

Jewish Review

Adar I/Adar II 5784

March 2024

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May 9th 2024 ~ 7:00 PM

Council For Holocaust Education
Annual Yom HaShoah Commemoration
at Congregation B'nai Emunah
Featuring speaker Dr. Danny M. Cohen



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OF TULSA**

JARED GOLDFARB

Front Cover



Purim - March 23-24, 2024

JEWISH FEDERATION OF TULSA

MISSION:

The mission of the Jewish Federation is to preserve and enhance Jewish life and well-being in Eastern Oklahoma, Israel, and the entire world. The mission is being addressed by pursuing charitable, humanitarian, cultural, educational, health, and social service needs of the Jewish community as well as by engaging in community relations, outreach, and providing a variety of services to the broader Tulsa community. The Jewish Federation supports the Charles Schusterman Jewish Community Center, The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art, and Mizel Jewish Community Day School.

VALUES:

Kehila – Community

Fostering a connected and collaborative Jewish community, characterized by respect, empathy, and understanding.

Tzedek – Justice

Continuously improving the quality of life of all Tulsans, as well as our partners in Israel and abroad, through philanthropic giving of our resources and time.

*L’Dor V’Dor –
From Generation to Generation*

Sustaining the culture, traditions, and collective memory of the Jewish people, through innovative intergenerational programming that is meaningful, educational, and fun.



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THE STAFF SCOOP

**Proud To Be . . .
Your Interim Executive Director**

by Wendy Thomas, Interim Executive Director

For most of my career, I have been aware of the tremendous impact of Tulsa’s Jewish community on our nonprofit sector and had at least an inkling of the resources available on the Zarrow Campus. In my role as Executive Director of Leadership Tulsa, I have brought many classes to tour the Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art and Sanditen/Kaiser Holocaust Center. More recently, I had the opportunity to work with Mizel Jewish Community Day School on their strategic plan and host a Joint Board Institute for a variety of Jewish organization lay leaders. But even with all that previous experience, my first days and weeks at the Charles Schusterman Jewish Community Center as Interim Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Tulsa were ones of wonder and deep appreciation.

In no other place can I imagine interacting with five-year-olds and eighty-five-year-olds within the same walk down the hall. In no other place are we simultaneously caring for precious art objects, precious children, and those pursuing lifelong fitness and learning. In no other place have the volunteers been involved not only for decades, but for generations. I am indeed Proud To Be...your Interim Executive Director.

With a new year, we have made a few minor changes to who is doing what around the campus, and sometimes the things people are doing aren’t necessarily obvious based on their titles alone. Below is a list of who you should contact if you have needs or want to interact around program ideas.

- Accounts payable and receivable – Shelly Callahan, jccmembership@jewishtulsa.org
- Annual campaign and legacy giving — Isabella Silberg, isilberg@jewishtulsa.org
- Board member or committee interest – Jared Goldfarb
- Camp Shalom questions and registration – Martha Kelley, mkelley@jewishtulsa.org
- Community calendar additions – Sarah Winkelman, swinkelman@jewishtulsa.org
- Community relations and interfaith programs – Chloe Chappell, cchappell@jewishtulsa.org
- Facility concerns – Mitchell Medrano, mmedrano@jewishtulsa.org
- Facility rental – Holly Hughes, hhughes@jewishtulsa.org
- Fitness center and summer pool memberships – Laura Allen, lallen@jewishtulsa.org

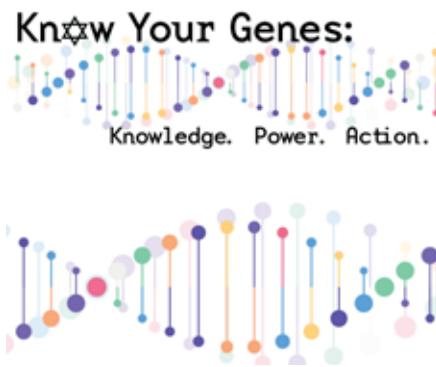


Wendy Thomas

“In no other place are we simultaneously caring for precious art objects, precious children, and those pursuing lifelong fitness and learning. In no other place have the volunteers been involved not only for decades, but for generations.”

(Continued, page 7)

UPCOMING EVENTS



Maimonides Society Presents: Know Your Genes | Sunday, March 10 | 9:30 am – 12 pm

Individuals of Ashkenazi Jewish descent have a 1 in 40 chance of carrying the BRCA gene mutation increasing their risk of many cancers including breast, ovarian, prostate, and pancreatic. This educational program features Melanie Hardy, MS, CGC, Director of Genetic Counseling at J Screen, Emory University plus an esteemed panel of local physicians and a community member sharing her perspective. Participants will learn about inexpensive and easily available testing options. Knowledge = Power = Action. Coffee and nosh at 9:30, program begins at 10 am.

Register at: JewishTulsa.org/BRCA



Lunch Bunch | Wednesday, March 13 | 12 pm

Join us for our Lunch Bunch series featuring entrepreneur Rhonda Bear, owner of She Brews Coffee House. Located in Kendall-Whittier, across the street from Circle Cinema, She Brews is an Oklahoma-based coffee house, roastery, and transition program dedicated to disrupting cycles of incarceration and restoring families. They work to proudly equip and empower women transitioning out of incarceration by providing stable employment, safe and affordable housing, life skills, and mentors. Rhonda started this mission because she believes that through second chances, open arms, and quality coffee, we can change lives. Come hear this incredible story during Women's History Month! Optional lunch \$13 and will be a Mexican food spread.

Register at: JewishTulsa.org/lb-march



YJP Purim Party | Saturday, March 23 | 7 pm

Calling all YJPs (22 – 40 years) for an unforgettable evening at the YJP Purim Party! We will start the night with schmoozing and delicious food by Gambill's Pastaria, plus packaging of Misholach Manot. We'll come together for Havdalah, marking the end of Shabbat and the beginning of our joyous Purim celebration. Get ready for a modern twist on the traditional Megillah reading delivered by drag queens and kings, promising entertainment that blends tradition and fun. Sign up with the early bird discount of \$18/person before March 11.

Register to volunteer: JewishTulsa.org/yjppurim



JMoms | Tuesday, March 26 | 7 pm | Congregation B'nai Emunah

JMoms is a group for moms with children 18 years old and younger, raising them Jewishly. For this session, we will meet in the dairy kitchen of Congregation B'nai Emunah for a Passover cookie baking class led by community member, Mariel Ferreira. The recipe Mariel will be teaching contains nuts and is gluten free.

Register at: JewishTulsa.org/jmoms-march



UPCOMING EVENTS

Colors of Israel Part 3 | Thursday, March 28 | 7 pm



Join us for our third and last Colors of Israel this year as we hear from Josef (Yossi) Shohat. Yossi arrived in Tulsa in 1987, has raised his family here, and is a valued member of our community. Yossi was born in Jerusalem to Iraqi parents who had made Aliyah to Israel to raise their 11 children. Yossi will share the moving story of his family and of other Jews who came to Israel from Arab countries. It is a story of fulfilling an ancient dream to come to the promised land, and a story of overcoming the hardships and challenges trying to integrate into a new society with a different culture. We will first enjoy a dinner of traditional Iraqi food at 7 pm followed by Yossi's talk at 7:30 pm.

Register at: JewishTulsa.org/Israel-march



(The Staff Scoop *Continued*)

- Fitness center member engagement programs — Laura Allen, lallen@jewishtulsa.org
- Holocaust education resources and events – Sofia Thornblad, curator@jewishtulsa.org
- Israel engagement – Shahaf Feinkuchen, emissary@jewishtulsa.org
- JFT Foundation grant requests (limited availability) – Sandy Sloan, sandy@jewishtulsa.org
- Mizel Jewish Community Day School tours and information – Amanda Anderson, director@mizelschool.org
- Museum tours – Greg Falconetti, educator@jewishmuseum.net
- Personal training – Hannah Bakewell, fitness@jewishtulsa.org
- Programming and affinity groups – Isabella Silberg, isilberg@jewishtulsa.org
- Social services assistance for individuals (limited availability) – Falisha Brown, fbrown@jewishtulsa.org
- Tulsa Jewish Review advertising – Sarah Winkelman, swinkelman@jewishtulsa.org
- Tulsa Jewish Review articles and submissions – Sandy Sloan, sandy@jewishtulsa.org

I also invite you to reach out to Tracey Herst-Woods, Deputy Director of the SMMJA, twoods@jewishmuseum.net or Martha Kelley, Deputy Director of the CSJCC, mkelley@jewishtulsa.org if you have ideas for programming or want to discuss partnerships. My contact information if you need to reach me directly is wthomas@jewishtulsa.org. ■

PROUD TO BE: A CELEBRATION OF JEWISH IDENTITY AND COMMUNITY

by Yonatan Max Schmidt, Co-chair, Annual Campaign Dinner

In the heart of Tulsa, a profound sense of Jewish identity thrives, nurtured by the resilient spirit of a community that stands tall amidst the challenges of our times. The Jewish Federation of Tulsa (JFT) is at the forefront of celebrating this spirit, embodying the theme "Proud To Be" in every facet of its mission. This sentiment resonates more deeply as we reflect on the recent adversities faced by Jewish communities worldwide. The October 7th massacre has left an indelible mark on our collective memory, a stark reminder of the threats that loom over our existence. Yet, in the face of such trials, our unity and resilience shine brighter, reinforcing our commitment to our heritage and our homeland.

The theme "Proud To Be" is not merely a slogan but a declaration of our unwavering pride in our Jewish, Israeli, and Israeli-American identities. It's a celebration of the diverse ways we live our Judaism—through our traditions, our families, and our contributions to the fabric of our community. In Tulsa, though we may be a small Jewish population, our vibrancy and impact are profound. Our congregations, day school, retirement center, museum, and community initiatives reflect a rich tapestry of Jewish life, a testament to our pride and perseverance.

The upcoming Annual Campaign Dinner on Thursday, April 4 is not just an event; it's a milestone of our collective journey, a moment to honor our achievements and envision our future. Co-chaired by Kate Basch and myself, Yonatan Max Schmidt, this evening promises to be a heartfelt celebration of what it means to be part of the Tulsa Jewish community. It's an opportunity to reflect on our personal and communal Jewish journeys, and to share stories of growth, service, and survival that define us.

My Jewish pride stems from various sources: the historical and spiritual depth of growing up Jewish in Jerusalem, the honor of serving in the IDF, and the strength found in the solidarity of the Tulsa Jewish community. These experiences, coupled with the values that guide us and the opportunities to give back, shape our identity and our commitment to the future of Judaism and our thriving community.

As we prepare for this special evening, we invite you to join us in reflection and celebration. Consider what makes you proud to be Jewish. Is it the rich history of our people? The unwavering commitment to community and justice? Or perhaps the personal journey of growth and resilience that has defined your path? Whatever your reasons, they

contribute to the beauty of our community.

This campaign dinner is more than a fundraising event; it's a declaration of our collective pride and a commitment to nurturing the vibrant Jewish life in Tulsa. It's an invitation to support the initiatives that preserve our heritage, educate future generations, and foster a welcoming, inclusive environment for all who wish to partake in our community.

As we look ahead, let us carry the torch of Jewish pride with dignity and purpose. Let's continue to build upon the foundations laid by those who came before us, ensuring that the flame of Jewish identity burns brightly for generations to come. Together, we can rise above the challenges, united by our shared heritage and the boundless strength it provides.

In anticipation of April 4, we extend a warm invitation to you: come, be part of this celebration, and help us write the next chapter of our proud Jewish story. Your presence, support, and commitment to this important cause are what make our community truly remarkable.

Together, let's continue to foster a space where every Jewish person can proudly say, "This is who I am, and I am proud to be a part of this enduring legacy." ■



Event Charis: Kate Basch and Yonatan Schmidt

Please Join Us!

PROUD TO BE...

April 4
Thursday
5:30 pm
at Jewish Federation
of Tulsa

Campaign Dinner

Featuring

award-winning journalist and
best-selling author of
Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor

Yossi Klein Halevi

discussing
"Israel and the Jewish People:
Challenges and Opportunities."



Cocktail hour, dinner,
keynote speaker,
and silent auction

\$60/per person
or \$450 for a table of 8

Catered by *Veronica Berkowitz*

Event chairs:

Kate Basch and Yonatan Schmidt



Tickets:

[JewishTulsa.org/CampaignDinner24](https://www.jewishtulsa.org/CampaignDinner24)

Or call Isabella Silberg, 918-495-1100

UPCOMING EVENTS



Fitness Challenge: Mad for Veggies

This March we are going mad for vegetables. Including vegetables in your diet means you are on your way to a healthier and longer life. Having enough vegetables in your diet means your body is receiving more fiber, vitamins, and minerals. A proper diet helps you live longer by fighting and lowering blood pressure, reducing the risk of heart disease and stroke, preventing some types of cancer, lowering risk of eye and digestive problems, and by having a positive effect upon blood sugar, which can help keep appetite in check. We challenge you to eat more vegetables for 31 days and March your way to a healthier you!



Wellness Series: Designed 2 Live Well with Denise Houchin | Monday, March 4, 10:15 am | Dan Room

Join Denise Houchin, licensed Food For Life Instructor and Plant Based Nutrition Educator for a presentation and cooking demonstration on how to eat your way to a healthier you. Eating a heart healthy diet prevents heart disease and can sometimes reverse it. A plant-based diet may also prevent Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. How we eat can help protect our memory and help us live longer. Denise will cook three plant-based recipes for everyone to taste. Participants can also join her free 5-day *Stress Less Energize More Challenge*.

Register at: csjcc.org/wellness-march



Fitness Orientation | Friday, March 8, 10:45 am | Dan Room

Are you wondering how to get started in the Fitness Center? Join our CSJCC fitness staff and learn how to conquer the fitness center and create your own workout routine. A lot of times, people are intimidated by workout equipment and machines. This is your chance to not only learn how to use the facility and the machines we offer, but to understand what you're using them for, which machines best fit your fitness goals, and create a plan that can lead you to less pain, more strength and mobility. We will begin in the Dan Room creating a basic workout plan for your needs and then move to the fitness center for a hands on introduction to the equipment.

Mad Hatter Tea Party | Monday, March 11, 10 am Dan Room

March Madness has us going Mad—Mad for socializing at our fun and festive tea party! Join us for a Mad Hatter themed tea party with a variety of tea and finger foods. Please feel free to wear a fun hat! Sign up in advance, so we have enough nosh for everyone.

Register at: csjcc.org/mad-hatter



UPCOMING EVENTS



March Madness: Pizza & Pickup Basketball | Tuesday, March 19, 6 – 9 pm

Come join us for the 3v3 basketball tournament. There will be pizza and the games will be on for watching the NCAA March Madness Basketball Tournament when not on the court playing. If you want to participate there will be (2) 3v3 games going on at a time with a 15-minute running clock. You will be keeping your own score and calling your own fouls. The team winning after 15 minutes will be the winner. If the game is tied, we will play a 2-minute OT.

Register at: csjcc.org/bball-march



Mahjong Meetups | Sundays 2-5pm | Asher and Ruben Rooms

We invite all mahjong players to join us for Sunday's open play. This will be a time to meet other players and have fun with open play every Sunday in March. Bring your mahjong set and this year's playing card. CSJCC members may enter with their fob. Non-members may call the number on the fitness center entrance to be admitted.

Join our MeetUp to let us know your coming. www.meetup.com search "mahjong at CSJCC"

For questions on how to create a Meetup.com account contact Laura Allen, lallen@jewishtulsa.org or 918-495-1111.

HATHA YOGA



FEATURED CLASS!

Hatha Yoga is the physical practice of yoga. These classes will guide you through movement that develops strength, flexibility, and your personal connection between, body, mind, and breath. The class focuses on deepening your understanding of the postures and basic alignment in the body, breathing, and relaxation techniques.

Recommended Props: mat, blocks, strap, blanket (mats available at CSJCC if needed).

Hatha yoga is designed for mixed-level participants, all levels are welcome.

// Tuesday 6 pm

// Thursday 6 pm

... 10th Edition ... 5 Days | 7 Films

OKLAHOMA JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

Sunday - Thursday | April 7-11, 2024

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 12 PM

Less Than Kosher

Modern Jewish wit meets Hebrew Electro-Pop in this hilarious musical comedy.

Chairs: David Howman and Tara Levy

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 7PM

★ 6 PM Reception with Israeli food by Itzik Levin ★

No Name Restaurant

2 men, 3 religions, one camel, and a mission—an unorthodox comedy.

Chairs: Itzik Levin and Yossi Shohat

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 7 PM

My Neighbor Adolf

Cranky and suspicious, a Holocaust survivor in South America, becomes convinced that his secretive German neighbor is Adolf Hitler.

Chairs: David Gantner and Dr. Mark Goldman

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 7 PM

The Monkey House

A once successful novelist tries to revive his fading career by launching a highly inventive scam.

Chairs: Steve Aberson and Brent Ortolani



Circle Cinema, 10 S. Lewis Ave, Tulsa

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 1 PM

Remembering Gene Wilder

This enrapturing and heartfelt documentary takes a close look at the life and career of American original Gene Wilder, beginning with his Jewish upbringing.

Chair: Barry Friedman



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 7 PM

Bella!

The trailblazing legacy of Jewish feminist and New York congresswoman and activist, Bella Abzug.

Chair: Brina Reinstein



THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 7 PM

Seven Blessings

A Moroccan family in Israel. Tradition, secrets, lies, and pain, all interwoven in this acclaimed story about fury, forgiveness, and food.

Chairs: Alin Avitan and Amanda Anderson



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* of blessed memory

Tickets: \$12 each All Festival Pass: \$70
Tickets and info available at: CircleCinema.org/OKJFF



EXHIBITIONS



Curator's Curios | January 11—December 31

This is the first of many exciting exhibits on view at the Museum this new year. Digging deep into the Museum's collection, curator Sofia Thornblad displays her all-time favorites from oil paintings by Theodore Fried to fun vintage prints. This exhibit offers up a bit of everything.



Old Country to the Plains: Kosher Pop SK8 Art | February 8 - June 14

New York City artist Steve Marcus created 40 new works specifically for The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art. Marcus' unique style, inspired by cartoons and underground comics, explores the themes of tradition, spirituality and local Jewish history in a fun and refreshingly accessible approach to contemporary Jewish art, masterfully showcased on whimsical and thought-provoking skateboard decks.

This project is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.



17th Annual Purim Mask Student Exhibit | March 7 - May 16

This annual student exhibit features Oklahoma K-12 student artwork, depicting the masks of Purim, commemorating the day the Jewish people were saved by Queen Esther of Persia. The king's advisor, Haman, attempted to execute the Jewish people. Esther, who previously hid her Jewish heritage, bravely revealed her true identity to the king and asked him to save the Jewish people. During Purim, the custom is to dress up and mask one's identity—like Esther did—celebrate with costumes, noisemakers, and parties.



Jacob's Ladder | March 28 - December 31

The Museum archives is home to many imaginative winged beings. Join us on a trip up Jacob's Ladder and encounter these artistic angelic pieces from our collection.

TWO ARE HONORED AT THE SHERWIN MILLER MUSEUM OF JEWISH ART

by Tracey Herst-Woods, Deputy Director, The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art

Katharine Penson Miller was a longtime member, donor, and friend of The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art. She was also the widow of the Museum's namesake, Sherwin Miller. After Sherwin's death in 1998, Katharine fulfilled his dream of having a permanent home in Tulsa, OK, honoring her husband's love of Jewish Art. And upon her death she ensured through legacy giving the future of the SMMJA. It was her dream to have a gallery in the Museum concentrated on Fine Art. Through her generous donation, The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art now has an exhibit space in her name. The board of The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art has officially named in her honor the Katharine Penson Miller Fine Art Gallery. You can see this space after you walk through the Sharna Newman Frank Education Gallery into the Museum. This gallery currently is showcasing Curator's Curios through the end of the year. This exhibit features Chief Curator, Sofia Thornblad's, favorite pieces from the Museum's permanent collection. ■

Charles A. Taylor was an icon in the Oklahoma museum world and we at The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art had the privilege to know and work with him for more than 20 years. He was the Preparator by title but that didn't encompass all that he accomplished. He performed and supervised all the duties involving the handling of the Museum's art, objects, archives, works on paper and more for a variety of purposes including exhibitions, research, and teaching. The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art shined bright because of his extensive knowledge. Charles was a jack of all trades. If he didn't know how to do it, he either would educate himself or he would find someone who could educate him. Through all his hard work over the years and leadership changes, his dedication to the Museum never wavered and his craftsmanship was unmatched! When he passed away in September of last year, The Museum staff and board knew we wanted to be able to honor him. The Museum hosted a celebration of Life service shortly after his passing which was attended by his family and friends from near and far. After that it was clear what we needed to do. The Museum board voted last month, and the Museum's collection room is now the Charles A. Taylor Collection Room. The hope is when people see his name displayed it gives them a smile. ■



Sherwin Miller and Katharine Penson Miller



Charles A. Taylor



VOICES FROM THE HOLOCAUST

2024 Eva K. Unterman Conferences for Holocaust Education

MONDAY, JUNE 10

8 A.M.-3:30 P.M.
Autry Technology Center
1201 W. Willow Road, Enid

FRIDAY, JUNE 14

8 A.M.-3:30 P.M.
Tulsa Tech Lemley Campus
3420 S. Memorial Drive, Tulsa

MONDAY, JUNE 17

8 A.M.-3:30 P.M.
Dunham College,
The University of Oklahoma
250 W. Lindsey St., Norman

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

8 A.M.-3:30 P.M.
Cameron University
2800 W. Gore Blvd., Lawton



- Please join the SB 1671 Oklahoma Holocaust Legislation Coalition for conferences hosted in compliance with Senate Bill 1671, which makes Holocaust education available to all Oklahoma students in grades 6-12.
- State Holocaust experts will present experience-based, classroom-ready lessons at all four locations.
- Topics will address how words fueled both the worst and the noblest acts during the Holocaust.
- Participants will be instructed according to teaching discipline: Social Studies in one room and English Language Arts and Visual Arts in another.
- Conferences are **FREE** and offer 7 Professional Development Credits.
- Breakfast and lunch will be provided.
- Questions: Contact Nancy Pettus, SB 1671 Professional Development Consultant, at nancy3988@gmail.com.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTING PARTNERS

Jewish Federation of Tulsa
The Sherwin Miller Museum
of Jewish Art

Jewish Federation
of Greater Oklahoma City
Tulsa City-County Library

The Oklahoma Center for
Community and Justice

The Schusterman Center
for Judaic and Israel Studies
at The University of Oklahoma

Autry Technology Center
Tulsa Tech Lemley Campus

Dunham College,
The University of Oklahoma

Cameron University



HAVING DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS WITH CHILDREN

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

Discussing challenging subjects with children, such as war, requires a thoughtful and age-appropriate approach. When teaching about the war in Israel or any historical event, it's crucial to consider the child's age, maturity level, and ability to process complex information. Here are some general guidelines for discussing the hostages in Israel with children:

1. Emphasize empathy and humanize the stories of hostages.
2. Acknowledge and discuss their feelings about the situation.
3. Highlight the importance of remembering and honoring the hostages.
4. Share acts of compassion and bravery during the crisis.
5. Connect the discussion to values like courage and unity.
6. Introduce age-appropriate concepts of diplomacy and conflict resolution.
7. Encourage questions, reflections, and open communication.
8. Use clear and simple language tailored to the child's age.
9. Reassure children and provide support, adjusting the conversation as needed.

Mizel JCDS has created a collaborative project with the other Jewish institutions of Tulsa to help honor and remember the current situation in Israel. We are partnering with PJ Library, Temple Israel, and Congregation B'nai Emunah. As a school, we will focus on 1/4 of the names, and our students will research and learn about the hostages. They will create bracelets bearing the names of those who are captured. This will help students to honor and bring awareness and advocacy to the current situation. With this partnership, it can bring our children together, creating a sense of unity and shared remembrance, while tackling difficult conversations with the future generation. ■



▲ **REGISTER:** <https://forms.gle/oabme4G28vv8gp9D6>

Fight hate; Respect diversity; Protect democracy; Teach these values to future generations through the study of the Holocaust

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OWASSO
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SAND SPRINGS
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saintfrancis.com/urgentcare

If you are experiencing severe illness, a major injury, symptoms of a heart attack, stroke or shortness of breath, please call 911 or visit your nearest emergency room.



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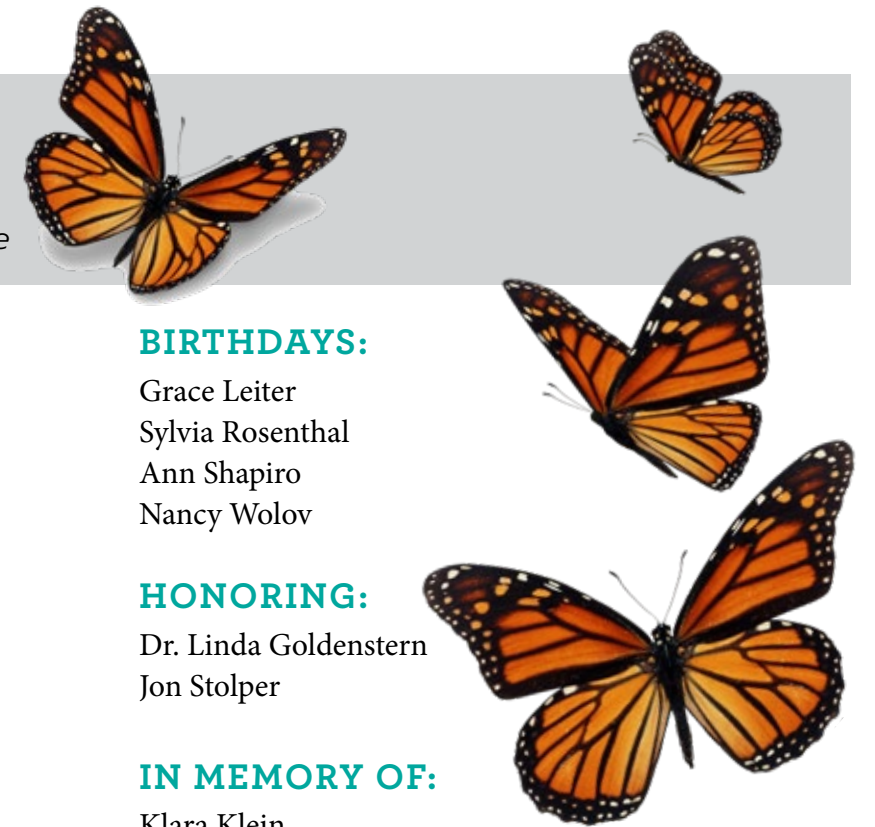
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The Peasants
 Opens Fri 3/1
 A new Polish historical drama animated like classic paintings for a must-see film!



To Kill A Mockingbird
 Mon 3/25, 6:00p
 Mary Badham, the actress who played Scout, will be in attendance for a Q&A with Celebrity Attractions!



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

CircleCinema.org | 918.585.3456 | 10 S. Lewis Ave, 74104



~ RSVP by April 9 ~

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ADL AND JEWISH AGENCY PARTNER ON NEW SHLICHIM ANTISEMITISM TRAINING

by Sandy Sloan, Director of Marketing and Communications; Editor TJR

For the first time ever, the Jewish Agency for Israel is partnering with the Anti-Defamation League to train its 350 Israel emissaries (shlichim) serving North America to combat antisemitism.

The new training program was announced at a recent conference of shlichim in Stamford, Connecticut. The conference was the first gathering since the October 7 attacks, which affected many shlichim personally. Tulsa schaliach, Shahaf Feinkuchen, attended the conference. “The long-awaited conference was a very powerful and inspiring experience for me, professionally and personally. Each shlichim is working and living in their separate unique community, and suddenly meeting peers and hearing different but similar stories gave me proportion and affirmation. Hearing about their way of dealing with the current situation was comforting and created a family-like atmosphere. We held a memory ceremony for the victims, and some shlichim shared about their loved ones who died—it was moving and powerful,” stated Shahaf.

ADL staff will train current as well as future shlichim on antisemitism in the U.S.—what it looks like and

how to combat it. This knowledge will help shlichim go back to their local communities with the tools to help others. “Our shlichim are helping young American Jews be proud of their identities and feel a unique bond with Israel, and we are proud to partner with the world’s leading anti-hate organization to do everything we can to further those objectives,” stated Jewish Agency for Israel Chairman of the Executive Doron Almog.

Jonathan Greenblatt, ADL CEO, added, “We’re grateful to be partnering with the Jewish Agency, the largest Jewish organization in the world, to equip their incredible emissaries from Israel with all the tools they need to combat antisemitism as they are working with U.S. Jewish communities.”

“Hearing from ADL’s CEO was strengthening,” Shahaf said. “In these hard times people and organizations coming together and creating new projects fighting for our mutual cause gives me hope.”

The training sessions will take place in seven regions: Cleveland, Florida, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, and Chicago.. ■

JEWISH HATE HIGHLIGHTED AT SUPER BOWL LVIII

Since the start of the Israel/Hamas conflict, the rise in antisemitism has been unprecedented—in the United States and around the globe. The increase in Jewish hate is so alarming, it prompted Robert Kraft, the owner of the New England Patriots, to fund a 30-second commercial that aired during the Super Bowl. Kraft’s Foundation to Combat Antisemitism, is a continuation of the organization’s #StandUpToJewishHate campaign that kicked off in 2022 after several high-profile incidents including antisemitic comments from musician Kanye West. The goal of the estimated \$7 million Super Bowl ad was to reach a non-Jewish audience with a message of empathy and action. The Super Bowl continuously draws the largest television audience in the U.S. each year. Join the online movement to fight antisemitism at StandUpToJewishHate.org.



**STAND UP
TO JEWISH
HATE**

WILLIAM “BILL” ELSON – A LEGACY OF CARING

by Brina Reinstein

Throughout the history of the Jewish people, the religious mandate of *tikkun olam*, to repair the world has been a unique characteristic of our culture. Our children are taught to embrace the concept of *tzedakah* through the examples of their parents and grandparents.

Throughout his life Bill Elson had an unwavering commitment to the Jewish people. He was a true *tzadik*, he gave generously to Israel, local and national Jewish causes, and to the Jewish Federation of Tulsa. Bill had a heartfelt commitment to nurturing his own community and aiding those in need.

He was an active participant in raising funds for the Jewish Federation of Tulsa and was one of its major annual campaign donors. He truly loved Israel and always wanted to ensure that a significant percentage of his dollars went to Israel. His beliefs were rooted in the value of *Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Bazeh*, each member of the Jewish community is responsible for one another.

Bill especially loved to travel to Israel and made numerous trips there. In my capacity as Campaign Director for the Jewish Federation of Tulsa, I had the pleasure to travel to Israel with Bill on a United Jewish Appeal mission. It was on this trip that I really got to know him. We shared our love of Israel and our hopes for the future of Jewish life—around the world and, especially in Tulsa.

Our conversations and special friendship continued when every few months we would meet for lunch at the Summit Club. We discussed the current situations in Israel, declining campaign dollars and the increasing needs of our Tulsa community. He was concerned that Israel’s share was diminishing each year. He was concerned about the younger generation and its support of Israel.

So, began our discussions of his leaving a legacy gift to the Jewish Federation of Tulsa Foundation.

I explained that through a legacy gift, he would be able to continue supporting the critical needs of both Israel and the Tulsa Jewish community, posthumously. I shared with him that creating a charitable remainder trust would make this idea become a reality. By establishing a fund with the Jewish Federation of Tulsa Foundation his desire to support meaningful causes, both here in Tulsa and Israel, would continue after his death. Bill’s legacy gift would allow his voice to be heard even after his death.

Bill passed away in May of 2016. His legacy gift came to the Jewish Federation of Tulsa in 2023 upon the death of his wife Marion. As was his intent, Bill’s name will live on through his legacy gift, supporting the Tulsa Jewish community, and the State of Israel, through a Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment. As with all legacy gifts, his will have a deep and lasting impact.

Bill’s memory lives on.

For information on how legacy giving visit www.JewishTulsa.org/jft-foundation or contact Isabella Silberg, Director of Development at isilberg@jewishtulsa.org or 918-495-1100. ■



Bill Elson

HORSZOWSKI TRIO

MARCH 15, 8:00 PM, 101 ARCHER
Wine and hors d’oeuvres included

MARCH 16, 7:30 PM, TULSA PAC
Dinner and wine included

MARCH 17, 3:00 PM, TULSA PAC
Pre-Concert lecture at 2:15

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ChamberMusicTulsa.org

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Avigail, the daughter of Ra'am and Victoria Abbou will become a Bat Mitzvah on March 2, 2024, corresponding to the 22nd day of Adar I, at Congregation B'nai Emunah. Avigail is a seventh grader at Undercroft Montessori School. She enjoys being a part of the Jewish community and helping others. In her spare time, she enjoys science, math, and taking care of her flock of chickens and ducks. When she is an adult she plans to pursue a career in architectural design. Avigail has been preparing for her bat mitzvah under the guidance and tutoring of Jackie Lasky.

Avigail is the granddaughter of the late Frederick Johnson and Jennifer Johnson of Tulsa OK, as well as Franklin and Sophie Abbou of Be'er Sheva, Israel. Avigail is the loving older sister to Liam and Aaron Abbou. The community is invited to join the Abbou family services at 9:30am and 6:00pm in person at Congregation B'nai Emunah or in the synagogue Zoom Room. The meeting ID is, as always, 918-583-7121.



Mazel Tov to Dr. Mark and Dr. Andrea Schwartz on the birth of their daughter, Mya Adina Schwartz, born January 18 at 9:28 am at 5 lbs. 13 oz, 18.5 in. Siblings Eli and Ari are enjoying their new roles as big brothers.

Mazel Tov to Jane Mudgett for her successful and funny debut performing stand-up comedy at the Blue Whale Comedy Series "Ladies of Laughter" at LowDown Tulsa on Saturday, January 20th. We look forward to more performances by this witty lady!



L to Rt: Ladies of Laughter comedians Sondra Slade, Jane Mudgett, Nicole Miller, and Lacey Rains

CELEBRATE SIMCHAS!

Share your simchas with the entire community! Send us your b'nai mitzvah, wedding announcement, birth of a child, graduation, or other milestone for our "simchas" section each month.

Send submissions for the Tulsa Jewish Review to Sandy Sloan, sandy@jewishtulsa.org



THE BURT AND THE BEES[©]

by Phil Goldfarb

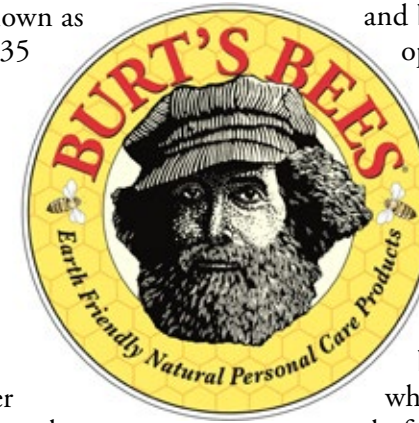
Ingram Berg Shavitz, professionally known as Burt Shavitz was born on May 15, 1935 in Manhattan, NY to a Jewish family with deep roots in Latvia and Lithuania. His father, Edward Shavitz (1903-1989) was an executive with a paper finishing business, and his mother was Nathalie Berg Shavitz (1909-1997). Ingram was raised in Great Neck, New York, and changed his name in 1953 to Burt when he finished high school. He spent time in the Army, serving in Germany and later while living in Manhattan he took photographs, including those of African American Muslim rallies and Bowery drug-dealers, that appeared in Time and Life magazines before leaving the city.

After his brief stint as a photographer, Shavitz eventually settled in Maine and discovered beekeeping as a source of income. Burt encountered a swarm of bees on a fence post six months after learning about beekeeping and the swarm became his first hive. He then began his celebrated eccentric lifestyle as a hippie who made his livelihood selling honey.

Wild-bearded and free spirited, Shavitz was the real-deal namesake of Burt's Bees. Known in his Maine neighborhood as "The Bee Man." Burt lived very simply in a tiny home before it was cool. His greatest treasures weren't the things he owned—they were his golden retrievers, sunsets, and the forest right outside his door. That's why he was able to live happily in a 300-square-foot turkey coop-turned-cabin without electricity or running water. For Burt, living a low-key existence meant selling his honey on the side of the road in Maine just to break even. He became recognizable in town for his signature yellow truck and white beard and developed a steady stream of customers.

Shavitz was making a living by selling honey when his life was altered by a chance encounter with a hitchhiking Roxanne Quimby. She was a single mother and a back-to-the-lander who impressed Shavitz with her ingenuity and self-sufficiency. In the early 1980s, she began making products from his beeswax and would sell their wax candles at local fairs and they became partners. In the first year, the pair made around \$20,000 from their products. Not one to waste, he collected the beeswax from his honey-making and eventually the company expanded into making not just candles, but lotions, the iconic lip balms, soaps, and a range of bath products, with Shavitz' image as a key feature of the product labels.

An increase in sales and production led to them launching Burt's Bees in 1984. As the partnership



and business grew, Quimby moved the operations to North Carolina in 1994. Soon thereafter, the partnership between Shavitz and Quimby waned, leading to Quimby buying out Shavitz's stake in the company, but they continued to use Burt's face on the products and he continued to make public appearances on behalf of the company. The company constantly expanded, but Shavitz moved back to Maine, where, after separating from the business end of Burt's Bees, he returned to a reclusive, minimalist lifestyle. He later said that he was forced out after having an affair with an employee.

Shavitz received an undisclosed monetary settlement and 37 acres in a remote corner of Maine but would still make appearances on behalf of the company. In 2007, Clorox purchased Burt's Bees for \$925 million dollars and the products are now sold in 40 countries.

In recent years before he died, Shavitz lived in a cluttered house, still with no running water. The converted turkey coop that used to be his home remained on his property and he continued to enjoy passing the time by watching wildlife.

A documentary film, *Burt's Buzz*, was released in 2014. The film, a humorous, authentic, and compelling documentary, discussed the life of Shavitz, his history with Burt's Bees, and his later activities as a reclusive beekeeper who reluctantly became a businessman and whose image is one of the most recognizable brand identities in the world.

Shavitz died on July 5, 2015, at the age of 80 in Bangor, Maine, from respiratory problems. He resided in Parkman, Maine and was cremated.

After his death, the company that he started, relocated Burt's cabin from Maine to their Durham, NC headquarters to serve as a reminder to all who work at Burt's Bees and to all who visit their campus, about the company's roots in the simplicity of nature. ■

The Jewish Genealogical Society is housed under The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art. To learn about the benefits of joining the JGS visit: JewishMuseumTulsa.org

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



CBE Sisterhood ShulSchool Benefit

Sunday, March 3 | 4:30 p.m.

Join us for a wonderful art exhibit and happy hour. We will enjoy live music by a local guitarist, appetizers provided by Oren and Gambill's, and drinks as we mingle around the room admiring pieces from local artists. Bid on your favorite during our silent auction. Masks/art made by students will be featured for purchase just in time for Purim. All proceeds will be donated to the B'nai Emunah Religious School to help support their educational programs. Families are welcome! We will have fun supervised art activities headed by Artsy Cartsy and pizza planned for the kids in the auditorium. We invite all members of the Tulsa Jewish Community to join us. You can register at www.tulsagogue.com, or by calling the Synagogue office.

Bibi-Dibi

Friday, March 8 | 5:30 a.m.

Join us for a Shabbat gathering crafted for babies and their families. Revel in the joy of singing songs, playing games, and savoring a delightful Shabbat dinner. It's an excellent opportunity to establish and embrace your own family traditions. While no reservation is required for the celebration, we ask you to secure your spot for the meal by calling or visiting www.tulsagogue.com.

Family Jewish Cooking Club

Sunday, March 10 | 12:00 p.m.

Join the club and embark on a flavorful, family adventure in our four-part cooking series, the Family Jewish Cooking Club. The third edition of the series will meet after ShulSchool for lunch, schmoozing, and a hands-on kitchen session. Throughout the experience, we'll learn about the history and meaning of a dish and get to work making it ourselves. Each family will leave with their dish in hand, along with a recipe and instructions to recreate the experience at home. Visit www.tulsagogue.com to hold your spot!



Blatt + Blue

Thursday, March 14 | 7:00 p.m.

Visit tulsagogue.com for more information regarding the movie selection and viewing options. Join us for our conversation at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom (918 583 7121). A long-running film and television conversation series led by David Blatt and Alice Blue, newcomers are welcome to join the dialogue.

Shabbat Shalom

Friday, March 15 | 5:30 p.m.

Experience a musical Shabbat evening with songs and stories starting at 5:30 p.m. This event is an ideal introduction to Shabbat traditions, welcoming participants of all ages and backgrounds. Shabbat dinner following services at 6:15 p.m. Reserve your spot at the dinner table by registering at www.tulsagogue.com.

Lifelong Learners

Wednesday, March 20 | 11:30 a.m.

Join Rabbi Kaiman and our community for a lunch and learn session, starting at 11:30 a.m. A complimentary bus service is available from Zarrow Pointe at 11:00 a.m. Please reserve your spot by contacting the Synagogue.

Lions, Tigers, and Bears, Oh My! Sing-a-long Purim at Circle Cinema

Saturday, March 23 | 7:00 p.m.

Experience the enchantment of Purim with a twist at our 'Lions, Tigers, and Bears, Oh My!' sing-a-long event! Join us for a captivating reading of the Megillah, indulge in

delicious hamantashen and popcorn, and partake in a lively community sing-a-long accompanied by a gragger-swinging viewing of The Wizard of Oz. Dress up as your favorite character from the Wizard of Oz, wear a traditional Purim costume, or simply come as you are for this memorable celebration. Make sure to reserve your theater seat for this extraordinary Purim experience by registering at www.tulsagogue.com - a Purim to remember awaits!

The Greatest Purim on Earth Circus

Sunday, March 24 | 9:00 a.m.

Join us under the Synagogue Big Top for a family friendly reading of the Megillah, accompanied by circus performances, carnival games and treats, and of course lots of hamantashan as we celebrate the joyful holiday of Purim.

Shabbat Maker Workshop

Thursday, March 28 | 7:00 p.m.

Uncover the beauty of Shabbat traditions and create your own ritual treasure! Join us for this quarterly workshop to build your own hand-crafted Shabbat set. Secure your spot today and let the magic of Shabbat traditions come to life in your own hands! Please be in touch with Sara Levitt at the Synagogue or visit www.tulsagogue.com to reserve your spot.

Afternoon/Evening Services

Join us on Wednesdays and Fridays at 5:30 p.m. in the Davis-Goodall Chapel for traditional prayer and community Mourner's Kaddish. Both in-person and Zoom participation are available. Please register for in-person attendance on our website.

Shabbat Morning Services

Every Saturday at 9:30 a.m., we celebrate Shabbat through song, Torah study, and fellowship. These services, available both in-person and via Zoom, offer a chance to mark anniversaries, celebrate milestones, and engage in our congregation's ritual life. ■

Jewish Federation of Tulsa Maimonides Society Presents

Know Your Genes:



Knowledge. Power. Action.

A FREE educational program on

Jewish genetic diseases and the importance of genetic testing in cancer related illness

• • • **Sunday, March 10 • 9:30 am–12:00 pm** • • •

at Jewish Federation of Tulsa

RSVP at: JewishTulsa.org/BRCA

More Info: Isabella Silberg, isilberg@jewishtulsa.org, 918-495-1100



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Shabbat Learning Through the Ages • Sat., Mar. 2 • 10:30 a.m.

Have you ever wondered where Hamantaschen came from? Maybe you already know and can't wait to share. Join Rabbi Jasper at Temple Israel for an exciting morning of tasty learning and baking.

Finding God in an Age of Reason with Rabbi Weinstein on Zoom • Thurs., Mar. 7, 14, 21 & 28 • 2:00 p.m.

In this course we will spend time studying, learning, and sharing our differing theological expressions. For some, God is a personal god, while for others, God is universal. What if God were merely morality? What of a punishing god, or a god of salvation? How do we, as individuals understand God, and what role does God play in our lives?

Family Shabbat in person • Fri., Mar. 8 • 6:00 p.m.

During Family Shabbat Cantor Weinstein and Rabbi Jasper create a sacred space for our young families with songs and prayers. Our service will be followed by dinner. RSVP by Thurs., Feb. 7. Cost is \$10 per family. Contact Rabbi Jasper at rabbitzvia@templetulsa.com for more information.

Birthday Shabbat Service w/ Torah in person, on Zoom & Facebook Live • Fri., Mar. 8 • 7:30 p.m.

Join us as we welcome in Shabbat with the chanting of Torah. During this service, we will honor March birthdays. Stay for a sweet oneg afterwards. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com for the Zoom link.

Scholar in Residence Weekend • Mar. 15-17

Scholar in Residence Shabbat • Fri., Mar. 15 • 6:00 p.m. - *Finding the "Jewish Road to Character" – A Path and a Discipline for our Complicated Times.*

Scholar in Residence Shabbat Morning • Sat., Mar. 16 • 10:30 a.m. - *Studying Torah Through a Mussar Lens*

Scholar in Residence Havdalah Event • Sat., Mar. 16 • 5:30 p.m. - *DAVAR ACHER: Mussar in the World and Culture Around Us*

Scholar in Residence Brotherhood Breakfast • Sun., Mar. 17 • 9:30 a.m. - *Using the Tools of Mussar When We are Having Difficult Conversations*

There is no charge for any of the events. We ask that you rsvp to rsvp@templetulsa.com and specify what events you will attend so we may prepare for your participation.

Sisterhood Anniversary Shabbat Service • Fri., Mar. 22 • 7:30 p.m.

Join Temple Israel Sisterhood for their annual participatory Shabbat service. We will also

celebrate significant March anniversaries. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com for the Zoom link.

Purim Celebration • Sun., Mar. 24 • 9:30 a.m.

You are cordially invited invited to this year's Congregational Purim Palooza. This intergenerational extravaganza begins at 9:30 AM with a Breakfast nosh and continues throughout the day. The Brotherhood's Shushan Grill will provide lunch. Come in costume and make a day of it because you are kenough!

Zamru L'Shabbat • Fri., Mar. 29 • 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 with joyous songs! Arrive early at 5:30 p.m. to enjoy conversation and snacks at the pre-oneg before services. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com for the Zoom link. ■

**TEMPLE ISRAEL'S SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE WEEKEND— MARCH 15-17, 2024
DISCOVERING MUSSAR: NAVIGATING UNCERTAINTY
IN TODAY'S JEWISH WORLD**

By Rabbi Michael Weinstein

In these uncertain times, the Jewish community is seeking a solid foundation in core values. Mussar teachings, integral to our Jewish heritage since biblical times, have resurfaced as a relevant and authentic spiritual practice. Originally a concept in the Hebrew Bible, Mussar evolved into a 19th-century European Movement, now experiencing a revival.

Amidst a world in upheaval, Mussar stands as a beacon, inviting individuals to embark on a transformative journey towards self-discovery and resilience. Through its application, we can find inspiration and grounding needed to navigate the uncertainties of our time, fostering purpose within the Jewish community.

Exploring Mussar as a contemporary Jewish spiritual path, we find it offers guidance and stability amid life's complexities. In the face of today's challenges, Mussar provides a lens to navigate uncertainty, fostering personal growth and a deeper connection to our Jewish identity.

The weekend of March 15-17 will be Temple Israel's annual Scholar in Residence weekend. This year we welcome Rabbi Eric Gurvis to Tulsa. Rabbi Gurvis, a SUNY-Albany graduate, was ordained at Hebrew Union College- Jewish Institute of Religion; he has served congregations in New York City, Jackson, MS, Teaneck, NJ, Newton, MA, and Ashland, MA. Rabbi Gurvis trained as a Mussar Facilitator with The Mussar Institute; he now serves on faculty with The Institute as Director of Chaverim and Engagement. and facilitates Mussar groups across Massachusetts.

We are honored to have Rabbi Gurvis as our scholar and teacher for four exciting moments of learning throughout the weekend:

FRIDAY NIGHT, March 15, 6:00pm:

Finding the "Jewish Road to Character" – A Path and a Discipline for our Complicated Times.

What is Mussar? Why hadn't most people heard much about this part of Jewish tradition until recent years? Why should it be a part of our lives in the 21st century? How can it ground me in my life, my relationships, and in the world I live in?

SHABBAT MORNING, March 16, 10:30am:

Studying Torah Through a Mussar Lens

Rabbi Gurvis, a contributor to the 2019 publication, *The Mussar Torah Commentary*, and leader of *The Mussar Institute's* weekly offering on *Torah From Mussar Perspective* (now in its fourth year), will lead us in a discussion of how Mussar tradition provides an additional, and little know lens through which to study this week's parshah, *Parshat Pekudei*, which closes out the book of *Leviticus*.

HAVDALAH, Saturday, March 16, 5:30pm:

DAVAR ACHER: Mussar in the World and Culture Around Us

The Middot/Soul traits (or Virtues) which comprise the "Mussar curriculum" are not uniquely Jewish values. Rather, they are universal, though our Mussar inheritance, the teachings about these middot come to us largely through our vast Jewish heritage.

As he has continued his journey into and through Mussar over the past dozen plus years, our guest has noted that Mussar themes can be found all around us – on the big screen, as well as the smaller ones in our homes, in music, art, and literature. In essence, as these are eternal human challenges, the human soul has sought to wrestle with these challenges down through the ages. In this session we will think together about where we see these themes in our culture. The session will include some video clips and musical examples!

SUNDAY MORNING, March 17, 10:00am (Breakfast begins at 9:30am):

Using the Tools of Mussar When We are Having Difficult Conversations

We are living in a time when divisions are all around us. Politics, culture, societal tensions, and global strife have so many of us unable to hold conversations, even with family and friends, we find ourselves side-stepping conversation or even losing relationships with people in our lives.

Temple Israel's Scholar in Residence events are open to everyone in the community and are free of charge. We ask that you rsvp, specifying which events you plan to attend, to rsvp@templetulsa.com. ■



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



**Registration
Opens March 1**

May 28 to Aug 2



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