



Westgate City Center to Host First-Ever Chanukah Menorah Lighting

Community-Wide Event in Partnership With Chabad of the West Valley

(GLENDALE, ARIZ., November 12, 2010) – [Westgate City Center](#), in partnership with [Chabad of the West Valley](#), is thrilled to announce a first-ever Grand Menorah Lighting in Fountain Park Thursday, December 2, 2010 at 5:30 pm. The family friendly event will feature the lighting of a giant menorah as well as live Jewish music from the “Jews Brothers” and traditional holiday foods including donuts and latkes.

"Chanukah is a time for celebrating our Jewish values, and the menorah lighting is our pinnacle symbol of faith this time of year," said Rabbi Sholom Lew, Director, Chabad of the West Valley. "We appreciate Westgate's eagerness to embrace a comprehensive holiday spirit with a Chanukah program that represents unity, light and joy for the entire West Valley Jewish Community."

For the Jewish religion, Hanukkah marks the victory of the Jews against Greek persecution and religious oppression some 21 centuries ago. The menorah lighting is symbolic of the oil found in the Holy Temple in Jerusalem following that victory. The small supply of oil burned for the eight days, the time needed to consecrate new oil for the tabernacle. The eight-day nightly menorah lighting is the heart of Hanukkah, with one candle lit on the first night, two on the second night and so forth until all eight candles are lit.

"It's our desire that our holiday programming, and Westgate City Center as a whole, fully represents people of all beliefs," said Nicole Traynor, Westgate City Center. "It's exciting for us to provide the backdrop to such a meaningful and symbolic event, and we invite people of all faiths to attend not only this menorah lighting, but our entire December line-up of wide-ranging holiday programs."

As part of the Chanukah outreach campaign, Chabad of the West Valley joins thousands of Chabad Centers around the world that stage similar public displays of the menorah and its symbolic lights. From Australia to Africa, Columbia to Hong Kong, New York City's Ground Zero to the White House Lawn, hundreds of thousands will experience the joy of Chanukah with Chabad.

Each guest at the menorah lighting will be entered into a grand raffle, with dreidels and gelt for the kids. The event will also include holiday crafts, balloon art and face painting.

For more information, contact Chabad of the West Valley 602.375.2422 or [iChabad.org](#). For a full line-up of holiday programming at Westgate, visit [westgatecitycenter.com](#).

###

CHABAD CONTACT: Rabbi Sholom Lew, 602.375.2422

WESTGATE CONTACT: Nicole Traynor, 602.363.2298 or ntraynor@ellmanco.com