

THE MV NFTY NEWS

WHAT IS COMING UP IN THE REGION



- MV Winter Chavurah- MLK weekend
- NFTY Convention- President's Day weekend
- MV JYG- March 8-10

The One Where UH Hosts  NFTY Missouri Valley
Winter 2018

C • H • A • V • E • R • I • M

January 18-21, 2019

St. Louis, MO

missourivalley.nfty.org

Winter!

By Zach Poscover

Whats up Missouri Valley?! UHTYG is very excited to host Winter Chavurah, and we have been working hard on making this event unforgettable! At Winter, you will be able to make new FRIENDS, hang out with old FRIENDS, (our theme is Friends) and a lot more! From Shabbat Shira to the always exciting- SLIID-WESTERN Basketball Game to several fun socials, everyone will have a blast! It is MLK weekend so we will also learn all about why intersectionality is still relevant and what our role is. Everyone is welcome and wanted at Winter Chavurah so sign up and you will not regret it! I can't wait to see you all there!

What is Convention?

By Max Pinson

NFTY Convention 2019 is where all the regions get together for one event and will take place February 15-18 in Dallas, Texas. Convention is a weekend full of enriching programming, fun socials, and many opportunities for off site activities. It is an opportunity to gather together with hundreds of Jewish teens from all over the country. Registration closes January 8th. MV has scholarship money! If you would like to go and/or are looking for scholarship money contact Beth at nftymv@urj.org. We will do our best to help you out with whatever you need. We hope to see you there!

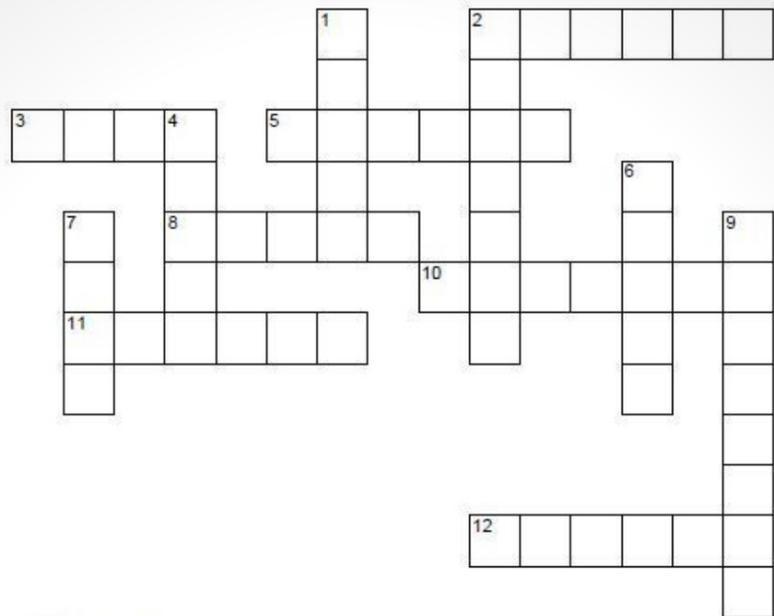
Holiday

crossword!

Hanukkah may be over but the spirit and fun are still alive so for your enjoyment here is a fun word challenge!

Hanukkah

Jewish Holiday



www.elcivics.com

ACROSS

- 2 jelly _____ are popular on Hanukkah
- 3 number of candles a menorah holds
- 5 Hebrew month when Hanukkah starts
- 8 Antiochus made the Jews bow down to statues of _____ gods.
- 10 candle holder
- 11 potato pancakes
- 12 "Miracle of the _____"

DOWN

- 1 popular type of oil
- 2 toy top children play with on Hanukkah
- 4 number of days in Hanukkah
- 6 Antiochus was the king of this country
- 7 money
- 9 helper candle in a menorah



Kutz Camp



By Sophie Horowitz

This past summer, I had the completely terrifying and amazing chance to go to my first sleep-away camp. I was entering tenth grade, and had previously put off going to summer camp. I knew that the kids who did go to sleepaway camp had been going for years, and was opposed to trying to fit into a group that had known each other for such a long time. Then, while driving home from swim practice one night, I received an email about the URJ camp opportunities in the summer. After quickly looking through it, a certain camp caught my eye. It was a leadership camp in Warwick, NY, and was for those going into their tenth, eleventh, or twelfth year of high school.

Immediately, I became intrigued. The camp seemed to have everything I could have ever dreamed of: interesting classes, opportunities to meet new people, and even a day trip to NYC. After doing a little more research, I decided to go to the URJ Kutz Camp.

Once I got to camp, I knew that I had made the right decision. Every little thing about Kutz made it the amazing experience that it was. Everyday, I had the opportunity to learn something new. In immersives, I learned about how to find, tell, and use my story to help create change in my community. Since I participated in the Action and Advocacy immersive, we were given the chance to make programs, such as adapting a NFFTY Southwest gun violence prevention program for the entire camp, or making a civil action and engagement program to bring back to my local community, that would help others and inspire change. Through different guest speakers and rabbis, I was able to learn about how Judaism connects to the different actions that we do, and how we can make sure we live our lives through helping and connecting with others.

I was also impressed and excited about the amount of choice and variety at camp. At the beginning of the session, we were able to choose what fellowship we wanted to be apart of, and as a group, we decided what we were going to learn and do. Being in the Creativity and Innovation fellowship, I helped to create a scavenger hunt service and worked with others in small groups to learn about and create team building and group activities. Additionally, every week we chose different master classes, which were taught by different faculty members from all different backgrounds. Depending on the week, I was able to choose what I wanted to learn about, and was able to shape my summer to be the best it could be.

While I got to learn an enormous amount through my immersive and through other classes, the most valuable thing I gained at camp were my friends. There is something so unique and special about camp; nobody knows each other, everyone is placed into group activities and mixers, and you go through experiences together that no one else will. These circumstances create bonds that are stronger than anything I have ever experienced, and after just a few days of knowing some of the participants, I felt as if I had known them for years. The laughs, cries, and smiles that we shared over the 27 days that I was at Kutz created friendships that I know I will have for the rest of my life, for which I am forever grateful for.

The decision that I made to attend Kutz, although I didn't know it at the time, was the best decision I have ever made in my life. The lessons that I learned at Kutz, along with the friends I made, will stay with me forever. I can attribute my growth this past summer in my self confidence, my spirituality, and my ability to lead and connect with others completely to Kutz, for which I will be forever grateful for.