

The Family Chavurah

February 6, 2011

Volume 3, Issue 6



Closer to each other ...
Closer to G-d

**SAVE THESE
DATES!**

02/11—6:30pm
Shabbat Service
and Dinner

02/25—7:30pm
Shabbat Service
and Dessert

The Family Chavurah
9553 NW 42nd Court
Coral Springs, FL

Phone: 954-575-9243
info@familychavurah.com

Rabbi Alejandro Lilienthal
Sandra Lilienthal

Check our website:
www.familychavurah.com

IN THE MIDDLE EAST...

As I write these lines, many of us have checked the TV and computer screen, following the developments in the Arab world. The Arab people want freedom, we hear. A legitimate request, which hopefully will be accomplished in a positive way.

As often happens, all of a sudden we hear different leaders go public, saying they were the inspiration for Egypt's aspirations. A few days ago, Salam Fayyad, Prime Minister of the Palestinian Authority tried to convince the world that the uprising in Egypt was a consequence of the Palestinian struggles in the West Bank. One wonders when was the last time he was in Egypt...

Had it just been one claim of paternity, albeit an unlikely one, we could try to believe it. However, a few mornings later, the Supreme Religious Leader of Iran declared publicly that the Egyptian unrest was inspired by the Islamic Revolution. Had he been in Cairo lately?

The real fathers of historical moments are the ones who plan what they want to accomplish, study the situation carefully, and design a way to achieve the goals they envision. Jumping on the bandwagon does not make someone a leader, and certainly not a leader we can trust.

The situation in Egypt is difficult and the balance in the Middle East is precarious. Leaders that simply want to be part of headlines and take responsibility for historical processes they have not been involved in cannot be taken seriously. It is a time of concern for Israel and for all who envision a Middle East led by democracies and trustworthy leaders. We must hope that our government will know how to act in the best interest of the whole world at this time. Otherwise, things can only get worse. Just to end on a lighter note, I am sure many of you have already heard the message received by Egyptian authorities in the last few days:

Dear Egyptians,
Please don't ruin the pyramids.
We will not rebuild.
Sincerely,
The Jews

Rabbi Alejandro Lilienthal

ROSH CHODESH NEWS



Close to a month ago, the Jewish world lost one of the most influential names in modern prayer: Debbie Friedman. Debbie was the one who opened the way for so many talented names, such as Beth Schaffer, Julie Silver, Sam Glaser, Steve Dropkin, etc. At our last meeting this past week, we paid tribute to Debbie. We discussed her life and her work, and how she changed the concept of G-d in non-traditional settings, bringing spirituality back into our vocabulary. Debbie will be missed by all of us who knew her personally and all who learned so much about Judaism and prayer through her songs. May we find the courage to make our lives a blessing, like Debbie urged us to do in her Mi Sheberach.

Mark your calendars for our next Rosh Chodesh meeting and brunch: Sunday, March 6th, at 10am sharp!

YOUR OPINION COUNTS!

The world has changed a lot in the past few years. We have resisted some of these changes, mainly the ones that promote virtual contact as opposed to personal contact. A community needs to meet in person, to become a family, and not simply to text, tweet and blog. With that said, though, we have had members asking us to have a facebook page, to be on twitter and to have a blog. Before we proceed, we would like to know how many of you would be interested in something like this. We see advantages and disadvantages of using these tools, so we want to know what the majority of you would want.



Another area in which we want to hear you: did you like the second Shabbat a month starting a little later followed by dessert? Would you prefer a different format? If so, which?

Please send us an email (Sandra@familychavurah.com) or give us a call, and make your voice heard! This is your community, your Family!

THANK YOU!

- To all the women who brought fruit, hummus, chips and flowers to our Rosh Chodesh meeting!
- To Lisa Siegel, The Shermans, Aunt Bessie, the Myers, Marvin and Barbara Fellner, and the Mkams for their generous donations to the Family Chavurah!

תודה

If we inadvertently forgot to thank you, please know you are thanked!

We really appreciate your support!

JOIN THE TORAH TEENS AND JDRF!

On Sunday, February 27th, the Torah Teens will lead us on the “sneaker stroll” benefitting the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. The walk will happen from 3:00 to 5:00 pm at Terramar Park in Parkland. One of our members, Tara Hoffmann, 15 years old, has diabetes type 1, and her family is an important force behind this event, together with Mrs. Nina Benaroch.

You may sign up online to walk with us (PLEASE DO—the link is below!), but there are also other ways in which you can help. Tell all your friends about it, put it on your Facebook page.

<http://jdrfevents.donordrive.com/event/jdrfsneakerstrollterrampark/>

We are also selling adorable sneaker key chains to raise money for JDRF: one key chain sells for \$3 and two for \$5. They are selling like hotcakes! It is the new craze amongst teenagers. If you would like to buy one or more, please contact Cheryl Hoffmann (Photoconfetion2@aol.com), Nina Benaroch (benabeads@gmail.com), or Sandra Lilienthal (Sandra@fmailychavurah.com).

WALK WITH US!



BUY A KEY CHAIN!



REMEMBER OUR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT CARDS!

The Family Chavurah can now deliver your feelings and wishes to your friends. Acknowledgement cards can be sent in memory of someone who has recently passed away or someone whose yahrtzeit is being commemorated, or in honor of a birthday, birth, graduation, recovery from illness, or any other celebration you wish to acknowledge. \$5 or more supports the Family Chavurah's work and shows your friends you care! You just give us the information and we will prepare and mail the cards out.



For more information, or to buy Acknowledgement Cards, please contact Sheila Holtzman at (954) 344-9680 or Greniblond@aol.com, or Sandra Lilienthal at Sandra@familychavurah.com.

BIRTHDAYS AND YAHRTZEITS



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR
FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:**

February 1st—Lee Weinraub
February 2nd—Yael Lilienthal
February 10th—Sydney Struck
February 15th—Rebecca Greenberg
February 23rd—Marvin Kaleky

May you live to be 120!



**MAY THEIR MEMORIES
ALWAYS BE A BLESSING:**

5th of Adar I — Salomon Benaroch
8th of Adar—Molly Backhaut
11th of Adar—Irving Roth
21st of Adar I—Milton Trachtenberg
25th of Adar—Shifra Richman
29th of Adar—Lena Rosenberg
29th of Adar—Gladys C. Weissman
They will live forever in our hearts.

Since this is a leap year in the Jewish calendar, we will have two months of Adar. If someone passed away on Adar in a non-leap year, there are different customs as to when to light the yahrtzeit candle. Some people light it on the first month, some on the second, some on both. If you need any clarification, please feel free to call the Rabbi (954) 270-6637 or Sandra (954) 270-3203.