

SPARKS

CHABAD of GREENSBORO | JUNE 2025 | SIVAN 5785



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Dear Community Member,

We invite you to join us for a **Torah dedication ceremony** in memory of our beloved son, Shneur on June 24th, marking his first yahrtzeit. This meaningful occasion will bring comfort and joy as we honor his legacy through the sacred tradition of a Torah dedication.

The ceremony will take place at **Chabad on June 24 at 3:30 PM**. We will share memories and stories about our son Shneur's life, and your presence would mean a great deal to us.

This Torah dedication will serve as a lasting tribute to his memory, and we would be honored if you could join us to celebrate his life.

We look forward to sharing this special occasion with you.

With love and appreciation,

Rabbi Yosef & Hindy Plotkin
Co-Directors

FLYING HIGH ON PURIM

At Chabad of Greensboro, a series of Purim celebrations targeting different segments of the community began early and continued until the final moments of the holiday.

The Friendship Circle family—which includes people with special needs and teen volunteers—gathered for a celebration of their own. Activities included a giant life-sized board game and various fun stations. At the “bakery,” they rolled, filled, and baked hamantashen; at the “salon,” they could have their faces painted; and the “grocery” was stocked with food items to prepare mishloach manot packages.

Just a few weeks later, they gathered again for a pre-Passover activity that involved crafting stained-glass Seder plates and baking their own matzahs.

On another evening, over 50 women rolled, filled,



pinched, and shaped elegant hamantashen, which they then arranged artfully on charcuterie boards.

“I thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon baking in the company of other Jewish women,” said

Jackie Hirschhaut, who attended the event. “Baking is an act of love and a wonderful way to form bonds with women like myself.”

On Purim eve, young people from across the region gathered for a Megillah reading, followed by mixed drinks and a taco bar.

For families, the highlight was Purim in the Air, which featured Purim-related “inflight entertainment,” “flight attendants” serving Purim goodies and drinks, an airplane-themed dinner, Purim dancing, and enough activities to keep kids engaged for the duration of the “flight.”

RECIPE MATBUCHA

INGREDIENTS:

- 6- 28 oz. cans diced tomatoes
- 3 jalapeño, (sliced)
- 2 reg tomatoes (cubed)
- 14 cloves garlic (minced)
- ¾ can tomato paste
- 1 heaping tbsp crushed red peppers
- 2 heaping tbsp paprika
- 2 heaping tbsp salt

DIRECTIONS:

In a medium saucepan, combine diced tomatoes, jalapeño, regular tomatoes, garlic, tomato paste, crushed red pepper, paprika and salt. Bring to a simmer over medium high heat.

Reduce heat to around medium low, until the matbucha is cooking at a medium and constant simmer. Monitor the temperature of the matbucha, stirring every ten minutes to make sure it doesn't start to stick to the bottom of the pan. Let the mixture cook for 65-75 minutes until most of the liquid has reduced and cooked down.

A big recipe? It freezes great!



PASSOVER HIGHLIGHTS

In advance of Passover, an army of Chabad of Greensboro members drove around town delivering handmade Shmurah Matzah to every known Jewish household, ensuring everyone could celebrate the holiday in the best possible manner.

Evoking the righteous women whom Miriam led in song and dance following the Exodus, many women from the Greensboro Chabad community came together for an invigorating pre-Passover Zumba session, a fitness regimen that combines cardio and Latin-inspired dance.

During a break in the dancing, Rebbetzin Hindy Plotkin discussed breaking out of our (self-imposed) limitations, a central theme of leaving Egypt, whose Hebrew name (Mitzrayim) means “boundaries.” The event concluded with a lavish açai bar and plenty of socializing among new and old friends.

According to Chabad Member **Glenda Bernhardt**, who attended the event, it was a welcome opportunity to

combine movement, spiritual growth, and socialization.

On Seder night, more than 80 people, from toddlers to seniors, gathered for a giant family-style Seder. The commentary was meaningful, the tunes were lively, and the food—prepared by Rebbetzin Plotkin—was tasty and fresh.

Highlights included a royal visit from “Pharaoh,” the 10 Plagues coming to life, and other memories to last a lifetime. Like every year, the climax for many was when Rabbi Plotkin belted out the entire litany of “Who Knows One” in a single breath.

The Young Professional community gathered for a French fry bar, featuring an array of kosher-for-Passover fries, and guided painting of the Splitting of the Sea.

Families with children came together for a family-friendly Passover celebration at Lindley Park, which featured a BMX show and concluded with a baseball game.



SAY IT IN YIDDISH!

A group of Chabad Members wished to connect to Yiddish, the traditional language of Ashkenazi Jewry, and asked Rebbetzin Hindy Plotkin to lead a regular Yiddish class.

Many participants, with varying degrees of proficiency, say it transports them to their childhood, when they heard the language spoken by their parents or grandparents.

Holocaust survivor **Shelly Weiner** spoke the language in Europe before the destruction of her community 80 years ago and enjoys conversing once again in the language of her youth. For others, this is their first dose of exposure to the language and a connection to ancestors they’ve never

met.

In the pre-Passover session, participants practiced saying the

Four Questions in the traditional Yiddish sing-song and sang “Who Knows One” in Yiddish as well.

“What a pleasure to speak and hear the language of my childhood,” says Chabad Member **Sue Stevens**. “There is nothing like Yiddish to awaken the Yiddishe neshamah (Jewish soul)!”

The Yiddish Class meets every third Thursday. For scheduling, please call Hindy at 336.423.3049.









Pre-Rosh Hashanah

MEGA CHALLAH Bake

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
6:30 PM



Chabad of Greensboro
5203 West Friendly Ave
Greensboro, NC 27410
Return address requested

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CAMP GAN ISRAEL GREENSBORO TAKES A TRIP TO THE HOLY LAND



WEEK 1	JUNE 23 Welcome!	JUNE 24 BOWLING	JUNE 25 GLOW IN THE DARK SOCCER	JUNE 26 TOPGOLF (OLDER) CORE GYMNASTICS (YOUNGER)	JUNE 27 ARMY DAY
WEEK 2	JUNE 30 ICE T-SHIRT CHALLENGE	JULY 1 SAFARI NATION (YOUNGER) RUCKUS ROCK CLIMBING (OLDER)	JULY 2 BAKE SALE	JULY 3 ROLLER SKATING	JULY 4 GIANT WATER SLIDE RED, WHITE, BLUE DAY
WEEK 3	JULY 7 CGI PILLOWS	JULY 8 SKYZONE	JULY 9 PREPARE FOR CGI DINNER	JULY 10 GREENSBORO SCIENCE CENTER (YOUNGER) FLYWAY ZIPLINE (OLDER)	JULY 11 CRAZY HAIR DAY CGI SHABBAT DINNER
WEEK 4	JULY 14 TRIP TO THE HOLY LAND	JULY 15 Celebration Station CELEBRATION STATION	JULY 16 AROUND TOWN	JULY 17 WE ROCK THE SPECTRUM (YOUNGER) LEVEL UP (OLDER)	JULY 18 TWIN DAY
WEEK 5	JULY 21 COOKOFF	JULY 22 WET & WILD	JULY 23 CGI FAREWELL BBQ PICTURE COLLAGES	JULY 24 NIDO & MARIANA QUEBEN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM	JULY 25 TOPSY TURVY DAY
WEEK 6	AUG 11 SLIME WORKSHOP	AUG 12 URBAN AIR	AUG 13 MIZVAH FAIR	AUG 14 ICE SKATING	AUG 15 COUNTDOWN TO CGI 2026
BONUS WEEK					

MONDAY ★ ELECTIVES 🏊 SWIMMING 🏈 SPORTS TUESDAY 🗺️ TRIP DAY CGI SHIRTS
WEDNESDAY 🌊 WATER PARK 🤸 GYMNASTICS THURSDAY 🗺️ TRIP DAY CGI SHIRTS
FRIDAY 🥞 CHALLAH BAKING 🍷 SHABBAT PARTY 🏊 SWIMMING 🏈 SPORTS 🎭 DRESS UP DAY



CAMP GAN ISRAEL OF GREENSBORO | CHABADGREENSBORO.COM/CGI | 336-617-8120

*CALENDAR SUBJECT TO CHANGE