Havurat Tikvah Teens: Proud to be "MIA"

Most parents might be concerned to hear teens describing themselves as "MIA." At Havurat Tikvah, "MIA" has an entirely different and happy connotation. Organized for and run by our teens, "Mitzvahs In Action" is rapidly developing a program of interesting activities and projects to serve the community while providing a fun opportunity for social interaction. "MIA" teens were present at this year's Purim Carnival, manning a booth and volunteering to enhance the festivities for families gathered to celebrate the holiday. Another recent activity found members of the group brightening the day for Carriage Club residents who were lucky enough to sample some of their home-baked challah. What's on the horizon? Look for a screenprinting project to create the group's signature t-shirt. To learn more about "MIA," or any of the activities listed below, look to the end of this article for all our contact information.

This month's Community Shabbat service will begin at 10 AM on May 21. We'll gather to take a break from the hectic routine of the week, to worship together, and to be part of the Havurah "family." As always, services will be followed by a potluck lunch and an opportunity to

relax with friends and new acquaintances over a kosher/pareve meal.

We've also recently expanded our religious programming to include a 2nd Wednesday monthly Minyan. The Minyan for this month will be held on May 11 at 7:30 and will be followed by coffee and a little nosh.

In addition to services, we are always happy to invite participation in ongoing mitzvah activities:

The Dilworth Soup Kitchen continues to provide nourishing meals and a warm welcome to those in need. Visit the kitchen on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ group.php?gid=77134194660 for more information about this vibrant community resource. And helping hands are welcome at "Project Linus" where Havurah members and friends meet to produce hand-made "security-blankets" for children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need. We welcome all willing hands; no experience is necessary and there's a job for everyone.

Havurat Tikvah is an affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation, providing a comfortable, family atmosphere where all Jews can feel welcome. Our Sunday School, with its exciting curriculum and opportunities for B'nai Mitzvah preparation, is





Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

open to Havurat Tikvah member families. We invite you to visit, get to know us, and become part of our growing congregation of nearly 60 households.

For an updated calendar or to find out more about Havurat Tikvah, specific event locations, worship services, Sunday School program, and community activities - please visit our website at www.havurattikvah.org or contact new member chair, Brian Feinglass, at bcfein1@gmail.com or at 1-877-203-5848. \$\sigma\$

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Grand Lag B'omer Fun Day on Sunday May 22 at Col. Francis Beatty Park in Charlotte

Lag B'omer is a day of bon fires and outdoor fun in Israel as people throughout the country celebrate the life of Rabbi Akiva's students and his prime disciple, Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai. Lag B'omer is the day that breaks the period of mourning between Passover and Shavuot and is a day reserved for fun, games and barbeque.



Here in Charlotte there will be the recreation of the incredible experience that Israelis are used to, with a grand Lag B'omer festival and fun day for children and adults on Sunday, May 22.

There will be lively Jewish/ Israeli music in the tradition of Lag B'omer followed by an extensive and delicious Kosher barbeque, accompanied by a variety



of salads and cold drinks.

The fun will include party inflatables and plenty of fun and games for children of all ages. In addition, the park provides lots of outdoor opportunities which will add to the fun of the day.

The event is being co-sponsored by Lubavitch of North Carolina and Chabad of Ballantyne. It is open to the entire Jewish community will be held at Col. Francis Beatty Park, located at 4330 Weddington Rd., Matthews, NC 28105.. The festivities will begin at 5 PM.

The food, fun, and entertainment will be outdoors, therefore participants are encouraged to bring blankets or beach chairs. Cost for the event is \$12 per person or \$45 for a family of four and up.

For reservations and more information please contact either Brenda at Lubavitch of North Carolina, 704-366-3984 or Brenda@Chabadnc.org or Leah Levin at Chabad of Ballantyne, 704-246-8881 or Leah@Jewish Ballantyne.com. \$\pi\$



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