



# THE SHPIEL

FEBRUARY 2020 | SHEVAT/ADAR 5780

## TU B'SHVAT

*New Year of the Trees*



*Milzram*

## **The Beauty of Nature**

***Rabbi's column, pg. 2***

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

# SLJC February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 10:30 am Ritual Committee  6:30 pm Men's Club Meeting	5	6	7	8 2:00 pm Shabbat Salon
9	10 10:00 am Sisterhood Card Party (Oakwood Country Club)	11	12	13 4:00 pm Board Meeting	14 7:00 pm Shabbat Service	15
16 9:30 am JVV Post 619 Meeting (Sun Lakes Country Club)	17	18 12:00 pm Shalom Hadassah (Stone & Barrel)	19	20	21	22
23 3:00 pm Friends of Israel Lecture	24	25 1:00 pm Shalom Hadassah (Home of Esther Spear)	26	27 10:00 am Piano Concert	28	29 3:30 pm Shalom Hadassah (Hale Theater)

## HIGHLIGHTS

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

- Co-President, Geri Gould (480) 305-0123
- Co-President, Wendy Feldman-Kerr (602) 541-6185
- Membership, Marilyn Koss (480) 882-9022
- Rabbi Irwin Wiener, D.D. (623) 640-5913
- Cantor, Ronda Polesky (480) 247-8408
- Music Director, Lana Oyer (602) 524-5936
- Graphics, Mike Milgroom (480) 802-7990

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



## The Beauty of Nature



Time sure has a way of escaping us. One minute it is January, and the next it is February. It, time, surely gives us pause to think about what was, and possibly anticipate what will be. I would venture a guess that no one really wants to remember yesterday and is fearful of tomorrow. Age, somehow, plays a significant role in our thinking.

The one thing that is constant, regardless of time, is that the seasons follow in accordance to the prescribed sequence. Actually time was once counted by the new moon and by the seasons. If you read history, especially Jewish history (Bible), you will find that celebrations, feasts, and commemorations were, and are, seasonal. The common denominator was, and is, the harvest times and the planting times. Two such holidays that come to mind are Sukkot and Shavuot.

In February there is another that is overlooked, but one that has a tremendous impact on our lives: Tu B'Shevat, the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat. This specific date was chosen to commemorate nature and survival. It is the New Year of the trees. In Jewish tradition there are three other new year celebrations: Tishre, Rosh Hashanah, a dedication of our spiritual wellbeing, a new beginning to our lives; Passover, a testament to our understanding of our place in the universe and our impact on the awakening to a greater understanding of our relationship to each other and, of course, to God; the third is the first day of Elul, the beginning of our concentration on our obligations as humans dedicated to self-evaluation.

Why a New Year for trees? The simple truth is that it is a time set aside to renew our relationship with nature, to commemorate the bond that is necessary for our survival. It is a time when people and nature work together to make life livable and rewarding. The same holds true with our relationships with one another, whether family, friends, or sweethearts. And there are those of us who have lost loved ones and somehow this season allows us to remember that as nature is renewed with the seasons, so are our memories.

One day we wrote a name of a loved one on the sands of time and then it was washed away. Some of us are forced to write a new name, and refresh the old one so

that the remembrance does not disappear. Just as the trees shed their leaves in the winter and sleep, we, too, seem to feel a certain despair and hopelessness. But then we remember that with spring comes new growth and new opportunities to renew our memories.

Winter passes and we understand that the tree, sometimes barren, but often blooming, represents us. It is the symbol of eternity and the opportunity to garner our strength to bring renewal to our existence after the long sleep. It is a reminder that nothing is lost, and nothing is gone. When we see the flowers bloom and the trees bring forth their fruit, we should understand that life is never ending.

This is why we celebrate a holiday commemorating trees because it teaches us that we are the living embodiment of the connection to everything there is and everything that will be. It is a holiday that helps us understand the beauty of life, even as we are saddened by the losses we encounter. It is a holiday that gives expression to love with every leaf that blossoms and every bud that blooms.

To me, the poetess, Joyce Kilmer gave meaning to our love of nature and our awareness of the significance of trees:

### TREES

By Joyce Kilmer

I think that I shall never see  
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest  
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,  
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in Summer wear  
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;  
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,  
But only God can make a tree.

Perhaps you will want to plant a tree! 🌳

# SLJC Men's Club

The Men's Club is a social organization that meets the first Tuesday of the month from September through June. We have interesting speakers from our community to address our membership every month. Guests are always invited, and refreshments are provided. The organization also has special lunches as well as various site visits in the local area. All SLJC members are encouraged to be members of the Men's Club to enable fellowship throughout our Jewish community and achieve our social responsibility as a Jewish community.

The Men's Club collects non-perishable food for local food banks prior to Friday night services in front of the Chapel from 6:15 until 6:45 p.m. (Do not leave anything by the garage cans as they may get lost or discarded.) Please consider donating food to this worthy cause. We collected 673 pounds of food since the High Holiday Services. Keep up the good work!

**The next meeting is scheduled for February 4th at 7:00 p.m. at the Chapel Center.** As always, wives, guests, and prospective members are always welcome. Refreshments are served beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Our next speaker is Bill Svoboda. His topic is "**Stress!! Stress?? You don't have to have it if you use some simple and effective ideas.**" Bill has been a husband, father, teacher, professor, dean, COO, writer, speaker,



coach and entrepreneur. He is founder of PotentialMAX, a company devoted to the research and dissemination of concepts and skills in his most recent publications *Your Choices, Your Life* and *What's Most Important?* Bill's research is focused on five crucial factors for living a long, healthy, productive, happy and fulfilled life: gaining and maintaining physical health, gaining and maintaining mental health, gaining and maintaining financial security, gaining and using problem-solving and critical thinking skills, and acting responsibly to others, the environment and especially to you. For further information contact Steve Horowitz [stevehorowitz@windstream.net](mailto:stevehorowitz@windstream.net).

# Friends of Israel

## WHY IS JERUSALEM SO IMPORTANT TO THE MUSLIMS?

Rabbi Beyo is the CEO of the East Valley JCC in Chandler. In his role as a teacher in the Open Beit Midrash at the EVJCC, he has earned a reputation as an extraordinary teacher who treasures a diversity of opinions and who has a keen memory of historical facts and information about a full spectrum of Jewish issues. He brings more than 25 years of professional, entrepreneurial and rabbinical experience and has guest lectured at Emory University, Georgia Tech, Boston University, Scottsdale Community College, and Chandler/Gilbert Community College.

Rabbi Beyo will speak on Sunday, February 23 at 3:00 p.m. at the Chapel Center located at 9230 E. Sun Lakes Blvd., Sun Lakes. His topic has major contemporary implications in terms of any possible resolution of the Israel-Palestinian conflict. The event is free and open to the public.



# CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

GERI GOULD AND WENDY FELDMAN-KERR

## Because We Care

February, the month of Valentine's Day. Valentine's Day reminds us of those we love, often in our personal relationships. But love and caring also applies to our Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation. We have many ways we show our interest and attention to others.

Our Caring Committee exists to do just that – show that we care. They inform others of congregants' illnesses, bereavements, or even deaths, so as a congregation we can send personal messages of support to those named. In many cases, friends arrange for meals or rides or whatever they know might be needed.

Eblasts represent another way we inform the whole congregation of needs in other homes. The Shpiel keeps us all informed and connected.

During happy and sad occasions, it is heartwarming to know that SLJC congregants respond in caring ways.

How can we be even more caring? We can be more aware of our fellow members in the Chapel for instance. Perhaps we can be more aware of who is around us in our pews. Might a fellow congregant near you need help getting in or out of the pew? Would it even make sense for us to suggest that those who are more physically able sit on both ends or at least at one end of each row



to in order to help those in the middle seats to get out safely and with help?

What about people-to-people relationships among congregants? When arriving and greeting people, let's make an effort to say hello and perhaps choose to sit with people we don't yet know to help nurture or consolidate new friendships. We might even do this at the Oneg so that we begin to know and care about those who may yet be strangers to us.

Remember when we used to give and receive Valentine's Day cards at school? Even if we don't know each other that well yet, let's all be sure to show one another know we care. That is the meaning of love. ■



## Shabbat Salon

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2-4 PM  
VILLAGE AT OCOTILLO

Get ready for our next Shabbat Salon, a film based on the best-selling book "The Book Thief", by Markus Zusak, directed by Brian Percival and featuring Sophie Nélisse, Geoffrey Rush, Emily Watson and Ben Schnetzer.

This film is free; popcorn and cookies will be served. Call Gail at (480) 802-1832 for reservations or with questions you might have.

# SLJC Sisterhood Card Party Coming to Oakwood

It's time to register for the Annual Card Party on Monday, February 10 at 10:00 a.m., sponsored by the Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation Sisterhood.

This fun-filled event raises funds for local charities and our temple. Gather your friends to play Mah Jongg, Canasta, Bridge, Scrabble, or another game, or we will place you with others who enjoy your favorite game. You may sign up alone or as a group.

We will have lots of our signature gift baskets plus raffles and a bake sale of delicious treats. There is also a gourmet lunch buffet included in the \$35 entry fee.

For reservations or more information contact Geri at (480) 305-0123. For catering purposes, we need your registration by February 3.



## Havurah Chai Jewish Singles Group

There is nothing on earth to be prized more than true friendships. Everyone has a gift for something, especially the gift of being a good friend.

Chai is now in our 4th year of making new friends while enjoying 2 events each month. We invite all Jewish Singles to come see what they have been missing! The dues are your smiles and we have car pools from ACE Hardware in Sun Lakes.

You are always welcome to be with us for Shabbat Services on the 2nd Friday of the month at the Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation. After Services please join us at the Oneg for a delightful sweet table and getting to know each other over a cuppa!

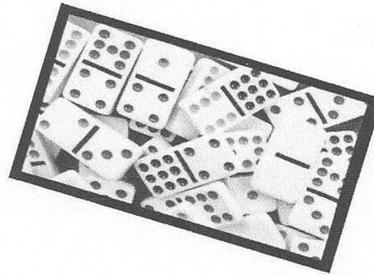
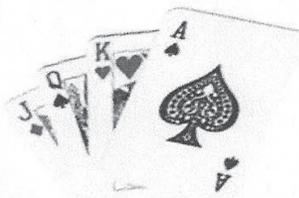
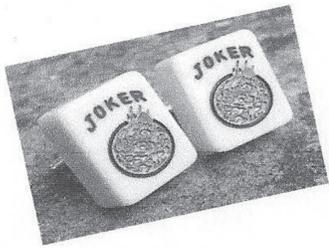
For information contact: [Lainy.Sardina@gmail.com](mailto:Lainy.Sardina@gmail.com) or (480) 895-0974.

Upcoming Events: February 15 "Dutton Variety Show", [March 14 Hale Theater: "Guys & Dolls"]



P.S. When we are friendly at our Onegs, we never know how great it can be. I met a couple where the husband was from Kansas City, Mo. I was born and raised there and he and I couldn't stop talking to each other. It was so much fun.

We always encourage others to get involved in the fun, thereby bringing smiles to everyone!



# ANNUAL CARD PARTY

**Monday, February 10, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Doors open at 9:00 a.m.**

**Oakwood Country Club**

**Sponsored by Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation Sisterhood**

**\$35.00 entry fee includes a delicious buffet lunch.**

**For reservations or questions call Geri at 480-305-0123.**

**Don't forget about our signature raffle baskets and the tantalizing treats at our bake sale !**

***Hey Men!* How about getting together a poker or pinochle table.**

**Names of players: (Please include a contact phone #/e-mail for one member of the group.) Reservations deadline is February 1st.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Game to be played: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please make your check for \$35.00 per player to SLJC SISTERHOOD, and mail to Geri Gould at 24529 S. Lakeway Circle SW, Sun Lakes, AZ 85248. Please limit lunch seating to groups of five.**

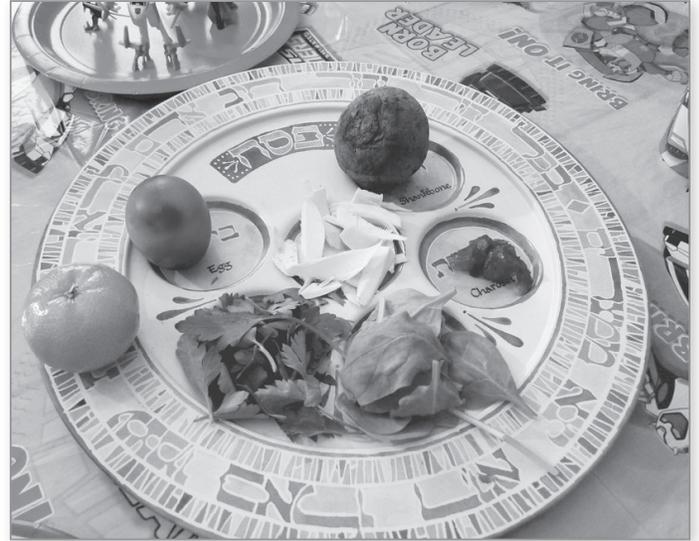
**You must provide your own game. No shufflers please!**

# Annual Community Seder

We would be honored for you and your family to join us at our Annual Community Seder on **Saturday, April 11**. Although not the traditional night, this Seder occurs on the Saturday within the week of Passover to make it easier to have families attend.

Doors open at 5:00 p.m. at the Palo Verde Restaurant (just like last year), located at 10801 E. San Tan Blvd., Sun Lakes.

The cost is: \$40 per adult, \$15 per child 5-12 yrs., and no cost for children under 5 yrs. Please make all checks out to SLJC and send to Susie Shapiro, 24117 S. Lake Way Circle NE, Sun Lakes, AZ 85248. Please call Susie with any at questions at (480) 883-7117, or e-mail me with any other questions: Helen Bernstein-Abrams, [hsbcd@gmail.com](mailto:hsbcd@gmail.com).



## Shalom Hadassah

All RSVPs (except for *Guys and Dolls*) and checks should be mailed to: Marsha Levine, 3805 E County Down Drive, Chandler, AZ 85249. Or, call (480) 802-8911.

**February 18 - Lunch and Fun Crafts** (Instead of Movie and Lunch at Harkins)  
Stone & Barrel, 12:00 - 3:00 pm  
(price for the craft to be determined)

**February 25 - Challah Baking**  
Home of Esther Spear, 6704 S. Huachuca Way, Chandler,  
1:00 - 3:00 pm  
RSVP by February 18. Space is limited; RSVP as soon as possible. Cost: \$15.

**February 29 - *Guys and Dolls***  
Hale Theater, 3:30 - 6:30 pm  
Call Marcia Weiner for more information.

**March 10 - Lunch**  
Stone & Barrel, 12:00 - 2:00 pm  
Speaker: Joanne Gaudioso; Topic: Essential Oils

**March 22 - Wine and Cheese Party**  
Home of Joan Silver, 4:00 - 6:00 pm

**April 14 - Women's Passover Seder**  
Doris Codkind's House, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

**May 12 - Kentucky Derby Party**  
Oakwood Country Club, 12:00 - 2:00 pm





## SLJC Annual Community Seder

Saturday, April 11, 2020  
Palo Verde Country Club  
Doors open at 5 PM

\$40 per adult  
\$15 per child ages 5 to 12  
Children under 5 - free

Choice of  
Brisket • Chicken • Vegetarian

Make all checks payable to SLJC and send to  
Susie Shapiro  
24117 S. Lakeway Circle NE, Sun Lakes, AZ 85248



Please tear off and return with check.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Children \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Brisket \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

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

14	Sander & Anita Frindell	17	Deborah & Mark Israel	19	Paula & Milton Lewis
14	Deanna & Melvyn Mintz	19	Tzvi & Gina Caplan		

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

2	Arleene Forgang	11	Mark Israel	18	Ellen Fineberg	21	Suzy Ziegler
2	Harriet Haroutunian	12	Marsha Levine	18	Len Schulman	22	Fred Chaflin
2	Linda Wasserman	13	Roxanne Banta	20	Ruth Friedman	22	Carol Sherter
3	Ron Kollman	14	Joy Dolin	20	Renee Politi	25	Harvey Weiner
7	Arlene Santis	15	Betsey Silverman	20	Judi Primack	26	Joan Silver
8	Michael Frischenmeyer	16	Diana Nelinson	21	Eleanor Miller	26	Nancy Stutman
10	Samuel Abramson	16	Ruth Ostreicher-Weber	21	Joan Nieman		
11	Janice Frankel	17	Ronald Codkind	21	Susan Reeves		

# FEBRUARY YAHRZEITS

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

Abraham Amiton	Jerry Feldman	Barrett Lazarus	Craig Sable
James Amiton	William Feller	Sadie Lazarus	Muriel Salita
Jack Aronowitz	Benjamin Fischer	Bernard Linder	Lucie Sandler
Ermenegildo Bassegio	Shirley Fray	Joseph Lubisch	Dorothy Schaeffer
Melvin Becker	Justin Friedman	Natalie Millard	Synthia Scheck
Anne Berg	Augusta Friedman	Samuel Miller	Louis Schulman
Florence Berger	Maurice Gerson	Rose Mohr	Sylvia Sharf
Sheila Berger	Betty Ginsberg	Samuel Moise	Morris Sharff
Donald M. Brill	Morton Goldfader	Mollie Moise	Isabelle Sheffey
Ida Gilbert Brodsky	Geraldine Goldman	Geraldine Nelinson	Helene Shulman
William Buchsbaum	Marcy Goldstein	Jack Ornstein	Robert Smigel
Marjorie Buchsbaum	Frank Hasenfus	Joseph Pasternack	Bertha Smigel
Essie Cohen	Cie Hirschhoff	Allan Price	Dorothy Stone
Helen Diamond	Barbara Kaplan	Sam Primack	Isaac Strahl
Harriett DiGirolamo	Rose Kaplan	Anne Primack	Jerome Weinberg
Robert Dubinsky	Irving Karp	Louis Raizes	Maurice Weissman
Constance Dunayer	Charles Katz	Mollie Rosendale	Norma Zacharias
John Elias	Norman Klein	Aaron Rosenfeld	Irving Zigman
Woody Fabert	David Kornetsky	Sadie Roth	Sylvia Zuckerman
Richard Feldman	Harriet Kruger	Marilyn Russell	

# COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Howard and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our temple family and friends for coming out on November 8th to be part of the Hebrew naming of our two granddaughters from Colorado. A BIG "Thank You" goes out to Rabbi Weiner, Cantor Polesky, Lana Oyer and the choir and Shea Marshall for a fabulous service with beautiful musical accompaniment. Special thanks go out to Roxy Nault and Joyce Spartonos for setting up a beautiful Oneg Shabbat and much appreciation goes out to Paul Wheeler, who videotaped the service and reached out to us to send us a copy. We are so proud to be members of the SLJC and our appreciation for all of you is beyond words.

Thanks again,  
Lorrie and Howard Cohen

The Warshaws thank the congregation for their kindnesses when they lost their son. It was a comfort having the community support them.

## Shopping List for SLJC (Donations gratefully accepted):

- Megillah service books for Purim
- Underwriting for new Haggadot
- Donation for Passover wine for community seder
- Donation for matzo for community seder

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# CONTRIBUTIONS



Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions made from December 12 through January 12 in honor or memory of a special person or event. If you would like to make a donation, please use the donation form below.

Morris Stone  
*by Bob Stone*  
Ida Tauber  
*by Richard Tauber*  
Bernard Goldner  
*by Susan Tauber*  
Rabbi Victor Beck  
*by Sharon Beck*  
Steven Farber  
*by Caralyn Brace*  
Peter Roth  
*by Faith Roth*  
Nathan Plafker  
*by Irwin Plafker*  
Koren Naguchi Dante  
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*by Harvey Weiner*  
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Joseph Axelrad  
*by Esther Spear*  
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*by Janey & Jeff Burnce*  
Agusta Friedman  
*by Marjorie & David Levinson*  
Louis Schulman  
*by Leonard & Sandra Shulman*

Frank Hasenfus  
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Morris Sharff  
*by Geri & Jim Gould*  
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Benjamin Goldman  
*by Ruth Lavin*  
Gearldine Goldman  
*by Ruth Lavin*

## Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation Donation Form

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Chapel \_\_\_\_\_ Oneg \_\_\_\_\_ Music \_\_\_\_\_ Family Fund \_\_\_\_\_ Flower \_\_\_\_\_ Torah \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please send card to:

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

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

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Remit to: Alan Behr, 25803 Eastlake Dr., Sun Lakes, AZ 85248 (Minimum donation of \$10.00 please)

# JWV POST 619 Will Host U.S.Vets-Phoenix

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 9:30 A.M., MIRROR ROOM, SUN LAKES COUNTRY CLUB

February's speaker is special guest, Executive Director Michelle Jameson of U.S. Vets-Phoenix, a national leader in providing housing, employment and other critical services to veterans. She currently serves as a member on Congressman Ruben Gallego's Veterans Council. Michelle understands the needs of the men and women who have served our country bravely and with honor. She oversees the fiscal and program operations of the U.S. Vets-Phoenix. Since its inception in 2001, the organization has given homeless and at-risk veterans in Maricopa County an opportunity to reclaim their lives and achieve self-sufficiency. In line with this, Michelle is a member of the Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness Legislative Advocacy. Annually, U.S. VETS-Phoenix provides housing to over 500 veterans in Maricopa County.



According to Michelle, "Since 2008, Jewish War Veterans Post 619 has donated \$42,600 to U.S.VETS-Phoenix, which is amazing! We never get enough funding. When we needed beds and dressers last year, I had no idea where we would get the money. JWV Post 619 came to our rescue. You guys are always wonderful to us." If you are a veteran, or have a family member or friend who is a veteran, the February meeting is for you. Bring a friend! Come meet Michelle and join us for refreshments.

JWV meets the third Sunday of the month in Sun Lakes I. To learn more about JWV programs and membership, contact Commander Robert Brooks at (480) 588-1827, [robtlinda72@gmail.com](mailto:robtlinda72@gmail.com).

## LONE SOLDIER PROJECT *by Michael Cohen, MD*

Dear Michael,

*Hello! Hanukkah greeting letters are greatly appreciated. We got all the letters! Very beautiful and exciting letters!! We gave out to our soldiers at a Hanukkah party and also to the soldiers and policemen serving in Hebron, City of the Fathers. They were very excited for the letters. (We added chocolate and delicious drinks.) Thank you!*

*Aaron*

We received this email from the administrator of Osey Chail Association. This Lone Soldier Center serves the needs of Ultra-Orthodox young people who choose to join the IDF and who are no longer welcome to return to their communities. For this reason, they qualify as Lone Soldiers.



Osey Chail is proud to have devoted its first three years to helping more than 80 young soldiers whose families cut off all contact. There are currently 13 apartments to house these soldiers. We are dedicated to assisting these young servicemen and providing them with all they need when not on duty. Each soldier is given a well-equipped furnished room, meals, household equipment, clothing, heaters, a variety of spare-time activity options, Shabbat meals and--most important of all-- moral support, including local families who welcome soldiers warmly into their homes.

Thank you to those who wrote letters and helped the morale of the Lone Soldiers.

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SECOND ANNUAL

**KLEZMER FEST**

MARCH 15, 2020 || 12-5 PM

East Valley JCC  
908 N. Alma School Rd, Chandler

TICKETS: [evjcc.org/klezmerfest](http://evjcc.org/klezmerfest)  
Tickets: \$15 adults, \$5 children ages 12 and younger

PRESENTED BY THE EAST VALLEY JCC AND THE CITY OF CHANDLER

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Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation  
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sunlakesjewishcongregation.org

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# PIANO CONCERT

Featuring:  
Andrew O'Brien

**FEB. 27, 2020**

**10:00 A.M.**

**SUN LAKES CHAPEL**

**COST: FREE**

Andrew O'Brien is a faculty member of Scottsdale Community College where he teaches piano and music history. He has performed in the Chaparral Music Fest, Dartmouth College, San Tan Chamber Orchestra, and the Scottsdale Concert Band.

**There is no cost  
for this wonderful  
music experience.**

—  
**Donations to the  
Sun Lakes Chapel  
will be happily  
accepted.**

**Please join us for  
this event. We are  
fortunate to have  
an accomplished  
musician with us.**

**SPONSORED BY: SUN  
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