



United Hatzalah of Israel

Highlights of the week in Israel

23 April 2009

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This week we look at a spate of odd pre-summer accidents, our Dror Hertzliya district and a meaningful United Hatzalah perspective on Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Have a great weekend,

Sincerely,

Eli Beer

Chief coordinator

Pre-Summer Activities

This week marked was marked by a spate of pre-summer activities that went awry.

Along the coast of Netanya a parachutist crashed into the cliffs. United Hatzalah medics were on scene and integrated with local rope rescue team. The parachutist was safely evacuated suffering from a concussion and assorted bruises.

A windsurfer in the Mediterranean near Wingate Beach was in serious distress following the catastrophic failure of his sail during a nighttime excursion. A police boat rescued the windsurfer and brought him to the shore for treatment. After brief observation he was declared unhurt though extremely lucky.

3 alert civilians rescued 17-year old drowning victim in the Tiberias coast of the Kinneret. We were treated by United Hatzalah Tiberias team members and the local MICU unit. He was evacuated in serious condition. Medics on the scene noted that the chain of survival really depends on the effective interaction between civilians, volunteer first responders and emergency personnel.





Holocaust Memorial Day

This week Israel stopped and remembered. They remembered the history and they remembered the legacy. They remembered that they live the dreams and hopes of many who lives were snuffed out.

One who lives the dream is United Hatzalah medic IDF Lt. (res.) Mark Shlotznik. Mark shared with us some photos from a trip to the Auschwitz death camp that he undertook during his army service. He accompanied a group of IDF officers as their medic.

He remarked that walking the cursed ground in the uniform of an IDF soldier and United Hatzalah medic as one whose essence is to protect and to save was such a powerful feeling. "When Jews needed to be protected and to be saved no one stepped forth. I and my comrades firmly step forward in their merit and in their memory."



“Dror” District

Hertzliya is known for its high-tech center, manicured lawns along with its beach and marina. It is now known for its highly active United Hatzalah “Dror” district with its nearly 20 members covering the 26 sq. km. area and population of 84,000. Aside from the “standard” incidents that all regions deal with, “Dror” District volunteers deal with calls from the surrounding agricultural areas and of course the popular waterfront/beach area each with its own challenging terrain issues.





I visited the Hertzliya division with the new TOMCAR ambulator. The speed and agility that this vehicle handled the dunes, beach and approach areas was matched only by the enthusiasm and professionalism of the EMT's, paramedics and doctors who participated in the training exercises.

“Dror” district coordinator Niv Granot explained that the unit is named after volunteer firefighter and rescue specialist Dror Koren who was tragically killed in a rappelling accident in the Dead Sea area.

The division has a highly motivated team and is always looking into new tools and techniques. Optimally we would like to have an ambulator stationed in our district full-time. To help us reach this goal click here and enter «Ambulator for Dror» in the comments sections

**Thank you to all who have given us the opportunity to continue our work.
We hope you will continue to support us in the future.**

United Hatzalah is the largest emergency rescue volunteer organization in Israel which, working hand in hand with MDA has the endorsement of the leading Rabbis in Israel.
United Hatzalah has branches in almost every city in Israel from the Golan Heights in the north to Eilat in the south.