CHABAD NEWS

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MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI

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Chabad of Bradenton & Lakewood Ranch is an organization that provides social, educational, recreational, and religious programming. Chabad is a place where every Jew, affiliated or unaffiliated, observant or non-observant, can come and feel comfortable. We believe that regardless of educational background or affiliation, it is the inalienable right of every Jewish person to learn and participate in our heritage, which belongs to us equally.



Yehuda Avner often shared a conversation he had with the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem

Mendel Schneerson, of righteous memory, at the conclusion of a lengthy private audience.

"Let me tell you what I try to do," explained the Rebbe. "Imagine you're looking at a candle. What you really see is a lump of wax with a thread down its middle. When do the thread and wax become a candle? In other words, when do they fulfill the purpose for which they were created? When you put a flame to the thread. That's when the wax and thread become a candle.

"The wax is the body, and the wick is the soul. Ignite the soul with the fire of Torah and a person will fulfill the purpose for which he or she was created. That is what I try to do "to ignite the soul of our people with the fire of Torah." Avner then asked the Rebbe, "My candlehas the Rebbe lit it?" "No," said the Rebbe. "I have given you the match. Only you can light your candle."

This past week marked the 23rd yartzeit (anniversary of passing) of the Rebbe just a few days ago, on the 3rd of Tammuz, June 27. When reflecting on the Rebbe's life and the movement that he built, one is immediately impressed his influence on world leaders. But as illustrated in this story, the Rebbe did not coerce or dictate his beliefs onto others. He lovingly helped them discover and act upon their own latent potential. As Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, former Chief Rabbi of Great Britain and the British Commonwealth, put it so eloquently: Good leaders create followers. Great leaders create leaders. That was the Rebbe's greatness. Not only did

he lead, he was a source of leadership in others."

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It is no coincidence that the Rebbe's yahrtzeit usually falls out in close proximity to the week that the Torah portion of Korach is read. In this Torah portion, Moses' leadership, and indeed the need for leadership altogether, was fiercely challenged. It is leaders like Moses and the Lubavitcher Rebbe who demonstrate that effective leadership can bring out the best in others, thereby ultimately influencing the entire world.

While most of us are not leaders on a global scale, we can emulate the Rebbe's approach with those in our immediate sphere. By empowering others to make good decisions and pursue holiness, we can help elevate the world, bringing the ultimate Redemption ever closer.

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Rabbi Mendy Bukiet

CTEEN

Due to popular demand, CTeen held a second TGIS Shabbat at the home of Rabbi Mendy & Chanie. It was so nice to have all the teens praying at Chabad and then laughing and singing throughout the meal. Stay tuned for next year's upcoming teen program including Survivor Games, Latke Wars, Escape Room, Paintball Shooting, and lots more.

SHAVUOT RECAP

Forty eight hours full of learning, praying, and excitement took place this Shavuot at Chabad, the holiday when we celebrate the Giving of the Torah to the Jews on Mount Sinai.

An all-night learning session at sponsor, and the many donors the home of Rabbi Mendy & who helped cover the expense of the Dairy Fest. A big thank am on the first night of Shavuot! you goes to all the volunteers

A fabulous Dairy Fest on Wednesday, May 31 attracted an overflow crowd and featured Ten Commandments, dairy treats, ice cream, children's program, prizes, and more.

Special thanks to Andrew & Benedicte Burg, an anonymous sponsor, and the many donors who helped cover the expenses of the Dairy Fest. A big thank you goes to all the volunteers who cooked, shopped, and set up for the Shavuot Dairy Fest.

CHS SCHOLARSHIP

We are pleased to inform you that Federation has set up a **"HEBREW SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP** FUND at https:// ifedsrg.org/religiousschool-scholarships If you have any questions, please call the Federation at 941.371.4546 or contact Chabad at 941-752-3030 ext 3. Funds are limited. Please apply ASAP.

MIKVAH UPDATE

On Sunday, June 4, a group of men and women gathered for Mikvah Education Night, an inspirational and moving night about Mikvah presented by Rabbi Mendy & Chanie and including a powerful video demonstration.

It was encouraging to see such a nice group of men and women come out for this event.

Also presented at this event were Chabad's future plans for Chabad's sprawling 5 acres, the location of the Mikvah, the reasons Chabad is building a Mikvah now, plans for the driveway, plans for the hospitality house, and more.

A Women's Mikvah Fundraising Committee of nine special women has been formed and will be working on raising funds for this important Mitzvah.

To be involved in this upcoming project or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rabbi Mendy or Chanie at 941-752-3030. There are FAQ papers and Mikvah brochures at Chabad as well for anyone who would like more information.

This is a huge step in the spiritual infrastructure at Chabad of Bradenton & Lakewood Ranch and an exciting time for Chabad. The Mikvah Project's progress can be viewed at chabadofbradenton.com



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IN APPRECIATION

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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Mendel Alvarez Yardena Cohen-Babcock Bukiet boys Shaiky Bukiet David & Patti Gersh Carol Hanin Pinchos & Miriam Rodriguez Brent & Ricki Rubin Steven & Colleen Shapiro Jeff & Charity Steckel Susan Steenbarger Richard & Lauren Vallone Mark Walzer Steve & Laura Weinshel

Sharon Zawadski Simon Weiner Jerry & Judy Zivic

We apologize if anyone's name was left out inadvertently. It is by no means a result of a lack of appreciation on our part.

KIDDUSH SPONSORS

Yovall Augoshe IHO Gal's Bar Mitzvah Lee & Janice Hoffman IMO mother Gertrude Hoffman Steve & Colleen Shapiro IHO the birth of their granddaughter

Contact Chabad at 752-3030 to sponsor a Kiddush for \$150 or a Deluxe Kiddush for \$300.

DEDICATIONS

Bob & Maxine Greenberg, IHO the marriage of Yardena Cohen-Babcock's daughter

Jacqueline Hanover, IHO Tali for a safe trip to Israel

Jerry & Judy Zivic, IHO Leibel Bukiet

To send a donor card in someone's memory or honor contact Chabad. Minimum donation of \$10 is suggested.

JOIN CLUB CHAI!

Join Club Chai!

Chai members provide monthly sustenance to Chabad in multiples of 18 (Chai-Life). Be a partner in our valuable work and community! A monthly donation in any amount gets you into the club.

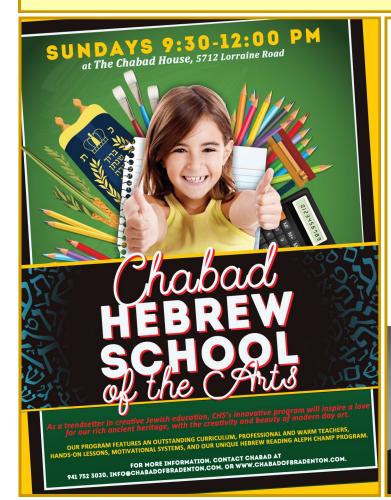
Contact Chabad for more information at 752-3030.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

For more information, contact Chabad at 941-752-3030, info@chabadofbradenton.com, or visit www.chabadofbradenton.com.

Sunday, August 27, 11:00 am: Hebrew School Mystery Party

It's A Mystery! Parents and children are invited to the CHS of The Arts Mystery Party. Discover what's in store this year with our Mystery Box Adventure, Ice Glue Game, and more.



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Contact Chanie Bukiet at chanie@chabadofbradenton.com or 752-3030 to reserve your space for the August issue by July 15.