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Adar/Nisan 5781
March 2021



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A Woman's Place

by CHEN SHOVAL, ISRAELI EMISSARY

EVERY YEAR IN March, International Women's Day is celebrated. I have not celebrated this day for several years because it is the same date as my husband Tal's birthday. Every year on the eighth of March we celebrate his birthday, and not for one moment do I have any uncomfortable feelings with it or wonder why we are not celebrating Women's Day.

This whole month is dedicated to women's power, and we need to celebrate it throughout the entire year.

If I think of a strong woman, the first person that comes to mind is my mother, Gila Shoval; why not? She's a mother, and mothers are responsible for everything born and created in the world. My mother has always been a role model for me. I have always wondered how she manages to be both an amazing mother and a career woman. I grew up in a not-so-standard home in Israel. My mother was a military officer. There were days she would come home around 8:00 pm, and there were times we had a nanny who cooked and picked us up from school, but in every spare moment she had, she used it to be with our family.

In my previous job I was a tour guide, and it was very challenging to be both a woman and a mother in that world of touring, working all day next to bus drivers who often saw me as a little girl. When I became a mother and had to take care of the milk for my son, Agam, I would pump in every hole in the country: toilets at the Western Wall, the back of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, museums, early in the morning, and late at night. I wasn't willing to give it up, no matter how many times I heard colleagues and people I met along the way tell me, "this is not the place of a mother; this is not the place of a woman."

What is a woman's place?

In my opinion, a woman's place is the same place as every living thing should be. An equal and enabling place, a place that believes and supports. But, unfortunately, this place is not always possible yet for all women.

We have a long way to go, and with small steps, we will get there. Every time a woman reaches a new status or "breaks the glass ceiling" we shall celebrate it together. The biggest celebration lately was when Kamala Harris was elected Vice President of the United States. That was a general joy for women's power, without it being dependent on each other's political views, simply because we are all women.

Most women are endowed with character traits of listening, learning, and leadership. Together, supporting each other with love, women are capable of the impossible. My understanding of this was strengthened when I took part in the wonderful, empowering Women's Wellness Retreat organized by Congregation B'nai Emunah; many different issues were discussed.

Today, I feel that I can be a career woman and a mother. To express my thoughts, to fulfill my will, and to grow. This is thanks to the people who believed in me, gave me the tools, and supported me. I especially thank Tal. I constantly tell him he makes me feel like an equal partner all year round. It's not terrible that we will celebrate his birthday on International Women's Day.

Join us in the various programs in March as we celebrate the month of women's power. Let's all Learn, Listen and Lead our community together, for a woman's brighter future, for a better place. ■



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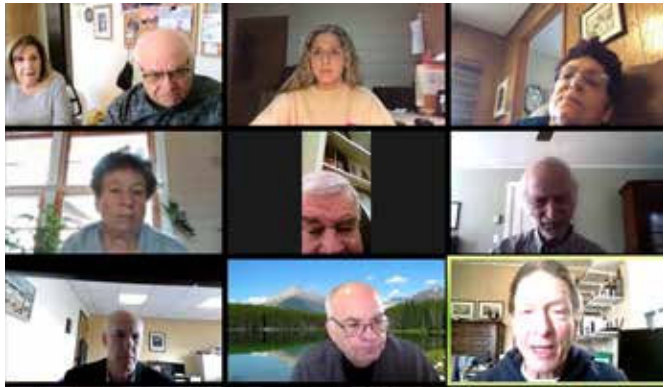
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JFT Event Recap

Men's Club | Wednesday, January 13th

Men's Club is for men of all ages who meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month for a speaker and lunch program. This week's speaker was Jim Jakubovitz, CEO of Zarrow Pointe. Jim gave a run-down of the happenings of the center and how they've handled the Covid-19 pandemic. More specifically, he spoke about the residents, and staff's constant testing, quarantine protocol, contact tracing, and thankfulness for a vaccine coming to them within the next few days! Several of the participants came with questions and Jim answered with great transparency about their efforts to keep the residents safe.



Rosh Chodesh | Wednesday, January 13th

Rosh Chodesh is a time for the women of our community to gather under the new moon and discuss relevant topics and issues. The topic for this gathering was new year's goals and the importance of self-care. Participants were each given an activity bag that included materials to encourage a self-care evening: a face mask, a candle, and some hand lotion, along with the craft supplies to make a memory jar. We started the evening with a breakout session and study of Jewish texts relating to self-care and answering discussion questions. Each group was three people, and we had a conversation about what the texts mean to us and then got together as a bigger group and discussed together. Next, we filled out our new year goals; everyone shared their hopes and passions going into 2021. Setting goals helps trigger new behaviors, guide your focus, and sustain that momentum in life. Goals also help align your focus and promote a sense of self-mastery. In the end, you can't manage what you don't measure, and you can't improve on something that you don't properly manage. Finally, we made a 2021 memory jar. A memory jar is where you can keep happy memories in a safe place to reflect on all the things you've accomplished, memories you've cherished, and moments you want to remember forever. The jars were filled with motivational quotes and fun stickers so participants got to individualize their jar. This was a wonderful program where everyone felt heard, were encouraged to reach their goals, and learned to prioritize self-care this year.

"If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?" Rabbi Hillel.



Assault on the Capitol with David Blatt | Tuesday, January 19th

The January 6th assault on the capitol was horrifying. As Jewish people, we have a responsibility to work to repair the world, known as "Tikkun Olam." Many of us saw the images of the gentlemen wearing the attire that read: "Camp Auschwitz" and "6MWE," which stands for - "6 million wasn't enough." It is clear that we have a long way to go in our country, but having these conversations is a good first step. David gave a recap of the events, explained the possible scenarios for impeachment, and answered our many questions.



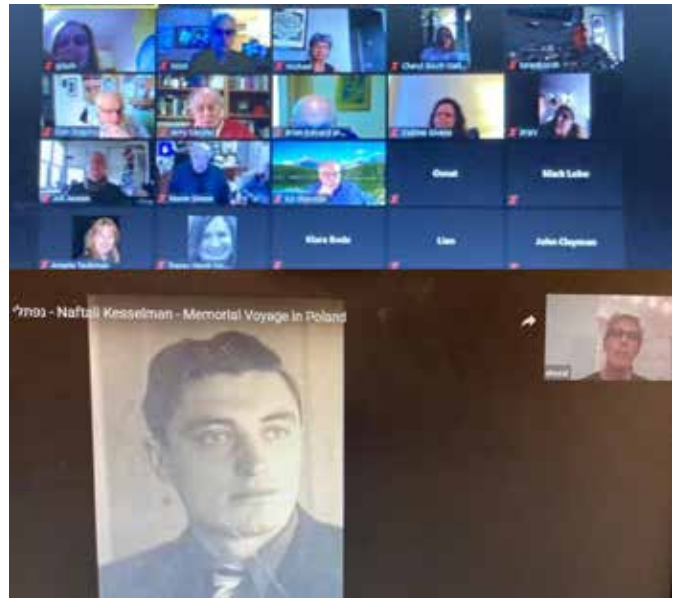


International Holocaust Remembrance Day Monday, January 25th

For International Remembrance Day, we gathered on zoom to talk with Chaim Shoval, a second-generation Holocaust survivor. Chaim shared his personal story with us and talked about the second generation in Israel, about Eichmann's trial and how it changed the whole attitude toward Holocaust survivors, and how they spoke of their experiences.

PJ Library Tu B'Shevat | Sunday, January 24th

We celebrated Tu B'Shevat together on Zoom using the kits each participant received with fruit snacks, juice boxes, and supplies needed for our grass-head craft activity. Our Israeli emissary, Chen Shoval, led us through a fun, educational, and interactive presentation of how Tu B'Shevat is celebrated in Israel, followed by the craft. This was a fun way for the participants to learn about the holiday while connecting with other Tulsa Jewish families. If you are interested in getting involved with PJ library, please email Isabella at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org.



2021 Campaign Opening Event – GRIT | Tuesday, January 26th

On Tues., Jan. 26, JFT launched its 2021 Annual Campaign with the theme of GRIT.

After a difficult 2020, Grit felt like the most appropriate theme for the 2021 campaign. The Jewish people have grit. Tulsa has grit. The Jewish Federation of Tulsa has grit. GRIT is also an acronym launching us into the new year: growing, resilient, innovative, Tulsa.

The evening opened with the premiere of the JFT campaign video displaying the faces of Jewish Tulsa and sharing how all those faces make up the story of the Jewish Federation of Tulsa. The evening concluded with a comedic performance by Jewish comedian and writer, Noah Gardenswartz, who writes for the Emmy and Golden Globe winning show, *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*. Ninety devices participated.

For more information about the 2021 Annual Campaign of GRIT, contact Alix Liiv Caplan at 917 439-1991 or alix@jewishtulsa.org.

Ladies Who Lunch & Men's Club | Wednesday, January 27th

Did you know that Israel is the largest exporter of dates in the world? Neither did we!

Our speaker, Yoni Shtern from the Kikar Sedom Valley in Israel, taught us about date farming in Israel – right in time for Tu B'Shevat. We had a great time celebrating the holiday of the land, plants, and nature by celebrating with a Seder. Each participant was given a kit before the program that consisted of an assortment of dried fruits and nuts, a juice box, and a small bottle of champagne. The Seder consisted of four Le'chaim prayers, learning about the history of the holiday, the different fruits in Israel, and the importance of planting a tree in Israel for Tu B'Shevat.



Three-part Geopolitical Lecture Series Wednesday, February 3rd

In the last month and a half, we covered various topics surrounding constant changes and conflict in the Middle East. This final lecture covered the most complicated issue – the Israeli and Palestinian conflict. Our speaker, David Oman, did a great job explaining the history and explaining the U.S. involvement in the region, while also projecting his optimistic point of view for the future. We received plenty of great feedback, one saying: *"I thought the lectures were interesting and very informative. We don't always get that kind of information from TV or daily newspapers. It was a great series and I liked the lecturer and his graphics and videos, which helped explain his message. Very well done."*

Virtual Tour to Kikar Sedom and the Dead Sea Sunday, February 7th

On a freezing cold day in Tulsa we got to visit the warm, dry desert of Israel—the Judean desert. On a virtual tour led by Yoni Shtern, we learned all about the Dead Sea, why it is called that, and about all the natural phenomenon surrounding the area. We “hiked” David Oasis as we imagined David sparing King Saul's life at the entrance to the cave. We ascended Masada and visited King Herod's Palace. We saw the Roman's army camp and siege ramp and visited our new partnership village—Kikar Sedom. We also viewed the Israeli-Jordanian border and the closeness of the communities from both sides of the border, existing out of agriculture in the middle of the desert.



Men's Club | Wednesday, February 10th

We had the privilege of a personal meet and greet session with Joy Platt, the Deputy Director of Finance and Administration at the Jewish Federation of Tulsa. As Joy gave a presentation about herself and answered some questions from the participants, we left feeling like we know her better. We learned that Joy attended Oral Roberts University and has been in Tulsa living with her husband and three children ever since. When asked, "What could you give a 40-minute presentation on without any preparation?" she responded, "Anything related to non-profit accounting, tricks to dealing with naturally curly hair, and car seat safety." When speaking about the next ten years, Joy is most excited about raising her children. Getting to know our new Jewish Federation staff is very important. If you ever need to contact Joy, her email is jplatt@jewishtulsa.org. If you're ever interested in joining future men's club meetings, please contact Isabella at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org



Joy Platt

Joy is a native of Ohio and moved to Oklahoma to attend Oral Roberts University, where she completed her Bachelor's degree. She completed her Masters at NSU and is a licensed CPA. Mrs. Platt began her career in the financial services industry and transitioned to public accounting. She joined us from HoganTaylor, where she was an assurance senior manager specializing in nonprofit, Uniform Guidance Single Audits, and construction companies. She lives in Jenks, Oklahoma, with her husband, Damon, and what she considers her greatest achievement, three kids ages 5, 3, and 6 months. ■



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JFT Upcoming Events

Israel and the Diaspora | Thursday, March 4th | 7 pm

Join us for an evening of connection through music and sacred singing as we glimpse into the world of women musicians in Israel. We are honored to have ORKA, an Israeli musician, singer, songwriter, and well-known artist. Israel and the Diaspora explores the connection of Israeli Jewry and Diaspora Jewry. On this evening we will explore it through a glimpse into a woman's music, life, and challenges in Israel.



"Cooking with Herbs" Gardening Class | Sunday, March 7th | 2 pm

Mark your calendars for our next community gardening class. Seek the advice of permaculturalist, Anita Mills, when it comes to all things organic. Anita works tirelessly to make sure our Community Garden is "Prosperous and Fruitful!" – literally. Meeting ID: 896 4238 9294 - Passcode: 426531

The Forgotten Women of the Bible | Wednesday, March 10th | 7 pm

Why don't we hear more about the important role of women in the bible? What specific roles did they play?

We hear so much about Moses, the great leader that took us out of Egypt and led us through the desert. Join us on Wednesday, March 10th, at 7 p.m., to discover what happened to the forgotten women of the Bible. The presentation will take us around Israel and will be led by Shelly Eshkoli, an appreciated Tour Guide & Jerusalem expert. She holds an MA in Biblical Studies from the Hebrew University.

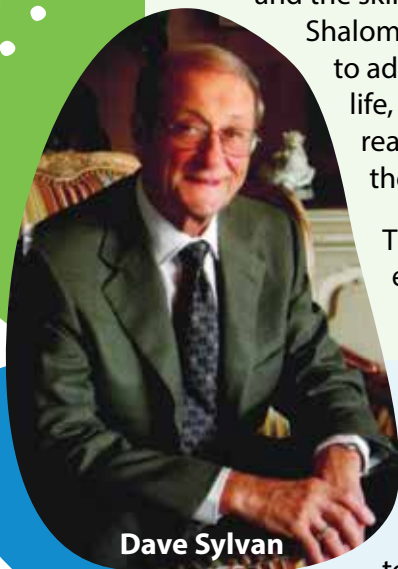




Dave R. Sylvan Camp Scholarship Fund

By Martha Kelley, CSJCC Deputy Director

For over 50 years, Camp Shalom has been the choice of our and the greater Tulsa Community. Camp Shalom gives children the opportunity to be kids! Children are our future and the skills learned and relationships fostered at Camp Shalom are life-changing stepping stones on the road to adulthood. Children come to camp from all walks of life, eager to learn, yearning to make new friends, ready to take on new challenges, and discover gifts they didn't know they had.



Dave Sylvan

The Dave R. Sylvan Camp Scholarship Fund was established by Dave's daughter, Debra Sylvan deLeeuw, to honor him and his desire that children in need of assistance would be able to go to Camp Shalom. His generosity and other donors to the fund have made camp attendance possible for hundreds of children through scholarships each year. The cost of conducting Camp Shalom is continually increasing. The average cost to send one child for one week to Camp Shalom is \$250. By making a donation to the Dave R. Sylvan Camp Scholarship Fund, you can help give a child a summer of fun and a lifetime of memories.



Donations can be made by calling the JCC front desk at 918-495-1111 or via the JewishTulsa.org website by clicking the "Donate" button. Please indicate that the donation is for the Dave R. Sylvan Camp Scholarship Fund. All donations over \$200 will receive a "CAMP" t-shirt.

Testimonials:

"I received great news about my daughter's scholarship. Thank you so much! The difference you make in my daughter's life is greatly appreciated." Camper Parent

"I would like to take a moment to let you know how much we appreciate the generous scholarship that was awarded to our children. They are so excited every day to come to Camp Shalom." Camper Parent

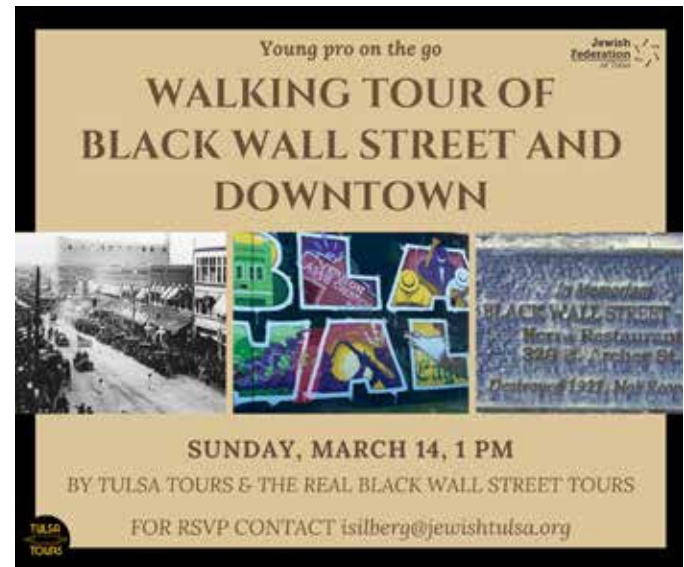
To learn more about the Dave R. Sylvan Camp Scholarship Fund, contact Martha Kelley at mkelley@jewishtulsa.org.



Young Adult Tour: Downtown Tulsa and Greenwood District | Sunday, March 14th | 1 pm

This is a tour for Tulsa's Jewish Young Professionals. As part of learning and educating about different cultures and history, it is important to take a close look at our city and reflect on the events that led us to where we are today. On Sunday, March 14th, we will enjoy a walking tour through downtown Tulsa's beautiful architecture, highlighting important structures and stories. We will continue through the arts district to the Greenwood area, taking a deeper look at Black Wall Street's history.

The tour will begin at 1 p.m. on Boston and is guided by Tulsa Tours and the Real Black Wall Street Tours. For more information and to RSVP, contact Isabella Silberg at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org.





Women's rights in Israel and the Covid-19 world

Dr. Ilana Kwartin
Regional director, Western US, Jewish agency for Israel
and advocate for women's rights in Israel

Rosh Chodesh | Thursday, March 25th | 7 pm

During the Covid-19 pandemic, we have been convinced that it is safer to stay at home, but for many women suffering from abuse and violence by their spouses, the home is the least safe place to be right now. Join us for this month's Rosh Chodesh gathering. This is a time for women of all ages to come together under the new moon and discuss relevant topics and issues. Dr. Ilana Kwartin, the Regional Director for the Jewish Agency for Israel of the Western United States, will lead us through this discussion.



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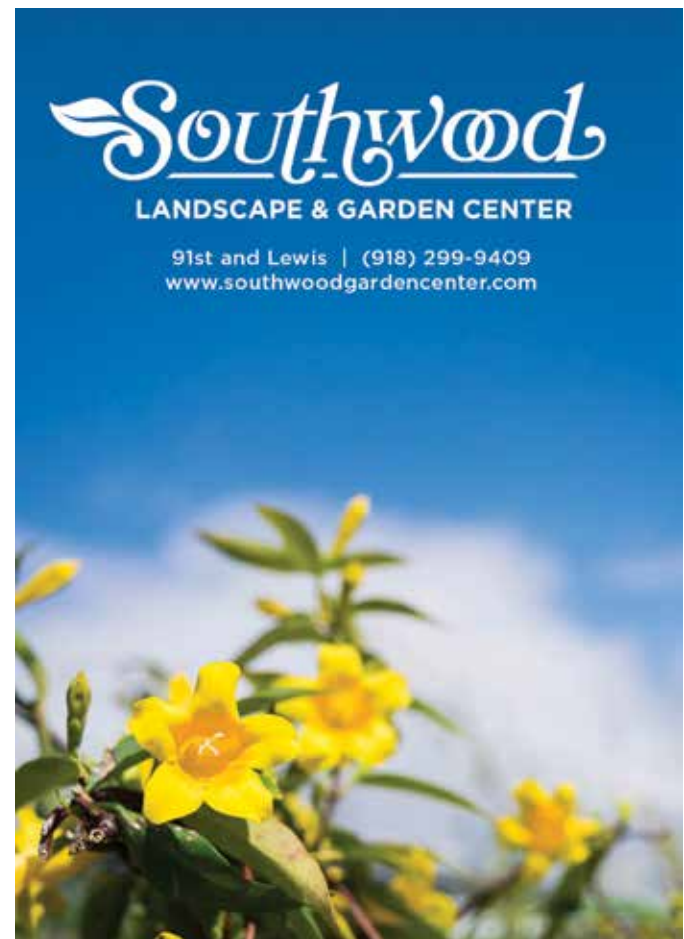
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Jewish Greetings...What to Say and When to Say It

by © PHIL GOLDFARB

THERE ARE SEVERAL Jewish and Hebrew greetings, farewells, and phrases that are used in Judaism, and in Jewish and Hebrew-speaking communities around the world that can be an important part of Jewish life. Many Jews, even if they do not speak Hebrew fluently, will know several of these greetings. To make it easier for everyone as a quick reference, here is a list of the most common Jewish Greetings in Hebrew, English and when to use them.

GENERAL

Hebrew	English	When to Use
"Shabbat Shalom" (The Yiddish "Gut Shabbbes" is also common)	Literally, "a peaceful Shabbat"	A standard Shabbat greeting, it is usually used from about Friday midday through Saturday evening
"Shavuah Tov"	"Good week"	Good for greeting people on Saturday Night, once Shabbat has ended. Acceptable through the weekend.
"Chag sameach"	"Happy holiday"	Good for any Jewish holiday. Some people use the Yiddish version "Gut Yontef." Can insert holiday name in the middle: e.g. Chag Chanukah sameach."
"Chazak u'varuch"	"Be strong and blessed"	Used in Sephardi synagogues after an honor. The Sephardi counterpart to the Ashkenaz Yasher Koach and Boruch TihYeh
"L'chaim"	"To life"	Equivalent of saying "cheers" when doing a toast.
"Kol ha'ka'vod"	"All of the honor"	Used for a job well done.
"Shalom"	"Hello, goodbye and peace"	A Hebrew greeting, based on the root for "completeness." Literally meaning "peace."
"Shalom aleichem"	"Peace be upon you"	This form of greeting was traditional among the Ashkenazi communities. The appropriate response is "Aleichem Shalom" or "Upon you be peace."
"Kein ayin hara"	"No evil eye"	Added after praising another, expressing the wish that the evil eye should not affect the individual discussed.
"Sei gesund"	"Good health, be healthy"	Used almost anytime, but especially when saying goodbye.

LIFE EVENTS

"Mazel tov"	"Congratulations" "Good luck"	All-purpose phrase for a celebratory moment. Good for baby naming's, bar/bat mitzvah's, graduation, weddings, new job, engagements.
"Baruch Dayan Ha-Emet"	"Blessed be the True Judge"	Traditional response to news that someone has died. This phrase evokes the idea that ultimately only God can judge when it is our time to go.

“Besha’ah tovah”

“All in good time”

What to say upon hearing the news that someone is pregnant. For superstitious Jews, saying “Mazel tov” before the baby is born is considered bad luck.

“Refuah sheleimah”

“A complete healing” “A full recovery”

Compassionate response to news that someone is sick, along the lines of “Get well soon.”

“Oyf simchas”

“Of happy occasions”

When Jews part ways after a shiva, funeral or other somber occasion, they may use this sendoff, expressing hope that they meet again, under happier circumstances.

SPECIFIC HOLIDAY GREETINGS

“Shanah tova (u’Metukah)”

“Good (and sweet) New Year”

Good for the lead up to Rosh Hashanah through Yom Kippur,

“Gmar chatimah tovah”

Literally, “a good final sealing”

Used between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur this is an expression of hope that the year to come is a good one. Often shortened to “Gmar tov.”

“Moadim l’simcha”

“Happy Holiday”

This phrase is used during the intermediate days of Passover and Sukkot-the days that aren’t in the holy days at the start and end. A standard “Chag sameach!” in response will do the trick..

“Chag kasher v’sameach”

“Happy and Kosher Holiday”

Passover phrase that one can start using during the lead-up to the holiday. Some like to throw in the “kosher” bit, possibly because of the holiday’s demanding food restrictions.

“Tizku Leshanim Rabot- Ne’imot veTovot”

“May you merit many pleasant and good years”

Used in Sephardic communities to wish someone well for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

“Chag Purim sameach”

“Happy Purim Holiday”

Common greeting on Purim, the holiday of Festivities and joy. The Yiddish version is “freilichein Purim.”

“Tzom kal”

“An easy fast”

Used to wish someone well for Yom Kippur. The word “happy” is not used because Yom Kippur is meant to be a somber holiday, not a happy one.

Other single words to use (you might want to look the meaning up before you use them by the way!): alter kocker, bubkis, bubelah, chutzpah, farblondzhet, farmisht, gevalt (aka: Oy gevalt), kibitz, klutz, kvetch, macher, maven, megila, mensch, meshugana, mishigas, mitzvah, naches, nu? plotz, saichel, schlimazel, schlock, schmendrick, schmutz, schnaps, shvitz, simchah, speil, tchotchke, verklempt and finally...yenta.

A special thank you to my friend Dr. Alan Levenson, Director of the Schusterman Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Oklahoma and a JGS of Tulsa member for his input into this article. Alan falls into the category of a real mensch!

Phil Goldfarb is the president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Tulsa and can be e-mailed at: phil.goldfarb@cox.net. Have you joined the JGS of Tulsa this year? (still only \$18.00 after 15 years). ■

balagan **klutz** leyn heimish
mensch drash schmutz
naches kvetch yofi bashert
mazel tov davka **spiel**
macher shul bentsch nu?

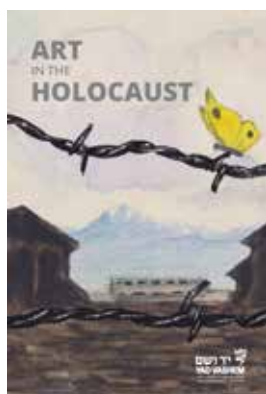


See JFT Happenings
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Sanditen/Kaiser Holocaust Center

The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art Sanditen/Kaiser Holocaust Center doubled the size of the Museum's Holocaust Center space and provided for new state-of-the-art displays, greatly enhancing the Museum's Holocaust education capacity. The new Holocaust Center is the cornerstone of what goes on at The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art and will continue to bring in new visitors every day to learn why and how the Holocaust occurred and how to ensure it never happens again. The center showcases over 250 artifacts from soldiers and survivors never before seen by the public. The horrifying events are told through the experiences of five Holocaust survivors who made Oklahoma their home. Their first-hand accounts, along with the artifacts and documents, will help you walk into the history and lessons learned during the Holocaust. Also featured in the only Holocaust Center in the region is a one-of-a-kind art installation from local Oklahoma artists. The Museum's Sanditen/Kaiser Holocaust Center honoring Mildred and Julius Sanditen & Herman and Kate Kaiser showcases the effects of hate locally and worldwide.



Art in the Holocaust

Now-May.

This exhibition provides a glimpse into art created during the Holocaust in ghettos, camps, forests, and while in hiding. The artworks reflect the tension between the artists' need to document the terrible events they endured and their desire to break free through art and escape into the realms of beauty, imagination, and faith. This exhibit is from Yad Vashem.



Women's Art from the Collection

Now-Dec.

Although 60 percent of Master of Fine Arts students are women, female artists only make up 30 percent of those shown in galleries. Work by women artists makes up only 3-5% of major collections in the United States and Europe. The SMMJA would like to showcase the women's art we have in our collection as our dedication to promote and collect more Jewish art by women.



Reuven Rubin

Now-Dec.

Reuven Rubin is celebrated as a pioneer in the Israeli art world. Born on November 13, 1893, in Romania, Rubin served as Israel's first ambassador to the country of his birth. His paintings use radiant, earthy colors and simple techniques, reminiscent of the work

of French-Russian artist Marc Chagall, to explore the biblical landscapes of his home in Israel and its folk history. He regularly drew the countryside and people who inhabited it, transforming his observations into more fantastical and dream-like scenes through his unique artistic vision.



Sacal: A Universal Mexican, Sculptures by the late José Sacal

Now-Mar.

José Sacal is undoubtedly one of the most prominent representatives of contemporary sculptural art. Known for his experimentation and freedom, Sacal recognized no boundaries in his sources of inspiration and was not afraid to find new meaning in old forms. Sacal's work has been showcased in more than 40 individual exhibitions and dozens of collaborations in Mexico and around the world. In 2006, he became the first Mexican to have his sculptures permanently displayed in the country of China. Today, more than 20 Sacal sculptures can be found in public spaces across Mexico, Israel, and the United States, including Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. The sculptures featured at the Sherwin Miller Museum comprise two series: The Paraphrase, inspired by distinguished artists like Michelangelo, Frida Kahlo and Picasso, and Characters of Impact, in which Sacal recreates unmistakable historical figures like Einstein and Churchill.



Witness: The Art of Samuel Bak

Now-Apr.

Samuel Bak is an American painter and writer who survived the Holocaust and immigrated to Israel in 1948 but has lived in the U.S. since 1993. Much of Samuel Bak's art is influenced by his experiences of surviving the Holocaust as a child in Vilna, Poland. Bak explains: "I certainly do not make illustrations of things that happened. I do it in a symbolic way, in a way that only gives a sense of a world that was shattered."



Temple Israel



Coffee Talk with Temple Israel Clergy on Zoom

Wednesdays in March • 10:30 a.m.

Join us for a cuppa joe... you bring the coffee; we'll bring the conversation. The coffee is optional, the community is yours.

Hot Topics with Rabbi Weinstein on Zoom

Thurs., Mar. 4, 11, & 25 • 2 p.m.

All are welcome to join the conversation as we continue our weekly learning series exploring some of those hot topics which continue to come up in our lives. Some topics include abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, and the ethics of war. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com to get the Zoom link.

Shabbat Learning Through the Ages on Zoom

Sat., Mar. 6 • 10:30 a.m.

Borrowing from our Temple Israel monthly Shabbat morning experience, we will join to study and learn from one another. We will explore Torah and Traditional Rabbinical texts based on themes of this week's Parsha. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com to get the Zoom link.

Tot Shabbat on Zoom

Fri., Mar. 12 • 6 p.m.

Join us as we create a sacred space for our young families with songs, prayers, and a story with our short monthly Tot Shabbat Service. Contact Rabbi K. at rabbikay@templetulsa.com for more information.



Sociable Seniors –Movietime! on Zoom

Sun., Mar. 14 • 4 p.m.

Join our Sociable Seniors Happy Hour via Zoom as they discuss the Netflix movie "About Time." An RSVP isn't mandatory, but if you respond to rsvp@templetulsa.com or call the Temple office by March 7, we'll deliver popcorn to your door in advance of showtime! RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com to get the Zoom link.

Zamru L'Shabbat Service

Fri., Mar. 19 • 6 p.m.

Zoom in and enjoy the music of Cantor Weinstein and Eliyahu's Minor Prophets as we welcome Shabbat with a joyous celebration. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com to get the Zoom link.



Temple Israel's Havdalah with Cantor Laurie Weinstein & Cantorial Soloist Jenny Labow on Facebook Live

Sat., Mar. 20 • 7 p.m.

Come and be present with our Temple Israel Music Team as we separate the sacred from the sublime and begin the week anew; they will offer the prayerful songs of Havdalah, and their soulful music of the new week.

Shabbat Service w/Torah on Zoom & Facebook Live

Fri., Mar. 26 • 6 p.m.

Join the Temple Israel Clergy Team as we welcome in Shabbat with the chanting of Torah. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com to get the Zoom link.

Congregational Pesach Seder on Zoom

Sun., Mar. 28 • 6 p.m.

Chag Pesach Sameach! It's time once again to tell our ancestral story of exodus out of Egypt. Join us on this night via Zoom. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com or call the Temple Israel office to reserve your delicious Passover meal for pick up in the TI parking lot; adults \$18, children \$10. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com to get the Zoom link.



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Panim el Panim Shabbat Morning Services

Every Sat. • 10 a.m.

Our tradition speaks of a special power that exists when a group of people gathers together for prayer. "Panim el Panim" is a live broadcast service led by Rabbis Kaiman and Fitzerman. Rooted in our in-person Shabbat morning service, we spend time singing, reflecting, studying Torah, and connecting. To take part in this experience, join us in our Synagogue Zoom Room, Meeting ID: 918 583 7121.

Shabbat Together

Fri. - March 5, 12, 19, and 26 • 6 p.m.

As days and weeks go by, we are invited to pause, reflect, and enjoy time together. "Shabbat Together" is a short, digital gathering where we take a few moments to connect with community as we enter Shabbat. The gathering begins at 6:00 p.m. A weekly Yahrzeit service precedes this experience at 5:45 p.m. We conclude everything in time for you to enjoy a Shabbat meal at home. Synagogue Zoom Room, Meeting ID: 918 583 7121.



Maker Judaism: Matzah with Fitzerman

Tues., Mar. 16 • 7 p.m.

As we prepare for Passover, come learn how to make your own "bread of affliction." Making your own matzah is a way to connect with the holiday in ways you may not have experienced. It's about time for a new quarantine baking craze. Why not matzah? We'll meet in the Synagogue Zoom Room, Meeting ID: 918 583 7121.

Second Seder with The Synagogue

Sun., Mar. 28 • 6 p.m.

Come spend your second Seder with your family at The Synagogue. We will retell the tale of our exodus with song, story, food, and friends. Passover essentials are available through our Passover Market, as is a "Seder in a Box," to make the holiday accessible to us all. Contact Rick Gratch for more information about our Passover Market items or boxes at rgratch@bnaiemunah.com. Visit <https://www.tulsagogue.com/> for details and a link to join.



21 to 21

Every Sunday in March • 4 p.m.

2021 marks one hundred years since the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. In an effort to more deeply understand the history of the event and the realities of its effects on today's Tulsa, we will hold a four-part series in our Synagogue Zoom Room. Meeting ID: 918 583 7121.



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Mizel School Zooms Tu B'Shevat

by JANET DUNDEE

RELAXING ON A recent Sunday morning, I tuned into a CNN news program just in time to see that Rick Davis, long-time producer and innovator, was retiring from his CNN job.

When asked what words he would like to leave others who follow him in the world of journalism, Davis provided three words: "Learn, Earn, Return."

I perked up when Davis pronounced his legacy. The advice he was giving is applicable to so many pathways through life.

I especially thought: "This is what we start out doing when we enter elementary school." We learn. If we are very fortunate, we learn from strong, thoughtful, intelligent teachers who love learning and pass that love on to their students.

As we move through life, we have opportunities to earn as well. Through employment, we use what we have learned from our best teachers and apply all those lessons to earning our way through the various positions we hold and the people we meet along the way.

But what does it mean to return?

Returning is giving back, going back or perhaps profiting from the investment others have made in us. Then as the saying goes, we "pay it forward."

On January 26, during the Jewish holiday of Tu B'Shevat, a number of Mizel school families and friends were privileged to witness the cycle of Learn, Earn and Return through a Zoom presentation from the school with the students and teachers.

Tuning in on our computers, we listened to Rabbi Marc Fitzerman's blessing for the New Year of Trees and for the teachers, families, students, and friends of the school. Rabbi Fitzerman raised his voice in the singing of Shehechyanu, a prayer for the moment we were all experiencing. We returned to our Judaism to praise G-d for this celebration of Tu B'Shevat.

We learned from Mizel teachers and students the meaning of the holiday. We learned from Taylor Melone from Up With Trees that nature and people must work together to foster a clean and growing world around us. Mizel's celebration was, in a sense, a Circle of Life.

Having learned this lesson, the Mizel students had returned to their place as stewards of the world by planting recycled seeds which came all the way from Israel to the school, from the Ben Zeev family at Dvorat Hatavor and their visitors center. In addition, by purchasing these seeds from funds earned, our school contributed to the rebuilding of the Israeli center devastated by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Mizel Zoom session closed with a reminder that although we were observing the practices which keep us safe from the pandemic, we will one day sit together and share holidays and special occasions with each other.

Each school day, Mizel students meet in person in their classrooms. The flexibility and the ability to bring in programs such as the Tu B'Shevat Zoom can exist because the school is built around the concept of smaller classes, customized curriculum, extra-curricular activities, adapting to the needs of the moment, and having the leadership and faculty to carry all of this to fruition.

In Science class, students can watch their seeds from Israel growing and report on the success of the ones which they are growing at home. The students can study and practice what they learn about the world's climate and the effort they can make to practice ways to improve our climate. The students can learn about Israel, its history, and its culture. They can study modern Hebrew and put the Hebrew names not only to themselves but also to the parts of the holiday celebration.

Students can go to the kitchen and watch muffins baking, with the 7 Species of the holiday inside each muffin, and enjoy eating all the holiday foods at school and at home with their families.

On the Wish Tree in the school lobby, students placed their personal wishes on a Neon Palm Tree loaned to the school by one of its supporters. Then they can decorate their Tu B'Shevat Tree in Art Class and draw "stories" on bags to take home all the supplies they need to grow the seeds.

Their teachers are working together to integrate these important values, history, and religious studies into their secular curricula. Teachers themselves have Learned, Earned, and are now Returning to give back to their students the lessons and opportunities that will set them on a lifelong Learning, Earning, and Returning course.

If this sounds like the kind of school environment you seek for your children, contact Tom Padalino, Director at 918-494-0953. ■



Mizel Pre-K teachers Chelsea and Lauren with Kris, Art Teacher and their students checking out the 7 Species Muffins for Tu B'Shevat


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Meet Mieke Epps
A Dutch Child's Memories of Nazi Occupation during WWII



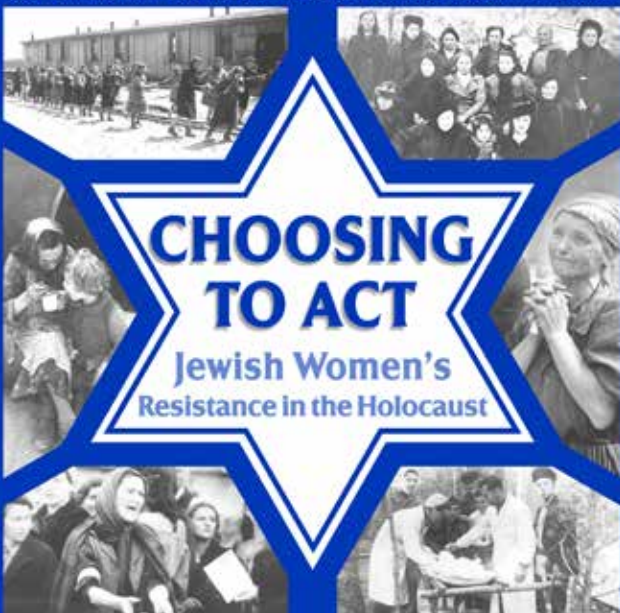
Mieke Epps was 5 when the war in Netherlands was officially over. Learn her family's story of Nazi occupation and the famous "Hunger Winter" from Mieke's story and her parents' diary entries.

Monday, March 8
7:00 pm - 8:15 pm

For more information and Zoom link contact
Nancy at
npettus@jewishtulsa.org

The Tulsa Council for Holocaust Education and the Tulsa City-County Library present:
23rd Annual Yom HaShoah: An Interfaith Holocaust Commemoration



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Guest Speaker • **Sheri Rosenblum** • of the Jewish Partisan Educational Foundation

Thursday • April 22 • 2021 • 7 pm

THE TULSA COUNCIL FOR HOLOCAUST EDUCATION Jewish Federation of Tulsa Tulsa City-County Library presented by zoom

From Africa to Tulsa

by **BENTZY GOLDMAN**, FOUNDER OF PERFLO

I'D NEVER HEARD of Tulsa until one day I met someone in a coffee shop in Cape Town, South Africa, for a business meeting who had been there on a visit with her family through the Tulsa Tomorrow initiative. She raved about the people, the mission, and how she desperately wanted to move her family over. Sadly, visas are hard to come by, and it didn't end up materializing. I was on the brink of starting a tech startup and knew that America was the best place to do it, but I didn't know where in America. Luckily, I didn't require a visa as I held an American passport through my father, who was born in New York and moved to South Africa in 1976 (amidst the Soweto uprising).

My friend who had visited Tulsa put me in touch with Danielle Mendelsberg with Tulsa Tomorrow. We had an introductory call before being introduced to the chief and quite literally the reason I am here - David Finer. David gathered a group of young Jewish businessmen to join a conference call, which resulted in me visiting Tulsa in September 2019.

I spent a week here meeting with as many people as possible in both the Jewish and business communities. I also attended a venture capital roadshow that was visiting Tulsa, which had a big impression on me. To see that top venture capital firms were starting to take the Midwest seriously as the next up-and-coming startup ecosystem was a very positive sign.

I went back home thinking a lot about Tulsa and whether it was the right place for me and my business. Long story short, it was. A special thanks to all the incredible people that made it possible, especially Rebekah Kantor. One person who truly fueled both myself and the business to Tulsa is Michael Basch at Atento Capital, who believed in us and facilitated a local investment that allowed us to hire key employees and launch our product into the market.

Although we're still in the early stages of our company, we are optimistic that we will be able to grow this small startup into a sizable technology company, providing opportunities for local Tulsans and exposure to the public, highlighting that Tulsa truly is a place where great startup companies can be built.

Perflo is a software tool that helps companies monitor and empower the people on their projects through an intelligent micro-feedback system and by providing rich insights into team performance and engagement to managers. As teams and organizations have shifted to a virtual working environment, it has never been more crucial to keep a pulse on our people and ensure everyone is engaged and supported in order to bring their best to work. ■



Bentzy Goldman (left) with Ron Timoshenko, Perflo CTO (right).

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Questions - contact Martha Kelley at mkelly@jewishtulsa.org or 918.495.1111

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Katharine Penson Miller

OF BLESSED MEMORY



Katharine in 1989

KATHARINE, KATARINA, KAT, she went by many names, but the best one was Friend. Katharine Penson Miller was born in the Washington, DC area on March 4, 1939, to Lucy and Charles Penson while her father was United States Ambassador to Brazil. When Katharine was two weeks old, the family returned to Brazil. She spent her childhood traveling around the world. Her teen years were in Germany, and she attended college at the Munich branch of the University of Maryland. After college, Katharine moved to the DC area where she lived, worked, and met her first husband who took her to live in his native country of Mexico.

Following her divorce, Katharine decided to pursue her deep interest in her father's Jewish heritage, which led to her meeting and marrying Sherwin Miller at the synagogue in Mexico City. Katharine was destined for great success and became the first female bank director in Mexico. She worked at the Bank of Brazil in Mexico City until she and Sherwin retired to pursue their love of travel. Because Katharine lived in so many places growing up, she became fluent in Spanish, Portuguese, English, German, and French.

After Sherwin died in 1998, Katharine decided to fulfill his dream of having a permanent home in Tulsa, OK, honoring her husband's love of Jewish Art. The Fenster/Sanditen Cultural Center became The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art with the complete trust and support of the Tulsa Jewish Community. She visited the museum annually until the pandemic. Katharine passed on January 5th, 2021, and is buried with her beloved Sherwin in Mexico City.

Katharine leaves behind numerous friends and family. When needed, she was the first to help anyone, including her eleven beloved rescue dogs, many of which came by way of her driving around the airport and picking them up. She was passionate and compassionate about people and causes and a fierce proponent of fine art and its important place in this world. She will be remembered as a vibrant woman, loving relative, giving patron, and a true friend. May her memory always be for a blessing. The family suggests that donations be made in her memory to The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art. ■



Sherwin Miller

OF BLESSED MEMORY

A **NATIVE OF TULSA,** Oklahoma, Sherwin Miller was a man whose love for Judaism and family was foremost in this life. He demonstrated an insatiable curiosity and learned to fly at the age of fourteen, and obtained his ham radio license while still in high school. Sherwin graduated from the University of Texas in Austin in 1949, was a civilian pilot during World War II for the Ferry Command of the U. S. Army, and served in the military during the Korean conflict.

After his military service, Sherwin returned to Tulsa and became an active member of B'nai Emunah Synagogue, where his family were founding members. He developed a reputation for embracing all projects, whether Jewish or secular, with great enthusiasm, clear-headedness, objectivity, and a refreshing sense of humor.

In 1968 Sherwin moved to Mexico City, where he became a partner in an international brokerage firm while maintaining his close ties with Tulsa and nurturing a dream of preserving Jewish history and culture in his native city.

In Mexico City, Sherwin became president of Beth Israel Community Center. After several terms as president, he was

named a life member of the Board of Directors. The Sherwin Miller Memorial Library at the Beth Israel Community Center is named in his honor – a tribute to a man who had a sense of history and tackled all projects with great dedication.

In 1978, Sherwin married Katharine Penson, whom he met at Beth Israel while helping prepare a new prayer book for the congregation in three languages. That prayer book is still in use today.

Before his passing in December of 1998, Sherwin Miller was honored by the Board of Trustees of the Fenster Museum as an Honorary Trustee. He was most proud of this tribute and recognition and expressed his wish for the Museum to grow from strength to strength.

Today, The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art on the Zarrow Campus fulfills Sherwin's dream of the preservation and display of the priceless collection he was instrumental in creating. ■



Sherwin in the Fenster Gallery of Art in 1965



Left: Katharine and Sherwin on their wedding day in 1978; Above: Sherwin in the 1980s

Hannah Bakewell

Fitness Manager of The Charles Schusterman
Jewish Community Center



Q: How long have you been working at the JCC?

A: This summer, I will be officially working at the JCC for two years! After graduating from college, my professor and friend, Roman Jasinski, recommended me to the JCC as a dance-fitness instructor. I started off as just a class instructor in June of 2019. I became full time as Fitness Manager in May of 2020.

Q: What do you love about the JCC?

A: What I love the most about the JCC is the people. I always look forward to seeing our members and being able to talk with them. I know I am going to have many great conversations throughout the day, whether it is in class, within the fitness center, or during personal training. It is a joy to see our members progress and see them reach their fitness goals. The best part is being the person that helped them reach those goals. Our members are a huge part of why I love my job!

Q: What classes do you teach?

A: I teach eleven classes per week at the JCC! On Mondays, I teach Muscular Endurance and Core and Conditioning. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, Circuit Training Class and Spin. Wednesdays, Midweek Movement and Bootcamp.

Bootcamp is on Fridays too, along with a dance-fitness class called "Jukebox Jams," and an extra morning spin class. I also offer personal training sessions for those wanting a more personalized plan, one-two times per week from thirty minutes to an hour long.

Q: What makes the JCC different from other gyms?

A: The strong sense of community is what makes Tulsa's JCC stand out. It is a place where members can quickly find long-lasting friendships within classes, the fitness center, and even among the staff. Every single staff member truly cares for each person that walks through our doors. Every member is given full support based on their fitness level, and overall needs. When this kind of atmosphere is created, along comes mutual respect, kindness, renewing memberships, and growth.

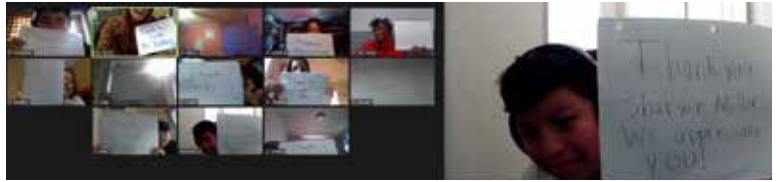
Q: What do you see in the future for Tulsa's JCC Fitness?

A: When I think of the future for Tulsa's JCC Fitness, the word thrive comes to mind. We will thrive by trying new things in the form of events, promotions, fitness challenges, and even celebrations. I see us making new connections and creating new opportunities for members, such as new class options. We have all the tools to flourish, and I cannot wait to be a part of it while working for the JCC!

Tulsa Will Rogers College Middle School Holocaust Unit: “Our most difficult, most gratifying, most important endeavor”

by **NANCY PETTUS**, DIRECTOR OF HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

WITH THE CURRENT rise in antisemitism worldwide and the lack of knowledge among Americans concerning one of the most horrifying genocides in 20th-century history, it is more important now than ever to acknowledge those working to keep the lessons of the Holocaust fresh in our collective memory. The following is a story of such efforts.



Language Arts teacher Rebecca Simcoe of Tulsa Will Rogers College Middle School is a force to be reckoned with. Simcoe, Lee Merrifield, Katelyn Butler, and Sam Rauh (all who teach mostly Early Language Learners) created a 6-week Holocaust Unit that would rival any I’ve seen in my 30-year career as a Holocaust educator. This unit included resources from the USHMM; SMMJA; poems and artwork from the book *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*; and three films for the students to watch with their families: *Diary of Anne Frank*, *Paper Clips* and *Race*. Victims’ stories and diaries such as “Give Me Your Children: Voices from the Lodz Ghetto” from the USHMM website were explored to provide authenticity to the events. Butterflies were created and decorated to honor the children of Terezin. Students wrote their feelings about the importance of being an upstander and some classes actually took a pledge. Finally, students watched Mickel Yantz’ tour of our newly enlarged Sanditen/Kaiser Holocaust Center. Here is a sample of student responses from this tour.

Dear Curators at Sherwin Miller:

“Thank you so much for showing us the museum and giving us a good idea of what life was like for the Jewish people. Since Covid has started it’s been hard staying focused in class and school work but I found this field trip very exciting and engaging. Thank you for that.” Sincerely D. Gomez

“Thank you so much for sharing the virtual field trip...It was interesting to watch and helpful for our lesson about World War II and the Nazis. I still hope to go there in person someday.” Sincerely B. Gonzalez

“Thank you for letting us tour the museum of Jewish art for free. It really helped us get an image of the propaganda newspapers and the Star of David. The part that I remember the most was the wall of propaganda. I really enjoyed the tour.” Sincerely, Emilia

“Thank you for letting me experience the Holocaust through video. It gave me great perspective on history. I love how you did all the rock wall for how many children’s lives were taken, which is devastating....” M. Carmona

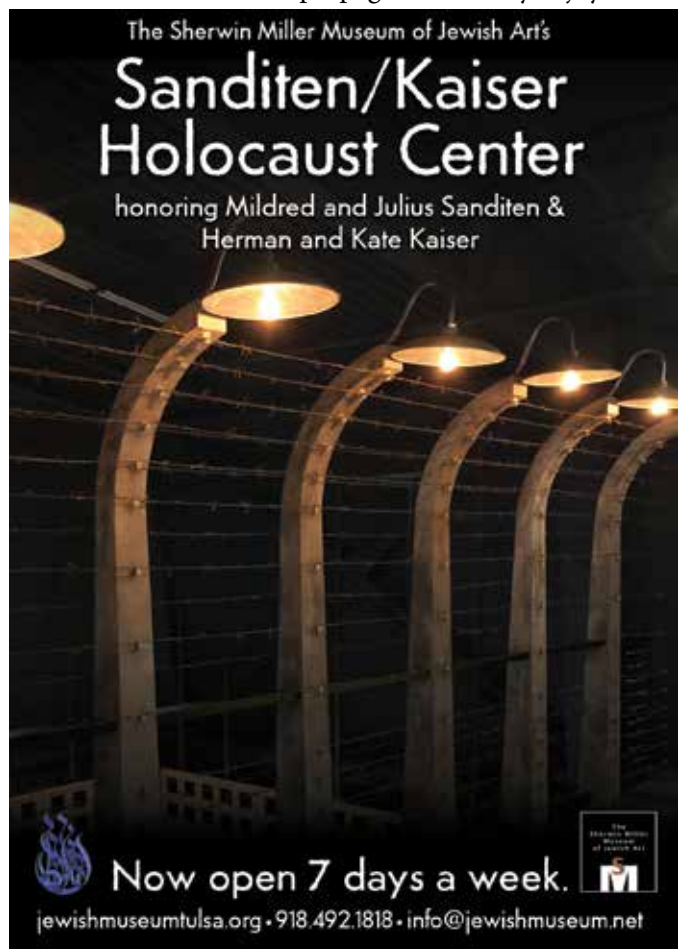
From team member Lee Merrifield: “Simcoe, thank you for being our “rock” and our team-lead extraordinaire. I cannot thank each of you enough for demonstrating how to plan and implement lessons and how to be authentic and creative in teaching the Holocaust. I am grateful to be learning from the best.”

Finally, a statement from Rebecca Simcoe: “This has been, as every year, the most gratifying and emotionally difficult unit to teach to 13-15-year-old kids. It is also the most important one, for sure.”

This is Holocaust education at its finest; no further commentary needed. ■



Sam Rauh, Rebecca Simcoe, Lee Merrifield, Katelyn Butler



A Note from Rabbi Weinstein

by RABBI MICHAEL WEINSTEIN, TEMPLE ISRAEL

NOT SO MANY months ago, we celebrated the High Holy Days and the New Year 5781. The leaves are now gone, and the ground is certainly frozen. As I sit writing these words, I anticipate an icy freeze upon Green Country. Winter is upon us, and we are well into the secular New Year; Happy 2021!

As Americans, we experience several new year celebrations throughout the cycle of our year. Obviously, January 1st and the new year on the Gregorian calendar; July 1st, the new year on our business fiscal calendars, always stands out. This year, April 1st will show us baseball's Opening Day, and the new year for Major League Baseball. Labor Day brings us the new school year, and each of us has a birthday, bringing on a personal new year.

The same is true on the Hebrew Calendar. We all can acknowledge Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, falling on the first of Tishrei. The first of Elul is the "New Year for the Tithe of Cattle"; the later rabbis bumped this one month to combine with the month of Tishrei and the "New Year of Years."

Interestingly, Tishrei is not the first month of the year, but rather the seventh; Talmud teaches us that there are four new years in the Jewish year. Just a few weeks ago we celebrated the "New Year of the Tree." In the first century of the Common Era, a great dispute between Rabbis Hillel and Shammai changed that date by a couple of weeks. What was formerly known as the 1st of Shevat is now known as the fifteenth of Shevat, or Tu B'Shevat.

The first of Nisan is the "New Year of the Kings" or the "ecclesiastical new year," as defined in Exodus and Deuteronomy as the month of Aviv, the new year marked by the Passover. This is the first month on the Hebrew Calendar and is the hinge pin by which all months of the Hebrew Calendar shift. We talk about holidays being "early" or "late" in any given year, acknowledging those years in which we have a month of Second Adar; all of this is to keep Passover, and the month of Aviv, in the springtime. "Aviv" in modern Hebrew also means Spring, one of the four seasons.

Passover is celebrated on 15-21 Nisan, during the beginning of Spring. The first night of Pesach or Passover is always on the 14th of Nisan, beginning at sundown. The first day of Chag haMatzoh or the Feast of Unleavened Bread is always the day after that, the 15th of Nisan.

This year, Temple Israel, as with every year, will be having our Second Night Passover Seder at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 28. As we did last year, our Seder will be hosted over Zoom, from the comfort of your dining room table. Once again, we will be offering our catered Seder-in-a-Box from our partners at Fountains Catering. As all our skills with technology, presentations, sound, cameras, and Zoom have certainly improved in a year, the evening should lend itself to a wonderful celebration of our freedoms.

In just a few weeks, we will celebrate the silliness of Purim. Thirty days later, we face our freedom with Pesach once again. As you sweep out the chometz in your life, being self-reflective of your person, please keep an eye out for more information regarding our Passover celebration. ■



TEMPLE ISRAEL
Est 1914

save the date
Jankowsky Memorial
CANTORIAL
CONCERT

Featuring guest Cantors from around the US...
more to come soon!

SATURDAY, APRIL 24
7:00 P.M.
DURING HAVDALAH ON ZOOM &
FACEBOOK LIVE



TEMPLE ISRAEL
Est 1914

YOU'RE INVITED TO A
**Sociable Seniors
Happy Hour**
SUNDAY, MARCH 14 • 4PM

Watch the Netflix movie (or at least, the trailer), "About Time" and then join us to discuss this question: "Is there a decision in your life that, if made differently, would have headed you in a completely different direction?"

Our answers will create a fascinating discussion. Gather up your favorite late afternoon beverage and join in.

Want some popcorn too? Not mandatory, but if you RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com by March 7, we'll deliver popcorn to your door!

Zoom link:
<https://tinyurl.com/sociableseniors11>
Meeting ID: 882-4993-9391
Passcode: Sociable

Sociable Seniors is Temple's social group for members and community friends ages 60+ -- invite friends to join us!

The Greenwood Pogrom

SPECIAL TO THE REVIEW

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO this year, white Tulsans brought death and ruin to Greenwood, one of the most vital and prominent African-American communities in the country. By the time this spasm of violence was over, hundreds were dead, and the physical form of the neighborhood was shattered. Very few households survived unscathed, and pictures from 1921 show smoking ruins.



The Synagogue will commemorate this unnatural disaster in a special seder during the intermediate days of Passover. The short service will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 30, the fourth night of the holy day. The liturgy for the evening will include first-hand accounts and parallel events from the history of European Jewry. Between 1918 and 1921, pogroms in the Ukraine posed many of the same questions as the race massacre in Tulsa. In fact, “pogrom” is a useful term to describe what happened in Oklahoma: an uprising motivated by politics, greed, and exclusivist hyper-nationalism, in which the state either offered a modicum of support or refuses to intercede in the violence.

Like all events in this period of a pandemic, “The Greenwood Pogrom” will be a virtual gathering. The Synagogue Zoom Room may be accessed at 918 583 7121 on the Zoom platform. Security controls will be in place to prevent disruption of any kind, but you will be asked to share your name before admission. The Synagogue looks forward to a meaningful and thought-provoking gathering. ■

CHABAD BRINGS YOU

THE HAPPY SEDER.

SAT. 3/27 7:00 PM

Dessert and finale at 9:45

To be held at the
CSJCC 2021 E 71st Street

All CDC and Tulsa Health Dept.
guidelines will be maintained.

Reservations required. Preferred by March 18.

ADULTS \$20, COLLEGE STUDENTS, CHILDREN \$8, OR BY DONATION.

RESERVE AT [JEWISHOK.COM/SEDER](https://www.jewishok.com/seder) OR CALL 918-492-4499.

Seder-to-Go options are also available for those who prefer.


WHERE CELEBRATION HAPPENS

GREAT FOOD

CHOICE OF WINES

SATISFYING EXPLANATIONS

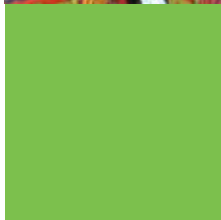
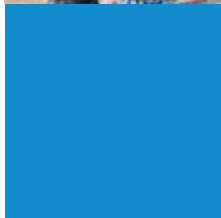
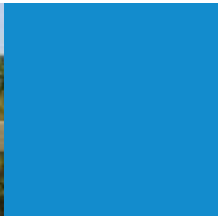
HAND-MADE ARTISAN MATZAH





Jewish Federation of Tulsa
2021 East 71st Street
Tulsa, OK 74136

Jewish Federation of Tulsa
Ensuring a vibrant Jewish future



Camp Shalom

Summer 2021

June 1st - August 6th

3 Years - Kindergarten | Theme Weeks
1st - 6th Grade | Specialty Camps
7th - 10th Grade | Counselor in Training (CIT) Camp

Register at www.csjcc.org

