

HIGHLIGHTS OF YEDEI CHESED

Vol. I, Issue 6

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♪ Erev Pesach Fun ♪

On Thursday, April 1st a group of children and volunteers got together at Mrs. Suky Stern's home for a special program which started at 10:00 a.m. Mrs. Ettlinger, a music therapist came and played beautiful music on her cello. The children were enthralled by this instrument and enjoyed playing along with Mrs. Ettlinger on the cymbals, triangles and tambores which she handed out to everyone. Later, the children played Indian Chief to the music. They also played switching instruments, when the music stopped everyone quickly had to give their instrument to the neighbor sitting next to them. The children then paired up with their volunteer to learn the bunny hop. It truly was a lot of fun!

At 11:00 a.m. the Ballooner Rebbe enhanced the event with his arrival. The children had a good time guessing what he was going to make next. They were also able to choose which balloon sculptures they wanted to take home as souvenirs. Then, delicious snacks and drinks, donated by Monsey Glatt, were handed out.

The last part of the program was storytime by Raizy Stern, Mrs. Suky Stern's daughter. She told a dramatic story of a King and his daughters. This exciting story held everyone glued to Raizy (including the staff) wanting to know how it would all work out at the end.

The program ended at 1:00 p.m., giving the mothers a much needed 3-hour respite before Pesach. Special thanks to Mrs. Suky Stern, ResHab Coordinator and Mrs. Chana Zinshteyn, ResHab Trainer, for organizing the entire event. They even arranged transportation for everyone, by having the volunteers car pool the children to and from Mrs. Stern's house. Special mention must be made of how the volunteers did a wonderful job making sure that "their" child

enjoyed every minute of the program! All in all, the program was a tremendous success!



Renovations Begin for New Group Home

Renovations on the property on Thomas Court have begun. The house is being rebuilt to accommodate a women's IRA (Individualized Residential Alternative). We are hoping to open this home during the summer.



The Workpoint Pre-Vocational Group Has Started!

The Pre-Voc group is a full day program for men with developmental disabilities. Presently, the group meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00-2:30 p.m. As more people join, we will be expanding the days and hours. We would like to start a women's group as soon as we have the clients.

The group is focusing on developing social and vocational skills for people who do not have the capacity to maintain a job at this time. The group spends time in the community working at various jobs under the constant direction of a group leader. Presently, we are also offering transportation to those in need. The program is diverse, with an emphasis on social and basic vocational skills.

We welcome all phone calls to find out more. Mr. Schwadron at (845) 425-0887 ext 248.





Pre-Pesach Activities

Packaging food for Pesach, to help out Tomchei Shabbos was something the young men living in the group homes, were delighted to do. Bringing joy to others is something these bachurim truly enjoy.

They also visited the Matzoh Bakery before Pesach and watched the process of baking matzos from the kneading of the dough until the packaging into the boxes. The aroma of fresh baked matzos left them looking forward to actually eating them on Pesach.



* Model Seder at Magic Moments *

There was a lot of excitement at Magic Moments when the children partook in a model Seder set up by Mrs. Rubinfeld and her staff. Different children acted out the various parts and dressed accordingly.

They drank wine, ate matzoh and read from their own hagadas. This Seder was conducted in a very "real" way and helped prepare the children for the actual Seder on Pesach.



Points of Interest:



Mazel Tov!

- ❖ To Mrs. Sarah Gargir upon the birth of her daughter!
- ❖ To Miss Dina Schlusberg upon her engagement!
- ❖ To Miss Perel Kramer upon her engagement!

The staff of Yedei Chesed wishes them much simcha and nachas!



The Magic Moments Respite Program planned a trip to the park on Thursday, Chol Hamoed Pesach. Due to the weather though the trip had to be cancelled, but the children still had a great time indoors. They played games together and each child got a choice of three beautiful toys to take home as Afikomen gifts from Magic Moments.



The Mothers' Support Group for mothers of children with Aspergers, Autism and P.D.D. will meet on Tuesday, May 4th at 12:00 p.m. The meeting will take place at the Weismandl's home at 1 Park Lane in Monsey. The topic to be discussed is **"Annual Reviews: Before, During and After."**



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