



The Shpiel

SUN LAKES JEWISH CONGREGATION

MAY 2026

IYAR / SIVAN 5786

Other's Day



Shavuot



Memorial Da

Carol Horowitz

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

SLJC May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 11:30 am: Men's Club Lunch (<i>Chase Diner</i>) 2:30 pm: SLJC Choir Practice	6	7 4 pm: SLJC Board Meeting	8 7-9 pm: SLJC Erev Shabbat Service	9
10	11	12 9:15 am: Sisterhood Board Meeting	13 1:30 pm: Devorah Hadassah Literary Ladies (<i>Zoom</i>)	14	15	16
17 9:30 am: JWV Meeting (<i>Oakwood Country Club</i>) 10 am: Devorah Hadassah Board Meeting (<i>Zoom</i>)	18	19	20 1 pm: Devorah Hadassah General Meeting (<i>EVJCC</i>)	21 EREV SHAVUOT 1 pm: Sisterhood Meeting	22 SHAVUOT	23
24	25	26	27 1 pm: Devorah Hadassah Out to Lunch	28	29	30
31						

HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 From the Rabbi
- 5 President's Message
- 12 Contributions
- 13 Donation Form
- 15 Yahrzeits
- 15 Celebrations

- President, Shelly Henden (480) 612-4413
- Membership, Susie Shapiro (480) 883-7117
- Rabbi Irwin Wiener, D.D. (480) 436-1460
- Hazzan 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.



Regrets

How many times have we whispered to ourselves and even discussed with others the opportunities that were missed? All of us, at one time or another, feel pangs of regret: I should have – I could have – I would have. Each path we take in our journey for the best that

life has to offer is strewn with many possibilities, some accomplishments, major and minor disappointments, and, of course, defeats.

However, we lose sight of the things that we experienced that gave us joy and feelings of purpose. Somehow our tendency is to concentrate on the things that escaped us. It is even more prominent when we lose someone who crossed our path during their lifetime.

If all there is to life is birth and death, then what is the purpose of our existence? Each of us is endowed with gifts, some more prominent than others, but each worthy of having been given the gift of life and the promise of eternal life. Just as Creation is never ending and is continually changing, so it is with us because we are part of Creation – a vital part. Without us there would be no purpose to creation.

The Sages teach us this truth through a parable which states that when God was creating all things and then determined that humans were part of the creation - the last on His blueprint - the Angels began to argue with God. They inquired as to why God would want to spoil all that was created by adding humanity in all this glory. God then replies that to what end creation if there is no one to enjoy it.

We were not created last as an afterthought, but rather after all had been prepared for us. Everything was created for our arrival, formed for us to enjoy and marvel at the beauty of creation and the elegance of our birth into this wondrous setting.

This is the sum of the importance of creation and the place designated for us in this conceived design. Why then do we purposely ignore the destiny ordained for us? Why do we hesitate to enjoy the moment? After all, our lives are but just moments in time. Our Sages taught us another important lesson when they exclaimed that when we die, God and the Angels will hold us accountable for all the pleasures we were allowed in life and denied ourselves. Depriving ourselves negates the purpose of creation.

The one ingredient in the gifts given to us by God that surmounts all others is a simple word – **Love**. The worst regret of all is to never have loved or been loved. It is the glue that connects all that we do in our lives. Without love there can be no fulfillment. As the poet once said, “Tell me whom you love, and I will tell you who you are.

Perhaps we should concentrate on being accepting and, in turn, accepting others. And perhaps we should also consider God who gave us this life and commanded us to enjoy it so that the legacy we leave will not be measured by what possessions we amassed, but rather by the living of our lives.

Then perhaps we can all agree that the purpose of creation and our purpose in this beautifully designed world bequeathed to us by a loving and caring God is what is needed for completion and fulfillment. And then perhaps we will go through our experiences without regret. 🙏

Ode to Mother

By Rabbi Irwin Wiener, D.D.



During the month of May we commemorate a holiday that was established in 1914, and the following year (1915) a poem was written emphasizing the gifts of motherhood and the contributions mothers have made throughout history.

The holiday was organized by a woman named Anna Jarvis to honor her mother's effect on her life. The authors, Theodore Morse and Howard Johnson, solidified its meaning when they wrote:

"M" is for the million things she gave me.
"O" means only that she is growing old.
"T" is for the tears that were shed to save me.
"H" is for her heart of purest gold.
"E" is for her eyes with a lovelight shining.
"R" means right, and right she'll always be.
Put them all together, they spell "MOTHER,"
A word that means the world to me.

Over the years I am sure that we have, in one way or another, attempted to tell our mothers how much they meant to us and the influence they had on our lives.

Perhaps we all share one regret: that we wait for the annual celebration instead of ensuring her immortality during her lifetime. Perhaps we should attend to her needs and wants, her aspirations, and even her disappointments. Perhaps we should remember with fondness the many sacrifices as well as the joys she displayed as we grew and became what she dreamt for us.

As we remember our mothers and grandmothers and great-grandmothers, we should take out the albums of our history and marvel at how much we owe. Perhaps we could visit the graves of those no longer with us, and for sure recite the Kaddish prayer in their honor at our Shabbat Service on May 8. 🕯️

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SHELLY HENDEN



Contributing and Getting Involved

This past month, we had another outstanding service as we commemorated Yom HaShoah. We were so very fortunate to have had violinist Heide Riggs participate in the service, which made it even more beautiful and moving.

As I mentioned at the service, our combined seder with the United Methodist Church was a tremendous success and it has been decided to do it again next year. Mark your calendars now for next year's seder to be held on April 22, 2027. Reservations will be limited. More information will come as the time nears. A huge thanks to Barbara Ganz and Judy Elias for putting it all together and to their committee that helped make this happen.

Congratulations to our own Michael Cohen, who was recently honored by the *Phoenix Jewish News* as one of 12 influential Jewish people in the Phoenix and Northern Arizona area. Michael has played an important part in our congregation services as a *gabbi*, promoting the Lone Soldier Project throughout the entire East Valley, and helping to establish our Friends of Israel Committee. Thank you, Michael! (Read the article below to learn more.)

We now enter a quiet few months as we near the time of the year when things begin to slow down. As I always remind you, please read this issue from cover to cover and watch for eblasts with important information.

Happy Mother's Day (see Rabbi Wiener's article on the opposite page), and to those of you who may be leaving for the summer, safe travels, stay well, and I look forward to seeing you when you return. 🕯️

TRIBUTE TO DR. MICHAEL COHEN

We are thrilled that our Dr. Michael Cohen was featured in the *Greater Phoenix Jewish News* in a special edition entitled: "Celebrating 12 Celebrating 12 Over 60: A legacy of leadership and community." (To read the article, visit bit.ly/12-over-60. Michael is the third person featured in the article.) Michael was one of the individuals selected for his leadership, generosity, creativity, and compassion that strengthen those around him. As an honoree, he reminds us that age is not a slowing down, but a deepening of time and resilience.

We at SLJC are delighted that Michael was selected. He has done so much for our SLJC as a volunteer. His dedication to the State of Israel as the coordinator of the Lone Soldiers Project and as the Co-Chair of the Friends of Israel Committee are just two of his volunteer commitments. Over the years, Michael has shown his leadership to our congregation in many other capacities.

Thank you, Michael, and we are very proud of you.





Sitting Down With Rabbi Wiener

By Geri Gould

As Rabbi Irwin Wiener's 90th birthday is approaching in December, it's a good time to ask those questions we always wish we had asked but hadn't. Recently, I had a chance to sit down with the Rabbi and talk about his early life. I learned a lot I didn't know.

Rabbi Wiener was the eldest of three children born into a fairly nonreligious family in the Bronx. Both his parents were born in America, and the family lived in a fifth-floor, two-bedroom apartment. "Taking two steps at a time gave me strong legs," he recalled. But as a child, he felt that his family was always very difficult to communicate with. Yet his father's family lived nearby and they routinely got together for family celebrations as part of his Family Circle.

Once a year, the Family Circle would get together with the patriarch, the Rabbi's grandfather, to discuss cemetery issues. At one of these meetings, Irwin's uncle announced that he and his family would be moving to Long Beach, New Jersey. This event proved to be quite traumatic and chaotic. Soon afterwards, both his father's sisters also decided to move to Long Beach to be closer together. However, the Rabbi's immediate family remained in the Bronx.

Rabbi Wiener's grandfather and he were always very close, and of course staying in the Bronx made them even closer. On his fifth birthday, Irwin received a radio from his grandfather, and the very first thing that he heard when he turned on the radio was that Japan had bombed Pearl Harbor.

(Much later, Rabbi Wiener became the only member of his family to go into the military. He recounted a funny story about one of his uncles whom he described as "kind of a Damon Runyon character." When this particular uncle, who did not want to join the military, went for his physical and sat down with the psychiatrist as part of the exam, the psychiatrist asked him what he did for a living. The uncle responded, "I'm a gasolene tester. I taste gasolene and predict how many miles per gallon one can get from that gas." The psychiatrist thought he was a little crazy and promptly wrote 4F on the file.)

Rabbi also recalled being an avid New York Yankees fan. When Irwin was about 12 or 13, Babe Ruth died and his body was laid in state in Yankees' centerfield. "I got in a long line and eventually got to see Ruth's open coffin, crucifix and all. Years later, on a newsreel

commemorating the event, I saw myself there. I remembered the polo shirt I was wearing!”

Grandpa, as Rabbi called him, insisted that Irwin attend a yeshiva (Orthodox), and they would meet weekly at “Grandpa’s park” to discuss Irwin’s progress. Grandpa reviewed Irwin’s studies carefully, and the Rabbi felt his continuation at the yeshiva was predicated on his ability to do well there. As a matter of fact, Grandpa paid his grandson \$1.00 each week if Irwin achieved perfect studies. Irwin remained at the yeshiva all the way from elementary to high school graduation. His schedule started at 8:00 a.m. to noon for religious studies, and then 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. for secular studies. “I had to take the train one and a half hours each way to the Lower East Side. I studied people and imagined what their lives were like. It helped me all my life in understanding people,” he said.

After switching to another orthodox yeshiva and becoming ordained as a rabbi, Irwin decided to migrate from orthodoxy. He felt that praying and studying all day meant nothing because nobody could benefit from activities not shared with outsiders. Irwin started questioning everything; he felt the answer to the question “Why are we doing all this?” was “Because you have to,” was not a good enough answer. But by this time, his grandfather had died and there was no disapproval of his decisions.

After his ordination, Irwin went to New Orleans to a Conservative synagogue. It was there where he met and married Anita, his first wife. After Louisiana, the family (then two children) moved to Bexley, Ohio (a suburb of Columbus), where another child was born and where the family stayed ten years. But his wife became very ill and eventually died there. By that time, Irwin was left to raise his three children, the eldest of whom was about to go off to college. The family left Bexley to shed their bad memories.

From Ohio, Irwin decided to move back to New Jersey to be closer to his family. There he met Sandy, and after they were married it was where they stayed for a time. But Irwin then accepted a position as Cantor and Educator in Oakland, California. It was his first appointment at a Reform temple. Soon he was recruited to the very large and prestigious Temple Emmanuel in San Francisco (also Reform), where he remained for eight years. At that point, Irwin was recruited again, this time by Federation to be the Director of the Hebrew Free Loan Society in the Bay Area. “I found this work very rewarding,” Irwin recalled. “I did a lot of fundraising and helped people in need.” Altogether, Irwin stayed in California for 20 years and prepared for retirement.

Coming to Arizona resulted from the persuasion of good friends who lived in Sun City. Sandy and Rabbi decided to make the move and bought a home in Surprise. Very soon afterwards, however, their good friends left Arizona and moved to Israel. At this time, the Rabbi realized he was also facing a financial crisis.

Enter Marty Silverman and Shirley Gersten. They met with the Rabbi and asked him if he would lead High Holiday services at the Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation. After the “tryout,” and a monetary negotiation, Irwin decided to take the offer and has been with us ever since, making it a “more fulltime than part-time position.”

We have all benefited from his acceptance. 🙏





SLJC MEMBERSHIP RAFFLE

Back by popular demand! Here is an opportunity to win your SLJC membership (a \$200 value), while supporting SLJC. Simply complete the form below and mail it with your \$20 entry fee for a chance to win your 2026-2027 membership dues. You can enter as many times as you like, (\$20 per entry). The winner will be announced at the August Twilight Service and notified by phone if not in attendance. Don't miss this chance to save \$200 and support SLJC at the same time.

Name _____

Phone _____


Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: SLJC

Mail To: Janey Burnce, 9510 E. Champagne Dr., Sun Lakes, AZ 85248



HOW TO APPLY TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE TEMPLE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



At the end of this year, three SLJC Board members will have completed their term limits. If you are interested in becoming a Board member, please send your resume to Marty Levine at martelee39@gmail.com. Include your experience, goals, skills, and any personal, educational, and/or information you feel best promotes you.

The resumes will be published in *The Shpiel* for our congregation to read then vote on. Any questions, please contact Marty at martelee39@gmail.com or (908) 216-0848. Thank you!

SLJC SISTERHOOD

Upcoming Meeting

Thursday, May 21, 1 p.m., Chapel House

Thank you to everyone who attended Games Galore fundraiser for local charities. It was a huge success. Save the date for next year's event which will be February 22, 2027. Also, we are grateful to all of you who ordered Mah Jongg cards through Sisterhood. We raised a great deal of money for our charity projects. For more information on our programs, please contact Esther at librolady@hotmail.com.

The next meeting of the SLJC Sisterhood will take place on Thursday, May 21. Back by popular demand, we will have a baby shower for mothers who are military veterans. The organization assists in providing items for mothers and their newborn babies. Please bring any of these suggested items to the baby shower.

ITEMS FOR BABIES

■ Onesies/Shirts/Pants/Dresses/Socks/Booties/Caps (newborn to 9 months old)

■ Hooded Towels/Washcloths/Bibs/Burp Cloths, Disposable Diapers (Sizes #1 and #2)/Baby Wipes/Baby Shampoo/Body Wash/Diaper Rash Ointment

■ Bottles/Bottle Brushes/Pacifiers/Teething Rings

■ Drinking Cups/Baby Spoons/Baby Hairbrushes/Combs/Nail Clippers

■ Baby Thermometers/Medicine Dispensers/Nasal Aspirators/Teething Gel Stuffed Animals/Children's Books/Receiving Blankets/Baby Quilts/Knit Baby Blankets

ITEMS FOR MOMS

■ Razors and Shaving Gel/Shower or Bath Spongers/Shampoo & Conditioner/Hairbrushes/Hair Ties/Combs/Nail Files/Clippers/Nail Polish/Body Wash/Bubble Bath/Hand-Body Lotion/Coconut Oil/Lip Gloss/Chapstick/Feminine Products: Tampons/Pads/Nursing Pads

■ Bathrobe/Slippers/Flip Flops (medium & large sizes)/Toothbrushes/Toothpaste



HAVURAH JEWISH SINGLES GROUP

Diane Zelinger and Roberta Levitan are Co-Presidents of the Havurah Singles Group from SLJC, a group of men and women who like to have fun and socialize with one another. Once a month we post our activities and email everyone a copy. If you wish to join us, please contact Diane at (303) 229-2511 or Roberta at (480) 895-9699. We hope to see you soon!



SLJC MEN'S CLUB

Next Event: Thursday, May 5, 11:30 pm, Chase's Diner, 2040 N Alma School Rd. (near Warner Rd.)

On May 5, at 11:30 a.m., the Men's Club will have lunch at Chase's Diner. For anyone who hasn't been there, this is a great 1950's-style diner. So that we can make reservations, RSVP to Edd Shalett at (480) 329-9364, tieman11@myctl.net or to Marty Levine at (908) 216-0848, martelee@hotmail.com.



SOMETHING YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW

NEIL SEDAKA

By Murray Siegel

On February 27, Neil Sedaka, successful singer in the 1960s and award-winning composer, passed away. Neil grew up in an apartment house in the Brighton Beach section of Brooklyn, NY, and displayed musical talent at an early age. He studied classical piano, but he loved pop music. His paternal grandparents were Sephardic Jews who immigrated from Turkey and his maternal grandparents were Ashkenazi who arrived here from Russia. Sedaka is a version of the word *tzedakah*.

A neighbor, Howard Greenfield, was a young poet. He and Neil collaborated on many of Neil's early hits, with Neil writing the melody and Howard the lyrics. Neil attended Lincoln High School, where he organized a singing group The Linc-Tones, which changed their name to the Tokens. After Neil left the group to perform on his own, the Tokens (under the leadership of Jay Siegel) had several hits including "The Lion Sleeps Tonight."

Neil dated Carol Klein, who is known as Carole King. After they broke up, he wrote his first big hit, "Oh Carol," in 1959. Neil had several Top 10 hits in the 1960s and he wrote hit songs for others, including "Stupid Cupid" for Connie Francis, "Ring Ring" by ABBA, "Solitaire" for The Carpenters, and "Love will Keep Us Together" for The Captain and Tennille.

Photo license link: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Neil_Sedaka_-_Royal_Albert_Hall_-_Monday_18th_September_2017_SedakaRAH180917-19_\(37417278902\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Neil_Sedaka_-_Royal_Albert_Hall_-_Monday_18th_September_2017_SedakaRAH180917-19_(37417278902).jpg)



The British invasion reduced the popularity of Neil's songs, so he moved his family (wife Leba and two children) to England where he collaborated with Elton John. The Sedakas returned to the U.S. in the 1970s, and he continued writing and singing.

He was hospitalized in Los Angeles on February 27 for undisclosed reasons and died later that day of heart and kidney failure. Neil was two weeks short of his 87th birthday.

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.

CHAPEL FUND

In honor of Cindy &
Adam Brooks children's
wedding
by Susan & Michael Cohen
In memory of Steve
Fishman
by Susan & Michael Cohen

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Steve
Fishman
by Susan & Neil Tamber
In memory of Steve
Fishman
*by Diane & Gregory
Posniack*
In memory of Mel Ginsberg
by Leah & Al Bloom
Mazel tov to Susan Colvin
& David Betesh
by Leah & Al Bloom

MUSIC FUND

In honor of the Choir
by Sandy & Marty Golomb

SILVERMAN FUND

In memory of Steve
Fishman
by Stephen & Susan Kubrin
In memory of Sy & Edie
Evans
by SLJC Men's Club

YAHARZEIT FUND

In memory of Gretel Moses
by Elaine Meltzer
In memory of Hannah
Meltzer
by Elaine Meltzer
In memory of Ruben
Weiner
by Stuart Weiner
In memory of Mildred Roth
by Carol Horowitz
In memory of Herman
Levinson
*by Marjorie & David
Levinson*
In memory of Roslyn
Algranati
by Marsha Levine
In memory of Eugene Behr
by Marilyn & Alan Behr

In memory of Charles J.
Feinberg
by Sheilah Lee Ross
In memory of Larry Moss
by Mel Moss
In memory of Ron
Landberg
by Mel Moss
In memory of Ruth Levitan
by Roberta Levitan
In memory of Albert
Burnce
by Janey & Jeff Burnce
In memory of Sylvia Levy
by Rita Tanen
In memory of Mark
Gurievisky
by Michael & Evey Freed
In memory of Henri
Glicenstein
by Colette Goldstein
In memory of Frieda
Goldstein
by Colette Goldstein
In memory of Joseph
Brajtberg Bright
by Helen Frischenmeyer
In memory of Ruth Pothus
by Suzanne Rosenthal

In memory of Sonia
Machbitz Strauss
*by Marc & Suzanne
Machbitz*
In memory of Albert
Henden
by Shelly & Arnie Henden
In memory of Celia
Bornheim
by Sheryl Rockwell
In memory of Norman H.
Spear
by Jeff Spear
In memory of Henry
Zelinger
by Diane Zelinger
In memory of Shirley
Frances
by Diane Zelinger
In memory of Mitzel
Goelman
by Leah & Al Bloom
In memory of Jacob Sharff
*by Janey & Jeff Burnce and
Geri & Jim Gould*
In memory of Rose Freed
by Michael & Evey Freed

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Thank you for attending, helping with, and donating to the recent community seder with Sun Lakes United Methodist Church. We are grateful for everything you did before, during, and after the seder to make the event a success. May we continue to make a positive impact on the world.

— Barbara Ganz
& Judy Elias

We are sad to report the recent death of longtime former member Eileen (Bunny) Elman. Cards may be sent to her daughter, Shelly Elman, at:

2434 Sheridan Court
Villa Rica, GA 30180

SLJC sends good wishes for a speedy recovery to Diane Posniack following her recent hip surgery.

We are sad to report the recent passing on April 15 of Roberta Frank, sister of congregant Gail Dante. Cards may be sent to Gail at:

5420 S Clambake Bay Ct.
Tempe, AZ 85283

Thank you so much for the many donations in memory of Marilyn. Your tenderness and thoughtfulness during this time meant much to our family. We are grateful for all your support your love for mom, and for keeping her memory in your hearts.

With sincere appreciation,
Harvey, Brian & Andrew Fein

Please submit Bulletin Board posting requests to Geri Gould at 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.

MAY CELEBRATIONS

ANNIVERSARIES — *kol hakavod* — to another great year ahead together!

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 1 David & Nina Richman | 5 Alan & Marilyn Behr | 25 Alex & Wendy Goldstein |
| 4 Ron & Victoria Gindick | 19 Berlyn (Sonny) Jr. & Margie Rose White | 25 Charlotte and Mel Bram |

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

- | | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Gary Hasenfus | 6 Margie White | 13 Ann Baumrind | 26 Bruce Nussbaum |
| 3 Sherie Sinykin | 10 Lana Oyer | 14 Alex Goldstein | 27 Victoria Gindick |
| 4 Sharon Becker | 10 JoAnne Rubinstein | 14 Mark Salita | 28 Stephen Kubrin |
| 5 Arthur Fink | 11 Wendy Goldstein | 17 Noel Levine | 29 John Russo |
| 5 Barbara Reiss | 11 Bill Wasserman | 22 Ken Mesa | 30 Elaine Zolty |
| 6 Robert Kleiman | 12 Michael Kaplan | 23 Eve Wagner | |

MAY YAHRZEITS

Zichronam livrachah — may their memories be a blessing.

- | | | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Samuel Abramson | Shirley Francis | Merv Kolb | Arthur Siegel |
| Roslyn Algranati | Rose Freed | Ronald Landberg | Ruth Siegel |
| Eugene Behr | Fella Fryde | Herman Levinson | Daniel Sinykin |
| William Berk | Martin Garber | Ruth Levitan | Gerald Sisser |
| Anne Bernstein | Sue Gerson | Sharon Lynn Levy | Norman Spear |
| Irvin Biales | Karen Ann Gersten | Sylvia Levy | Sonia Strauss |
| Celia Bornheim | Isabella Gettes | Jerome Mendelsohn | Seymour Weiner |
| Rose Brener | Mitzi Goelman | Gretel Moses | Meyer Wiener |
| Albert Burnce | Sarah (Sally) Granoff | Larry Moss | Sadie Weiner |
| Robert Cantor | Mark Gurievsky | Alva Nelson | Daniel Weintraub |
| James Cline | Albert Henden | Darrell Owens | Leon Winter |
| Joseph Cohen | Anita Salas | Ruth Pothus | Henry Arthur Zelinger |
| Samuel Cohen | Hernandez | Anna Price | |
| Donald Currens | Barbara Lubisch | Mildred Roth | |
| Charles Feinberg | Ivanhoe | Sara Scheck | |
| Dorothy Fink | Eva Katcher | Jacob Sharff | |

RESCHEDULED: “THE KEY TO A GOOD NIGHT’S SLEEP”

By Carol Horowitz



Since LAFFter is the BEST medicine, plan ahead to keep the doctor away and **SAVE THE DATES** for the most fun LAFFter that you’ve had in ages. Next **JANUARY 23** and **SUNDAY, JANUARY 24** at 2 p.m. in the Sun Lakes Chapel of All Faiths, mark your calendars for the 2027 return of one hour and twenty-minute matinee performances of the hit musical comedy, “The Key to A Good Night’s Sleep,” performed by LAFF, (Laughter and Friendship Forever).

Join us for nonstop LAFFter when your talented friends and neighbors throughout Sun Lakes perform this hilarious one act musical comedy. Although the production had to be postponed from its original March 2026 production date due to illness of our many in our cast, LAFF is excited to reprise the opportunity to perform this unique can’t-be-missed play for our Sun Lakes audiences as promised in early 2027.

As an added bonus, to make up for making you wait to see one of the funniest musicals ever to be performed in our community, you will also be treated to special

performances of hysterical vignettes and “oleos,” all created to keep you LAFFing and to help provide the real answers to “The Key to A Good Night’s Sleep.”

LAFF (Laughter and Friendship Forever) is a fun-loving interfaith creative and performing arts group sponsored by Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation. The LAFF group loves to share camaraderie and laughter, while building friendships and bringing entertainment to Sun Lakes. Whether you enjoy acting, singing, dancing, assisting with technical support, helping backstage, working on scenery and set design, or just plain LAFFing with us as part of our audiences, we encourage you to join our fun. We are always seeking new members.

For further information, contact Carol Horowitz at horowitz@windstream.net or by cellphone at (760) 271-2758.

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:

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th, 2026

Return your check payable to Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation to:

Marty and Marsha Levine, 3805 E. County Down Dr. Chandler, AZ 85249

Questions call: 480-802-8911 or 908-216-0848

DO NOT INCLUDE WITH OTHER CONGREGATIONAL DUES

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

PLEASE CHECK BOTH 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 and 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(1/4 page) \$36 (1/2 page) \$72 (full page)

PRINT YOUR NAME(S) EXACTLY AS YOU WISH IT TO APPEAR IN YOUR MEMORIAL

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

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 **\$54.00**, and there are three options for the wording of the plaque.

Simply complete the form below and mail it along with a check payable: SLJC for \$54.00 per plaque to: Wendy Goldstein S Lakeway Circle NW, Sun Lakes 85248. Any questions, call (480)548-5909.

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)

Purchase by _____ (name)

CHOICE 2

Always in Our Heart _____ (name & date)

Purchase by _____ (name)

CHOICE 3

In Remembrance of _____ (name & date)

Purchase by _____ (name)

\$54.00 per plaque-Make check payable to SLJC

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JEWISH WAR VETERANS COPPER STATE POST 619

STEPHEN BRADFORD SPEAKS ON HELPING VETERANS THROUGH MUSIC

Sunday, May 17, 9:30 am, Oakwood Country Club Ballroom, 24218 S. Oakwood Blvd., Sun Lakes



◁ Stephen Bradford, founder Instruments 4 Success, requests instrument donations to help heal veterans returning from combat with PTS (Post Traumatic Stress) and TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury). Please see article to learn how to donate instruments.

All are invited to the Jewish War Veterans Copper State Post 619 meeting, Sunday, May 17 to learn about Instruments 4 Success. The meeting takes place in the Oakwood Country Club

Ballroom, 24218 S. Oakwood Blvd in Sun Lakes. A "Meet & Greet," with free lox and bagels, coffee, and doughnuts starts at 9:30 a.m. The speaker follows at 10 a.m..

Instruments 4 Success, founded by Stephen Bradford under the nonprofit Veterans First Ltd., helps veterans heal through music. With the donation of 1,000 musical instruments to veterans and their families, Stephen enjoys organizing Veteran bands that play at various events to bring awareness to veteran causes.

When asked how the concept was born, Stephen replied, "While speaking with veterans enrolled in an inpatient substance abuse program at the VA, I met a veteran with a strong musical connection who was battling addiction. Through a Facebook post, I was able to get a guitar donated by a high-school classmate. It was like a miracle that sparked his road to recovery and the bright future he still enjoys today. I thought maybe we stumbled onto a winning concept, and Instruments 4 Success was born."

Who gets an instrument? Veterans in an inpatient setting may benefit from an instrument. Referrals from a healthcare professional receive top priority. The ASU Office for Veteran and Military Academic Engagement (OVMAE) coordinates a list of students each semester who will receive a brand-new guitar and accessories package upon graduation. Family members that have tried everything else call Steve for help. He strives to get instruments to most requesting veterans.

Interested in donating an instrument? To donate an instrument (or to make a veteran request to acquire an instrument), please contact Stephen Bradford by visiting www.instruments4success.org.

Stephen Bradford served in the US Army for eight years, including two combat deployments in the Gulf War. His civic activities include volunteering at the Phoenix Police Department since 2010 to the present. Stephen was the lead Instructor for Guitars for Vets in the Phoenix/Tempe chapter for many years and is active with several nonprofits that provide recreation therapy. He is a state certified peer support counselor and was inducted into the prestigious Arizona Veterans' Hall of Fame for his advocacy.

Stephen returned from combat having issues with nightmares, flashbacks, intrusive thoughts, as well as a battle with addiction, multiple suicide attempts and multiple brain injuries. "So I know firsthand how music literally saved my life," explains Stephen. It was then he began to volunteer helping others. He interacted with doctoral students at ASU that were proving how playing guitar reconnects neural pathways, prevents dementia and Alzheimer's, and offering many other benefits. Receiving support from many organizations, Bradford started giving out instruments to veterans and their family members. For the past eight years, Stephen has taught guitar with the help of his team of instructors for ASU OVMAE, the community, and VA programs.

For more information about JWV Post 619 and membership opportunities, please visit the JWV Facebook page at facebook.com/CopperStatePost619 and contact Arthur Uram at (702) 884-4175, uramarthur@gmail.com.

JWV Post 619, which meets the third Sunday of every month from September to June, boasts members who represent a wide range of religious affiliations and participates in philanthropic activities to help veterans of all faiths. To learn more about JWV activities and membership, contact Arthur Uram, (702) 884-4175, uramarthur@gmail.com.

CONTRIBUTE TO THE MEMORIAL DAY POPPY DRIVE

Saturday, May 23-Sunday, May 24, 9 am-3 pm, Fry's Markets (Various Locations)

On Saturday, May 23 and Sunday, May 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., members and volunteers of Jewish War Veterans Copper State Post 619 (JWV) will be wearing their JWV red shirts to conduct the Memorial Day Poppy Drive at these Fry's Market locations:

- **Chandler:** Alma School & Germann, Riggs & McQueen, Ocotillo & S. Gilbert Rd.
- **Gilbert:** Warner & Cooper; Gilbert Rd & Williams Field; S Higley Rd & Chandler Heights
- **Mesa:** E. Main & Greenfield
- **Tempe:** Rural & Ray
- **Phoenix:** Ray Rd & 36th Street


The poppy was recognized as a symbol of sacrifice worn by Americans since World War I to honor those who served and died for our country in all wars. It reminds Americans of the sacrifices made by our veterans while protecting our freedoms.

Poppy campaigns, conducted in May and November, are JWV's major source of fundraising to help disabled and hospitalized veterans as well as those experiencing homelessness. These funds are distributed to veterans' organizations providing services that make a difference in the lives of our past and present military.



△ Wearing JWV red shirts, Vice Commanders Arthur Uram and Stuart Davis will be at Fry's Market in May collecting donations for veterans in need. (Zelle is now an option for those without cash.)

Nonprofit veterans' organizations benefitting from JWV fundraising activities include U. S Vets-Phoenix, Ashley's Place, MANA House, Soldier's Best Friend, Helping Hands for Freedom, and Instruments 4 Success.

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P.O. Box 11479
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