

פרשת ויקהל-פקודי
March 17, 2023

This week in review!

I hope everyone had a fantastic Purim as we did! Leading up to the very special Purim day, the Chevra counted down the days until the **Tafkid Purim carnival** would arrive. Finally when the day arrived, we headed out and enjoyed many of the activities which they had there. There were a lot of nice Purim costumes at the event as well, but a special shout out to **Nachum A** because he wore an extremely realistic cowboy costume which made him look like he was from the Midwest! He looked like a real cowboy that we all started to look around to see where his farm and horses were! In addition to the activities and great costumes at the carnival they also had a concert which featured Uncle Moishy, Yoni Z & Benny Friedman. Everyone really enjoyed and had a great time!

The Sunday after Purim we started off the week with an exciting trip to Dave & Busters! Immediately the Sunday supplemental program got down to playing all kinds of games and winning lots of tickets in the process. **Shmuel** and **Evan** were really good at the arcade games and kept on winning. Shlomo really enjoyed the driving game, especially leaning back in the reclining chair when playing the game. By the time they were finished with enjoying all the games, the group





accumulated lots of tickets and redeemed them for cool gifts. Everyone had a great time!

As you may know, on Wednesday's we have a zoom music class with **Reb Ekster**. The Chevra really looks forward to the music class every week as we sing along to wonderful songs. Last year Reb Ekster sponsored some musical instruments such as bongos, tambourines, maracas and drums! This year he sponsored a few additional instruments to add to our amazing collection. Having these instruments adds a whole new dynamic to the class. It makes an already great session even greater. Thank you Reb Ekster! Speaking about Reb Ekster, before Purim we made him a nice Mishloach Manos that we personally delivered to him as a thank you for all that he did for the Chevra. The guys really enjoyed going to him as it gave them a chance to spend some time together and to catch up with him in person. Since Reb Ekster lives in Brighton Beach he took us to the empty boardwalk to get some fresh ocean air which is literally a half a block away from where he lives. Reb Ekster also gave Mishloach Manos to each of the Chevra participants.

Back in the Chevra kitchen, we baked delicious falafel balls during our weekly activity with **Anat**. We blended up the chickpeas with an assortment of spices. We then each had a chance to roll up the falafel balls and place them in the oven sheets for baking. It came out from the oven looking really professional and it tasted just like it does in the store. And to think we didn't even fry it, we baked it!



In our Otsar's Chevra hallway, right outside our main room we were all excited to see the final product of the newly painted sign on display that says "Welcome to the Chevra"! Thank you to **Mrs.**

Roman for your beautiful artistry and hard work that was put into it.

This new sign puts all of the Chevra and staff in a great mood every time we pass it when walking into our Chevra room. Thank you for elevating our space!

Special announcement! As preparation for Pesach is underway, the Chevra will IY'H be going to visit the Matzah bakery! We are all very excited to see once again how Matzah is made from scratch. We are looking forward to this educational and exciting trip! We will also be having our very own mock Pesach Seder. The Chevra participants are already talking about wearing their Kittel and getting into character. Everyone can't wait to participate in the preparations such as making our own Kiddush cup and more. We are all looking forward to our Pesach activities!

Have a wonderful Shabbos!

Mr. Kerper

Thoughts on Parshas Vayakhel Pekudei:

Moshe gathered all the Yidden and spoke to them. A few Pesukim later it says that the Yidden left Moshe's presence. Why was it necessary to mention that they left Moshe's presence?

Imagine an unhappy person who is used to walking around with a sour face. He has one good friend whom he loves speaking to.

One day you see this gloomy fellow and he's smiling from ear to ear.



You know where he must be coming from - his good friend!

When the verse states that the Yidden left Moshe's presence the message is: it was recognizable that they had been in Moshe's presence. A Jew who studies Torah walks around in a refined manner. His status is recognizable even when he is doing mundane activities. People will say about him, "Praiseworthy is the one who learns Torah and praiseworthy is the Rabbi who teaches him Torah."

[Source- A Minute Vort on the Parsha- Vol.2- Rabbi Eli Scheller Menucha Publishers 718. 232. 0856]

P.s. Thank you so much for the Mishloach Manos which was given to me by the Otsar's Chevra. The lovely note was really Mechazek me!

Enjoy Menuchas Shabbos.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Gross

A few jokes for you...

Q. What do you call a train carrying bubblegum?

A. A chew-chew train!

Q. Why doesn't the sun go to college?

A. Because it has a million degrees!

Q. What did one traffic light say to the other traffic light?

A: Stop looking at me, I'm changing!

Q: Why do we have a Haggadah at Pesach?

A: So we can Seder right words!

Tafkid Purim Carnival!



Trip to Dave and Buster's!

