

copy Marc  
cc - Andrew

# CHABAD HOUSE - LUBAVITCH, INC.



170 COLLEGE AVE ♦ NEW BRUNSWICK ♦ NJ ♦ 08901 ♦ 732 296-1800 ♦ FAX 732 828-6890 ♦ www.chabadnj.org

October 20, 2009

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5 SENIOR STREET  
NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08901

CHABAD OF EAST BRUNSWICK  
19 BEACON HILL DR.  
EAST BRUNSWICK, NJ 08816

CHABAD HOUSE OF MANALAPAN  
26 WICKATUNK ROAD  
MANALAPAN, NJ 07726

CHABAD OF NORTH & SOUTH BRUNSWICK  
4199 ROUTE 27  
SOUTH BRUNSWICK, NJ 08540

CHABAD OF THE SHORE - MONMOUTH  
628 OCEAN AVE  
LONG BRANCH, NJ 07740

CHABAD OF MONROE TOWNSHIP  
4 KELLY COURT  
MONROE TOWNSHIP, NJ 08831

CHABAD OF GREATER MONMOUTH COUNTY  
CONGREGATION SONS OF ISRAEL  
4 VIOLET DRIVE  
OCEAN, NJ 07712

CHABAD OF HOLMDEL  
P.O. BOX 10  
HOLMDEL, NJ 07731

The Honorable William F. Larkin  
Township of Ocean  
399 Monmouth Road  
Oakhurst, NJ 07755

My dear Mayor Larkin:

I hope this letter finds you in good health and spirits. I am writing to you respectfully requesting your cooperation in the placement of a Menorah display in honor of the holiday of Chanukah in Ocean Township.

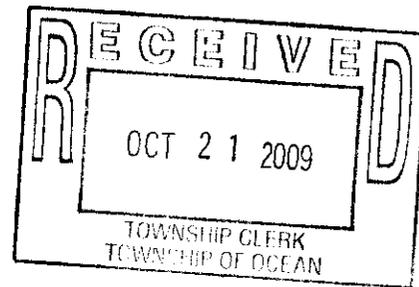
We propose to set up an electric Menorah at the Township Borough Hall during the Chanukah Holiday of 2009. This year's Chanukah Holiday begins on the evening of December 11<sup>th</sup> and runs through December 19<sup>th</sup>. The Menorah could either stand for the duration of Chanukah or, if you wish, it could remain for the entire holiday season and be an added addition to the holiday lights. The Menorah, including the platform is approximately 8-ft. tall and 5-ft. wide and hold one central bulb and eight smaller bulbs. Each night of the holiday, one additional bulb would be turned on.

During the course of the Chanukah Festival, we would like to sponsor a one-hour program and arrange for a community wide candle lighting ceremony, to which all are invited, regardless of background or race.

Chanukah, the "Festival of Lights", is a celebration of a great miracle – the victory of a small, beleaguered Jewish nation over its powerful oppressors. In lighting the Menorah, we rejoice in the triumph of freedom over tyranny, good over evil, right over might, and light over darkness. The Menorah proclaims to all that through our dedication and devotion, the light of goodness and freedom can never be obscured, that darkness will ultimately be banished forever.

Since the late 1980's Menorahs have become common throughout the United States, including the White House, The State House in Trenton, the New Jersey Turnpike, the Garden State Parkway, and more than 100 public locations in New Jersey.

Should you wish, either myself or a representative of our organization could meet in person to explain more about the purpose and details of this proposal.



CHABAD HOUSE LUBAVITCH

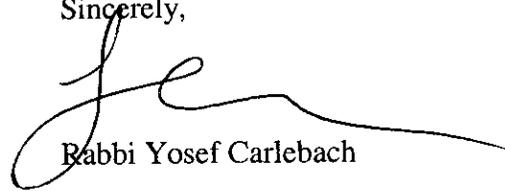
THE LES TURCHIN CHABAD HOUSE

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The large Jewish population in Ocean Township will derive much pleasure and enjoyment from the Menorah. At the same time, I am sure that the wider community will appreciate the broader concept of religious freedom and cultural expression which is represented in the Menorah. Thus, the Menorah will truly enhance and add to the spirit of peace and harmony, which makes Ocean Township so special.

Looking forward to working with you to make this holiday season a most meaningful one for all of us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Yosef Carlebach', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the printed name.

Rabbi Yosef Carlebach

RYC:lr

Andrew  
Please read  
I was  
with  
article  
published  
at 18  
in  
Sandy  
E.A.P.P.

Maria  
Sullivan



### Christmas Tree isn't 'holiday tree'

In reference to the recent article "Holiday tree sought for display in Red Bank," here we go again.

Every December, Christians decorate with a tree that represents the holy Trinity. Does the Jewish religion historically celebrate Hanukkah with a tree? Is an evergreen tree indicated as a symbolic representation of Kwanzaa?

To my knowledge there are no other religious groups that use an evergreen tree as a religious symbol in December. OK, so let's all just stop being worried about offending people and call the tree what it is: a Christmas tree!

I am offended that I am expected to tiptoe around the word "Christmas" every season because someone may not celebrate my favorite religious holiday of the year. I have friends who are Jewish and African-American who also feel this is ridiculous bigotry.

Let's stop worrying about the few ignorant people who may choose to make an uproar, and enjoy our holiday season with the freedom to enjoy our respected religions. Isn't that what this country was founded for? All this ado about Christmas is creating bigotry, not unity.

If people continue to call a Christmas tree a "holiday tree," it is only fair to call the Hanukkah and Kwanzaa symbols "holiday candlesticks!"

That said, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanzaa and Happy Whatever-One-May-Choose-To-Celebrate-Or-Not. Let's all be happy this year, and celebrate our American freedom to do so.

Holly Higgins  
COLTS NECK

Oct 18 2009

va  
VN