

SHALHEVET

VOL.63, ISSUE 7

A COLORFUL FINISH

Motzei Shabbat kicked off another action-packed week at Camp Morasha. At the Dance Off, the girls challenged each other through music, choreography, and plenty of camp spirit. Over on the boys' campus, campers got ready for the week ahead with a special Pitmaster Pre-Game, enjoying great food and time together.

WHAT'S COMING UP

SUNDAY

Hachnasat Torah

MONDAY

End of Summer
Video and Banquet

TUESDAY

Goodbye!

SEE YOU
NEXT
SUMMER

Sunday was a full day of excitement on both campuses. The girls took part in Bunk Wars, while the boys competed in Super Bowl Sunday and were joined by NCSY Impact at the end of the day's activities. For night activity, the girls enjoyed a special concert with Shaindy Plotzker, who interacted with campers of all ages and gave everyone the chance to sing, perform, and shine.

Monday ended with the grand performance of the summer, Aladdin. For weeks, campers and staff worked together under the direction of Sally Shatzkes and the Dramatic Arts Department, to bring this production to life. When showtime arrived, it was standing room only as the entire camp packed into the Mercazia to cheer on their friends and watch them showcase their talents.

Then came Tuesday. A camp-wide night activity began as Let's Make a Deal but quickly turned into something better when a boom box, won by a camper, began playing the familiar Color War breakout music! In an instant, the excitement level went through the roof as campers discovered who their generals were and realized that the next few days would be filled with competition and teamwork.

The first days of Color War were packed with activities. Younger campers competed in Musical Chairs, while Ilanot and Machzor Bet campers took on the Apache Relay. Older Shtilim campers faced off in a Chopped Challenge, and later everyone came together for Maccabia. The following day brought a Bake-Off, Torah Bowl, Rabbaton, Gaga, and Dodgeball. Throughout Color War, campers of all ages had opportunities to contribute their talents to their teams. The focus was not simply on winning, but on sportsmanship, participation, creativity, and giving everyone a chance to be part of the experience.

As Shabbat arrived, the competition came to a pause. Both teams put aside their Color War rivalries to share the last Shabbat of camp together with their friends and counselors. It was a special opportunity to slow down, appreciate the people around us, and enjoy the final Shabbat atmosphere of the summer as one, big Morasha family.

Now, we are looking ahead to an exciting Motzei Shabbat as the entire camp comes together for Havdalah and a camp-wide Chagigah. On Sunday, the Hachnasat Sefer Torah will lead into the Color War Finale, bringing together so many of the themes of this summer's Hashiveinu. As we celebrate the Torah coming home to Camp Morasha, we will also celebrate everything that we have experienced and learned together this summer.

After Color War comes to an end and the winning team is announced, we will gather one final time on Monday for our End-of-Summer Banquet and Camper Awards. It will be a chance to celebrate our campers, recognize their accomplishments, and reflect on an incredible summer filled with friendship, growth, adventure, and memories.

As our summer of Hashiveinu comes to a close, we are reminded that returning to Morasha is never simply about coming back to a place. It is about returning to friendships, community, Jewish values, and the people who make camp feel like home. We will miss every camper and staff member who helped make this summer so meaningful. We wish everyone a wonderful school year filled with continued growth, friendship, and many reasons to smile. We can't wait until we return home to Morasha again! Shana Tova!



PARASHA THOUGHTS

Basil Edelstein, Nitzi Boys Asst. Division Head /CH

One of the mitzvot in Parshat Shoftim is appointing a king. The Torah requires that he be “מִקֵּרֵב אֶחָיִךְ” (from among your own people) and not an “אִישׁ נָכְרִי” (stranger). The simple understanding of this is that the king must be a full-fledged Jew, which halachically is defined as someone born to a Jewish mother. However, Tosfos understands this qualification as a significantly higher standard than that required for a regular leadership position. In order to obtain the highest office amongst the Jewish people, one must have valid Jewish lineage both paternally and maternally (Tosfos, Sotah 41b, ד”ה אותו היום).

The king’s role includes reading the Torah at Hakhel at the end of the seven years of Shmitta. The Gemara (Sotah 41a–41b) tells of Agrippas, whose paternal lineage was questionable. When he read the pasuk disqualifying an “אִישׁ נָכְרִי,” he would cry, believing he might not be qualified to be king. The Chachamim comforted him by saying, “אֶחָיִנוּ אַתָּה, אֶחָיִנוּ אַתָּה” (You are our brother). Although Agrippas had a Jewish mother and was therefore Jewish, Tosfos’s understanding suggests that he did not meet the higher standard required for kingship. The Gemara describes the terrible consequences that followed from the Chachamim’s decision to validate him.

Why didn’t the Chachamim simply tell Agrippas the truth? He understood the pasuk and was already confronting that difficult reality. Why did they feel the need to comfort him?

Perhaps the Chachamim became too focused on protecting the feelings of a powerful king rather than allowing him to confront an uncomfortable truth.

We face similar challenges in our own lives. When a friend is hurting, our instinct is often to make them feel better. But sometimes helping someone means allowing them to face a difficult truth. A person doesn’t always need to hear what will make them feel better; sometimes they need to hear what will help them become better.

True friendship is not simply telling someone what they want to hear. It is having the courage to tell them what will ultimately be best for them, even when that truth is uncomfortable.

TZEDAKAH RAPS

Our amazing OSG learned about tzedakah in shiur with Morah Sharon Richter. The campers reviewed the Rambam’s Eight Levels of Tzedakah, from the highest level, helping someone become self-sufficient, to the lowest,  giving unwillingly. The girls then put their learning into action creatively by writing their own tzedakah raps! They did an awesome job and we’re excited to share two samples here.

*We chose level 1 but they're all really great
It is "help a person help himself"
Do a lot so in life he'll do well.
Don't give just money, give a loan
So he can get a job and buy a home.
If he needs to learn and get education
Don't just send him to school, get him as far as college graduation.
We shouldn't just help someone one time
We should try to help him for all his life
Help him grow and help him live
Because so much can happen just from what you give.*

*-Nikki and Ryan S.
Tzedakah levels 1-8*

*We give tzedaka everyday, choosing to do this leads the way
I have \$100 and \$50 too, but I only give the \$50 to you
I hand the money to you with a smile, hope it will last you quite a while
Always hand it over with grace, but next time give the 100 in place.*

*-Ella and Alexandra
Level 7 out of 8*

PHOTOS OF THE WEEK



FUN PAGE

CLOSE UP PICTURE QUIZ



1-



2-



3-



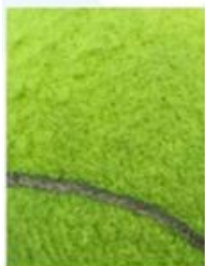
4-



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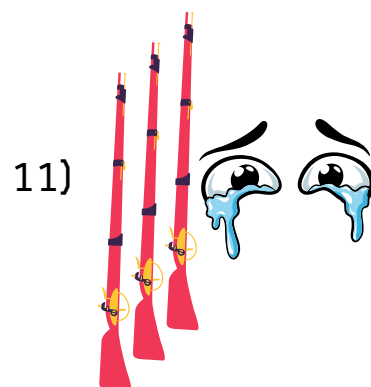
8-



9-



10-



11)

12)



Submitted by Zevward, YB

JOKES AND RIDDLES

1. Why did the synagogue fire the man trying out to blow the shofar for the High Holidays?
2. Why did the football coach march his entire team right into the bank?
3. What did the car ask the dreidel?
4. Forward I am heavy, but backward I am not. What am I?
5. What do professional hockey players and stage magicians have in common?
6. Why did the golfer wear two pairs of pants to the tournament?
7. Why were the tennis players kicked out of the local restaurant?
8. Why do campers make the absolute best stockbrokers when they grow up?

BRAIN TEASERS

COLOR WAR EVENTS AS EMOJIS

- 1. 🧑🍳 🧺 ⌚ 🔥
- 2. 🏃 🚲 📏 🪵 🏁
- 3. 🏹 🪵 🔥 ⌚
- 4. 🧑 🧑 🧼 🧺 🧽
- 5. 🏃 🧺 💧 🌊
- 6. 🗺️ 🚩 🌲 👁️ 👤
- 7. 🧠 🍎 🌈 🐝
- 8. 🕯️ 🕯️ 🧠 🍲 ⚡

UNSCRAMBLE THE WORDS

- 1. AIMSHORA
- 2. EUVNYHSAIH
- 3. MAEITIZTEMAHC
- 4. OEZBAG
- 5. PPMATEJORCC
- 6. SINMOPMTASRHS
- 7. SROLESNUOC
- 8. MOAAETEDAICRHMN

DID YOU KNOW?

- The opposite sides of a die (one of a pair of dice) will always equal 7.
- Sesame Street’s Oscar the Grouch was originally orange.
- The real word for the # symbol is not “hashtag”. It’s “octothorpe”.
- There is only one letter that doesn’t appear in any US state name: “Q”.
- Most people cannot lick their elbows.
- The Torah is compared to water, oil, light, fire, bread and honey, and wine and milk.
- Humans lose about 50-100 hairs a day.
- Boys have fewer taste buds than girls.
- You cannot smell while you sleep.
- Earwax is actually a specialized type of sweat produced in your ear canal.
- There are 15 Jeremys hidden throughout this issue of Shalhevet.





MORASHA

2026