



United Hatzalah of Israel

Highlights of the week in Israel

26 June 2008

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This week we look at a valiant lifesaver fighting for his life. A terror attack and rapid response in difficult terrain. We marvel at the miraculous escape of a few teens that also required extrication in difficult terrain. Finally we close with a brief look at a new Israeli invention that is saving lives in the field.

I would also be remiss not to mention the numerous moving events, tributes and activities in Israel, around the world and in cyberspace marking 2 years since Gilad Shalit's kidnap. United Hatzalah joins in wishing for his health, safety and speedy return.

Have a great week.

Sincerely,

Eli Beer

Chief coordinator

One of ours...

It was only a day before the accident that Shmuel Ivgi saved the life of an 80 year-old lady who collapsed in her home. With a reassuring sense of calm, focused professionalism, Shmuel led the Eilat United Hatzalah rescue squad on successful resuscitation. It was then quite a shock when

the Eilat team raced to the scene of a horrific car crash on the Arava highway, half expecting Shmuel's car to be there before them.

He was always a leader in saving lives. When the team saw the mangled wreck of Shmuel's car and the badly bruised, barely conscious Shmuel struggling to live, they shifted into high gear. As they attempted to stabilize the critical injuries, the rapid response team of the fire department began to cut into the wreckage to free Shmuel. A helicopter landed briefly to whisk the severely injured Shmuel to Soroka Hospitals Trauma Center.

Word of the accident spread rapidly through the ranks of the United Hatzalah family. Units throughout Israel began to organize a Prayer Rally. At exactly 10:00PM on Sunday night prayers began at the Kotel in Jerusalem and holy places in Safed, Tiberias, and Meron. In homes, synagogues and even on the road, fellow medics, friends and relatives stopped to join in a massive heartfelt outpouring of tears and prayers to save the life of one of the lifesavers.



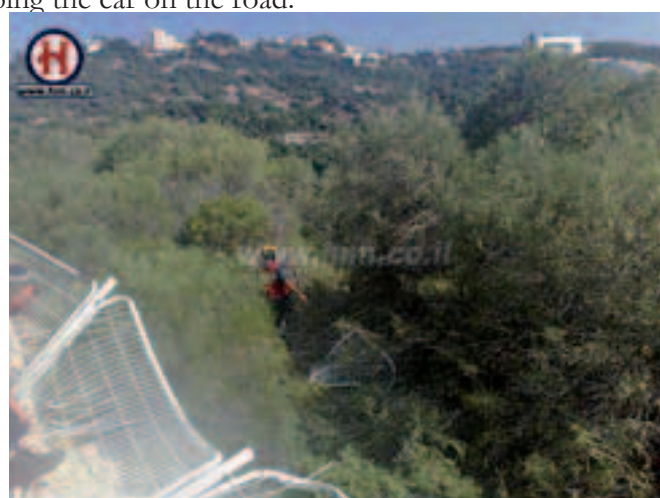
Eli Pollak, National Volunteer Coordinator said “The volunteers in the organization are like one united family. When one part of the body hurts the whole body hurts. When one part of the family is hurt, the whole family is hurt”. Everybody felt that they had to do something to help out. As I write this, word has just come in that Shmuel has begun to move his extremities. Please join us in praying for Shmuel Moshe ben Esther Yafeh among all the sick and injured of Israel.

Spin, drop and roll



A trio of teens had a miraculous escape from a dramatic car accident outside of Zichron Yaakov. The driver lost control of the vehicle as it skidded off the road. A safety fence was woefully ineffective in keeping the car on the road.

At this point gravity took over as the chief force of propulsion for the vehicle, and propel it did. In the course of numerous rollovers and flips all 3 passengers were ejected from the vehicle. The driver was the first to go and was therefore higher up on the mountainous slope. He was therefore the one able to reach the road and go for help. A real estate agent showing the panoramic view from the porch



of a nearby villa witnessed the accident and was the first person to alert the authorities, snap an impressive picture and calm his shaken clients (in that order).

United Hatzalah volunteers rushed to the scene and directed other rescue resources to the wreck. With impressive professionalism and teamwork the medics stabilized and immobilized the backseat passenger who bore the brunt of the wild ride.

The hard part was now the careful and arduous trek up the difficult terrain to the main road. The MDA and FD duty squads appreciated the extra pairs of hands provided by local United Hatzalah volunteers on the scene.



Terror in the Wadi



Three Israeli hikers suffered serious to moderate gunshot wounds after terrorists opened fire at a group of five hikers. The incident occurred in a Wadi not far from the Neve Tzuf community in the Binyamin region northwest of Ramallah at Friday noon.

According to reports, two masked terrorists lay in ambush for the hikers and opened fire at the hikers at close range before fleeing.

Following the attack, one of the hikers alerted the Kiryat Arba emergency services on his mobile phone and they in turn notified security forces and United Hatzalah medics from nearby communities in Binyamin of the attack.



Local United Hatzalah Medics searched together with the Israel Air Force elite 669 SAR unit. The search took time as the hikers went into deep cover in the wadi fearful of additional terrorists.

Following initial treatment by United Hatzalah medics they were carried on stretchers to a waiting helicopter that evacuated them to Tel Hashomer Hospital.

Rescuers additionally praised United Hatzalah volunteers from the Binyamin region for their thoughtfulness in bringing extra water to distribute on that hot Friday afternoon.

Israeli Inventors a B.I.G. help in the field

United Hatzalah is always looking for the best devices on the market that can help save lives. We are doubly pleased when we find these devices developed right in our own backyard. Anything we can do to help save lives and promote an Israeli invention is a good thing.

Below is an excerpt from marketing material sent to United Hatzalah by WaisMed, the inventors of the B.I.G. - Bone Injection Gun*.

“Establishing an IV line using peripheral veins is almost impossible in cardiac arrest, shock, multiple trauma, severe burn injuries and other emergencies. Without instant intravascular access the patient can lose his life or suffer irreversible damage.

B.I.G. – (Bone Injection Gun) - the world’s first user-friendly intraosseous device - offers you instant intravascular access. The B.I.G. is a novel, automatic



intraosseous infusion device that provides rapid, safe and easy intravascular access through the bone marrow.

B.I.G. is the effective alternative answer to unsuccessful intravenous access during emergencies which dramatically increases the caregiver's ability to save lives." For more information contact mail@waismed.com

*United Hatzalah's presentation of this information is no way to be considered a product endorsement. Additionally United Hatzalah receives no royalties, fees or benefits from this article and has no vested financial interest in the product or parent company.

**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.