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*Shevat/Adar 5783
February 2023*





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COPY EDITOR & LAYOUT

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Have a b'nai mitzvah, wedding announcement, milestone, or accomplishment to share with the community? Feature it in our "Community Corner" section of the Tulsa Jewish Review.

Email Director of Communications Sandy Sloan for submission requirements. sandy@jewishtulsa.org



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WELCOME CHLOE KIRK, DIRECTOR OF HOLOCAUST EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

My name is Chloe Kirk, and I am the new Director of Holocaust Education and Community Relations at the Jewish Federation of Tulsa. I am incredibly excited to work with our amazing community here and across the state of Oklahoma! I am looking forward to our Holocaust Education events this year, including the 25th Annual Yom HaShoah Commemoration on April 20 at Temple Israel (which will include the Yom HaShoah Art Contest) and our Eva K. Unterman Summer Teachers Institute.

I have a background in Holocaust education that began with my studies at the University of Aston in Birmingham, England. While in England, I served as an ambassador for the Holocaust Educational Trust, providing lessons to middle and high school students, college students, and the wider community. After receiving the humbling opportunity to visit Auschwitz-Birkenau in Oświęcim, Poland, I wanted to commit to making "never again" a reality. I thoroughly enjoyed my time teaching in the UK, and always hoped I could make Holocaust education my career.

But why do we need Holocaust education? The easy answer is to say, "So history doesn't repeat itself". I believe this response is only a small part of the reason. Across generations and across the world, we are seeing a desperate need for increased education. Antisemitic incidents are on the rise according to the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism, with 959 incidents reported to the FBI in 2020. Antisemitism also affects the American workplace. In a 2022 report by Resume Builder, 1 in 4 U.S. hiring managers and recruiters responded they are less likely to hire a Jewish applicant. 1 in 4 also made assumptions about whether the candidate is Jewish based on their appearance. 29% responded that antisemitism is acceptable in their workplace.

We see antisemitism in popular culture, from Saturday Night Live to podcasts to social media. In recent weeks we have seen celebrities sharing antisemitic posts, broadcasts, and even clothing lines, some of which have gone viral. In a 2020 study by The Claims Conference, 15% of participants responded that it is acceptable for an individual to hold neo-Nazi views. In the modern age of social media, which the younger generation is so deeply entrenched in, antisemitism is flooding their screens. We need education to combat these messages.



In the same study by The Claims Conference, 33% of participants were either not sure if the Holocaust happened or did not believe the Holocaust happened. 12% of participants had never even heard of the Holocaust. In Oklahoma specifically, 51% of people aged 18-39 are unable to name a concentration camp or ghetto, yet 76% believe it is important to continue teaching the Holocaust. These numbers need to change!

I have had the privilege of meeting several Holocaust survivors and hearing their stories. It is remarkable to me that the people who have faced the worst trauma imaginable, can confidently share their experiences as a testament to the depths of human hatred and depravity. I am forever grateful for these opportunities, but at the same time consciously aware that these witnesses cannot be with us forever. We are losing a critical resource to teach students about genocide, and it shows in these statistics. Now more than ever, it is so important to continue Holocaust education and develop new and engaging ways to do so. We have some fantastic resources available here in Tulsa, from our highly active Council for Holocaust Education, founded by Holocaust survivor Eva Unterman (now in its 25th year), to our nationally accredited The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art's Sanditen/Kaiser Holocaust Center. I am excited and ready to bring Holocaust education to our Tulsa community and beyond. ■



Chloe Kirk leading tour through Sanditen/Kaiser Holocaust Center

FRONT COVER



Photo by Erez Kaganovitz from the Humans of Israel Exhibition opening at The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art on February 12. More details on page 15.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Period Poverty | Thursday, February 2 | 7:00 pm | Jewish Federation of Tulsa

The Pearl Society presents “Period Poverty” featuring three speakers working to help address the needs of women and girls in our city and state. Linley Smith from Period.OKC, the first nonprofit of its kind in Oklahoma addressing Period Poverty will share their origins. Dr. Crystal Lewis will address the needs in Tulsa Public Schools, and grassroots activist Cassie Celestain will share how the idea for Tulsa Period Pantry came to being. Moderated by Rachel Gold, Director of the Tulsa Albert Schweitzer Fellowship, improving health outcomes for underserved populations.

RSVP required at jewishtulsa.org/periodpoverty



The Lunch Bunch | Wednesday, February 8 | 12:00 pm | Jewish Federation of Tulsa

In honor of Tu B'Shevat, the Jewish holiday celebrating the new year of the trees, we will hear from Chuck Lamson, the current chief executive officer of the Tulsa Botanic Garden. The mission of the Tulsa Botanic Garden is to promote the beauty and importance of plants and nature to create a more sustainable and harmonious world.

We will have an optional lunch offered for \$13. Menu: pesto caprese sandwich and chickpea salad

RSVP required by February 6 at jewishtulsa.org/lbfeb



Colors of Israel Part 2 | Wednesday, February 15 | 6:30 pm | Jewish Federation of Tulsa

Colors of Israel showcases multiculturalism in Israeli society and the diversity in the modern state of Israel. This Colors of Israel session will begin with an authentic Ethiopian dinner followed by a presentation by Sigal Kanotofsky. She will share her incredible life story as an Ethiopian Jew who immigrated to Israel.

Learn more on page 6 of this issue

Register at jewishtulsa.org/colorsofisrael2

Feeding the Soul at Gambill's Pastaria | Sunday, February 19 | 5:30 pm

Join us for a family-friendly food series at Gambill's Pastaria & Grocery. Gambill's is a Jewish-owned neighborhood pastaria. We will hear from Hunter Gambill, owner of several businesses in Tulsa about his work in the industry and the inspiration for this eatery. Feeding the Soul is a series that aims to use food as a vehicle to explore identity, culture, and tradition. Participants enjoy food and hear from local chefs about their culinary journey.

Register at jewishtulsa.org/fts-feb19



Laugh, cry, learn, connect, and more at this year's Oklahoma Jewish Film Festival, March 26 – 30 at the Circle Cinema. Feature films include:

America, a story about friendship, love, moral responsibility, and Best Actress Award winner at the Jerusalem Film Festival.

Based on a play by Jean-Philippe Daguere, *Farewell, Mr. Haffmann* is a twisting, turning, and satisfying tale that reveals the complex and contradictory sides of humanity pushed to its darkest limits.

One More Story is a uniquely Israeli romantic-comedy-Israeli style. A young writer writes a column about modern love, using her best friend as a blind-date guinea pig. What could possibly go wrong?

Winner of the 2021 Best Israeli Feature Film at the Jerusalem Film Festival, *Cinema Sabaya* received critical acclaim for its portrayal of art's capacity to unite disparate communities.

A tall, aging "shiksa" icon meets a short Jewish leprechaun in a bird store—what are the chances? *Our Almost Completely True Story* features real-life couple Mariette Hartley and Jerry Sroka who wrote and co-star in this thoroughly enjoyable romantic comedy based almost completely on their own story.

Learn about the world tiniest Torah and how it made its way into space with the inspirational documentary *Space Torah*.

Plus, speakers, special programming events, and artist Rebecca Joskey's work on display in the lobby of Circle Cinema. More information will be available in March at www.JewishTulsa.org/OKJFF. ■

SAVE THE DATES

YJP Purim Party | Saturday, March 4 | 7:00 pm

Lunch Bunch | Wednesday, March 8 | 12:00 pm

The 9th Edition of the Oklahoma Jewish Film Festival | March 26-30

Please contact Director of Programs Isabella Silberg with any questions. isilberg@jewishtulsa.org 918.495.1100

Go to www.JewishTulsa.org/events to view a full calendar of events.

ETHIOPIAN JEWRY

by Chen Shoval, Israeli Emissary



Although origins of Judaism in Ethiopia remain a mystery, it is likely that the community's roots extend over 2,000 years. Despite continuous religious persecution, the Ethiopian Jews maintained their independence and their way of life for centuries.

In the previous Tulsa Jewish Review's, I wrote about the area where I grew up, next door to an Arab village where I used to wake up to the sound of the Muezzin (prayer caller) coming from the mosque. The town was a Yemenite camp that developed into a big city, and although I was connected to Yemenite culture and tradition until I graduated from high school, I didn't know a single black person.

Like many Israelis who finish high school, I was enlisted in the Israeli Defense Force (IDF). Because the IDF is mandatory, it becomes the 'people's army', meaning that the entire nation must enlist in the army. The IDF is a melting pot. It doesn't matter who you are, your economic status, or where you are from, all IDF soldier's must follow the same rules. It was during this time that I first met people from the Ethiopian community.

After basic training and an educator's course, I was a certified soldier educator and was assigned to work in schools and youth centers. My residency was inside an Ethiopian neighborhood. I learned about the Ethiopian community and culture and was allowed into their society. I witnessed the hardships of the older generation's difficulty learning a new language and having trouble finding jobs as a result. The younger generation taught their elders, which changed the balance of the Ethiopian family unit. I witnessed community life and how important it was to know their neighbors. I would wake up to the smell of coffee beans burning, and later the smell of spicy injera. My adopted Ethiopian neighbors welcomed me into their homes for meals and conversation. I experienced the simple joy of knowing my neighbors. Although life in this community was foreign to me, I quickly felt comfortable and happy for the unique experience I was given.

Life in Israel, despite the ethnic and sectarian diversity, is not without racism and discrimination, but the value of Tikkun Olam teaches us to do everything in our power to make the world a better place. I believe it starts with educating oneself, meeting your neighbors, and getting to know other cultures. I feel that the same discrimination that exists today in Israel, and all over the world, stems from both a lack of education and a lack of familiarity.

I invite you to learn more about the Israeli-Ethiopian community in Israel by attending an Ethiopian experiential evening. On February 15th, we present part two of the Colors of Israel series, with Sigal Kanotopsky sharing her story, her family's Aliyah (immigration to Israel), and her impressive achievements since arriving in Israel. Of course, there will be an authentic local Ethiopian dinner as well! I look forward to seeing you at this evening of discussion and learning! ■

Fast forward to 1973 when Rabbi Ovadia Yosef declared that Ethiopian Jews were descendants of the lost tribe of Dan, therefore the Law of Return was applicable. This led to two major waves of immigration for Ethiopian Jews. In 1984, "Operation Moses" was held, the first operation to bring Ethiopian Jews to Israel, during which approximately 8,000 people immigrated. In 1991, "Operation Solomon" was the second wave and approximately 14,500 people immigrated. Between 2000—2007, close to 3,000 Ethiopian Jews immigrants arrived each year.

Across the country, there are 35 reception centers that take in new immigrants and provide them with the tools to help them integrate into Israeli society (learning Hebrew, getting to know the services provided by the state, housing assistance, etc). The new immigrants stay at the reception center between 18 - 24 months before moving to a permanent residence. By the end of 2019, the population of Ethiopian Jews totaled 170,000 residents with approximately 87,500 born in Ethiopia, 67,800 thousand born in Israel to Ethiopian parents, and the remainder born to Ethiopian-Israeli families.

The integration of Ethiopian Jews into Israeli society brings an opportunity to discuss controversial issues, both legal and issues pertaining to society's values. First is the repeated question of who is considered a Jew? In Israel the topic of Jewish identity comes up often, especially with each wave of immigration. To obtain citizenship in the state of Israel, a person must be eligible according to the Law of Return, which means, the person must show proof of their Jewish ancestry and lineage. When Ethiopians first came to Israel, there was opposition, especially from some members of the Rabbinate, who did not perceive them as Jews. For more than 2,000 years Ethiopian Jews preserved Jewish traditions, starting from the time of Ezra and Nehemiah (5th century BCE), but now they must prove they are Jewish.

Another issue is racism and discrimination. With every wave of Aliyah (immigration to Israel), socio-economic gaps are created. These disparities often manifest themselves in discrimination and disapproval. For example, when the Russian immigrants arrived in the 90s, they suffered discrimination from the citizens who spoke Hebrew. With the Ethiopian waves of immigration, the discrimination received a new name—racism.

TULSA'S CLIMATE ACTIVISTS ATTEND COP27 IN EGYPT

by Sandy Sloan

In Judaism, there is a strong tradition to being good stewards of the Earth. But as climate disasters continue to intensify, it is the young who will pay in full. Young people are not only victims of climate change, they are also valuable contributors to climate action. Tulsa natives Eli Anderson and Sophie Raskin, both currently attending universities out of state, are climate activists and founding members of the Jewish Youth Climate Movement (JYCM). Founded in December 2019, the JYCM is a youth-led movement to combat climate change and environmental justice through a Jewish lens. Eli and Sophie were among a group of JYCM participants that were invited to attend COP27, the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Egypt. Young people have long been at the forefront of discussions and activism around climate change, however the recent COP27 was the first-time young people were provided with a dedicated space at COP27 to host dialogues aimed at accelerating global climate action. Congratulations Eli and Chloe on continuing to pursue tikkun olam, fighting for climate action and holding decision makers accountable.



JYCM group photo - Eli Anderson (top, 4th from left), Sophie Raskin (bottom, 4th from left)

For more information on the Jewish Youth Climate Movement visit: www.JewishYouthClimateMovement.org ■

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WELCOME LAURA ALLEN, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND MEMBERSHIP

Laura graduated from Drury University with a degree in Exercise Sport Science, Special Program in Exercise Physiology, with a minor in Global Studies and Criminology. Laura comes to us with over 12 years of experience working at a local retirement community providing wellness programs for over 400 residents. She is a health and exercise enthusiast and loves trying new ways to stay active. One of her biggest athletic accomplishments is having completed the Tulsa Ironman in 2021! Laura and her husband have an active family lifestyle. They love taking their dog, Ollie, to the park on the weekend and trips to the lake. She enjoys spending time with family and baking healthy and delicious treats.

One of the reasons Laura enjoys staying active is the social aspect of participating in a group fitness classes like the CSJCC offers. Laura's favorite class at the CSJCC is bootcamp. It provides a great total body workout, and it is FUN! We asked Laura to share a fitness tip with us, and her piece of advice was to keep showing up. We don't feel like going to the gym everyday, but if you can take that step to show up you never regret the workout that you complete, only the ones you miss. That is why finding a friend or a group for accountability can be so helpful in your meeting your fitness/wellness goals! ■



Laura Allen

February Fitness Challenges Free Friend February and Fitness Bingo

Celebrate the month of love and friendship with FREE friend February. The entire month of February you can bring a friend with you to the gym for free! Your friend will fill out paperwork at the JCC front desk. You are welcome to bring the same friend or a different friend each day. There is no limit on friendship. Take advantage of FREE friend February by bringing them to try out the machines in the weight room, take a fitness class, play pickle-ball or squash, and relax in the hot tub or sauna. This is your opportunity to show others our excellent facility and welcoming community. We hope to see you and meet your friends throughout the month of February!

Our monthly fitness challenge is February Fitness Bingo. Grab a bingo card from the fitness desk and start filling it out. Each space gives you a health and wellness task. We will keep your bingo card on the wall in the fitness center so you can see your progress. For every line of bingo, you will receive a small prize. If you blackout your card (fill-in all spaces), you will receive a large prize. Join us for fitness gamification and yelling out bingo with every goal met! ■

VALENTINE'S DAY TREATS

by Sarah Winkelman

My absolute favorite dessert is chocolate covered strawberries. The crunchy outer layer of thick chocolate on the delicious sweet berry is something that I will never get sick of eating! While I can easily eat a dozen of these wonderful treats in one sitting, there are always way to make them just a bit healthier! I use plain, nonfat Greek yogurt for this recipe, but if you prefer vanilla or regular yogurt, do that instead.

Ingredients:

1 lb strawberries

12 oz Greek yogurt

Toppings Options:

Dark chocolate chips, sprinkles, nuts

Directions:

Wash and dry the strawberries. Line a baking sheet, cutting board, or large platter with parchment paper. In a microwave safe bowl, heat up the Greek yogurt for 15 seconds or until thinned. Holding onto the leaves of the strawberries, dip each strawberry into the yogurt. Place on the parchment paper and add optional toppings. Continue with remainder of the strawberries. Freeze for a minimum of 40 minutes. Keep in freezer until ready to eat! ■



Exciting News at the CSJCC

We will have a special guest at the CSJCC on Valentine's Day! Come get some snuggles from a professional therapy dog. Enjoy healthy snacks to promote heart health for the month of love!

The first Monday of every month is Member Appreciation Day! Join us on February 6th for the first edition of this exciting new program.



Camp Shalom "School's Out" Spring Break Camp is back!

We are hosting our annual spring break camp from March 13-17, 2023. Available for children between the ages of 3 years old and 10th grade. Limited space available. \$50 per child for a day full of fun activities with friends!

Register online at www.csjcc.org/schools-out-programs

Contact Martha Kelley, Deputy Director of Charles Schusterman Jewish Community Center for more information or any questions at mkelley@jewishtulsa.org.



6TH ANNUAL
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Upcoming Educational Art Competitions



16th Annual Purim Mask Invitational
 It is the goal of the museum to promote understanding of Jewish life and culture through learning about the Jewish holiday of Purim.
 Deadline: Friday, February 24, 2023
 Awards Reception: Thursday, March 19 at 6:00PM



15th Annual White Rose Memorial Essay Contest
 All Oklahoma middle and high school students, grades 6-12 are eligible to enter the contest. Essay prompt: Moral Courage involves standing up for your beliefs and values at the risk of your reputation, emotional anxiety, social isolation, employment, or event your life.
 Deadline: Monday, February 27, 2023



Council for Holocaust Education – 2023 Yom Hashoah Art Contest
 All Oklahoma middle and high school students, grades 6-12 are eligible to enter the contest. Theme of the Commemoration: Moral Courage: the Story of World War II Ritchie Boys, with an emphasis on the Oklahoma Jewish Ritchie Boys soldiers.
 Deadline: Monday, April 3, 2023
Informational downloads for education competitions are available at www.jewishmuseumtulsa.org/resources

THE EYES BEHIND THE STORIES

by Chen Shoval

When I saw Erez Kaganovitz’s presentation last year I felt an immediate connection to his work. *Humans of Israel* showcases the diversity of Israeli society in a simple and realistic way. Erez and I share the feeling that many other Israeli’s feel. The feeling of misunderstanding of how Israel is perceived by many around the world and especially in the media. And the feeling, that WE have the ability, each in our own way, to show Israel as we know it—colorful and diverse and that all the different voices have a place in Israeli society.

Currently, the government situation in Israel troubles a lot of us. The relationship between the state of Israel and the US is based on shared values of democracy and freedom of speech, and we are all worried that may change. We need to remember that our connection is with the people, not with the government. The government is changing all the time, but the people are constant—diverse, colorful, accepting. This year, Israel is celebrating its 75 years of independence, and we hope you take the opportunity, here in Tulsa, to become connected to its people, culture, and significance. ■

Join The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art for a very special opening reception for two exhibitions featuring a gallery talk with Erez Kaganovitz, photographer of the Humans of Israel Exhibition.

Coming This Month!

Humans of Israel

The Humans of Israel exhibition captures the most fascinating people in Israel to tell the Israeli story as a whole. Each photo and story provides a glimpse into the hearts and minds of a variety of Israelis. After seeing this exhibition you will better understand what the Israeli story is all about.

Photographer, native Tel Avivi, and TEDx speaker, Erez Kaganovitz is the human behind the Humans of Tel Aviv, Humans of Israel, and Humans of the Holocaust projects. Through his work, Erez has helped bridge a cultural gap in society both within and outside of Israel. His compelling work brings understanding, emotional connection, and unity to many around the world.



Stories of Survival: Object-Image-Memory

An exhibition showcasing personal artifacts brought to America by survivors of the Holocaust and other genocide. Exploring the relationship between objects, their meaning to the original owner and subsequent significance, oversized photographs by renowned documentarian Jim Lommasson with handwritten responses by survivors or their family members.

The objects featured in Stories of Survival are as everyday as a baby doll and a black suitcase and as symbolic as a young mother’s cookbook and a wedding announcement, as saved by survivors from genocides around the world, including Armenia, Bosnia, Cambodia, Iraq, Rwanda, South Sudan, and Syria.



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SPARK YOUR CREATIVE SPIRIT

by Amanda Anderson, Executive Director of Mizel Jewish Community Day School

Mizel Jewish Community School Director, Amanda Anderson and Hebrew/Judaica Teacher Alin Avitan recently attended a convention in Denver of Prizmah, the preeminent national organization for Jewish Day Schools.

With the assistance of a grant from the Irv and Sharna Frank Foundation, Amanda and Alin were among 1,000 attendees from 206 Jewish Day Schools in the U.S. and Canadian territories. They quickly learned that Mizel JCDS is very similar in curriculum and programming to other schools throughout the Prizmah network.

Attending multiple seminars, Amanda and Alin shared the strengths and impact that Mizel JCDS has on its students and families. In one seminar Alin shared her knowledge from attending the annual nationally recognized iTalam Hebrew/Judaica program. iTalam is a Hebrew and Jewish heritage curriculum that teaches Jewish daily life, holidays, and Israel.

Amanda connected with other Jewish Day School Directors, learning from nationally recognized educators. She sat in sessions learning about new perspectives and methods for Creative and Innovative Solutions for Challenges in Jewish and Hebrew Education. Amanda shared with her peers the signature reputation of Mizel JCDS: expert and credentialed faculty, small class sizes, innovative learning experiences such as the STEAM curriculum (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics), hands-on learning represented by several programs including Nutrition and Culinary Arts, and engaging the whole child in their classrooms.

Through Amanda and Alin's attendance at the Prizmah, Mizel JCDS created a network of Jewish Day Schools, engagement with other teachers and directors, and innovative ideas to add to the planning for the next year's curriculum at the school. Already this year, Alin added a series of workshops with parents at the school as part of her curriculum. Additionally, each month, Alin will offer a workshop on Jewish holidays, creative art projects, and methods for parents to extend their students' classroom learning experience at home.

The theme of the Prizmah convention was Creative Spirit. Tulsa parents deciding which school will impact their children with a superior general studies curriculum, a nationally known Hebrew/Judaica program, and the engagement of the whole child are encouraged to tour Mizel JCDS this spring. Stay tuned for more information about spring tours where parents can tour the faculty, meet the director, and learn about the exceptional learning opportunities at Mizel JCDS. ■



Alin Avitan at the Prizmah Conference

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Martin Luther King Jr. Parade 2023

In January, the Tulsa Jewish Community came together as one to march in the 44th Annual MLK Parade. Over 40 adults and children assembled to represent the Jewish value of tzedek (justice) for all members of our Tulsa community. We had beautiful weather and enjoyed sharing buttons and candy with parade goers. As we enter Black History Month, we must remember that the fight for racial equality continues to this day!



Knippa Interfaith Lecture | February 5 4:00PM

The Knippa Interfaith/Ecumenical Lecture Foundation Board of Directors is excited to announce the 2023 speaker—Dr. George Weigel, Catholic theologian and one of America's leading public intellectuals. Read more about George Weigel's Ethics and Public Policy Center feature at <https://eppc.org/author/george-weigel>.

The 36th annual lecture is scheduled to take place on Sunday, February 5 at 4PM at Grace Lutheran Church at 2331 E 5th Pl. Tulsa, OK 74104.



Oscar Nominated Shorts

Live Action Shorts open Fri 2/17
 Animated Shorts open Fri 2/24
 Documentary Shorts open Fri 3/3
 The annual audience favorite returns! Circle is the only place to see all of 2022's best short films on the big screen. Learn more about this year's shorts at CircleCinema.org.

Don't miss all the great Circle Cinema films and events this month, scan the code for up-to-date listings and showtimes.

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David Dopp



Levi Olsen

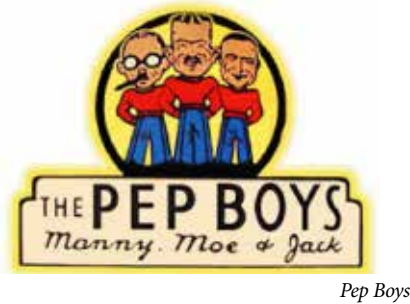


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THE JEWISH HISTORY OF PEP BOYS©

by Phil Goldfarb

Pep Boys is an American automotive aftermarket service chain. The company was founded in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1921 by Jewish wartime friends Emanuel "Manny" Rosenfeld (1898-1959), Maurice "Moe" Loeb Strauss (1897-1982), Maurice "Moe" Loeb Radavitz (1900-1960) and the only non-Jewish partner, William Graham "Jack" Jackson (1896-1981) who left in 1927. The two "Moe's" were first cousins.



Pep Boys

With car ownership skyrocketing following the introduction of the assembly line production of the Ford Model T, Moe Strauss knew he could get his auto parts supply shop off the ground if he could just find the right partners. He had a sharp mind for business, but he needed someone who could focus on the numbers and a partner or two with more naturally warm dispositions. His close friends from the Navy—Manny Rosenfeld, Jack Jackson, and cousin, Moe Radavitz fit the bill, and in August 1921 each chipped in \$200 apiece and the four opened their first auto parts store on 7-11 North 63rd Street in West Philadelphia.

Just days from opening, the store still had no name and the partners started searching for one. During a brainstorming session, one of the men was seated on a case of Pep Valve Grinder Compound, which provided part of name. So, for the first two years the store's original name was the Pep Auto Supply Company. However, the Pep Boys name evolved as the police officer down the street from the store was pulling over motorists for driving without a headlamp on a daily basis. "Go see the boys at Pep for a replacement oil wick" he'd say, and the Pep Boys name was born.

A few years later, on a trip to California, Moe Strauss noticed that many successful West Coast businesses used their owners' first names. The one he liked in particular was a dress shop called "Minnie, Maude and Mabel's." As soon as Strauss returned to Philadelphia, the company's name was officially changed to "The Pep Boys – Manny, Moe & Jack." Shortly after, the partners commissioned the Manny, Moe and Jack caricatures that still serve as the company's logo.

When Jackson left in 1927, his caricature was replaced with that of Moe's brother, Isaac (Izzy) Strauss (1894-1978). In 1929, Izzy Strauss left to form his own auto supply business in Brooklyn, Strauss Stores, which

later merged with Roth & Schlenger Home and Auto to form R&S Strauss, later known as Strauss Auto. The company name's reference to "Jack" remained unchanged. No further changes were made to the logo until 1990, when Manny's cigar was removed as part of the American Cancer Society's Great American Smoke-Out.

The Great Depression struck in 1929, but Manny and Moe had not incurred business debts other than reasonable mortgages on store properties. Pep Boys was thereby insulated from the severe downturn that destroyed so many other businesses. Although unemployment rates reached 40 percent in some areas, Manny and Moe did not lay off employees or cut salaries during the Depression. Even during the Depression, Americans still had to spend money on their cars, keeping aftermarket suppliers in business. Pep Boys also sold non-auto accessories including radio supplies and bicycles to their customer base. In the early days, many Pep Boys Technicians got their start in bicycle assembly.

In 1933, Manny's brother, Murray Rosenfeld (originally named Morris 1900-1979), opened the first West Coast Pep Boys store as part of a separate company named "The Pep Boys - Manny, Moe & Jack of California" and managed the Western operations. Pep Boys of California even became landlord to one of the first McDonald's restaurants, and it is currently the oldest surviving franchise.

Moe's roots were in Europe as the son of two Russian immigrants, he felt the winds of war picking up before most folks in the U.S. knew what was imminent. He knew that rubber would soon become scarce, and that customers were going to lose access to replacement parts they'd sorely need in the coming years. He began stocking his warehouse with whatever tires he could buy and when World War II began to impact the American economy, Pep Boys was the only store that carried and sold rubber tires.

In 1945, Pep Boys went public, and Manny Rosenfeld became the company's first corporate president, a position he held until his death in 1959 as he passed away suddenly in his wife Mary's arms, two days before what would have been his 61st birthday. Shortly after Manny's death, Moe Strauss took over and served as

president from 1960 to 1966 and remained chairman of the board of directors until his death in 1982.

The secret to their growing success? Manny and Moe always put their customers and employees first, with innovative programs including the Diners Club customer charge program and an Educational Foundation that provided college scholarships to children of employees.

For the Pep Boys, the '60s marked a decade of expansion. Moe's son Robert led the move into Texas and combined the East and West branches of the business into a single, unified organization. Moe moved to California for part of each year, becoming a much-loved member of the storied Friars Club of Beverly Hills.

The blue laws that had kept stores closed on Sundays began to lift in the late '60s, but it wasn't until 1976 that Pep Boys finally opened its doors on a Sunday for the first time. Unconvinced that the change would be well-

Please mark your calendar for an extraordinary discussion and lecture along with a question-and-answer session conducted by Internationally acclaimed genealogist and speaker, Miriam Weiner on Sunday, April 30 beginning at 2:00PM in the Barbara and Dave Sylvan Auditorium of the Charles Schusterman Jewish Community Center.

Miriam has been called:

"The genealogist Who Lifted the Archival Iron Curtain" - The New York Jewish Week, in 1991"

"The Indiana Jones of pre-war Polish Jewry" -The Forward in 1998

"A Rock Star in the Jewish genealogy world" -Jewish Exponent Philadelphia, 2019.

Some of her achievements include:

- Founder and president of The Routes to Roots Foundation-one of the most outstanding genealogical sites on the web.
- Creator of the Consolidated Eastern European Archival Database which includes Jewish and civil records from archives in Belarus, Lithuania, Poland, Moldova and Ukraine
- Syndicated columnist of Roots and Branches published in over 100 newspapers and periodicals
- Executive Director of the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors
- A Collaborator with Alex Haley of "Roots" fame on a PBS Series.
- The first Recipient of The National Genealogical Society Individual Achievement Award in 1991; and also from the NGS, the prestigious President's Citation Award in 2019.
- Recipient of awards (in 1999 and 2000) from the IAJGS for "Outstanding Contribution to Jewish Genealogy via

received, Moe and his son Ben were shocked to find 50 people lined up outside the door trying to get in. Intending to close at 3 p.m., the Strauss's said goodbye to the last customer at 6 p.m.

In 2012, Manny, Moe, and Jack earned a place of honor among other automotive icons at the prestigious Petersen Automotive museum in L.A.—recognition of how far they had truly come.

In December 2015, Pep Boys signed a merger agreement with Icahn Automotive Group, a subsidiary of Icahn Enterprises and in February 2016, Icahn announced that it completed its acquisition of Pep Boys in an all-cash transaction for \$18.50 per share or approximately \$1.03 billion. As of 2023, the company operated more than 1,000 company owned locations in 35 states and Puerto Rico.

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

Print" for each of her two books Jewish Roots in Poland and Jewish Roots in Ukraine and Moldova.

•Recipient of "Lifetime Achievement Award" from International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS), 2003

•Recipient of The Malcolm H. Stern Humanitarian Award from the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS), 2020.

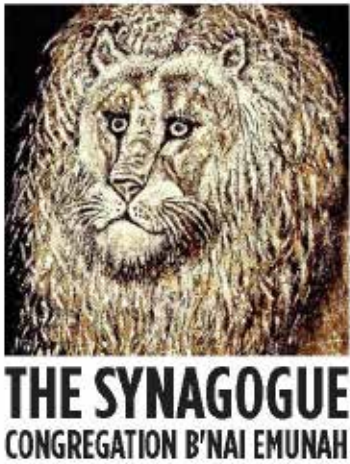
Miriam also has a Tulsa connection as her grandparents Alexander and Miriam "Minnie" Rabkin (who she is named after) lived and worked in Tulsa, and are buried at Rose Hill Cemetery. Her mother, Helen Rabkin Weiner grew up in Tulsa as did her aunt and uncle.

Miriam will discuss her website which includes:

- Town name list of archive holdings from Belarus, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland & Ukraine
- Also, an image database, map database, surname database and Holocaust database.

Miriam is a knowledgeable, dynamic, and enthusiastic speaker, please join us for this free program that promises to be informative, stimulating and thought-provoking. Her extraordinary handout alone is worth attending! If you have any questions, please contact Phil Goldfarb, President, Jewish Genealogical Society of Tulsa at: phil.goldfarb@cox.net ■





Bibi-Dibi: Shabbat for Little Ones

Friday, February 3 • 5:30 p.m. Celebration • 6:00 p.m. Dinner

Crawling? Barely walking? Not yet talking? There's a place for you in our circle at Bibi-Dibi. It's a monthly Shabbat gathering for babies and their families. We sing songs, play games, and share a beautiful Shabbat dinner. We see this as an excellent way to build your own family traditions. While no reservation is necessary for the celebration, we ask that you make reservations by calling or visiting our website if you plan to join us for the meal.

Tim Blake Nelson – "City of Blows" Book Launch

Wednesday, February 8 • 7:00 p.m.

In his debut novel, Tim Blake Nelson shares an epic group portrait of four men navigating a radically changing Hollywood, a place also known as the City of Blows. Set to be released on February 7, the novel has garnered praise from notable creatives such as Guillermo del Toro, Edward Norton, and John Turturro. This is a ticketed event, with each ticket including one copy of the book and a seat at the event. A book signing will be available after the event. Tickets are available at magiccitybooks.com. As always,

if tickets are prohibitive to your participation, please contact info@bnaiemunah.com so we can ensure all are included in Synagogue programming.

Lifelong Learners

Wednesday, February 15 • 11:30 a.m.

Ageless seniors from every corner of the community are invited to join Rabbi Kaiman at the Synagogue for lunch and rabbinic storytelling from the literature of our civilization. The session will begin at 11:30 a.m., and a bus leaves from Zarrow Pointe at 11:00 a.m. each time. No charge for transportation (you may, of course, come in your vehicle), and lunch from Queenie's will be provided. It's our pleasure to provide this service in cooperation with our fellow Jewish institution. Please reserve your spot by calling the Synagogue at 918-583-7121 or emailing programs@bnaiemunah.com.

Shabbat for Everyone

Friday, February 17 • 6:15 p.m. Dinner • 7:00 p.m. Celebration

Just like the name suggests, it's an accessible, kid-friendly, musical Shabbat experience for everyone! Newcomers and experienced community members come together to sing, dance, and welcome Shabbat alongside one another. A catered dinner precedes the musical celebration. Let us handle the cooking and cleaning so you can relax into the weekend and Shabbat with family and friends. No reservation is necessary for the celebration, which begins at 7:00 p.m. But please call the Synagogue Offices or visit our website to make reservations for the 6:15 p.m. dinner. The service will be broadcast live on Zoom at 918 583 7121.

**Women's Wellbeing Retreat
Friday - Saturday, February 24-25 • Osage Forest of Peace**

Using the model and structures of Shabbat practice as our guide, women-identified member and friends are invited to participate in an overnight retreat focused on rest, rejuvenation, and community. Interested in joining us? Check out the Synagogue website or contact Sara Levitt at slevitt@bnaiemunah.com.

Afternoon/Evening Services

Every Wednesday and Friday • 5:30 p.m.

Each week, we gather to experience traditional daily prayer and establish a quiet space for those mourning a loved one or observing the anniversary of a loss (yahrtzeit). All use these opportunities to recite a communal Mourner's Kaddish. Both gatherings take place in the Synagogue's Davis-Goodall Chapel, with full participation available both in-person and through the Synagogue Zoom Room. We ask that in-person attendees register in advance on our website. Friday gatherings always occur in the Synagogue Zoom Room at 918 583 7121.

Shabbat Morning Services

Every Saturday • 9:30 a.m.

Each week, we convene on Saturday morning to sing the liturgy of the tradition, study the weekly Torah portion, and spend time amongst family and friends. All are welcome to participate in this experience in person or on Zoom. Members and friends can access the Synagogue Zoom Room at 918 583 7121.

**WOMEN'S WELLBEING RETREAT:
BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS IN THE OSAGE FOREST**

by Sara Levitt, Director of Jewish Life and Learning

Judaism teaches about the beauty of relationships throughout our texts and history. We're not meant to be alone, relying on others' presence for many of our essential Jewish practices. Throughout our origin story, we read of people in loving relationships, both romantic and platonic, between all sorts of people. From Jonathan and David to Miriam and her mother, we learn that relationships are powerful and essential.

Throughout the evolution of Jewish law and thought, the text and its interpreters are often concerned with how we treat and interact with others. It's in our nature to be in a relationship, and Judaism wants us to think about how we relate to others. And yet, forming and maintaining relationships is challenging. Despite our greatest desires for closeness, the chaos and stress of life get in the way of making time and space for ourselves and others.

We are naturally drawn towards relationships with others, and yet we often are the ones who get our way of nurturing friendships and developing new ones. Making space in our schedules and hearts is difficult when we

struggle to honor our needs and desires. Our Jewish tradition offers us a solution to this challenge, Shabbat!

On February 24 and 25, The Synagogue will offer a Women's Wellbeing Retreat. This retreat is designed for women-identified folks in our community to come together for 24 hours of connection, learning, and unplugging. For our retreat this year, we'll focus on the tools and rituals of Shabbat as a portal for rest and relaxation. With the noise of the daily grind out of our way, we'll zoom into relationship building and create a holy community in the Osage Forest!

The retreat will include meals and prayer experiences, learning, breakout sessions on topics of interest, and song. This experience is geared toward an intergenerational audience! If you are interested in learning more or registering, please visit the synagogue website (www.tulsagogue.com) or contact Sara Levitt at slevitt@bnaiemunah.com. We look forward to an incredible Shabbat of rest, rejuvenation, and community! ■

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Zamru L'Shabbat: Shabbat Shirah • Fri., Feb. 3 • 6:00 p.m.

Celebrate with Cantor Weinstein, Cantorial Soloist Jenny Labow, and Elijah's Minor Prophets, in person or online as we welcome in Shabbat Shirah with joyous songs! Arrive at 5:30 p.m. for a pre-oneg. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com for the Zoom link.

Shabbat Learning Through the Ages on Zoom • Sat., Feb. 4 • 10:30 a.m.

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

IgbTI Game Night • Mon., Feb. 6 • 6:00 p.m

LGBTQIA and Allies are invited to a free Game Night at Temple Israel! Bring your favorite board game and enjoy snacks and beverages. If you don't have a board game, don't worry, we have plenty! RSVP to rabbijasper@templetulsa.com.

The World of the Rabbis: Talmud's Greatest Hits with Rabbi Weinstein on Zoom • Thurs., Feb. 9, 16, 23 • 2:00 p.m.

The Talmud is the central text of Rabbinic Judaism. Compiled in the 6th century, it has served our Tradition as the primary source of Jewish Law, Theology, and the centerpiece of Jewish life until modernity. This course will expose the learner to some of the Talmud's more popular and unusual texts. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com for the Zoom link.

Shabbat Service w/Torah in person, on Zoom & Facebook Live • Fri., Feb. 10 & 24 • 7:30 p.m.

Join the Temple Israel Clergy Team in person or

online as we welcome in Shabbat with the chanting of Torah. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com for the Zoom link.

Tot Shabbat in person • Fri., Feb. 10 • 6:00 p.m.

During Tot Shabbat Rabbi Jasper creates a sacred space for our young families with songs, prayers, and an activity. Stay for the complimentary dinner. RSVP by Tues., Feb. 7. Contact Rabbi Jasper at rabbitzvia@templetulsa.com for more information.

Shabbat Service & Congregational Dinner • Fri., Feb. 17 • 6:00 p.m./7:00 p.m.

Following our service, join your Temple Israel Family for a delicious Chinese Buffet to welcome Shabbat. For more details and to rsvp, please go to templetulsa.com/rsvp.

Young Adults Axe Throwing Event • Sat., Feb. 18 • 6:00 p.m.

Young Adults are invited to meet at Cinergy 6808 S. Memorial Suite #300, for Havdalah and axe throwing! Stay for drinks afterwards, cost is \$10 per person. Contact rabbitzvia@templetulsa.com for more information. Must be 21 & over to attend.

Zarrow Pointe Shabbat Service • Fri., Feb. 24 • 6:45 p.m.

We cordially invite all those who wish to join us for this meaningful Friday evening service with music, held in the Burnstein Auditorium at Zarrow Pointe. We welcome not only Temple members and Zarrow Pointe residents, but all other friends in our community who would appreciate being together on Shabbat.

Brotherhood Taste of Temple • Sat., Feb. 25 • 6:00 p.m

For the yearly Brotherhood Taste of Temple Dinner, Brotherhood members will prepare and serve a wide variety of appetizers, main courses, and desserts! The evening will also include entertainment. Email rsvp@templetulsa.com or call the TI office at (918) 747-1309 for more information.

CREATING YOUR OWN SELF-CARE MOMENTS

by Cantor Laurie Weinstein

Last January, I wrote a short article about A New Year, A New You! (If you still have that edition of the Review, check it out.) I suggested an approach to changing personal habits to that of the work of creation. I offered the following words: "Perhaps, if we approach a New Year's resolution through the Jewish lens of creation, we may find that every day is a new day to try again, to create anew, and elevate our n'shamah."

Judaism provides for us, Shabbat, those 25 hours of rest and renewal. How many of us honor this time with a break from the normal routine of day-to-day life? Do you take time for yourself? While I strive to honor Shabbat, I also strive to create this respite during the week, too. I would call it "Shabbat katan-tan" a mini-Shabbat. This time can range from 10 minutes to an hour, but the time is solely mine. My daily self-care helps me to set my intentions by removing the

veil of stress and freeing my mind to live in the moment. Through reflection and renewal, I find myself better adept at navigating my day and the "hiccups" that may arise. As many of you know, yoga and singing are a large part of my life. Through these endeavors, as well as other activities, I engage in the practice and process of self-care. My choices of activities may not suit your personality; however, maybe gardening, or painting, or walking do the trick for you? Perhaps challenge yourself to try something different. So many activities exist that provide a means toward habitual practice that recharges our mind, body, and soul. I do believe that whatever one chooses to do, self-care "elevates our n'shamah." The lessons we intuit from these moments grant us wholeness and peace. Couldn't we all use a little more of that in our lives? ■

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