



THE CHABAD UPDATE

AUGUST 2010 AV 5770

A Year in Review.....

Since Chabad opened its doors in Towson in Fall 2008, Jewish life on Campus hasn't been the same. Chabad's growth in only 4 semesters has been tremendous, and hundreds of Jewish students have become involved in the different programs offered.

This year began with a variety of engaging freshman and welcome back events. A fantastic BBQ right on campus gave the opportunity for incoming freshmen to meet other Jewish students. Many close friendships were forged, and most of the students who participated have attended other Chabad activities throughout the year. The **High Holidays** were knocking at the door right at the beginning of the semester. In the spirit of Chabad's motto of fun and insightful programming, students experienced Rosh Hashana hands-on. The Shofar factory excited everyone! Each student received an actual ram's horn, and drill in hand, created their personal Shofar. What an unforgettable experience! Rabbi Mendy explained the deeper meaning of blowing the Shofar and showed everyone how to blow it. As for sticky treats, the students together with Sheiny prepared candy apples learning about the sweetness of the High Holidays.



Apple candy for Rosh Hashana



Students and Rabbi Mendy lighting Menorah at Chabad

Chabad led High Holiday Services on campus for the first time ever. Rabbi Mendy made sure that everyone felt comfortable, giving clear instructions and meaningful insights throughout the Prayers, so that everyone, from those who've never attended services, to "synagogue regulars", were able to connect on their own personal level. After services, all students were invited to the Chabad house for a delicious meal, along with the traditional new fruit, pomegranate and apple dipped in honey.

The festive holiday of **Sukkot** made its way in, with students coming to help build a huge Sukkah in the Chabad House's backyard. Throughout the holiday students came by to shake the Lulav and Esrog in the Sukkah and participate in the holiday meals.

Meet the Family



In the Fall of 2008, the Rivkins, inspired by the Lubavitcher Rebbe's vision of providing accessible and meaningful Jewish experiences to all Jews at their level, moved to Towson and opened the 112th full time campus Chabad House worldwide here at Towson. Rabbi Mendy and his Rebbetzin Sheiny, together with their young son Sholom Ber, have not taken long to complement and enhance Jewish life at the College. Sheiny grew up in Milan, Italy. She traveled for high school to NY, she attended seminary in the holy Land of Israel; thereafter, she taught Jewish studies at the Chabad Jewish day school in Milan, Italy. Mendy grew up in New York City. Ever the Wandering Jew, Mendy could never stay in just one place. By the time he obtained his rabbinical ordination in 2003 from the Chief Rabbi of Israel through the Rabbinical College of America, Mendy had studied at yeshivas in France, Russia, Canada and America. They bring with them an extensive background and the abilities to relate to the American student of today, and hope to make college a positive Jewish experience for every Jewish student here at Towson.

A special Thank you...

To the Robert M. Fisher Foundation for all the help and support they have given to Chabad of Towson. Their contribution has helped make the first stage of our capital project a reality. May this great merit stand by him.

For sponsorship opportunities at Chabad, please contact our office or Rabbi Rivkin at: Rabbi@JewishTowson.com

Chabad, the heart of Jewish life at Towson