

News & Fun Activities

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Tri-Valley Cultural Jews

Your East Bay Secular Humanistic Jewish Community

TriValleyCulturalJews.org

info@tri-valleyculturaljews.org

(925) 399-8029

Affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations

Our mission statement: "A Secular Humanistic community serving those who identify with the Jewish People through family, culture and history, rather than through religion."



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January 25th, 2020



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TVCJ Community News

Tu B'Shevat Family & Kid-Friendly Event



A Livermore Area Recreation and Parks District Ranger will join us again this year for an exciting program about native trees and the animals that depend on them. In addition, to honor greening efforts in the Bay Area, children will take home pre-planted native oak tree seedlings, and receive instruction on their care and feeding and when and where to plant them. Following these activities will be a yummy pot-luck lunch, accompanied by music and singing.

Please bring a dish to share. Since we have members who are dairy and/or gluten-free, please bring a card with your dish that lists the ingredients. In keeping with this holiday tradition, you are encouraged to include one or more of the following ingredients: Dates, Figs, Oranges, Almonds, Raisins, Olives, Carob.

Date: Sunday February 9th, 2020

Time: 10:15 AM – 1:00 PM

Place: Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th Street, Livermore, 94550

Cost: Free for members and kids, \$10.00 per non-member adult (13 and over).

Questions? Call Jeff at 925-640-1884 or Mary Frances at 925-519-5867.

Board Meeting/TVCJ Planning

Date: Tuesday, February 11th, 2020

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Place: We're using Google Hangouts to meet remotely for the next few months. If you wish to join the Google Hangout please call Joy at 510-898-8789 and let her know.

All members are welcome

Come on Our Next Hike!

Redwood Regional Park Oakland Hike

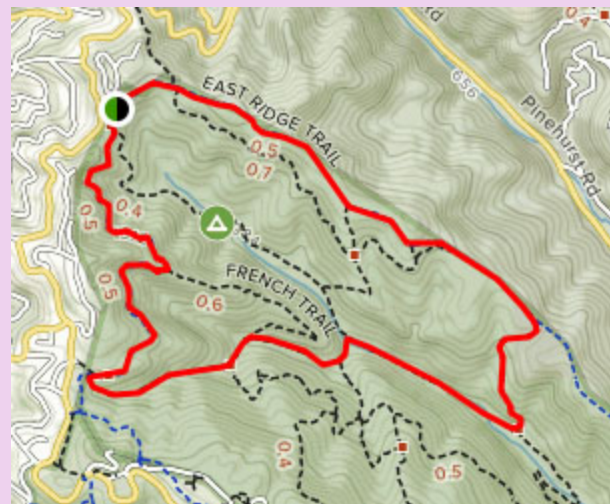
Date: Saturday, February 22nd, 2020

Time: 10:00 am

Distance: 3.9 miles, Elevation gain: 682

[West Ridge, Tres Sendas Stream Trail, and East Ridge Loop.](#) We'll start on the West

Ridge Trail and follow for it 1 mile to Tres Sendas Trail., Then turn right onto the Stream Trail and follow it for 0.3 miles to Prince Trail and turn left. Prince Trail goes 0.5 miles to East Ridge Trail, where we'll turn left and follow it back to the trailhead. The ladybugs migrate here in November and stay until late winter – around the end of February. So I'm hopeful we'll get to see lots of ladybugs on this hike.



Park at the Main Parking lot on Skyline Blvd, which is 2 miles north of Chabot Space and Science Center.

Address for mapping: 8501 Skyline Blvd, Oakland, CA 94611.

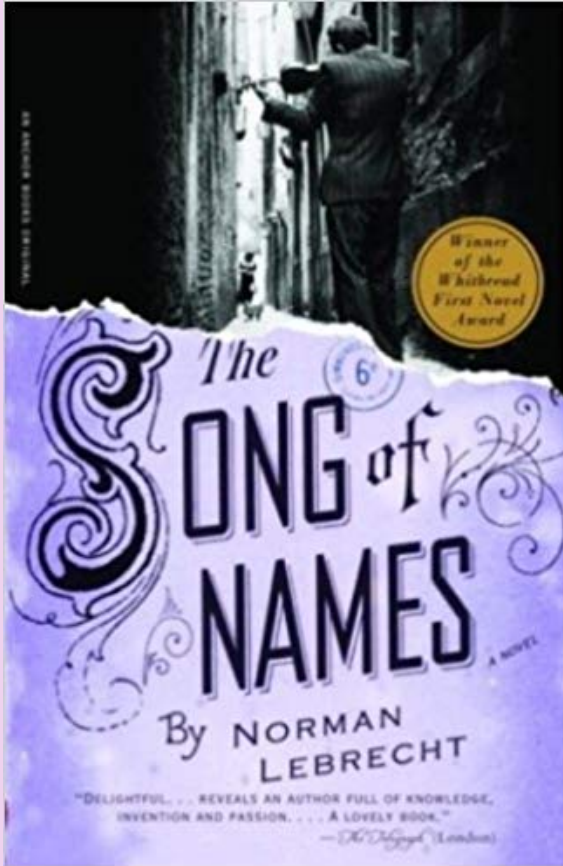
Carpooling is encouraged. Dogs are allowed!

Hike leader: Leah @ 650-223-9073 cell

The Song of Names

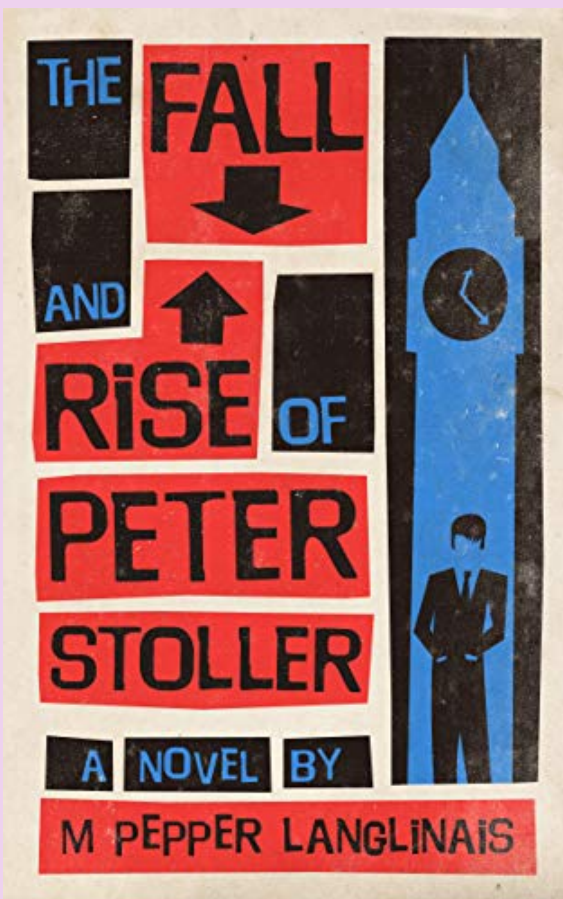
You may have seen ads for - or even seen - the movie "The Song of Names." We have the book in the TVCJ library - and it's fascinating. If you are a TVCJ member and you'd like to borrow it, please contact us at culturaljews@gmail.com and

we will make arrangements to get it to you.



New Members

Please welcome new members, Jaime Heiss and Mari Moima and their children Maya and Gabriel. They come all the way from Menlo Park to be with us!



Congratulations to Manda Pepper!

Manda has a new book published and you can [click here](#) to buy it on Amazon. Manda, a TVCJ member, is an Award-winning screenwriter, produced playwright, and author. More of her books can be found on Amazon by [clicking here](#).

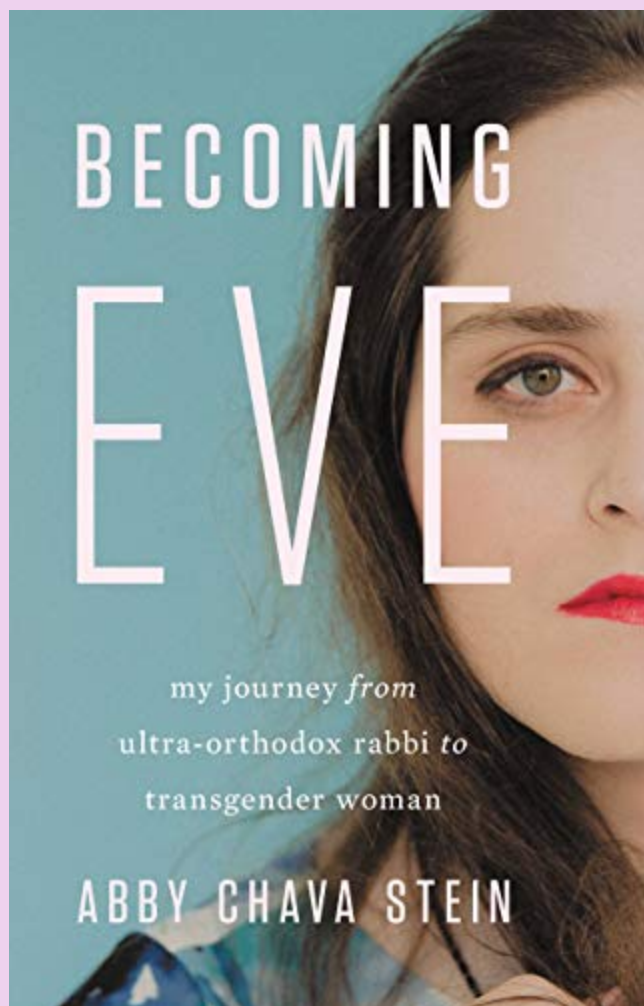
Jewish Cultural School

The younger kids made mandelbroit and the older kids researched Jewish youth group, charity, social service and social justice agencies.



BOOK REVIEW

[Becoming Eve](#)
[My Journey from Ultra-Orthodox Rabbi to Transgender Woman](#)
by Abby Stein



A young Abby Stein knew her religion was not teaching her the truth when she realized that her religion did not accept her truth – that she was girl. Her actual identity as a girl was not accepted, not allowed, even as her perceived identity as a male Talmud scholar was lauded. Her memoir gives fascinating – and sometimes horrifying – insight into the Hassidic community into which she was born and the relationships among the various Hassidic dynasties while tracing her explorations into Jewish mysticism to explain her “female soul in a male body.” Eventually, she comes to the conclusion that she must live as an atheist woman, a decision that costs her most of her family and community. She is now active in support groups for those leaving the Ultra-Orthodox communities and for transgender Jews. Becoming Eve is an engrossing and heart-wrenching story. If you would like to purchase this book [click here](#).

-Judith Seid



In January We

Who We Are

Board Members:

Karen Furst 925-784-1775

Jazz Saluen-Grabowski 718-578-7876

Ira Ehrlich 310-995-4149

Jamie Ireland 510-888-1404

Remember:

Charles Roy Colvin

Rebecca Ireland 510-888-1404

Bret Mogilefsky 510-610-1956

Joy Randel 925-362-3245



**Happy
January Birthdays:**

Mary Frances Colvin

Tom Green

Kevin Coren

Marisa Castaldini

Levi Coren

Colin Mogilefsky

Mitch Morrison

Newsletter: Joy Randel 925-362-3245

Webmaster: Noah King 925-371-8585

JCS Teachers: Judith Seid,
Jamie Ireland

Family Shabbat/Havdalah

Coordinator: Scott

Pepper 650-296-6295

Movie Coordinator: Wendy

Berenson 925-829-0554

Adult Programming: Karen

Furst 925-784-1775



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