

# Echo Hill Ranch Review

Volume 60 Issue 2

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## Our 60th Anniversary Summer

### Fun Facts About Our Little Green Valley

- Countries represented at camp: USA, Israel, Canada, France, Taiwan
- States represented at camp: Texas, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, Florida, Washington, California, Michigan, Illinois, Massachusetts.
- # of pieces of Fried Chicken eaten last Sunday lunch: 545!

### A Look Inside this Issue

Camp Council Meeting	2
Ranch Officers	2
Sophie the Dog...	2
Mystery Ranchers...	
60th Anniversary Quiz....	
Interview with New Counselor: Megan Branam	3
News from the bunks	3

## 2nd Friday Night Services: Rosie tells it like it is!

Friday’s services were amazing, as usual. Rosie Bernstein volunteered to write this week’s sermon, and it was very moving. She reminded us that camp is a great place to relax and refresh our minds, bodies and souls. Here’s the sermon:

“Shabbat Shalom ranchers!

This week’s Torah portion is Chukat. Have y’all ever noticed the hand sanitizers on your tables in the dining hall? How many of you guys brought shampoo and conditioners for the shower? All of those things were to cleanse ourselves physically. But this week’s Torah portion talks about how to cleanse ourselves physically. The Torah portion says there are a few times when our souls are not pure, for example, after visiting a dead body. We can all admit that at the end of the day at camp, we don’t feel so clean on the outside. We are dirty, sweaty and really not. But the ranch is a great

place to clean our inner selves. The serene nature cleanses our souls, the peaceful atmosphere cleanses our minds, and the lifelong friendships cleanse our hearts. So as dirty as we may feel at the end of the day, remember that our souls are clean. Shabbat Shalom, Ranchers!”

We would also like to give a big 1-2-3 HOW! to counselors Daniel B., Tami G. and Inda for leading services, along with all the campers that helped: Beth Grant, Natty Askanase, Remi Clonts, Olivia MacLeod, Alex Cortez, Max Schein, Cassidy Kaye, Daniel Boarnet, Micah Bernstein, Sarah Horwitz, Avi Distler, Baeren Rubenstein, Chloe Lewis and Ariel Jacobson.

## The Diamond Jubilee Amazing Talent Night!

Everyone on the Ranch was expecting a spectacular Talent Night to honor the camp’s 60th birthday, and Echo Hill’s talented ranchers certainly did not disappoint. The Pavilion Theater was graced with the honorable presence of two off-the-boat immigrants from the faraway land of Draculsvania and their translators, who made sure that all were entertained and the night went smoothly.

The Bluebonnets kicked the night off with a rousing dance rendition of “Jump On It!”, which was followed by a hilarious Ventriloquist Act by Hudson Morris and Jimmy Ray. Elliot Schein then captivated the crowd with luscious piano sounds and Daniel Boarnet amazed the crowd with the seemingly impossible “Head to Toes”. The cousin troupe of Rosie, Zach and Micah Bernstein; Ben, Sam and Jimmy Ray; Shea and Jessie Doty and Tessa Davidsohn performed a traditional Jewish song and dance which segued into another international performance, “A Morning in Taiwan” by

Catherine and Olivia MacLeod. Following that came great performances of “Wherever You Go” by Micah Bernstein, “You Are the One That I Want” by the Belles, gymnastics by Maya Cortez, Daylyn Gilbert and Tessa Davidsohn. The crowd was treated to two more piano masterpieces by Micah Guttman and “Snorky” Eastman, with Max Schein making balloon animals between the acts. Next came a dance to “Firework” by Anna Rosenbaum and Jessie Doty, then “The Invisible Bench” skit by the Boleros. Baeren Rubenstein sent the crowd into a frenzy with Chinese yo-yo tricks, and the night finished with two beautiful duets. First, Emma Singleton and Ellie Zambrano sang “Hallelujah” and Lauren and Melanie Wineberger concluded with “I Won’t Give Up”. Special thanks to TLC’s Mickey Maher, Rachel Roberson, Aaron Kruger, Steve Monaghan, Adam Rosen and Ely Eastman, and counselors Kevin MacLeod, Phillip Brush and MC’s Daniel Bachrach, Stephen Barkan, Michaela Friedman and Eric Lynn for special night!

## Second Camp Council Discusses Mailboxes + More

On July 3rd the Camp Council met on the Log Cabin front porch with Roger and talked about lots of good ideas for camp. Everyone said their bunks were really having fun this summer, and that was before last night's 4th of July Pageant and Fireworks (story below). Some of the cool and creative suggestions for improvements were: more Comedy/Improv club meetings with David Ronn and Daniel Fickman, a camper committee to help plan evening programs, clear lines for going and coming from the bar for seconds during meals, using chess sets and books in the library during quiet time, delivering mail to a mailbox at each bunk more club days for

qualifying for activities, set times and places for giant water gun and silly strung fights, continuing to have cold peaches, apples or frozen oranges for afternoon snacks with ice cream, letting the Belles stay up until 10 pm and continued discussion on the pros and cons of HOP siesta. In attendance were: Nathan Lederman,,Avery Jefferson, Rosie Bernstein,, Rachel Feine, Cassidy Kaye, Olivia MacLeod, Emma Grosser, Jaylen Sharp,, Daniel Eastman, Joshua Weiner, Jimmy Ray

**Did you know?** The Echo Hill triangle logo with the quarter moon over the hill, was originally a Navajo Indian symbol of peace. In 1953, Aunt Hilda Phelps, close friend of Uncle and Aunt Min, and first Director of Arts & Crafts at camp, added the 'E' and the 'H' to make our camp brand!



### 60TH ANNIVERSARY ECHO HILL HISTORY QUIZ #1: (answers on page 3)

1. Who painted all the western brands on the rafters in the dining hall?
2. There is one horse at camp who was born on the ranch, what's her name?
3. What do these Echo Hill people have in common: Uncle Floyd, Doc Phelps, Phillip, Meador, Bess, David F.?
4. During the 1950s at camp kids loved 'Old Faithful.' Was that a horse, a counselor or a truck?

## Sophie the Dog

The 2nd part of our Ranch Animal Spotlight Series

*Another of the Ranch's new dogs, Sophie, graciously (and reluctantly) stopped by to tell us a bit about herself.*

I'm Sophie, one of the new dogs on this ranch. I sometimes don't like to be around people, but at heart I'm a sweetie. Before all the kids got to the ranch, I was kicked by a mean old horse and everybody thought I was down for the count. But no way, no how. You can't keep this girl down. If you see me strutting around the ranch, you can try to pet me but you might not succeed. Anyways, I think it's time for me to go. Somebody has to keep Winston and Benny from each other's necks. Also, I'm not the biggest fan of being interviewed. Adios!

**Mystery Counselor:** He comes from Boston, is new at camp this year, but had a sister who went to camp years ago. He also loves comedy...who is he?

**Mystery Boy Rancher:** First year at camp, some say he looks a little like Harry Potter, and he's always smiling?

**Mystery Girl Ranchers:** Two sisters who can speak Chinese and love the ranch?

**Mystery Dog:** The oldest dog at the ranch, son of Perky and brother of Brownie?

(answers on page 3)

### RANCH OFFICERS—SECOND WEEK—2012

**Foreman:** Elle Shaw and Daniel Barona

**KP:** Rosie Bernstein, Ezra Hackler and Savanah Zeff

**Mail:** Nathan Stein and Kathryn MacLeod

**Laundry:** Shea Doty and Noah Shaw

**Librarian:** Helen Grace Long and Nina Parafina

**Ecology:** Adele Bebe and Alex Cortez

### Editors-In-Chief:

Roger Friedman, Roz Beroza

**Editors:** Stephen Barkan, Mike Disman

**Head Reporters:** Evan Turner and Samara Abrams

# NEWS FROM THE BUNKHOUSES

## Bluebonnets by Corinne François

My favorite moment from this week was when my whole bunk did really well at Archery, and a few of us qualified.

## Valley View by Daylyn Gilbert

My bunk made a mailing stump during siesta where you can ring a bell and put a note inside a pocket which goes up and down. It was a really clever idea that Nina P. had, and we all love it!

## Boleros

We had a marshmallow roast at Far Side that was really enjoyable! It was with Rangers North and Stars, and getting to hang out with them on a more personal level was cool. Jumping in the Deep End to cool off afterwards was a great end to the night!

## Belles by Alissa Levine

Practicing our Talent Night dance, "You're the One That I Want" was a great bonding experience. When we finally got to perform in front of the whole camp, it was really fun and it made it all worth it!

## Stars by Arianna Segal

A few nights ago, our bunk had a surprise marshmallow roast at ?. Counselor Cory came by and told us a scary story,

and our screams woke up the whole ranch! Overall, it was a great bonding experience with the 3-week campers.

## Big Foot by Micah Bernstein

My favorite camp memory so far was our overnight at Big Foot. At the last second, we tried to make our own fire, but we could only get sparks. Then, our TLC 2 Jacob Michel told us an awesome story to help us fall asleep!

## Mavericks by Gabriel Lewis

On the day that it poured rain, I went to Handicrafts with a few of my bunk-mates. I made a crafting table out of cardboard and they made wooden sculptures that they hung in our bunk. It's so much prettier in there now!

## Rangers N. by Shafer Bersin

My favorite part of this session so far was backpacking up Echo Hill and stopping to watch the amazing view during the sunset. It was breathtaking.

## Rangers S. by Evan Turner/Ian Boarnet

We had a lot of fun backpacking up Echo Hill with Rangers North! When we finally reached our campsite, Cory came and told us the Monkey Story, but we didn't get scared. It was awesomeness.

## Crows Nest by Max Schein

One night, Cory made up a story using all of us as characters, telling about funny flaws that we have. It was awesome and hilarious when he described Eran's character, who had no flaws.

## Spurs by Baeren Rubenstein

The Spurs had a lot of fun having late nights with the Belles and Stars. Last night, we had a cookout with the Stars, which was a rare treat. We also amused ourselves by goofing off at Archery, doing no-look shots and the like. Overall, it's been a spectacular week!

### 60th Anniversary Quiz Answers:

1. Aunt Hilda Phelps
2. Shalom
3. All are Nature Study Leaders
4. Truck

**Mystery Counselor:** David Ronn

**Mystery Boy Rancher:** Eran Cicelsky

**Mystery Girls Ranchers:** Kathryn & Olivia MacLeod

**LATE BREAKING NEWS!!!** 4th of July Pageant was amazing with ranchers' plays about pioneers, immigration to America in the 1920s, World War II, and Ecology! 21 gun salute at Flag Lowering. Rosie's snicker doodles and chocolate chip/M & M cookies for snacks. And those amazing FIREWORKS!!!!!!

## Interview with new counselor Megan Branam

by Evan Turner and Samara Abrams

### Q: How did you hear about Echo Hill?

A: One of my college professors at Texas State University, Dr. Carter, recommended the camp as a great fit to complete my internship.

### Q: What have you been doing most at camp?

A: I love recycling, which I do a lot. I'm also helping out a lot at Nature Study, which is one of my favorite parts of camp! I absolutely love it, especially hiking up the hills.

### Q: What is your favorite thing to do at

### camp?

A: Probably spending time with my bunk. They're a little bit crazy sometimes, but they're wonderful girls. Also, we've won Honor Bunk every single day and hope that we can continue to do so!

### Q: What has your favorite meal been so far?

A: I'd say that I've had about 20 PB&J's so far, so for consistency's sake I'd say PB&J.

### Q: Have you had much bug juice?

I'm more of a water girl, so I generally stick to that.

### Q: Favorite memory thus far?

A: My girls and I hiked up the face of Echo Hill. It was pretty difficult, but when we got

to the top and saw that amazing view, it was totally worth it.

### Q: What is your favorite part of everyday life here?

A: Going to activities every day is awesome. I usually end up at Nature Study, but I've taught swing dancing a couple times, and the campers always love it!

## 10 facts about Megan

**Favorite color:** Green

**Favorite camp song:** Sippin' Cider

**Favorite food:** Spaghetti

**Favorite sport:** Roller derby

**Favorite hobby:** Singing and Dancing

**Favorite animal:** Cat