Av Devarim Shabbat Hazon
 Daf Yomi7:00 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Mincha1:45 PM
 Mincha5:15 PM
 Fast Begins8:02 PM
 Maariv/Kinnos/Shabbat Ends ...8:46 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv7:45 PM

Sun August 10, 2008 - 9th of Av TISH'A B'AV
 Morning Services7:00 & 8:30 AM
 Chatzot1:01 PM
 Early Mincha1:36 PM
 Mincha7:30 PM
 Fast Ends8:32 PM

Mon August 11, 2008 - 10th of Av
 Morning Services7:00 & 7:50 AM
 Chatzot1:01 PM

Fri August 15, 2008 - 14th of Av
 Morning Services7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting6:29 PM
 Candle Lighting7:36 PM
 Mincha6:45 & 7:40 PM

Sat August 16, 2008 - 15th of Av Vaetchanan Shabbat Nachamu
 Daf Yomi7:00 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Bible Class6:25 PM
 Perek Class6:25 PM
 Mincha7:25 PM
 Maariv/Shabbat Ends8:36 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv7:35 PM

Fri August 22, 2008 - 21st of Av
 Morning Services7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting6:19 PM
 Candle Lighting7:26 PM
 Mincha6:45 & 7:30 PM

Sat August 23, 2008 - 22nd of Av Eikev
 Daf Yomi7:00 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Bible Class6:15 PM
 Perek Class6:15 PM
 Mincha7:15 PM
 Maariv/Shabbat Ends8:26 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv7:25 PM

Fri August 29, 2008 - 28th of Av
 Morning Services7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting6:09 PM
 Candle Lighting7:16 PM
 Mincha6:45 & 7:20 PM

Sat August 30, 2008 - 29th of Av Re'eh
 Daf Yomi7:00 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Bible Class6:05 PM
 Perek Class6:05 PM
 Mincha7:05 PM
 Maariv/Shabbat Ends8:16 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv7:15 PM

Sun August 31, 2008 - 30th of Av ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services7:00 & 8:30 AM

Mon September 1, 2008 - 1st of Elul ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services7:00 & 7:40 AM

Fri September 5, 2008 - 5th of Elul
 Morning Services7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candle Lighting7:04 PM
 Mincha7:10 PM

Sat September 6, 2008 - 6th of Elul Shoftim
 Daf Yomi7:00 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Class5:55 PM
 Mincha6:55 PM
 Maariv/Shabbat Ends8:04 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv7:00 PM

Fri September 12, 2008 - 12th of Elul
 Morning Services7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candle Lighting6:53 PM
 Mincha7:00 PM

Sat September 13, 2008 - 13th of Elul Ki Teitzei
 Daf Yomi7:00 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Class5:45 PM
 Mincha6:45 PM
 Maariv/Shabbat Ends7:53 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv6:50 PM

Fri September 19, 2008 - 19th of Elul
 Morning Services7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candle Lighting6:41 PM
 Mincha6:45 PM

Sat September 20, 2008 - 20th of Elul Ki Tavo
 Daf Yomi7:00 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Class5:30 PM
 Mincha6:30 PM
 Maariv/Shabbat Ends7:41 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv6:40 PM
 Early Selichot10:00 PM
 Late Selichot12:49 AM

Sun September 21, 2008 - 21st of Elul
 Morning Services7:10 & 8:30 AM

Mon September 22, 2008 - 22nd of Elul
 Selichot & Morning Services6:40 & 7:30 AM

Tue September 23, 2008 - 23rd of Elul
 Selichot & Morning Services6:40 & 7:30 AM

Wed September 24, 2008 - 24th of Elul
 Selichot & Morning Services6:40 & 7:30 AM

Thu September 25, 2008 - 25th of Elul
 Selichot & Morning Services6:40 & 7:30 AM

Fri September 26, 2008 - 26th of Elul
 Selichot & Morning Services6:40 & 7:30 AM
 Candle Lighting6:29 PM
 Mincha6:35 PM

Sat September 27, 2008 - 27th of Elul Nitzavim
 Daf Yomi7:00 AM
 Bible Class8:30 AM
 Morning Services ...7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Talmud & Bible Class5:20 PM
 Mincha6:20 PM
 Maariv/Shabbat Ends7:29 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv6:25 PM

SAVE THE DATE

All Night Shavuot Learn-a-thon
Sun, June 8,
11:30 p.m. - 4:45 a.m.

Final Beginners Shabbat Luncheon of the Season
Sat, June 7 - \$20

First Beginners Shabbat Luncheon of the Season
Sat, Sept 6 - \$20

Rosh Hashanah
Mon - Wed, Sept 29 - Oct 1