

# News & Fun Activities

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## Tri-Valley Cultural Jews

Your East Bay Secular Humanistic Jewish Community

**TriValleyCulturalJews.org**

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(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."



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***June 20th, 2020***

**TVCJ Community News**

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Choose Tri-Valley Cultural Jews as your Amazonsmile charity. Amazonsmile is a simple way for you to support TVCJ every time you shop, at no cost to you. Amazonsmile is available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser. Choose Tri-Valley Cultural Jews as your charity on your laptop or desktop by signing into your Amazon account. Go to "Account and Lists" and then "Your List" and find Amazonsmile charity lists.

On your phone you can use Amazonsmile by Downloading or updating to the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app on your phone. You can find it in the App Store for iOS or Google Play for Android. Open the app and find 'Settings' in the main menu (☰). Tap on 'Amazonsmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on Amazonsmile on your phone.

## Tri-Valley Cultural Jews Virtual Upcoming Summer Havdalahs

### July Havdalah



**Date:** Saturday, July 18th

**Time:** 7:00p.m.

**Place:** This year the TVCJ Havdalah celebrations will be held over zoom video conferencing.

**Cost:** FREE

Sophia will present one of her Brit Mitzvah projects during our Havdalah. We will celebrate the end of Shabbes with a short Havdalah observance and shmooze afterward. If you'd like to participate from your home, then have a braided candle to light, wine or juice to drink (to put the candle flame out) and a spice box.

**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.

### August Havdalah

**Date:** Saturday, August 15th

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Place:** This year the TVCJ Havdalah celebrations will be held over zoom video conferencing.

**Cost:** FREE

The Zoom meeting link will be sent closer to the date.

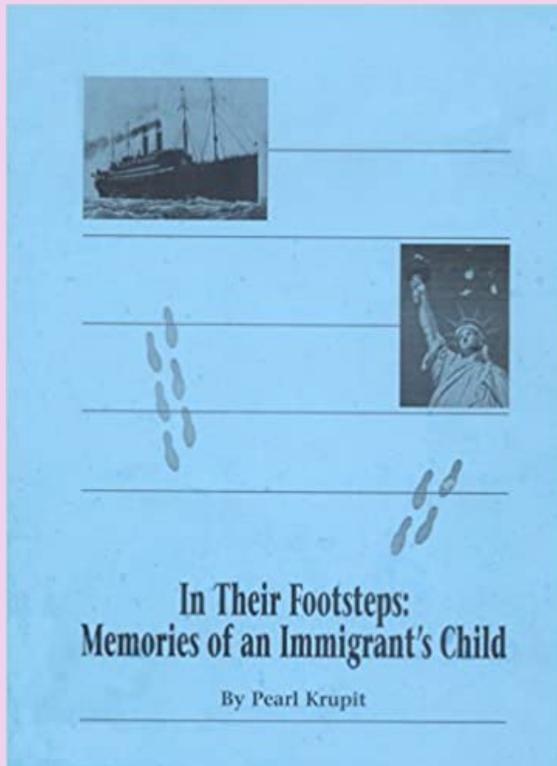
## **Jewish Culture School**

On Monday, June 15th, JCS students attended a wonderful Zoom tour of the Contemporary Jewish Museum's exhibit on Levi Strauss. We learned that Bavaria, where he was born, passed laws that said Jews could not be peddlers, and limited the number of Jews who could get married.

That's why the Strauss family came to America. We learned about how long the overland and the Panama and the Cape Horn crossings from New York to California took. We learned about the Chinese Exclusion Act and how it affected the Strauss business. Our docent, Ron Glait, was engaging and included the kids in a couple of online polls and conversations that kept us all interested. Thanks to the Contemporary Jewish Museum for making the tour possible.

## **Bylaws & Annual Meeting Minutes 2020 Updates**

This year's updates to the TVCJ bylaws and annual meeting minutes are posted in the members section of our website.



### ***New in our library***

#### **In Their Footsteps: Memories of an Immigrant's Child by Pearl Lipsky Krupit**

A charming and educational account of the life of a Jewish child in the Bronx, her family's story and her journey to her roots.

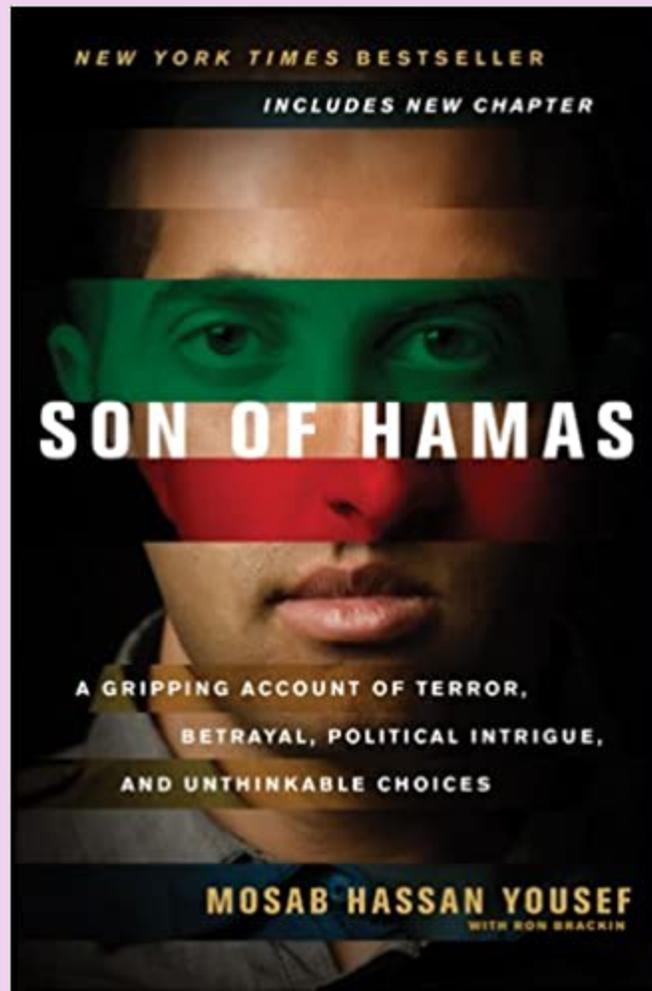
The author's memories are vivid and evocative of the time, the 1930's and 1940's of her childhood, and the years after.

She includes her quest for family stories and the sometimes unsatisfactory answers she received. (Upon asking her mother why one of her uncles drowned, she received the

response "Because he couldn't swim.") Suitable for any age.

## BOOK REVIEW

### **Son of Hamas: A Gripping Account of Terror, Betrayal, Political Intrigue, and Unthinkable Choices** By **Mosab Hassan Yousef**



This is the true story of Mosab Hassan Yousef, who is the son of one of the founders of Hamas. Because his father is beloved and respected by Hamas, Mosab is given special treatment by this militant group. It was expected that he would eventually inherit his father's leadership position. However, Mosab becomes disenchanted with Hamas and decides to work with Shin Bet, the Israeli intelligence organization. He becomes a double agent, reporting on Hamas' activities and thus saving many Israeli lives.

His main goal is to help achieve peace in the Middle East. Unfortunately, (in my opinion) he comes to this objective due to his embrace of the teachings of Jesus Christ. Especially the idea of "Love thy enemy". In my

view, he could have gotten there also if he embraced humanism.

This book reads like a thriller, and is a real page turner. However, I could have done without the religious references.

**Reviewed by Jerry Zwick**



### **In June We Remember:**

Eliza Haile Cloe  
Augusta Gorman  
John Mogul



### **Happy June Birthdays:**

Eileen Alkin-Fagliano  
Jazz Salwen-Grabowski  
David Gates  
Greg Gorel  
Thelma Poxon-Hudson  
Vicki Hudson  
Carol King  
Bret Mogilefsky  
Leah Morrison  
Judy Seid

### **Who We Are**

#### **Board Members:**

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Rebecca Ireland 510-888-1404  
Bret Mogilefsky 510-610-1956  
Jesse Pino 925-605-6003  
Mark Shulewitz 510-846-9718

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

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

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

**Holiday Coordinator:** Jamie Ireland 510-888-1404

**Movie Coordinator:** Wendy Berenson 925-829-0554



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