



# Chabad of Contra Costa

PROGRAM GUIDE

5777 • 2016/2017



Dear Friends,

We are delighted to present you with a comprehensive Program Guide of our educational offerings and cultural activities for the coming year of 5777 / 2016-2017.

Our programs include a wide variety of Holiday events, Shabbat dinners, youth programs, adult education courses, classes, lectures, workshops, films, social and cultural activities, one or more of which are sure to appeal to you.

At Chabad of Contra Costa it is our mission to provide an enriching Jewish experience to people from all backgrounds and at every level. We strive to infuse Jewish culture, practice and observance with excitement, joy, spirit, purpose and meaning.

We encourage you to become acquainted with our new and exciting programs, services, events and activities listed in this guide and to join us for the wonderful experience they will offer.

As the Jewish New Year approaches, we wish you and your family a happy, healthy and sweet new year, a year of learning and growth and a year of reaching and attaining all your goals and dreams.

Looking forward to greeting you.

Sincerely,  
Rabbi Dovber & Chaya Berkowitz  
DIRECTORS, CHABAD OF CONTRA COSTA



## Chabad of Contra Costa

1671 Newell Ave. Walnut Creek, California

Visit us on the web: [www.JewishContraCosta.com](http://www.JewishContraCosta.com)

Phone: 925.937.4101 E-mail: [JLI@JewishContraCosta.com](mailto:JLI@JewishContraCosta.com)

or [Chaya@JewishContraCosta.com](mailto:Chaya@JewishContraCosta.com)

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### YOUTH AND TEENS

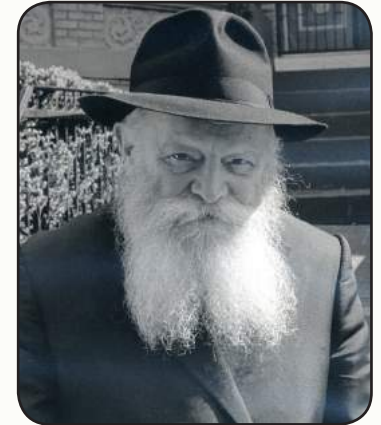
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**IN TRIBUTE TO THE LUBAVITCHER REBBE**  
Our inspiration and the driving force of Chabad of Contra Costa

All programs will take place at Chabad of Contra Costa 1671 Newell Ave. Walnut Creek, CA unless otherwise noted.

Register online at [www.JewishContraCosta.com](http://www.JewishContraCosta.com) or by calling our office 925.937.4101

## High Holiday Services

**The gates of heaven are open to all and so are ours!**

Join us and hundreds of others for the most meaningful, inspiring and uplifting High Holiday services. Hebrew and English prayer-books, traditional and soul-stirring tunes and melodies, stimulating and enlightening sermons, insights, and explanations. You can look forward to ushering in the New Year enveloped by the uplifting spirit, joy, discovery, solidarity and unity.

**No membership, affiliation or tickets necessary. Suggested High Holiday seat donation \$180**

## Rosh Hashana Services

**Sunday, October 2**

FIRST EVENING SERVICES .....6:30 pm

**Monday, October 3**

FIRST MORNING SERVICES .....9:30 am

CHILDRENS PROGRAM .....11:00 am

SHOFAR BLOWING ..... 11:30 am

**Monday, October 3**

SECOND EVENING SERVICES / TASHLICH,  
FAMILY SHOFAR BLOWING ..... 6:00 pm

**Tuesday, October 4**

SECOND MORNING SERVICES .....9:30 am

CHILDRENS PROGRAM ..... 11:00 am

SHOFAR BLOWING ..... 11:30 am



## ROSH HASHANA COMMUNITY DINNER



Usher in the new year at our Rosh Hashana community dinner with all the trimmings and traditional dishes.

**Sunday**

**OCTOBER 2, 7:15 PM.**

**FEE: ADULT \$25, CHILD \$15**

## Yom Kippur Services

**Tuesday, October 11**

KOL NIDREI SERVICES ..... 6:30 pm

**Wednesday, October 12**

MORNING SERVICES ..... 9:30 am

CHILDRENS PROGRAM ..... 11:00 am

YIZKOR MEMORIAL SERVICE ..... 11:30 am

EVENING SERVICE .....5:00 pm

FAST ENDS (FOLLOWED BY BREAK FAST) ... 7:13 pm

**LOCATION: Clarion Hotel**

**1050 Burnett Ave, Concord, CA 94520**

## Simchat Torah




The biggest and the best Simchat Torah in Contra Costa is at Chabad. Join us for a buffet dinner, L'chaim, singing, dancing and fun for the children as we revel in the joy of the Torah.

**Monday, October 24,  
7:00 pm**







## Grand MENORAH LIGHTING

Join together with pride as we celebrate the Holiday of Chanukah with a Grand Menorah Lighting of Contra Costa's Largest Menorah, Music, Latkes and doughnuts, entertainment and fun for the whole family!

-  **Sunday, Dec. 25**
-  **4:00 PM**
-  **1275 Broadway Plaza**

## Chanukah ON ICE




Put on your skates and join us for a Grand Menorah Lighting on the Ice, Jewish Music and a Kosher Food Concession.

-  **Thursday, Dec. 29**
-  **7:00 PM**
-  **Civic Park Ice Rink  
1375 Civic Dr.**
-  **Advance \$15**



## Spin Til You Win DREIDEL TOURNAMENT

Join us for a Knock Out Dreidel Tournament with Cash Prizes, Hors D'oeuvres, Beverages and a great social and fun evening. Try your hand at the Dreidel and you might be the lucky winner of \$500.00.

-  **Saturday, Dec. 24**
-  **7:00 PM**
-  **Single Player: \$50  
Two Players: \$90**








# Purim IN THE ORIENT






Come dressed in your best costume for our **grand Purim Feast** with authentic oriental cuisine, interactive Megilla reading, Hamentashen, Mishloach Manot, entertainment and much more, fun for the whole family!

-  **Sunday, March 12**
-  **5:00 pm**
-  **\$10**

# Lag B'omer BBQ



Celebrate **Lag B'omer** with a **family BBQ** and join us as we sing traditional melodies around the Bon-Fire as they do in Meron, Israel, in honor of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai.

-  **Sunday, May 14**
-  **5:00 pm**
-  **\$10**



# Passover COMMUNITY SEDER

Join us for an inspirational Passover Seder and experience the deeper meaning of Passover in a warm and motivational environment, complete with a delicious traditional Seder dinner, insights, singing, four cups of wine, and Hand Baked Shmurah Matzah galore! Whether you are a seder veteran or a curious explorer, the Chabad of Contra Costa seder offers a stimulating and inspirational experience.



-  **Monday April 10 and Tuesday, April 11**
-  **7:30 pm**
-  **Adult \$45, Child \$30**



# Shavuot ICE CREAM PARTY & BUFFET



Bring the whole family to hear the **10 Commandments** as they are read from the Torah followed by an Ice Cream Party for the children and a dairy buffet Kiddush with lots of Blintzes and plenty of cheesecake.

-  **Wednesday, May 31**
-  **6:00 pm**






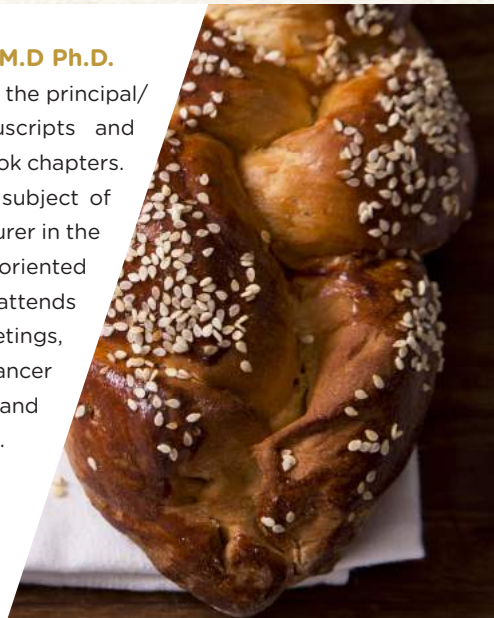
## Shabbat with Friends

Are you an Empty Nester? Is Shabbat dinner at home just a little too quiet sometimes? Come and join other Empty Nesters, singles and couples just like you without children living at home. Enjoy delicious full course gourmet Shabbat dinners with friends and guest speakers sharing their stories, ideas and insights.

### SHABBAT WITH MICHAEL SHERMAN M.D Ph.D.

**Dr. Sherman** holds three U.S. patents and is the principal/secondary author of 27 original manuscripts and publications as well as eight reviews and book chapters. A nationally sought-after speaker on the subject of cancer treatment, he is also a frequent lecturer in the local community and participant in patient-oriented support groups. Dr. Sherman regularly attends national and international oncology meetings, including the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, and is also an active leader and participant in patient-focused clinical trials.




 **DATE:** Friday, January 6, 2017  
 **TIME:** 6:45 pm.  
 **FEE:** \$25



## Shabbat Community Dinners

You will certainly enjoy the special vibrancy and warmth that always permeates the community dinners at Chabad of Contra Costa. Let your senses take you traveling to one of the listed destinations as you enjoy a full course gourmet Shabbat dinner with authentic exotic cuisine and learn about Jewish life and history in that land.




## Shabbat IN HAWAII

 **DATE:** Friday, November 18, 2016  
 **TIME:** 6:45 pm  
 **FEE:** Adult \$25, Child \$15






### SHABBAT WITH ARTHUR ZEIDMAN

**Lieutenant Colonel Art Zeidman**, US Army Reserve, Retired, served as an Army lawyer for 28 years. As a decorated member of the Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG), LTC Zeidman was a prosecutor, defense counsel, labor lawyer and legal team commander. He prosecuted and defended hundreds of courts-martial and will discuss how military law has evolved since World War II, including rights for soldiers, procedural protections, and law practice in times of war.

 **DATE:** Friday, May 12, 2017  
 **TIME:** 7:45 pm.  
 **FEE:** \$25

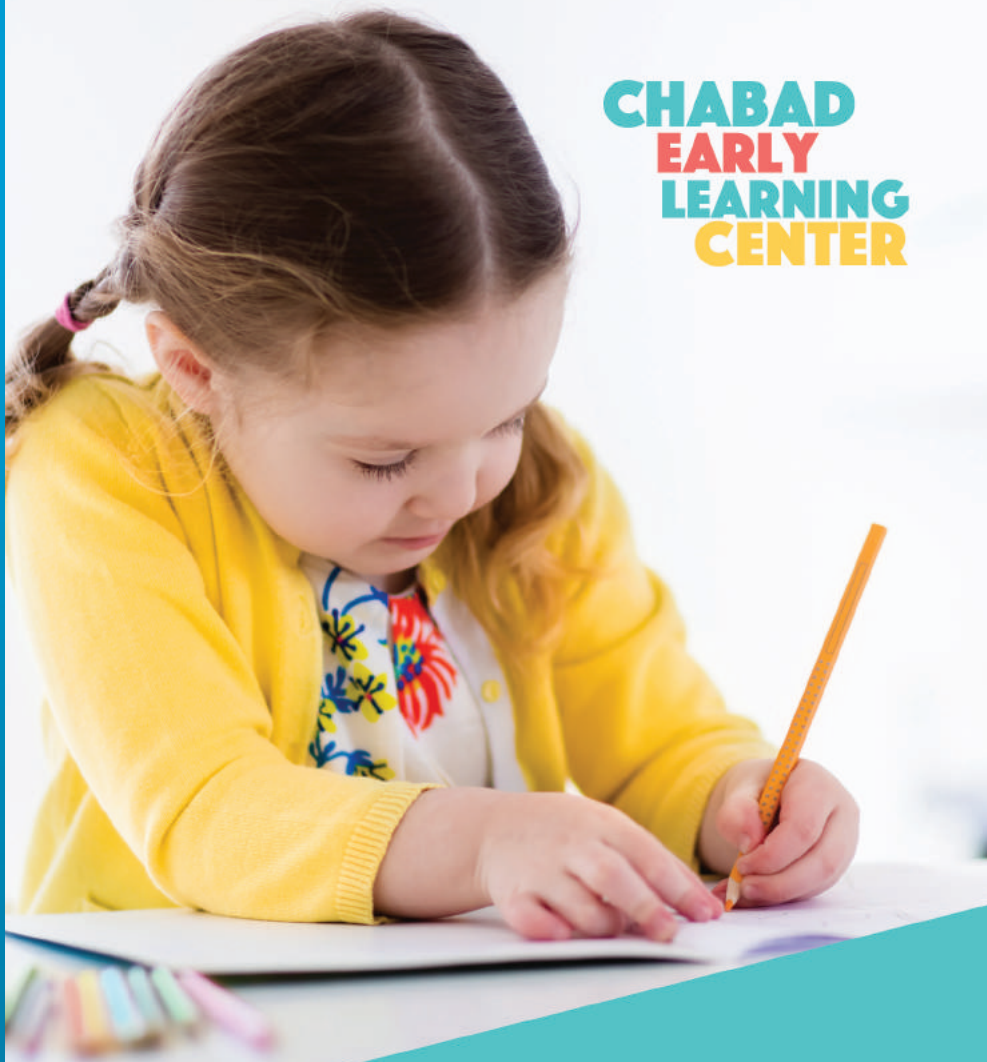
## Shabbat IN IRAQ

 **DATE:** Friday, March 3, 2017  
 **TIME:** 6:45 pm  
 **FEE:** Adult \$25, Child \$15



ב"ה

# CHABAD EARLY LEARNING CENTER



AGES 2-4  
PERSONALIZED CARE  
EXPERIENCED PRESCHOOL TEACHERS  
2, 3 AND 5 DAY OPTIONS  
EXTENDED CARE AVAILABLE

Please contact  
Chaya Berkowitz at  
[chaya@jewishcontracosta.com](mailto:chaya@jewishcontracosta.com)



VISIT  
[JewishContraCosta.com/Preschool](http://JewishContraCosta.com/Preschool)

# musical mommy & me with a Jewish twist

THURSDAY MORNINGS  
10:30-11:30 AM

Ages 0-3 years old



FALL WINTER AND SPRING SESSIONS  
Fall Session starting Nov. 3, 2016  
Try one class or join for a few!



**Sunday 10-12 pm**  
at Chabad of Contra Costa  
*in the heart of Walnut Creek*  
1671 NEWELL AVENUE  
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595

CHABAD of CONTRA COSTA  
**HEBREW  
SCHOOL**

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT  
[JewishContraCosta.com/HebrewSchool](http://JewishContraCosta.com/HebrewSchool)  
OR E-MAIL  
[Chaya@JewishContraCosta.com](mailto:Chaya@JewishContraCosta.com)

**Begins September 11, 2016**  
Hebrew School Shabbat Dinner & Graduation  
**Friday, May 19, 2017**



# CAMP GAN ISRAEL

SAVE THE DATE  
FIRST DAY  
OF CAMP  
**JUNE  
26, 2017**

AT THE ATHENIAN SCHOOL  
IN DANVILLE, CA

EARLY CARE AND AFTER  
CARE AVAILABLE

BUS SERVICE TO AND FROM  
CAMP THROUGHOUT CONTRA  
COSTA COUNTY

THE MOST AMAZING JEWISH  
EXPERIENCE FOR YOUR CHILD!



# bat mitzvah CLUB

**Don't just celebrate a Bat Mitzvah. Become one!**

Learn what it really means to be a Bat Mitzvah in the modern world. Get to know your Jewish self through art, creative writing and community outreach. Discuss hot topics. Share your interests, goals, hopes and dreams. Record your thoughts and ideas in your very own club journal. Express yourself!

**For girls ages 11-13**

**First Session:  
SUNDAY, NOV. 6, 2016**



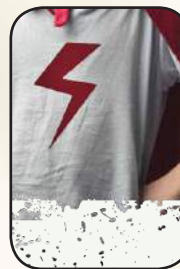


## Bar and Bat Mitzvah Lessons

At Chabad of Contra Costa we see a Bar & Bat Mitzvah as an opportunity for a child to explore and discover what being Jewish really means. Not just a lavish party, a Bar & Bat Mitzvah is an experience that can mold a child, leaving an everlasting imprint on his or her life forever.

**Please contact us to discuss the different options we offer.**

## JLI Teens Courses



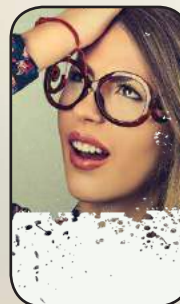
### Super Jew

#### THE MIRACLE OF JEWISH SURVIVAL

As hateful rhetoric on college campuses, in the media, and all over the Internet seems to get worse by the day, this series confronts the topics of anti-Semitism, assimilation and lessons from the Holocaust, presenting novel approaches to understanding Jewish identity and pride.

**6 SESSIONS:** Sundays beginning November 6, 2016

**FEE:** \$50 (TEXTBOOK AND DINNER INCLUDED)  
\*no class Sunday, November 27 due to Thanksgiving



### Sticky Situations

#### SOLUTIONS FOR TRICKY MORAL DILEMMAS

Should we pay ransom to a terrorist to secure the life of a hostage? Should a murderer get to inherit the estate of his victim? When would you refuse a risky surgery? This series is filled with intriguing Torah approaches to the most impossible catch-22 situations.

**6 SESSIONS:** \*Sundays beginning January 22, 2017

**FEE:** \$50 (TEXTBOOK AND DINNER INCLUDED)  
\*no class Sunday, February 19 due to Presidents Day



### Jewish Revolutions

#### BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

From time immemorial, brave young individuals have stood up to make a difference and change the world for good. This series explores Judaism's take on modern causes such as social justice, world peace, freedom and the environment.

**6 SESSIONS:** \*Sundays beginning March 19, 2017


**FEE:** \$50 (TEXTBOOK AND DINNER INCLUDED)  
\*no class Sunday, April 9 and Sunday, April 16 due to Passover


THE JEWISH LEARNING INSTITUTE TEENS COURSES ARE SUBSIDIZED BY A GRANT FROM ARNOLD & JO-ANN JACOBSON




# Mega Challah Bake

Join hundreds of Jewish women and girls ages 12 and up at the second annual Contra Costa Mega Challah Bake. Learn everything you “Knead” to know and braid delicious Challahs to adorn your Shabbat Table. Enjoy refreshments, raffles and great socializing. Featuring **Sara Briman**, international Challah award winner.

 Thursday, December 15

 7:00 pm

 Fee: \$18

Location TBA

CO-SPONSORS:  
CCJCC, CCJDS,  
Diablo Valley Hadassah



## Women's Circle



### A Sweet Night Out

Usher in a super sweet new year ahead of time, tasting and creating deliciously sweet dishes to grace your Rosh Hashana dinner table.

 Wednesday, Sept. 21  7:00 PM  \$10

### The Gilded Cage: Queen Esther's Untold Story by Author Sorele Brownstein

Culled from the Midrash, Talmud and the Kaballah, comes the story of Queen Esther as you never heard before. The impetus came after teaching a women's class which transformed her students' perspective of Esther from a naïve, lucky woman into the more accurate lonely and brave heroine she truly was.

 Wednesday, Nov. 2  7:00 PM  \$10



### Tu B'Shvat Fruit Arrangements

Treat yourself, bring a friend, and join our Women's Circle for a special “Fruit and Fun” evening. Learn how to make your very own fruit arrangements and hear some insights about this special holiday Tu B'shvat!

 Thursday, Feb. 9  7:00 PM  \$10

### Womens Dance Night




It's the month of Adar and Purim is almost here! Put on your dancing shoes for a night of dancing and joy.

 Thursday, Mar. 2  7:00 PM  \$10



### Blintz Bash

Mix, Fold, Fill and Fry; mingle with friends, the time will fly, while you try your hand at the traditional Shavuot delicacy - Blintzes! Discover what the giving of the Torah 3,329 years ago has to do with Blintzes and all Jewish women today.


 Wednesday, May 24  7:00 PM  \$10


## JLI Courses

### HOW SUCCESS THINKS

Jewish Secrets for Leading a Productive Life

This course provides uniquely Jewish ways of thinking to help you develop a growth mindset, identify and cultivate your signature strengths, deal with your weaknesses, and overcome the obstacles that stand in the way of your success. *CME and APA Accredited*

 **6 SESSIONS:**  
Tuesdays beginning  
Nov. 15, 2016


 **FEE:**  
\$100  
**COUPLE DISCOUNT:**  
\$180

**SPONSORED BY:**  
Paul & Donna Sanderson

### TALMUD INTERACTIVE

Ethical Conundrums. Ancient Debates. Your Solutions.

This course provides an exciting new method to engage with Talmud wisdom, as was done in the Yeshiva's of old. With the aid of new technological tools students will find a philosophical foundation to face the ethical quandaries in their lives with confidence. *CLE Accredited*


 **6 SESSIONS:**  
Tuesdays beginning  
Jan. 31, 2017

 **FEE:**  
\$100  
**COUPLE DISCOUNT:**  
\$180

### SURVIVAL OF A NATION

Exploring Israel Through the Lens of the Six-Day War

What does Israel mean to us today? More than a history, this course is about understanding our connection to our land, to our people and to our heritage through the prism of fascinating and thought-provoking events and themes from that time.

 **6 SESSIONS:**  
\*Tuesdays beginning  
May 17, 2017

 **FEE:**  
\$100  
**COUPLE DISCOUNT:**  
\$180

\*no class Tuesday, May 30 due to the holiday of Shavuot

**CO-SPONSORED BY**  
Stan & Carol Goldman

#### JLI courses are offered at:

**10:00-11:15 am** at Chabad of Contra Costa

**7:30-8:45 pm** at the Contra Costa Jewish Day School  
955 Risa Rd. Lafayette CA.

THE JEWISH LEARNING INSTITUTE OF CONTRA COSTA is dedicated by Eve Ramek in loving memory of her dear father Meyer Goldberg OBM


## Lectures & Workshops



### Pepper, Silk and Ivory:

#### The Exotic Jews of China, Japan & India

There is a missing page in Jewish history. The Jewish history in the Far East. Rabbi Tokayer served as Rabbi of the Jewish community of Japan from 1968 until 1976 and remains Lifetime Honorary Rabbi of the community, has found that missing page and tells the amazing stories of Jews who both benefited from and contributed to the Far East.



 Tuesday, Nov. 8  7:30 PM  \$10  
**Location:** CCJDS 955 Risa Rd. Lafayette CA.



### From Victim to Victor:

#### The Holocaust Survivor Who Received a Purple Heart




As a Jew from Salonika, Greece, Albert Rosa went through concentration camps and death marches before putting on an American uniform, becoming the only non-American to receive a purple heart for his bravery. After fighting with the Irgun in Palestine, Albert came full circle when he was imprisoned by the British in native Greek-speaking Cyprus.

 Sunday, Jan. 15  2:00 PM  \$15  
**Location:** TBA



### Undercover in Damascus

Israel's most famous spy, Eli Cohen, successfully entered the upper echelons of the Syrian government as an undercover Mossad agent. The secrets he obtained proved crucial to Israel's victory in the Six-Day War. Eli's only surviving brother, Avraham, will share a behind the scenes glimpse into Eli's story, and the ongoing struggle to have Eli's remains returned to Israel.

 Tuesday, April 25  7:30 PM  \$10  
**Location:** Contra Costa Jewish School

## Films

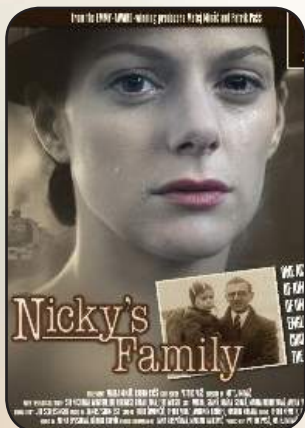
## ABOVE AND BEYOND

In 1948, a group of World War II pilots volunteered to fight for Israel in the War of Independence. As members of 'Machal' - volunteers from abroad - this ragtag band of brothers not only turned the tide of the war, they also laid the groundwork for the Israeli Air Force. Above and Beyond is their story.

 **Saturday, Nov. 12, 2016**

 **7:00 pm**

 **No Fee**



## NICKY'S FAMILY

In 1939, Sir Nicholas Winton personally saved the lives of 669 children from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia and brought them to Britain. The story only emerged in 1988 when the BBC broadcast a thrilling show about the first meeting of approximately one hundred of the rescued children with their secret rescuer about whom they had known nothing for 50 years.

 **Saturday, Dec. 17, 2016**

 **7:00 pm**

 **No Fee**

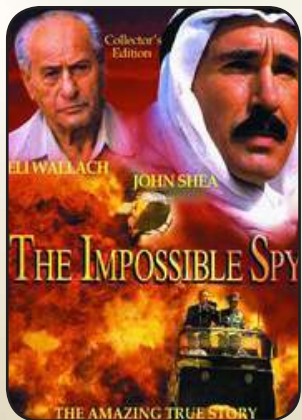
## THE IMPOSSIBLE SPY

Young Israeli husband Eli Cohen is recruited by the Mossad in the early 1960's and sent to Syria. He takes up residence in Syria, where he befriends a high-ranking Syrian government official and provides invaluable information to Israel.

 **Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017**

 **7:00 pm**

 **No Fee**



## Ongoing Classes



## Good Morning Talmud



Following Shachrit morning service. A quick paced study of one of the most classical and important texts within Judaism. Challenge your mind with the complex and exciting passages the Talmud holds.

 **Mondays & Thursdays**  **7:30 am**



## Torah &amp; Tea Women's Study Group

Torah & Tea brings you the tradition of classical Jewish learning in a series of clear and engaging weekly classes. Probing the ideas and issues presented in each week's Torah portion, these lessons offer timely life lessons from the most timeless of all texts.

 **Mondays**  **10:30 am**



## Tanya: The "Bible" of Chassidism

The Book of Tanya, authored by Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi - first "Rebbe" of the Chabad dynasty - is the basic and fundamental guide to Chassidic philosophy. Drawing on ancient wisdom, as redacted in the text of the celebrated and seminal volume of Chassidic and Mystical teaching, this weekly class will open horizons and vistas beyond anything you have ever read, studied or imagined.

 **Tuesdays**  **7:30 pm**



(SUSPENDED DURING JLI CLASSES)

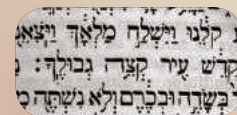


## פרשת השבוע בקבלה

שיעור שבועי בו נרד לעומקם של עניני הפרשה איך שהם מבוארים בתורת הסוד וספרי הקבלה של האר"י הקדוש יום ד' בשעה 7:30 בערב, בבתיים פרטיים של חברי הקהילה



לפרטים נוספים ולהשתתפות נא לשלוח אימייל:  
JLI@JewishContraCosta.com

 **Wednesdays**  **7:30 pm**



## Chassidic Insights on the Weekly Parshah

An insightful and thought-provoking discussion on the weekly Torah portion drawing on the wisdom of the Kabbalah and Chassidic Masters.

 **Saturdays**  **9:30 am**

## Synagogue Services



### Kabbalat Shabbat

Join us on Friday evening and sing along the traditional melodies as we welcome the Shabbat.

**Fridays, beginning October 7: 6:00 pm**

**Fridays, beginning, March 17: 7:00 pm**



### Shabbat Services (& Holidays)

**10:00 am:** Services Begin

**11:00 am:** Torah Reading

**12:30 pm:** Kiddush/Cholent



### Bagels, Lox & Tefillin

Get your week off to a great start with the Sunday morning Minyan followed by a Bagels & Lox breakfast.

**Sunday, 8:00 am**



### Morning Services

**Mon - Fri 6:30 AM**

### Yahrtzeit & Kaddish

Do you have an upcoming Yahrtzeit? Contact us and we will help you arrange a Minyan so you can recite the Kaddish in their memory.



## CHABAD OF CONTRA COSTA DONOR RECOGNITION

### PILLARS

Ariel & Liraz Baleli  
Paul & Julie Candau  
Uri & Cindy Eliahu  
Udi & Janice Finkel  
Eve Gordon - Ramek  
Arnold & Jo-Ann Jacobson  
Leonard Martin  
Jin & Susan Meng  
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Reuven Shwedel

### SUPPORTING MEMBERS

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Kia & Alissa Sumner  
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Larry & Mila Wichter  
Shelly Winnick & Susan Alper  
Mike & Orit Yarom  
Art & Lynn Zeidman  
Howard & Ilene Zeiger  
Shay & Mor Zilber

**Invest in the future of our community! Join and become a Supporting Member of Chabad of Contra Costa.** For more information and to join please contact us.

### CHABAD OF CONTRA COSTA LEGACY SOCIETY

Dovber & Chaya Berkowitz  
Eve Gordon - Ramek  
Irina Hmelnitzky  
Leo & Anna Hmelnitzky  
Arnold & Jo-Ann Jacobson  
Yaov & Janet Karni  
Eric & Leah Kleinman  
Suzanne Krasna  
Leonard Martin  
Jin & Susan Meng

Isaac Negrin  
Steve & Kathleen Rubinfeld  
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Michael & Cindy Simon  
Bob & Beth Sterns  
David & Mojgan Sumner  
Jacob & Edna Vaknin  
Merritt & Susan Weisinger  
Larry & Mila Wichter

**Ensure a bright future for our Jewish community** and join the Chabad of Contra Costa Legacy Society by including Chabad of Contra Costa in your estate plan.



A SPIRITED SHABBAT EXPERIENCE IN THE NERVE CENTER  
OF THE CHABAD-LUBAVITCH MOVEMENT

**MAY 5-7, 2017**  
**9-11 IYAR, 5777**



MCOUNTDOWN

## HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ A visit to 770, the Rebbe's house, and the Ohel
- ◆ A tour of the Crown Heights neighborhood
- ◆ Uplifting chassidic gatherings
- ◆ Insightful talks, group learning and discussions
- ◆ Meet inspiring personalities
- ◆ Gourmet kosher cuisine

[WWW.SHABBATINTHEHEIGHTS.COM](http://WWW.SHABBATINTHEHEIGHTS.COM)



**Chabad of Contra Costa**  
1671 Newell Ave.  
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

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