

# News & Fun Activities

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## Tri-Valley Cultural Jews

Your East Bay Secular Humanistic Jewish Community

**TriValleyCulturalJews.org**

[info@tri-valleyculturaljews.org](mailto: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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## ***May 2nd, 2020***

## **TVCJ Community News**

### **Tri-Valley Cultural Jews Virtual Lag B'Omer**

**We can't be together in person, but we can be together online.**

During this event we will talk about the Lag B'Omer holiday,

replace our traditional watermelon toss with an online game, and eat together.

**Date:** Sunday, May 17th, 2020

**Time:** 10:30 a.m. to 12:30p.m.

**Place:** This year the TVCJ annual Lag B'Omer celebration will be held virtually using the Zoom video-conferencing service.

Everyone will participate in the comfort of their own home.

**Cost:** FREE

**Reservations are required. To make a reservation please [Click Here](#).**

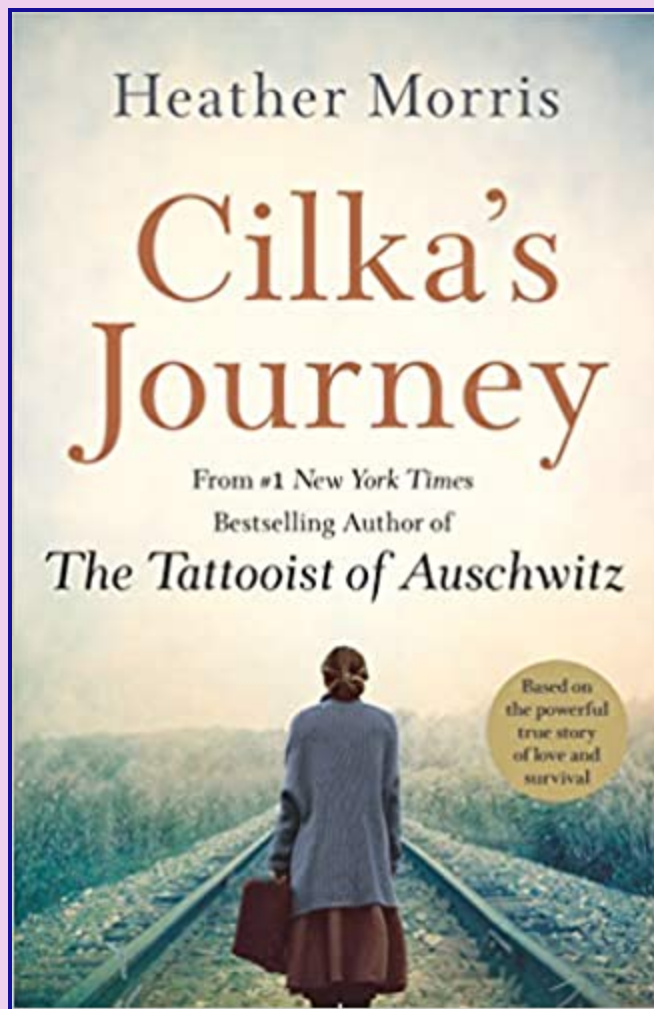
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Once you receive your confirmation, then please add the zoom meeting link to your calendar.

### **Condolences**

The community extends condolences to Amy, Derek and Emma Greenberg on the death of Amy's aunt, Helen Bloom, on April 24,2020.

### **BOOK REVIEW CILKA'S JOURNEY**

**By Heather Morris**



This book is not for everyone. The horrors, brutality, and sexual violence depicted in this historical novel are difficult and disturbing to read. These are the conditions that existed in the Nazi camps of Auschwitz as well as the Soviet camps of the Gulag Archipelago. These are the conditions that Cilka Klein as well as thousands of female prisoners was forced to endure during the time of the holocaust.

Cilka was a Jewish prisoner in both of these camps. Sent to Auschwitz at age 16, she did what she had to do to survive. Because she was beautiful and bright she was given a position above other prisoners and was resented by them.

After she was released, she was charged with sleeping with the enemy and sent to a Siberian prison camp. Here she was befriended by a female doctor, who recognized her intelligence and resourcefulness. She was given various jobs in the camp hospital including its ambulance service. Here she saved many lives at the risk of her own.

She was recognized for her heroism, but what allowed her to survive the unspeakable conditions were the many close friendships she formed at both camps. This true story was quite

memorable and inspirational. I would highly recommend it. If you would like to purchase this book please [click here](#).

**Reviewed by Jerry Zwick**

## **Introducing the Tri-Valley Nonprofit Fund**

The Tri-Valley Nonprofit Fund was founded by the Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance (“TVNPA”) in partnership with the Community Health and Education Foundation (“CHEF”) in March 2020 in response to an overwhelming desire in our communities to support those whose well-being has been jeopardized due to the pandemic.

These organizations are known as “safety net” service providers. They regularly address the basic needs of vulnerable populations such as senior citizens, children, the disabled, veterans, those living paycheck-to-paycheck, and the homeless, by providing food, clothing, safe housing, behavioral health assistance, wellness checks, transportation and medical care.

The fund will provide unrestricted financial support to help stabilize six safety net service providers. While donating to any one of these organizations is a great choice, donors to the TVNF essentially wrap a blanket of services around their neighbors, providing food, shelter, healthcare and other supported services with just one donation. CHEF has seeded \$20,000 in matching funds so the impact of our first \$20,000 in direct donations will immediately double.

The area’s human services offices identified these six beneficiaries as best able to scale to meet critical community needs during this time:

- Axis Community Health
- CityServe of the Tri-Valley
- Open Heart Kitchen
- Senior Support Services of the Tri-Valley
- Spectrum Community Health (Meals for Wheels)
- Tri-Valley Haven

These organizations have served as informal extensions of local governments throughout every community in the Tri-Valley for decades. With highly developed infrastructure, extensive programming, and a vast network of resources, they are well-positioned to scale to meet our region’s growing needs during this crisis.

They have been identified by regional cities as the organizations best positioned to scale and extend their reach more broadly into our communities as these vulnerable populations grow in number due to COVID-19.

## Contributions Process

Individual donations to the TVNF will support the six identified organizations equally and are tax deductible. Donations can be made two ways:

- 1) Online at [www.chefgivingcommunity.org/tvnf](http://www.chefgivingcommunity.org/tvnf); and
- 2) By check, made out to "Community Health and Education Foundation (CHEF)."

**Note the CHEF Tax ID:** 82-1408737 in your memo line and mail to:

CHEF/TVNF  
c/o Maria Mancini  
Community Health and Education Foundation (CHEF)  
P.O. Box 420 Livermore, CA 94551



## In May We Remember:

Chaparral Ireland  
William Roy Hudson



## Happy May Birthdays:

Rosita Gorel-Wong  
Peter Grabowski  
Lillian Poxon-Hudson  
Rebecca Ireland  
Joey Mogilefsky

## 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  
Rebecca Ireland 510-888-1404  
Bret Mogilefsky 510-610-1956  
Joy Randel 925-362-3245

**Newsletter:** Joy Randel 925-362-3245

**Webmaster:** Noah King 925-371-8585

**JCS Teachers:** Jazz Saluen-Grabowski, 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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