

Festival of Lights

Lubavitch Foundation hosts visiting student rabbis

The Lubavitch Foundation building in Farmington Hills, was visited by eight student rabbis who led the celebration of the Jewish holiday, Hanukkah, which began Dec. 26 and continues through Jan. 2.

The group, from the New York Lubavitch Rabbinic Academy, will travel the state through Jan. 1 in an effort to "enlighten the world" of Jewish and non-Jewish families, Farmington Hills Rabbi Yossi Shemtov said.

The traditional celebration of Hanukkah, or the eight-day Festival of Lights, commemorates the successful Jewish rebellion, led by the Maccabee family in 165 B.C., against Syrian rule.

The revolt, highlighted by the recapturing of the temple in Jerusalem, represents one of the earliest fights for religious freedom in history.

IN ADDITION to the traditional holiday festivities, local students will tour nursing homes throughout

this week in an effort to bring the holiday "and happiness into the hearts" of senior citizens, according to Nafotli Silberberg, an 11-year-old student at the Lubavitch Foundation.

Shemtov said that the activities will encourage people of all faiths to abide by the Ten Commandments.

"This should be a world, not a jungle," the rabbi said. "It is not that we want to convert anyone — people should stay as God created them."

The eight student rabbis will travel in a recreational vehicle containing a library of Jewish material to Escanaba, Toledo, Marquette, Sault Ste. Marie and Kalamazoo before the tour's end in January.

Members of the center also displayed menorahs, candelabras holding nine candles, one master or shamash candle, and eight others, at local malls and supermarkets to "rekindle spiritual faith."

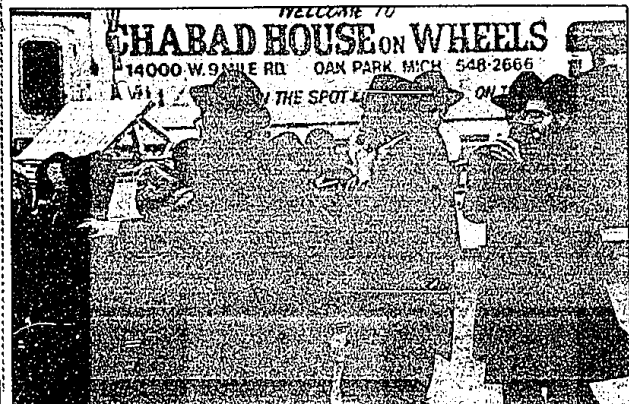


With the help of others, Yankel Stark places the lanterns that light the menorah.

Staff photos
by C.D. Stouffer



Yankel Stark lights one of the lanterns that forms the large menorah outside the Lubavitch Center.



In honor of Chanukah, the Festival of Lights, adults and children dance and sing.

library watch

We've stocked up on materials to see you through this tax season. The library will provide limited copies of selected federal and Michigan tax forms.

We also carry the reproducible income and single-business tax form packet from the state of Michigan and the federal reproducible library kit. We maintain the Commerce Clearing House complete set of IRS forms. These photocopies are acceptable to both federal and state governments.

There are many other sources available to assist you in filing your returns. In addition to our Commerce Clearing House series with IRS publications for photocopying, we also have several copies of J.K. Lasser's "Your Income Tax" in our collection and four copies of the Tax Reform Act of 1986 on our business table. We are also able to provide you with phone numbers and addresses of tax assistance programs.

Beginning for the first time on Friday, Jan. 2, the Farmington Community Library will renew certain library materials by telephone for the convenience of its patrons. Patrons may call the circulation desk of either branch to renew hardcover books, paperbacks, records, cassettes, filmstrips and puppets.

When calling to take advantage of this new service, all that is necessary is to have available the library card on which the item was checked out and the barcode identification number that is affixed to the item or the item card.

Items that are overdue or have hold requests on them will not be renewable. Along with magazines, video cassettes, college catalogues, annual reports and information file materials.

THE LIBRARY has recently begun subscribing to several popular magazines on microfiche. Imagine having another in-house source to go to when the copy of Psychology Today you wanted to read is being used or missing. Some of the more popular publications the library will be receiving are the Wall Street Journal, Barron's, Consumer Reports, Forbes, Glamour and Motor Trend.

The cabinets for the new microfiche are next to the microfiche readers. To use the fiche, locate the drawer containing the desired magazine. Each magazine is contained in a white envelope and filed by date. When finished, simply put the fiche in the box on the cabinet.

Western/romance writer Marianne Willman will visit the Farmington Hills branch at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6. In 1984, Willman was nominated for a Golden Medallion Award for her book "Apache Tears." She will discuss writing, publishing and her recent book, "Pieces of Sky."

To help you with your tax return, the Farmington branch will host Roy Wagers, CPA, at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8. Wagers will address the 1986 tax reform bill and answer your questions.

Attention home computer owners: Kathie Fredericksen of Heath/Zenith Computers and Electronics in Farmington Hills would like to show you how to make the most of your home computer. She will discuss applications, as well as troubleshooting and routine maintenance, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 14 in the Farmington branch auditorium.

FIND OUT more about yourself and others through handwriting analysis. Jaqueline Haskin, professional handwriting analyst and certified member of the American Association of Handwriting Analysts, will share her expertise at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, at the Farmington Hills branch.

There will be a special meeting of the Michigan Depression Glass Society at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28 in the Farmington Hills branch auditorium. The history, origin and significance of Depression glass will be discussed. This special meeting is open to the public.

The Adult Popular Books discussion group will meet twice this month at 10 a.m. on Thursday mornings at the Farmington branch. The reading for Jan. 8 will be "Buying the Night Flight" by George Ann Geyer. On Jan. 22, the group will read "The Accidental Tourist" by Anne Tyler.

The Great Books discussion group

will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22. Join us for this month's reading, "Les Misérables" by Victor Hugo.

The Young-Adult Winter Baby-sitting series will begin this month at the Farmington Hills branch. The first session, on planning baby-sitting, will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13. Infant care will be highlighted at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 29. This series continues throughout February.

IF YOU are getting ready to graduate, the Farmington Hills branch has a series of programs to help get you through this exciting but confusing time. At 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 5, we will discuss options in financial aid and scholarships. Get tips on survival cooking and living on your own at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 19.

The Farmington branch is sponsoring the program "Talking With Teens About Sex" at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22. Diane Gruenberg, family life educator and specialist in adolescent sexuality, will discuss such topics as what teens are doing today, how to help teens deal with sexuality, teen pregnancy and the problem of misinformation. Teens and parents are welcome.

Registration for the first session of children's programs begins Friday, Jan. 9, at either branch. In-person registration begins at 10 a.m. with phone sign-up after noon. Programs include: Anamagic, Juba This and Juba That, The World Around Us, and Color Me a Rainbow. Open programs for children in January will be: Elephants-Smellephants, Fish is Fish, Animal Antics and Silly Seuss.

For more information on any library program or activity, call the Farmington branch at 474-7770 or the Farmington Hills branch at 553-0300.

Library watch is prepared by Lee Ann Hamel, program liaison for the Farmington Community Library. The Farmington Hills branch is at 32737 12 Mile, phone 553-0300. The Farmington branch is at 23350 Liberty, phone 474-7770. This column appears monthly.

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