



April Newsletter

Do you know anyone who can benefit from our services? Please forward this newsletter to them and let them know that we can help.

ITIM on the Shvil Yisrael



Together with hundreds of other Israelis, ITIM's Yael Yecheili spent two days trekking on Israel's "Appalachian Trail," the Shvil Yisrael in early April. Yael delivered a series of sessions and lectures discussing ITIM's

contribution to Jewish life in Israel with more than 180 fellow hikers, who were celebrating Israel's 60th anniversary by participating in this outdoor program. To read more about the program and the trek, click [here](#).

Jewish Burial for the Secular



While greater discontentment with some Israeli burial societies (chevra kadishas) has led some Israelis to choose secular burial plots on kibbutzim, many rank and file Jewish Israelis still seek Jewish elements in their burial ceremonies. ITIM's hotline staff has helped tens of Israelis develop traditional burial ceremonies in non-traditional cemeteries. ITIM's manual, "Burial in Israel," is now distributed not only by chevra kadishas, but by the forensic institute in Abu Kabir, and secular burial societies such as Horshim. To order a copy of ITIM's burial manual, click [here](#).

Setting the date



When David and Ilanit chose to be married on April 30, they had no idea what kind of trouble they would get into when opening a file at the rabbinate. Because of diverse Jewish traditions regarding the mourning dimensions of the Sefirat HaOmer, each local rabbinate sets its own rules which allow marriages to take place. In David and Ilanit's case, the local rabbinate would not allow them to open a file, even though they were already committed to this date. That is when they turned to ITIM. Unfortunately, the local rabbinate dismissed them unceremoniously, rather than explaining to them their options," says Rabbi Seth Farber, director of ITIM. After a few calls, ITIM was able to arrange an alternative location for them to open a

In this issue

- ▶ [ITIM on the Shvil Yisrael](#)
- ▶ [Jewish Burial for the Secular](#)
- ▶ [Setting the date](#)

Dear Friends,



As the holiday of freedom approaches, ITIM is celebrating its sixth anniversary. There have recently been some staff additions including a new director, Rivi Bin Noon, who comes to ITIM from the Ministry of Education. At the same time, ITIM continues to grow in new directions. If you plan to be in Israel on June 3, please join ITIM in the Knesset for the annual awarding of the Legacy Heritage Drasha prize. ITIM counts on your support. To help contribute to our programs, please click [here](#).

file, and at the same time, provide David and Ilanit with both a licensed rabbi and some ideas for personalizing the traditional ceremony. Mazal tov. To read more about dates for marriage, click [here](#).

Comments...Questions...

For more information, general inquiries, you can reach us by:

E-mail at: itim@itim.org.il

By phone toll free: 1-700-500-507.

Outside of Israel dial: 972-2-648-2205

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