

Dreidel House explains Hanukkah

'It's intended to provide an unusual and pleasant Hanukkah experience for Jewish children. It's designed so that children can feel wrapped up in Hanukkah.'

— Rabbi Chaim Bergstein

DREIDEL HOUSE, a Hanukkah fun booth for children prepared by volunteers, opened Wednesday at Hunters Square/Tally Hall in Farmington Hills.

"It's intended to provide an unusual and pleasant Hanukkah experience for Jewish children," said Rabbi Chaim Bergstein of Congregation Bais Chabad in Farmington Hills. "It's designed so that children can feel wrapped up in Hanukkah."

Shaped like a Hanukkah dreidel, the brightly colored booth features a

costumed Judah the Maccabee, explaining the significance of the Festival of Lights, which recounts the Jewish struggle for religious freedom.

Each youngster receives a Hanukkah Gift Pak, containing a dreidel, holiday flyers, candies, a charity box and two nickels.

"One nickel is for the child, the other is to be given to somebody else," Bergstein said. "They're to signify that the holiday is not just a time to enjoy yourself, but a time to share with others."

DREIDEL HOUSE visitors can play two video computer games to test their Hanukkah knowledge. They also can view a 25-minute, award-winning dramatic video presentation, "Lights."

"The video is presented in cartoon form and describes not only the struggle for religious freedom but what religious freedom meant," Bergstein said.

"It's a very, very refreshing approach," he added. "Everything lights up and ideas are very, very vividly expressed in a way that children can appreciate and understand."

Dreidel House hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Dec. 24. Admission is \$1. It's near the rear in Tally Hall, 14 Mile and Orchard Lake roads. The Hanukkah project is one of many sponsored and run by the Lubavitch Women's Organization, N'Shei Chabad, of Michigan.

THE MIRACLE OF Hanukkah took place in about 140 BCE, when King Antiochus IV decreed that a common Hellenic religion would rule the inhabitants of Palestine and that Judaism must be destroyed. Thousands of Jews were massacred; thousands of others assimilated.

In the city of Modin, Mattathias and four of his sons, descendants of the Jewish high priests, decided they would not surrender their religious heritage. When Antiochus' forces arrived at Modin, Mattathias and his son, Judah the Maccabee, led a rout of the king's troops and began their rebellion against the numerically su-

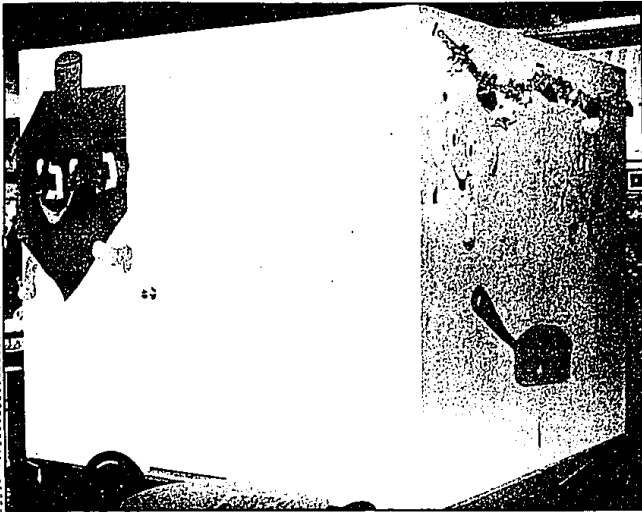
perior Syrian army and its Jewish collaborators.

About three years into the rebellion, the Jewish temple in Jerusalem was retaken. The Greek idols were removed, and the feast of Hanukkah began. But when the Maccabees prepared to once again light the temple's menorah, they realized they had only enough pure oil to last one night. Miraculously, the oil burned for eight days and nights, long enough for a new supply to arrive.

DURING THE persecution, Jews were forbidden to study their ancient

sacred teachings, in the Torah, but they continued to do so in caves and other secret places. If a Syrian patrol came close, the young scholars would swiftly conceal their books and take out spinning tops, in an attempt to deceive the authorities into believing they were only playing.

This explains the origin of the Hanukkah dreidel, a four-sided top with Hebrew letters on its sides used in a frivolous game of chance during Hanukkah. The top is spun, and wagers of small amounts of colorful candy are won or lost depending on how the dreidel lands.



BOB SKLAR/staff photographer

Dreidel House at Hunters Square/Tally Hall will be open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through Dec. 24.

Make mail priority

There is a fast way to mail Christmas packages that many last-minute shoppers may have overlooked, said Farmington postmaster Kenneth Harris.

Priority Mail affords First-Class handling for packages weighing over 12 ounces and up to 70 pounds. It's fast and consistent, offering next-day delivery up to 150 miles from the originating post office and deliv-

ery in three days anywhere in the United States.

Priority Mail can be sent from any post office, station or branch or through rural carriers to any address in the United States and even to foreign countries. The service is available with insurance, return receipts, COD, certificates of mailing and special delivery.

The Plymouth Inn

The Gracious Alternative

Someone you love is growing older and needs just a bit more support than he or she can get in their current living situation. A nursing home isn't the answer. Normal activities like eating and dressing aren't a problem. But you would be happier knowing someone was there to provide gentle encouragement and firm support when needed, in a non-institutional atmosphere.

The answer is The Plymouth Inn, a magnificent residence for seniors who want their independence but need some supervision as well. Consider some of the many advantages:

- Spacious mini-suites for those who desire extra comfort and privacy.
- Deluxe semi-private accommodations, richly appointed, with private lavatories and showers.

- Easily accessible via I-96 and I-275; only 30 minutes from both downtown Detroit and the northern suburbs, including Farmington Hills, Birmingham and West Bloomfield.

- Tranquil landscaped grounds and lovely common areas.
- Three delicious meals served in our central dining room by a friendly, attentive staff of professionals.

- Extensive, varied social programs and recreational opportunities.

- Game room, chapel, beauty parlor and lounges, all designed with the special needs of our residents in mind.

The Plymouth Inn welcomes your inspection visit. When you see what we have to offer we think you will agree that

The Plymouth Inn is a very special place where your loved one can feel secure, yet independent. We invite you to call today for an appointment.

(313) 451-0700
The Plymouth Inn
205 Haggerty Road
Plymouth, MI 48170



Douglas Furs Pre-Christmas Savings!



Exchange Privileges on Gifts & Complimentary Gift Wrap

SAVE 25% - 50%

NOW THROUGH CHRISTMAS

On this season's exciting collection of quality fur coats, jackets, strollers, fur hats, accessories & fur-trimmed leathers.

JACK Douglas Furs Ltd.
423 Pelham St.
(Opposite Pelham & 14 Mile)
1-519-377-0171

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat. 9-6
Sunday 12:30-4:30

Getting settled made simple.

New-town dilemmas fade after a WELCOME WAGON call.

As your hostess, it's my job to help you make the most of your new neighborhood. Our shopping areas. Community opportunities. Special attractions. Lots of facts to save you time and money. Plus a basket of gifts for your family. I'll be listening for your call.

Welcome Wagon



CALL

356-7720

**This Christmas Give A...
DOLL HOUSE**

• Victorian • Farmhouse • Colonial • Traditional • and More

Christmas Items Arriving Daily!

Everything In Miniature...
for children and collectors

A complete line of dollhouses, building materials, furniture and accessories.

Miniature Makers' Workshop

We Have Moved

4315 N. Woodward
(3 blocks S of 14 Mile)
Royal Oak
313-963-1111
Mon-Sat 10-5

Raydiance

"I'm Not A Wig!"

HAVE IT ALL!

Style in minutes
volume, length or color!

PATENTED OPEN NET BASE

Adds hair just where
its needed. Custom
colors to be blended
with your own hair.

BRUSH THROUGH TECHNIQUE

Secure and comfortable
(fit) generates lift,
fullness and style quickly.

FEATHER WEIGHT

For every day wear
great for active sports.

FASHION OR HAIR LOSS NEEDS!

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT FOR YOUR **FREE** CONSULTATION
NOW TWO LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU!

261-4456
32108 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, Michigan 48150

646-0002
280 N. Woodward • Great American Mall
Suite #2 Birmingham, MI 48012
(lower level)

HOURS: Monday-Friday 9:00-5:00

Livonia: SUNDAY 11-3

Evenings by Appointment

Birmingham: Saturday 11-3

