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Iyar/Sivan 5781
May 2021



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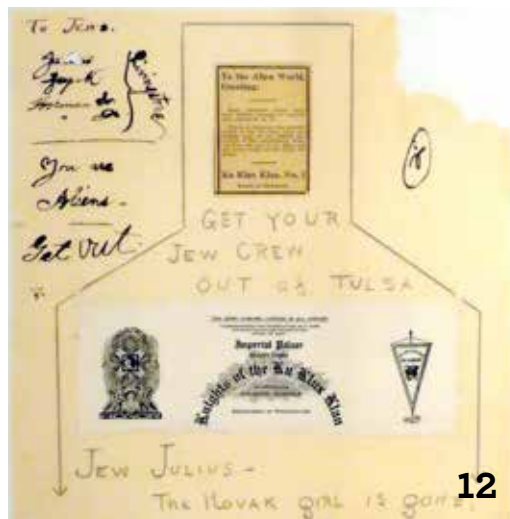
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Jewish Federation Welcomes New Executive Director

by ANGELA TAUBMAN, PRESIDENT, JEWISH FEDERATION OF TULSA

AFTER A DECADE of tireless work to promote the mission of the Jewish Federation of Tulsa, Drew Diamond will be retiring from his role as Executive Director as of April 30, 2021. During his tenure, Drew has been a driving force behind JFT's growth and success as an organization. His vision and leadership will be greatly missed by the staff, board, and partners alike. We wish him the best of luck in his next chapter, which I am sure will include a continuation of his diligent work advancing social justice.

In preparation for Drew's retirement, the Board of Directors formed a search committee last summer. After an extensive and rigorous search, the Board voted to offer the position of Executive Director to Aida Nozick. I am so delighted that she has accepted our offer and will begin serving in this role on June 1, 2021.

Aida has worked as a Jewish communal professional for the past seven years. She started at the Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana first as a committed volunteer, organizing meals for the Men's Mission and spearheading food drives for the food pantry. Aida received the Young Jewish Leadership Award in 2010. As the Director of Jewish Community Services, she helped increase social service programs and revamped specialty programming pertaining to aging adults. She also increased enrollment for the summer camp program while maintaining fiscal responsibility and increasing profits. Aida became the Executive Director of the Federation of NWI in 2016 and led the staff and board through the transition. She has developed close working relationships with the local non-profit agencies, police departments, and government agencies. The catchment area for the Federation of NWI spans over three counties, including six congregations. Through her partnership with board lay and professional leaders, Aida successfully implemented and facilitated many successful communal programs. Aida is passionate about all aspects of Jewish communal life and believes in a broad and inclusive outreach to the Community.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, it is my great honor to offer Aida a most heartfelt welcome. We wish her many years of success in her new position within the Tulsa Jewish Community. ■



Aida Nozick



JFT Event Recap



Audie Hromas (2 years old) and Wyatt Hromas (5 years old)

PJ Library Passover Celebration | Sunday, March 21st

We had the best time at our PJ family Passover celebration! Each child that RSVP'd for the program received a kit with needed materials for an interactive story of Passover told on Zoom followed by a Matzo house craft. PJ Library is for families raising kids from birth through 9 years old with Judaism as part of their lives. The Jewish Federation of Tulsa partners with PJ Library and sends free Jewish children's books to families in Tulsa and surrounding suburbs. If you or someone you know are interested in joining PJ Library, please contact Isabella Silberg at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org for more information.



Men's Club | Wednesday, March 24th

The speaker for this lunchtime program was Damon Platt. Damon spoke to the men about his passion for droneography. He shared how he got started, showed us pictures and videos of his work around Tulsa, and answered our questions. This was a wonderful presentation! You can find Damon's work (which is available for purchase) on his Facebook page called Damon's Droneography. If you're interested in joining future men's club programs, please contact Isabella at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org.



Rosh Chodesh | Thursday, March 25th

Rosh Chodesh is a time for women of our community to gather under the new moon and discuss relevant topics through personal, spiritual, and ritual celebration. This month's speaker was Dr. Ilana Kwartin, Regional Director of the Western United States for the Jewish Agency for Israel. She presented the topic of the impact the pandemic has had on abusive relationships. Dr. Kwartin shared with us a story of a young woman she witnessed and helped escape the hands of her abuser. This was an influential message about freedom in a relationship. If you'd like to join Rosh Chodesh conversations in the future, please contact Isabella at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org.



Israeli Dinner Cooking Workshop | Tuesday, April 6th

Falafel is a major ingredient in Israeli cuisine. As part of the Israel Independence Day celebrations, we had a cooking workshop with Itzik Levin, who taught us how to make falafel, tahini, and Israeli salad. Each participant received a bag of ingredients that contained a lot of different spices. That was Itzik's special secret ingredient. The workshop was fun and simple, and we were surprised to find out how simple it is to make delicious falafels.

FIND YOUR FIT AT THE JCC



Muscular Endurance - Mondays 9-10 AM

Muscular Endurance class has two main sections and the first-half is approximately 30 minutes of non-stop light weights. The free weight exercises are designed to work all muscle groups used in day to day activities. The second-half consists of lower body exercises, standing ab work, and balance work.

Core and Conditioning - Mondays Noon-1 PM

Be prepared for a fun mix of exercises and movement patterns that will tighten, strengthen and shape your core! We will execute body exercises to improve our cardiovascular fitness, core strength, and challenge our body.

Circuit Training Class - Tuesdays/Thursdays 9-10 AM

A fun-filled hour of muscular conditioning and cardiovascular conditioning. This class is a great way to get a full body workout at your own intensity level. Each participant receives a unique workout routine guided by Hannah based on each individual's goals and needs.

Barre Belles - Tuesdays/Thursdays 10-11 AM

This is a low impact, classic barre exercise class that includes upper body weight work. With regular attendance, this class will improve your posture, align your chassis, boost that booty, tone arms & legs, increase flexibility, improve balance, strength the core and prevent back pain.

Midweek Movement - Wednesdays 9-10 AM

Midweek Movement incorporates balance, agility, strength, and cardiovascular exercises all in one class! Starting with a warm-up, each class teaches four exercises that vary from week to week. Ending with a cool down and stretching session.

Tap 'N Tone - Wednesdays 10-11 AM

A class where we have fun, learn new skills, and raise our heart rate to some fun beats. Good for all ages and skill levels. Tap shoes are not required.



Spin- Tuesdays/Thursdays Noon-1 PM and Fridays 10:30-11:30 AM

Spin is an indoor bike ride that is proven to achieve faster weight loss than any other indoor exercise. This class lasts for about 45 minutes with challenging spin intervals. The class is kept light and fun and keeps you on your toes, because you never know when Hannah will throw something new at you!

Jukebox Jams - Fridays 9-10 AM

Jukebox Jams is a low impact dance-fitness class perfect for beginner fitness levels. Jam out to 50's and 60's music while moving and exercising in a fun way!

Bootcamp - Wednesdays/Fridays Noon-1 PM

Bootcamp is approximately 45 minutes of high intensity exercises that will keep the heart rate up and challenge your muscles. Perform strength exercises and cardiovascular activities using variety of equipment from dumbbells to medicine balls and kettlebells. Intermediate to advanced fitness levels recommended.



Classes are free to members!

CONTACT: FITNESS@JewishTulsa.org

MAY CLOSINGS

Monday, May 17th Closed

Tuesday, May 18th

Fitness Center Open Noon-5pm

Memorial Day- Monday, May 31st

Fitness Center Open Noon-5pm



JCC HOURS OF OPERATION:

Mon – Thurs	6:00 a.m.—9 p.m.
Friday	6:00 a.m.—5 p.m.
Saturday	12:00 p.m—5 p.m.
Sunday	9 a.m.—5 p.m.

JFT Upcoming Events



Mental Health Awareness | Monday, May 3rd | 7 p.m.

This program is in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Oklahoma City. Our speakers will be Dr. Melanie Spector and Dr. Noel Jacobs. Dr. Spector is a licensed professional counselor specializing in stress, depression, and anxiety in individuals, families, and teenagers. Dr. Jacobs is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics in the Section of General and Community Pediatrics at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. He conducts research related to developmental issues and is interested in developing programming to improve care and adherence between adolescence and adulthood. The two will be discussing life expectations after Covid-19 and the impact of isolation for both children and adults. For questions or to RSVP for the Zoom link, please contact Isabella at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org.



Jerusalem Day “lunch and learn” | Monday, May 10th | 12 p.m.

Don't miss our Jerusalem Day program with Fashionating by Liri. On May 10th at 12:00 p.m. we will host a special program that will tell Jerusalem's story from a new perspective, a perspective of fashion. The program will be led by Liraz Cohen. In 2016, Liri opened the NY- Israel Fash&Tech community. Liri holds a Master's in Global Fashion Management from FIT in NYC and a B.A. in Psychology and Journalism from Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Liri is passionate about identities and the freedom to explore them, inclusivity, sustainability, slow fashion, and Israel. RSVP to Chen at emissary@jewishtulsa.org for the Zoom link.



Men's Club | Wednesday, May 12th and 26th | 12 p.m.

Be sure to check out our weekly Federation eblast for more information! If you'd like to be added, please email Debbie O'Hearn at federation@jewishtulsa.org.

Shavuot

by ALIN AVITAN

THE HOLIDAY OF Shavuot is a two-day holiday, beginning at sundown following the 5th of Sivan and lasting until nightfall of the 7th of Sivan (May 16–18, 2021). In Israel, it is a one-day holiday, ending at nightfall on the 6th of Sivan.

The word Shavuot means “weeks.” It celebrates the completion of the seven-week Omer counting period between the second day of Passover and Shavuot.

The Torah was given by G-d to the Jewish people on Mount Sinai on Shavuot more than 3,300 years ago. Every year on the holiday of Shavuot, we renew our acceptance of G-d’s gift, and G-d “re-gives” the Torah.

Shavuot also means “oaths,” for, on this day, G-d swore eternal devotion to us, and we, in turn, pledged everlasting loyalty to Him.

In ancient times, two wheat loaves would be offered in the Holy Temple on Shavuot. It was also at this time that people would begin to bring bikkurim, their first and choicest fruits, to thank G-d for Israel’s bounty, which is the reason for the other two biblical names for this holiday:

- 1) “Yom HaBikkurim” the “Day of the First Fruits.”
- 2) “Chag HaKatzir,” the “Harvest Festival.”

In the holiday prayer service, we refer to it as “Zeman Matan Torateinu,” the “Time of the Giving Our Torah.”

How Is Shavuot Celebrated?

- It is customary to stay up all night learning Torah on the first night of Shavuot.
- All men, women, and children go to the synagogue to hear the reading of the Ten Commandments on the first day of Shavuot.
- It is customary to eat dairy foods on Shavuot. On the holiday of Shavuot, a two-loaf bread offering was brought to the Temple. To commemorate this, we eat two meals on Shavuot: first a dairy meal, and then, after a short break, we eat the traditional holiday meat meal.
- With the giving of the Torah, the Jews became obligated to observe the kosher laws. As the Torah was given on Shabbat, no cattle could be slaughtered nor could utensils be koshered, and thus on that day they ate dairy.
- The Torah is likened to nourishing milk. Also, the Hebrew word for milk is chalav, and when the numerical values of each of the letters in the word chalav are added together—8 + 30 + 2—the total is forty. Forty is the number of days Moses spent on Mount Sinai when receiving the Torah.
- Some communities read the Book of Ruth during morning services, as King David—whose passing occurred on this day—was a descendant of Ruth the Moabite.
- Some customize their homes and synagogues with flowers and sweet-smelling plants in advance of Shavuot.

Cheese Blintzes

Blintzes are a traditional dish for the holiday of Shavuot. Top with sour cream, apple sauce, or cinnamon and sugar.

Ingredients

BATTER

- 4 eggs
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 cup water
- 1 cup flour
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 package vanilla sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 1 Tbsp. oil

CHEESE FILLING II

- 1 pound cottage cheese, strained.
- 2 egg yolks
- 2 Tbsp. flour
- 2 Tbsp. sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla sugar
- 1/4 cup raisins (optional)

CHEESE FILLING I

- 1/2-pound farmer cheese
- 4 ounces cream cheese
- 4 Tbsp. honey or maple syrup
- Juice of 1/2 lemon
- 1 egg yolk



Directions

USE: 7-inch skillet

YIELDS: 12 blintzes

BATTER: In a large mixer bowl combine eggs, milk, water and blend well. Gradually add flour, then both sugars, salt and oil. Beat well until there are no lumps in the batter.

FILLING I: Combine all ingredients in a bowl and beat well. Or combine all the ingredients in a blender container and blend until smooth.

FILLING II: Combine all ingredients, except raisins, in a bowl and beat well. Or all the ingredients can be combined in a blender container and blended until smooth. Then add raisins.

TO ASSEMBLE CREPES: 1. Prepare batter and filling of your choice. Using a paper towel or basting brush apply a thin coating of oil to a 7-inch skillet. Place skillet over medium heat until skillet is hot but not smoking.

2. Ladle approximately 1/3 cup of batter into the skillet. Tilt pan to swirl the batter so it covers the bottom of the skillet.

3. Fry on one side until small air bubbles form, and top is set. Bottom should be golden brown. When done, carefully loosen edges of crepe and slip out of skillet onto a plate.

4. Repeat the above procedure until all the batter is used. Grease the skillet as needed.

5. Turn each crepe so that golden brown side is up. Place 3 tablespoons of filling on one edge in a 2-1/2 inch-long by 1-inch-wide mound.

6. Roll once to cover filling. Fold the sides into the center and continue rolling until completely closed.

7. Heat 2 tablespoons of oil in the skillet and place each crepe seam side down in the skillet and fry 2 minutes on each side, turning once.

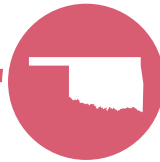
VARIATION: Whole wheat pastry flour can be used instead of white flour.

Source: Chabad.org and Wikipedia

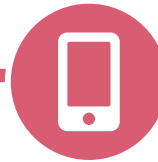


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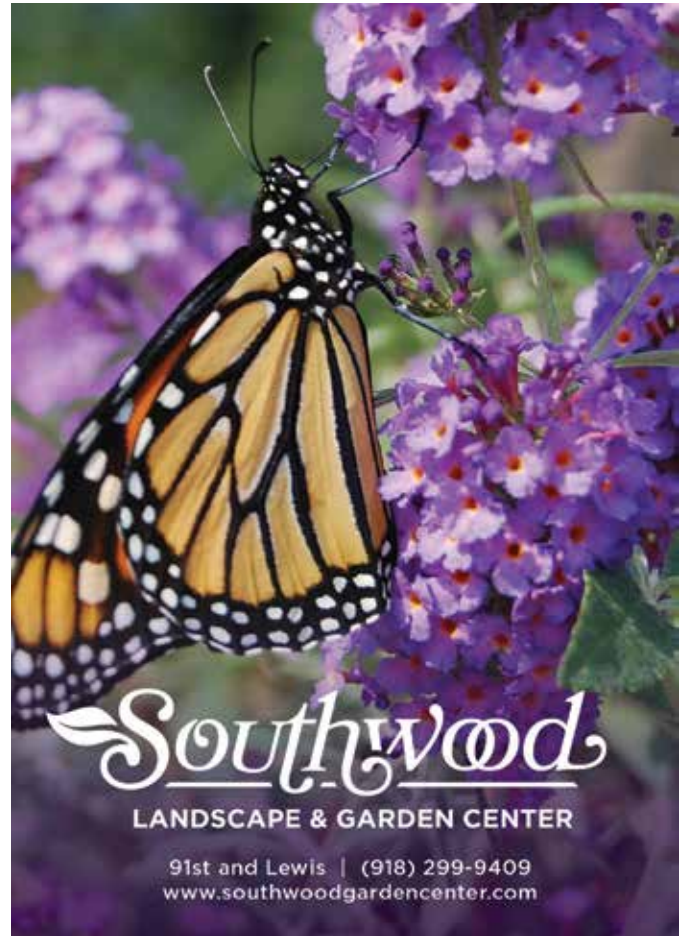
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A flyer for a wine tasting event. On the left is a vertical illustration of a wine bottle. The background is a dark purple color. At the top center is a logo consisting of five arrows forming a circle, with 'JFT' in the middle. Below the logo, the text reads: 'Wednesday, June 9th', '7pm-9pm', 'Wine Tasting' in a large serif font, 'For Young Jewish Professionals', 'VINTAGE WINE BAR', '324 E 1st St', 'Limited capacity.', and 'RSVP to Isabella at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org'.

Wine Tasting
For Young Jewish Professionals
VINTAGE WINE BAR
324 E 1st St
Limited capacity.
RSVP to Isabella at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org



A flyer for Southwood Landscape & Garden Center. The background is a photograph of a monarch butterfly on purple flowers. The text at the bottom reads: 'Southwood' in a large, elegant script font, 'LANDSCAPE & GARDEN CENTER' in a smaller, all-caps sans-serif font, '91st and Lewis | (918) 299-9409', and 'www.southwoodgardencenter.com'.

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The Real Black Wall Street Tour

by CHIEF EGUNWALE FAGBENRO AMUSAN, OWNER OF THE REAL BLACK WALL STREET TOUR

ON MARCH 14TH, 2021, I was given the opportunity to tour a group of young professionals with the Jewish Federation of Tulsa. The tour started in front of the Black Wall Street Memorial Wall east of the Greenwood Cultural Center. The light rain and wind chill brought us together like those who gather to hear stories told over a campfire. The dialogue to follow was equally chilling, but the vision for restorative justice warmed the heart.

The Real Black Wall Street Tour was created out of a necessity to tell Greenwood's story through the lens of survivors and descendants. Uncovering the hidden truth of 1921 will ensure that America never forgets. Our tour is a tribute to massacre survivors like Mr. Wess Young, Sr. In the summer of 2014, this beautiful 97-year-old survivor looked deeply in my eyes, held my hand, and said, "Chief, don't let them forget us." An African proverb says, "Until lions have their historians, tales of the hunt shall always glorify the hunters."

We discussed the parallels between the pogrom experienced by Jewish people during our tour and the pogrom experienced by black citizens here in Tulsa, Oklahoma. We discussed the way black citizens were forced from their homes, families separated, and homes and businesses destroyed. Memories were left in ashes, no records or documents of what once was. The property was looted and stolen, never to be recovered. Black bodies were incinerated and dumped in mass graves. The devastating aftermath was being forced into detainment camps. Many entered what was then a convention hall, never to be seen again. Those who were claimed as labor property were made to wear ID tags. Others, under the care of the Red Cross, were forced to clean the burned-out district while enduring the smell of burned flesh, which became etched into memory. The endless crying of orphaned children combined with the outspoken misery of men and women who never know the fate of friends and family members was simply unbearable.

One group member, asking for my thoughts regarding the new Greenwood History Center being built in the Greenwood District, soon led to a deeper discussion regarding restitution and repair. To provoke deep thought and self-reflection, I asked the group who was responsible for building the Jewish Holocaust museums or history centers. I also asked if

they included the input, support, and backing of Holocaust survivors. Lastly, I asked if they directly benefit or impact the needs of Jewish survivors and or their descendants. The answer was a resounding "yes." There are currently three known living survivors of the Tulsa Massacre. It is incomprehensible why there would be no comprehensive plan to ensure that, at a minimum, the living survivors would directly benefit from such a large investment that leverages the story of people who have never experienced any form of respect, restitution, or repair.

For example, the revenue from the Jewish Holocaust Museum in Prague funds welfare services for its Jewish Holocaust survivors. Just one of the many benefits provided around the world. The survivors are the true heroes of the pogrom that occurred in Tulsa. Regardless of ethnicity, those who have the privilege to take this tour will either be the heroes of the future or the benefactors of Tulsa's failure to provide a remedy for one of America's worst crimes committed against its own citizens on domestic soil.

As we concluded, it became apparent that the most significant way to begin healing is to see yourself in others. Our tour creates connectivity, allows honest dialogue, self-reflection, and promotes heart consciousness. Our deepest appreciation for the leadership of Isabella Silberg, Program Coordinator of the Jewish Federation of Tulsa. Together we will win! ■

Booking: <https://www.facebook.com/therealblackwallstreettour/>

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Jews and the Tulsa Race Massacre

by © PHIL GOLDFARB

FROM MAY 31 to June 1, 1921, the Tulsa Race Massacre was one of the low points in Tulsa history as thirty-five blocks were destroyed along with over 1,200 homes. This year marks the 100th Anniversary of this hostile event. While relatively few whites exhibited empathy and compassion because of influential Ku Klux Klan members and others, we know that many Jewish families helped Tulsa African American families through their support of taking them into their homes or businesses, feeding and clothing them, as well as hiding them during this atrocity which also had some long-term effects on Jewish Oklahomans. During the Race Massacre, many Jewish families went into North Tulsa to secure their Black employees, friends, and their families to protect them, at least until Martial Law was over on June 3rd...some even longer. Often these individuals were caring for their children as well as providing domestic help. Some who employed African Americans went to rescue their employees from the Fairgrounds, Convention Hall, Brady Theater, or McNulty Field (a baseball stadium which became the grounds of the Robert E Lee Elementary School, now the Council Oak Elementary School) which was used as an internment camp for “protective custody.”

Camp staff released detainees only upon presentation of green cards countersigned by white guarantors. Three-hundred-fifty tents were erected during the first week of the Massacre to house Tulsa’s Black citizens. Approximately 1,000 Black Tulsans spent the winter of 1921-1922 in these tents until wood or brick housing could be constructed. While the American Red Cross opened the Maurice Willows Hospital at 324 N. Hartford Street, Booker T. Washington High School was also converted to an emergency hospital. Both handled most of the 800 injured people.

Here are some of the Jewish family stories:

- Jewish Latvian immigrant Sam Zarrow (1894-1975) and his wife Rose (1893-1982) owned a grocery store at 124 E. Independence Street and hid some Black friends in their large pickle vats at the store while Rose Zarrow concealed some of the “little kids” under her skirt! In addition, they hid others in the basement of their home at 1507 E. 6th. Their sons, Henry (1916-2014) and Jack Zarrow (1925-2012), became two of the most well-known and philanthropic men in Tulsa for all Tulsans. Story credit: Gail Zarrow Richards

- Tulsan Abraham (Abe) Solomon Viner (1885-1959) and his wife Anna (1887-1976), whose daughter was well known as Dorothy Viner Gimp Brand (1910-2003), lived at 332 North Rosedale Avenue and was the owner of Peoples Building and Loan Association. On the day of the Massacre, Abe went to all of the homes on his block, collected all of the maids from their quarters, assembled them in his living room, and then sat by the front door with a shotgun in case anyone broke into the house. Story credit: Ronnie Smulian Schwartz

- The Race Massacre in 1921 had a far-reaching effect even outside of Tulsa. At the time, Mike Froug (1889-1959), his wife Esther (1889-1967), and daughter Rosetta Froug Mulmed (1914-2003) were living in Ponca City, Oklahoma, running a clothing store called the Pickens Department Store. Immediately after the Massacre, several KKK members came to his house at night and set a cross on fire on his front lawn. Knowing who they were (they were shoppers in his store), Froug went to the head of the Klan with his gun and told him that he would shoot them if they ever did that again. This act had such a profound effect on Froug that when he and his cousin Ohren Smulian (1903-1984) opened the initial Froug’s Department Store at 312 S. Main Street in 1929, they became the first store in Tulsa after the Massacre to allow whites and Blacks to not only shop together but to try on clothes at the same time. In fact, Frougs was the first store in Tulsa to use Blacks as salespeople in a white-owned store. They took this one step farther when Northland Shopping Center, the first full-line open-air shopping center in North Tulsa, opened at Cincinnati and 36th street North. Frougs was one of their first anchor tenants. Story credit: Rosetta Froug Mulmed

- A bit of Tulsa Jewish Trivia: On July 28, 1960, Dr. Martin Luther King came to Tulsa to speak to an overflow crowd of 1,200 people at the First Baptist Church in North Tulsa (the only time that he was ever in Tulsa). Only a few white people were in attendance, and two of them were sitting on the dais. One was Tulsa Mayor James L. Maxwell and



1922 Letter to Julius Livingston telling him to get his “Jew Crew out of Tulsa.”

Part of the SMMJA Livingston Archives.

the other was Jewish merchant and Oklahoma native Ohren Smulian who was the Chairman of the Mayor's Committee on Civil Rights at the time. Story researched by Phil Goldfarb.

- Jewish Lithuanian immigrant and oilman Nathan C. Livingston (1861-1944) and his wife Anna Livingston (1871-1934) lived at 702 S. Elwood. They had a newly-married Black couple named Gene and Willie Byrd working for them in 1921. Gene was the family driver while Willie was their housekeeper. During the Race Massacre the couple and eight others of their family stayed in the Livingston's basement and in their garage apartment for several days until they felt safe to go home. The following March 28, 1922, N.C. Livingston's son Julius received a letter from the KKK telling him and his brothers Jay K and Herman to "get your Jew crew out of Tulsa." Story credit: Alan Livingston.

- Caught in the middle. One of prominent Tulsa Jewish attorney and Polish-born Samuel Aaron Boorstin's (1887-1967) clients was the Tulsa Tribune, which is thought to have sparked the Massacre with an incendiary editorial the day after the incident. Boorstin was friends with publisher Richard Lloyd Jones, Sr. (1873-1963) and his personal attorney, but he was also friends with the African American lawyer Buck Colbert (B.C.) Franklin (1879-1960), father of future historian John Hope Franklin (1915-2009) who litigated claims against the City of Tulsa and insurance companies while also defending the survivors of the Massacre. Ironically, the reason Samuel Boorstin came to Tulsa in the first place from Atlanta, Georgia, in 1916 was that he was one of the attorneys for Leo Frank, a Jewish factory superintendent who was falsely accused of the murder of a teenage gentile girl. A mob lynched Frank after Georgia's governor commuted his death sentence to life in prison. The case generated surges of anti-Semitism and KKK activity throughout the South, forcing the exodus from Georgia of many Jews, including the Boorstin's. More Tulsa Jewish Trivia: Samuel Boorstin's son was the famous American Historian Daniel Boorstin (1914-2004), who became the 12th Librarian of the United States Congress in 1975 and served until 1987. Story credit: Jon Boorstin.

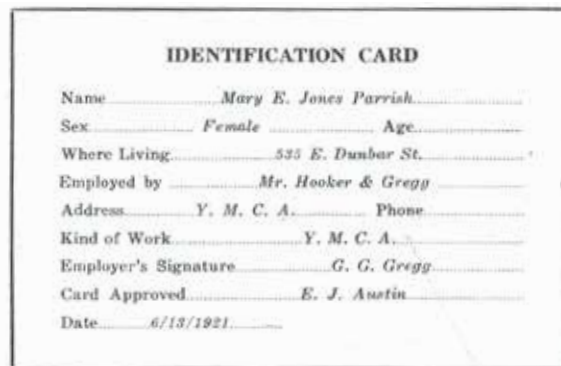
- One of the first Jewish merchants in Tulsa, Ukrainian immigrant Simon Jankowsky (1865-1943), who owned Palace Clothiers and his wife Hedwig (1875-1967), a German immigrant, lived at 1124 S. Denver. By 1921 they were divorced, and while Simon was living at the Mayo Hotel, Hedwig hid their maid in the basement of the house until it was safe to go home after Martial Law was lifted. Story credit: Malcolm Milsten.

- Jewish Lithuania immigrant and oil producer Jacob Hyman Bloch (1888-1955) and his wife Esther Goodman Bloch (1895-1927) were living at 1209 N. Main Street. During the Massacre, they told their two young daughters Jean and Sura, to stay away from the windows and that they couldn't go outside to play or go to school for several days while hiding their housekeeper. Story credit: Cheryl Bloch Wallace

- Jewish Latvia immigrant Jacob Fell (1885-1959) and his wife Esther Fell (1886-1980) lived at 126 East King Street and owned the "The Mis-fit Clothing Store" (One of the all-time great names for a second-hand clothing store!) located at 24 East First Street. Jacob went to the Greenwood area, gathered up several Black friends, hid them in his large storage car trunk, and drove them to a safe area. Story credit: Jane Fell.

- Finally, in Stillwater, Oklahoma, the KKK also had a robust chapter. German immigrant Jacob Katz (1873-1968) started his department store in Stillwater in 1894, becoming the first Jew in Stillwater. Katz was a highly respected merchant and town promoter on the Stillwater Board of Commissioners. During the heyday of the Ku Klux Klan right after the Tulsa Massacre, members marched through Stillwater with anti-Jewish signs (there were only 12 Jews in Stillwater at the time!), including one that read at the end of the line: "But not you Mr. Katz." Story researched by Phil Goldfarb

Phil Goldfarb is President of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Tulsa and can be e-mailed at phil.goldfarb@cox.net. ■



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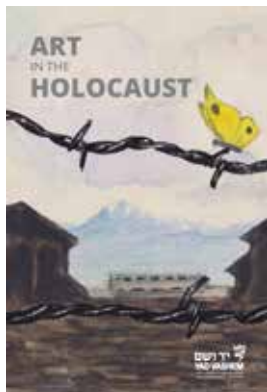


See JFT Happenings
Pages 5-7



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.



Go Figure: Figurative Art by Theodore Fried

Apr. 29 - Sept. 12
Born at the beginning of an era in both art and politics, Theodore Fried was a talented young artist whose career intersected with the major movements in modern art during the 20th century. From Paris in the 1920s to New York after WWII, Fried was a member of the School of Paris and the Society of Modern Painters and Sculptors in New York. The survival of his talent and vision continued in New York. After his safe arrival in 1942, Fried established a studio and began to rebuild a body of American works. Exploring subject matter in the City-Central Park neighborhood life, Fried began to show his modern paintings in contemporary exhibitions, garnering fresh recognition of his figurative works and color compositions. Following his death, he appointed a trust to perpetuate his work, and in 2004, the SMMJA received his estate



Tikkun Middot with Rabbi Weinstein on Zoom

Thursdays in May • 2 p.m.
 “Repairing One’s Character” through the study of Jewish values. Join us on Thursday afternoons as we unpack our Jewish values, creating an awareness; a better understanding of who we are as Jews and as people. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com to get the Zoom link.



Coffee Talk with Temple Israel Clergy on Zoom

Fridays in May • 10:30 a.m.
 Join us for a cuppa joe... you bring the coffee, we’ll bring the conversation. This is a time to come together, to reflect, catch up, unpack the world around us, and see some familiar faces. The coffee is optional; the community is yours. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com to get the Zoom link.

Tot Shabbat on Zoom

Fri., May 14 • 6 p.m.
 Join us as we create a sacred space for our young families with songs, prayers, and an activity with our short monthly Tot Shabbat Service. Contact Rabbi K. at rabbikay@templetulsa.com for more information.

Shabbat Service w/Torah on Zoom & Facebook Live

Fri., May 14 • 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.



Tikkun Leil Shavuot: An Evening of Learning

Sun., May 16 • 7:30 p.m.
 Grab your cheesecake and a fork! Join your Temple Israel Clergy Team for an evening of learning as we conclude our Counting of the Omer, and honor the Festival of Shavuot. We will explore some of the Rabbis’ and Cantor’s favorite texts from our Tradition. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com to get the Zoom link.



Book Club Author Talk

Wed., May 19 • 7 p.m.
 Rachel Kadish is an American writer of fiction and non-fiction and the author of several novels and one novella. Her novel *The Weight of Ink* won the National Jewish Book Award in 2017. Join us on Wednesday, May 19 at 7 p.m. for an author talk, conversation, and questions with Rachel Kadish on her latest publication. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com to get the Zoom link.

Zam’ru L’Shabbat Drive-In Service on Zoom & Facebook Live

Fri., May 21 • 6 p.m.
 Drive-In and enjoy the music of Cantor Weinstein and Eliyahu’s Minor Prophets as we welcome Shabbat with a joyous celebration. Gather together in the parking lot or RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com to get the Zoom link.



Temple Israel Annual Fundraiser & Virtual Concert

Sat., May 22 • 7 p.m.
 Nefesh Mountain and Temple Israel are coming together in beautiful harmony! Temple Israel is thrilled to announce that Nefesh Mountain will be headlining our 2021 fundraiser! Nefesh Mountain is the place where Bluegrass, Old-Time, and American Roots music meet with Jewish heritage and tradition. Creators, band leaders, and husband and wife team Doni Zasloff and Eric Lindberg are the heart of this eclectic offering, pioneering a new world of American culture, which seamlessly blends their deep love for American and Western musical forms with their own cultural backgrounds as Jewish Americans. Look for an invitation in your mailbox and on our website and Facebook page.

Sociable Seniors Music in May

Sun., May 23 • 1 p.m.
 Sociable Seniors will be getting together for lunch and music -- IN PERSON! -- outdoors and socially distanced at the Temple at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 23, for lunch while enjoying a musical program featuring Temple Israel’s pianist, Paul Sweet. All attendees are requested to have had full Covid vaccinations and to wear a mask until time to dine. Please bring your own lawn chair if you can.

Social Justice Shabbat Service

Fri., May 28 • 6 p.m.
 Social Justice has always been an important part of the fabric of Temple Israel. Join us as we focus on the mitzvah of social justice in our Tulsa community. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com to get the Zoom link.



Naomi/Mara: Stories of Women in Recovery

Sunday, May 16 | 7 p.m. on Zoom
 In celebration of the Holiday of Shavuot, The Synagogue will welcome graduates of Women in Recovery to share their stories of resilience. Like the strong women in the Book of Ruth who thrived in the face of great adversity, we’ll learn from our guests about their own stories of survival, strength, and successes. Meet us in the Synagogue Zoom Room at 7:00 p.m. using Zoom ID # 918 583 7121.



Citizenship Test Preparation Course Resumes

The Synagogue is proud to offer Citizenship Test Preparation courses for refugees and immigrants to Tulsa. The semester began in April and will continue virtually through the end of the summer. Classes meet Monday and Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. If you are interested in volunteering or joining the class as a student, please contact Sara Levitt at slevitt@bnaemunah.com or 918-583-7121 for more information. You can learn more by visiting www.tulsasynagogue.com/citizenship.



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Atento Capital: Where investing in startups meets Tikkun Olam

by MICHAEL BASCH

HAD NEVER BEEN to Tulsa until September 2017. Two friends of mine: Mat Zalk and Jodi Finer (native Tulsan), had met and fallen in love and decided to move to Tulsa. I came to town to visit them and met David Finer and David Charney, and they explained to me how they were thinking about Tulsa Tomorrow. I also met Ken Levit and a few other folks at the George Kaiser Family Foundation. Tulsa Tomorrow was looking to recruit young Jews to Tulsa, GKFF was looking to recruit young entrepreneurs and change-makers, and I helped put together an event of 58 people that were a mix of both to come to Tulsa that November 2017. A few of them ended up moving, and I realized just how much I liked Tulsa and believed in the work of GKFF. That was the beginning of my (and soon to be my family's) personal journey to Tulsa.

Post-pandemic Tulsa is a city on the rise. In Tulsa, as around the world, the pandemic has caused an enormous amount of suffering. But there has also been a silver lining: an influx of highly skilled tech professionals migrating from the coasts. Numerous local organizations, such as 36 Degrees North, Tulsa Innovation Labs, and the Holberton School, have been working for years to grow and support the city's tech ecosystem.

Tulsa's status as an up-and-coming startup hub is becoming common knowledge—but what isn't as widely known is how strong the city's Jewish roots are. Atento Capital, one of the leading firms in Tulsa's growing venture capital scene, exemplifies Tulsa's connection to Jewish principles, as well as its ties to Israel.



Michael Basch

Tikkun Olam 2.0

Although Atento's name comes from Spanish (the term *atento* means "helpful" or "courteous," the spirit that animates all of the firm's activities), its foundational principles are strongly rooted in Jewish values. Atento's mission of driving social impact through the strategic use of capital recalls the philanthropic nature of foundational giving--in this case, channeled through the prism of venture capital as an engine for growth.

Michael Basch, Managing Director of Atento Capital, was raised with a strong Jewish identity, and many of the ideas behind Atento reflect that upbringing. Basch attended a Jewish day school in Los Angeles, played a leadership role in several Jewish communal organizations in New York, and eventually got married in Israel.

He reflects: "I was raised with a deep sense of Tikkun Olam, and in that, have a major focus in Atento of not only investing to drive returns, but doing so in a way that gives access to those that may not have it otherwise, providing a path to upward mobility to those with the hunger and desire."

Intentional Capital

Atento has a direct and fund-of-fund investment strategy. In terms of fund investments, Atento is committed to investing in emerging fund managers, focusing on empowering women, people of color, and those from under-represented backgrounds. In terms of direct investments, Atento invests both locally and non-locally. When the investment is non-local, they look to help the company expand into Tulsa with local hires. Some notable investments include SeeTree, Boddle Learning, and Team8 (at the fund level).

In the 15 months since the firm's birth, the firm has created over 80 jobs and had its first markup (Israel-based Percepto Drones). Atento sees Tulsa as having a groundswell of activity in startups, ventures, programming, and technical talent. Over the next few years, this will snowball into a robust ecosystem--and it's already showing positive indications of doing so.

The Startup Nation to Tulsa!

Tulsa's relationship with Israel goes much deeper than just one firm. The city has a strong connection with the Jewish state and has focused its economic development efforts on making Tulsa an international landing pad. Tulsa's focus areas, including drone tech and cyber, are relevant for many Israeli startups. And, just as importantly, there is plenty of local talent ready to support their growth in Tulsa.

As Basch has been known to say: *"Tulsa is kind of like the Be'er Sheva of America, in the middle of the country, with a top-notch cyber security university and a quickly growing tech ecosystem."* ■

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Community Corner

We want to feature the community's noteworthy events in this new column called "The Community Corner." Please email your submission to federation@jewishtulsa.org.



Tony Winefield was awarded District Teacher of the Year 2020-2021 by Sperry Schools. Congratulations, Tony!

Picture on left.
L to R: Sperry School Board President Jeff Carter and Tony Winefield

Midrasha Graduation Announcement

Mazel Tov to our High School Seniors on their graduation from High School and from Midrasha. The 2021 Graduates are Lily Adcock, Miguel Arce, Eli Anderson, Emily Lapidus, Sophie Raskin, Jesse Schumann, and Lexi Sotkin. May you all be blessed and continue to be supported in all of your future endeavors. We are so proud of you! On behalf of Midrasha, Congregation B'nai Emunah, and Temple Israel, mazel tov!

Midrasha is deeply grateful to our teachers for their dedication and commitment to our students this year. Our teachers include: Karen Hafter, Eric Hunker, Danny Kraft, Simon Lowen, Chen Shoval, Cantor Laurie Weinstein, Rabbi Michael Weinstein, and Julia Westbrook. Many thanks to your guest presenters who enhanced our programming this year: Rae Antonoff Portony of RaeAn Designs, Rabbi Dan Kaiman, Isaac and Rabbi Shawna Brynjegard-Bialik of Paper Midrash. We're thrilled to honor our graduating seniors at our Midrasha End of The Year Celebration in May. ■



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Dr. Melanie Spector **Dr. Noel Jacobs**

**MENTAL HEALTH
 DISCUSSION**

The impact isolation has on children and adults and
 what we can expect from life after Covid-19.

Monday, May 3, 2021
 7pm-8pm
 Zoom link provided upon RSVP to Isabella at
isilberg@jewishtulsa.org

SAVE THE DATE

The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art
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 Nancy Wolov, Gala Chairman
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Antisemitism

by NANCY ROSEN

TWO MONTHS AGO I focused on homelessness, leaving antisemitism for this column. Homelessness can often be addressed by an infusion of money, but not antisemitism. As we know too well, money, social standing, and “connections” can be gone in an instant just as the Greenwood community with its businesses and neighborhood in 1921.

In the fight against antisemitism, it is important to have a definition of antisemitism that governments and NGOs accept. Without it, governments may pass off antisemitic acts as ordinary crime and will not address the root cause, antisemitism, exposing Jewish people to further acts of hate and violence. Definitions and commitments to fight antisemitism are being worked on at local, state, federal, and international levels.

This concern is addressed in part by the NO HATE Act. In 2019, Senator Richard Blumenthal introduced Senate Bill 2043: the Jabara-Heyer NO HATE Act. It is sponsored in the House by Rep. Don Beyer of Virginia but still hasn't passed into law. The bill would improve law enforcement's response to hate crimes by improving how hate crime data is reported to the federal government. It also allows a court to order a person found guilty of committing a hate crime under federal law to participate in educational classes or community service related to the community harmed by the defendant's offense as part of supervised release. The bill's passage is supported by the Jewish Federations of North America, the American Jewish Committee, the Anti-Defamation League, the Muslim-Jewish Advisory Council, and others.

Mayors United Against Antisemitism is an initiative of the American Jewish Committee and the U.S. Conference of Mayors. Launched in 2015, it calls on mayors and municipal leaders to declare unequivocally that antisemitism is incompatible with democratic values. Mayors who sign the pledge “condemn antisemitism in all its forms, including hatred and prejudice directed toward Jews, stereotyping or conspiracy theories about Jews, Holocaust denial or distortion, and denying the Jewish people's right to self-determination and/or the Jewish State's right to exist.” To find more information about Mayors United Against Antisemitism, go to ajc.org. Yes, Tulsa's Mayor G.T. Bynum has signed on. Creating an internationally accepted definition of antisemitism has been contentious. A sticking point has been the issue of criticizing Israel. When is it a proxy for antisemitism? When is it legitimate? In 2016, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) formally adopted The Working Definition of Antisemitism. More than 30 countries belong to the IHRA. The “working definition” is now used by various government and non-government agencies to train police, prosecutors, and judges and to inform civil society monitors and educators. For more information, the exact wording, and contextualized examples, see ohchr.org.



What can you do? Contact your legislators to show your support for passage of the NO HATE Act. Thank Mayor Bynum for taking the Mayors United Against Antisemitism pledge. And keep informed about work on an internationally acceptable definition of antisemitism. ■



The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art's

Sanditen/Kaiser Holocaust Center

honoring Mildred and Julius Sanditen & Herman and Kate Kaiser

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Nefesh Mountain and Temple Israel are coming together in beautiful harmony! Temple Israel is thrilled to announce that Nefesh Mountain will be headlining our 2021 fundraiser.


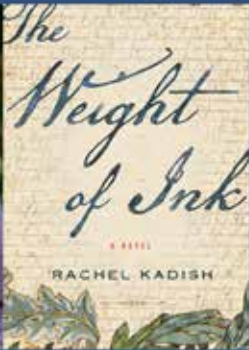
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BOOK CLUB
 with Author Rachel Kadish

In Conversation with Rabbi Kowalski
 Wednesday, May 19 @ 7:00 PM

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 FOR ZOOM LINK

English Class Starting in April

SPECIAL TO THE REVIEW

O **N PASSOVER, WE** told the infamous story of our ancestors' lives as slaves in Egypt. The Hebrew word we use for Egypt is Mitzrayim, meaning narrow place. We see our time in Egypt as narrow, tight, and binding. In our narrative, the Israelites finally receive their ticket out of bondage and narrowness towards Israel and freedom. Each year we immerse ourselves in our ancestors' experience through bitter herbs and salted water, and a series of other symbols to connect us to our history. The story of the Exodus, however, is not unique to us. Many peoples can see themselves in the Passover story as they recount their own experiences fleeing the narrow places they were born to, a new place of opportunity and freedom. For so many, this story is not an ancient one but is their own lived experience of fleeing Burma or Iran, West Africa, Mexico, and more. At the Synagogue, we are one of many local organizations helping refugees and immigrants to Tulsa in their resettlement into our country and in their new lives of freedom. Many years ago, we began offering English as a Second Language course for young Burmese mothers, offering childcare and transportation. In the years since, we've moved our focus to preparation for the United States Citizenship Test, a lengthy, intensive exam for every immigrant and refugee to pass on their way to citizenship. Along the way, we've helped close to 100 students prepare for the exam and sharpen their English skills. We see no better way to live our values and honor our ancestors' stories than to support these students in their resettlement in this new land. We're excited to announce the continuation of this program in a virtual format! The semester began in April and will continue virtually through the end of the summer. Our classes meet Monday and Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. If you are interested in volunteering or joining the class as a student, please contact Sara Levitt at slevitt@bnaiemunah.com or 918-583-7121 for more information. You can learn more by visiting www.tulsagogue.com/citizenship. ■

ESL
 English as a Second Language



Community Donation Drive for Zarrow Pointe Residents



This was a joint effort by B'nai Emunah Synagogue,
Temple Israel, Tulsa Tomorrow and the
Jewish Federation of Tulsa

Share the Love!

The idea for this drive came about during one of our quarterly Jewish Institutions programming meetings. As we know, February is often known for being a month dedicated to and all about love. After almost a full year of pandemic unrest and isolation, we knew our senior constituents needed some extra love. We sent out flyers, emails, and social media posts asking for donations in order to make our goal of 200 goodie bags for the residents of Zarrow Pointe.

Within just a few days, packages were being delivered, and emails and texts were coming in from many members of our community asking what we needed. We were so blown away by the generosity of our Tulsa Jewish community. We could not wait to pack the bags and deliver them. Finally the day came, and we got to deliver the bags of love which were so well received. Each bag contained a handwritten note or card, an adult coloring book, crossword puzzle, word search, and lots of candy. We could not have done it without the generosity of our community. So, thank you VERY much to all who donated. Because of you, we were able to spread as much love as possible!

"Thank you so much for the wonderful gift bag. It is just perfect after "social distancing." I appreciate your kind thoughtfulness more than you know. " one resident wrote.

"Thank you everyone for the wonderful treats - especially the home-made cards!" -ZP Resident

"Thank you for a lovely Valentine's Day Greeting." from a 99 year old resident.



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Jewish Federation of Tulsa
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Wednesday, May 26th at 7pm



2021 Annual Meeting

Zoom Meeting ID: 812 0376 3250
Passcode: 146047

GOT GRIT?