

a kid friendly publication of Nageela West Coast Joyfully Jewish Experiences



Don't Forget the Ranch!

by Rabbi Dani Locker

The world's largest bottle of Ketchup is located in Collinsville, Illinois and stands at about 170 feet tall. The world's largest bottle of ranch was located, at least at one point, in Las Vegas, and stood 24 feet tall. Our story begins at the giant ranch bottle, as Richard, then a young boy, gazed up fondly at the massive receptacle of creaminess.

"Someday son, the largest ranch in the state will be yours!" drawled his uncle Jim.

Technically, the largest ranch in the state (no, I don't mean dressing. I mean an actual ranch) already belonged to Richard. He had inherited the gigantic toad ranch (out where Richard lived, toad ranching was a big industry) from his parents, and when he was old enough, he would run the largest toad ranching operation in the area. But for now, as Richard was still a child, he lived with his aunt and uncle in a smaller home just a few

miles away.

One day, as Richard was riding his pet emu home from school, he smelled smoke. He reined in his two legged mount and looked around. He saw fire everywhere. It looked like the entire town and the surrounding areas were all all in flames! He spurred his ride and rushed as quickly as he could to the place he lived, where he did everything he could to battle the fires.

"Hey, Rishard, why are you here? Someone asked.

"Whadya mean? I'm putting out the fire!"

"But why are you HERE?" Your actual home- your family ranch is burning down. Don't you think you should try to save it?"

Richard felt at home with his relatives. They took care of him, and he was so comfortable

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Honolulu 6:59
Scottsdale 7:23
Henderson 7:43
San Diego 7:42
Las Vegas 7:44
Irvine 7:47
Los Angeles 7:51
Reno 8:12
Oakland 8:17
RANDOLPH 8:45

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there that he forgot about his real home. Though he could not yet live on his ranch, it WAS his home and it WOULD BE his home again. When it came to saving a home from the fire, he probably should have remembered what's really his.

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[note: This doesn't mean he should have ignored his aunt and uncle's home, because the gratitude he has toward them is immense. Yet a person's primary responsibility is still to themselves.]

Israel is our only home!

This week's Torah portion should have been all about the Jews heading directly toward our homeland of Israel. But for the first time in the desert and then again and again and again over the years we've forgotten our real home, our promised abode. In our comfortable homes in exile, whether we live in North Dakota, Monsey, or even in pre-messianic Israel, it's sometimes really hard for us to remember that-yes, we have tremendous gratitude to our Harrison Clayton host countries- Israel, with the Holy Temple, is the only true, permanent home we'll ever have.

PICKLE JEWS GALACTICALLY SYNDICATED COMIC STR

COMIC STRIP

by Dani Locker, 2022

MOSES SELECTS THE TWELVE SPICES 10shua CHOLENT PLITZUT PARSLEY THYME DILL SAGE CALEB