

The background of the cover is a serene landscape photograph. It shows a wide river or lake in the foreground, with a dense line of trees on the opposite bank. The sun is shining brightly from the upper left, creating a lens flare and reflecting off the water's surface. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

TULSA *Jewish Review*

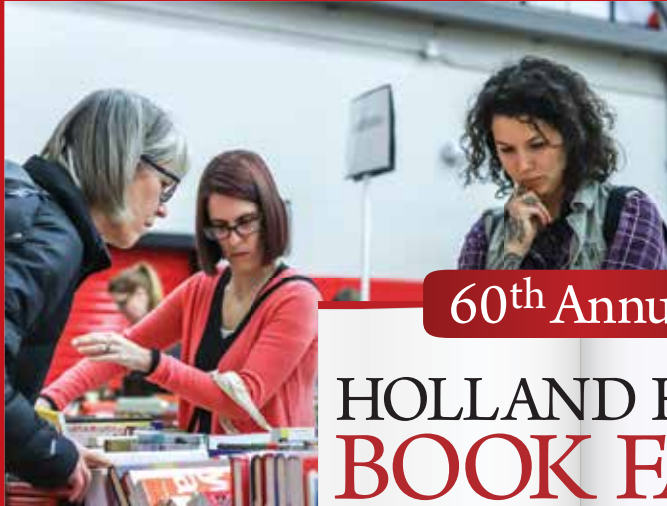
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SHEVAT / ADAR 5780
VOLUME 91 • NUMBER 2



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Letter from the JFT President

Founded in 1930 by Tulsa Section,
National Council of Jewish Women

(ISSN# 2154-0209)

Tulsa Jewish Review

(USPS 016-928) is published monthly by

JEWISH FEDERATION OF TULSA

2021 E. 71st St., Tulsa, OK 74136.

Periodicals postage paid at Tulsa, OK.

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Tulsa Jewish Review, 2021 E. 71st St., Tulsa, OK 74136

MY DEAR JEWISH Community,
With the end of 2019, I want to tell you that I am proud of the real progress in our Jewish Federation last year. Our staff has been energized by the input of new ideas from some of our newest faces.

Stephanie Blackwell, while not new to us but new to the position of Fitness Manager, has managed to revitalize the Health Center. With her new organization and development of classes, she has encouraged people to try new varied classes, filling them with regular, enthusiastic participants. And her group Circuit Training has the gym humming with new people using the equipment with confidence.

Liat Gal, our Israel Emissary, has been reawakening a love of Israel in a broad and diverse swath of Tulsa Jews in innovative and effective ways. The celebration of holidays, sponsored group trips to Israel, and reaching out to educate our children and teens has been inspiring to us all.

Our newest professional, Alix Liiv, Deputy Director of Operations, has brought our programming to an unprecedented level, managing to reach unexpected and welcome niches throughout our community by finding ways to attract and involve us with a myriad of exceptional programming. Check out Feeding the Soul, Rosh Chodesh, and the Pearl Society, to name a few.

In other areas we are growing and improving: the Jewish Museum, under the leadership of Tracey Herst-Woods, Deputy Director of SMM, is filled with the excitement of its expansion. Camp Shalom is thriving with Martha Kelley, our Deputy Director of CSJCC, and with the help of our Shlichah, Liat, our Israel program has been stronger than it has been for many years.

We work hard at getting the most out of our budget for our Jewish Community and are grateful to our dedicated and generous donors. This year should prove to be even more dynamic. For those of you who want to be a part of the growth and benefit of the Federation: please come and find your place. There are so many different areas now - get involved! Also, we will be nominating new committee positions soon for the following year, which starts in May, so please talk to either Angela Taubman, our President-elect, or myself if you have some interest in serving on a committee. Our JFT is more enjoyable and interesting up close! Want to see something happen, change, fixed? Pass your ideas on to me and help me make this a better place for you. First, as President-elect, and now as President, I have been involved with the changes here for almost four years. There have been good, exhilarating, and stressful moments for me with a lot of progress in between. But the most important thing I have found is that we are a vibrant community, and this is a wonderful feeling. We are important to each other and connected in ways that are rewarding, and sometimes difficult to understand, but we stay together. I'm proud of this Jewish Community, and I hope you are too. Our future is looking brighter every day.

May you have a bright, healthy, prosperous, and Jewish 2020!

-Larry Feldman



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Real Talk: Voicing the Margins

The Comradeship of Excluded People: Blacks, Jews, & Civil Rights in Tulsa and Beyond

by **SHADI NADRI**, TRI-CITY COLLECTIVE MEMBER

PLEASE CONSIDER THIS: with wars and rumors of war in the news, a recently impeached president, an impending election, and surging domestic terrorism attacks, life as a U.S. citizen in 2020 is complicated. Add a complicated identity to this climate, and the country can feel outright hostile. Community support is critical when it feels like you are alone in your experience, but fear and lack of resources can prevent citizens from finding their peers. This is especially true for the marginalized in Oklahoma, an often overlooked red state in flyover country with a small and relatively homogenous population.

Find a community, though, and it can be a bit easier to breathe. Tri-City Collective, a group of writers, educators, and artists, saw that while many creative and philanthropic endeavors were being pursued and supported by Tulsa in the last few years, the full potential of the Tulsa community was not being realized. As a result, we work with Tulsans of all stripes to build community, connect artists with resources, and cultivate projects.

For the past eight months, Tri-City Collective has been bringing together people who are thinking deeply about issues that affect all citizens of the city, to discuss their work and trouble-shoot these issues with their community. This effort has culminated in a series titled "Real Talk: Voicing the Margins," monthly live conversations on topics of critical import to Tulsans. Through these talks, we have been able to voice the margins of identity, whether gender or racial, expose the community to the rich talent it contains, and engage in communal, real-time problem solving.

That transparency is empowering for any community. So far, we have talked about being Black and Queer in Oklahoma; immigration and human rights; education; women in politics; women in leadership; reproductive rights; and the Native American perspective on Thanksgiving as National Genocide Day. Panelists have included publishers, emcees, high school students, poets, public servants, sex workers, and professors. We have bribed teenagers to attend with snacks, had babies squeal as soon as the Q&A started, and connected local entrepreneurs with mentors.

On February 4th at the Charles Schusterman Jewish Community Center, the topic of discussion will be "The Comradeship of Excluded People: Blacks, Jews, and Civil Rights in Tulsa and Beyond." For the first hour, panelists will answer questions from moderator Bracken Klar, Director of Community Engagement for Tulsa Public Schools. Panelists include Rabbi Marc Fitzerman of Congregation B'nai Emunah; Hannibal Johnson, Author, Historian, and Attorney; Andrew Spector, Leadership Tulsa; and Dr. Jocelyn Payne, Historian, Educator and former executive director of the John Hope Franklin Reconciliation Center.

Then for the next 30 minutes, the floor is open to questions and comments from the audience, and all are invited to stay for the final half-hour to get to know the panelists and fellow attendees.

"Real Talk: Voicing the Margins" events usually occur on the third Saturday of every month (note: February is an exception) at the Woody Guthrie Center in Tulsa's Art District. "Real Talk" is a partnership with the Woody Guthrie Center, the Tulsa Artist Fellowship, Folk Alliance International, and Tri-City Collective, organizations that understand conversation as the first step forward. For more information of upcoming events, please visit tricitycollective.com and follow us on Facebook: Tri-City Collective. ■

Date: February 4, 2020, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Location: Charles Schusterman Jewish Community Center



The Johannesburg Holocaust and Genocide Center

by **BOB MCCORMAC**, HOLOCAUST EDUCATION COORDINATOR



SOUTH AFRICA MAY seem to be an unlikely location for an impressive Holocaust Museum and educational center. Far from the major fighting of World War II, difficult to reach by those fleeing Nazi persecution, and home to a small Jewish community, Johannesburg nonetheless has a modern facility and a very active education program.

South Africa has three Holocaust Centers. In addition to the Johannesburg center, smaller centers are located in Capetown and Durban. All are funded by the South African Holocaust and Genocide Foundation (SAHGF). The foundation was established in 2007 in response to the incorporation of the study of “Nazi Germany and the Holocaust” and “Ideas of Race in the 19th and 20th Centuries” into the National High School Curriculum of South Africa for Grade 9 and Grade 11 learners. The SAHGF provides educational and philosophical direction for the three independent centers. Through educational and public programs, the SAHGF raises awareness of Holocaust and genocide history and uses history as a platform to focus on human rights issues in contemporary society. The vision for SAHGF is creating a more caring and just society in which human rights and diversity are respected and valued. To achieve this vision, the SAHGF seeks to raise awareness of the evils of genocide with a particular focus on the Holocaust and the 1994 genocide in Rwanda; to serve as a memorial to the six million Jews who were killed in the Holocaust, all victims of Nazi Germany and the estimated 800,000 Tutsi victims of the genocide in Rwanda; and to teach about the consequences of prejudice, racism, antisemitism, homophobia, and xenophobia and the dangers of indifference, apathy, and silence.

Jewish immigration to South Africa did not begin in earnest until the 1820s. By 1880, there were approximately 4,000 Jews in South Africa. This number swelled to 40,000 by the start of World War I. The vast majority of these were from Lithuania. The 1930s saw the enactment of laws to limit immigration to South Africa, resulting in a mere 6,500 Jews fleeing Nazi persecution arriving in South Africa. Many of these laws were passed by Nazi-sympathetic Boers, the term for the Dutch settlers of the 1800s defeated in the Boer War. Following the war, a significant number of South African Jews made Aliyah to Israel.

Although the Jewish community peaked in the 1970s (at around 120,000), about 70,000 mostly nominally Orthodox, remain in South Africa. The Jewish community in South Africa is currently the largest in Africa, and, although shrinking due to emigration, it remains one of the most nominally Orthodox communities in the world. The 2016 Community Survey mini-census conducted by Statistics South Africa found the largest numbers in the following municipalities: Johannesburg 23,420; Cape Town 12,672; and Durban 3,599.

I was invited by the Chairperson of SAHGF, Tali Nates, to speak to the Johannesburg Museum staff and selected South African educators on December 6, 2019. We discussed the state of Holocaust Education in the United States and South Africa, resources and curriculum for a semester-long Holocaust course, and some anecdotes from my trips to Holocaust sites. We also discussed the lack of knowledge among Americans of Apartheid and the lack of knowledge among South Africans and Americans of the Tulsa Race Massacre.

Over the past year in my visits to the Johannesburg Center, a bond has been established between Jewish Tulsa and the SAHGF. Tali Nates has become a personal friend. Her father and uncle were both saved by Oscar Schindler. Shirley Sapire, Catherine Boyd, and Mduzuki Ntuli are now also friends. This will become a valuable asset for Holocaust education here in Tulsa and South Africa as well.

For more information on the Johannesburg Holocaust and Genocide Center and SAHGF, go to <https://jhbholocaust.co.za/> ■

**NURTURING
HOPE IN OUR
COMMUNITY**

**2020 TULSA
JEWISH
UNITED FUND
CAMPAIGN
OPENING
EVENT**

With Chan M. Hellman, PhD
Director of The Hope Research Center

Thursday, Feb. 13, 2020, 7pm
CSJCC Sylvan Auditorium
2021 E. First Street, Tulsa, OK 74135
Catered by Chef Tuck Curren of Biga

Campaign Opening Event Set

Nurturing Hope in Our Community is the 2020 Tulsa Jewish United Fund Campaign opening event occurring Thursday, February 13, 7:00 p.m.

Chan M. Hellman is a professor of social work at the University of Oklahoma and Director of The Hope Research Center. He has written more than 100 scientific publications and has presented at numerous national and international conferences worldwide. Chan's research is focused on hope as a psychological strength helping children and adults overcome trauma and adversity. Chan just published a new book "Hope Rising: How the Science of Hope Can Change Your Life" with his co-author Casey Gwinn published by Morgan James.



The event will be located at the CSJCC Sylvan Auditorium and will be catered by Chef Tuck Curren of Biga

RSVP no later than February 10th to Alix Liiv at alix@jewishtulsa.org or 918.495.1100. ■

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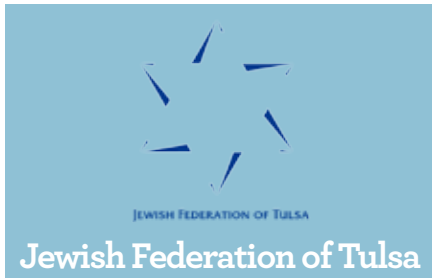


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Classes this semester will be held at the Charles Schusterman JCC, 1st hr. 7-7:45pm, 2nd hr. 8-8:45pm. For further information, contact Mindy Prescott at mprescott@jewishtulsa.org or 918.935.3662.

2020 Tulsa Jewish United Fund Campaign Opening Event

Thurs., Feb. 13 • 7 p.m.
Join us as we kick off this year's annual campaign with special guest speaker Chan M. Hellman, Ph.D., catered by Chef Tuck Curren of Biga! RSVP no later than Feb. 10 to 918.495.1100 or rsvp@jewishtulsa.org.



Ladies Who Lunch
Mon., Feb. 17 • Noon

Enjoy pleasant conversation and great food at Michael V's (8222 E. 103 St.) Each person pays her own check. Please RSVP to Mindy at mprescott@jewishtulsa.org or 918.935.3662 no later than Fri., Feb. 14.



Men's Club

Wed., Feb. 19 • 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. Feb. 17. Please note this will be the only meeting this month.



Pearl Society

Wed., Feb. 19 • 7 p.m.
The Chalkboard - Tuscan Room Women Who Lead Speaker Series. For more information or to join, please contact Alix at alix@jewishtulsa.org or 918.495.1100.

Gardening on a Budget Workshop

Sun., Feb. 23 • 2 p.m.
Zarrow Pointe Theater Room
Gardening does not have to break the budget. Learn how you can use what you have around the house to grow vegetables, herbs, and flowers. If you have questions about the JFT Community Garden or would like to get involved, please contact Debbie O'Hearn at 918.495.1100 or federation@jewishtulsa.org

Super Sunday

Sun., Mar. 1 • 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Sylvan Auditorium
For more information, please contact Alix at alix@jewishtulsa.org or 918 495-1100.



Arthur Szyk

Now-Dec.
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 1949.



Going Home, Jewish Romania in the Early 21st Century

Now - May 3
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.

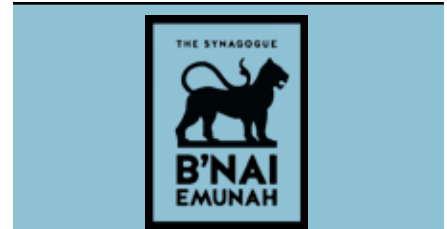
Exhibit: Auschwitz - A Place on Earth, The Album

Now - Dec.
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.

Jewish Cartoonists

Now - Dec.
Now on display in our Sharna Newman Frank

Education Gallery is Jewish Cartoonists. Cartoons, comics and children's illustrated books have been shaped by some of the greatest minds of the Jewish faith. Displayed are just a few of the most popular cartoons and their books in American literature. Come by and see some of your favorite cartoons and their creators' story.



Congregation B'nai Emunah



Challah Baking

Wed., Feb. 5 • 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.



First Friday Shabbat

Fri., Feb. 7 • 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.

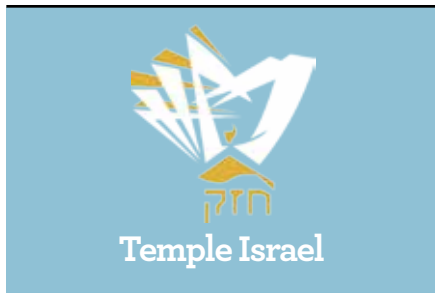
Bibi-Dibi: Shabbat for Little Ones

Fri., Feb. 14 • 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.

Shabbat for Everyone

Fri., Feb. 21 • 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. This month we'll celebrate the baby naming ceremonies for several new babies born in the last little while. 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., Feb. 1 • 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. Join us for this Shabbat morning participatory prayer and Torah study. To cap the morning, there will be a potluck lunch. Be sure to bring your favorite recipes to share with your fellow worshippers if you are able.



Sociable Seniors Super Bowl Party

Sun., Feb. 2 • 5 p.m.

Join us in the Burnstein Auditorium at Zarrow Pointe as we nosh on snacks while watching the game and socializing. There will be two kinds of chili, brisket sandwiches, salad, and dessert. Call the Temple Israel office at 918.747.1309 to RSVP or for more information.

Shabbat Shira Band Shabbat w/Torah Service

Fri., Feb. 7 • 6 p.m.

Join us for this musical Shabbat filled with song, lead by Cantor Weinstein and *Elijah and the Minor Prophets*. Following the service, there will be a delicious catered dinner sponsored by the Sharna

and Irvin Frank Family Foundation. RSVP for dinner to rsvp@templetulsa.com by Fri., Jan. 31.

Young Kehillah Trivia Night

Sat., Feb. 8 • 7 p.m.

Join Temple Israel's Young Kehillah as we participate in Trivia Night at the JCC.

Tu B'Shevat Seder

Sun., Feb. 9 • 12 p.m.

All are welcome as Temple Israel celebrates the birthday of trees at our festive Tu B'Shevat Seder.



ההסתדרות הציונית העולמית
World Zionist Organization

Reform Jews Love Israel Shabbat

Fri., Feb. 14 • 7:30 p.m.

Every five years, we have the opportunity to influence the future of our movement in the homeland of the Jewish People. The World Zionist Congress convenes in Jerusalem in 2020 to set policies that influence Jewish life in Israel. Of the 500 international delegates apportioned by population, 145 represent Jews in the U.S. Your vote will help determine how many of those delegates support the Reform Movement. This is your opportunity to add your voice. We will have several voting stations at the Oneg after services.

Taste of Temple

Sat., Feb. 15 • 6 p.m.

Temple Israel's Brotherhood cooks up a delicious evening with a variety of dishes. Come for the food; come for the fun!



Tot Shabbat

Fri., Feb. 21 • 6 p.m.

Join us as we turn our youth lounge into sacred space for our young families with songs, prayers, and a story with our short monthly Tot Shabbat Service. Stay for a pizza dinner following the service. Dinner is complimentary thanks to Rabbi Weinstein's Discretionary Fund. RSVP by Tues., Feb. 18, so we have an accurate count for food.

Scholar-in-Residence Weekend with Rabbi Neal Gold:



Shabbat Evening Service with Scholar in Residence

Fri., Feb. 21 • 7:30 p.m.

Join us for an engaging Shabbat Evening Service with Rabbi Gold, our Scholar in Residence. He will lead a discussion with a selection of Jewish texts exploring 'The Radiance of Mitzvot.'

Shabbat Morning Service with Scholar in Residence

Sat., Feb. 22 • 10:30 a.m.

Participatory prayer and Torah study with Rabbi Gold addressing 'Slavery, Freedom, and American Jewish History.' A free catered lunch will follow the services. RSVP for lunch to rsvp@templetulsa.com or 918.747.1309 by Mon., Feb. 17.

Havdalah with Scholar in Residence

Sat., Feb. 22 • 6 p.m.

We join together as Shabbat comes to a close to participate in Havdalah with our Scholar in Residence. Rabbi Gold will explore 'Biblical & Kabbalistic Ideas in the Songs of Bob Dylan.'

Brotherhood Breakfast with Scholar in Residence

Sun., Feb. 23 • 9:30 a.m.

Come for a delicious breakfast made by Temple Israel's own Brotherhood, and hear Rabbi Gold present 'When Hate Comes to Town: What Skokie in the 1970s Teaches Us About Today's Antisemitism.'



Zarrow Pointe Shabbat Evening Service

Fri., Feb. 28 • 6:15 p.m.

For our Temple Israel friends and family at Zarrow Pointe, we hope you will join us for this warm and friendly Friday night service with music at Zarrow Pointe. If it's convenient for you to join us in worship at the Zarrow location, *you're invited*. We are excited to see you there!

Mizel's 45!

An Evening of Dinner, Music, and Memories

MIZEL'S 45TH ANNIVERSARY Celebration: An Evening of Dinner, Music, and Memories
Mark your calendar for March 29th! Come celebrate 45 years of Heritage Academy/Flo and Morris Mizel Jewish Community Day School and the hundreds of families who walked through the door of the only Jewish Day School in Oklahoma.

The evening will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Oak Atrium at the Marriott Tulsa Hotel Southern Hills with a Cocktail Reception. Photographer Barry Lenard will be present to record this historic occasion. At 6:15 p.m., guests will move into the Council Oak Ballroom for dinner.

Executive Chef Monty Hedgepeth will create a menu that will include vegan and gluten-free options.

Emcee Scott Gaffen will make a return appearance to guide guests through an evening of music, memories, and a tribute to the school.

Tulsa performers Kara Staiger, Mike Pryor, and Denise Hoey will entertain with Broadway music from Ms. Staiger's original revue entitled "ONWARD!" Tracey Watson on piano will accompany the singers.

A video tribute to the many teachers, parents, and students will be presented. Get ready for laughter, tears, and a warm fuzzy feeling when you see yourself or your friends on the big screen.



Picture is the 1984 Heritage Academy kindergarten class. Front row: David Mudd, Charlie Swanson, David Alexander, James Tabor, Micah Zomer, Robert Guterman

Back row: Teacher, Leta Johnson, Sali Mezrahi, Sabrina Darby, Zach Pollak, Omer Shoval

Each guest will receive a copy of the *45 Stories* book, edited by Jane Zemel, featuring anecdotal memories and tributes from past and current students, faculty, and parents from around the world.

"Mizel is 45" will benefit the Scholarship Fund, which provides tuition assistance to families who apply.

Chaired by Janet Dundee, members of the 45th-anniversary committee include Betty Lehman, Richard Borg, Brian Brouse, Jeff Darby, Ryan and Christy Lynch, Sarah Woller, Janet Simmons, Mark Goldman, Sabrina Darby, Brooke Wambold, and Jane Zemel.

Formal invitations designed by Courtney Spivey of the University of Tulsa Art Department's 3rd Floor Design group will be in the mail in February. 3rd Floor Design is the creation of TU Professor Teresa Valero, whose students provide their graphic art talent at no charge to non-profit groups.

For information on this celebration, please contact Janet Dundee at 918-740-4482 or jdarcy55@aol.com.

And check out the pictures in this article. More photos will be in the March issue of the Tulsa Jewish Review. ■

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Children of two of the founders of Heritage Academy, Stuart Goodall and Rosalyn Borg, dedicate a plaque honoring Joe Borg, Charles Goodall and Louis Kahan. The plaque is on the wall of the entrance to the Mizel School office.

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Angels in the Snow

by **RANDY COGBURN**, WELLNESS DIRECTOR

As a child, seasons don't change things much when it comes to your activity level or finding a place to play. In fact, depending on where you live, winter months may represent a new playground filled with snow, not to mention a few extra days out of school...if you're lucky. Snow gives you a chance to do something that you can't do any other time of the year, one of which is making angels in the snow. It doesn't require a lot of effort. You just fall back in the snow and sweep your arms and legs back and forth. Voila, your own personal work of art has been created, and no one else can make one exactly the same as yours.

As we get older, we don't often look forward to winter with the same degree of enthusiasm. For some, fewer daylight hours, extreme cold, and lots of snow could mean decreased activity and a feeling of being 'shut-in' from those on the outside. Feelings like that can lead to depression and a lack of desire to do most anything. So, what can be done to avoid that state of mind, and regardless of age, make your own angels in the snow? As the old saying goes, "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade." Here are a few suggestions:

- **Stay in touch.** Talk to friends and family on the phone regularly. Check up on those who may not be well and use a positive tone to make them feel better. Get in touch with an old friend with whom you may have lost contact. Making a difference in someone else's day will make you feel better about yourself. An angel in the snow that only you can make.
- **Get some sun.** Sunlight makes you feel better, and vitamin D is important for good health. On sunny days, sit by the window while talking on the phone, reading a book, or working a puzzle.
- **Clean out your closets.** I imagine, if you're like me, you have several clothes or other things that you no longer use or need that could benefit someone less fortunate than you. Collect these together, and when you have the opportunity to get out or can have someone else pick them up, take them to an organization that assists those in need — another angel in the snow.
- **Exercise.** Develop an exercise program that you practice daily. It doesn't have to be anything fancy. Just move! Get suggestions from the internet, books, watching DVD's that demonstrate simple at-home exercises that you can do based on your ability, or participate in the exercise programs that are offered in your retirement community. Sweeping your arms back and forth to create an angel in the snow doesn't have to be done just in the snow.
- **Pull out your recipe book.** Avoid the tendency to just sit around and eat junk food. Eat healthily, and you'll feel better and have more energy. That doesn't mean that you can't bake your favorite pies, cookies, or cakes and give them as gifts to family and friends, or me if you like! Wow, you've just made another angel in the snow!
- **Compute.** If you're among those who have a computer and enjoy using it, that opens up an entire world of things to you. The internet gives you a connection to news, topic research, and email for staying in touch with others. If you've never used a computer...you're never too old to learn.
- **Gameday.** If you enjoy board games, cards, dominoes, etc., invite others over to share in the fun on days when travel is not an issue.

By this point, I think you get the idea. As much as winter may slow you down in terms of your normal activity, it doesn't mean that you have to come to a complete stop. You may not be a kid anymore, and you may not be able to 'play' outside when it gets cold, but keeping yourself active and staying in touch with those on the outside will make the days seem much less cold. Also, use every opportunity you have to make a difference in how others feel; there is no greater satisfaction, and that creates an angel in the snow that only you can make. ■

Zarrow Pointe Residents can now have EYE EXAMS in our community!

by **KIMGRACE HAOKIP**, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

SeniorVision Eye Care is now providing comprehensive eye exams at Zarrow Pointe. Their team of doctors examines and manages cataracts, glaucoma, macular degeneration, and many other common eye conditions.

Equipped with specialized, state-of-the-art mobile equipment, they provide the very best care for your eyes, just like you would receive in an office. Also, they carry a selection of frames and can provide glasses at very reasonable rates. For your convenience, they also can adjust and perform minor repairs of glasses onsite. They are very experienced in caring for those with advanced dementia and Alzheimer's. ■



Get your eye care needs taken care of on-site!

Bob and Shirley Dormont

by MALYN SAUNDERS



Bob Dormont was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, where he attended Brooklyn College and attained a degree in Economic Statistics. Shirley Shafer was born in Houston, Texas. Her family then moved to Iowa, and by the age of ten they were living in Los Angeles, California. After Bob spent four years serving in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War, he moved to Los Angeles. Shirley graduated from UCLA with a degree in Business Education. At this point in their lives, Shirley had become a widow and Bob, a widower; each had one son from their first marriage.

They would never have known that a party in Hollywood Hills would introduce them to their partner for life, but once they met, they instantly connected, and after two weeks of dating, they were engaged. Bob and Shirley then spent the next six months before marriage making sure their two five-year-old sons got along well. As of January 2020, they have been married 55 years and have been blessed with four sons, three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

While in Los Angeles, Shirley spent some time working as a school teacher, and Bob began working for North American Aviation. After eight years they relocated his job to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where they have lived ever since. After the move, Shirley worked as a substitute

for Tulsa City-County Libraries. They were both thrilled to be moving to the Midwest where they could enjoy a slower pace and focus on raising their four boys. After four years Bob was laid off and began working in marketing for Promark Company. After fifteen years he worked his way up to the position of Senior Vice President, and soon after that he retired.

After retirement, Bob and Shirley became very active as volunteers in the local community. Shirley was involved with Sisterhood at Temple Israel and the Council

of Jewish Women. In addition to their service at Temple Israel, they became involved with the interfaith community. Bob held office with Tulsa Metropolitan Ministries. He served as treasurer then vice president of The Association of Reform Zionists of America. During that time they took many trips to Israel, where Bob would serve as the US delegate to the World Zionist Congress. Bob has been on the Federation's Community Relations Committee for over twenty years, including a period as chairman, and Shirley was a docent to The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art for over twenty years.

They both feel they have been very blessed by their many years of marriage, which they contribute to laughter and never going to sleep while mad at the other. They have so many things in common, enjoying the same books, movies, and hobbies. Bob became a driver for Fitzgerald Funeral Home in 2007, and at the time of this interview has driven 1,866 funerals. Both Shirley's parents and Bob's mother were residents of Tulsa Jewish Retirement and Health Care Center during the 1980s and '90s. We are delighted that Bob and Shirley decided to move to Zarrow Pointe in June of 2016. They feel it was one of the best decisions they could have made, and it was the perfect time to do so. ■

Butterflies

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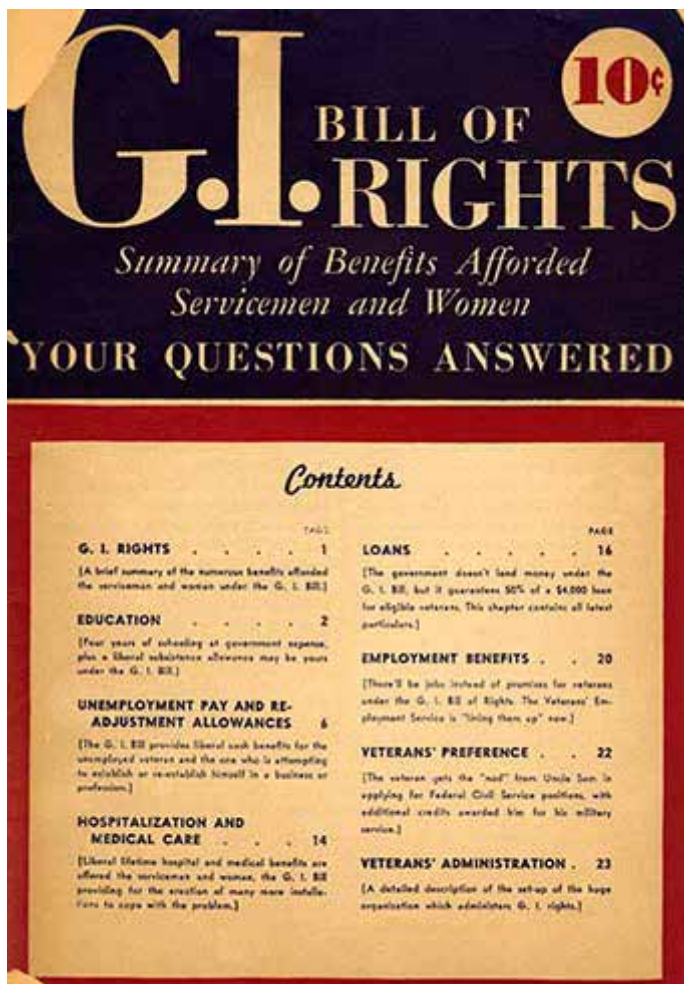
The G.I. Bill and the Jews

by PHIL GOLDFARB

WITHOUT QUESTION, THE single, most effective, and important bill the government has ever passed to change the course of Jewish history in the United States was “The Servicemen’s Re-adjustment Act of 1944,” commonly known as the G.I. Bill, a law that provided a range of benefits for returning World War II veterans. It was largely designed and passed through Congress in 1944 by conservatives led by the American Legion and the Jewish War Veterans (JWV), who wanted to reward practically all wartime veterans. The JWV’s greatest contribution to the G.I. Bill was an aggressive letter-writing campaigning for racial and religious protections in the bill, the result of a vast concern among American Jewry of a resurgence of post war anti-Semitism. These concerns mainly stemmed from op-eds published in various newspapers charging that American Jews were responsible for the United States involvement in World War II. Not only did the JWV want to show that American Jews shared in the burden of the fighting, but JWV also wanted to give credit to other minorities involved in the war, particularly those in the African American community. The GI Bill entitlements opened up jobs and educational opportunities that would otherwise not have been available to those groups.

The final bill, signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on June 22, 1944, provided immediate financial rewards for practically all World War II veterans. Through the Veterans Administration (VA), benefits included low-cost mortgages, low-interest loans to start a business or farm, one year of unemployment compensation, and dedicated payments of tuition and living expenses to attend high school, college, or vocational school. These benefits were available to all veterans who had been on active duty during the war years for at least 90 days and had not been dishonorably discharged. Amendments to the act provided for full disability coverage and the construction of additional VA hospitals. The Bill helped prevent another recession by providing full benefits for education and housing opportunities to all veterans, including women and minorities, regardless of their wealth, enabling them to create jobs and businesses in America’s new booming economy.

For the 550,000 Jewish Americans who served during WWII (which included 10,000 Jewish women), this new Bill brought forth a social revolution. While 49% of all WWII servicemen took advantage of the GI Bill, there is agreement that this percent was significantly higher in Jewish servicemen and, in fact, was over 75%. What did this mean? The GI Bill, for the most part, ended Jewish quotas and religious discrimination at universities and colleges. Jews were now able to go to college for free and become doctors, lawyers, dentists, pharmacists, and businessmen



as opposed to the tailors, shoemakers, butchers, farmers, pushcart vendors, or merchants of a previous generation.

An important provision of the G.I. Bill was low interest, zero down payment home loans for servicemen, with more favorable terms for new construction compared to existing housing. This encouraged millions of American families, including Jewish veterans, to become more mobile, and move out of urban apartments into suburban homes.

Another provision was known as the 52-20 clause for unemployment. Unemployed war veterans would receive \$20 once a week for 52 weeks for up to one year while they were looking for work. Less than 20% of the money set aside for the 52-20 Club was distributed. Rather, most returning servicemen quickly found jobs or pursued higher education. The recipients did not pay any income tax on the GI benefits since they were not considered earned income.

Designed to affect a smooth transition from wartime service to civilian life, this far-reaching piece of federal legislation was conceived initially as a “safety net,” an exercise in demobilization. However, it brought about a social revolution. By providing veterans with a tuition-free college education as well as a low-cost home mortgage, it enlarged the ranks of the American middle class, accelerated the process of suburbanization, and made good





President FDR signing the GI Bill

on the promise of upward mobility, placing rising expectations well within reach especially of the government-sponsored opportunity to attend college—and often a prestigious, faraway one, to boot—took the nation by surprise.

Before the war, the college-bound were drawn almost entirely from white, elite circles; what's more, cleverly designed quota systems made sure to keep the Jews at bay. After the war, the potential pool of applicants was now more diverse—racially, ethnically, and religiously—than ever before. The number of Jewish undergraduates, especially at prestigious colleges such as Harvard and Yale, inched steadily upward. While long-entrenched selective admissions policies did not disappear overnight, the G.I. Bill “struck a blow at exclusion,” promoting a Jewish economic transformation as hundreds of thousands of

Jewish veterans sought college degrees and professional careers. The American “melting pot” thus reached a full boil, and Jewish veterans and their families entered a new phase of social mobility and assimilation — tempered for many, however, by what they had seen or heard about the death camps of Europe.

In 1947, for example, 40% of college admissions were veterans, and through 1956, 7.8 million veterans had used the G.I. Bill education benefits. Historians and economists judge the G.I. Bill a major political and economic success—especially in contrast to the treatments of World War I veterans—and a major contribution that encouraged long-term economic growth.

By 1955, 4.3 million home loans had been granted, with a total face value of \$33 billion. Veterans were responsible for buying 20 percent of all new homes built after the war. When the original G.I. Bill expired in 1956, the education-and-training portion of the G.I. Bill had disbursed \$14.5 billion to veterans—but the increase in federal income taxes alone paid for the cost of the bill several times over. The results rippled through the rest of the economy; there would be no new depression—just unparalleled prosperity for a generation.

What the G.I. Bill did for Jewish American Veterans of WWII was extraordinarily successful and nothing short of remarkable. NOTE: Please see the December 2016 Tulsa Jewish Review for a list of The Greatest Generation-Jewish Tulsans who served in WWII (232 total, which included nine females and four who were KIA).

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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For more information or to join, please contact
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Religion and Climate Change

Global climate change is arguably the great universal in our current politics. Concern is rising across the world about the implications of unsustainable practices. Predictions range from serious to dire, including coastal flooding, population displacement, and the collapse of agriculture, especially in the developing world, which is less cushioned by research and development.

Religion is sometimes seen as the enemy in this context, with retrograde ideas about the natural world and the place of humanity in the scheme of creation. The assumption is that the more traditional the faith community, the less inclined it is to take climate change seriously. American politics, especially, seems to reveal a pattern of evangelical resistance to the claims of science.

But this is hardly the whole of the story, and it overlooks an increasing effort on the part of traditional believers to discover resources in their tradition for mitigating damage and protecting the planet. In cooperation with Sustainable Tulsa, Congregation B'nai Emunah will address these issues in a Tu Be-Shevat/Arbor Day panel on the evening of Wednesday, February 12, at 7:00 p.m. at the Synagogue.

Panelists will include Nancy Pittman, President of Phillips Theological Seminary; Deacon Kevin Sartorius of the Catholic Diocese of Tulsa; and Rabbi Marc Fitzerman of Congregation B'nai Emunah. The panel presentation will be followed by guided table conversation, refreshments, and a final word by Corey Wren Williams of Sustainability Tulsa and Rabbi Daniel Kaiman of B'nai Emunah.

There is no cost for this event, and the entire community is invited. If you plan to join in this opportunity, please register at www.tulsagogue.com or call 918.583.7121. ■



Deacon Kevin Sartorius



Nancy Pittman



Rabbi Marc Fitzerman



Corey Wren Williams



Synagogue Secures Grant

As synagogues across the country look to improve their security arrangements, B'nai Emunah has taken several steps to create a safer environment for its members and friends. An armed guard is now on duty from early in the morning to the close of business, and an expanded force is stationed at large scale events, including the High Holiday, WinterLight, the annual Touro Celebration, and Rise up Singing.

The congregation is now the beneficiary of a federal program from the Department of Homeland Security to reduce the possibility of harm at religious institutions. While some local Federations have sometimes acted as a pass-through for security grants, this is the first time that a local congregation has applied for and received a direct allocation. In the case of B'nai Emunah, federal funds will be used to increase the scope of current surveillance efforts and allow the perimeter of the property to be monitored more effectively.

“The grant application was a serious project,” said Betty Lehman, Synagogue Administrator. “It took us weeks to complete, but I’m glad that we’ve now gone through this process. It means that it will be easier the next time to comply with government expectations. Nothing like this gets done overnight.”

The Synagogue now spends a substantial amount on security, but the grant from DHS will help to alleviate some of this burden. “Security is a delicate balance,” said Rabbi Marc Fitzerman. “An institution like the Synagogue has to hold itself open to the world. Our job is to lower barriers and extend a welcome to everyone. At the same time, we have to be mindful of new realities. I think that we can do both as long as we proceed with quiet confidence.” ■





THE MISSION OF the Jewish Federation's Community Garden is to educate the community on the importance of local food production and to provide produce to those in need. In November of 2019, we began a partnership with Family & Children's Services Women in Recovery. Twice a month, a group of women in the program comes to the garden to help, get their hands dirty, and learn about gardening. Beginning in February, we are also partnering with the Junior League of Tulsa. We are excited about these partnerships, building relationships, and the future of the JFT garden.

JFT also provides educational opportunities in partnership with Anita Mills, permaculturalist, from Anita's Arbor. Anita loves to empower people by showing them how to live a fuller, healthier, more resilient, sustainable life in an urban setting. She is helping Debbie O'Hearn with maintaining the garden throughout the year, and leading workshops on gardening open to the community to enable constituents to grow their produce and learn how to be expert gardeners. Her next workshop is:

February 23, 2020 - 2 p.m.
GARDENING ON A BUDGET
 Zarrow Pointe Theater Room

Gardening does not have to break the budget. What do plastic water bottles, kitty litter buckets, red pepper flakes, banana peels, and plastic fruit containers all have to do with gardening? From containers to pest control, compost, seed starting, fertilizer, and beyond, we'll talk about how you can use what you have around the house to grow vegetables, herbs, and flowers.

If you have any questions about the garden or would like to get involved, please reach out to Debbie O'Hearn at 918 495-1100 or federation@jewishtulsa.org. ■



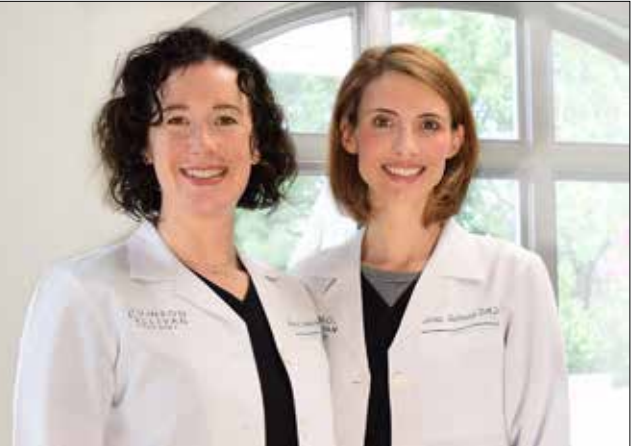
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Scholar in Residence Weekend with Rabbi Neal Gold

February 21-23, 2020

TEMPLE ISRAEL IS incredibly excited to welcome our friend, Rabbi Neal Gold, back to Tulsa. Several years ago, Rabbi Gold visited Temple Israel and Tulsa, representing ARZA as the Director of Content and Programming for the Association of Reform Zionists of America. He now serves in varying capacities throughout the greater Boston area; his rabbinate has taken him to positions of chaplaincy, Hillel Director, and Jewish adult education instructor through the Me'ah program of Hebrew College. Also, Rabbi Gold currently serves as the president of the Massachusetts Board of Rabbis. For eighteen years previously, he served as a congregational rabbi.

As a thoughtful and prolific teacher, Rabbi Gold will be bringing his own life lens to us through a weekend packed with diversified teachings. Temple Israel invites the greater community to enjoy any or all that Rabbi Gold has to offer over the weekend.

Friday, February 21; Shabbat Evening Service, 7:30 p.m.:

THE RADIANCE OF MITZVOT

A discussion, with a selection of Jewish texts, about the spiritual connection to building lives and communities based on Mitzvahs. In particular, we'll share some key selections from *Radiance*, the new to-be-released (April 2020) book, edited by Rabbi Gold.

Saturday, February 22, Shabbat Morning Service and Learning, 10:30 a.m.:

SLAVERY, FREEDOM, AND AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY

Does the Torah sanction slavery? What were Passover seders like in the American South prior to the Emancipation Proclamation? How did the Jewish role in the Civil War inform Jewish views on civil rights for over a century to come? We'll explore these questions, including the great debate between Rabbis Morris Raphall (1798-1868) and David Einhorn (1809-1879) over the biblical view of "owning" other human beings. (Free catered luncheon to follow with RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com or call 918.747.1309 by February 17.)

Saturday, February 22, Shabbat Afternoon Learning and Havdalah, 5:00 p.m.:

EVERY GRAIN OF SAND: BIBLICAL & KABBALISTIC IDEAS IN THE SONGS OF BOB DYLAN

The greatest American songwriter, Bob Dylan—a/k/a Shabtai Zissel ben Avraham—is steeped in Bible and mysticism. Together we'll explore some of his most Jewish lyrics. (Light snacks will be provided; concluding with Havdalah.)

Sunday, February 23, Temple Israel Brotherhood Breakfast, 9:30 a.m.:

WHEN HATE COMES TO TOWN: WHAT SKOKIE IN THE 1970s TEACHES US ABOUT TODAY'S ANTI-SEMITISM

How does Jewish history help us understand the Jewish present? Over forty years ago, a group of American neo-Nazis petitioned to march in Skokie, IL, a town full of Holocaust survivors. We'll revisit the lessons of Skokie to understand the contemporary surge of anti-Semitism and how we might respond. (Brotherhood Breakfast will be served at 9:30; Rabbi Gold will begin at 10:00 a.m.)





Jewish Federation of Tulsa
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Co-chaired by Jake and Michael Lerner



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