



Shalhevet

Friday July 11, 2008/ 9Tammuz, 5768 Parshat Balak Volume 35, Issue 2

CAMP MORASHA

274 High Lake Road
Lakewood, PA 18439

VISIT US ONLINE:

WWW.CAMPORASHA.COM

Mincha: 6:20 PM

Candle Lighting: 7:19 PM

Shabbat Ends: 8:26 PM

MI'SHENICHNAS MORASHA MARBIM B'SIMCHA!

Pirates, sports stars, witches, dancers, hot dogs, and a bunk of bumblebees. Maybe these costumes are a typical sight in the Village, but in Morasha they mean only one thing: Purim in July, now in its third year.

The campers began their day hearing "Mi'shenichnas Adar Marbim B'Simcha" and from there the fun only increased.

When the time for the *seudah* arrived, campers poured out of their bunks dressed outlandishly, humorously, and cutely.

Of course, no one could outdo the camp director as Gotch rolled around on



Heelys dressed in a brightly printed outfit and a wig. Some traditions only get better as the years pass!

The *seudah* culminated in the Mercazia where first Machzor Aleph and then Machzor Bet danced and sang with such enthusiasm and excitement that for a moment we really thought it was Adar. Well, we are supposed to party *ad lo ya'da* on Purim!



Of course the week was filled with all the usual great activities and programs. so let's take a look at what all the Morasha kids have been busy doing in the first, fantastic, fun-filled week in camp!



Parsha Thoughts

R' Azarya Berzon recently shared the following *dvar Torah* on Parashat Balak. Bilaam's most famous blessing of B'nai Yisrael is "How good are your tents, O Jacob, Your dwelling places, Israel!"

Rashi explains, "Because he saw that their doors were not directed one opposite the other."

It is the trait of *tzniut* that is described in this verse. Bilaam, a non-

Jewish prophet, recognized and praised the modesty in the homes of the Jewish people.

Yet there is another model for the Jewish home in the Torah: the tent of Avraham and Sarah that is described by Chazal as open on all sides to receive guests.

Should the Jewish home be private or public? The two models seem

contradictory, but R'Berzon suggests they are not. Rather, the ideal is a combination of the two. A Jew should be modest with regard to him/herself, but also open in caring for others.

In camp, where we live so closely with each other, we must work hard to maintain modesty and humility, but we should also always be sensitive to the needs of others and open to helping them.

By Aliza Schachter

Editor: Tikvah Wiener

Assistant Editor: C.D. Flury

Gratitude is an Attitude

The first week in camp emphasized gratitude to Hashem, an idea Gotch emphasized before our first shabbos. The campers' davening that night was especially heartfelt and meaningful, and the week continued with great application of the theme. Campers could be heard saying "thank you" so often, we sometimes thought we were disembarking from a plane. Keep it up! We appreciate your gratitude.

Nitzanim Girls

The Nitzi girls went on an awesome overnight this week. The Israeli staff prepared four stations for the girls — one on Israeli dancing, one on the map of Israel, one on Israeli slang, and one on food. *Hakol hayah sababa!* The overnight ended with a yummy barbeque. In fact, the Nitzis say they're enjoying the camp's yummy meals in general. Other stuff they've been enjoying: tie-dying pillowcases that say "Morasha Memories 2008"; the ice cream from the truck that came to camp; having a princess sleepover; and having an amazing night activity from the Chinuch staff.

Shtilim Girls

When polled, younger Shtilim girls say their top four favorite activities are rock climbing, horseback riding, Nature and tubing. This week in particular they enjoyed Club Shtili Dance Party, Purim in July, the coed, "See Run Build," activity and the girls' campus slumber party. On Sunday, July 6, older Shtili girls enjoyed a super birthday bash that included a cake decorating contest and kiddie birthday games. The girls rocked Musical Chairs! The princess slumber party was also a hit, with girls not only dressing up as Cinderella but as pumpkins and mice too. In daily activities, campers so enjoyed aerobics — with the new camp instructor, Ruthie Yudin. They also love baking, arts and crafts, jewelry-making, scrapbooking, Nature, swim, sports, horseback riding, the list goes on and on! They love it all!

Ilanot Girls

The week began with a bang with the energetic and exciting Saturday night Melave Malka. The Ilanot girls had a blast dancing, especially with the Yachad girls. The week only got better with a hugely successful Survivor activity. Four bunks became four tribes and dressed up — face paint and all — to compete in a challenging obstacle course with the top two finish times competing in the finals in individual challenges. The Viper tribe outwitted, outlasted and outplayed the other tribes!

Manhigot

Have a cheer already. Let's take a look:

We pop and lock; we rock and roll — MANHIGOT! Let's lose control! (stomp, bang g, clap, babong, babong, clap!) (clap, bang bang clap swish swish clap (2X) Give me an "M"! Give me a "G"! Give me a "G.O.T.!" M-Got for me. We'll rock the boat and beat the Fot!



CONGRATS TO:

* MACHZOR BET FOR COMING IN FIRST PLACE IN THE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT WITH NESHER

*YOUNGER SHTILI/ILANOT FOR COMING IN FIRST PLACE IN A BASEBALL TOURNAMENT WITH NESHER



Alufot

Looked cute and comfortable on Thursday night, most of them having painted their faces to be Pocahontas at their princess slumber party and many of them sporting colorful pajamas. Alufot also took advantage of the rain one day this week to inaugurate this camp season's mud-sliding activity.

Nitzanim

Nitzi boys had an awesome overnight run by the Israeli staff who taught them about the Mapilim era in Israeli history. Then the boys had a turn trying to "sneak into Israel." They had to land onshore secretly in boats or hide in vans that British agents (played by the staff) scoured for people being smuggled in to Israel. Once in the "country," however, the Nitzis received a *teudat zehut* and enjoyed a barbeque and kumsitz where the staff played a guitar and an accordion. The night was really memorable!



Shtilim

Younger shtili boys enjoyed their first shabbos with Machzor Aleph, learning and tisch-ing Friday night in an activity run by the Beit Midrash Program. The week began with excitement as the boys enjoyed Saturday night's Melave Malka, and soon the week was underway with leagues in full swing and baking, rock climbing and Nature. Night water polo was also a fantastic highlight! The Shtilis were also busy losing to the girls in a division-wide dodgeball game (OK, the boy counselors were on the girls' team), and there was a close race in Older Shtilis for the cleanest bunk, with OJ's going to the winner. Bunks 9 and 10 also entertained their counselors with a great game of softball, while three amazing games of human Foosball ended with B-8 holding a record of 2-0.

Ilanot

Leagues are going full blast, but so are the water guns and balloons. We're not sure if Gotch got in the way on purpose because the day was so hot, but he was very drenched when he left boys' campus one afternoon. The hike to DJ's and Pizza was also a hit, and so was Noah Deutsch's 3 foul shots in the last 3 seconds of the game! Other players to bet on: Ezra Gontownik leads the league in hockey goals, while Zach Yoshor is averaging 20 points a basketball game. The only thing that pulled Ilanot away from sporting activities was army night on Thursday night!

Manhigim

Summer 2008 for Manhigim Boys got off to an amazing start. Opening week was highlighted by Josh "the Goat" Gottesman's heroic performance during Fear Factor, our trip to bowling and Wal-Mart, and Machzor Bet ice hockey in Scranton. Leagues have also gotten off to a rocking start, as Judah Plaut's basketball team has run out to a 6-0 start. The sports' highlight of the week goes to Michael Fruchter's remarkable performance on Tuesday. In basketball, he hit a 3-pointer at the buzzer to send his team into overtime, and in hockey he scored the tying goal at the buzzer and added the overtime winner as well. That's right, all in the same day. Up next: the trip to the mall, ice skating and Dorney Park, followed by the Morasha Olympics!

Alufim

Also got a kick out of seeing Josh kiss some livestock and also enjoyed seeing other counselors tangle with all manner of disgusting creatures like dead fish, worms and snakes. Alufim are ready to take on the counselors at another Fear Factor. This week's highlights also included a trip to pizza and DJ's and a great basketball tournament in Lavi in which the boys placed second!



Day camp

The children are learning the routines and beginning to form friendships. Our counselors are becoming familiar with each child and we are sure this will be an amazing summer! Our shiur teachers are also getting to know their talmidim and talmidot. You'd be surprised at how much we're learning! Ceramics, arts and crafts, music, horseback riding, woodshop, dance, rock climbing, baking and Nature are some of the specialties we'll be having each week. We play baseball, basketball, dodgeball, and newcomb at the courts, and the amazing sports staff is helping us improve our skills. All in all, we've had a fantastic first full week!

Yachad

Yachad 's week has been filled with fun and exciting activities. A favorite of the boys and girls was bowling. Shout out to Jason Wasserman with his score of 121! The campers also really loved Purim in July, with the girls still talking about how they dressed up as characters from *Camp Rock* (The girls put those singing Hannah Montana T-shirts to shame!). The girls also loved the barbeque, making bracelets and newcomb, and the boys have been enjoying boating and the trampoline. The boys have also gotten crazy in the bunk, making their own activity: dance parties. The campers are looking forward to another great week next week!



TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!

Older Shtlilim girls has started a new program this week: Every Erev Shabbat in the division, older Shtilim is going to have Pre-Shabbat Cholent and "In the Book." Each week a different bunk will make a cholent the entire division will eat on Erev Shabbos. While the girls are enjoying the cholent, each counselor will read out loud from her bunk's "In the Book" notebook. In this book, the counselors write down all the acts of *chesed*, *mitzvoth*, etc. that the campers do throughout the week, and at this special activity everyone can learn from and about their friends' *midot tovot*.