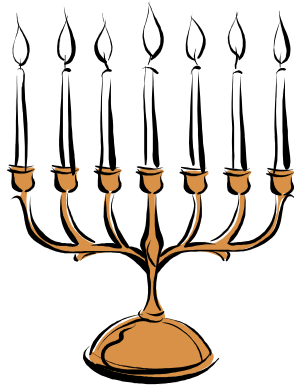


The Shpiel

Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation

January 2015 / Tevet 5775



SUN LAKES JEWISH CONGREGATION

OFFICERS

President – Wende Levy (301)-503-1047 Treasurer – Michael Dar (480)-882-9022
Vice-President – Jeff Spear (480)-556-1284
Recording Secretary – Geri Gould (480)-305-0123
Rabbi Irwin Wiener, D.D. – (623)-975-4272 Cantor Ronda Polesky – (480)-247-8408

To download a Membership Form, go to: www.SLJC.com/membership

Send any articles you wish to have published in *The Shpiel* to Mark Salita at ShpielSLJC@gmail.com by the 15th of the month for publication on the last day of the month.

Meeting Schedules (details on later pages)

FRIDAY NITE SERVICES – Friday, January 9, 7:30 pm – Sun Lakes Chapel

BOARD MEETING – Thursday, January 8, 4PM - please call Wende Levy @ 301-503-1047 if you wish to be on the agenda.

MEN'S CLUB – Monthly meeting January 6; Trip to the Hall of Flame Fire Museum January 21

SISTERHOOD – January 15 at 1:00 pm in the Chapel Center: 2 rabbis' wives (one Sephardi and one Ashkenasi) will discuss their family traditions

DEVORAH HADASSAH– Meeting February 24 at 7PM at Village at Ocotillo Theater

SHALOM HADASSAH – Book review January 20 at 11:30AM at Oakwood Clubhouse.

JWV – Meeting Jan 18 at 9:30AM in the Mirror Room of the Sun Lakes Country Club.

Speaker: Jeff Weninger, Chandler and Sun Lakes representative in the Arizona Legislature.

RITUAL COMMITTEE – No meeting in January.

Letter from Retiring SLJC President Marty Silverman

It was the best of times as well as the most interesting of times. A year ago after a three-hour meeting, the SLJC nominating committee convinced me once again to join the board. The board then asked me to serve as president. This became my ninth year as president. I told the board I would serve for only one year.

I realize that I am playing the back nine of this golf course called life. It is time to do the items on my personal bucket list. There are still tennis matches to play, trips to take, books to read, and shows to see. As of December, I will step down as president.

It has been my good fortune to have served with a wonderful group of board members. The SLJC is very lucky to have such dedicated members. Much love and thanks to all the congregants who have been so generous with their kind words.

I will miss my time on the Bima. It is one of my favorite places. I am sure the SLJC will continue to thrive and do great work for our members.

May God bless our congregation.

As always, Marty

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Message from Our Rabbi

It's a Wonderful Life

Each year, during the month of December, the TV stations show an “oldie, but goodie” called, “It’s a Wonderful Life.” And, each year, I watch and feel a different sensation and understand it a little differently. I sit and know the next part and the next part, but still I leave feeling as though I never saw it before.

It is a timeless story of greed and goodness combined to emphasize that each supports the other, each dependent on the other. Goodness comes from adversity. Goodness also comes from watching the misery that envelops people during various episodes in their lives.

This past December, watching again there were no exceptions. Kindness and charity won the day. Gloom and doom were put on the “back burner” of life’s journey. It may rear its ugly head again, but we can and should be a little stronger with the next encounter because we understand a little better. No person is alone if he or she has friends. I am not writing about acquaintances, but honest-to-goodness friends who will nurture and offer comfort and support when needed. Friends who will be there when there is joy and happiness, but more importantly when comfort and solace are needed. There are those of us who cannot endure the pain. The pain of life, or death. The pain of sickness. The pain of loneliness. We tend to concentrate on these more as time goes on. There are those of us who look at life as an adventure. Looking for the next mountain to climb. Looking for the rainbow’s end. Looking at all the greatness we are capable of.

Friends share all this and more. Sometimes friends are more supportive than family. As the saying goes, “we can choose our friends, but not our family.” To me that is the gift given to us as we venture out into the world looking for brightness and ecstasy.

Our congregation is a microscopic view of the world. We come in all shapes and sizes. We have different names (except all the Howard’s and Harvey’s). We look differently on the outside, but deep down we are all the same when it comes to compassion and caring. It is the inward appearance that is important. The stuff that exceptionalism is made from.

We should not need a season or holiday to awaken in us the wonderful opportunities for us to enjoy the greatest gift of all – life. The holidays and seasons do afford us one great advantage. The opportunity to regroup, take stock, reevaluate, and yes, begin again. That is the function of the various commemorations in our journey. Forget the fringes, the gifts, and concentrate on the values we share. That is what holidays are all about.

So, here I sit, once more, watching the tear-jerker as well as the predictable outcome. This time, however, I learned a new lesson wrapped in a familiar package called faith. “Not new,” you say? Well, perhaps not, but new in the sense that it awakens in me what I have known for some time, but occasionally forget. Faith can be sustaining. Faith can have meaning. Faith is enduring. Faith is the essence of life because it gives us hope.

Ritual Schedule for 5775 (2014-2015)

2015

January 9, 2015-----	Installation of Congregation Board and Officers -----	7:30 pm
February 13, 2015-----	Sisterhood Sabbath -----	7:00 pm
March 13, 2015-----	Service honoring our Choir -----	7:30 pm
April 10, 2015-----	Service honoring our Ritual committee and our Annual Yom HaShoah observance -----	7:00 pm
	Anyone wishing to light a candle in remembrance may do so	
May 8, 2015-----	Inter-Faith Sabbath -----	7:30 pm
June 12, 2015-----	Annual Healing Service -----	7:30 pm
July, August 2015-----	Twilight Services (Chapel House) -----	5:30 pm


Oneg Sponsor for January


January Oneg will be sponsored entirely by Edye and Sy Evans.

Openings are still available for the months of March, May, and June. Call Nancy Stutman at 802-3110 with questions or to donate. Minimum contributions for this fundraiser are \$50.00. A check made out to SLJC, earmarked "Oneg" should be mailed to Nancy Stutman, 9844 E. Sunridge Dr., Sun Lakes, 85248.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

The man (Al) who does our setting up and taking down for Shabbat Services, as well as our sound system, will be leaving us at the end of our May or June service. If any one or more of you would be willing to replace Al, or know of a possible replacement, please call SaraRuth at 883-1791.





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 Phyllis Mandel, 3495 East County Down Drive, Chandler, AZ 85249

SUN LAKES JEWISH CONGREGATION DONATION FORM

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 Of _____
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 General Fund _____
 Please send card to: Name - _____
 Address- _____

 Donor _____ Amt. of Check \$ _____
 Address _____
 Remit to: Shirley Gersten, 9238 E. Nacoma, Sun Lakes 85248
 (Minimum donation of \$5.00, please)

WHEN DONATING TO DIFFERENT FUNDS, PLEASE ISSUE A SEPARATE CHECK FOR EACH FUND;
 OTHERWISE ALL THE MULTIPLE DONATIONS WILL BE POSTED TO THE SAME FUND. THANK
 YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION. IF A FUND IS NOT INDICATED, THE DONATION WILL BE
 APPLIED TO THE SLJC GENERAL FUND. SHIRLEY GERSTEN

Flowers for the bema for Shabbat services: May be donated by congregation members commemorating
 important occasions. To participate, call Shirley Gersten at 802-0007 to reserve your date. The cost is \$50.00 per
 household (no more than two households may donate flowers for any one service).

To help serve at the Onegs: call Gary Kanowsky at 802-4517, or fill out the following form:

Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation- Shabbat Service Oneg

Please count me/us in to serve at an Oneg Shabbat
 Name _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____
 I/we are available during the month of _____ celebrating _____

 Please return to: Gary Kanowsky, 10221 E. Spring Creek Rd., S.L. 85248 – ph. 802-4517

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Shelly & Arnie Henden
Ellie & Harvey Trachtenberg
Ruth & Stan Dolin
Susan & Michael Cohen
Betty & Robert Goldstein
Lenore Huskey

MUSIC FUND

Susan Reeves
Florence Klitsner

FAMILY FUND

Sandy & Roger Spark

FLOWER FUND

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Bob Stone

ONEG FUND

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Adrian & Joel Goldman
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Marilyn & Sheldon Raizes
Susan & Stephen Kubrin
Marcia & Harvey Weiner
Leah & Alan Bloom
Ray Heim
Lana Oyer
Sandra & Harvey Friedson
Bette & Ken Goodman
Roberta & Maishe Levitan
Shelly Schwartz
Barbara & Michael Bass
Ruth Friedman
Samuel Abramson
Lynne & Bob Stone
Hildy & Jeff Forman

MEMORIAL BOARD – A non-member Memorial Board is in the lobby of our chapel. Many of you have already placed plates on the memorial board to honor and remember their loved ones.

The wording for these plates is limited to 5 lines of type, and the cost for each plate is \$75.00, payable to SLJC. Any questions regarding this board, please contact SaraRuth at 883-1791.

BLUE BOXES - Keep filling J.N.F blue boxes!! If filled, call me and I will arrange to pick them up. Thanks. Lill Fishman - 895-8928

TRIBUTE CARDS for any occasion can be purchased at the monthly Sisterhood meetings.

SERVICE HONORS – Anyone wishing to have an honor in any upcoming service, call SaraRuth Rossow at 883-1791.



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CONGREGATION NEWS

CONDOLENCES

We are very sorry to announce the passing of Lila Seidler, sister of SLJC congregant Bunny Emont, on December 4th. Lila was a long time member of our congregation.

We are very sorry to announce the passing of congregant Elaine Bergenholtz.

THANKS

Many thanks for your expressions of sympathy on the passing of my sister Lila Seidler. I'm grateful to our community for always coming through...fondly, Bunny Emont

CORRECTION

Ruth Friedman's phone number in the Membership Directory is wrong; should be (480)-802-9600

THE CARE COMMITTEE/BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

The Care Committee/Bereavement Committee consists of the following members: Chairperson: Shirley Shalett, tieman11@q.com or 883-9159, and Joyce Spartonos, Michael Kaplan, Jeff Spear, Geri Gould, Rita Solko, Jerri Siegel, Wende Levy, Mireille Kaplan, SaraRuth Rossow, Arleen Berke, Doris Codkind, Shelly Henden, Sandy Jennings and Edd Shalett. If there is an illness, please do not hesitate to contact anyone on the committee.

The Rabbi is always available. Marty Silverman will also be available. In case of a death, please call or email Shirley Shalett so that she can make sure that the congregation is notified.

Contact Marilyn Koss at 940-1916, or e-mail marilynjoe@cox.net if you know of anyone who is ill or hospitalized, or anyone celebrating the birth of a grandchild, etc. so that a card can be sent to the congregation member on behalf of Sisterhood.

Membership: The 2015 Membership Directory has been mailed to all current SLJC members. If you did not receive your directory, contact Sandy Jennings at sjenmah@cox.net or [480-699-4444](tel:480-699-4444).

BAR AND BAT MITZVAH INFORMATION

We are proud to offer Bar and Bat Mitzvah ceremonies both for youngsters and adults. For information regarding the procedures for commemorating this milestone, please contact the Rabbi at ravyitz@cox.net or 623-640-5913.



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Greater Phoenix Jewish Film Festival

The Greater Phoenix Jewish Film Festival (GPJFF) celebrates its 19th year! Additionally, legendary stage and screen actor Theodore Bikel (*Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Sound of Music*) will accept in person the GPJFF's inaugural Lifetime Artistic Achievement Award at a special Centerpiece Screening event on Sunday, February 15 in Scottsdale. From February 8-22, GPJFF will be screening films at our newest location, Harkins Chandler Fashion 20 at 3159 W. Chandler Blvd in Chandler, as well as two other locations across the Valley.

Ticket Prices: \$11.00 for adults (\$13.00 at the door) / \$7 for students (ID required, 25 yrs & under); \$110.00 unlimited films / unlimited venues VIP Festival Pass; \$18.00 per patron for Theodore Bikel Special Centerpiece Event Screening (For more information about tickets, ticket packages or group discounts, call 602-753-9366, or visit www.gpjff.org)

The films playing at Harkins Chandler Fashion 20:

Above and Beyond (Sunday, Feb. 8th, 3 PM) — Outnumbered and outgunned, a ragtag group of volunteer servicemen risked everything to help establish the Israeli Air force and save the state of Israel itself during its War of Independence.

24 Hours (Wednesday, Feb 11th, 7 PM) — The tale of modern-day anti-Semitism based on the 2006 kidnapping of Ilan Halimi in France is a powerful and suspenseful thriller even for those who know the story's outcome.

It Happened In Saint-Tropez (Sunday, Feb 22nd, 3 PM) — Domestic entanglements involving a family of opposites set the stage for a distinctly French mix of romance and betrayal in this light-hearted comedy of manners. A dysfunctional family is held together only by its aging patriarch and the love between the two brothers' daughters, but is that enough?

5 to 7 (Wednesday, Feb. 18th, 7 PM) — This unapologetically romantic film explores the decidedly French idea that perhaps some people you are meant to love, and some you are meant to marry. The emotionally potent drama addresses issues of the heart, and its power when the odds are stacked against it, and also features Glenn Close.

Bethlehem (Monday, Feb. 9, 7 PM) — Israel's Oscar entry for Best Foreign Film is an intricate drama centered on the complicated relationship between an Israeli intelligence officer and his young Palestinian informant.

Marvin Hamlisch: What He Did For Love (Sunday, Feb. 15th, 7 PM) — The musical showman, composer, conductor and a true mensch who scored some of the most indelible melodies of stage and screen is affectionately remembered. Be privy to exclusive access to his personal archives and interviews with a constellation of his collaborators – from Barbra Streisand and Carly Simon to Woody Allen.

For A Woman (Sunday, Feb. 8th, 7 PM) — Romance and suspense unfold as a daughter digs up her parents' old WWII-era memories, a clandestine love affair, and long-held secrets about her own origin.

Interfaith Choral Festival

Save the Date: March 1st at The Methodist Church at 3:00.

Annual Community Seder

Save the Date: April 4 for our annual Passover Seder.

Report from the SLJC Board of Directors

The SLJC Board of Directors (BOD) met on December 11, 2014 and elected the new officers. As noted in the letter from Marty Silverman which is included in the Shpiel, he will be stepping down as President of the SLJC BOD. He will continue on the BOD and will be the liaison to the rabbi.

The newly elected officers are as follows:

President – Wende Levy

Vice President – Jeff Spear

Recording Secretary – Geri Gould

Treasurer – Michael Dar

At-large members are: Arthur Fink, Mark Nelinson, Mark Salita, Ron Siegel

Sisterhood Representative and Corresponding Secretary – Carol Biales

Men's Club Representative – Paul Herman

The SLJC BOD would like to thank the following individuals for serving on the BOD:

Wendy Feldman-Kerr, Larry Shapiro, Tom Mohr, Sandy Jennings and Gary Kanowsky

Installation of the new SLJC BOD will occur on January 9th during the Friday night Shabbat service. Please join us in celebrating the work of the current board and installation of the new SLJC BOD.

Men's Club of Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation

Paullene Caraher was our speaker for the December meeting. She is an instructor of Korean yoga at Sunbird community in Chandler. This is not a traditional Yoga, but an energy healing method used by martial arts athletes. She demonstrated some of the techniques and most of the members followed her exercises.

Men's Club will start 2015 activities on January 6th with our monthly meeting. Our guest speaker will be Dr Paul Petelin of the Sun Lakes Center for Sight. On January 21st we have scheduled a trip to the Hall of Flame Fire Museum located in Phoenix with over 90 fully restored pieces of fire apparatus, followed by a lunch.

More events details will be covered in emails later.



Jewish War Veterans (JWV)

The members of Post 619 Jewish War Veterans in Sun Lakes will be meeting at 9:30 a.m. Jan 18 in the Mirror Room of the Sun Lakes Country Club. The speaker will be Jeff Weninger, former City councilman of Chandler, who has just been elected to represent Chandler and Sun Lakes in the Arizona Legislature. In December the post treated the veterans of the Madison Street Veterans Association to a pizza party at their residence at MANA House in Phoenix. A large donation was made to the Arizona State Veterans Home in Phoenix to be used for items on their wish list. The post made contributions to the Arizona StandDown for homeless veterans in December, and signed up members to help at the StandDown the second week in Feb at the Arizona State Fair Grounds. For information on the post, contact Elliot Reiss 480-802-3281. Reservations for the brunch that precedes the meeting, contact Myra Buckner 480-305-0533.

Sisterhood of Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation

The Jewish people have a rich history in many parts of the world. Wherever we have traveled and resided, we have always tried to become a part of the culture without losing our identity. The two most famous segments of Jewish culture from the Diaspora are the Ashkenazi and the Sephardi.

When dispersed Jews went north from Israel, they went into Europe, Eastern Europe and Russia - Ashkenazi. Others went northwest to the Iberian peninsula and south to northern Africa - Sephardi. In each case, traditions evolved with the environment, food with the local products and language developed, incorporating local dialects which became Yiddish or Ladino.

Please join us on January 15th at 1:00 pm in the Chapel Center as we meet 2 rebbitzens (rabbis' wives), one Sephardi and one Ashkenazi and learn about the family traditions that each follows, including raising children, food, holidays and much more with Sandy Wiener, wife of Rabbi Irwin Wiener of Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation and Yvonne Garcia, wife of Rabbi Joseph Garcia, a leading Sephardi Rabbi here in Phoenix. A rich discussion on how we differ and how we are the same will be part of the program.

Dues are now \$30.00, and donations for Toys from the Heart are always welcome as well. Card Party is Tuesday, Feb. 3rd. Cost is still only \$25.00 for lunch, festive basket raffles, and a day's worth of fun and games. Reservations must be received by January 23rd. Donations of restaurant gift certificates or bottles of wine are needed. Please contact Barbara at 219-8341 for more information.

Mah Jongg cards are available from Sisterhood. The cost is \$9.00 for large print and \$8.00 for small print. Mail checks to Anita at 24530 E. Saddletree Drive, Sun Lakes. 85248 by January 15, 2015.

Don't forget Sisterhood Shabbat will take place at regular services on Friday, Feb 13, 2015, at 7:00 pm. We hope to see you there.

Devorah Hadassah

At the meeting at 7PM on February 24, 2015, Maggie Anton will discuss her new book **Enchantress**. Maggie Anton is the award-winning author of historical fiction series "Rashi's Daughters" and "Rav Hisda's Daughter", a National Jewish Book Award finalist. She is a Talmud scholar, with expertise in Jewish women's history. Anton speaks to Jewish organizations all over the country and in Israel about the research behind her novels.

Maggie Anton was born Margaret Antonofsky in Los Angeles, California, where she still resides. Raised in a secular, socialist household, she reached adulthood with little knowledge of her Jewish religion. All that changed when David Parkhurst, who was to become her husband, entered her life, and they both discovered Judaism as adults. That was the start of a lifetime of Jewish education, synagogue involvement, and ritual observance. This was in addition to raising their children and working full-time as a clinical chemist for Kaiser Permanente for over 30 years.

Please come and join us at Village at Ocotillo Theater, 990 W. Ocotillo Rd. Chandler. If questions, contact Hadassah.evinfo@cox.net 480-318-7568. Members admitted free. Non-member \$5.00

Shalom Hadassah

Monthly meeting on January 20th at Oakwood Clubhouse. For lunch reservations at 11:30 a.m. mail a \$16.00 check made to Shalom Chapter of Hadassah to Ruth Friedman at The Renaissance, 9508 E. Riggs Road, Sun Lakes 85248. Program only at 1:00 p.m. is a book review of Love & Treasure by Ayelet Waldman, published in 2014.

January Milestones

BIRTHDAYS

2 Barbara Fridkin
 2 Sue Shapiro
 3 Sheldon Raizes
 5 Martin Klemes
 6 Edd Shalett
 7 Jane Levine
 7 Leo Pessin
 8 Arnold Borker
 9 Daryl Edson
 9 David Levinson
 9 Marjorie Levinson
 11 Sydney Kerr
 13 Sherry Green
 13 Michael Koller
 14 Deanna Mintz
 15 Gloria Howard
 16 Myra Delman
 17 Susan Tamber
 18 Paul Herman
 19 Larry Blumberg
 19 Barbara Silverman
 20 Barbara Siegel
 22 Larry Shapiro
 24 Gary Kanowsky
 25 Patti Neuberger
 26 Janet Herman
 27 Eric Wallin
 28 Janet Finn
 28 Ilana Goldschmidt
 29 Irv Feller
 30 Nicki Pollack
 31 Carol Biales
 31 Souzan Blumberg



ANNIVERSARIES

10 Sandra & Harvey Friedson
 17 Bette & Ken Goodman
 17 Diane & Mark Nelinson
 18 Marcia & Harvey Weiner
 23 Ruth & Bernard Lieberman
 25 Arnold & Roselyn Borker
 26 Marvin & Sheila Asroff



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January Yahrzeits

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RACHEL GEFFNER
SAUL GINSBERG
DAVID GOLDBERG
MELVIN GOLDMAN
MILTON GOLDRICH
ANNA GOLDSTEIN
LORETTA GORDON
HANNAH GRANBY
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PAUL WEISS
HARRY WIENER
JACOB WIENER
ROSE WINIKOFF
DAVID ZIEGLER,
NETTIE ZIMMERMAN

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Facts About Israel

Geography:

Israel is **only 1/6 of 1%** of the landmass of the Middle East.
Israel is roughly **half** the size of Lake Michigan.
The Sea of Galilee, at 695 ft. Below sea level, is the **lowest** lake in the world.
The Dead Sea is the **lowest** surface point on earth, at about 1,373 feet below sea level.
Israel is the **only** nation in the world that entered the 21st century with a net gain in its number of trees.
Jericho is the **oldest** continuously inhabited town in the world.
The Mount of Olives in Jerusalem is the **oldest**, continually used cemetery in the world.

Demographics:

Israel's population is **half** the size of Metro New York City.
Israel has **only 2%** of the population of the Middle East.
Israel has the **highest** ratio of university degrees per capita in the world.
Israel produces **more** scientific papers per capita than any other nation in the world - by a **large margin**.
Israel has the **highest** number of scientists and technicians per capita in the world - by a **large margin**.
Israel has the **highest** number of engineers per capita in the world.
Israel has the **highest** number of PhD's per capita in the world.
Israel has the **highest** number of physicians per capita in the world.
Israel has the **largest** percentage of its workforce employed in technical professions in the world.
Israel is the **largest** immigrant-absorbing nation in the world, per capita.
Israel is the **only** country in the Middle East where the Christian population has grown over the last 50 years.
Israel is the **only** country in the Middle East where Christians, Muslims and Jews are all free to vote.
Israel is the **only** country in the Middle East where women enjoy full political rights.

Economics:

Israel has the **largest** number of startup companies per capita in the world.
Israel is the world's **largest** wholesale diamond center, finally surpassing Antwerp in the 1970's.
Most of the cut & polished diamonds in the world come from Israel.
Israel has the **largest** number of NASDAQ listed companies outside of the US and Canada.
Israel was the **first** country to have a free trade agreement with the United States.
Apart from the Silicon Valley, Israel has the **highest** concentration of hi-tech companies in the world.

Electronics:

The **cell phone** was developed in Israel at Motorola's largest development center.
The **Voice Mail** technology was developed in Israel.
In the early 80's, IBM chose an **Israeli-designed computer chip** as the brains for its **first personal computers**.
The **first** anti-virus software for computers was developed in Israel in 1979.
Most of the **Windows NT and XP** operating systems were developed in Israel by Microsoft.
Both the **Pentium-4** and **Centrino** processors were **entirely** designed, developed and produced in Israel.
The **Pentium MMX Chip** technology was designed in Israel at Intel.
Israel has the **highest** number of home computers per capita in the world.
The technology for the **AOL Instant Messenger and ICQ** was developed in 1996 by 4 young Israelis.
Israel was the **first** Middle Eastern country to launch a satellite, the Ofek 1, on September 19, 1988.

Culture:

Hebrew is the **only** case of a dead national language being revived in all of world history.
Hebrew had not been spoken as a native tongue by **anyone** for centuries.
Today it is the native tongue of **millions of people**.
Israel has **more** museums per capita than any other nation in the world.
Israel has **more** orchestras per capita than any other nation in the world.
Israel publishes **more** books per capita than any other nation in the world.
Israel publishes **more** books translated from other languages than any other nation in the world.
Israel reads **more** books per capita than any other nation in the world.
The **most** independent and free **Arabic** press in the Middle East is in **Israel**.

Military/Security:

Israel has the **largest** fleet of F-16 aircraft outside of the US.
Israel has the world's **most impenetrable** airline security.
Israel spends **more** money per capita on its own protection than any country in the world.

Strange:

Of the 175 UN Security Council resolutions passed before 1990, 97 were directed against Israel.
Of the 690 UN General Assembly resolutions voted on before 1990, 429 were directed against Israel.

Zionism Is Not in Decline - Amos Yadlin and Uri Sadot (*Ha'aretz*)

- Israel is more secure and prosperous now than ever in its history. It wields the strongest military power in the Middle East; the economy is on a steady rise and rich with gas reserves; our demography is healthy; our people are some of the happiest in the world and our society, as exemplified this summer, is close-knit and resilient in times of trial.
- In 2013, 19,200 new immigrants decided to relocate their homes to Israel, demonstrating that Zionism is not at all on the decline.
- Adding to its security, Israel now enjoys a wide network of alliances. Security cooperation with the U.S., military aid levels, support in Congress, as well as trade volumes and tourism have never been better. China and India are now increasingly cooperative both in trade and diplomatically. Similarly, trade volumes with Europe have risen steadily.
- Also worth noting are Israel's improving ties with Canada, Central European states, many countries in Africa, the republics of central Asia, and the once-menacing Russian Federation.
- Israel's two longest borders, with Jordan and Egypt, have long been pacified by treaties that have endured turbulent periods.
- The grave threat of conventional armies against Israel has disintegrated together with the Syrian and the Iraqi states.


Maj.-Gen. (res.) Amos Yadlin, former Chief of Defense Intelligence, is director of the Institute for National Security Studies (INSS), where Uri Sadot is a research fellow.

News Sources in English

www.i24news.tv/en/
www.timesofisrael.com
www.dailyalert.org
www.jpost.com

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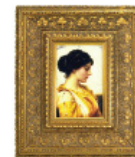
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