

## Press Release

# Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County\* (JGSCV) (\*and surrounding areas)

The Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County (JGSCV) will hold a general meeting, co-sponsored with Temple Adat Elohim on Sunday, April 2, 2017 at Temple Adat Elohim 2420 E. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, 91362 1:00-4:00 pm **Note: Earlier Start Time** Movie runs 139 minutes and is in English with English subtitles when English is not being spoken This program is our annual Yom Hashoah (Holocaust remembrance day) program. The actual date of Yom Hashoah is April 24, 2017.



## The Program:

**Movie: *Persona Non Grata***

**Story of Chiune Sugihara, the Japanese**

**Diplomat Who Saved 6,000 Jews during WWII**



During World War II, Chiune Sugihara, a Japanese diplomat served as vice-counsel in the Japanese consulate in Kaunas, Lithuania, disobeyed instructions from his own government and issued visas for Jews fleeing Nazi persecution from German-occupied Western Poland, Russian-occupied Eastern Poland, as well as Lithuanian residents. Sugihara issued more than 2,000 transit visas to Jewish refugees in 1940, continuing to sign the travel documents even after the Japanese consulate was closed down. Many of the visas were for entire families. As a result, it is estimated that Sugihara saved 6,000 Jews. Those 6,000 Jews have now an estimated 40,000 to 100,000 descendants. Sugihara's "Jews" passage took them through Russia to Japan to Shanghai, China, and from there to the United States, Canada, Australia and elsewhere.

This is the story of this heroic man, Chiune Sugihara, where during World War II he gathered intelligence for Japan, having been stationed in Europe. Israel named him to the Righteous Among the Nations for his actions, the only Japanese national to be so honored.

There is no charge to attend the meeting. Anyone may join JGSCV. Annual dues are \$25 for an individual and \$30 for a family. The meeting is open to the public.

The Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County is dedicated to sharing genealogical information, techniques and research tools with anyone interested in genealogy and family history.

For more information contact: [information@jgscv.org](mailto:information@jgscv.org) or  
Contact Jan Meisels Allen at 818-889-6616

