



The Shpiel

FEBRUARY 2026 SHEVAT- ADAR 5786



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

SLJC February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 EREV TU BISHVAT 12:30 pm: LAFF Rehearsal	2 TU BISHVAT	3 2:45 pm: SLJC Choir Practice	4	5	6	7
8 12:30 pm: LAFF Rehearsal	9	10 9:30 am: Sisterhood Board Meeting 2:30 pm: SLJC Choir Practice	11 11 am-11 pm: Restaurant Dine Out Temple Fundraiser (<i>BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse</i>) 1:30 pm: Devorah Hadassah Literary Ladies (<i>Zoom</i>)	12 4 pm: SLJC Board Meeting	13 7-9 pm: SLJC Erev Shabbat Service	14
15 12:30 pm: LAFF Rehearsal	16 PRESIDENTS' DAY	17 2:30 pm: SLJC Choir Practice	18 1 pm: Devorah Hadassah Literary Ladies (<i>Zoom</i>)	19 1 pm: Sisterhood Meeting	20	21
22 9:30 am: JWV Meeting (<i>Oakwood Country Club</i>) 12:30 pm: LAFF Rehearsal	23 10 am: Sisterhood Games Galore (<i>Oakwood Country Club</i>)	24 2:30 pm: SLJC Choir Practice	25 1 pm: Devorah Hadassah Out to Lunch (<i>Location TBA</i>)	26	27	28

HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 From the Rabbi
- 5 President's Message
- 12 Contributions
- 13 Donation Form
- 14 Yahrzeits
- 14 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.

RABBI IRWIN WIENER, D.D.



And yes, there is another New Year!

No matter how we calculate the passage of time, whether we consider the first of January or the first of Tishrei (Rosh Hashanah) as the New Year, the beginning of a year is always a time to pause, to reflect, to contemplate.

Tishrei (Rosh Hashanah) represents a rededication of our spiritual self. January is designed to give us a chance to think of our relationships. Then there is Tu Bishvat, the New Year of the trees, and Passover, the New Year of our birth as a nation and a people – our religious maturity, if you will.

All can be summed up with a favorite quote from the rabbis of Yavneh (a city in Israel that produced a Rabbinical Academy after the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD): "I am a creation of God, and my neighbor is also a creation of God; my work is in the city and his in the field; I rise early to do my work and he rises early to do his. As he cannot do well at my work; similarly, I cannot do well at his work."

Nevertheless, if you say, "I do great things and he does unimportant things," perhaps we should respond: "We have learned that it does not matter if a person does much or little, but only if he directs his heart to heaven."

Perhaps what the rabbis of Yavneh were trying to say is that we need to care about each other, to be concerned about one another. This is the essence of who we are – our character – our respect for the dignity of all humans and animals as well.

All who toil in this vineyard of caring exemplify these teachings.

How do we accomplish this during everyday living? Quite simply by being who we are – human beings created to

imitate the goodness of God. And each New Year that is celebrated, secular or religious, gives us the opportunity to rededicate ourselves to doing for others.

Yes, we have a New Year for trees because we know that nature and humankind work together to make life livable and rewarding. Just as the trees sleep in the winter and are reborn in the spring, we too can garner our strength to bring renewal to our existence after the cold winter has passed.

February also reminds us of our obligations to those in need. This is why the Jewish Free Loan Associations throughout the world were created. We are taught that maintaining a person's dignity is paramount in our relationships with one another. There is such an organization in Phoenix – The Jewish Free Loan of Phoenix – and it has existed for quite some time.

As a past president of this worthy effort, I saw firsthand the needs and responses to those needs that gave a future and a hope to so many. The mitzvah is not alone in the giving or in the lending, but also in the way we respond to the need.

A tale is told about a person deep in prayer with a plea to God to send someone to eradicate hunger and poverty and death and destruction. He shouts to God to send someone to relieve the suffering. And then there is a voice that whispers and says that someone was sent – YOU! 

SOMETHING YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW

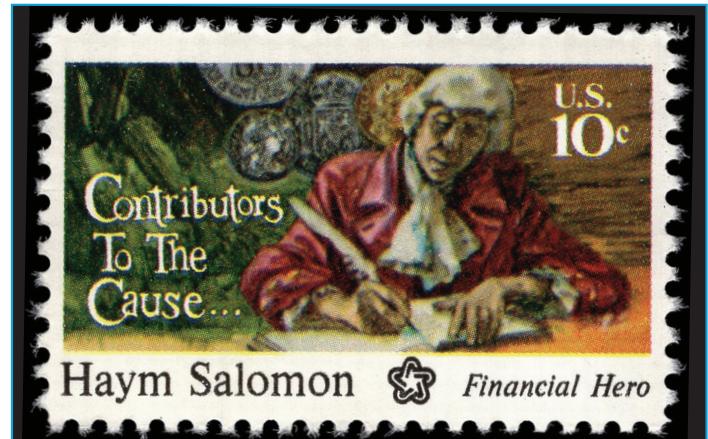
HAYM SALOMON

By Murray Siegel

The latest Ken Burns documentary series, "The American Revolution," certainly lived up to expectations. Some characters portrayed, such as Washington, Franklin and Lafayette, were familiar; others were not. These included teenagers, women, Native Americans and African Americans. One glaring omission was Haym Salomon, who donated his entire fortune to the Patriot cause.

Haym was born in Leszno, Poland, was educated in Western Europe and emigrated to New York in 1775. He became involved in the Patriot cause, joined the Sons of Liberty and helped gather financial assistance for the American cause. As a member of the Sons of Liberty, he spied on the British and was arrested twice — the second time he was sentenced to execution but escaped.

He settled in Philadelphia and was involved in the Jewish community there. Haym joined Congregation Mikveh Israel, and in 1782 made the largest individual donation toward the construction of its main building. In 1783, Salomon got involved in the successful effort to have the Pennsylvania Council of Censors remove the



religious test oath required for office-holding under the State Constitution.

Haym died in 1785. He was totally bankrupt because the new American government did not pay back a penny of the monies he had loaned the Continental Congress. In 1939 Warner Brothers produced a short film called "Sons of Liberty" with Claude Rains playing Haym. In May 1943, a Liberty ship, the SS Haym Salomon, was launched. In 1975, the U.S. Post Office issued a commemorative stamp honoring Haym's contribution to the success of the Revolution.

ADULT EDUCATION 2026

A NEW YEAR OF EXPERIMENTATIONS

During the months of February, March, and April, Rabbi Wiener will lead an adult education series entitled "Kabbalah — A Look at The Mysteries of Life." The series will be held on the third Shabbat of each of the months listed, and will feature a mini-Kiddush following each lecture. We look forward to the participation of all interested in understanding our faith and its mysteries. Please join us each of these dates.

February 21 / 10:30-11:30 am

Purpose and Meaning of Kabbalah

March 21 / 10:30-11:30 am

**The Meaning of Pekuach Nefesh
(Redeeming A Soul)**



April 18 / 10:30-11:30 am

**Where Is God? Who Is God?
(The Understanding of Belief)**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SHELLY HENDEN



Coffee and Torah Updates

We can never thank our veterans enough for what they have done for our country, but we can give them something that they enjoy each day and that is a cup of coffee. We are joining with our

JWV post in collecting **CANS** of regular (not decaf) coffee. Sheryl Rockwell will be collecting your coffee cans only. Her phone number is (702) 994-3941. Please call her to make arrangements to get the coffee to her. We will have a box at the Erev Shabbat service on Friday, February 13 as well. Let's show our veterans how much we appreciate them.

See the JWV article on page 17 for more information.

Ark/Torah Situation

The Rabbi's message about the damage to the Ark cabinet and the Torah indicated that we are looking into whatever repairs might be made. If none can be made, we will be looking to replace them or consider other options. We have the Silverman Fund which has been ear-marked for this purpose.

Arnie is home following surgery and rehabilitation and coming along nicely. Thank you from both of us for all the good wishes for his complete recovery.

Hopefully we will all be there to support one another at our Friday, February 13 service. I want to wish you a very happy Valentine's Day with lots of love and affection coming your way. 

FRIENDS OF ISRAEL

ISRAEL: A NATION AND ITS PEOPLE, PART 5

Next Event: March 1, 1-2:30 pm, Sun Lakes (Register for location specifics)



Rabbi Beyo returns to Sun Lakes for an update on Israel to give a talk entitled "Israel: From Division to Unity — What's Next?" Rabbi Beyo has visited Israel several times since October 7, 2023, leading to enormous insight regarding internal issues facing the Israelis in 2026.

Prior to the atrocities of October 7, 2023, political diversity over court reforms and Netanyahu's leadership divided Israel with huge weekly demonstrations. The war against Hamas brought profound unity of purpose to defeat Hamas and return the hostages. Returning the living and deceased hostages with a cease fire now exists. What's next?

Free and open to the public; all are invited. Security will be present. Please register to join us for this update. To register, please email a message, including the the number of attendees in your party, to israelsunlakes@gmail.com. The location for this talk will be shared with registrants just prior to the date of the talk.

This talk is co-sponsored by Friends of Israel, SLJC, and the East Valley JCC. Questions? Call Barbara Nussbaum at (215) 280-0046 or Michael Cohen at (480) 440-4932.

In the Community: Friends of Israel is also co-sponsoring an opportunity to learn about and taste Israeli wines, while supporting mental health services in Israel. The event will be held on Sunday, February 22 at Temple Beth Shalom of the East Valley. An eblast will follow with more information.

SLJC'S NEXT LAFF PLAY & FUNDRAISER

Tickets Go On Sale Monday, February 16

LAFF, (Laughter and Friendship Forever), the unique Interfaith performing arts group that's sponsored by Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation, will present three performances of our next original musical comedy, performed by your friends and neighbors, the hilarious **"The Key to a Good Night's Sleep."** Please mark your calendars for this important and major fundraiser for our congregation. All performances will be held at the Sun Lakes Chapel of all Faiths on:

- Saturday, March 14, 7 pm
- Sunday, March 15, 2:00 pm
- Sunday, March 22, 1 pm*

(*The starting time for March 22 was moved up an hour to 1 pm so that all interested in attending the Crystal Awards that evening will be able to do so.)

Imagine, approximately 1 hour and 20 minutes of nonstop LAFFing. Tickets for this shorter but even funnier production will go on sale on Monday, February 16 at \$20 per person. Please make out your checks to SLJC and mail to: Wendy Goldstein, 24031 S. Lakeway Circle, NW, Sun Lakes, AZ 85248

Alternatively, arrangements are being made to make tickets available for purchase online. Additional purchasing information will be emailed to all as soon as possible.

LAFF is proud to announce that we have selected a talented cast of 28 (plus tech and crew members) who will act, sing, and dance their way through this truly hilarious show. Written by congregants Steve and Carol Horowitz, this play was originally presented 14 years ago to rave reviews. Be prepared to LAFF.

Congratulations to the following cast, crew, music team, and directing team, listed in alphabetical order by first name: Andrea Hummel, Arnie Henden, Bob Lynne, Bruce McCorkle, Carol Hoepner, Carol Horowitz, Gail Dante, Geoffrey Garber, Greg Posniack, Howard Hummel, John Seigla, Judy Elias, Judy Wolin, Kathy Tomaszewski, Lana Oyer, Larry Shapiro, Len Dolins, Lily Whitson, Linda Horton, Linda Reecer, Lylla Alejandro, Rabbi Irwin Wiener, Rodney Hobgood, Hazzan Ronda Polesky, Shelly Henden, Steve Horowitz, Steve Whitson, Susie Shapiro,

Terrie Lynne, Wanda Johnson, Wendy Goldstein, and Yvonne Shinfeld.

What makes LAFF unique is that even beyond our fundraising efforts, we use the performing arts to share laughter and friendship while building interfaith camaraderie and multicultural understanding within



our Sun Lakes communities. We do not claim to be professional entertainers. What we are is a just group of interfaith, fun-loving people who share the desire to LAFF and to share LAFFter with our audiences.

LAFF would like to express our very deep appreciation to the Sun Lakes Community Foundation for their very generous grant award of \$5,000. We are deeply thankful for their continued support of our efforts to help us fulfill our unique mission. **Support our congregation. Come and LAFF with us!**

LONE SOLDIER PROJECT

JNS ARTICLE REFLECTS ISRAEL'S LOVE OF LONE SOLDIERS

IDF 'deeply values' its some 7,000 'Lone Soldiers'

Etgar Lefkovits, JNS, January 6, 2026

<https://www.jns.org/idf-deeply-values-some-7000-lone-soldiers-in-service>

Some 7,000 "lone soldiers" are serving in the Israel Defense Forces, including about half who immigrated to the Jewish state specifically to enlist, according to official figures released on Monday. About one-third of these soldiers — service members who do not have immediate family in Israel—are serving in combat units, an Israeli military official told JNS.

Last year, 1,050 lone soldiers from Jewish communities in the Diaspora enlisted in the IDF, including 33% from the United States, 14% from France, 13% from Russia, 6% from Ukraine, 3% from Australia, 1.2% from Germany and 0.6% from Spain. The number of lone soldiers has remained stable over the past several years, with a slight increase during the first year of the war sparked by the Hamas-led Oct. 7, 2023 massacre, the official said.

The length of their service depends on both age and the type of program in which they enlist and can range from shortened service to full military service for both men



and women. "We are committed to ensuring that no lone soldier ever stands alone," Maj. Lior Peretz Sheleg, head of the IDF's Lone Soldiers Section, Personnel Directorate, told JNS. "We deeply value their meaningful contribution to the success of the war, as well as the values they and their families embody, and recognize the very profound challenges faced by parents living continents away from their children."

SLJC SISTERHOOD

Next Event: Monday, February 23, 10 am, Oakwood Country Club

Have you registered yet for our annual fundraiser called Games Galore (formerly known as Card Party)? It will take place on Monday, February 23 at the Oakwood Country Club at 10 am. We will have our signature gift baskets, dine-out gift cards, cash raffle, and tantalizing treats at our bake sale. The \$40 entry fee includes a delicious buffet lunch with a new menu. You may create your own group to play Mah Jongg, Canasta, Hand and Foot, Bridge, Scrabble, Rummikub, Mexican Train, or any other table game. If you would like to be added to a new group, please let us know. It's a great way to make new friends. Proceeds will benefit local charities. This event is open to the public and everyone is welcome. It's not too late to sign up for a wonderful day of fun, food, and prizes. (See the next page for the registration form.) **For more information, please email Doris at rondor55@gmail.com.**

Our December Paid-Up Membership Hanukkah Party was a huge success. Thank you to Wendy Goldstein for organizing this event and to the Sisterhood Board members who helped make this event run so smoothly.

The food was delicious, and the games and prizes were a lot of fun.

Our next meeting will take place on Thursday, March 19 at 1 pm in the Chapel House. Our speaker will be Sandor Lubisch, who will discuss his newest book "It Started in Butler – My Celebrity Encounters."

PHOTO RECAP: DECEMBER PAID-UP MEMBERSHIP HANUKKAH PARTY





GAMES GALORE

Formerly known as Card Party

Monday, February 23, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Doors open at 9:00 a.m.

Oakwood Country Club in Sun Lakes

Charity event sponsored by Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation Sisterhood

\$40 entry fee includes a delicious buffet lunch with a new menu.

We will have our signature gift baskets, cash raffle and tantalizing treats at our bake sale!

For reservations or questions email Doris: rondor55@gmail.com .

Please make your check for \$40.00 per player payable to: SLJC SISTERHOOD and mail to: Doris Codkind, 100 W Queen Creek Rd., Apt. 215, Chandler AZ 85248. Please limit lunch seating to groups of 5.

Names of players: (Please include a contact phone # or email for one member of the group.) Reservations deadline is February 10. Contact #/email: _____

Game: _____

You must provide your own game. No card shufflers please.

Single registration. Please add me to a group. Preferred game _____.

SLJC SISTERHOOD RAFFLE



\$10 GIVES YOU A CHANCE TO WIN A CASH PRIZE

FIRST PRIZE = \$200

SECOND PRIZE = \$100

THE DRAWING WILL BE HELD AT THE GAMES GALORE EVENT ON FEBRUARY 23, 2026. THE WINNERS NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN. YOU MAY PURCHASE MULTIPLE ENTRIES AT \$10 PER ENTRY.

Please make check (\$10 per entry) payable to **SLJC SISTERHOOD**. Mail to:

Diane Silverman, 9437 E Rocky Lake Drive, Sun Lakes AZ 85248

NAME: _____

PHONE #: _____

**WE THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SLJC SISTERHOOD
AND THE LOCAL CHARITIES THAT WILL BENEFIT FROM THE PROCEEDS.**



Sisterhood Charity Event Pre-Order Sale Form

Additional Variety of Baked Goods Available at Charity Event

Name _____

Telephone Number _____

Please circle item

indicate when you would like the item delivered _____

Baked by Marilyn Behr

	Number of items	Cost \$
• Chocolate Chip Kahlua Bundt Cake	\$18.00	_____
• Cinnamon Streusel Bundt Cake	\$18.00	_____

Baked by Janey Burnce

• Chocolate Chip Coffee Cake	\$18.00	_____	_____
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Cookies: Baked by Marilyn Behr \$18.00

• Box of White Chocolate & Cranberry Cookies	_____	_____
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Baked by Marilyn Behr

• Candied Pecans 1 LB box: \$18.00	_____	_____
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Baked by Wende Levy

• Challah:			
❖ One Large	\$18.00	_____	_____
❖ One Medium mini	\$15.00	_____	_____

Baked by Anita Kolikoff

• Blueberry Bundt Cake	\$18.00	_____	_____
• Mandel Bread with fruit	\$18.00	_____	_____

Baked by Susan Plambeck

• Triple Chocolate Bundt Cake	\$18.00	_____	_____
Lemon Poppy Bundt Cake	\$18.00	_____	_____

Total CHECK _____

Return with check payable to SLJC Sisterhood. Send the filled-out form and your check to Barbara Reiss at 24807 S. Lakestar Drive, Sun Lakes, AZ 85248.

SLJC RESTAURANT FUNDRAISERS

Upcoming Dine Out Opportunity

We are hoping for a big turnout and for everyone to enjoy themselves at the upcoming dine out opportunities that will help benefit our congregation. The dine-out will be held on Wednesday, February 11 from 11 am to 11 pm for dine-in or take-out at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse. The restaurant is located at 7151 W. Ray Rd. in Chandler. Please bring the flyer below with you to present to your server when you pay for your order. Thank you for your support!



JOIN US FOR A DELICIOUS WAY TO RAISE MONEY!

Date: **Feb 11, 2025**

Time: **11:00AM to 11:00PM**

For Dine In, Takeout or Curbside at this BJ's Location:

7151 W. Ray Rd.
Chandler, AZ 85226
623-320-0300

Enjoy delicious food in a fun atmosphere along with your family and friends while earning funds in support of:

Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation

**WITH EACH FLYER PRESENTED DURING THIS FUNDRAISING EVENT, BJ'S WILL DONATE
20% OF FOOD AND SOFT BEVERAGE SALES TO THE DESIGNATED ORGANIZATION!**

VISIT US IN PERSON, ORDER ONLINE OR PLACE A TAKE-OUT ORDER

When dining in: Present this flyer to your server at any time during your meal.

When ordering online: Enter the 6-digit fundraiser code below at the time of checkout.

When placing a take-out order: Present this flyer to a BJ's team member upon your arrival.



Valid for dine in, takeout or curbside when applicable. Not valid toward alcoholic beverages, Happy Hour specials or for delivery orders.
Please do not distribute flyers on site during the event.



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 Chuck Wolin
by Arthur Uram
Miscellaneous donation
by Judy & Benjamin Pace
In honor of Greg &
Diane Posniack's 60th
anniversary
by Brian S. Holstein
In honor of Greg &
Diane Posniack's 60th
anniversary
by Ellen Green
In memory of Harvey B.
Derman
by Robert A. Kaplan
In honor of Greg &
Diane Posniack's 60th
anniversary
by Larry & Pat Wolfe
Miscellaneous donation
by Harriet Feldman
In honor of Rabbi Irwin
Wiener
by Sheldon Wilshinsky &
Family
In honor of Cantor Ronda
Polesky
by Sheldon Wilshinsky &
Family
In honor of President Shelly
Henden
by Sheldon Wilshinsky &
Family
In honor of Lana Oyer and
the SLJC Choir
by Sheldon Wilshinsky &
Family
In honor of Greg &
Diane Posniack's 60th
anniversary
by Glenn & Shantil Posniack
In memory of Marilyn Fein
by Michael & Evelyn Freed
In memory of Harvey
Schwartz
by Michael & Evelyn Freed

MUSIC FUND

In honor of Diane &
Greg Posniack's 60th
anniversary
by Jim & Judy Janowski
In honor of Diane &
Greg Posniack's 60th
anniversary
by Doug LaRoch
In honor of Diane &
Greg Posniack's 60th
anniversary
by Eliana Bar-Shalom

ONEG FUND

In honor of Diane &
Greg Posniack's 60th
anniversary
by Gail Dante
In honor of Diane &
Greg Posniack's 60th
anniversary
by Judith Latman

SILVERMAN FUND

A thank you to Rabbi
Wiener and belated
happy birthday
by Shirley R. Gersten
In honor of Diane &
Greg Posniack's 60th
anniversary
by Shirley & Edd Shalett
In memory of Harvey
Schwartz
by Shirley & Edd Shalett
In memory of Carol
Weiner
by Shirley & Edd Shalett
In memory of Marilyn Fein
by Shirley & Edd Shalett
In memory of Sy & Edie
Evans
by the SLJC Men's Club
In memory of Chuck Wolin
by Diane Zelinger

YAHRZEIT FUND

In memory of Bertha Smigel
by Noreen Nadler
In memory of Robert
Smigel
by Noreen Nadler
In memory of Allan Richard
Feldman
by Wendy Feldman-Kerr
In memory of Leo Kantor
by Eunice Goldberg
In memory of Seymour
Zolty
by Elaine Zolty
In memory of Benjamin
Fischer
by Elaine Zolty
In memory of Louis Raizes
by Sheldon Raizes
In memory of Ida Gilbert
Brodsky
by Lori Mangel
In memory Irving Zigman
by Shirley & Edd Shalett
In memory of David
Feldman
by Suzanne Rosenthal
In memory of John Elias
by Judith Elias
In memory of Allan Elias
by Judith Elias
In memory of Meyer Bush
by Judith Elias
In memory of Arthur Bush
by Judith Elias
In memory of Augusta
Friedman
by Marjorie & David
Levinson
In memory of Robets Klau
by Judy Pace
In memory of Betty
Ginsberg
by Barbara Shel Silverman
In memory of Rebecca
Miller
by Rabbi Wiener

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Thank you to our caring SLJC community for your support, well wishes, and help during my recovery from shoulder surgery. Jeff and I appreciate you all!

—Janey Burnce

Thanks for all the contributions made in honor of our 60th wedding anniversary.

— Diane & Greg Posniack

Thank you all for your prayers, cards, phone calls, visits and goodies. Shelly and I can't begin to thank the wonderful extended family that we have in our congregation.

— Arnie Henden

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.

FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

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

14 Sander & Anita Frindell
15 Darrell & Norma Owens

17 Marc & Deborah Israel
19 Tzvi & Gina Caplan

19 Milton & Paula Lewis
26 Judith Herrmann

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

1 Lucy Gleason	12 Jose Olagues	20 Ruth Friedman	29 Lisa Gershkowitz
2 Linda Wasserman	13 Roxanne Banta	22 Carol Sherter	29 Nessa Memberg
3 Jane Gordon	15 Betsey Silverman	22 Stephanie Streeter	
11 Marc Israel	16 Diana Nelinson	25 Harvey Weiner	
12 Marsha Levine	17 Ronald Codkind	26 Nancy Stutman	

FEBRUARY YAHRZEITS

Zichronam livrachah — may their memories be a blessing.

Melvin Becker	Augusta Friedman	Doris Levy	Bertha Smigel
Anne Berg	Melissa Ger	Joseph Lubisch	Dorothy Stone
Sheila Berger	Maurice Gerson	Sylvia Memberg	Isaac Strahl
Ida Gilbert Brodsky	Betty Ginsberg	Rebecca Miller	Michael Wiener
William Buchsbaum	Marcy Goldstein	Rose Mohr	Irving Zigman
Marjorie Buchsbaum	Frank Hasenfus	Geraldine Nelinson	Seymour Zolty
Charles Clift	Cie Hirschkoff	Joseph Pasternack	
Essie Cohen	Martin Hoffman	Allan Price	
Barbara Cooper	Cindy Hummel	Louis Raizes	
Constance Dunayer	Leo Kantor	Sadie Roth	
John Elias	Barbara Kaplan	Marilyn Russell	
Woody Fabert	Rose Kaplan	Muriel Salita	
Allan Richard Feldman	Norma Klein	Syndi Scheck	
David Feldman	Barnett Lazarus	Sylvia Sharf	
Benjamin Fischer	Sadie Lazarus	Morris Sharff	
Shirley Fray	Barnett Levenson	Robert Smigel	

**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

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

Any question, call (480)-584-5909

TAX CREDIT INCENTIVE GRANTS TO SLJC

Use your Arizona State income tax liability and payment to benefit East Valley JCC and Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation

Your tax liability will not increase or decrease for this donation. Instead of giving your income tax payment to the Arizona Treasury Department, you can donate it to East Valley JCC and SLJC!

This is a win-win for both you and our congregation!

Individual income tax filers can donate as much as \$495 and joint income filers can donate as much as \$987 without increasing or decreasing your tax liability for this donation. SLJC will receive 18% of the funds received by East Valley JCC. Once this donation has been made, East Valley JCC will send a donation confirmation to use for your tax records. Form 321 will need to be filed with Arizona Income Taxes for this Charitable contribution.

Help our synagogue benefit from your generous contribution without it costing you any additional money!

Below is a form that you can use for your donation to the East Valley JCC that lists Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation as the benefiting organization.



TAX CREDIT FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Amount of Donation (Check): _____

Benefiting Organization (AZ Tax Credit): Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Date: _____

Please return this form to:

East Valley JCC (AZ Tax Credit)

908 North Alma School Road, Chandler, AZ 85224

JEWISH WAR VETERANS COPPER STATE POST 619

JWV AIDS VETS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS | SECOND ANNUAL COFFEE DRIVE

Sunday, February 22, 9:30 am, Ballroom A, Oakwood Country Club, 24218 S. Oakwood Blvd., Sun Lakes



Michelle Jameson, U.S. Vets, Executive Director, will address the issues facing veterans experiencing homelessness at the Jewish War Veterans Copper State Post 619 meeting Sunday, February 22 in Ballroom A, Oakwood Country Club, 24218 South Oakwood Boulevard, Sun Lakes.

Complimentary lox, bagels, donuts, and coffee will be served at 9:30 am, with speaker at 10 am.

JWV's much-loved coffee drive, which means the world to the veterans who love their coffee, will culminate at this meeting. Anyone wishing to donate a can of regular ground coffee, may bring it to the February 22 meeting at the above location between 8:45-9:30 am.

This year, JWV Post 619 reached out to its many partners to participate in the campaign. Organizations collecting cans of coffee for U.S. VETS are JWV Posts 619 and 210; Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation; E. Valley JCC; Gila Butte Chapter, NSDAR; VFV Auxiliary #1433; Army Women United #68; American Legion Post 64; ARC Support the Troops; and Veterans Affinity.

Michelle will talk about U.S. VETS programming, issues facing veterans experiencing homelessness and changes in homeless services. Their mission is to empower veterans and families through housing, comprehensive services, and advocacy with the goal that all veterans and their families shall have their needs met to regain and maintain independence.

U.S. Vets and JWV have a long, outstanding relationship. According to Michelle, "Over the years, JWV has stood by U.S. VETS Phoenix in every way possible: providing

financial support during critical moments, hosting countless on-site BBQs and special events for our veterans. JWV is not just a partner—JWV is family to U.S. VETS, and their support has made a profound and lasting difference in the lives of the veterans we proudly serve and to me."

U.S. VETS-Phoenix has served thousands of veterans since opening in 2001. Last year alone, Phoenix provided 51,841 nights of housing, 116,642 meals, 9,888 mental health assessments, 276 job placements, and a successful move of 551 veterans into permanent homes.

They recently transitioned into a larger facility, the M.D. Hawkins Veterans Center in Phoenix, where JWV provided lunch to the veterans on moving day. The new facility has 142 beds of Transitional Housing, where veterans receive case management, behavioral health counseling, substance-use support, and workforce development to help them become independent.

Michelle Jameson is an accomplished nonprofit executive with more than two decades of experience leading mission-driven organizations through transformational growth. As the Executive Director of U.S. VETS Phoenix, she oversees the entire facility and its programs, serving hundreds of veterans each day. Under her leadership, the program has expanded significantly in both size and impact. Michelle brings deep expertise in governance, strategic planning, program design, and risk management.

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.

BAXTER WALTER WYATT GRADUATES



This was not an ordinary weekend. It was graduation day for Baxter Walter Wyatt, a three-year-old rescue with a year's worth of training that would qualify him to be a service dog to Julian Wyatt, Commander of Jewish War Veterans Copper State Post 619.

The ceremony was sponsored by and took place at the headquarters of "Soldier's Best Friend," a nonprofit organization that focuses on providing service dogs to U.S. military veterans suffering from PTSD, traumatic brain injury, and other physical and psychological challenges.

continued on the next page ►

The mission of the organization is to improve the quality of life for these veterans by pairing them with trained service dogs to help alleviate symptoms and provide companionship. The program not only helps veterans regain independence and confidence but also promotes the adoption of shelter dogs. This gives the animals a purpose and a home while saving two lives at once, the veteran and the dog.

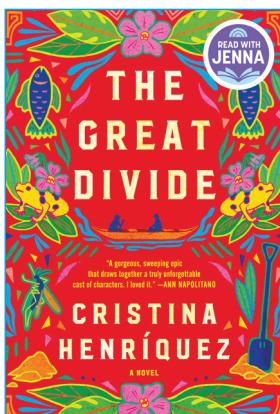
Though Julian had previously owned emotional support dogs over his 30-year military career, he now felt it was time to get a service dog to help with balance, anxiety, crowd control, companionship, and emotional support. It took over five months on a waiting list for a friend of his who worked at a shelter to find the right dog for Julian. On October 18, 2024, Baxter became a member of the Wyatt family — Julian, Lisa, and cats Boris and Asha.

Then began a year of intensive one-hour training periods two days a week with Soldier's Best Friend trainer, Pam Beasley, who has an innovative approach to teaching. Every Monday, Baxter and Jules met Pam at East Valley

K-9 Services for an indoor training session prepared Baxter for several tests to obtain his certificate. "We

DEVORAH HADASSAH

Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America has a Chapter in the East Valley called Devorah Hadassah. We organize events, programs, and fundraising activities to support Hadassah Medical Center in Israel and other Hadassah initiatives. For more information, please visit desertmountain@hadassah.org or, alternatively, contact Marcia at garnicemarcia@gmail.com.



Literary Ladies Book Group

Our book group meets the second Wednesday of each month at 1:30 pm on Zoom. The upcoming books we will be discussing will be *The Great Divide*, by Cristina Henriquez on Wednesday, February 11 and *The Lion Women of Tehran*, by Marjan Kamali on Wednesday, March 11.

Out to Lunch

Gather with other women after the general monthly meetings to socialize and enjoy lunch together! Upcoming meeting dates are Wednesday, February 25 and Wednesday, March 25 (following the General Meeting) at 1 pm.

trained alongside other veterans with their dogs. We all bonded and grew together as a team," explains Wyatt. They even had airport jump seats in the training room, balance bars, and things for indoor training. Every Wednesday was devoted to social outings such as Home Depot, Fry's, the shopping mall, the barber shop, and restaurants.

"I learned so much about myself during this training right alongside Baxter," confesses Julian. "I opened up, became more like my old self before combat and have fallen in love with my life again. That's what Baxter and this program have done for me," he happily concluded.

Caption for photo on previous page: Michael Kruk, Veteran Services and Program Coordinator for Soldier's Best Friend (rt) presents Julian Wyatt, JWV Post 619 Commander with a Graduation Certificate earned for completion of a year of rigorous training with his dog, Baxter, to become a certified Service Dog. Following graduation, Kruk was invited to speak at a JWV meeting where a donation of \$3,500 was awarded Soldier's Best Friend.

Other Meetings in March

Our next Board Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 22 and our next General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 25 10:30 am at the EVJCC (followed by Out to Lunch).

Save the Date: Our Game Day is scheduled for Wednesday April 29 at the EVJCC. Start thinking about getting your groups together to play Mahj Jongg, Rummikub, Canasta, Clue, or any other games at this special event.

Devorah Hadassah sells 2026 Mah Jongg cards!

Please contact Susan Fox at Susanesq1@gmail.com for ordering details.

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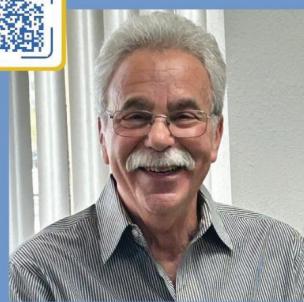
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