

# News & Fun Activities

[View this email in your browser](#)

 Share  Forward  Tweet

## 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 Cultural and Secular Jewish Organization**

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



 Share  Forward  Tweet

**\*\*Please share this with your friends by clicking on the Facebook, Email, or Twitter symbols above.\*\***

# August 26th 2023

## TVCJ Community News

Like and share our FaceBook page:  
<http://facebook.com/trivalleyculturaljews>

### Welcome to Our Community

Welcome to our newest members: Sharon and Ellis Goldberg, Galina Arkhipova and Alexey Frunze, Zachary Arkhipov, Elaine Siegel Kociolek and Robert Kociolek, Alexandra and Henry.

TVCJ is an accepting, welcoming, diverse community of Cultural Jews and their families, affiliated with CSJO. Call or email us at (925) 399-8029 or [culturaljews@gmail.com](mailto:culturaljews@gmail.com) for an Evite or for more information about our community. You can find us at [trivalleyculturaljews.org](http://trivalleyculturaljews.org). Free to members, suggested \$15 donation per non-member adult if you are able. Masking is optional when social distancing is possible.

You can make donations to TVCJ through PayPal or Venmo. Our handle is Tri-Valley Cultural Jews.

## Upcoming Events

### Amy Greenberg's Art Exhibit



Long-time TVCJ member Amy Greenberg's artwork is exhibited at the Firehouse Arts Center upstairs gallery in Pleasanton through September 9th. The gallery is open Wednesday 10:00a.m.-5:00p.m., Thursdays and Fridays noon-7:00p.m. and Saturdays 10:00a.m.-3:00p.m. The Firehouse is located 4444 Railroad Avenue, and there's plenty of parking. Don't miss this fun exhibit!

**Philosophers' Cafe--10/5/23**

Philosophers' Cafe will not meet in September because of the High Holidays. The next Philosophers' Cafe will meet on October 5th. Look for the Evite.

## New Year of Jewish Culture School--8/27/23



**TRI-VALLEY  
CULTURAL  
JEWS**

# JEWISH CULTURE SCHOOL

**MUSIC ● COOKING  
HISTORY ● DANCE**

**STARTS AUGUST 27TH**

Kindergarten - Brit Mitzvah (5-14)

**JOIN US**

[www.trivalleyculturaljews.org](http://www.trivalleyculturaljews.org)

Get ready for another amazing year of Jewish Culture School! This year we're doing a deep dive into holidays and life cycles. The fun starts on August 27th, so mark your calendars and tell your friends! JCS is geared towards Kindergarten through Brit Mitzvah (ages 5-14). Meetings will be mostly indoors with good ventilation and air filtration. Located in Pleasanton.

## Jewish Culture School

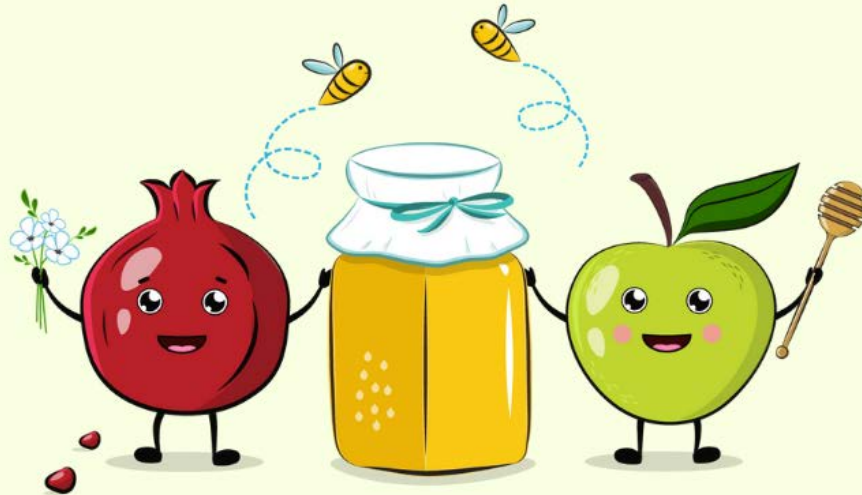
Whoops! It's come to our attention that we accidentally scheduled our last JCS class on Mothers' Day! Our Last JCS Class will now be held on Sunday, May 5th.

## Rosh Hashanah Family Day--9/10/23

Celebrate the New Year at Tri-Valley Cultural Jews'

*Rosh Hashanah Family Day*

10:30am  
September 10th



Cooking Crafts Music

Got apples and honey? Get in the Rosh Hashanah mood at our Family Day on September 10th. We're cooking, crafting and making the music that makes this time of year special. Come see what a Secular Jewish Culture School is all about.

## Rosh Hashanah Celebration--9/16/23

## Celebrate the New Year with Tri-Valley Cultural Jews



### SECULAR ROSH HASHANAH CELEBRATION

SEPTEMBER 16TH  
4PM LIVERMORE

Join us for a sweet start to the New Year at our Secular Humanist Rosh Hashanah Celebration on September 16th. Our in person and virtual ceremony starts at 4:00p.m., with a dry Taschlich at 5:00p.m. and a potluck dinner at 5:30p.m. Dip your apple in some honey and start your New Year with our moving Secular Humanist program. Our ceremony is in English, and includes readings, poetry and music. This event is not child-centered, but is family friendly.

## Yom Kippur Kol Nidre--9/24/23



Tri-Valley Cultural Jews Secular Community:



Sunday September 24 2023

### KOL NIDRE

MUSIC POETRY READINGS REFLECTIONS

Start your year off right with our Secular Humanist Kol Nidre Observance on September 24th. Our ceremony is in English and includes music, poetry, readings and reflection. This event is not child-centered, but is family friendly.

### Sukkot Save the Date--10/1/23

Have you always wanted a Sukkah in your backyard? TVCJ hosts a Sukkot Gathering every year in a member's backyard. You provide the space, and we help you build and decorate! If this sounds like fun, call or email us at [\(925\) 399-8029](tel:9253998029) or [culturaljews@gmail.com](mailto:culturaljews@gmail.com). Our Sukkah Celebration is on Sunday, October 1st at 10:30am.

### It's Not A Book Club!

We just read books and talk about them. In July we talked about *Blindsight* by Peter Watts. In October (date TBD) we'll be reading *The 22 Murders of Madison May* by Max Barry. Look for the invite after the fall holidays.

### New Year of the Animals Summary--8/20/23

According to traditional Jewish law are you supposed to feed your animals before you feed yourself? Everyone who came to our New Year of the Animals Gathering found out! Thanks to everyone who

made the day special, especially Judy for hosting and baking treats, our terrific aides Ira and Sophia and Phoenix for bringing homemade pizza.





## Board Meeting Updates:

### TVCJ COVID Policy

Indoors masking is optional with good ventilation

Be aware that current COVID levels (<https://covid-19.acgov.org/wastewater-monitoring.page>) are rising. Because of this we will be offering masks at indoor activities. Masking is still optional.

## Upcoming Events Calendar

### 2023

- 8/3 Philosophers' Cafe
- 8/5 New Youth Group Meeting
- 8/20 New Year of Animals Gathering
- 8/27 First Day JCS
- 9/10 Rosh Hashanah Family Day
- 9/16 Rosh Hashanah
- 9/24 Kol Nidre
- 10/1 Sukkah Raising
- 10/5 Philosophers' Cafe

### 2024

- 1/7 JCS
- 1/21 Tu B'Shvat
- 2/4 JCS
- 2/18 JCS
- 3/3 JCS
- 3/17 JCS
- 3/24 Purim
- 4/7 JCS
- 4/21 Passover Family Day
- 4/27 Community Passover Seder



10/15 JCS  
 10/29 JCS  
 11/12 JCS  
 11/26 JCS  
 12/10 Chanukah Party - mid  
 afternoon  
**Winter Break**

5/05 Last Class JCS  
 5/26 Lag B'Omer  
 6/9 Shavuot + Annual Meeting

## **INTERFAITH INTERCONNECT**

### **Ice Cream Social in Commemoration of UN Day of Peace**

Sunday, September 10, 2023, 3:00–4:30 p.m.  
 St. Charles Catholic Church Lawn Area  
 (along the west side of the building)  
 1315 Lomas Ave., Livermore  
 Ample parking in the adjoining lot.  
 Please enter east driveway.

At approximately 3:30, there will be a short program.  
 All are encouraged to converse with one another before and after the program.  
 Tim Barry and Brad Herbert will provide music during the event.

All are welcome!  
 We hope to see you there.

**++Save these dates! Details to follow.**

**Next Religion Chat:** Wednesday, October 11, 5:00 p.m.

**Interfaith Thanksgiving Service:** Sunday, November 19, 3:30-4:30 p.m., followed by a simple reception.

**Interfaith Interconnect Facebook**

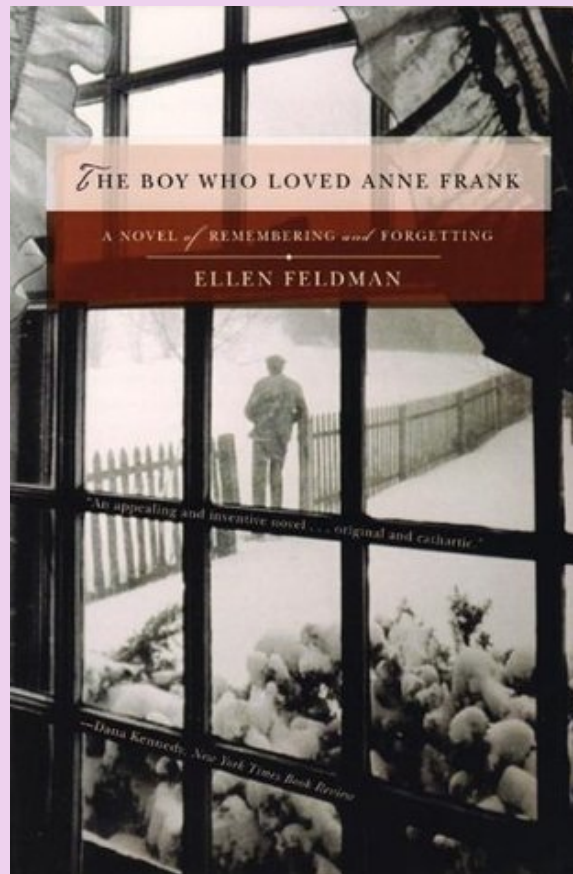
**Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/InterfaithInterconnect/timeline>

## **Open Position: Eden Interfaith Representative**

Meet 1x a month, the first or second Tuesday of the month at 7:00p.m, with other leaders at their location in Hayward and give Secular Jews a voice. Tasks involve representing TVCJ in Interfaith actions, reporting back to the board on Interfaith activities, and volunteering (or finding other volunteers) for actions you find important.

## **BOOK REVIEW THE BOY WHO LOVED ANNE FRANK BY**

## ELLEN FELDMAN



This is a work of historical fiction that tells the story of a boy who Anne Frank might have met while she was in hiding from the Nazis. It tells about what happened to him after the war and after Anne was killed in the concentration camp.

This young man, Peter Van Pels, spent a good part of his life running away from his past and denying his Jewish religion, to the point where he almost had his concentration camp numbers surgically removed. The conflicts he had, stayed with him even after relocating to America and becoming a successful businessman, a husband and a father.

The story goes on to tell about what happened to the Anne Frank's diary after it became a successful movie and a play. As you can imagine, nothing comes easy.

This book was extremely well written. Most of the time it was hard to tell whether you were reading history or fiction. I definitely recommend it to all who want a picture of what life was like for Jews who emigrated from Nazi Germany to America post WWII. [If you are interested in purchasing this book, then you can find it on Amazon by clicking here.](#)

**Reviewed by Jerry Zwick**

## FREE Yiddish Classes Online

Beginning FRIDAY, September 8th – 1:00p.m. / 3:00p.m.

FREE bi-weekly online Yiddish classes, sponsored by our WC/AR branch, are re-starting September 8th!

Northern California Workers Circle is again offering two levels of online Yiddish with instructor Marianne Tatom (Mirl). **If you already know the Yiddish alphabet, you may register for beginning Yiddish. If you are able to read and/or speak some Yiddish, you may register for intermediate Yiddish.**

**Class times are Beginners**, 1:00p.m. - 2:30p.m. Pacific Time, and Intermediate, 3:00p.m. - 4:30p.m. Pacific Time.

**To register for Fall '23 classes, send an email to Sharon Wilensky at [bigwilensky@sonic.net](mailto:bigwilensky@sonic.net).**

**IN THE SUBJECT LINE:** Indicate which class you want, Beginning or Intermediate.

**IN THE BODY OF THE TEXT, GIVE:**

- 1) Your name, first and last;
- 2) Your email address;
- 3) Your location - city and state;

If you're NOT a continuing student, please let us know how you heard about us!

If you're unsure about your level, contact the instructor, Marianne Tatom (Mirl) at:  
**[marianne.tatom@gmail.com](mailto:marianne.tatom@gmail.com)**

**NOTE:** Knowledge of the Yiddish/Hebrew alphabet (alef-beys) is a prerequisite.  
(You can also query the instructor for links to alphabet learning resources.)

SUNDAY, Oct. 22, 2:00p.m. – 3:00p.m. PT

**The Bund: A Graphic History of Jewish Labour Resistance**

Presented by Sharon Rudahl, Michael Kluckner, and Paul Buhle

**Free event, registration required, at:**

<https://jewishcommunitylibrary.org/events-listing/the-bund/> event

Co-sponsored by No. CA Workers Circle/Arbeter Ring and Jewish Community Library.

## **TVCJ PayPal Giving Fund Page**

*We now have a PayPal page where you can quickly and easily donate to Tri-Valley Cultural Jews. Simply scan the QR code or*

*visit: <https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/2326042>*



TVCJ is an accepting, welcoming, diverse community of Cultural Jews and their families, affiliated with CSJO. Call or email us at (925) 399-8029 or [culturaljews@gmail.com](mailto:culturaljews@gmail.com) for an Evite or for more information about our community. You can find us at [trivalleyculturaljews.org](http://trivalleyculturaljews.org). Free to members, suggested \$15 donation per non-member adult if you are able. Masking is optional when social distancing is possible.

You can make donations to TVCJ through PayPal or Venmo. Our handle is Tri-Valley Cultural Jews.



Yahrzeit Memorial

### **In August We Remember**

John Gates

Frances Shapiro

Colvin

Susan Durfee Hudson

Lou Garcia



### **August Birthdays**

Joy Randel

Jamie Ireland  
Robert Pepper  
Elsa Grabowski  
Dani Noy  
Genoveva Llosa  
Zachary Arkhipov

## Who We Are

**Rabbi:** Judith Seid **925-485-1049**

**Madrikha:** Jamie Ireland

**Board Members:**

David Gates  
Jazz Salwen-Grabowski  
Jamie Ireland  
Kai Mogilefsky  
Rachel Rose  
Judith Seid

**Newsletter:** Joy Randel

**Webmaster:** Noah King

**JCS Teachers:** Jazz Salwen-Grabowski, Judith Seid

**Holiday Coordinator:** Jazz Salwen-Grabowski

**Movie Coordinator:** Bret Mogilefsky

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



*Copyright © 2023 Tri Valley Cultural Jews, All rights reserved.*

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

