

NEWSLETTER

Through the weight of sorrow and loss,
life carries us forward

CELEBRATING 70 IN RAMAT HANEDEV

This year marks the 70th anniversary of Ramat HaNegev's establishment, and we celebrated with a grand festival for all the communities on September 26th. It was a wonderful family event featuring "creatures from the past," including historical figures like David Ben-Gurion walking around. The festival offered a variety of activities, ensuring fun for everyone.

The celebration ended with a series of indoor performances, including a group of dancers, a choir, and an Israeli band, leaving everyone in high spirits. It was truly a blessed event! Mazal Tov, Ramat HaNegev! Here's to many more joyous milestones ahead!



OCTOBER 7TH- A YEAR LATER

At the entrance of the regional high school, Avrumi Doitch from Kfar Retamim stood, speaking for the first time since October 7th with Oren and Dana Zveda. On October 7th, Oren and Dana had fought for their lives in their home in Holit, until Avrumi, his unit, and the Peled rescue squad arrived to save them. It was near their home where Avrumi was injured, and Liran Almosnino tragically lost his life. Avrumi's wife, Meital, had tried to organize this meeting multiple times, but it hadn't come together until now. The reunion was charged with emotion, and tears were shed.

Today, Oren and Dana live in Kibbutz Revivim with their community from Holit. Later, all those present gathered to share personal stories from that traumatic day, October 7th. Avrumi, still recovering from his wounds, shared that in many ways, he still feels as if he's "there." Colonel Shemer Raviv, commander of the Paran Brigade, who had fought alongside remarkable female tank operators and the Peled rescue team, also shared his experiences. Agam Yosefzon, a survivor from the shelter in Re'im, where 16 people were murdered and 4 kidnapped, also spoke. Agam, along with six others, miraculously survived, and despite the horrific events, she continues to carry a warm smile.

Each person at the gathering shared their own perspective from that fateful day. Yet, for those who lived through it, the day hasn't truly ended. The pain and trauma remain, and the wounds are still open. Despite this, there was a powerful sense of healing in the way the residents of Ramat HaNegev and their guests came together to share their collective grief and find strength as a united community.

