

News & Fun Activities

[View this email in your browser](#)



Tri-Valley Cultural Jews

Your East Bay Secular Humanistic Jewish Community

TriValleyCulturalJews.org

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."



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

March 6th, 2021

TVCJ Community News

Upcoming Events

Game Night Havdalah

We will be having our short secular, humanistic observance. If you would like to participate have a braided candle, glass of wine/juice, and spices.

Date: Saturday, March 20th, 2021

Time: 7:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.

Place: Zoom

Cost: We ask non-member adults to give a donation of \$10 if you are able to support our programming.

If you have questions, please contact Jamie



at culturaljews@gmail.com or call (925) 399-8029.

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews
VIRTUAL
COMMUNITY SEDER

Date: March 28th, 2021

Time: 5:00p.m.

Place: Zoom

Cost: We ask non-member adults to give a donation of \$10 if you are able to support our programming.

Our progressive, secular humanistic Seder includes English-language readings highlighting the power of community and the value of freedom, along with songs in English, Yiddish, and Hebrew. The hour-long ceremony is followed by optional schmoozing time while your family eats the dinner that you've prepared in your home. The event is family-friendly.

We will provide a shopping list for your seder plate, suggested recipes, and the Passover Haggadah.

If you have any questions, please email culturaljews@gmail.com or call Jamie at (925) 399-8029.

Philosophers' Cafe

Is there something on your mind that you would like to discuss with a group of friends? Or an issue that is important to you and that you would like a chance to explore with others? Consider hosting a Philosophers' Cafe, our monthly friendly discussion group. We're open to a wide range of topics - current events, ethics, introspective topics - pretty much whatever you think people might like to talk about for an hour. We have hosts through April, but let us know if you have a topic you would like to discuss in May, June, July or August.

Day/Time: Philosophers' Cafe meets on the **first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.** for a friendly discussion of various topics, serious and light.

Place: Zoom

Cost: Free to members, \$10 suggested donation for non-members.

If you have questions, please contact Jamie
at culturaljews@gmail.com or call (925) 399-8029.

February's Philosophers' Cafe tackled the problem of the free rider - people who get benefits that others pay for. We discussed union representation, NPR, basic research, and even our own community. Jesse Pino led the session. Join us next month for another interesting discussion.

Our Purim Celebration

Our holiday committee hopes all of our members enjoyed the hamentashen we delivered. Our Purim Havdalah was a lot of fun. Maya shared what she had learned about Purim and we saw some great costumes. Judy had a great discussion with the adults about different themes of Purim while the kiddos added sound effects as they heard the story of Purim before they started playing online games. Fun was had by all!

Our First Jew-vie Movie Night

For our first Jew-vie Movie night we watched "Doing Jewish" a documentary that explored an African Jewish community in Ghana. After we watched the movie we discussed the themes of growing community and how our community was similar to them in that we use what we have to make things work for us (like using Coke when they didn't have Kosher wine and white bread since they didn't have challah) but also the differences where they were definitely on the road to Orthodoxy and prescribing to the need to check all of the boxes to be considered Jews. Come join us for the next Jew-vie movie night. We start off on the Amazon Watch party then move to Zoom for our discussion.

Hebrew Free Loan for Financial Hardships Related to Covid-19

\$5.9 million is available for interest-free loans to help with financial hardships related to Covid-19. Loans offered to Jewish individuals throughout Northern California and to all employees of Northern California Jewish organizations (regardless of religion). Loans can assist with needs such as: rent & mortgage

payments • food, insurance, & child care • property taxes • small business expenses.

Loan amounts up to \$20,000, repayment schedules vary. [Click Here to Apply.](#) We can turn loans around in a matter of days, when needed. If you're unsure what loan type to apply for, select the one that seems like the best fit. A loan officer will work with you to figure out what type of loan will be most helpful.

Questions? Contact **Valerie at (415) 546-9902 x110** or **info@hflasf.org**



Our Brit Mitzvah Program

For more information: <https://trivalleyculturaljews.org/brit-mitzvah-program/>
or **contact Jamie at culturaljews@gmail.com or call (925) 399-8029.**

Thank You

To the volunteers who continue to do work for our organization: Carol King, for sending out every invite. Noah King for keeping up our website and FaceBook page and sending out calendar events to newspapers and other sites. Joy Randel for collecting material, editing, producing and distributing our stellar newsletter.

Death Over Dinner

Four years ago, in January 2017, ten members of TVCJ met for a program called Death Over Dinner - a potluck and discussion of several articles and video clips about dying. After the first meeting, we thought we could meet again and discuss another aspect. Then again, to hear from a palliative care nurse about the POLST (physician orders for life-sustaining treatment). And then again and again, reading different books and articles each time. We've met several times a year to share dinner and our thoughts, our experiences with our aging and dying parents, and our own feelings about

prolonging life. Over the last four years, we've become more than just members of TVCJ with a common interest - we've become friends.

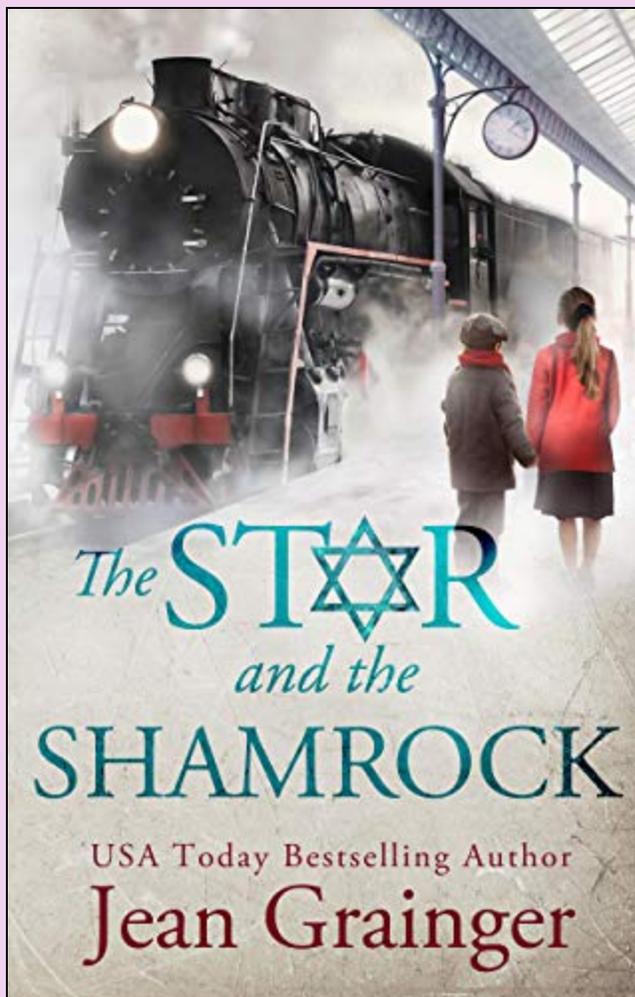
Virtual Jewish Film Festival

The 26th Annual East Bay International Jewish Film Festival is coming to a home screen near you. Information on the Festival's selection of movies, schedule, passes, tickets and more will be [available here](#) beginning **Saturday, March 13th**. There is one fee per household. Each movie starts on a specific date and is available for 3 days. Once you start to watch a film they will allow 48 hours to finish it. Each film will have a limited number of people who can attend so they recommend getting tickets in advance. Have questions? email info@eastbayjewishfilm.org

Book Review

THE STAR AND THE SHAMROCK (Book 1)

By
Jean Grainger



This novel takes place in Europe during World War II. A Jewish mother of two young children is convinced that the only way to save them from the dangers of Berlin was to put them on a train called the Kindertransport. The children end up with a cousin in Ireland. She is the primary teacher of the small town

whose residents are mostly welcoming and helpful—until the Nazi led bombing of the area. A mystery ensues as to who provided the attackers with drawings and details of the town and adjacent military base.

The characters in the book were believable and therefore made it easy to care about them. The book has mystery, drama, romance and suspense. It was a real page-turner, and I highly recommend it.

**Reviewed by
Jerry Zwick**



In March We Remember

Teible Barach
Henry Eilbirt
Jeannette Eilbirt
Rebecca Friedman



March Birthdays

Lois Ehrlich
Adam King
Nadav Noy
Sierra Randel
Debby Seid
Leslie Zwick

Who We Are

Rabbi: Judith Seid

Madrikha: Jamie Ireland

Board Members:

Jazz Salwen-Grabowski 718-578-7876

Jamie Ireland 510-888-1404

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

Joke: What did the science book say to the math book?

Wow, you have problems.



Copyright © 2021 Tri Valley Cultural Jews, All rights reserved.

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

