



# SUN LAKES JEWISH CONGREGATION

MAY 2024 NISSAN / IYAR 5784

Throughout The  
Threads of Jewish  
History, ...



**And**

**Yisrael**

The People  
of Israel Live!

**Chai**



*Carol  
Horowitz*

All meetings are held in the Chapel Center unless otherwise noted.

# SLJC May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 <b>1:30 pm:</b> Devorah Literary Ladies (Zoom)	9 <b>3 pm:</b> SLJC Board Meeting	10 <b>7-8:30 pm:</b> Erev Shabbat Service (Sun Lakes Chapel)	11
12 <b>9:30 am:</b> JWV Post 619 Meeting (Oakwood Poolside)	13	14 <b>9 am:</b> Sisterhood Board Meeting  <b>12 pm:</b> Men's Club Meeting (Veterans Oasis Park, Chandler)	15 <b>11 am-1 pm:</b> Devorah Hadassah Food Collection for JFCS (location TBA)	16 <b>1 pm:</b> Sisterhood Meeting	17	18
19	20	21	22 <b>10:30 am:</b> Devorah General Meeting (EVJCC)	23	24	25
26 LAG B'OMER	27	28	29	30	31	

## HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 From the Clergy
- 5 President's Message
- 10 Contributions
- 11 Donation Form
- 14 Yahrzeits
- 14 Celebrations

- President, Shelly Henden (480) 612-4413
- Membership, Susie Shapiro (480) 883-7117
- Rabbi Irwin Wiener, D.D. (623) 640-5913
- Cantor, Ronda Polesky (480) 247-8408
- Music Director, Lana Oyer (602) 524-5936
- Graphics, Carol Horowitz (760) 271-2758

To submit to *The Shpiel* or for more information, contact Geri Gould at (480) 305-0123, or gerijim@hotmail.com.



## When We Remember – Yom HaShoah

So much has been written about the Holocaust. And yet, not enough.

Torah Scrolls were burned and destroyed, because they are the repositories of truth and truth is the mortal enemy of evil.

Evil cannot exist where

there is purity and faithfulness as represented on these parchments of history.

And we are left to remain witnesses to the fact that truth cannot be substituted by madness. Only complacency can hide the truth from us and even distort it. Only the willingness of the family of man can cause truth to be manipulated, but never eradicated. Truth is the one weave in the fabric of humanity that is eternal.

The Torah Scrolls were destroyed because the letters of each word represent the souls of every human being sacrificed and burned. And as each image disappeared, a little bit of God disappeared as well because we were created in the Divine image.

Our possession of one of the Scrolls redeemed is a reminder of this undisputable fact: We survived and will continue to survive. Each soul has been reunited with the One who gave us truth and has become a testament to the cruelty and inhumanity only we are capable of.

We are here to not only remain witnesses, but also to continue trying to make sense of it all. We are also left to remember because that is a holy mission. To remember is part of the understanding of the tragic episode it represents. If we remember, then perhaps the horrors of yesterday will not be repeated. There is no one answer, there is no one explanation that can sufficiently bring closure to this darkest time in history.

How can this chapter ever be closed? Forgetting certainly would desecrate the memory of those who have no one to say prayers, or light candles, or tell of their lives. Their immortality is woven into the belief that their souls are bound up in a common bond of weeping that can be heard around the world and in the Heavens where God and the Angels are constantly mourning their loss.

Each year as we commemorate this dreadful episode, we can hear, if we listen very carefully, the Angels calling out the names of those who are now nothing but scattered ashes; or mutilated bones that never burned; or human flesh rotting in the sun, all in unmarked graves in the earth soaked with their blood.

And God listens to each name, to each memory and repeats the immortal words described in Scripture: “I have seen the affliction of my people and will set them free. I shall lead them to the Promised Land of hope and the future will hold their redemption and salvation.”

Each time we remember, we resurrect a soul which symbolizes the rebirth of values, and benevolence, and blessing.

Thus, on May 11 we will hold our annual Yom HaShoah Remembrance service in conjunction with our regular Sabbath service. The doors of the Chapel will open at 6:30 pm, giving everyone the opportunity to light a candle in memory of those who perished in this unimaginable nightmare. Our service will begin, as usual, at 7 pm.

Members of our congregation, survivors of the Holocaust, will stand and light six candles in eternal memory of the six million martyrs that were sacrificed on the altar of bigotry and hatred that, to this day, staggers the imagination.

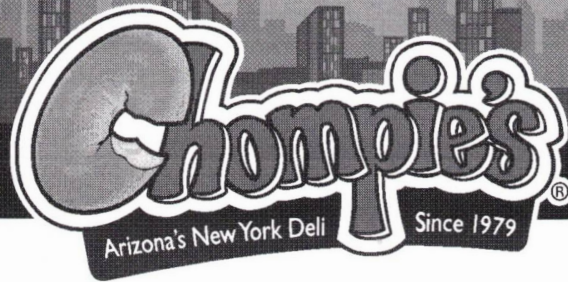
A special candle will be lit in memory of the one and one half million children who perished with their parents and relatives. Another special candle will be lit honoring the memory of the Righteous Gentiles who ignored their safety to assist in the rescue of so many of our people.

Our Cantor and choir will offer special prayers and we will, as a congregation, stand together and recite the ancient words of the Kaddish prayer to fulfill the promise “Never to Forget.”

And as these words are uttered, if we listen carefully, we will hear God and the Angels whisper their names.

May all their memories remain a blessing for all of us.





# Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation Fundraiser

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Come join us at Chompie's at 3481 W. Frye Rd.  
on May 16th from 4 pm - 8 pm  
Chompie's will be giving  
15% of your meal purchase  
back to Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation  
Please present this flyer when seated to your server

[chompies.com](http://chompies.com)



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SHELLY HENDEN



## Thank You

A huge thank you to Carol Horowitz who brought us "The Deli Line." She worked very tirelessly with a group of amateurs to pull off a great show. What a talent Carol is, and we are so fortunate

to have her and her husband Steve as members of our Congregation. Also, thank you to Wendy Goldstein, who made the costumes as well as took reservations, and to our accompanist, Jeanette Cline, whom we could not have done without.

Another thank you to those members of the cast from our Congregation and members of the other Congregations that use the Chapel. We all feel that we made new friends. I also want to thank our sound tech Phil McConnell, a member of one of the churches, and to the Arizona Rangers that kept us safe during the performances. And last but not least, thank you to those of you that supported us by attending. I hope that you enjoyed the performances as much as we all did entertaining you. See photos from the show below!

Our combined seder with the chavurah from Trilogy was a big success, and we hope to continue this tradition each year. A big thanks to Helene Zimmerman for putting this all together.

More thank you's... to Linda Wasserman, who is taking over from Linda Brooks the position of sending out the yahrzeit letters, and thank you Linda for your dedicated service.

We are still looking for someone to chair the Fundraising Committee. Speaking of asking for help, we are looking for someone that can read Hebrew to do the Haftorahs for the High Holidays. If you want to participate in the High Holidays and our regular Friday night services, please don't be shy and CALL ME!

Happy Mother's Day! Also, for those of you who are leaving for the cooler climes, have safe travels. While you're away, don't forget to send in your upcoming membership dues. (See the membership form on the next page, page 6.) We look forward to seeing you in the fall. 🍂



**MEMBER INFORMATION / DUES FORM FOR SUN LAKES JEWISH CONGREGATION**

**July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025**

Please complete the form below in order to update our database even if you have done so before and send to **Susie Shapiro, 24117 S Lakeway Circle NE, Sun Lakes, Az 85248.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Name #2 \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: (Month) \_\_\_\_\_ (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: (Month) \_\_\_\_\_ (Day) \_\_\_\_\_

Hebrew names (full name using transliteration, e.g. Reuven ben Yoseph or Malka bat Chaim  
\_\_\_\_\_

Your Anniversary: (Month) \_\_\_\_\_ (Day) \_\_\_\_\_

Yahrzeit (English month only) – if more than five, please add page:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Relation</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**Membership per person \$200 (includes one High Holiday ticket per member)**

**HIGH HOLIDAY TICKETS**

Member's children who are 18 years of age or younger are free. Please note child's name and age on the form to ensure that a ticket is provided to them.

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**The cost per ticket for adult guests is \$75**

Names of individuals you are purchasing tickets for:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Total Remittance:** \_\_\_\_\_ payable to S.L.J.C

## SLJC SISTERHOOD

Next Event: Thursday, May 16, 1 pm, Chapel House



The SLJC Sisterhood Card Party fundraiser was a huge success in March. Funds were raised for many local charities including, but not limited to SLJC, the Sun Lakes Fire Department, Matthew's Crossing Food Bank, Jewish Free Loan, AZ Stand Down for Veterans, and the Geshar Disability Fund. Thank you to our donors: local doctors, merchants, small businesses, bakers, congregants, and restaurants.

The next meeting of the Sisterhood will be on [Thursday, May 16 at 1 pm at the Chapel House](#). The speaker will be Rabbi Jeffrey Schesmol from the Arizona Jewish Historical Society. He will present information about the upcoming Holocaust Museum in Phoenix.

## SLJC MEN'S CLUB

Upcoming Meeting: Tuesday, May 14, 12 pm,  
Veterans Oasis Park, Chandler

The Men's Club held a luncheon on April 9 at Cheddar's Restaurant in Chandler. The highlight of this event was honoring Bob Stone on his 101st birthday. We sang "Happy Birthday" to him as he blew out the candle on his cake.

For our last event before we have our summer hiatus, we will meet at Veterans Oasis Park in Chandler on [Tuesday, May 14 at 12:00 noon](#). Bring your own sandwiches and snacks. We will provide water and dessert for our club members. To reserve your place at this event, please call Edd Shallet at (480) 329-9364 or Marty Levine at (908) 216-0848.



# CONTRIBUTIONS



Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions made in honor or memory of a special person or event. If you would like to make a contribution, please use the donation form on the opposite page.

## GENERAL FUND

In memory of Seymour Zolty  
*by Elaine Zolty*  
In memory of Jerry Kaplan  
*by Irwin & Judy Plafker*  
In memory of Jerry Kaplan  
*by Shelly & Arnie Henden*  
In memory of Jerry Kaplan  
*by Ellie Trachtenberg*  
In memory of Gloria  
Nussbaum  
*by Marjorie & David Levinson*  
In honor of Gary Hasenfus'  
Birthday  
*by Carole Victor*

## ONEG FUND

In memory of Gloria  
Nussbaum  
*by Susan & Michael Cohen*  
In memory of Jerry Kaplan  
*by Susan & Michael Cohen*

## SILVERMAN FUND

In memory of Jerry Goodman  
*by Cyril Goodman*  
In memory of Bob Goodman  
*by Cyril Goodman*  
In memory of Rose Freed  
*by Cyril Goodman*

## YAHARZEIT FUND

In memory of Sonia Machbitz  
Strauss  
*by Marc S. & Suzanne M.  
Machbitz*  
In memory of Sue Gerson  
*by Charles Gerson*  
In memory of Henry A.  
Zelinger  
*by Diane S. Zelinger*  
In memory of Shirley Francis  
*by Diane S. Zelinger*  
In memory of Karen Ann  
Gersten  
*by Shirley R. Gersten*  
In memory of Eugene Behr  
*by Alan & Marilyn Behr*  
In memory of Darnell Owens  
*by Darrell & Norma Owens*  
In memory of Jack Dante  
*by Gail Dante*  
In memory of Rose Nelson  
*by Gail Dante*  
In memory of Morris Nelson  
*by Gail Dante*  
In memory of Rae Cohen  
*by Gail Dante*  
In memory of Eva Katcher  
*by Marcia & Harvey Weiner*

In memory of Seymour  
Weiner  
*by Marcia & Harvey Weiner*  
In memory of Gerald Sisser  
*by Eric & Wendy Feldman-Kerr*  
In memory of Sylvia Levy  
*by Rita Tanen*  
In memory of Roslyn  
Algranati  
*by Marsha Levine*  
In memory of Jerome Fisher  
*by Barbara Israel*  
In memory of Albert Burnce  
*by Jeff & Janey Burnce*  
In memory of Jacob Sharff  
*by Jeff & Janey Burnce*  
In memory of Ruth Pothus  
*by Suzanne Rosenthal*  
In memory of James Cline  
*by Owen & Carol Fabert*  
In memory of Charles  
Feinberg  
*by Sheilah (Lee) Ross*  
In memory of Meyer Wiener  
*by Rabbi Wiener*  
In memory of Sadie Weiner  
*by Rabbi Wiener*  
In memory of Mitzi Goelman  
*by Leah & Al Bloom*

In memory of Sally Granoff  
*by Carole Victor*  
In memory of David Pauker  
*by Edith Evans*  
In memory of Ruth Levitan  
*by Roberta Levitan*  
In memory of Herman  
Levinson  
*by David & Marjorie Levinson*  
In memory of Harry  
Frauenthal  
*by Karen Blonder*  
In memory of Dorothy  
Frauenthal  
*by Karen Blonder*  
In memory of Barbara  
Lubisch Ivanhoe  
*by Sandor Lubisch*  
In memory of Capt. (Ret)  
US Army Norman Spear  
*by Jeff Spear*  
In memory of Mildred Roth  
*by Carol Horowitz*  
In memory of Alva Nelson  
*by Gail N. Dante*  
In memory of Larry Moss  
*by Mel Moss*



# COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

We are sad to report the passing of long-time congregant, Ken Goodman, husband of Bette. Cards should be sent to:

Bette Goodman  
c/o Michael Goodman  
9639 Dean Rd.  
Vermilion, Ohio 44089

SLJC sends condolences to Bruce Nussbaum on the death of his mother, Gloria, who died in March.

To all participants in "The Deli Line," and especially to Carol Horowitz, a huge thank you from everyone at SLJC.

Thank you to all my friends for their cards and donations in memory of my brother Jerry.  
-Michael Kaplan

The Deli Line Volunteer Appreciation: I want to thank my helpers for their help at the ticket tables and the greeters at the doors/ ticket takers. Your help was greatly appreciated.  
-Wendy Goldstein

Please submit Bulletin Board posting requests to Geri Gould at [gerijim@hotmail.com](mailto:gerijim@hotmail.com).

## SLJC Donation Form (please print clearly)

Please accept this contribution to the following fund, in honor/memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fund:**  Chapel  Family Fund  Music  Oneg  Silverman  General

Yahrzeit Honoree: \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_\_

Please send card to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Donor: \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. of Check \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Remit to: Marjorie Levinson, 9533 E Sundune Drive, Sun Lakes, AZ 85248

Please make checks payable to SLJC.

\*Minimum donation of \$10 per person being remembered/honored.

# Book of Remembrance

This is the time of year when we plan for our annual “**BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**” in which we honor and memorialize our departed family members. Since there are many congregants who leave for the summer months, and will want to have a listing in the book, we ask that you fill out the form below and send it in as soon as possible.

**A COMPLETED FORM, even if your information has not changed, must be included with your payment and be received no later than:**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2024**

Return with your check payable to Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation to:

Susan & Michael Cohen, 9008 E. Stoney Vista Ct., Sun Lakes, AZ 85248 – questions call 895-4660

**USE SEPARATE CHECK FOR MEMORIAL - DO NOT INCLUDE WITH OTHER CONGREGATIONAL DUES**

**NAMES WILL BE COUNTED, NOT LINES. EACH NAME ON A LINE WILL BE COUNTED INDIVIDUALLY.**

Prices for the publication are as follows

One quarter page	\$18.00	one to ten names
One half page	\$36.00	one to fifteen names
Full Page	\$72.00	one to twenty names

## BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

PLEASE CHECK BOX THAT APPLIES TO YOUR MEMORIAL

- NO CHANGES AT ALL IN PREVIOUS MEMORIAL.
- CORRECTIONS, DELETIONS OR ADDITIONS TO A PREVIOUS MEMORIAL.  
MAKE CHANGES ON SEPARATE PAPER AND SEND WITH FORM.  
THIS IS NOT CONSIDERED A NEW MEMORIAL.
- \*\*\*\*\*
- BRAND NEW MEMORIAL. PRINT NAMES ON SEPARATE PAPER & MAIL WITH FORM.  
MONTH AND YEAR OF DEATH IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE.  
THIS INFORMATION IS TO BE INCLUDED WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP FORM.

Amount Enclosed:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$18.00 [¼ page]    \_\_\_\_\_ \$36.00 [½ page]    \_\_\_\_\_ \$72.00 [full page]

**SIGN YOUR NAME[S] EXACTLY AS YOU WISH IT TO APPEAR IN YOUR MEMORIAL**

By \_\_\_\_\_

Phone or email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide this information so that we may contact you if there are any questions.

# MAY CELEBRATIONS

## ANNIVERSARIES — *kol hakavod* — to a great year ahead together!

4 Ron & Victoria Gindick	16 Barry & Joan Berger	25 Alex & Wendy Goldstein
5 Alan & Marilyn Behr	19 Berlyn (Sonny) Jr & Margie Rose White	28 Michael & Regina Milgroom

## BIRTHDAYS — *mazel tov* — another year older and another year wiser!

1 Gary Hasenfus	6 Edith Evans	13 Ann Baumrind	23 Eve Wagner
1 Barbara Israel	6 Robert Kleiman	14 Alex Goldstein	24 Arlene L. Block
3 Sherie Sinykin	6 Margie White	14 Lydia Guffey	27 Victoria Gindick
4 Sharon Becker	10 Lana Oyer	14 Bernard Lieberman	28 Stephen Kubrin
5 Julie Bauman	10 JoAnne Rubinstein	14 Mark Salita	30 Elaine Zolty
5 Arthur Fink	11 Wendy Goldstein	17 Sandra Jennings	
5 Barbara Reiss	12 Michael Kaplan	17 Noel Levine	

# MAY YAHRZEITS

## *Zichronam livrachah* — may their memories be a blessing.

Samuel Abramson	Harry Frauenthal	Henry Kochman	Jacob Sharff
Roslyn Algranati	Dorothy Frauenthal	Jeff Krone	Arthur Siegel
Eugene Behr	Fella Fryde	Herman Levinson	Ruth Siegel
Anne Bernstein	Martin Garber	Ruth Levitan	Daniel Sinykin
Irvin Biales	Sue Gerson	Sharon Lynn Levy	Gerald Sisser
Celia Bornheim	Karen Ann Gersten	Sylvia Levy	Nancy Goldstein Weiss
Rose Brenwer	Isabella Gettes	Jerome Mendelsohn	Schubert
Albert Burnce	Mitzi Goelman	Birgit Metzger	Norman Spear
Robert Cantor	Maurice L. Goldstein	Gretel Moses	Sonia Strauss
James Cline	(Levinsky)	Larry Moss	Seymour Weiner
Joseph Cohen	Sarah (Sally) Granoff	Alva Nelson	Edith Weisenberg
Samuel Cohen	Mark Gurievsky	Julius Nigelis	Meyer Wiener
Donald Currens	Albert Henden	Darnell Owens	Sandie Weiner
Charles Feinberg	Anita Salas	David Pauker	Leon Winter
Dorothy Fink	Hernandez	Ruth Pothus	Henry Arthur Zelinger
Jerome Fisher	Barbara Lubisch	Anna Price	
Shirley Francis	Ivanhoe	Mildred Roth	
Elliot Frank	Eva Katcher	Sara Scheck	

**Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation**  
**Non-Member Memorial Plaques Order Form**

A loved one has passed away who was not a member of SLJC, and you desire to create a permanent remembrance of this person. Can this be done? This is a question that is often asked, and the answer is definitely “Yes.” We understand the importance of paying tribute to loved ones who are no longer with us. A permanent non-member plaque can be purchased for \$36, and there are three options for the wording of the plaque.

Simply complete the form below and mail it along with a check payable to SLJC for \$36 per plaque to: Wendy Goldstein, 24031 S Lakeway Circle NW, Sun Lakes 85248. Any questions, call (480) 584-5909.

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**SLJC NON-MEMBER REMEMBRANCE PLAQUE**

Please complete a separate form for each plaque, indicating the desired choice of wording.

**Choice 1**

In Loving Memory of \_\_\_\_\_ (name & date)

Purchased by \_\_\_\_\_ (name)

**Choice 2**

Always in Our Heart. \_\_\_\_\_ (name & date)

Purchased by \_\_\_\_\_ (name)

**Choice 3**

In Remembrance of \_\_\_\_\_ (name & date)

Purchased by \_\_\_\_\_ (name)

\$36 per plaque – Make check payable to SLJC

Mail check and form to: Wendy Goldstein, 24031 S Lakeway Circle NW, Sun Lakes 85248.

Any questions, call (480) 584-5909.

# DEVORAH HADASSAH

Looking forward to a busy 2024 with General Meetings, Literary Ladies, Flick Chicks, Out to Lunch, Dinner Fundraisers and Game Day! Come join the fun and meet new friends!

For information on Hadassah and attending our events, please contact Eliana Bar-Shalom by phone (860) 377-7126 or email at ebarshalom.eb@gmail.com.

## Literary Ladies Book Group

The second Wednesday of each month is our book group called Literary Ladies and is held on Zoom. The next book we will be discussing is *The Dressmakers of Prospect Heights*, by Kitty Zeldis, on [Wednesday, May 8 at 1:30 pm](#).

## Food Drive

The third Wednesday we collect non-perishable food for JFCS (Jewish Family & Children's Services) in various communities in the East Valley. Our next collective drive will be held on [Wednesday, May 15 from 11 am to 1 pm](#).

## General Meeting

The next General Meeting will be held on [Wednesday, May 22 at 10:30 am at the EVJCC](#). Out to Lunch will follow the meeting.

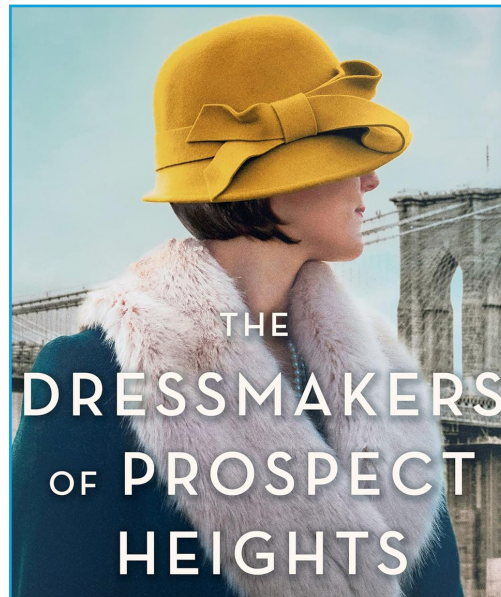
## Chai Flicks Movie Group

The dates and movies vary each month but include a discussion of the film at lunch following the film. Watch for more information.

## Did you know that Devorah Hadassah sells greeting cards?

We have cards for all occasions: birthday, condolence, bar/bat mitzvah, anniversary, get well, congratulations, in honor of, and major holidays. We sell these for \$2 each or, if you want to have a selection on hand, we sell 12 for \$21. However, if you just need an occasional card(s), let us know and we will mail it for you and pay the postage. Such a deal! We also have several different certificates ranging in

price from \$5, \$18 to \$100. These are ready to view at all in-person events. Contact Susan Fox at (520) 705-3226 to order or to ask questions.



# SOMETHING YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW

## EVAN GERSHKOVICH *By Murray Siegel*

Evan Gershkovich has been in the news, including being on the cover of the March 25th issue of *TIME* magazine. Evan is a *Wall Street Journal* reporter who was arrested in Russia on espionage charges more than a year ago. The American government and the *Wall Street Journal* have stated that he was not a spy, but his imprisonment persists.

What you might not know is that Evan is Jewish. In fact, his parents, Mikhail and Ella, emigrated from the Soviet Union, separately in 1979. Both gave their reason for leaving as "seeking to escape rising antisemitism and life under Soviet rule." The couple met in Brooklyn in the 1980s, were married, and raised a family in New Jersey.

Evan was arrested while meeting a source at a restaurant in Yekaterinburg, an important economic center located about 1,000 miles east of Moscow. He is the first American journalist accused of espionage since the end of the Cold War.



Putin has expressed an interest in a prisoner swap, but analysts believe that the U.S. does not hold any high value Russian prisoners who might be used in a swap for Evan. Evan has been allowed to write to his family and friends, but there is no evidence that he can be expected home soon. His next court appearance has been scheduled for June.

# JEWISH WAR VETERANS COPPER STATE POST 619

## JWV SPEAKER TELLS HOW STUDENTS INTERVIEW VETERANS FOR THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Sunday, May 19, 9:30 am, Poolside Building, Oakwood Country Club, 24218 S. Oakwood Blvd., Sun Lakes

Speaker Hannah Nichols, Project Coordinator for Veterans Heritage Program (VHP), will explain how students are connected to veterans to honor them, preserve America's heritage, and develop future leaders. The Jewish War Veterans (JWV) meeting will be held on Sunday, May 19 in the Poolside Building at Oakwood Country Club, 24218 S. Oakwood Blvd. in Sun Lakes. A "Meet & Greet," with FREE lox and bagels, coffee, and doughnuts starts at 9:30 am. The speaker follows at 10 am. All are welcome.

VHP facilitates an after-school program in 30 local schools with dedicated teacher advisors. Veterans' first-person accounts of their history are preserved as students conduct recorded interviews which are sent to the Library of Congress. The student then writes the veteran's story for publication in the annual book, "Since You Asked." The book includes war and peacetime service stories from veterans of all eras or service branches.

Ms. Nichols explains the process: "Our students have questions for the veterans and are excited to listen and learn. Veterans share that they feel honored and appreciated in the interview process. 20% of our veterans are opening up and sharing their story for the first time ever. Many report that the emotional processing of their service story, its meaning and significance, and the impact on their life and career, is cathartic and therapeutic."

Post 619 member, Gabe Forsberg, was interviewed for the 2023 volume of SYATM by Cactus Shadows High School student Cole Diefenderfer. The student shared, "I learned a lot from my veteran, including community service, which was a major part of her service. I am incorporating service into my life and wish to expand my efforts as I get older."

Nickey Page, 12th grade English Teacher, Payson High School, confirms, "this program means so much more than what you think it will when you start out. The impact it has on the students and the veterans is something that will stay with you forever."

Ms. Nichols notes, "The culmination of our program is the annual Community Reception and Book



Signing, where you witness the pride of our students and veterans, and the bonds they have formed. Generations are bridged, and students develop a deeper understanding of service, sacrifice, and citizenship."

Veterans attending the JWV meeting will have an opportunity to sign up to be added to the VHP interview waiting list. Others may go to their website [www.veteransheritage.org/veterans](http://www.veteransheritage.org/veterans) to complete an online form. Interviews are typically conducted in the fall.

*JWV Post 619, which meets the third Sunday of every month from September to May, boasts members who represent a wide range of religious affiliations and participate in philanthropic activities to help veterans of all faiths. Volunteers are especially needed in May for JWV's Memorial Day Poppy Campaign at Fry's Food Stores and Mesa Market Place. To learn more about JWV activities and membership, contact Elliott Reiss at [ElliottBarb@q.com](mailto:ElliottBarb@q.com), (480) 802-3281.*

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Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation  
P.O. Box 11479  
Chandler, AZ 85248

*The Shpiel* | May 2024  
Nissan/Iyar 5784  
Volume 7, Issue 5  
[sunlakesjewishcongregation.org](http://sunlakesjewishcongregation.org)

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## Coming up at the East Valley JCC

2024  
YOM HASHOAH  
COMMEMORATION



### Yom Hashoah commemoration

**Monday, May 6 | 6 p.m.**

**5:30 p.m. reception with light refreshments**

- Lecture-recital presented by Hannah Creviston and Baruch Meir, who will play piano duets written by composers killed in the Holocaust
- Featured speaker: Björn Krondorfer, director of the Martin-Springer Institute at NAU
- Candlelighting ceremony

Free, reservations required.

[evjcc.org/yomhashoah](http://evjcc.org/yomhashoah)

### Israeli Film Series

#### 'The Partisan with the Leica Camera'

Watch from home on May 5.

[evjcc.org/film](http://evjcc.org/film)

### Generations After

#### The Jewish Escape to Uzbekistan

**Wednesday, May 15 | 10-11:30 a.m.**

A presentation by Sandor M. Lubisch, author of "Yitzhak's Escape: The Jewish Flight to Uzbekistan"

[evjcc.org/generations-after](http://evjcc.org/generations-after)

### Open Beit Midrash

**Thursdays, May 2- June 6**

Online classes: Modern Jewish History at 10 a.m.,  
The Guide for the Perplexed at 11 a.m. Free.

[evjcc.org/obm](http://evjcc.org/obm)