

Torah Tidbits from Rabbi Larry Moldo

Sometimes it happens that the Torah portion and the life we live are completely in synch. This week appears to be one of those times.

Moses begins the first census of the Israelites, where knowing who is in charge and where things are supposed to be is of prime importance. We just finished this year's Yiddish Food Festival, and while we didn't take down the names of those who came by to eat and enjoy, we do take account of those who coordinated and volunteered.

I know that sometimes we wonder if all those details in the Torah text are really necessary. After an event like the Festival, we rediscover that without all those details, nothing can continue to be successful.

Next weekend is Shavuot, the anniversary of the moment God communicated with us at Mount Sinai in the wilderness. (Out here, we could celebrate this event at all times, I guess; Shavuot refers to the event where Moses, Aaron and Miriam participated.) As a mere taste of the reflections of the event, we will be studying "The Big Ten" and the book of Ruth for a couple of hours. Feel free to bring a dairy dessert (the Festival sold out). On Monday we will hold our normal Yizkor service at 11 a.m. with a Memorial Day twist (to be determined).