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Av/Elul 5781
August 2021

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CORRECTION



Correction to the July Tulsa Jewish Review

On page 20, Ms. LaVonna Reed should have been recognized as a donor to the new WWII Memorial, alongside Lori Frank.

From the President

by ED SHERMAN, JEWISH FEDERATION OF TULSA PRESIDENT

AS THE SUMMER is nearing an end, we focus on a new normal. The campers had a busy and successful summer, albeit with reduced capacity, compared to no camp last year. There are about 130 campers on the campus each day. The staff is looking forward to a regular camp season next year. We are working on installing the necessary equipment so that we will be able to have programming and hybrid meetings, online and in-person, with excellent quality video and audio.



Our new staff is working hard to meet as many community members as they are able. If you have not yet met our new Executive Director, Aida Nozick, please stop by and say hello. You are sure to find her an interesting friend. She and her staff are working to bring us new and innovative programming. If you have any ideas, please pass them on to the staff or myself. We encourage your suggestions. Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Shalom Friends!

by AIDA NOZICK, JEWISH FEDERATION OF TULSA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



THE PAST FEW weeks have been exciting and enlightening as I continue to meet more and more community and board members and learn about our community's unique culture and history. Although I have learned a lot in these past six weeks, there is still so much more for me to discover and understand. Thank you to those who have met with me, offering candid conversations about the Federation and, more importantly, about the future of our community as a whole.

These meetings are extremely valuable in that they offer knowledge, guidance and direction. As you can imagine, I have been asking myself a series of questions as I learn more and more about the Jewish organization(s) of Tulsa and our relationship with the greater non-Jewish community.

My questions...

What programming and or education opportunities allow themselves for collaboration between all of us? Since we are a small Jewish community, I'm looking for ways to bring us together, so we may learn, collaborate and connect.

What does the community want from the Jewish Federation of Tulsa? I think of our Federation as a one-stop-shop. Between the Sherwin Miller Museum and the JCC, we have a wealth of opportunities for our community members to engage – through educational, cultural, and social programming to volunteerism. The wide range of committees that serve under the Federation Board of Directors allows those interested to make a meaningful impact that reaches the entire Jewish community.

What type of leadership is the staff looking for from me? I am thrilled to say the staff at the Federation, JCC, and SMMJA are a group of dedicated and knowledgeable professionals. Although we have a few new faces, the mix between the veterans and the new professionals creates a strong balance. While the veterans give us history, context, and perspective, the new brings fresh eyes, experience, and innovation.

I want to thank all the lay and professional leaders at B'nai Emunah, Temple Israel, and Chabad for your advice, willingness to collaborate, and most of all for being welcoming to my children and me. I look forward too many years of lasting friendships and working together, making our community stronger.

Israel Pride

by CHEN SHOVAL , ISRAELI EMISSARY

JUNE IS KNOWN to be the month of pride around the world, and also in Israel we celebrate LGBTQ pride. This year Israel celebrated with more than 50 events in various places throughout the country, from Nahariya in the north to Eilat in the south, in cities, universities, and kibbutzim.

The fact that so many events took place is a sign that there has been a change in society's policy and perception of the LGBTQ community. In Israel, state and religion are not separated. The state laws are involved with the laws of the Orthodox rabbinical court; therefore, these celebrations are not so obvious.

In the social perception in Israel, holding LGBTQ events is not only raising awareness of the pride community and creating a safe space for everyone, the marches symbolize a struggle for the whole liberal Israeli society. Israel's events are different depending on the nature of the local community. For example, in Jerusalem, the Pride Parade is like a protest march – families walking together holding signs, important political figures giving speeches, and the atmosphere is more political than in Tel Aviv, where the feeling is more of a celebration and party.

The changing trend is not only reflected in the number of events and social support, but also by the changes in institutional policies. During the month of June, pride flags were hung around the world at Israeli embassies and consulates. There are more and more Israeli parliament and ministers in the new government and Knesset from the LGBTQ community. But perhaps the most significant change is The Surrogacy Act that the Supreme Court passed last July. The new law entitles same-sex couples to have a child from a surrogate in Israel. The Supreme Court's decision came after a long struggle from gay activists. Despite the previous government's opposition, the Supreme Court followed public opinion and the desire of men to have children. Before the new act, this was not possible in Israel, and if gay couples wanted to have a child, they had to fly abroad and go through a long, exhausting and expensive process. It's interesting to see that the Jewish state, which places the value of family and children as a core value, made the change first from this angle and not from the marriage angle, as the majority of the LGBTQ communities around the world do these days. Today, in Israel, same-sex marriage is forbidden under state\rabbinical laws.

In June, the Jewish Federation of Tulsa held an event in partnership with Circle Cinema and the Equality Center, and we presented the Israeli film "Sublet." The film portrayed an authentic and intimate glimpse into the relationship of a gay couple, one from New York and the other from Tel Aviv. Both faced challenges of cultural disparities, generational disparities, and most of all, perceptual disparities.

I am glad that we could bring this issue to Tulsa's Jewish community because locally we share many liberal values as in Israel. The changes taking place in Israel regarding the pride community is good news for the Israeli society and to the Jewish people as a whole. ■



Thousands of people take part in the annual Gay Pride Parade in Jerusalem, June 3, 2021. Picture courtesy of Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90

JFT Event Recap



Sublet at Circle Cinema | June 22nd

On June 22nd, as part of the Tulsa Pride week, we gathered at Circle Cinema to screen an Israeli movie- *Sublet*. Before the film, we had a nice reception with Israeli wines and olives. Toby Jenkins, the executive director of the Equality Center, opened the event. *Sublet* deals with the relationship between a *New York Times* reporter and a young Israeli man. In a beautiful and creative way, the movie showed the cultural differences and generation gap while making us laugh and be impressed by the diversity and beauty of Tel Aviv.



Men's Club | June 23rd

This week's Men's Club participants enjoyed a catered lunch and presentation by Maggie Hoey, Assistant Director of the Downtown Coordinating Council, created by the City of Tulsa in 2008 to enhance downtown development. We learned that the Downtown Coordinating Council would soon become the Downtown Tulsa Partnership, an independent nonprofit champion. Their goal is to ensure downtown Tulsa is consistently clean, safe and appealing, using the city's diverse talents and businesses to continue engaging Tulsans and visitors. It was great to hear about the dedication of their work and the upcoming plans for the city! If you're interested in joining the Men's Club in the future, please get in touch with Isabella at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org or 918-935-3690. It's open to all ages.



Hebrew Calligraphy workshop | July 8th

It's hard to write in Hebrew; it's even harder to do it pretty, but we did some amazing calligraphy with the right tools and a great teacher. On July 8th, we met at the Federation for a Hebrew calligraphy workshop. The collaboration of Chen Shoval, the Israeli emissary, Mickel Yantz, curator at The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art, and artist/teacher, Kendra Shinn, made this workshop professional and fun. It was interesting to try Hebrew writing from right to left, the different angles of Hebrew letters, and the difference between marker writing and ink writing.



JMoms at the Pool | July 11th

On July 11th our group of mothers with young children met for a fun and relaxing time at the Sharna and Irvin Frank Aquatics Center – our first “play date” of moms and children. Some of the kids know each other from Camp Shalom and others met for the first time. It was excellent to see the connection between the kids, from the age of seven months to seven years old, playing together in the water, enjoying games and snacks. The next JMoms meeting will be on October 4th. If you would like to join in the fun, contact Chen at emissary@jewishtulsa.org or call 918.495.1100.

JFT Upcoming Events



Family Fun Day | Sunday, August 1st at 2 p.m.

Let's enjoy some family fun at the Sharna and Irvin Frank Aquatic Center on Sunday, August 1st, from 2pm-5pm (come and go as you wish!) We will have food, pool games, crafts, and more. Please RSVP to Isabella at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org so we can keep a headcount on food.



Young Jewish Professionals FC Soccer Night | Wednesday, August 4th at 7 p.m.

Join us on Wednesday, August 4th, as one to support our Tulsa soccer team, FC Tulsa. We have limited tickets so please RSVP to Isabella at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org to reserve yours today!



Men's Club | Wednesday, August 11th & Wednesday, August 25th at 12 p.m.

For men of all ages, join us at noon on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month for a speaker and lunch program. We have moved back to meeting in person with lunch, but Zoom is available upon request. Please get in touch with Isabella at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org for more information.



Rosh Chodesh | Monday, August 17th at 6:45 p.m.

A time for women to meet during the new moon to talk about issues through personal, spiritual, and ritual celebration. This month we will focus on the upcoming High Holydays, and our intentions for the new year. Please RSVP to Isabella at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org for more information.



Pearl Society Social – Gather Together and Learn about Ethiopian Food & Culture | Wednesday, August 18th | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. @ SMMJA

Ladies of the Pearl Society – we heard your requests to gather together in a social setting once it was safe! Please join us for a social event and learn about Ethiopian food & culture with new Executive Director, Aida Nozick. Originally from Ethiopia, Aida shares her passion for the cuisine she was raised on, a perfect blend of spices and fresh ingredients meant to be shared with family and friends. Vegetarian samples, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages provided. Museum docents will be available for short tours. Please RSVP to Sandy at sandy@jewishtulsa.org or 918-495-1100. Per CDC guidelines, masks are strongly encouraged for the unvaccinated.

JFT Upcoming Events



Ladies who Lunch | Thursday, August 19th at 12 p.m.

On the 3rd Thursday of each month at noon, women of all ages meet at a chosen restaurant for a social gathering. Each person pays their own check. Please contact Isabella at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org for meeting location and details.



Young Jewish Professionals Shabbat Lake Weekend | August 20th-22nd

Join our young Jewish adult community Shabbat at Grand Lake! We have a house to stay in together, plus food and entertainment. A \$100 deposit is required to secure your spot. Spaces are limited. Please contact Isabella at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org.



Feeding the Soul | Monday, August 23rd at 6:30 p.m.

Using food as a vehicle to explore identity, culture, and tradition, participants enjoy food from Tulsa's restaurants and hear from local chefs about their culinary journey. Be on the lookout for details in our Federation's eblast or contact Isabella at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org or 918-935-3690 for more information.



Maimonides Society – Experiences as an American Physician in Israel | Tuesday, August 24th at 7 p.m.

Dr. Sumner Gerald Sandler (better known as Jerry), retired Professor Emeritus, Departments of Medicine and Pathology, Georgetown University School of Medicine, will present his fascinating experiences as an American physician in Israel. Dr. Sandler directed the Transfusion Service at Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center in Jerusalem, served three years as a Medical Officer in the Israeli Defense Forces Reserves, performed triage during the Yom Kippur War, and trained nurses for Operation Entebbe. Together with the President of Israel's Magen David Adom, he was a delegate representing the State of Israel to the 2006 Congress of the International Red Cross in Nairobi, Kenya. Hear these stories and more! The program will be presented BOTH in person at the Federation and virtually. RSVP to Sandy at sandy@jewishtulsa.org or 918-495-1100 to indicate your preference!

JFT Upcoming Events



Dog Fest | Sunday, August 29th from 2 – 5 p.m.

We invite you to a community celebration on August 29th from 2-5 p.m. in Liberator's Park to celebrate international dog day. Many of us have dogs as family members or best friends, an animal we love to cuddle with. Let's celebrate our relationship with them as a community.

We'll have many surprises, and Tal Yogev (the Shlich's husband) will share his broad knowledge in a workshop with your dogs titled "Calm Down Doggy." Looking forward to seeing you and your dogs!



Reuven Rubin | Monday, August 30th at 6 p.m.

Learn about Israel prior to statehood through the eyes of artist Reuven Rubin. Our Israeli Emisary, Chen Shoval, will share Israeli history using artwork currently on display at The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art. Join us for an afterhours in the museum for art, history, and Jewish culture.

AUSCHWITZ

NOT LONG AGO. NOT FAR AWAY.

This award winning international exhibit is making it's final North American stop in Kansas City. Join us on a community trip to experience, witness, reflect and never forget.

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For more information or to reserve your spot, go to www.jewishtulsa.org/kc-museums or contact Sandy Sloan, 918.935.3696 sandy@jewishtulsa.org



New Faces at the JFT

WE ARE EXCITED to introduce you to the newest staff additions at the Federation and SMMJA- Tori Dowler, Greg Falconetti and Sandy Sloan. Welcome to the JFT family!

Tori Dowler

Hello! My name is Tori Dowler and I'm the accounting associate at the Jewish Federation. In my role, I work directly under Joy Platt and assist with all financial tasks for the Federation and the Museum. I lived in more places than I can count, but Tulsa has always been the place I call home. I've been here for the last five years and couldn't imagine a better place to raise a family. I am happily married and have two gorgeous children (ages 6 & 2), who are my motivation for everything. My daughter has been going to camp here this summer and absolutely loves it. The work environment here is very family-oriented, which is hard to find, and I am so grateful to have found that here. My goal is to facilitate and streamline processes using the experience and knowledge I've gained from my previous accounting position. I am excited to be involved with more programs and to get to know everyone within the community. Thank you all for being so welcoming.



Gregory S. Falconetti

Gregory S. Falconetti, MLIS, completed his bachelor's degree at the University of Tulsa in Business Management and received his master's degree with honors from the ALA-accredited library science program at the University of Oklahoma. His master's degree focused on the management of information organizations and special collections, as well as the researching, compiling, and archival storage of information. Gregory's graduate program internship was spent in the Philbrook Museum of Art Chapman Library's archival special collections.

Since Gregory joined the Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art (SMMJA) in April 2021 as the Education Coordinator, he has revised the docent guidelines and training manual and is growing the docent volunteer volumes and talent base, which further enriches the educational tours. Gregory will also be taking on the large and arduous task of cataloging and digitizing SMMJA's Tulsa Jewish community family archive. As time allows, Gregory will also be fully cataloging the SMMJA library with the eventual goal of making it an online searchable Holocaust and Judaica research library.



Sandy Sloan

A native of Northern California, Sandy and her family recently moved back to her husband's hometown of Tulsa. She has worked nearly 20 years in the nonprofit arts industry in marketing and communications, fundraising, donor relations, and event management. Sandy works on campaign, foundation, facility rentals and Affinity Groups. Her job description is a work in progress! She attended a reform Temple in her childhood and looks forward to reconnecting with her Jewish roots and new community. When not at the Federation, Sandy enjoys biking, hiking, kayaking, yoga, and exploring the outdoors with her husband and 14-year-old son.



A Farewell Message from Gilad Katz

by **GILAD KATZ**, CONSUL GENERAL OF ISRAEL TO THE SOUTHWEST

BITTERSWEET, THAT IS the feeling I am overcome with while I write this farewell piece, as my tenure as Consul General of Israel to the Southwest comes to a close.

I am filled with sweet emotions because of all the people, places, activities, memories, and work that I have had the pleasure of experiencing during these last four years. My family and I landed in Houston on August 7, 2017. This was our first time here, and we didn't know anyone. For my family and me, this felt like a completely new world. Fast forward four years and we truly feel as though this is our second home. The main reason we feel that this is so is because of the people, the warmth, the hospitality and welcome, the true concern, and the genuine love we have received from so many of you. All of these experiences leave us with endless fond memories and incredibly full hearts.

With the sweet emotions also comes bitter feelings, as my term comes to an end and it is time for us to return home. We will truly miss this incredible community and family that we must leave behind. The distance will make it seem difficult for us to remain connected on a daily basis; however, even though we will be far away, we will still be here with you, in spirit. We will cherish the memories we made here and often reminisce on the incredible experiences and friendships that impacted my family and me for the last 1,460 days. The departure will be challenging, but I believe that we shall all experience in our lives the blessing of King David in Psalms 84, 8: "They go from strength to strength."

I would like to conclude with one final thought – if I was asked what I would want my final words as Consul General of Israel to the Southwest to be, allow me to say that I pray people will remember me as a proud Israeli-Jew, who tried his best to represent Israel the best that he could. Remember me as one who strived to advocate at the greatest of my ability for the Jewish State. Think of me as the official representative of Israel who was, is, and will forever fight for the Jewish People. If I were to sum up these four wonderful, life-changing years into two sentences, I would say this:

I tried with all of my heart and soul to assist the State of Israel as best as possible. It was an honor and privilege for me, and I know that the best is yet to come.

Shalom ve-lhitaot- goodbye, and we shall meet again. ■



Gilad Katz

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Tulsa Remote Participant Establishes Roots in Tulsa

by STAN KHRAPAK

MY NAME IS Vyacheslav “Stan” Khrapak and I was originally born in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Shortly after the breakup of the Soviet Union, my parents and I immigrated to the United States under refugee status. My father, a Ph.D. of geophysics, and my mother, also a geophysicist, made our new home in Skokie, Illinois, among a diaspora of Eastern European Jewish people. The first year in the US was particularly challenging for our small family. My father was running a pizza delivery route, and my mother was cleaning houses as we strove to establish ourselves.

My father found a suitable career in Dallas, Texas, working for an energy company not long after. By that time, my mother had retrained, switched professions, and found employment as a computer program analyst. We moved to the Lone Star State and found a stable and fruitful way of life. Unfortunately, my father became ill with cancer and passed away when I was ten years old.

Eventually, my mother remarried an American man and we moved to Carrollton, Texas, where I attended high school. Upon graduation, I received a scholarship to attend the University of Oklahoma (OU) for my mathematics, English, and history accomplishments. I graduated at the top of my class with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education and a minor in Business Administration. I became a graduate research assistant and earned a Master of Education degree from the OU with an emphasis in Higher Education Administration. During my graduate studies in 2014, I earned the honor of becoming the Editor of the Journal of Thought, a 50+-year-old peer-reviewed, biannual publication devoted to the reflective examination of educational issues. I continue to publish this journal today.

I met my wife, Morgan Creekmore - a Tulsa Native, at OU. At the time, Morgan was completing her graduate work in Judaic studies and comparative religion. When we were both done with our graduate programs, we moved to Denver, Colorado. I spent five years in Colorado working as a manager at Colorado State University Global (CSU Global), dealing largely with data analytics, reporting, software systems administration, and business development.

Morgan and I were feeling a bit homesick and decided to move back to Tulsa to be closer to family. Fortunately, I was granted the opportunity to participate in Tulsa Remote’s inaugural cohort. We took the leap and moved to Tulsa in June of 2019.

After working remotely through the pandemic, I found an excellent opportunity to join the team at Holberton School Tulsa, a software engineering school located in downtown Tulsa. I currently serve as Operations Manager and pour my passion into helping students from all backgrounds graduate with computer science credentials in Tulsa.

Morgan and I are now happy homeowners in Tulsa, residing near 71st and Harvard.

Tulsa has provided us with innumerable opportunities to grow and flourish personally and professionally. I continue to give back to my community by serving on the Jewish Federation of Tulsa’s Community Relations Committee and look forward to what the future in Tulsa will bring. ■



Stan Khrapak

JFT

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AUGUST 1ST
2PM-5PM

FAMILY FUN DAY

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isilberg@jewishtulsa.org

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.

Sarah Joels Bat Mitzvah at The Synagogue | Congregation B'nai Emunah

Sarah Lillian Joels, daughter of Jennifer and Sam Joels and sister of Eliana, will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, August 14, 2021, at Congregation B'nai Emunah.

Sarah will be in the 8th grade at Union Public Schools this fall. Her interests and activities include dance, photography, fashion, art, and musical theater. Sarah also enjoys spending time with family and friends.

In August 2020, Sarah led services and chanted her Haftorah and Maftir from home during the B'nai Emunah Zoom Shabbat Service. We are glad that she now has the opportunity to have her Bat Mitzvah in a more traditional setting where she will be called to the Torah.

Sarah enjoys helping other people. For her Mitzvah Project, she has collected food for the Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma. She also will be volunteering at the food bank now that she is vaccinated against Covid.

Sarah is the granddaughter of Eric Bolusky and the late Janis Bolusky, Gloria Joels and the late Robert Joels, all of Tulsa.

Preparations for her Bat Mitzvah have been led by Jackie Lasky, Sonia Hocherman, and Sara Levitt.

The entire community is invited to join the Joels family for services at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom in the Synagogue Zoom Room. The meeting ID is 918 583 7121. ■



Local Jewish Genealogy President selected as presenter for the International Conference on Jewish Genealogy

Phil Goldfarb, President of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Tulsa, has been selected as a presenter for the 41st Annual IAJGS (International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies) International Conference on Jewish Genealogy. The IAJGS is an umbrella organization of more than 93 Jewish genealogical societies worldwide. The 2021 All-Virtual Conference will be from Aug. 1-5, 2021. For more information and to register, go to www.iajgs2021.org.

Congratulations, Phil! ■



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Let There be Light! The Jewish History of the Flashlight

by © PHIL GOLDFARB

CONRAD HUBERT, THE son of Belarusian Jewish distillers and wine producers, was born Akiba Horowitz on April 15, 1855, in Minsk, Belarus. Akiba attended Hebrew school when he was a boy, and in 1868, went to Berlin to study liquor distillation at the age of thirteen. While at this vocational school for six years, he worked at odd jobs for subsistence. In 1874, he returned to Minsk and became a partner in his father's business. For the next 15 years, they branched out to various cities throughout Russia while building up a reputation as excellent businessmen.

Because of the May Laws of 1882 and the Russian persecution of Jews, Akiba, at the age of 35, decided to move to the United States in 1890. He liquidated all of his commercial holdings, turned it into cash, and arrived at The Barge Office at the Battery (used in between The Castle Garden immigrant processing center which ended on April 18, 1890, and Ellis Island which began accepting immigrants on January 1, 1892) on September 26, 1891, and, like many other immigrants, without knowing anyone. One of the first things he did was change his birth name from Akiba Horowitz to Conrad Hubert.

The opportunity was not there for Hubert to begin again in the distillery business, so he decided to start a cigar store in New York City. For the next six to eight years, he tried other businesses that included a restaurant, boarding house, jewelry store, farm, milk wagon route, and a novelty shop called the American Electrical Novelty and Manufacturing Company.

At the novelty shop, his best-selling item was a battery-powered flashing tie clasp. With the development of the smaller, more powerful "D" cell batteries, it became practical to carry a hand-held battery-powered torch or "flash-light," so-called because the battery could only sustain light for a few seconds. Besides the tie clasp, he experimented with illuminated flowerpots; an idea passed along to him by Joshua Lionel Cowen, who went on to create Lionel toy trains before acquiring patent No. 617,592 in 1898, from inventor and employee David Misell, who intended his portable light idea as a bicycle lamp and assigned this patent to his employer. While it was very crude, the concept it embodied appealed to Hubert. Purchasing the device, he perfected it and then applied for his own patent, which was granted on March 6, 1900, patent No. 644, 860. He also turned his attention to the invention of other electrical devices which might have market value, and on May 20, 1902, he obtained patents No. 700, 496; No. 700, 497; and No. 700, 650 for an electric time alarm, electric battery, and small electric lamp, respectively. The last two are the basic patents of the electric flashlight of today.

With Misell's help, Hubert developed the first tubular flashlight and collected testimonials by handing out early versions to police officers in New York City. The tubular flashlight battery consisted of three cells- 2 and ¼ inches in length x 1 and ¼ inches in diameter. This was ¾ inches shorter than the 3-inch batteries used in the Misell Bicycle Light. This shorter battery allowed the tubular flashlight to be short enough to be carried in the pocket, a favorable selling point to the 1898 consumer. Hubert's first portable flashlights were handmade from crude paper and fiber tubes, with a bulb and a rough brass reflector.

About the same time, in the Spring of 1898, Hubert reserved a space at the 3rd annual Electrical Show in Madison Square Garden, New York City. The show lasted the entire month of May in 1898, and the flashlight was a huge success.

Because the first flashlights were made in a small and modestly equipped shop, they were made without threads on either end. The lens was held by friction fit, and the endcap was secured with a bayonet-type fastener. After the success of the flashlight was assured, Hubert moved into larger quarters and began equipping the flashlight with threaded fittings on both ends.

The endcap was blank and remained without a trademark until 1901. The switch was a spring-loaded momentary contact type and provided light when the ring was depressed. The ring contact switch was used until 1903, when the permanent type, the Ever Ready Glove Catch switch, was patented and placed into use. Taking advantage of improved batteries and more efficient tungsten bulb filaments, Eveready released flashlights with on/off switches in 1911.

Hubert continued to make patent improvements on his "portable electric lights" from 1903 forward.



Conrad Hubert



First "Ever Ready" Electric Flashlight

In 1905, he and W.H. Lawrence, who had manufactured the first consumer battery to power home telephones, formed the American Ever Ready Battery Company in New York and Hubert became its president. While Hubert had great difficulty establishing a market for his new products, success eventually crowned his efforts and generated a fortune for him. In 1914 however, he sold the entire business to the National Carbon Company of Cleveland, Ohio. He soon bought a controlling share in the Yale Electric Corporation, manufacturing batteries for automobiles and later for radios, and was the chairman of the board of directors until his death. He was a member of the Chamber of Commerce of New York City and Brooklyn. In addition to his house at 44 East 60th Street, New York, he had a winter house at Lake Wales, Florida.

He was married a short time from 1915-1927 to socialite Helen Trumbull Hakes, but they never had any children. He died in Cannes, France on February 14, 1928, and was buried at the Mount Lebanon Cemetery in Glendale, NY. According to his will, three-quarters of his entire estate of about \$8,000,000 (\$120,500,000 in 2021 dollars) was bequeathed to unnamed organizations that serve the public welfare via the Conrad Hubert Fund, with the stipulation that the money is dispensed jointly by a Protestant, a Catholic, and a Jew. After his death, these positions were filled by former President Calvin Coolidge, former New York Governor Alfred E. Smith, and former Sears Roebuck Chairman Julius Rosenwald (see October 2017 TJR article on The Rosenwald Schools) who distributed Hubert's fortune to thirty-four charities.

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

No. 617,592.

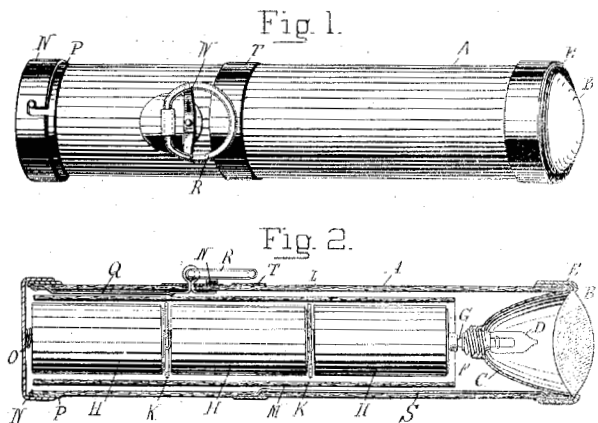
Patented Jan. 19, 1899.

D. MISELL.
ELECTRIC DEVICE.

Application filed Mar. 12, 1908.

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



Witnesses:

Samuel W. Balch
Conrad Hubert

Inventor,
David Misell,

by *Thomas ...*
Attorney

1899 U.S. Patent for the flashlight



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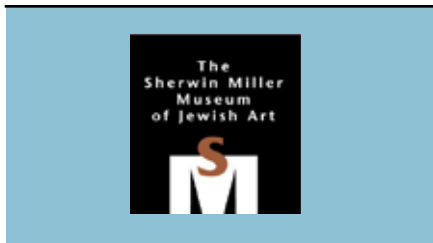
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See JFT Happenings
Pages 6-9



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.



Oklahoma WWII Veterans Memorial
The Memorial is now open to the public and honors the men and women who served in World War II.



Jews Rock
This permanent exhibit is now open featuring photographs of music's Jewish icons through the lens of photojournalist Janet Macoska. Also featured are hand-painted guitars by Oklahoma artists showcasing Jewish musicians.



Michael Knigin: The Holocaust and Anne Frank
Now–Aug. 8
In 1974 the Israel Museum and the Jerusalem Foundation invited noted artist Michel Knigin to Israel. His charge was to establish the first professional lithographic and silk screen atelier in Israel. Knigin began meeting survivors of the Holocaust and interpreting their suffering through sketches that became montages. In recognition of his work, the Israel Museum granted Knigin full and unrestricted access to its Holocaust archives including pictures of the victims in the camps, of revolts, deportation, ghettos, liberation, and of course, Anne Frank. This exhibition is both a chronology of the terrors into which Anne Frank was born and a record of her response to them.



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.



Jews in Space
Now–Summer
You can explore the world of motion picture sci-fi through artifacts, costumes, and more by showcasing Jewish actors, directors, and screenwriters in cinematic sci-fi.



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.



Go Figure: Figurative Art by Theodore Fried
Now – 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.



55 & Fabulous Museum Gala
Sun., Oct. 24
On Sunday, October 24, 2021, The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art Anniversary Gala will celebrate 55 Years & Fabulous! We hope you'll be with us to pay tribute to women in the arts. The Chair of this year's event is Nancy Wolov. Please contact Tracey Herst-Woods, Deputy Director of the SMMJA, development@jewishmuseum.net for patron and event information. Invitations will be sent in August.



Student Artwork from Booker T. Washington High School

Now –August
Established in 1913, Booker T. Washington High School has been the district’s comprehensive magnet school since 1973. The artwork included in the show represents an arrangement of mediums and materials created during the 2020 school year from all grade levels.



Tikkun Middot with Rabbi Weinstein on Zoom

Thursdays in August • 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 and a better understanding of who we are as Jews and as people. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com to get the Zoom link.



Sociable Seniors “Sundaes on a Sunday”

Sun., Aug. 8 • 2-4 p.m.
We’re so happy we can now socialize in person! Join together for our Summer Ice Cream Social. \$5. RSVP@templetulsa.com or 918-747-1309 before August 4. Temple members and community friends 60+ are invited!

Shabbat Service w/Torah on Zoom & Facebook Live

Fri., Aug. 13 & 27 • 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.

Leil Selichot Service

Sat., Aug. 28 • 7:30 p.m.
Join us during the month of Elul for our Selichot service, as we prepare ourselves for the magnitude of the Days of Awe.

Sisterhood Opening Meeting

Sun., Aug. 29 • 12:15 p.m.
Don’t miss out on an informative afternoon including a delicious homemade lunch and treats, featuring guest speaker Aida Nozick, Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Tulsa. Complimentary for TI Sisterhood members or \$15 per person. RSVP by August 23 to rsvp@templetulsa.com.



INTRO

Mon., Aug. 2, 9 and 16 • 7:30 p.m.
This class is intended for the entire Jewish community as a deep dive in the evolving culture of the Jewish people. You may join at several points during the year as a strategy of next-level education or to prepare to join the Jewish community under the guidance of Rabbi Dan Kaiman. No prior knowledge is required and all materials are studied in English. This course is affiliated with the Miller Introduction to Judaism Course at the University of Judaism and sees its audience as progressive Jews and candidates for conversion across the country. Please note that INTRO is a Zoom experience, and the ID number for entry is 918 583 7121. You may join at any point during the year. Please call Rabbi Kaiman at (918) 583-7121 to register.

Two Rabbis And...

Every Friday, Aug. 6, 13, 20 and 27 • 11 a.m.
Rabbis Kaiman and Fitzerman convene a weekly conversation to foreground news of the day, interview special guests, and talk about ideas relevant to Jewish community life. It’s an ongoing conversation about our shared journey in a diverse, multicultural Jewish world. Zoom meeting ID: 918 583 7121.

Shabbat Together

Every Friday, Aug. 6, 13, 20 and 27 • 5:30 p.m.
The portal moments of candle lighting, kiddush, and the first bite of challah, remind us that Shabbat is an ideal time to enjoy time in each other’s company. Shabbat Together is a short, digital gathering where we take a few moments to connect with the whole community as we enter Shabbat. We hope that this experience will be especially meaningful to those who are mourning a loved one or observing the anniversary of a loss (yahrzeit). We’ll conclude everything in time for you to enjoy a Shabbat meal at home. Synagogue Zoom Room, Meeting ID: 918 583 7121.

Panim el Panim Shabbat Shabbat Yachad Morning Celebration

Every Saturday, Aug. 7, 14, 21 and 28 • 9:30 a.m.
Our tradition speaks of the special power that exists when people gather together for prayer. Panim el Panim is a live broadcast service on Zoom led by Rabbis Fitzerman and Kaiman. Rooted in the traditional practice of the Synagogue, we focus on the concerns of the liturgy, Torah study, and offering prayer for those in need of healing. Our handbook is Siddur Et Ratzon, a fully transliterated presentation of the Shabbat morning service with expert commentary and guidance. Shabbat Yachad is COVID-safe gathering in the Synagogue Sanctuary marking our incremental return to life in three dimensions. We’ll be digital on August 7 and 21, and three-dimensional on August 14 and 28. To take part in the digital celebration, join us in our Synagogue Zoom Room, Meeting ID: 918 583 7121. To participate in Shabbat Yachad, please make your reservation at tulsagogue.com.



Blatt + Blue: Footnote

Thurs., Aug. 12 • 7 p.m.
Join us to consider a titanic battle of wills between father-and-son scholars who compete in the rarefied world of Jewish study. Uriel Shkolnick is a charismatic popularizer and his father, Eliezer, is an old-school plodder. Both yearn for the accolades of Israeli society and hope to feel the reverence for high-level scholarship that endures to this day. *Footnote* is available on Amazon Prime for a modest rental fee.

Bibi-Dibi

Fri., Aug. 13 • 6 p.m.
The Synagogue welcomes parents with young children for a friendly circle experience on the floor, the joy of beaming adults, lively music, and charming manipulables. A child-friendly Shabbat picnic meal will be served afterward. Please make your reservation by going to the Synagogue website: tulsagogue.com. You do not need to be a Synagogue member to participate.

Bat Mitzvah of Sarah Joels

Sat., Aug. 14 • 9:30 a.m.
Please join in the coming-of-age celebration for Sarah Joels, daughter of Sam and Jennifer Joels. Sarah will be leading the morning services for the Sabbath, culminating in the chanting of her haftarah, the assigned selection from the Prophets. All are invited to attend. You may make your in-person reservation for the COVID-compliant experience by going to the Synagogue website (tulsagogue.com). No reservation is necessary for the Synagogue Zoom Room (Meeting ID: 918 583 7121).

Happie Hoffman and Friends in Concert

Sun., Aug. 15 • Noon
This Sunday brings us to the opening of the new school year at the Synagogue. Classes will begin at 9:00 a.m., followed at noon by a concert featuring B’nai Emunah artist-in-residence Happie Hoffman. The event will take place under the shade of the Sukkah on the south side of the building. Lunch will be served to all who make reservations at tulsagogue.com. Please note that masks are currently optional at outdoor events, but those who enter the building are strongly encouraged to mask even if they are vaccinated in order to protect young members who are still exposed to transmission.

Selichot and New Member Welcome

Sat., Aug. 28 • 6 p.m.
The lilting melodies of Selichot are the portal to the experience of the High Holidays. The whole community is invited to take part in this event as we offer gratitude to the staff of tutors who enable our young people to succeed as candidates for bar and bat mitzvah. Their relationships with our students are close and formative, and we are eager to express our appreciation. On the same evening, the congregation will officially welcome everyone who has formally joined B’nai Emunah in the last year. The evening will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a Selichot Dinner directly in front of the B’nai Emunah building. For more information on this pandemic-responsible event, please check the Synagogue website at tulsagogue.com.

No 'Joke': Tulsa comedian Barry Friedman's new book shows all sides of the stand-up life

by JAMES D. WATTS JR

BARRY FRIEDMAN THOUGHT it would be a simple enough task — spend a couple of weeks filling in any of the literary potholes that might still exist in “Road Comic,” his first memoir, to ready it for republication.

Friedman, a Tulsa writer and commentator who has worked as a professional comedian for more than three decades, had recently published “Four Days and a Year Later,” a moving, at times harrowing recounting of the drug-related death of his son, Paul. His publisher thought a good follow-up would be to re-release “Road Comic,” which was first published in 2002.

“I knew I didn’t want to republish the book as it is,” Friedman said. “There was so much that I really wanted to edit out, and redo. One example: A person who read it commented on the ‘gratuitous debauchery’ in the book. I knew there was no way to tell the story without debauchery of some sort, so I wanted to make it work without being ‘gratuitous.’”

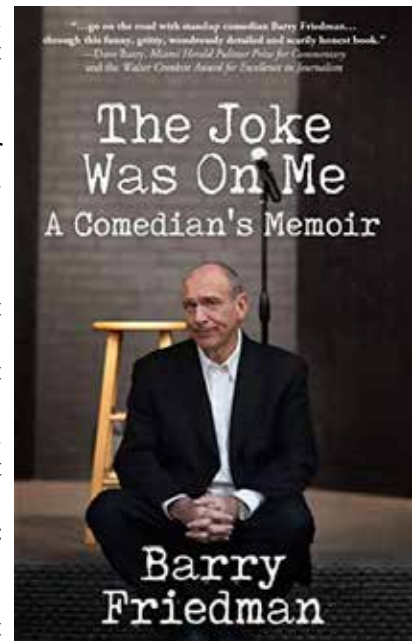
The COVID-19 pandemic, with its proscriptions against public gatherings and most travel — two things that are necessary for professional comedians — meant that Friedman had time to focus on the work he wanted to do on his first book.

The result of that work turned into Friedman’s fourth book, “The Joke Was on Me: A Comedian’s Memoir,” recently published by Balkan Press.

“For all intents, it’s basically a new book,” he said. “I would estimate that there are maybe 10 paragraphs from ‘Road Comic’ that made it into this book. It’s really about looking at myself as I was at the time I wrote that book.”

It is a picaresque recounting of Friedman’s career as a working comedian, beginning with his winning a comedy contest held at the Trade Winds East Motel, which he did by “doing jokes about peeing in a lake and girls eating corn dogs at state fairs and impersonating Carroll O’Connor as Archie Bunker.”

That first night becomes something of a leitmotif through the book, as Friedman describes sometimes bizarre, sometimes outrageous, sometimes outrageously bizarre episodes from life on the comedy circuit, pointing out that he



would not be in such a situation if he had not gone on stage during an open mic night at a Tulsa hotel.

“The Joke Was on Me” provides a concise, clear-eyed look at the business of being a comedian — the mechanics of getting booked at comedy venues, night clubs, casino lounges; the endless travel; the camaraderie and competition among comics; the hierarchy of billing, from opening act to headliners.

The book also offers an equally unflinching look at Friedman’s personal life during this time, describing relationships with women ranging from brief, though eye-opening, encounters to romances that managed to endure, if only for a while, the rigors of life spent mostly on the road.

It is a way for Friedman to embody what he calls the best advice he ever received from a fellow comic: “Tell some truth up there.”

“I really just wanted to make it better than it was,” he said. “And to do that, I had to write an entirely new book. I’m not now the person I was when I wrote the first book, but I also had to be honest about the fact that I was that person years ago. So in a way it’s something of a meta-look at my life.”

Friedman continues to perform — later this year he will travel to the Bahamas, where he has had an annual gig for some 35 years — although the venues that used to feature comics aren’t as numerous as in years past.

“Comedy was dying before COVID came along,” he said. “The club scene is going away. Most of my friends in the business were working cruise ships — and we know how well that industry has been doing the past couple of years.”

Still, Friedman said, the unique charge a comedian gets when a joke told from the stage lands perfectly on an audience’s collective funny bone hasn’t diminished.

“They don’t pay you to be on stage,” Friedman said. “What they pay you for are all the things you have to go through to get onto that stage — the phone calls, the emails, the traveling, booking hotel rooms, all that. Those 45 minutes or so that you’re on stage — that’s the joy of it.”

This article was originally published in the Tulsa World by James D. Watts Jr., Food and Arts writer.

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Considerations When Planning Fall Gardens

by ANITA MILLS, PERMACULTURALIST

FALL GARDENS IN Tulsa can be very rewarding, particularly if winter cold is late in arriving. However, there are two significant considerations to keep in mind:

- Transplants vs. direct seeding
- Soil temperatures

First, some vegetables do better when seeded directly in the ground or container. These include the root crops like carrots, turnips, beets, parsnips, radishes, and rutabagas. Plants that do better as transplants are the traditional summer crops of tomatoes, eggplant, pepper, pumpkin and squashes, and cucumbers. These seedlings will be appearing in nurseries this month, ready to be a part of your garden.

I mentioned the summer crops, but others – those that will tolerate cold and yield after the summer crops are gone – can be planted in late July through August and September. These crops will also be in nurseries as seedlings and do best when transplanted rather than directly seeded. They include broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, kale, and collards.

Soil temperatures play a major role in seed germination of cool-season crops. Soil temperatures in the summer can reach 90 degrees and above if not mulched. Carrots, for example, germinate best in soil that is 77 degrees F. Turnips have the same preferences. So, the question becomes... how to get the seeds in the ground in time to get growth before the really cold weather sets in, but get the seeds to germinate if the soil is still too warm.

One strategy is to sow the seeds in the shade of another plant, like carrots among your tomatoes. Turnips could be sheltered by sun-loving chard and grows large enough to shade the ground, or maybe between the peppers or eggplants. Another trick that a successful gardener told me is to freeze seeds in ice cubes. WHAT?!

Start with an ice cube tray, fill with water, put 1-2 seeds in each section, then freeze. When ready to plant the seeds, break out the cubes and plant them. Not only does it cool the immediate soil to allow for optimal germination temperatures, but it also waters the seed well, and as the gardener told me, it helps you remember where you planted! I'm going to try this technique this fall and see how it works for me.

Remember, all gardening is experimentation and each "failure" is a lesson that teaches us what we could do better next time.

Happy gardening! ■



A big THANK YOU to the ladies from the Junior League of Tulsa who come twice a month to help in our Community Garden.

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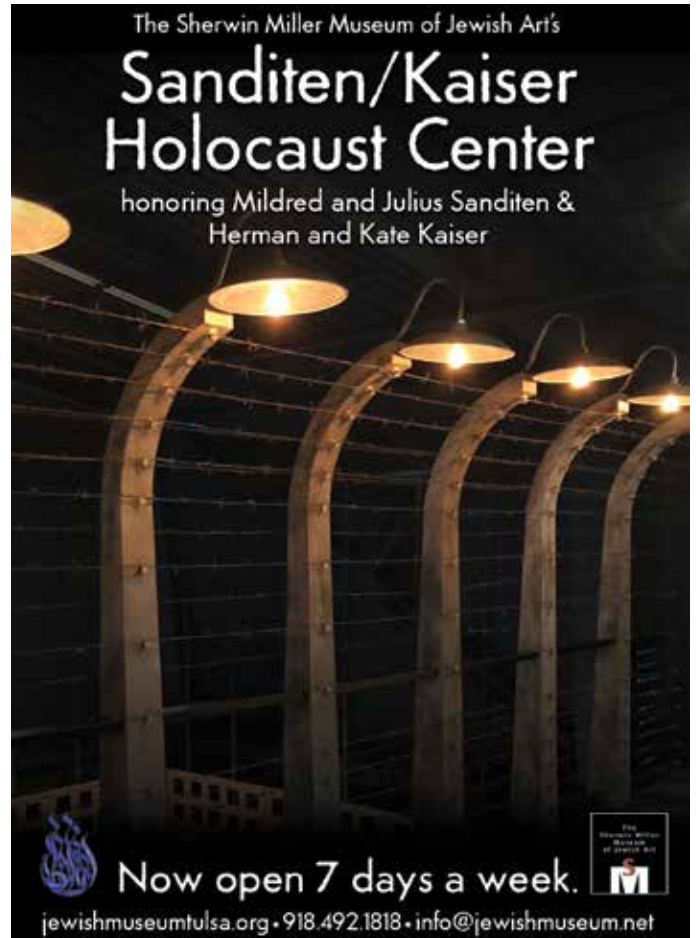
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The Jefferson Bible: An American Artifact

by ALAN LEVENSON,

SCHUSTERMAN/JOSEY PROFESSOR OF JEWISH HISTORY, UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

THOMAS JEFFERSON, STATESMAN, architect, wine maven, book lover, and slave-owner, remains the most controversial Founder and the most enigmatic. No wonder Joseph Ellis titled his biography of Jefferson American Sphinx. What were his religious beliefs? Jefferson consistently opposed the establishment of religion. Raised an Anglican in Virginia, he held that no religion deserves the favoritism of the government or the tax dollars of its citizens. His letter to the Danbury Baptist Association coined the phrase “wall of separation,” long taken as a clarification of the First Amendment’s view of religion. His letter to author-activist-Reformer Isaac Harby promised Jews freedom from supporting religious views they did not share. Attacked in the bitter election of 1800 as an atheist, historians more often refer to Jefferson as a Deist – one who believes God created the world and then let the laws of nature prevail. But 18th century Deism meant something different: like most Founders, Jefferson was steeped in the Bible from his youth, deployed its imagery easily and often, and turned to it in old age for solace and reflection.

Three times Jefferson determined to distill the Bible’s moral lessons. The third try, undertaken in his retirement, has been called The Jefferson Bible, although the first page bears the title, “The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth.” Jefferson took two King James Bibles, needed for front and back, and then literally cut and pasted the parts he liked (“diamonds”) and discarded the parts he didn’t (“dunghills”). In the process Jefferson ditched the virgin birth, the resurrection, most miracles, and the elaborate openings found in Matthew (a genealogy) and Luke (annunciations). An ardent Francophone, he added a French translation; and ardent classicist, he also added columns in Greek and Latin. This four columned Bible with the deletions and re-pastings visibly evident, Jefferson he sent it to a Richmond bookbinder, and received, a few weeks later, a red leather-bound copy which he read and then passed on to his children. Jefferson worked on the New Testament (Christian Bible) alone, a reversal of Baruch Spinoza’s work on the Old Testament (Tanach). Jefferson knew Greek; Spinoza knew Hebrew.



Bible used to create Thomas Jefferson’s “The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth.”

Produced in 1820, that might have been the last anyone ever heard of Jefferson’s now-iconic text. But the Smithsonian had a far-seeing Semitics librarian named Cyrus Adler (1863-1940) who discovered the work and then acquired it for the Smithsonian in 1895 from Caroline Randolph, Jefferson’s great-granddaughter. A little later, Adler bought the cut-up remainder Bibles from the Cohen family of Baltimore. Although it would be unimaginable today, 5000 copies of Jefferson’s Bible were printed and distributed to incoming members of Congress until they ran out in the 1950s. Cyrus Adler would go on to lead the Jewish Theological Seminary and Dropsie College in Philadelphia, along with playing a supporting role in many important Jewish initiatives in his long and productive life. Adler spent his adult life on the East Coast, but he grew up not far from Tulsa -- in Van Buren, Arkansas. His memorial, like Jefferson’s tombstone, makes no mention of the Jefferson Bible, which remains a testament -- pun intended -- to the intimate relationship the American Founders had with the Bible. ■

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Fighting in Israel triggered a Wave of Antisemitic Attacks in the U.S.

by MARK ZILBERMANN

FIGHTING BETWEEN HAMAS and Israel in May was accompanied by an explosion of antisemitism in the United States. As the Anti-Defamation League's Center on Extremism noted, there was a 115% increase in antisemitic incidents in May compared to the same period a year earlier. These incidents included "190 cases of harassment, 50 cases of vandalism, and 11 assaults," and the majority of the assaults were "motivated by anger over the conflict in the Middle East."

This fact should alarm all those who contend that antisemitism and anti-Zionism are unrelated. It is, of course, legitimate to criticize Israeli policies and politics. The problem arises when criticism turns into the denial of the rights of Jews to have their own nation or blaming all Jews for the actions of Israel.

This happened in Dallas in May when workers at two kosher restaurants were threatened by people returning from a pro-Gaza rally. It happened in Los Angeles when Jewish diners were attacked at a sushi restaurant because as Jews they served as stand-ins for Israel. It happened in Times Square when a yarmulke-wearing Jew was attacked and beaten. And it is still happening in cities and on campuses around the country.

Beyond this recent flare-up, over the past several years American Jews have faced murderous antisemitism in their houses of worship, in Pittsburgh and Poway, at a kosher supermarket in Jersey City, and at a private home in Monsey. None of these horrendous acts was linked to the Middle East. Jews have also been threatened on campuses for expressing their Jewish identity, religion, or support for Israel.

Hatred and blaming of Jews for the ills of society is not new; it extends back several millennia, emerging in times of cultural, economic or political uncertainty. But the virulence of the current antisemitism on our soil has caught many in America by surprise. We must combat it, but to do so we must first define it.

In 2016, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, an intergovernmental organization, adopted a working definition of antisemitism, including examples of anti-Jewish hatred to ensure clarity of understanding. The organization's definition notes, "Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews."

Given the surge in antisemitism in the U.S., it is important to list some of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's contemporary examples of antisemitism. These include:

- Promoting myths about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government, etc.
- Denying the genocide of the Jewish people (the Holocaust) at the hands of Nazi Germany, its supporters and accomplices during World War II.
- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination.
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.

To date, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition has been adopted by more than two dozen United Nations member states including the U.S. Just this month, Governor Greg Abbott signed legislation adopting the organization's definition. Texas became the first American state to do so.

The history and horrors of antisemitism and where they can lead are in the DNA of the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum. Founded by local Holocaust survivors in 1984, the museum is dedicated to teaching the history of the Holocaust and advancing human rights to combat prejudice, hatred, and indifference.

Our educational mission is more important than ever, as we have witnessed how ingrained antisemitism is in our world. Many who spout anti-Jewish sentiments are not even aware of their antisemitism as they speak of Jewish control, Jewish money, or Jewish privilege.

It is vital to understand that hatred of the Jews is learned behavior. No one is born hating another person or group. It is our task at the museum to educate students and visitors so that they have the knowledge and tools to fight hatred, prejudice and the acts of violence directed against Jews and others.

We teach that history is made through a series of choices and that every choice has consequences. Choosing to speak up when you hear or see antisemitism can help disrupt it and change the world for the better.

Education is the key. It tempers the dangerous impulse to generalize and blame, and leads to informed choices. If we use our knowledge to confront prejudice and hatred when we encounter it, together we can defeat antisemitism.

This article was originally published in The Dallas Morning News. ■



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Blatt + Blue Review *Footnote*

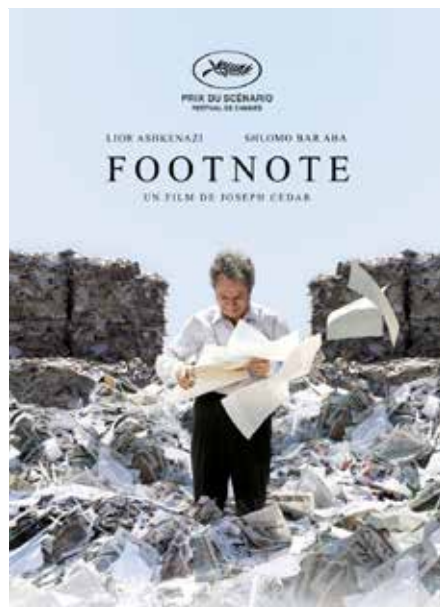
SPECIAL TO THE REVIEW

NOW IN ITS second year of broadcasting, Blatt + Blue has attracted an avid group of participants who follow Jewish cinema and television with lively interest and keen observation. Led by David Blatt and Alice Blue, discussants regularly gather on the second Thursday of the month on the Zoom platform. All are invited, especially newcomers. The rule is “unmute,” in order to encourage quick cross conversation and rapid-fire comment.

The August session will feature Joseph Cedar’s great film, *Footnote*, about a titanic struggle between father and son. Focusing on the public and private lives of Eliezer and Uriel Shkolnik, the film describes the inner workings of a revered group of scholars whose worldly ambitions are ultimately too much for their circumscribed world to contain. There has arguably never been a film like it that concentrates on scholarship as a central endeavor of human life. The film opens our eyes to yet another version of Jewish devotion that is not part of the charedi world. The characters are recognizable participants in modern Jewish life as it unfolds in universities, academic conferences, and Jewish social circles.

Month after month, Blatt + Blue spotlights film and television enthusiasts David Blatt and Alice Blue, who begin each session with a summary of the featured material. It means that you’ll be able to follow the conversation even if you have to delay your viewing of the film itself. After that, it’s questions and comments from the Zoom Room audience.

Footnote is easily available on Amazon Prime for a modest rental fee. Join the Zoom discussion on Thursday evening, August 12, at 7:00 p.m. The Zoom meeting ID is 918-583-7121 and the session will conclude at 8:00 p.m. Please note that security protocols are always in place to prevent a disrupted session. If there is a film you’d like to see in these sessions in the future, please reach out to Rabbi Marc Fitzerman at marboofitz@bnaiemunah.com. ■



COVID-19 Tribute at the Synagogue

SPECIAL TO THE REVIEW

AS SOCIETY MOVES into the next phase of our experience with COVID-19, many of us are feeling a measure of relief and optimism. The threat of contagious variants will continue to complicate our lives, and the number of unvaccinated citizens is a source of concern. But our national situation is looking better than before, and a significant number of our fellow citizens are now protected from serious illness. We have much to be grateful for.

The Synagogue will celebrate this shift in a short public ceremony on the afternoon of Sunday, August 22 at 1:30 p.m. Participants are invited to gather at the front door of the Synagogue at Seventeenth and Peoria for music, inclusive prayer, declarations of gratitude, and an honor-roll recitation of those who have stood on the front line of the pandemic. This includes physicians, nurses, medical professionals, public servants, mental health professionals, educators, and public-facing workers in every field.

The culminating moment will be the dedication of a plaque marking this phase of our return to normalcy. The Synagogue expresses special gratitude to its own COVID-19 Advisory Team, including Dr. Jeff Alderman, Dr. Kitty Cardwell, Dr. Diane Heaton, Dr. Nancy Inhofe, Dr. Brian Milman, Dr. David Sandler, Drs. John and Sarah-Anne Henning Schumann, and Dr. Jill Wenger. Together with Dr. Bruce Dart of the Tulsa Health Department, they have been essential to the Synagogue’s well-being.

The Synagogue invites the entire community to participate in this gathering. If there is someone in your circle who should be named in the ceremony, please contact Cheryl Myers at cmyers@bnaiemunah.com. She will see to it that the name is included. Members of the community will also find a contribution form at tulsagogue.com. Those making gifts of \$500 and over have an opportunity to affix a plaque to the walls of the Synagogue paying tribute to a COVID-19 hero. Those who are interested should see the Synagogue website for details.

The COVID-19 Tribute is part of a long tradition at the Synagogue of saluting those who have made a difference in the congregation and the larger community. This year’s version is the first to take the form of a ceremony of dedication. Chairing this year’s event are Jolene Sanditen, Debby Raskin, Terry Marcum, Barbara Eisen, Nancy Cohen, and Brian Brouse.

Please note that this will be an outdoor event to minimize the possibility of transmission. Even if you plan to drop by for a short while, please RSVP at www.tulsagogue.com. The entire experience will take place in under an hour and will be followed by treats appropriate to the season. A shaded tent area with open sides will be available directly in front of the Synagogue building. ■



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