

MIXED MEDIA

HOW BENJY GOT HIS BADGE*Rochester, New York*

When **Benjy Spanjer** was ready to advance to Eagle Scout, the seventh and highest rank of Boy Scouts, he hit upon an idea. Why not gain his badge by helping his local Jewish community? Working with Rabbi **Dovid Mochkin** of the Kessler Family Chabad Center in Rochester, Benjy led a movement to convert Chabad's local men's mikvah into one that was usable for utensils as well. Now, the community can purify their dishes for use without having to travel far. And Benjy got his badge.

WORTH THE WAIT*Calgary, Canada*

Hundreds of Alberta's 9,000 Jews recently celebrated the opening of Calgary's newly completed Chabad center. The 13,500-square foot Calgary campus gives Rabbi **Menachem** and **Rochel Leah Matusof**, founders and directors of Chabad of Calgary, twice as much as space as they had until now, to do even more of what they've been doing since 1986. Set on two acres of land, the new space includes a synagogue, social hall, the Alberta Jewish Library, a youth center, classrooms, office space, and a kosher kitchen. It will also host the local Friendship Circle chapter, as well as Camp Gan Israel children's day camp.

**DOUBLE THE SIZE, DOUBLE THE FUN***Cherry Hill, New Jersey*

In 1993, Rabbi **Mendy Mangel** and his wife **Dinie** began their Chabad in a humble storefront. A decade later, they moved to a larger center, and now, to accommodate the crowds that flock in for prayer services, Hebrew School, and adult classes, Chabad is again expanding, doubling the size at its current location. The June groundbreaking came on the heels of a fundraising campaign that raised \$1.2 million.

GRIDLEY'S GOES CHABAD*Fountain Hills, Arizona*

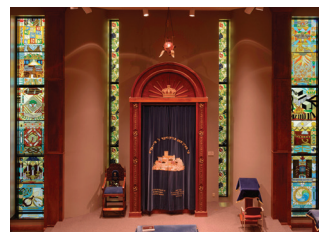
Gridley's, one of the oldest retail stores in Fountain Hills, will soon become Chabad of Fountain Hills' new digs.

Renovation of the 4,500-square foot space is set to begin this summer. Fountain Hills' 100 Jewish families, among them volunteers who worked alongside their Chabad reps, Rabbi **Mendy** and **Tzipi Lipskier**, are raising more than \$300,000 on-line toward the \$750,000 tab and hope to move into their new place this December.

**TIME TO PLAY BALL***Tempe, Arizona*

The brainchild of a student and the funding of a donor give Arizona State University's 3,500 Jewish students a new state-of-the-art sports and entertainment space. In addition to volleyball courts, the formerly unused Chabad center's backyard boasts an outdoor fire pit, barbecue and patio seating area, as well as a mist cooling system that allows students to enjoy the large outdoor movie screen and surround-sound systems whatever the weather.

Nicole Taylor, deputy vice president and dean of students at ASU is delighted. "It will expand opportunities for the Sun Devils [ASU's varsity teams] to participate in Jewish cultural events and strengthen ties among Jewish students and nearby Jewish organizations, fostering an even stronger sense of community."

**SEE THE LIGHT***Mequon, Wisconsin*

At Chabad of Mequon, you can learn a whole lot by just looking at the windows. Artist **Inbal Newman** worked with Chabad to create a series of stained glass windows in their local Peltz Center for Jewish Life. Dubbed "Windows to Redemption," they were unveiled at the Chabad's annual dinner and feature the Lubavitcher Rebbe's "Ten Mitzvahs" campaign.

DAY CARE CENTER GROWS UP*Short Hills, New Jersey*

Serving the community for twenty-two years, Chabad of Short Hills broke ground this summer on a \$3.5 million upgrade. Set on 4.2 acres, the 20,000-square foot day care center will be repurposed, say Chabad leaders Rabbi **Mendel** and **Chana Devora Solomon**, the better to serve the town's 160+ families.

A CHURCH CONVERSION*Frederick, Maryland*

Mazel Tov! A local church has undergone a conversion. Rabbi **Boruch** and **Frumy Labkowski** had been using rented spaces and working out of their home to host services, classes and Jewish community events. The recent \$335,000 purchase of the church, which has been renovated and is now in use, gives Chabad of Frederick, MD, room to breathe.

