

CHABAD NEWS

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MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI



Many of you may have heard by now about Chabad’s plans to build a Mikvah.

A Mikvah is a natural body of water or a collection of water that was never stagnant or gathered by human means.

Being that water is the primary source of all living things, it has the power to restore and replenish life. Symbolically, immersion in the Mikvah is like a return to the womb, and immersion represents a spiritual rebirth. Thus, Mikvah is the culminating step in the conversion process; certain new pots and dishes are immersed in a Mikvah as a means of consecrating our acts of food preparation and consumption. Men may also use the Mikvah before Shabbat, Yom Kippur, or on their wedding day. However, the primary use of Mikvah is by women, as part of the mitzvah called *taharat hamishpachah* (family purity) whose laws guide Jewish married life. Mikvah provides an opportunity for regularly infusing marriage with sacred

renewal, and is a source of spiritual blessing for the entire family.

Jewish tradition has always taught that the source of the sanctity of the Jewish family comes from Mikvah. For a Jewish community to thrive and flourish it needs to be cemented with a strong spiritual foundation. A community is in a sense incomplete without its own Mikvah.

The Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, of righteous memory, spoke of the vital importance of a Mikvah to sustaining Jewish family life, often instructing his emissaries that it be the first major project they undertook. Mikvah is deemed so integral a part of Jewish communal life that Jewish law even allows for a community to sell their Torah scrolls to finance its construction.

Mikvahs have been built and used by Jews in every age and circumstance on the mountain fortress of Masada, in the oppressive Soviet Union, even in Nazi occupied Europe. Today, newly constructed Mikvahs can be found in every corner of the globe from Argentina and

Austria, to Tasmania and Thailand, enriching Jewish life the world over.

And now, we are so excited and proud to be in the design and permitting phase of building a Mikvah facility here at Chabad of Bradenton & Lakewood Ranch. We will soon join the thousands of locations around the world that boast a Mikvah.

The Mikvah building will also contain hospitality suites for visitors who need to be close to the Chabad House for Shabbat and holidays. The Mikvah due to its importance needs to be aesthetic to the eye, encouraging women to use it. To that end the design will give off a spa-like, serene vibe.

I encourage you to get involved in this auspicious project. More information and dedication opportunities can be found at our website at chabadofbradenton.com and more information will be mailed out shortly as well. Be a part of building the infrastructure of a Jewish community here in Manatee County.

Rabbi Mendy Bukiet

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.



Wow, what an amazing Chanukah Season it was. With five menorah lightings and outreach programs, Chabad spread light and joy to hundreds of Jews. Chabad gave out hundreds of menorahs and candles to those that needed. With Chabad's help, people all over Manatee County felt Chanukah in the air this Chanukah!



CHANUKAH CELEBRATION ON MAIN



What an incredible Chanukah Celebration! Chanukah on Main Street, Chabad's annual Menorah lighting ceremony drew hundreds to Main Street in Lakewood Ranch on Tuesday, December 27.



This year, Chabad lit up Main Street with a Sock Menorah and lots of Chanukah festivities.

Live music, decorating freshly fried doughnuts, a Dreidel bounce house, delicious Kosher food from Falafel with Yoav and

Steve's BBQ, face painting, visits with Judah the Maccabee and our new Dreidel Mascot, Kona Ice truck, raffles, and Chanukah art projects lent a festive atmosphere to this exciting event.

Dr. Steve Shapiro lit the Sock Menorah with Zachary & Zoe Korman and Shaya Bukiet, winners of the Toys For a Smile Contest.

The spirit and joy of Chanukah was felt by all. It was beautiful to see people of all ages demonstrating Jewish pride at this celebration.

We have such a warm and dedicated community as evidenced by over 40 volunteers who helped bring the joy of Chanukah to Lakewood Ranch Main Street.

A heartfelt thank you to Main Street, Albert Mayara, and Yoav Cohen for their sponsorship, to County Commissioner Vanessa Baugh and Frank Verdel from SMR for their kind words and to all those that donated socks that will be going to homeless shelters in Manatee County.



BABYCCINO CHANUKAH

Tots and their parents enjoyed various Chanukah themed activities such as doughnut decorating, lava lamps, gift wrap stamping, dreidel spin art, and more over the last few weeks in preparation for Chanukah. Stay tuned for Babyccino: Jewish Home resuming at Chabad on January 8!



CHS TOYS FOR A SMILE

Chabad Hebrew School of the Arts helped spread the light of Chanukah with its Toys For A Smile Mitzvah Factory on Sunday, December 18. Students presented their “Channequin Challenge” to their families, constructed Dreidels, played Chanukah fortune, and wrapped gifts for underprivileged children. They enjoyed doughnuts, latkes and an Aleph Champ color themed snack table. Congratulations to Shaya Bukiet and Zachary and Zoe Korman for winning the Toys for a Smile Contest! Chabad Hebrew School holds four fantastic family fun days throughout the year. The next fun day will be on March 5 and will feature Purim & The Chocolate Factory!



CHANUKAH AT ELLENTON

This year, Chabad held a Menorah Lighting in Ellenton on Thursday, December 29 to spread the light of Chanukah to even more people. Latkes, doughnuts, music, dancing and a magic show spread the light to shoppers, residents of Ellenton and Parrish and other Manatee County areas.



CTeen CHANUKAH EVENT

CTeen’s Pre-Chanukah event was a hit with ice cream doughnut sandwiches, lava lamps, grand Dreidel game, twist it, and comfort pillows. It was nice to see the teens laughing and really enjoying themselves!

For more information or to join this growing group, and for CTeen’s upcoming trip to TreeUmph with CTeen of Venice and St. Petersburg on January 15, please contact Rabbi Mendy or Chanie Bukiet at 941-752-3030, info@chabadofbradenton.com, or check out CTeen on the web at chabadofbradenton.com.





NOSHCHODESH

NEW OA MEETING IN LWR

There is a new OA meeting in Lakewood Ranch. It meets on Thursdays at 7:00 – 8:00 PM and the format will be Big Book Step Study (BBSS).

BBSS is a format which helps members achieve abstinence by working the Twelve Steps of Overeaters Anonymous. BBSS groups work the steps exactly as they are laid out in AA's Big Book, changing only the words alcohol and alcoholic to their equivalents for compulsive eating.

The meetings are structured and specific, providing clear-cut directions on how to recover from the disease of compulsive overeating.

Lakewood Ranch Big Book Step Study
Thursday Nights, 7:00–8:00PM

Chabad of Bradenton
5712 Lorraine Road
Lakewood Ranch, FL. 34211

Contact: Barb S. 941-228-7422

JWC MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest JWC member this year:

Hilary Lipman

Proceeds of JWC membership go to the Sunshine Committee. JWC membership is \$36 and entitles you to a \$5 discount on all programs. Contact Chabad to become a member or for more information.

This course is co-sponsored by Esther Cohen - Ferial's Hair Studios -941-518-9850.

simple
TRUTHS
PIVOTAL JEWISH INSIGHTS FOR CENTERED LIVING

Tuesday, January 10 at 7:30pm

Chabad of Bradenton & Lakewood Ranch
5712 Lorraine Road
Bradenton, FL 34211
www.chabadofbradenton.com
941-752-3030

LESSON THREE
CREATION REVISITED

We are all creators, made in the image of G-d—the ultimate Creator. But is the difference between our ability to create and G-d's merely a quantitative one?

This lesson searches the foundational principles of Jewish thought regarding G-d's creation of the world and unearths ageless methods of reframing our approach to life.



Join CTeen for an adventure at TreeUmph!

Date: Sunday, January 15
Time: 1- 4pm

Cost: \$50 / CTeen Members: Free



For more information, please call 941.752.3030.

CHABAD OF BRADENTON
Invites you to a

Community Shabbat Dinner

WITH GUEST SPEAKER,
CLEM SOFFER

January 13

AT 7:00PM

THE LOST JEWS OF EGYPT

Journey with Clem Soffer as he takes you through his personal experiences of the destruction of the ancient Jewish Community in Egypt.

Couvert: \$25 • Early Bird Discount before January 5: \$18
Consider becoming a sponsor for \$180 or \$360.

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

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 mornings, 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.

Havdallah & Shmooze

Saturday, half hour after Shabbat's Conclusion (sundown)
Havdallah followed by a Schmooze including questions on any topic in Judaism answered by Rabbi Mendy. Admission is free.

Weekly Shabbat Services

Friday nights, 7:00 pm, Saturday mornings, 9:30 am
Enjoy warm, family friendly services at The Chabad House. Saturday morning services are followed by a delicious buffet Kiddush.

CKids Shabbat Club

Saturday mornings, 11:00 am-Noon
Includes prayer, games, songs, and is followed by a Kiddush luncheon. Shabbat Birthday Club will take place on January 28. Children will enjoy a cupcake birthday party and participate in the Jewish customs surrounding birthdays.

Chabad Hebrew School of the Arts

Sunday morning, January 8, 15, 22 & 29 - 9:30 am-noon
Give your child the experience of a lifetime at CHS featuring an outstanding curriculum, professional and warm teachers, hands-on lessons, CKids motivational system, and an innovative Hebrew reading Aleph Champ program.

Torah & Tea

Tuesdays, January 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 - 11:00 am- noon
Join Chanie Bukiet in her home for a weekly dose of delicious tea and refreshments and learn about Tanya; mystical psychology of the soul. Admission is free. Sponsor a class for \$25.

Prayer Class

Friday, January 6 & 20 - 11:00 am -noon

Join Rabbi Mendy for a Prayer class on the how to's, why's, and what's of prayer. Admission is free.

CTeen

Sunday, January 17, 7:00 pm, "Treeumph"

Hey Teens - Join CTeen for its fifth get together on an adventure trip to TreeUmph. TreeUmph adventure course includes a 650ft Zip line and more. Cost: \$50 / CTeen members: Free, bring your friends for out of the world good time. **CTeen's mission is to give teens three things: Jewish Network, Jewish Identity, Jewish Values.** This is an opportunity that no Jewish teenager should miss, and there's plenty of room for all their friends as well! For more information about this trip or CTeen, please call 941-752-3030.

Babyccino

Sunday, January 8, 15, 22 & 29 - 9:30 am-10:15 am

This new exciting program at Chabad ventures out into a place where motherhood and childhood happily intersect, creating and offering ways to engage both parents and children at the same time. Babyccino provides a chic meet for mod moms and their tots and features centers for creative art and expression, Judaic discovery, music and movement, sensory stimulation, dramatic play, parallel play, and social interaction. Cost \$10 per class or \$250 annually.

RCS: Simple Truths-Creation Revisited

Tuesday, January 10, 7:30 pm

Join Rosh Chodesh Society for its third class of the year with a refreshing look on how to handle everyday simple questions with this interesting course! Ladies are invited to learn pivotal Jewish insights for a more centered living. Simple Truths will help guide participants through life's many bumps and struggles.

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

DEDICATIONS

Stuart & Lisa Auslander IHO Jerry Zivic

Robert & Jill Schein IHO The Sunshine Committee

Victor & Toby Behar IMO Joseph & Mollie Behar, OBM

Robert & Jill Schein IMO Emanuel DeCoveny, OBM

Bonnie Gottlieb IMO Myron Gottlieb, OBM

Sam & Sharon Schwartz IHO Rabbi Mendy—JLI Class

David Meyersburg IMO Herman Arnold Meyersburg, OBM

Sam & Sharon Schwartz IHO Rabbi Mendy & Chanie Bukiet

Pinchos & Miriam Rodriguez IMO Furcy Taveras, OBM

Jerry & Judy Zivic IMO The Honorable Myron Gottlieb, OBM

Howard Schechter & Naomi Rosenberg IMO Rivka Zimmer, OBM

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

IN APPRECIATION

PARTNER APPRECIATION

Isacc & Mimy Abitbol
Benjamin Alpert
David Altschuler
Eugene & Linda Reme Ames
Stuart & Lisa Auslander
Robert & Deborah Azeff
David Babner
Uzi & Amy Baram
Steve & Sandra Baron
Don & Vanessa Baugh
Jerry & Ruth Beck
Talia Beckman
Victor & Toby Behar
Randy Benderson
Charles & Odette Best
Alan & Annette Boorstein
William & Beryl Boshier
Don & Allegría Bouquet
Rabbi Joseph & Fradel Bukiet
Shaiky Bukiet
Andrew & Benedicte Burg
Bruce Cheifitz
Bud & Wendy Claussen
Benjamin & Giuliana Cohen
Martin & Barbara Cohen
Ronald & Yardená Cohen-Babcock
Lee & Trudy Cohen

Shlomo & Orit Cohen
Yoav Cohen
Howard & Rachel Coshak
Hy & Ellie Cutler
Joel & Rosalyn Ehrenpreis
Jim & Estrella Engelhardt
Melvin Fingerut
Marvin Fitzer
Maxine Freud
Howard & Deborah Friedman
Anita Fukunaka
Gene & Shelley Gelpke
David & Patti Gersh
Hernan & Kennya Gluzman
Bonnie Gottlieb
Paul & Marsha Halpern
Charles & Carol Hanin
Jacqueline Hanover
Allison Heitner
Bryan Hennes
Samuel & Paula Herbst
Brock & Staci Hollett
Jacqueline Hanover
Ron & Ruth Hyatt
Larry & Sandie Ivers
David & Rimma Kasse
Leibel & Mushkie Kessler
Jamie Kirkell

Taras & Donna Kochno
Yanky & Batya Korf
David & Cali Korman
Fred & Arlene Lansky
David & Louise Levy
Maimon & Anna Levy
Steven & Hilary Lipman
Vijay & Nina Mahadeo
Albert Mayara
David Meyersburg
John Mickelbank
James & Ellen Minix
Oded & Carli Neeman
Susan Parker
Peter & Katherine Pike
Shiran & Shely Plotnick
Alexander & Inna Polatsky
Pinchos & Miriam Rodriguez
Michael & Ellen Roteman
Brent & Ricki Rubin
Kevin & Debbie Rubin
John Sackler
Howard & Naomi Schechter
Robert & Jill Schein
Ernest & Ruth Schlenger
Don & Linda Schwartz
Samuel & Sharon Schwartz
Yoram & Jennifer Shakib

Robert Shapiro
Sy & Linda Sherr
David & Laya Shugol
Sandy & Phyllis Silverman
Jackie Simmons
Joe & Rosalie Slavings
Stephen & Hermina Stambler
Jack & Susan Steenbarger
Warren Strauss
Shmuel & Marsha Stroll
John & Harriett Sutter
Kenneth & Audrey Thompson
Gary & Tamar Tolchin
William & Anne Turner
Richard & Lauren Vallone
Mark Walzer
Daniel & Shirley Weber
Robert & Pam Weigert
Aron & Julie Weiner
Jonas & Barbara Weingarten
Elliott & Ida Weiss
Martin & Hadassah Weiss
Stanley & Cynthia Wright
Gil & Sharon Zawadski
Jerry & Judy Zivic
Calvin & Patricia Zoellner

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Linda Reme Ames
Mordechi, Shaya, Shua, Sholom Ber & Zalman Bukiet
Daniel Braunstein
Sarah Christensen
Mendel & Esther Cohen-Alvarez
Yardená Cohen-Babcock
Martin & Barbara Cohen

Stefanie & Savannah Cohen
Yoav Cohen
David & Patti Gersh
Charles & Carol Hanin
Jamie Kirkell
Cali & Tanner Korman
Marcia Lichtenstein
Isser & Mendel Lieblich

Ed, Evy, Avery, Asher & Oliver Martineau
Nina Mahadeo
Brent & Ricki Rubin
Marlene Shapiro
Steve & Colleen Shapiro
Sam Silverberg
Joe & Rosalie Slavings

Suzanna Stein
Richard & Lauren Vallone
Mark Walzer
Tami & Sydney Wankoff
Simon Weiner
Steve & Laura Weinschel
Ida Weiss
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

Jamie Kirkell

IMO

his father, Lav Kirkell's Yahrzeit, OBM

Aron & Jane Berlowe and Steve & Laura Weinschel

IMO

Aron & Laura's parents, Eugene & Ethel Berlowe, OBM

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

JOIN CLUB CHAI FOR THE NEW YEAR!

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.

NEW MEMBERS

**Howard & Rachel Coshak
Don & Linda Schwartz
David & Cali Korman**

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Friday, January 13, 7:00pm - Chabad Community Shabbat Dinner

Join Chabad for the annual Community Shabbat Dinner featuring guest speaker, Clem Soffer. Enjoy a delicious meal with family and friends and journey with Clem Soffer as he guides you through his personal experiences of the destruction of the ancient Jewish Community in Egypt. Admission: \$25. Early Bird Discount before January 5: \$18. Consider becoming a sponsor for \$180 or \$360.

Friday, February 10, 7:30pm - Tu B'Shvat Shabbat

Join Chabad for a delicious Tu B'Shvat dinner. Enjoy a traditional Shabbat dinner fused with exotic tastes from the Seven Fruits of Israel. Cost: \$18 Adults, \$12 child / Sponsor \$180.

Tuesday, February 21, 7:30pm - The Kosher Cooking Competition

Calling all Chefs! It's that time again! Join Chabad for its 3rd annual Kosher Cooking Competition. The competition will include a Kosher presentation by Rabbi Mendy, Kosher Food tasting, and cooking and competing for fabulous prizes. Reservations required. Join the Competition or RSVP by contacting Chabad at www.chabadofbradenton.com or 941-752-3030. Admission is \$10 a person or \$100 per table.



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 February issue by January 15.

*During times of need for generations
Jewish members of the Sarasota community
have turned to Toale Brothers.*



**TOALE
BROTHERS**

FUNERAL HOME
Celebrating Life

Trust 100 Pre-Arrangement Center
Locally Owned & Operated by the Toale Family

An advertisement for Coastal Marine Canvas & Upholstery. The background shows a palm tree and a compass rose. The text includes 'STRATAGLASS SARASOTA' and 'sunbrella' logos. The main text reads 'Coastal Marine canvas & upholstery'. Contact information for Linda Reine Ames (941-812-0212) and Capt. Gene Ames (941-812-0213) is provided, along with the website www.coastalmarinecanvas.com. A small note at the bottom states 'Sunbrella® is a registered trademark of Glen Raven, Inc.'



Gerry Ronkin
Jewish Family Coordinator

OFFICE
941-955-4171

CELL
941-809-5195

www.ToaleBrothers.com