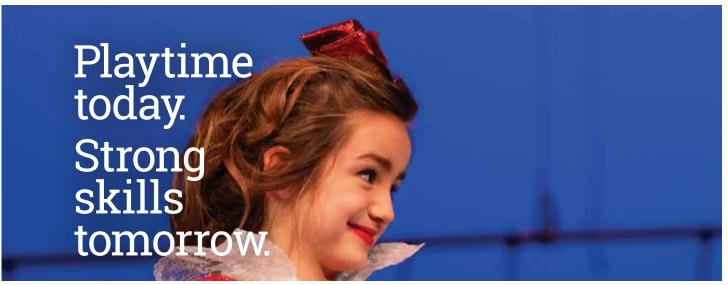
Teurs A Review

Tevet/Shevat 5780 January 2020



Open Tables Opens Hearts and Minds Page 10







At Holland Hall, students as young as 3 years old learn the importance of the arts. They paint, draw, sing and sculpt. And they have opportunities to meet and work with world-famous artists-in-residence every year for ARTworks.

The school is commited to offering a wide range of arts because each student has a creative niche to fill, and we want them to find it at Holland Hall. From a study of major artists in the primary school to playwriting, photography and dance in the upper school, we know the arts stimulate critical thinking skills and problem-solving capabilities. And we believe that by facilitating meaningful self-expression, we empower our students to express ideas more clearly and forcefully.

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EARLY PREK-GRADE 3 PROGRAM? Our Primary School Director of Admission Amber Graybill can help. Contact her at agraybill@hollandhall.org or (918)481-1111 or visit www.hollandhall.org/ps for information about Welcome Wednesdays.



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"The key to success is to focus on goals, not obstacles."

S MANY OF us resolve to be better versions of ourselves, or head onto a new path in the New Year, this quote can be a helpful guide. Often, we are our own worst enemy when it's time to make a change. This issue shares inspiration and stories of change. From witnessing a near tragedy that created a new career path helping others, to a sweet dream that turned into a Jewish ice cream empire, read on to see others' motivation.

"Open Tables" is an easy way to make a positive change in your own life and create a ripple effect in your community. This wonderful event features an interfaith potluck, several times a year, and, as luck would have it, the January dinner is here at the CSJCC! It's the easiest outreach ever, all you have to do is show up, share food, eat, and talk. It's what we all love to do anyway, this time it's just the dinner table is open to new guests and new traditions! The biggest reward I have found at "Open Tables" is when you learn something new and at the same time, find some common ground. I highly recommend attending, and bringing children of any age.

Be sure to Save the Date for the event featured on the back cover, "Nurturing Hope in Our Community." This year's speaker for the 2020 Tulsa Jewish United Fund Campaign Opening Event has made the astonishing power of the concept of HOPE, his life's work. You will be inspired and deeply moved by his demonstration of how simply having a real glimmer of hope can transform lives.

May you all have a happy and healthy 2020!

-Heather



Daughter's Rescue Leads a Father to Become an EMT

aged 17 at the time, fell off of the roof of her home in Or Yehuda after she suffered a seizure. The fall, more than 8 meters, caused a serious head injury, massive bleeding and complete loss of consciousness. United Hatzalah volunteer EMT Avi Yosefov, who lives in the same neighborhood, received the emergency alert, rushed over to the scene and arrived in less than a minute. Yosefov treated her for her injuries and his near-immediate response and treatment saved her life.

Hila's father, Yaakov Zohar, witnessed the terrible incident and saw how fast Avi arrived and treated his daughter. At that very moment, Yaakov decided that he too would become a volunteer EMT. Recently, Yaakov, together with 15 other new EMTs, graduated their training course and became United Hatzalah volunteers.

"I recall very clearly how Avi arrived with incredible speed and fought hard to save my daughter's life," recounted Yaakov. "Hila was brought to Tel HaShomer Hospital and was in the intensive care unit for two weeks. After that, she underwent months of arduous rehabilitation. When she had recovered enough and was finally out of danger, I slowly began to understand what exactly had happened and the desire to become a part of United Hatzalah awoke inside me."

Yaakov, an electrician by profession, underwent the admissions process to participate in a training course and in late November, came full circle by graduating the course with honors. He will now join the team of volunteers serving the area of Bika'at Ono under the guidance of Yuval Shlafman, United Hatzalah's Chapter Head of the region. Shlafman, upon presenting Yaakov with the award of excellence in the course said: "I believe that Yaakov's personal story will push him to become an excellent EMT with a high level of motivation that will help him continually assist others in their times of need."

Avi Yosefov attended the graduation in order to honor Yaakov's accomplishment and recall the traumatic incident that brought them together. "We are neighbors and live right down the street from one another. However, until the incident with Hila, we



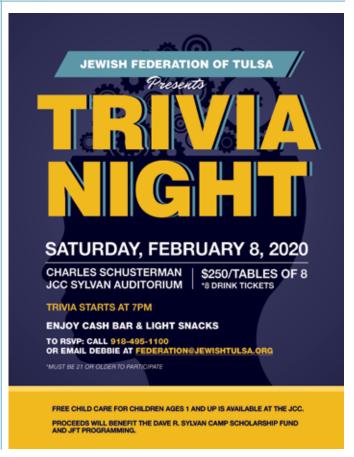




Yaakov Zohar, Hila Zohar and Avi Yosefov

did not know each other very well, just enough to say hello when passing in the street. When the incident occurred, I was at home. When I saw the address of the call I knew that it was my neighbor. I raced outside, ran down the street, and in just a few seconds I was treating Hila. After everything calmed down, we stayed in touch and about a year-and-a-half ago, Yaakov told me that he too wanted to volunteer for the organization. Watching him graduate with honors brought me a lot of joy."

Hila is now 19-years-old and healthy. "First of all, I want to thank United Hatzalah and Avi, for without them, I wouldn't be alive today. I am also very proud of my father who has decided to volunteer and become a part of the organization so that he can now save others just as I was saved." ■



Rev. Mouzon Biggs and Rabbi Charles Sherman share years of friendship



Hannah Firestone's art depicts a young girl's shattered life after Kristallnacht



Payton Wooster's art depicts a child's life before and after Kristallnacht

RIGHT: A packed Sylvan Auditorium crowd commemorates the 81st anniversary of Kristallnacht

Tulsa Commemorates Kristallnacht

by BOB MCCORMAC, HOLOCAUST EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Sunday afternoon, November 17, at 2 p.m., was the date and time of the annual Kristallnacht Commemoration in the Sylvan Auditorium of the Jewish Federation of Tulsa. One hundred fifty chairs were set up and the auditorium was ringed with student art work in anticipation of the event. How pleasantly surprised we were when, despite sunny skies and 70-degree weather, 230 people chose to spend their Sunday afternoon remembering that horrific day in Nazi Germany and Austria.

Director of Holocaust Education Nancy Pettus opened the program with a warm welcome for everyone. Bob McCormac, Holocaust Education Coordinator, followed with an overview of Kristallnacht with an emphasis on the effects of the destruction of synagogues and Jewish businesses.

Jenks High School drama students Olivia Lopez, Zach Magnuson, Trystan Novak, Faith Riddoch, and Xiomara Schultz presented an evocative dramatization of the poem "I am the Glass." This poem, by Rabbi Karen Bender, is a symbolic telling of the event of Kristallnacht.

Rabbi Charles Sherman introduced our speaker, fondly remembering their many years of friendship and Dr. Mouzon Biggs' unwavering support for Tulsa's Jewish community.

Dr. Biggs began his talk by recalling his days growing up in east Texas. He knew no Jews during those years and never heard of Kristallnacht until he arrived at Centenary College in Shreveport, Louisiana.

While at Centenary, he met two professors who changed his life. Dr. Bruno Strauss and his wife, Dr. Berta Strauss, were German Jewish refugees from Nazi Germany. He learned how the Strauss's had smuggled their son, Albrecht, out of Nazi Germany and how the events of Kristallnacht convinced them that they, too, needed to leave. They wished to emigrate to the United States, but laws required proof that an immigrant would not become a burden to society. A German couple in Shreveport provided the proof, and the Strauss's made Shreveport their home. Thus, two divergent paths met in Shreveport and shaped Dr. Biggs' views of the Jewish people.

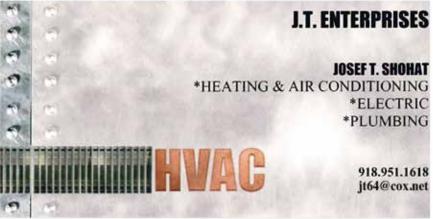
After graduation and ordination, Dr. Biggs served at a church in Houston for nine years where he hosted a weekly radio program. Every fifth Sunday, Rabbi Jack Segal was a guest on the show and became a close friend. Called to Beaumont, Texas, Dr. Biggs often invited a local rabbi to preach on a Sunday in his church. Dr. Biggs, in turn, was then welcomed to speak at several Shabbat services. His last posting in Tulsa enabled the close friendship with Rabbi Charles Sherman to form, and it stands strong to this day.

During his days at Centenary, Dr. Biggs was urged by the Strauss's to visit Germany. The last part of Dr. Biggs' talk described his visits to many of the concentration camps. He concluded by reminding us if "we do unto others as we would have them do unto us, we can all find our way home."

This is the first year that the Council for Holocaust Education has sponsored an art contest for Kristallnacht. The program concluded with recognition of the winners. Middle School winners are: 1st Place, Josie Campbell, Rejoice Christian; 2nd Place, Ella Newhouse, Cascia Hall; and Third Place, Noelia Walker, Cascia Hall. High School winners are: 1st Place, Payton Wooster, Cascia Hall; 2nd Place, Hannah Firestone, Rejoice Christian; and Third Place, Matthew Byrd, Jenks High School. ■







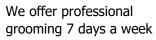




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Feeding the Soul

Tues., Jan. 7 • 12:30 p.m.

Our culture-sharing series continues at Ri-Le's, 4932 E 91st St. Join Ri-Le as he talks about how he immigrated to Tulsa and opened up one of the best Vietnamese restaurants in town.

Save the Date • PJ Library PJ Party @ the JCC

Sat., Jan. 11 • 6 p.m.

Ages six mths. - three years. Come dressed in your PJ's and enjoy Snacks, Storytime & Music. RSVP to Mindy @ 918.935.3662 or mprescott@ jewishtulsa.org by Wed., Jan. 8th.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Parade

Mon., Jan. 20 • 11 a.m.

Representing a unified Jewish community, the Jewish Federation of Tulsa and Temple Israel are partnering together to march for justice, freedom, and peace in the MLK Jr. Day Parade. If you would like more information or to march, please contact Debbie O' Hearn at federation@ jewishtulsa.org or 918.495.1100.



Rosh Chodesh

Thurs., Jan. 23 • 6:45 p.m.

Location - TBD. Will be emailed. The women warriors will talk about how to set new year intentions in order to be your best self. All are welcome who want to connect, reflect, and grow.

Winter 2020 Institute of Adult Jewish Studies

Begins Mon., Jan. 27 – Mar. 2

Classes this semester will be held at the Charles Schusterman JCC, 1st hr. 7-7:45pm, 2nd hr. 8-8:45pm. For further information, contact Mindy Prescott at mprescott@jewishtulsa.org or 918.935.3662.



Men's Club

Wed., Jan. 22 • Noon

A delicious lunch will be followed by our speaker Bob McCormac, Coordinator of Holocaust Education. If you know someone who would like to join this group, bring them along! Please RSVP to Mindy at mprescott@jewishtulsa.org or 918.935.3662 no later than Mon., Jan. 20. Please note this will be the only meeting this month.



Ladies Who Lunch

Mon., Jan. 13 • Noon

Come enjoy pleasant conversation and great food at Andolini's Pizza (500 Riverwalk Terrace, Suite 100, Jenks) Each person pays her own check. Please RSVP to Mindy at mprescott@jewishtulsa. org or 918.935.3662 no later than Fri., Jan. 10.



The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art



Synagogues360° by Louis Davidson

Permanent

The Synagogues360° photo archive includes synagogues older than 2,000 years to those of the most modern architecture, as well as neoclassic, Byzantine, neo-Gothic, Art Nouveau, Art Deco, and many vernacular design styles. This growing resource includes 584 synagogues from 38 countries including the world's northernmost and southernmost purpose-built synagogues. All may also be viewed in 360° virtual reality at www. Synagogues.org.

Arthur Szyk

Now-Dec. 2020

Arthur Szyk (pronounced "Shick") is considered by scholars to have been the greatest 20th century illuminator working in the style of the 16th century miniaturists. Szyk was the leading political caricaturist in America during World War II. Come see select lithographs from his "Visual History of Nations" series dated 1945 to

Say Yes to the Jewish Wedding Dress Now - Jan. 5, 2020

Weddings for many are the happiest days of their lives. The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art is excited about our exhibit, Say Yes to the Jewish Wedding Dress. This one-of-a-kind event will feature some of the most beautiful gowns, textiles, documents, paintings, photographs, and other memorabilia from the Tulsa Jewish community. These items will proffer a tour through decades of unique nuptial attire and décor.



Going Home, Jewish Romania in the early 21st Century January 23 - May 3

Reception January 23 • 6 p.m.

Photographs and cultural objects collected by Louis and Ronnie Davidson in 2004. A visit to Romania is like a visit to an earlier time, an era before the electrical and industrial revolutions. Authentic clothing, rugs, dolls, and masks from their trips to Romania from 2003-2010.

Exhibit: Auschwitz - A Place on Earth, The Album

Now - Dec., 2020

Six million Jewish men, women, and children were systematically murdered by the Nazis during the Holocaust. Over one million were murdered in Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest extermination camp during WWII. This exhibition depicts the only known visual documentation of the arrival of a transport of Jews to Auschwitz-Birkenau. The exhibit comes from Yad Vashem, Israel.





First Friday Shabbat

Fri., Jan. 3 • 6:30 p.m.

Every month, on the First Friday, we head downtown to celebrate Shabbat and enjoy one of Tulsa's great cultural experiences. It's a monthly musical Shabbat service in the heart of the Tulsa Arts District. Whether you stop in and sing while taking in the downtown galleries, or make our service your final destination, Shabbat and First Friday make a wonderful combination. It all gets started at 6:30 p.m. in the Flyloft, which is just above the Woody Guthrie Center. Look for the sign on the west side of the building.



Challah Baking

Wed., Jan. 8 • 6 p.m.

It's the greatest bread ever. Each month we gather on a Wednesday evening to mix dough so that you'll have enough for two challahs the following Friday afternoon. Novice baker? Not to worry, we'll walk you through it step-by-step. Please call Brigid at the Synagogue at 918.583.7121 to reserve your space at the kneading table. Space is limited, so please call early. No cost to anyone.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Parade

Mon., Jan. 20 • 11 a.m

Decked out in shirts designed for the occasion, a delegation from the Synagogue will march in this year's Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade. Standing shoulder to shoulder with brothers and sisters across Tulsa, this is a significant public event for our entire community. All encouraged to attend. If you would like to take part in the Synagogue's delegation contact Rabbi Kaiman through the Synagogue office for information about meeting points and other details

Bibi-Dibi: Shabbat for Little Ones

Fri., Jan. 24 • 6 p.m. Celebration • 6:30 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 in a beautiful Shabbat dinner. We see this as a wonderful way to build your own family traditions. While no reservation is necessary for the 6:00 p.m. celebration, we do ask that you make reservations by calling or visiting our website if you plan to join us for the meal.

Sisterhood Shabbat

Sat., Jan. 25 • 9 a.m.

A morning of celebration and community, Sisterhood Shabbat brings together women of the congregation in an experience of ritual and communal leadership. Members of the community are encouraged to see this Shabbat celebration as a prompt to embark on a new learning experience. All are welcome to attend and participate.

Shabbat for Everyone

Fri., Jan. 31 • 6:15 p.m. Dinner • 7 p.m. Celebration

Our monthly, kid-friendly Shabbat experience begins with a delicious dinner so you can relax and enjoy Shabbat with friends and family. We then move into the sounds and movements of a joyous Friday night celebration. On the occasion of his bar mitzvah, Charlie Rotenberg will join the instrumentalists of Klay Kodesh for this musical experience. Your feet will be stomping as the music carries us forward into the night. No reservation is needed for the service at 7:00 p.m. But please call or visit our website to make reservations for the meal.



Shabbat Morning Service w/Torah

Sat., Jan. 4 • 10:30 a.m.

If you prefer Saturday morning Shabbat services or want another opportunity to worship with friends, our monthly Shabbat morning services are for you. Be there for this Shabbat morning participatory prayer and Torah study capped by a potluck lunch. Be sure to bring your favorite recipes to share with your fellow worshipers if you are able.

Sociable Seniors at Philbrook

Sun., Jan. 12 • 1 p.m.

All community members and friends ages 60+ are invited to join in as we get together for dessert at 1:00 p.m., followed by a guided tour at 2:00 p.m. Docents Sandi Tilkin May and Judy Benarrous will lead the tour of Philbrook's Shadow of Time exhibit - light-infused sculptures by American-Pakistani artist, Anila Quayyum Agha - representing the culture of Jews, Christians, and Muslims. RSVP to Temple Israel, 918.747.1309 by Jan. 8.

Z'amru L'Shabbat

Fri., Jan. 17 • 6 p.m.

Join us for our musical Shabbat service with Cantor Weinstein and Elijah and the Minor Prophets. Following the service, there will be a delicious catered congregational dinner sponsored by the Sharna and Irvin Frank Foundation. RSVP for dinner to rsvp@templetulsa.com by Tues., Jan.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Parade

Mon., Jan. 20 • 11 a.m

March with your Temple Israel family and friends along with the Jewish Federation of Tulsa to be a part of keeping Dr. King's dream alive. Watch your Temple Israel eblasts or call the office at 918.747.1309 for additional information.



Zarrow Pointe Shabbat Evening Service

Fri., Jan. 24 • 6:15 p.m.

For our Temple friends and family at Zarrow Pointe, we hope you will join us for this meaningful Friday night service on the Zarrow campus. We are excited to see you there!



Shabbat Evening Service w/Torah

Fri., Jan. 24 • 7:30 p.m.

Come to participate in our service as we welcome Shabbat. Then stay and enjoy a tasty sweet Oneg and schmooze with friends old and new. All are invited to the service and Oneg.

Open Tables Opens Hearts and Minds

"When we are generous in welcoming people and sharing food with them, we are all enriched." \sim Pope Francis







Innovative Approach To Interfaith

January 12, at 5:30 p.m. in the Barbara and Dave Sylvan Auditorium for the second of three Open Tables. Food, fellowship, and honest discussion: a perfect formula to facilitate a clearer understanding of and respect for persons of different faiths. For the past 10 years, this has been the purpose of Open Tables.

At the potluck dinner, participants will be seated at tables with people from other faith groups to share not only food, but also dialogue. Through this experience we hope to generate a connection among people who are neighbors and fellow citizens of the community and the world. Since the objective of this exchange is to build relationships, guests are asked to approach discussion with respect for others' opinions and beliefs. A presentation that celebrates the various traditions and holidays of each faith group will also be an integral portion of the event.

Participants are requested to bring the following: A favorite dish to share; an open mind; respect for those of different traditions; a readiness to dialogue.

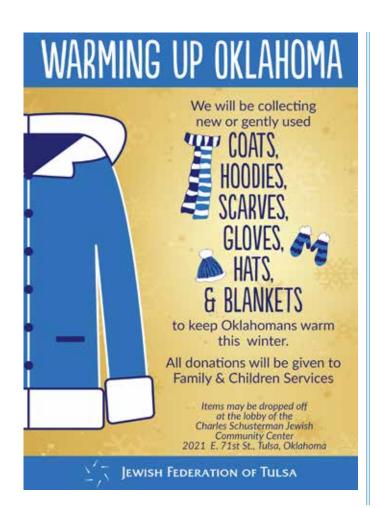
If you are interested in attending the January 12 Open Tables event, please pick up a registration pamphlet at the Jewish Federation front desk (2021 E. 71st St.) or go online to https://www.bostonavenue.org/make-difference/open-tables

Feel free to send any questions, comments, or concerns to npettus@jewishtulsa.org.■



Food is a powerful ingredient that binds us all together.







January 11, 6PM

PJ Library Party @ the JCC

Ages: 6 months - 3 years Come dressed in your PJ's and enjoy Snacks, Storytime & Music

RSVP to Mindy @ 918.935.3662 or mprescott@jewishtulsa.org by Wed. Jan. 8.



Antique Boys and Girls

by RANDY COGBURN, WELLNESS DIRECTOR

HIS IS JUST one perspective of what grandparents really are. Like antique cars, they sometimes require restoration and some work on the engine. But, when properly maintained, they will run for years and their value is priceless... long past the life of the original owner.

Now comes the disclaimer: I am not a grandparent, so I can't speak from experience, only from my observations. I am, though, turning 60 next year, so I guess that now constitutes me as an antique. What's more, I am proud of it!

I have heard some say that they didn't feel old until they became grandparents. Others say their grandkids keep them 'young'. I prefer to think that being a grandparent can be a unique opportunity to remain active and maintain a youthful outlook. In fact, grandkids really can keep hearts and minds young!

"Life is easier if you hear the steps of grandchildren walking beside you!" - Unknown author

Instant energy! Once you take the hand of your grandchild, you can suddenly forget how hard it is to do the things that you once did and minimize the aches and pains that you feel in your joints. They can revitalize, restore strength, and provide greater quality of life.

The key to tapping into this source of renewed energy involves being interactive in the life and interests of your grandchild. That's where the 'little boy and girl' in you comes out again. Sure, times have changed and technology has opened up a whole new world of things for kids to choose from. But, overall things never change. You grow, you learn, and have fun along the way!

Let your grandkids teach you about computers, email, texting, and use of cell phones. Get up and move with them when they play Wii tennis, golf, bowling, or other video games. Each of these can challenge you mentally and physically.

Technology aside, there exists a world of things that grandparents can exchange with their grandkids that benefit them both:

- Walking hand in hand.
- Tossing a baseball to the future Mickey Mantle.
- Teach them how to cook (A lost art!)
- Teach them how to do canning or other ways to store fruits and vegetables (Also, a lost art.)
- Repairing a bicycle or working on a car engine together.
- Let them read to you. Especially when poor eyesight makes it difficult for you to do this on your own.
- Attend their ball games or other school activities. Being there and giving praise goes a long way!
- Take pictures together and make photo albums as they grow (You may have to learn how to use a digital camera, or a cell phone camera.)
- Make a video/movie together. Let them interview you about your life and legacy.
- Show them love, and be loved in return. Love covers all things!

The value of an antique is based upon its originality, restoration, and routine maintenance. With the proper relationship, grandchildren can provide all that you need to remain "antique boys and girls."



Lois Rosenstein

by malyn saunders



Lois Rosenstein

Lois Rosenstein was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma and spent the first ten years of her life in a small town outside of St. Louis, Missouri. They later moved back to Tulsa to be closer to family.

Lois became involved in the Jewish Community and absolutely loved singing and performing in school musicals. After high school, Lois attended the University of Colorado for a few years then came back to Tulsa to attend business school where she learned many secretarial skills that ultimately sparked her interest in business.

She was thrilled to move to Chicago where she worked as an office manager at a movie theater chain. This was one of the most exciting jobs she had ever had, and gave her the opportunity to meet many famous actors and actresses, one of which was Charlton Heston. Lois was never afraid to travel or move and loved living in Los Angeles, California and Toronto, Canada. While living in Canada, Lois began working at an employment agency where she gained experience that eventually led to her next opportunity. Her last big city move was back to Tulsa where she opened her own employment

agency which she named Career Path. In the beginning, she placed clerical people, but as the business grew she began placing professionals and mid- management. The business flourished for seven years, but when a recession came it was forced to close. At that time she began a new career selling carpet and tile for Mill Creek, where she stayed for 15 years until she retired.

Lois has lived at Zarrow Pointe for a little over four years now. She loves playing mah jongg, and is a Life Master Bridge player. A year and a half ago, Lois attended a Paint and Sip class at Zarrow Pointe, where she discovered she had a gift and decided to learn more about acrylic painting. She took her first class at Hobby Lobby and hasn't stopped since. She has now sold several of her paintings and did very well at the Holiday Bazaar. Lois enjoys painting because it is relaxing and allows her to "block out everything." She loves painting flowers, landscapes, seascapes, and birds. Lois feels that moving to Zarrow Pointe has been a highlight of her life, and feels blessed to have made so many new friends while discovering a hidden talent and a new hobby. ■



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Why Choose MIZEL?

by **dr. cathy kass**, director of education, mjcds

IZEL JEWISH COMMUNITY Day School has been a Tulsa Jewish institution for 45 years. We are seeing the involvement of graduates and their children in the school. This fact, in itself, is a testament to the preparation and good memories these parents have. It matters to be part of this community and for our children to get quality Jewish and secular education. To answer WHY, several teachers and parents were interviewed to get their ideas. A combination of texts burned up my phone; many wanted to add their

An education at Mizel is about small classes with special relationships with teachers who truly know these children and their families. The education is personalized, serving the whole child, focusing on strengths, needs and interests. Learning experiences are student-centered, hands-on, multisensory and interactive.

The faculty of Mizel Jewish Community Day School has certified and highly experienced teachers. Their certifications include elementary education, early childhood, and special education with specializations in Hebrew, gifted education, music, fine arts, and physical education. Together, we offer a strong curriculum with interdisciplinary and collaborative projects and family involvement.

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Hebrew and Judaic studies expose students to a second language beginning in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade. Students learn to read, write and speak in both contemporary Hebrew and liturgical Hebrew, so they know Hebrew prayers that are said by Jews around the world. "Our students receive instruction in traditions based on learning the Torah and the holidays. Mizel's core value is to bring families and communities together to share, explore and experience Jewish culture and the Hebrew language," says Alin Avitan, our dedicated Hebrew and Judaic Studies teacher.

Mitzi Carrington, fourth/fifth grade teacher, says, "I just love the culture of the school! Students spend two years with me, so I can spend less time on review and more time moving kids forward at their own pace. We teach writing and research skills, and we can do long projects and science experiments!" Students have in-depth study in literature, writing, science and social studies, enabling them to be ready to move ahead to middle school. Going back five years we could not find one student who was not prepared for the challenge of middle school.

The family atmosphere emphasizing values and relationships build confidence in our students, socially, emotionally and academically, giving them a strong foundation on which to build. Character development happens during discussion of our Torah portion, on the playground, in the lunch room and, of course, in the classroom.

Jennifer Paxton, a parent with a fifth grader and a third grader comments, "For me, the decision to send my kids to Mizel was simple. Small class sizes means more time with excellent teachers and a real sense of community bonds. The additional element of Jewish values means that my boys will be spiritually and emotionally prepared to move into higher grades with a level of compassion and self-confidence that practically ensures their future success."

At Mizel, we recognize the importance of continuing quality after school. Our aftercare program includes dancing, yoga, and physical education fun, along with that badly needed snack and "chill" time.

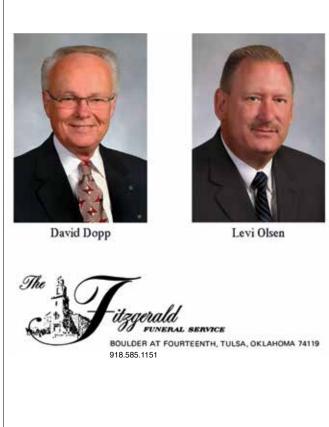
Security and safety are a high priority at every school today. Our music teacher, Rebecca Ungerman, sums up those feelings saying, "We have a true Kehillah Kadosha, a holy community. Every student knows, loves and trusts every adult."

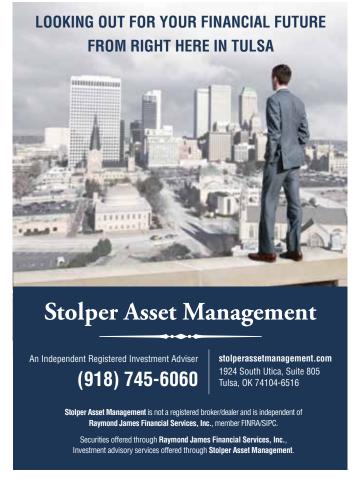
Parent, Sarah Rothman Downing said, "My dad said 'we need to send the kids to Mizel' —L'dor v'dor, from generation to generation. It is the right choice!"

Make the right choice, visit us, talk to our teachers, let us welcome you to our community.

For more information, contact the school at 918-494-0953 or office@mizelschool.org or contact Education Director Dr. Cathy Kass, director@mizelschool.org.■









Going Home. A Snapshot of Old Romania

by Louis davidson

N SEPTEMBER OF 2003, my wife Ronnie and I traveled to Romania with the intent of visiting Sighet, the hometown of her father Louis Kahan. The northernmost city in Romania, Sighet lies just across the Tisa River from Ukraine in a richly cultivated valley of the Carpathian Mountains. On the eve of World War I, when my father-in-law left Sighet, half of the city's population of 40,000 was Jewish. Emigration and the Holocaust have reduced that number to only about 120. That demographic change is a microcosm of what has occurred throughout Romania.

A visit to Romania is like a visit to an earlier time, an era before the electrical and industrial revolutions. Much of the country's population is agrarian, living and working in a "horse and buggy" mode that has changed little since before World War I. Villagers typically live in cottages, with their pigs, chickens, cows and other animals in an adjacent small courtyard and barn. While electric lights are common, water is usually hand-drawn from wells; wood is chopped for cooking fuel and heat. Transportation is primarily by foot or wagons drawn by oxen or horses. Farms are most often worked with handmade wooden tools. Except in cities or on major highways, only the occasional automobile or truck is seen.

Fine handicrafts abound because people are skilled at making the things they need rather than purchasing factory-made goods, which they can ill-afford. A variety of colorful woven goods are produced in the home on archaic handlooms with yarn spun by hand from the wool of the artisans' sheep. Many agrarian peasants wear archaic footwear and traditional clothing with colorful patterns expressing their individual village or regional preferences.

Since shaking off the repressive Ceausescu dictatorship in 1989, Romania's economy and standard of life is advancing rapidly. The educational system is surprisingly strong. English is widely spoken by those who are college-age or younger, and Romania hopes to join the European Union in 2008. This welcome modernization



comes at a price: As highly educated youngsters seek the 21st century life they see on television and the Internet, the traditional style of dress and lifestyle will disappear.

Romanian society and culture are important because it is antecedent to much of western and American culture. Additionally, it was once home to a flourishing Jewish culture comprising more than 15 percent of Romania's population.

Realizing that this culture and lifestyle is quickly disappearing, Ronnie and I returned to Romania in the summer of 2004 to more thoroughly photographically document this remarkable transitional society. These photographs of our ancestors' way of life were taken through a window of opportunity that is closing forever.

This article was written for the original exhibit that was on display at The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art in 2005. From 2003-2006 Louis and Ronnie photographically captured this culture. In 2010, on their final visit to Romania, this amazing culture had disappeared. Traditional dress can only be seen in museums, at festivals, and performances. Romania joined the EU in 2007. The museum is excited to bring this exhibit back in 2020 not only with Louis' photographs but with numerous objects from Louis and Ronnie Davidson's personal collection that come from their trips to Romania. Items on display will include textiles, masks and dolls.

Going Home will be on display from January 23 through May 3 with an opening reception January 23 at 6 p.m. ■



The Jewish History of Baskin-Robbins

by PHIL GOLDFARB

askin-Robbins is an American chain of ice cream and cake specialty shop restaurants. It claims to be the world's largest chain of ice cream specialty stores, with 7,500 locations including nearly 2,500 shops in the United States and over 5,000 in 50 other countries. Baskin-Robbins was founded in 1945 by Jewish brothers-in-law Burt Baskin and Irv Robbins in Glendale, California, from the merging of their respective ice cream parlors.

Burton Leo Baskin was born Dec. 17, 1913, in Streator, Illinois. He was the son of Jewish immigrants Harry (1873-1953 from Smolnik, Slovakia) and Edith Sorie Baskin (1883-1943 from Lomza, Poland). Harry Baskin was a merchant who owned a clothing store.

Irving (Irv) Robbins (originally Rabinovich), was born Dec. 6, 1917, in Winnipeg, Canada. He was the son of Jewish immigrants Aaron (1886-1948 from Derechin, Belarus) and Goldie Chmelnitsky Rabinovich (1894-1991 from Bobrynets, Ukraine). The family immigrated to the United States in 1923 from Canada, where Aaron Robbins opened an ice cream store in Tacoma, Washington.

As a teen, Irv Robbins worked in his father's ice cream store. During World War II, Burt Baskin was a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy and produced ice cream for his fellow troops, while Irv served his country as a sergeant in the Army. When the war was over, the two entrepreneurs were eager to capitalize on America's love of ice cream. It just so happened that Burt Robbins' sister, Shirley Belle Robbins, married Irv Baskin in Tacoma, Washington on October 10, 1943.

They started out in separate ventures. In 1945, Irv opened Snowbird Ice Cream in Glendale, California using money that he had saved from his Bar Mitzvah. His store featured 21 flavors and emphasized high-quality ice cream sold in a fun, personalized atmosphere. A year later, Burt opened Burton's Ice Cream Shop in Pasadena, CA. By 1948, they had six stores between them. They shared a dream to create an innovative ice cream store that would be a neighborhood gathering place for families as they had a mutual love of old-fashioned ice cream and the desire to

provide customers a variety of flavors made with ingredients of the highest quality in a fun, inviting atmosphere.

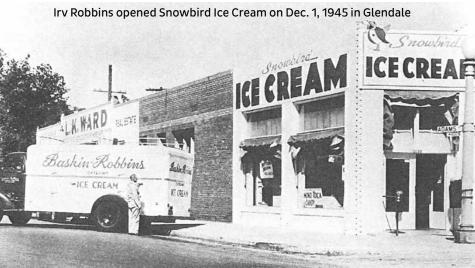
In 1949, there were more than 40 stores in Southern California when Burt and Irv purchased their first production facility dairy in Burbank, California. This business decision allowed them to have complete control over the manufacturing of their ice cream, and the development of new ingredients and flavors.

It wasn't until 1953 that the ice cream chain dropped the separate identities of Snowbird and Burton's and officially became Baskin-Robbins. The "31" logo represented a different flavor for every day of the month, while the Cherry (pink) and Chocolate (brown) polka dots were to be reminiscent of clowns, carnivals and fun. With this branding, Baskin-Robbins' iconic pink spoons were created with their belief that people should be able to sample flavors without cost until they found the one that they wanted to buy. The company has introduced more than 1,300 different flavors since 1945.

As the number of stores grew, Burt and Irv recognized that to maintain the high standards they set in the beginning, each store would require a manager who had an ownership interest in its overall operation. Even though they didn't realize it at the time, the two founders had pioneered the concept of franchising in the ice cream industry. The first franchise covering the sale of ice cream was executed on May 20, 1948, for the store at 1130 South Adams in Glendale, California (Store #1). There were major business advantages of that franchise model with the most obvious being that it allowed the Baskin-Robbins brand to spread far and wide. In 1959, an Arizona shop became the first Baskin-Robbins to exist outside of California.

Baskin-Robbins continued to expand, and by the mid-1960s, the company had become an ice cream empire with more than 400 stores throughout the United States. Baskin-Robbins was owned by its founders until it was acquired in 1967 (just prior to Burt Baskin's death) by the United Brands Company. In the 1970s, the chain went international, opening stores in Japan, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, and Australia. Baskin-Robbins also was the first to introduce ice cream cakes to the public.











The evolution of Baskin Robbins logos through the years

A 1974 *Los Angeles Times* article notes that, in the previous year, there was one new Baskin-Robbins shop opening every other day, ultimately creating jobs in more than 600 towns.

By the time of the 31st anniversary, Baskin-Robbins had already accumulated more than 500 flavors. The previous year, they had come out with several flavors made for the U.S. bicentennial celebration, including Yankee Doodle Strudel, Valley Forge Fudge, Concorde Grape, and Minuteman Mint. Over the years, their commemorative flavors have ranged from Beatle Nut in 1964, Lunar Cheesecake in 1969, Saxy Candidate in 1996, and in 2008 Straight Talk Crunch (to honor John McCain) and Whirl of Change (to honor Barack Obama). Speaking of Barack Obama, he was one of Baskin-Robbins' most famous employees, who spent the summer of 1978 in between his junior and senior

year of high school in Honolulu, Hawaii scooping ice cream for the company!

Burton Baskin died on December 24, 1967 of a heart attack. He was 54 and is buried at the Home of Peace Memorial Park in Los Angeles, California.

For years, Irv Robbins and his family lived in an Encino, California home with an ice cream cone-shaped pool. He died at the Eisenhower Medical Center in Rancho Mirage, California on May 5, 2008, at age 90 and is buried at the Fair Lawn Memorial Park in Cathedral City, California.

Thanks to Jewish Genealogical Society of Tulsa member Harvey Cohen for suggesting this story!

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



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Research-Based Practice versus Personal and Political Ideologies: New Tensions in the Social Work Field

by felipe oyarzo, guest contributor

'M A SOCIAL work graduate student at the University of Oklahoma and a writer for the Tulsa People magazine. I decided to enroll in this graduate program because of my passion for science, and I'm really enjoying it so far. After years of experience in different social work agencies in Oklahoma, I decided to acquire professional skills and a more scientific knowledge that will make me a better leader in the social work field within my community.

Although most social workers agree about the importance of evidence-based practices for our field, unfortunately, that is not always what we see in our arena. Every single professional social worker in the US is aware of the importance of "science" leading our practice, but "in practice" our exercise many times is led by other norths, such as religion, political views and some modern radical ideologies. Both social workers and clients have personal views and values about life and reality, and that is completely valid. However, tensions arise when these views take control of our field, pushing logic, science and research-based practices to the side. And this is not a minor issue to consider. In this letter, I am speaking on behalf of science and the research that should drive our practice.

During my career in the social work field, I have witnessed colleagues trying to convince clients to vote for certain candidates that of course belong to their political parties. I have seen others persuading families to stop attending a religious congregation. I also perceive a hyper sensitivity regarding the discussion of some modern issues. For example, recently I saw a teacher that came from Spain asking a social worker leader why in America universities are adding the letter "X" after the word "Latin" (LatinX). My colleague got extremely offended and didn't want to explain to the teacher the reason, as he thought this foreign educator was against sexual minorities. But the truth was that the teacher wasn't against minorities at all, he just wanted to know why we were using this term since the Royal Spanish Academy (the international entity that regulates the Spanish language in the world) hasn't accepted it as a valid Spanish word yet. I explained to the teacher the reason and all was good. His question was purely academic.

On another occasion, I saw a social worker arguing with a high school student who thought the emergency contraception pill was murdering babies. This was a conservative student who strongly defended his viewpoint in a sexual education activity. The social worker had a different opinion about the pill, which is also valid. The issue was that the social worker treated the student with disrespect, not honoring his freedom to think differently. My question is: students don't have the right to disagree with us on controversial issues anymore? Do they all have to think like us regarding complex topics? I was also part of a meeting where a social worker asked if the practices led by that agency were based on research. The agency didn't take her question very well and found it offensive.

When we act this way, we lose the great opportunity of incorporating science into our daily practice. With "science" (or social science), I mean incorporating research-based practice to what we do, and to our thinking processes. What we do in social work takes a lot of thinking and reflecting, and when our mindset is not being guided by evidence-based practices we can lose the north and be negatively influenced by ideas that are not related to science or social work, as I mentioned in the stories shared earlier. Clients have the freedom to think on their own, even if that means disagreeing with us on certain topics. On the other hand, there is nothing wrong with social workers asking if the program of an agency is based on research. I personally celebrate every time social workers ask that question.

Another example is a social worker telling students that the US was taking land from the Guatemalan indigenous. I have been in Guatemala and I know this country very well, and I can assure that this is false. After doing some research, I found that this was a conspiracy theory. It is not uncommon to see professionals from different fields believing in conspiracy theories instead of peer-reviewed literature to ensure that what they are sharing or doing with clients are facts. So, what now? Are all social workers walking away from science and swimming in a sea of radical ideologies that prevent them from thinking right? Absolutely not. In fact, I believe most social workers in the US are making extraordinary efforts to build evidence-based programs. Social work is a field of heroes, they are professionals that do great things for our country every day and everywhere. But it is undeniable that there are tensions between research-based practices and political, radical modern ideologies.

I think a good way to prevent programs from becoming too political or radical is letting science lead practice. Our mission as social workers is to work equally with all types of clients; conservatives, liberals, atheists, believers, heterosexuals, LGBTQ+, immigrants, children, elderly, handicap, etc. If we focus on research-based practices, we will be able to put doctrinal ideologies aside and continue building programs that are professional and that respect and honor clients' freedom, their uniqueness and the NASW Code of Ethics. Programs should continue consulting up-to-date journals and partnering with social work faculties in order to measure outcomes and ensure that practice is based on the best practices instead of the ideas of political parties. In 2010, I worked for the Research Center of the Ministry of Education of Chile, and many times I was able to observe that what was believed by politicians couldn't be supported by research. Every time this happened, I tried to stand by research, even if it went against my personal views of reality. I have seen how research can unite social workers, when we celebrate that science is backing up our decisions and ways of thinking. Research, more evidence-based practices for social work! Science, more science for the social work field.

Popcorn for Breakfast!!

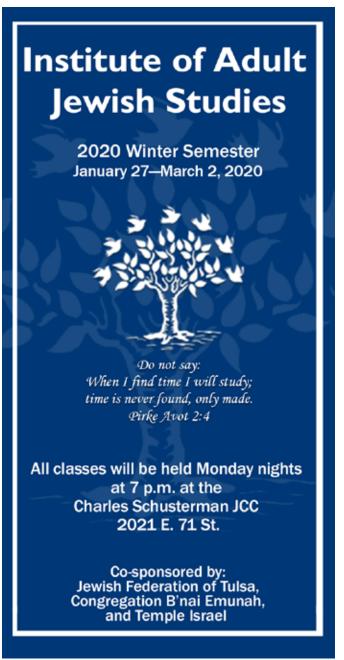
HE WEEK OF Nov. 10-16 had particular significance for the Tulsa Jewish community and beyond as once again we were offered the chance to enjoy the Sixth Annual Oklahoma Jewish Film Festival. Our faithful partner, Circle Cinema, hosted this event, which included Jewish tradition, intrigue, humor, history, a tug at the heartstrings, and, for some, popcorn for breakfast!

An added feature to the week-long event included the invitation to area students, both Middle and High School, to visit the Circle for a 10 a.m. showing of two movies. Middle School students were introduced to Holocaust Survivor Sonia Warshawski through the documentary lens of her granddaughter's film *Big Sonia*. Sonia, who recently turned 94, is a 4'10" force to be reckoned with. At her age, she still speaks to area schools, but only when she allows herself a day off from the tailor shop she and her deceased husband, also a survivor, opened when they arrived in America after the war. The attentiveness of this Middle School crowd spoke to the students' involvement in Sonia's story. Tears were shed, phones were ignored, and hopefully life lessons learned.

High School students viewed the movie *Who Will Write Our History*, a docu-drama featuring historian, Emanuel Ringleblum, and his group of scholars and community leaders. In the Warsaw Ghetto, these brave individuals vowed to defeat Nazi lies—not with guns and bullets, but pen and paper. Through their writings the story is told. Once again, a respectful silence filled the theater, as students watched the struggle of a small minority of brave upstanders who fought against and eventually lost their lives to the Nazi killing machine.

On a lighter note, it was truly our pleasure to host these 1,300 students. Due to the kindness of donors, all students, teachers, and chaperones were provided free admission and transportation. This generous gift allowed us to expand our outreach far beyond what we could have imagined. Our appreciation is also extended to Circle Cinema, the Jewish Federation of Tulsa, and the countless individuals who worked behind the scenes to offer Middle and High School students an important glimpse into Holocaust history. And finally, from the students: fist bumps all around to the concession stand staff for providing popcorn and soda for breakfast!





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SCHLEP, SHMOOZE, KVETCH: YIDDISH POETRY SOCIETY

Instructor: Rabbi Dan Kaiman

From radical politics to complicated religious identities, Yiddish poetry is and has been one of the great containers of Jewish peoplehood for generations.

Through this genre, writers have confronted questions of language, gender, ethnicity, marginality, and tradition. In this course, we will look at a sampling of this material to get a sense of the vastness and diversity that sets the backdrop to present -day Jewish identity. All poems will be presented in translation, and no prior experience with Yiddish or poetry is needed.

SIX MEMOS ON TALMUDIC TALES

Instructor: Rabbi Michael Weinstein, Cantor Laurie Weinstein, Rabbi Lillian Kowalski

What does the practice of engaging in the discourse of Talmud teach us? How do we interpret its relatable Aggadic tales in today's world? This six-class course, taught by your Temple Israel Clergy Team, will study a series of non-legalistic exegetical texts in classic Rabbinic Literature, exploring how they may be interpreted in our modern age.

JUDAISM'S GIFTS TO THE WORLD

Instructor: Rabbi Yehuda Weg

How Major Jewish Ideas Have Become Universal Values.

A fraction of the human race in number, the Jewish nation has wielded an entirely disproportional degree of influence on human development and discovery throughout history until the present day. "All the great conceptual discoveries of the intellect," wrote the British historian Paul Johnson, "seem obvious and inescapable once they have been revealed, but it requires a special genius to formulate them for the first time. The Jew has this gift." Humankind ought to thank the Jewish people, he insists. Judaism's Gifts to the World is an in-depth exploration of the most notable values and attitudes that the Jews have successfully shared with humanity. The stories of such transitions are as fascinating as they are instructive. Judaism's Gifts to the World also considers how Judaism might continue its role as a beacon of clarity and fountain of wisdom for all of humankind.

*JLI Fees of \$55 include textbook and materials. Scholarships for this class are available through Rabbi Weg.

TSURIS OR CRISIS? JEWISH PERSPECTIVES ON MENTAL HEALTH Instructor: Sara Levitt

Our tradition is flooded with characters struggling through various mental health crisis. Jewish community's are no stranger to the difficulties of mental health crisis, addiction, anxiety and other mental health issues. Join us as we explore what our tradition teaches us about supporting folks struggling with their own mental health, the impacts of Jewish historical trauma, the stigma of struggling and our communal responsibility to act to support these issues.

CAREGIVING: PRIVILEGE AND RESPONSIBILITY

Instructor: Dr. Cathy Kass

Exhausted. Broken down. Emotionally-drained? Are you caring for a loved one yourself or are you a professional care giver? Caregivers want to do their best, but the challenges of helping someone day after day can be draining. We want the best care for our loved one, but how do we find strength and energy to serve in this way. This course covers the issues that caregivers face, how to set boundaries, establish healthy routines, where to get help and who/how to ask for help. From personal experience to professional assistance, this instructor will structure the class in an informal, interactive format.

SQUASH 101

Instructor: John Linhardt

If you've ever wondered about the game of squash, this class is for you! Coach Linhardt will teach the basics of the game, along with rules and work up to actually playing games! Please come in comfortable clothes and court shoes or cross trainers. We have racquets and balls, but you are welcome to bring your own, too!.

HEBREW DEPARTMENT

BEGINNING HEBREW: PART 2

Instructor: Lianne Torianyk

Designed for the beginning Hebrew student, this is the second part of a two-semester course. Classes will continue covering decoding the alef-bet, basic vocabulary, and a look at Hebrew grammar. Students will use a the same textbook as last semester.

Hour Two 8-8:45 p.m.

INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM: PART 2

Instructors: Rabbi Dan Kaiman, Rabbi Michael Weinstein, Cantor Laurie Weinstein and Rabbi Lillian Kowalski

This course is designed to provide an introduction to the religion and culture of the Jewish people. We will discuss the core ideas and practices of Jewish life - the nature of God, Torah, holidays, history, prayer, traditions, and living a life of righteousness. The course runs a full year and is open both to those who are deepening their Jewish roots and those who may be interested in conversion. New students are welcome to join the course at either semester.

JUDAISM'S GIFT TO THE WORLDcontinued from 1st hour

Instructor: Rabbi Yehuda Weg

Information can be found under 1st hour class description.

IEWISH GENEALOGY

Instructor: Phil Goldfarb

This interesting, educational and fun class will include six different topics in

Jewish Genealogy and Jewish History.

Week 1 "Why Leave a Wonderful Place like the Shtetl?" Jewish migration

throughout history and Jewish life in the Shtetl/Village.

Week 2 Traveling to America in Steerage and Whether to Admit or Deport our Ancestors

Week 3 "What's in a Name?" The history and origins of Jewish Surnames from the Russian Empire and Eastern Europe

Week 4 "Finding Information about your ancestors!" The history, unusual facts and unusual records of the U.S, Census.

Week 5 Passports: The History of U.S, Passports, Russian Internal Passports and Nansen Passports for Refugees.

Week 6 Jewish Gangsters in early 20th Century America...the who, what, where and why. What they did to fight anti-Semitism and Nazi's before, during and after WWII.

HEBREW DEPARTMENT

CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW: PART 2

Instructor: Lianne Torianyk

This class is a continuation from the Conversational Hebrew: Part 1, fall semester. We will continue to learn and speak Hebrew and have some Israeli fun. Students will use a the same textbook as last semester.

> Co-sponsored by: Jewish Federation of Tulsa, Temple Israel, and Congregation B'nai Emunah



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