

## CHABAD NEWS

MARCH 2014 / ADAR 1-2 5774

VOL. 11/ ISSUE 6

### MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI



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.



Did you know that the Megillah, which is read every year on the holiday of Purim, is the only book in the

entire Written Torah in which G-d's name does not appear even once?

Interestingly, throughout the entire story we find that very little of it was miraculous. In fact, most of the story seems to be coincidental. It seems like the work of a great novelist, with all loose ends eventually coming together.

The story begins with the death of Queen Vashti, and King Achashveirosh choosing Esther as his new wife. It is followed by Mordechai foiling a plot to murder the king, Haman's rise to power, and Haman's scheme to annihilate the Jews. The king's discovery that Esther was Jewish and that Haman's plot would have included her is set as the climax of this seemingly fairy-tale like story.

All the events leading up to Purim seem to fit right into an almost natural course. Not once do we read about a great miracle, such as the sea splitting or manna falling from heaven. All we have is one coincidental occurrence after another.

The fact that Haman's scheme backfired onto himself was very fortuitous, but there were no supernatural miracles. No oil lasted for eight days, nor were any firstborns smitten.

That is precisely what makes the story of Purim so special.

Take a look at the world around you. Everything seems so 'normal.' The sun rises every morning in the east, and sets in the west at dusk. Trees and plants grow when they are properly tended to, and will wither and die when neglected. Fire rages and grows when in contact with anything flammable, but will be extinguished when in contact with water.

All this, and much more, is what we've come to know as nature. Like everything else in the world, nature, too, was created by G-d. Nature is G-d's most incredible miracle. We are living a constant miracle. By waking up every morning, we experience this

most miraculous event - life.

Even though we don't feel the G-dliness or the miracle in it all, it is there.

The very name of the Megillah, 'Megillat Esther,' makes this point. The name 'Esther' translates as 'hidden.' The true miracle of Purim, as well as that of our daily lives, remains hidden. But, we know that G-d, although His name is not mentioned in Megillah, was in fact behind all that had transpired, just as He is behind all that happens in the world.

Just as the Jews of that time trusted in G-d that He will save them from Haman's wicked decree, so must we, truly have faith in G-d that He is the one who ultimately controls our destiny.

So this year, when you hear the Megillah being read on Saturday evening, March 15, and on Sunday, March 16, take the time to think about the miracle of Purim, and how much it really relates to your life.

With wishes for a joyous Purim,

in the

Rabbi Mendy Bukiet









#### CHABAD GALA AUCTION

"Unite For Chabad." The theme of the evening was in full evidence with our wonderful community stepping up to the plate yet again and uniting together for the inaugural writing of the Chabad Community Sefer Torah.

It was a poignant and deeply spiritual moment when scribe, Yisoel Langsam, hailing all the way from New York, put ink to parchment to write the first two letters of the Torah. He was assisted by two very special couples; Steve & Colleen Shapiro and Jerry & Judy Zivic. Certificates honoring those that dedicated a letter, word or Torah portion to the Torah were presented during the auction.

The gala event took place on Sunday, February 23 at Fete Catering at Polo Grill Ballroom. Guests enjoyed delicious food and cocktails, in an elegant and social setting. They had the opportunity to bid on over seventy-five prizes to help support Chabad.

Hypnotist Richard Barker entertained the crowd with his hilarious and hypnotic presentation.

A live auction, led by Rabbi Mendy Bukiet, featured outstanding gifts.

Special thanks to Devy & Gerald Castor for the precious stones they donated for the "Champagne on The Rocks" raffle!

Surprise raffles were held throughout the evening and a split the pot raffle concluded the event.

Special thanks to Jo & Roslyn Block for donating their Split the Pot winnings to Chabad.



A warm and heartfelt thank you to the sponsors for the evening namely Anonymous, Joseph & Roslyn Block, Esther Cohen, Fete Catering at the Polo Grill, Taras & Donna Kochno, Lakewood Ranch Realty, Albert Mayara, Brent & Ricki Rubin, Kevin & Debbie Rubin, Shapiro, Goldman, Babboni, and Walsh, Steve & Colleen Shapiro, David & Laya Shugol, Raymond James Financial Inc, Jack Steenbarger & Susan Benson-Steenbarger, and Debbie Furman and Jimmy Young.

This community event was truly a team effort with a crew of dedicated volunteers and coordinators who invested time and effort to make this evening a truly memorable celebration.





#### CAMP GAN ISRAEL UPDATE



We are thrilled to announce that we have recently hired terrific counselors to run Chabad of Bradenton's Camp Gan Israel program. They are Ceita Marosow, Ceita Perlstein,

Rochie Kramer, and Goldie Junik. They each have extensive experience in camps and Hebrew Schools in Maryland, Montreal, California, and New York.

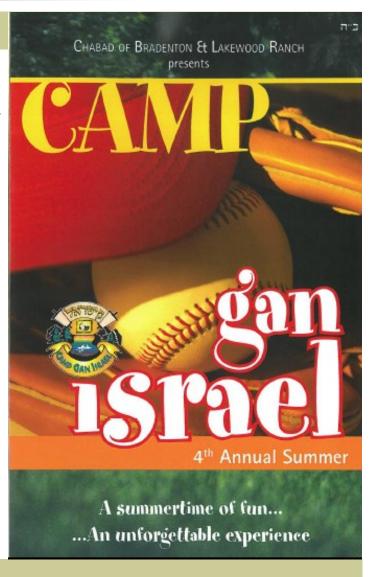
Camp Gan Israel will be held for girls and boys ages 5-12 for three weeks, from June 30 until July 18 and will be located on the Chabad grounds on 5712 Lorraine Road. Hours will run from 9 am to 3 pm. Extended care is available until 5 pm and hot lunch options are available as well.

Scholarships are available on a first come first serve basis and will be considered once registration is completed. Register before March 31st for 5% discount. For more information or a registration packet, please contact

Chabad at cgibradenton.org or 941-752-3030.







#### RECIPE CORNER

#### Hamentaschen

3 eggs

I cup sugar

3/4 cup oil

21/2 tsps. vanilla ex-

tract

I/2 cup orange juice

5 1/2 cups flour

I tbsp. baking powder

I cup any jelly or prune •

lekvar

- Preheat oven to 350.
- Beat the eggs and sugar until lightly and fluffy.
- Stir in the oil, vanilla and orange juice.
- Combine the flour and baking powder; stir into the batter to form a stiff dough.
- If dough is not stiff enough to roll out, stir in more flour.
- On a lightly floured surface, roll dough out to 1/4 inch in thickness.
- Cut into circles using a cookie cutter or the rim or a drinking glass.
- Place dough 2 inches apart onto the prepared cookie sheets.
- Spoon about 2 teaspoons of preserves into the center of each one.
- Pinch the edges to form three corners.
- Bake for 12 to 15 minutes on 350 in the preheated oven, or until light browned.
- Allow hamentaschen to cool for I minute on the cookie sheet before removing to wire racks to cool completely.







# COMEDIANS NEEDED!!! PURIM IMPROV—

HCS #230506 NR #30211577

Help bring laughter to the community on Saturday night, March 15 at 8:45 pm at THE CHABAD HOUSE.

We are looking for stand up comics (no past experience necessary) to perform a five minute comedy routine.

Contact Rabbi Mendy at 941-752-3030 or rabbimendy1808@gmail.com if you can bring some laughter to Chabad this Purim.

#### LIBRARY LINES

By Barbara Schur, Librarian

We feel very fortunate because the library has been gifted with money to buy books by Tami and Sydney Wankoff in memory of Tammy's parents and Sydney's grand-parents, Elke and Zevah Wankoff. With these funds we have been able to purchase many wonderful books. Some of the titles are:

Stories of the Tzaddikim by Knobolovich (a series of books)

Scent of Sunflowers by Klein Memoirs of the Lubavitcher Rebbe – a 2 volume set

Confessions of a lewish Cult Buster by Hecht

Bamboo Cradle by Schwartzbaum

Seekers of Slumbering Souls by Ruderman

There are many more books and we can't thank Tami & Sydney enough for their generosity. Of course, more such gifts are always welcome.

Thanks to Yardena Babcock—Cohen for her hard work organizing the library and to the Bukiet boys for their help with moving books about as needed. They all did a wonderful job and I hope we can keep the library in good order in future, too.

The system we use is a simple one. I

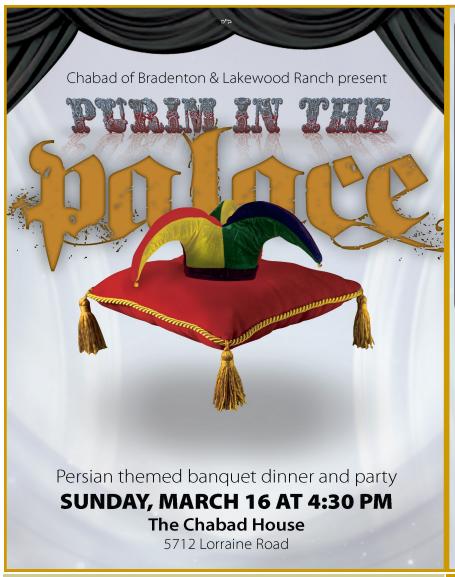
hope this will make books easier to locate.

The subject categories have been expanded to: Anti-semitism, Biography, Chabad, Chassidus, Children's books, , Fiction, History, Holidays, Israel, Jewish experience, Judaism, Kabbala, Prayer books, The Rebbe, Reference, Shabbat songs, Torah, Talmud, and Women.

A Children's Corner has been added for all the books that are especially for them. It is also on the North wall but on the West side.

I'm available to help you find a book at any time at 941-377-8031.

Enjoy the Library!



### Featuring:

- Comedic Entertainment
- Palace Themed Masquerade (optional)
- Megillah Reading & Slideshow
- Hamentaschen
- and lots more

### This program is open to all ages.

Cost is \$15 per adult, \$10 per child (3-12) for pre-paid admission. Payment at the door is \$20 adult, \$15 child. Sponsor this event for \$250. Seating is limited, reserve early please. CHS students come free!

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

### PURIM GIFT PROJECT

This year, more people will experience the joy of Purim! On Purim, we emphasize the importance of Jewish unity and friendship by sending gifts of food to friends and family, Chabad plans to distribute over two hundred shared Mishloach Manot food gift boxes at a low cost so that as many community families as possible are able to participate in this wonderful tradition. To participate in this project, contact Chabad at 752-3030 or visit the website at chabadofbradenton.com and click on the Purim project icon.

Correction: The date on the pamphlet for Purim says Sunday, February 24. It is Sunday, March 16. Apologies for any confusion.



### Klingenstein Jewish Center



580 McIntosh Road, Sarasota, FL 34232 941.371.4546

ENSURING THE JEWISH FUTURE. www.jfedsrq.org



#### ONGOING PROGRAMS

All events take place at The Chabad House.

#### **Talmud Classes**

Mondays, 7:30-8:30 pm

Explore the Talmud and its laws in its original text. No prior knowledge of the Talmud or Hebrew is necessary. Book fee: \$45.

#### **Torah Studies**

Saturday, 9:00-9:30 am

Participate in a fascinating class on the Torah portion of the week. Discover the mystical meanings and lessons behind ancient stories. Admission is free.

#### Weekly Shabbat Services

Friday nights, 7:00, Saturday mornings, 9:30

Enjoy warm, family friendly services at the Chabad Jewish Center. Saturday services are followed by a delicious buffet Kiddush.

#### Havdallah Ceremony & Shmooze

Saturday nights, one half hour after Shabbat's conclusion Join Chabad for a weekly schmooze with Rabbi Mendy.

#### **Chabad Hebrew School**

Sunday mornings, 9:30 am-noon

Give your child for the experience of a lifetime at CHS featuring an outstanding curriculum, professional and warm teachers, hands-on lessons, an innovative Hebrew reading Aleph Champ program, motivational systems, and more. Learn it. Live it. Love it.

#### Torah Tots

Monday, March 3, 10:00 am - 10:45 am

Join other parents, grandparents, and caregivers as we explore a child's world through story, song, cooking, crafts, and circle time. Take advantage of this exciting and energy-filled group of children and caregivers. Torah Tots are held first Monday of the month. Suggested donation: \$6

#### Rosh Chodesh Society (RCS)

Tuesday, March 4, 7:30-8:45 pm

The Woman in the Moos Session 4 - Kabbalistic Insights into Femininity and the Jewish Calendar. Cost is \$75 (textbooks included). Refreshments will be served.

#### Jewish Learning Institute (JLI)

Wednesday, March 5 and 12

7:30 pm-8:45 pm

To Be a Jew in the Free World: Jewish Identity Through the Lens of Modern History is the institute's new six-session course. Cost is \$75 or \$135 per couple (textbooks included). This course is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee.

#### **Mahjong**

Mondays, March 10 and 24, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm Join a group of women for great fun with mahjong. Free. Donations accepted.

#### **TGIF** at Chabad

Friday, March 7, 7:00 pm

Join the Chabad family for an evening of excitement, inspiration, and delicious Shabbat food! Featuring: Junior Congregation, Shabbat Kiddush, prayers, and more. Second Friday of the month! Free!!! All are Welcome! Prizes for children! Sponsor a Kiddush for \$150.

#### Falafel & PARveDISE Ice Cream

Sunday, March 9, noon-1:00 pm

Come and enjoy a terrific kosher falafel lunch prepared by Yoav Cohen and delicious non-dairy ice cream from our very own soft serve PARveDISE ice cream machine prepared by Jerry & Judy Zivic! This takes place every second Sunday of every month at noon. Cost: \$5 all you can eat falafel and \$2 non-dairy ice cream.

#### Ladies Lunch & Learn

Tuesday, March 18, noon-1:00 pm

Join Chanie Bukiet for a monthly Lunch & Learn. Feast on a delicious lunch and sample from a variety of exciting Jewish topics.

Admission is free. Sponsor: \$100

For more information on any of the above ongoing events, call Rabbi Mendy Bukiet at 941-752-3030 or e-mail info@chabadofbradenton.com.

#### CLUB CHAI

Welcome to our new Club Chai Members:

#### Andrew & Benedicte Burg

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.

#### KIDDUSH SPONSORS

Isaac & Mimi Abitbol IMO Isaac's brother, Majlouf Chabad IHO wonderful community

To sponsor a Kiddush at Chabad, please contact the Chabad office at 752-3030 or info@chabadofbradenton.com.

#### IN APPRECIATION

#### PARTNER APPRECIATION

Isaac & Mimi Abitbol Mendel Alvarez Robert & Deborah Azeff Ronald & Yardena Babcock David Babner Jerry & Ruth Beck Daniel & Tseza Benjamin David Bittker Joseph & Rosalyn Block Don & Allegria Bouquet Rabbi Joseph & Fradel Bukiet Andrew & Benedicte Burg **Edward Buyes** Wendy Claussen Benjamin & Giuliana Cohen Esther Cohen

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#### **VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT**

Barbara Schur

Steve & Colleen Shapiro

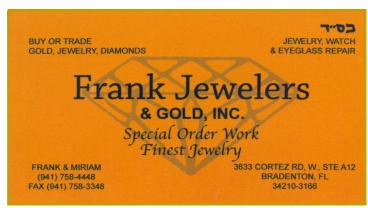
Mendel Alvarez
Ron & Yardena Cohen-Babcock
Beryl Bosher
Max Brenner
Chaim Meir Bukiet
Mordechai Bukiet
Debra Carey
Barbara Cohen
Benjamin & Giuliana Cohen
Esther Cohen
Yoav Cohen

Marvin & Elaine
Adam Haber
Allison Heitner
Jennifer Katz
Jennifer Katz
Jay Kelly
Motti Kessler
Taras Kochno

Merrill Oltchick Marvin & Elaine Fitzer **Emily Raibin** David Grace Pinchos & Miriam Rodriguez Adam Haber Brent & Ricki Rubin Allison Heitner Robert & Jill Schein Jennifer Katz Barbara Schur Steve & Colleen Shapiro Motti Kessler Sandy & Phyllis Silverman Taras Kochno **Jackie Simmons** Judy Marcovici Jo & Rosalie Slavings Rachel Miller

Jack Steenbarger &
Susan Benson-Steenbarger
Richard & Lauren Vallone
Mark Walzer
Sydney Wankoff
Tami Wankoff
Pam Weigert
Steve & Laura Weinshel
Richard & Lauren Vallone
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.





## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS For more information, contact Chabad at 941-752-3030, info@chabadofbradenton.com, or visit www.chabadofbradenton.com.

#### Sunday, March 2: Purim Packing Party, 7:00 pm

Join Chabad to pack Purim gifts for the community at The Chabad House. Help spread the joy of Purim. If you would like to send a Purim gift to someone you know, please contact Chabad at 941-752-3030 or visit the website at chabadofbradenton.com and click on the Purim project

#### Saturday, March 15: Improv Chabad, 8:45 pm

Come and Celebrate Purim in a joyous manner while hearing the megillah and laughing along with local comics from our very own community! If you are interested in performing a comedic routine, please contact Chabad at 941-752-3030 or info@chabadofbradenton.com. Cost is \$10 per person. Sponsor this event for \$180. Refreshments and cocktails will be served.

#### Sunday, March 16: Purim in Palace, 4:30 pm

Enjoy Chabad of Bradenton & Lakewood Ranch's Purim in the Palace at The Chabad House with a Persian themed dinner (vegetarian available), treasure chest of fun for the entire family, court jester, comedic entertainment, masquerade, megillah reading, hamenstaschen, and lots more. This program is open to all ages. Cost is \$15 per adult, \$10 per child (3-12) for pre-paid admission. Payment at the door is \$20 adult, \$15 child. Sponsor this event for \$250. Seating is limited, reserve early please. CHS students come free!

#### Monday, April 14, Interactive Passover Seder, 7:30 pm

Join Chabad of Bradenton & Lakewood Ranch at the Chabad House for an enchanting Passover Seder. Relive the exodus, discover the eternal meaning of the Haggadah, and enjoy a community Seder complete with hand-baked Matzah, wine, and a wonderful dinner spiced with unique traditional customs. Couvert: Adults \$50, Child \$36, Sponsor: \$500. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. Reserve and pay before April 2 and receive a \$5 discount.

#### Tuesday, April 22, Kabbalistic Moshiach Seder, 6:30 pm

Celebrate the conclusion of Passover at the home of Rabbi Mendy & Chanie Bukiet with a Kabalistic festive gathering. Attendees will have the opportunity to drink the four cups of wine and partake of the Matzah customarily eaten at this time. A light buffet will be served. RSVP. Free. Sponsor \$180.

Would you like to place an ad or personal greeting in this space? Advertise in Chabad News.

1/4 page- \$36 / 1/8 page - \$18 / Business Card - \$10 Circulation of this publication goes to hundreds of Jewish homes!

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

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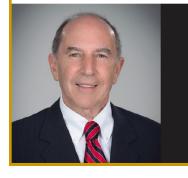
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