



JEWISHRICEU

CHABAD JEWISH STUDENT CENTER | SERVING RICE UNIVERSITY

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Action to Campus

6

JEWISH STUDENTS SPEARHEAD
THE FIRST EVER MITZVAH MARATHON
AT RICE UNIVERSITY



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B.I.O.N.I.H.S.

Believe It Or Not
It Happened Shabbat

PICTURES

A Semester
In Review

SENIORS SPEAK

After Four Years The
Graduates Know It All



MITZVAH MARATHON





CHILLIN'



PIZZA AND PARSHA



PASSOVER FUN FACTS:
MA NISHTANA RECITED
IN 12 LANGUAGES
159 MEALS SERVED
30 LB CRUNCHY MATZAH
387 OZ OF GRAPE JUICE



TEXAS SHABBATON



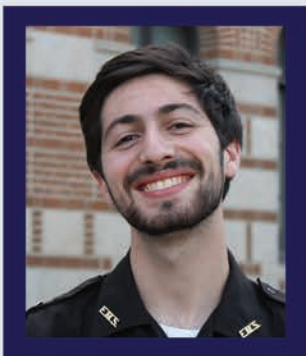
WELCOME CHABBO



DIY HAMANTASH

SENIORS SPEAK

After 4 years the graduates know it all!
We asked some of our graduates to share their thoughts, feelings and hard earned wisdom:



Name: Will Letchinger

Major: Architecture

Future Plans: Going on preceptorship, then returning to Rice

How has Rice impacted your Jewish identity? Rice was not that different than my high school, but coming here I did lose an element of community that I had at home. Actively being Jewish became something I had to seek out on my own, and could fall to the wayside when I became busy or distracted. Chabad helped me stay connected by providing me with that community, and offering it in a non-judgement, non-binding way. I always felt welcome and never burdened by Chabad - If I wanted

to come for dinner or meet for coffee it was easy and simple.

The most important lesson I learned in college: Yourself and your own well-being must come first. We are here to work ourselves and learn, but not to let the important things fall to the wayside.

Advice from the experienced: Jewish life at Rice can be tricky. I found that the easiest way to stay connected to my identity was to rely on the one element that I love most about Judaism - community. Seek out other Jews in your college. Make the effort to discuss Judaism with them and with your other friends. Do not let this be something at the back of your personality - you're talking to future world leaders here.



Name: Jeremy Reiskind

Major: Sports Management

Future Plans: Graduate School at Ohio University

How has Rice impacted your Jewish identity? My time at Rice has just allowed me to continue practicing being Jewish and hanging around other Jews. Chabad gave me another Jewish home to continue practicing my Judaism.

Chabad is: A place where I can feel proud to be Jewish and surround myself with other Jews.

Advice from the experienced: Jewish life at Rice is what you make it.

There is no right or wrong answer, but the community is only going to be as strong as you want it to be. We have all the resources to make a strong Jewish community, it's up to the students to take advantage of those resources. Don't take it for granted, because later in life you might not have the Jewish community you have at Rice.



Name: Annie Nordhauser

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Future Plans: Working for Schlumberger as a Field Engineer

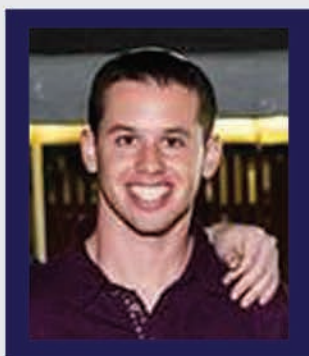
How has Rice impacted your Jewish identity? I loved being able to spend Friday nights with my Jewish friends in a peaceful and welcoming environment. Chabad is always there to help facilitate Jewish friendships and learning.

My favorite Jewish experience at Rice: making Jewish friends

The most important lesson I learned in college: to always have a plan but making sure to be flexible in those plans

The most important lesson I learned from my parents: there's always a bright side

Advice from the experienced: I think it's super important to stand up for your friends and be there for support. It's always important to ask questions, listen, and learn more about other people so you can grow greater connections.



Name: Yosef Presburger

Major: Kinesiology

Future Plans: AmeriCorps, then graduate school

How has Rice impacted your Jewish identity? My time at Rice has taught me that no matter how busy my schedule is, there is always a little time every day to feel connected to my Jewish identity and to do something about it. I have learned that it is important to seek out ways to engage with the Jewish community and that these don't have to be big and elaborate, little things matter a lot.

Chabad is: doing Jewish joyfully :)

My favorite Jewish experience at Rice: When "pizza and parsha" became "pasta and parsha." All the different people that I've met these last four years, the conversations we've had, and the friends that I have made here are something that I will take with me once I graduate.

The most important lesson I learned in college: It is important to get back up when life knocks you down- or when Shmuli beats you at inflatable gladiator jousting.

Advice from the experienced: Don't wait to reach out to the Jewish community. Be proactive and seek out fun activities, make new friends, interesting courses, and find what works for you.



MITZVAH MARATHON BRINGS POSITIVE ACTION TO CAMPUS

by Rebecca Topper '20

In an effort to spread some much-needed positive action in the midst of the negativity that has recently manifested in the country and even at our university, a committee from Chabad at Rice formed to plan the First Annual Mitzvah Marathon. The full-day "Good Deeds Drive" took place on April 6, with a tent in the Central Quad visited by around 1000 students, faculty, and community members. The mission of our event was simple - we encouraged people to commit good deeds, however small, which would help spread positivity around campus, if not farther. Throughout the day, as students, faculty, and community members took part in many diverse mitzvot, we filled a board with stars to represent the diversity of the good deeds and the diffusion of their impact. But we didn't just develop a feeling of enthusiasm and positivity, we backed our mission with concrete actions: by the end of the marathon we'd donated around 150 cans to the Houston Food Bank, an estimated 200 sandwiches to the Emergency Aid Coalition, \$880 worth of school supplies to refugee students, 75 cards to Texas Children's Hospital. We also performed tens of Jewish mitzvot, including Shabbat candles and Tefilin. Any small deed can make a large impact, especially when working as a community. The event shirts which can now be seen on any given day around campus really do embody our vision, with the phrase: "A little light dispels much darkness."

Special thanks to the Mitzvah Marathon steering committee: Abby Shulman, Gary Dreyer, Jesse Liebman, Manuel Croitoru, Rebecca Topper and Rose Kantorczyk.



GET INVOLVED!

You can make a difference.

What goes on at Chabad is really all thanks to **you** and our entire Jewish-Rice-U family.

The support, advice, and contributions of the many parents, alumni and friends is what makes what we do possible!

Together with us, **you can impact lives**, and create the Jewish leaders of **today!**

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www.JewishRiceU.com

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, IT HAPPENED SHABBAT

- 🤖 When we met Rebecca's grandparents and found out that they were masters of Hanszen from 1973-78!
- 😬 When we had guests over and Annie had washed her hands so she couldn't talk, and the guests asked her three direct questions in a row that she just shook her head.
- 😎 When we had Shabbat with directors of the Baker Institute, Vice Provost and head of Boniuk, super high profile!
- 🙄 When we met the 'doctor of generations' who delivered Nechama, all her siblings and Moussia!
- 🤪 When four people coordinated picking up their bowls to finish off their soup, attempting to be inconspicuous!
- 🥳 When Shabbat dinner turned into a giggle fest!