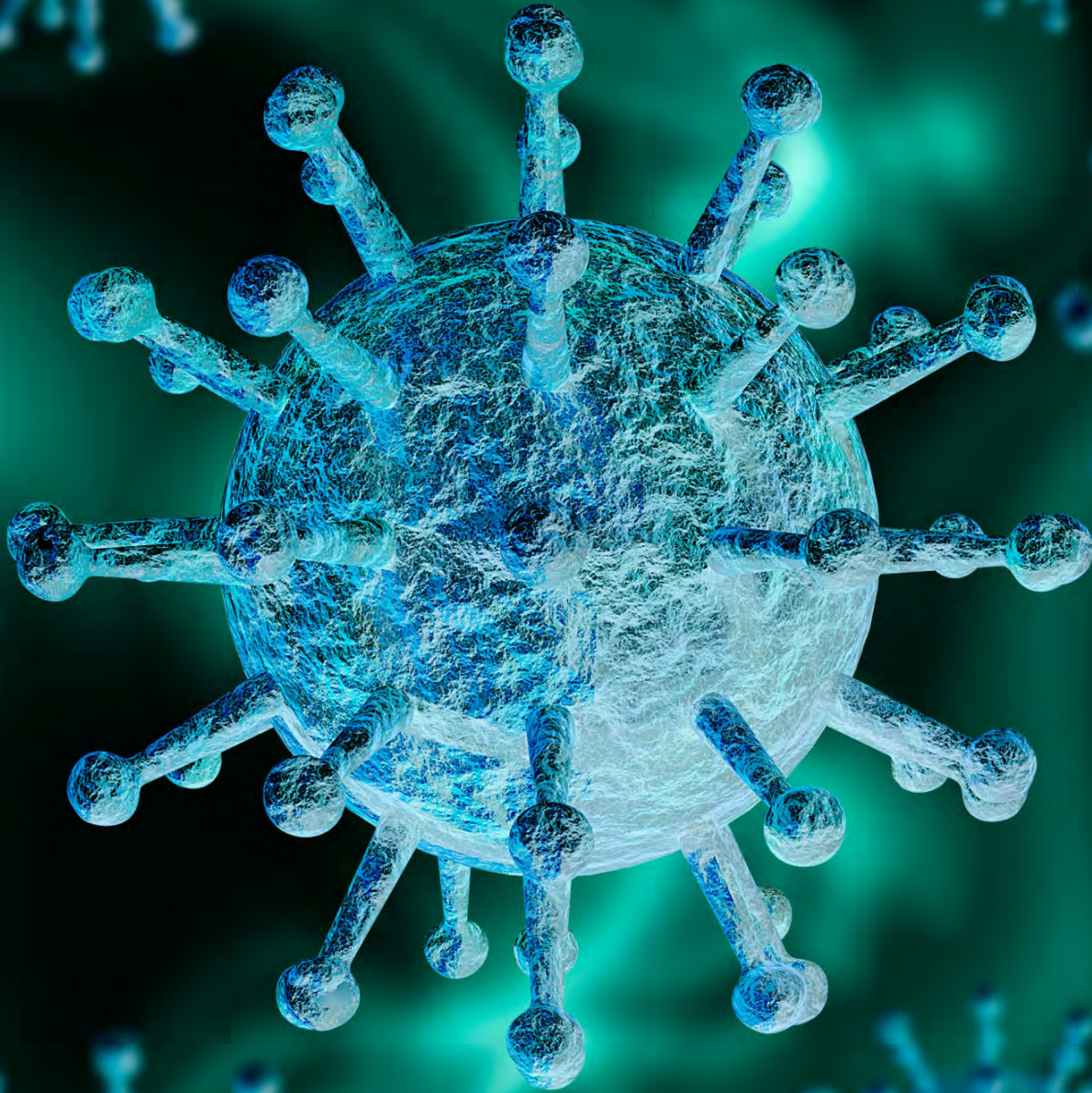


# TULSA *Jewish Review*

Iyar/Sivan 5780  
May 2020



Progress in the  
Face of a Pandemic

# What makes Holland Hall unique?



Learn more at [hollandhall.org](http://hollandhall.org).

We start with the exciting possibilities of **AND** — our many exceptional electives, athletic teams, arts programs, instructional approaches, and active learning opportunities on campus and across Tulsa — and connect them to the solid assurance of **ALL** — the complete educational experience that prepares students exceptionally well for college, work, and the world beyond.

**AND/ALL** highlights our inscribed values. We honor the individual integrity of each child, and we provide the bedrock education every student needs.

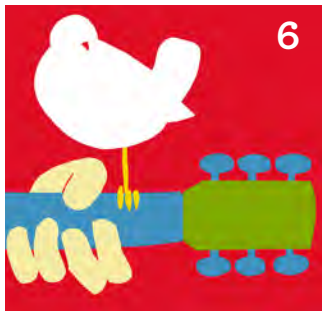
It's a commitment so strong, it's quite literally who we are.

**Holland Hall**. The possibilities of **AND**. The assurance of **ALL**.

## Holland Hall

*We honor the individual integrity of each child.*

Call 918-879-4755 for more information on admission and financial aid or visit [hollandhall.org/admission](http://hollandhall.org/admission).



- 4 **A Message from the Executive Director** *by Drew Diamond*
- 6 **The Jewish History of Woodstock** *by Phil Goldfarb*
- 8 **Mizel's Forty-Fifth Anniversary**
- 9 **Mizel Students Still Learning and Growing** *by Dr. Cathy Kass*
- 11 **A Token of Hope** *by Liat Gal*
- 11 **JFT Annual Report** *by Alix Liiv Caplan*
- 16 **Zarrow Pointe Recognizes Earth Day** *by Ray Bachlor*
- 17 **Protecting Residents in a Public Health Emergency**  
*by Mathew Snyder*
- 18 **What Will You Harvest This Shavuot?** *by Liat Gal*
- 18 **JCC Fitness News**
- 19 **Sacal: A Universal Mexican** *by Tracey Herst-Woods*
- 21 **May Community Calendar**
- 22 **European Diary, Part Two** *by Barry Friedman*

## This Month's Advertisers

This publication is brought to you each month thanks to the support of our advertisers. Please be sure to use their products and services and mention that you found them in the Tulsa Jewish Review.

### AFMDA

AFMDA.org/Corona—Campaign

### Charles Pest Control

918.584.3323

### Coral Swimming Pools

918.494.0393

### Don Thornton Automotive Group

918.665.3420

### Fitzgerald's Funeral Home

918.585.1151

### Holland Hall

918.481.1111

### Jane's Delicatessen

918.872.0501

### J. David Jewelry

918.251.6300

### JT Enterprises

918.951.1618

### Lexus of Tulsa

918.665.3987

### Levinson Sullivan Dentistry

918.496.1358

### Riverfield Country Day School

918.446.3553

### Southwood Nursery

918.299.9409

### Stolper Asset Mgt.

918.745.6060

### Woodland West Hospital

918.299.1208

### Woodland West Pet Resort

918.299.5720

## COMMUNITY ACTION RESPONSE: COVID-19

5 things you can do to make a positive difference in your community

<p><b>Think of others, consider your actions &amp; be kind</b></p> <p>People in every community will face the challenges of Covid-19 in some way – from needing basic provisions to help while they are unwell.</p>	<p><b>Connect and reach out to your neighbours</b></p> <p>As self-isolation increases, we need to find new ways to stay connected and check in on one another for our physical and mental wellbeing. Share phone numbers and stay in touch.</p>	<p><b>Make the most of local online groups</b></p> <p>Keep up to date, share information and be a positive part of your local community conversations.</p>	<p><b>Support vulnerable or isolated people</b></p> <p>Different groups in our communities are at increased risk and social isolation and loneliness are key concerns for all ages. There are things you can do like volunteering for local support services or donating to food banks to help.</p>	<p><b>Share accurate information and advice</b></p> <p>Support anyone who may be anxious about Covid-19. Sign post them to the correct advice from Public Health England and encourage people to follow the correct hygiene practices.</p>



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.

## STAFF

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DREW DIAMOND

execdir@jewishtulsa.org

### EDITOR

DEBBIE O'HEARN

federation@jewishtulsa.org | 918.495.1100

### ADVERTISING MANAGER

MINDY PRESCOTT

mprescott@jewishtulsa.org

### ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE

LEE HUBBY

leehubby@cox.net

## BOARD

### PRESIDENT, JEWISH FEDERATION OF TULSA

LARRY FELDMAN

## DESIGN

### MAGAZINE DESIGN BY

MICKEL YANTZ

curator@jewishmuseum.net

Postmaster: Send address changes to  
Tulsa Jewish Review, 2021 E. 71st St., Tulsa, OK 74136

## A Message from the Executive Director

by **DREW DIAMOND**, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JEWISH FEDERATION OF TULSA

*“We sense that ‘normal’ isn’t coming back, that we are being born into a new normal: a new kind of society, a new relationship to the earth, a new experience of being human.”*

**A**S YOU READ this, we continue to be in the grip of the COVID-19 pandemic, a crisis our community is meeting with determination, courage, and compassion. Through the support and efforts of our Federation’s members, Boards of Directors, volunteers, and dedicated staff, we continue to sustain and advance our mission. Together we are strong, and the future remains ours to define. Thank you all and stay safe. ■

*“If all that we see are the scattered pieces of ‘what was,’ the story of ‘what is yet to be’ will never be told. If, however, we are able to envision the pieces as what they are now freed to be, the story of ‘what is yet to be’ will stand among the greatest ever told.”*

**JEWISH YOUNG PROFESSIONALS:**

**MAY THE 4TH  
BE WITH YOU!**

MONDAY, MAY 4 AT  
5 PM

**VIRTUAL ZOOM BAR**

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO LOG IN,  
CONTACT BEKAH KANTOR AT  
TULSATOMORROW@GMAIL.COM

MEETING ID: 629 485 197  
PASSWORD: 7NAL27



**JANE'S**

DELICATESSEN

RESTAURANT

BAR

MARKET

10 AM – 8 PM DAILY  
2626 EAST 11<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
918-872-0501  
JANESDELICATESSEN.COM

**CURB-SIDE GROCERIES**

**GO ONLINE OR CALL**

**FOR TAKE-OUT ORDERS!**

**TAKE EVERYDAY  
PRECAUTIONS**



WASH YOUR HANDS



DON'T TOUCH FACE



AVOID SICK PEOPLE



## Seventy-one years after Israel fought for its independence, **Magen David Adom** is helping the country battle a different enemy.

The coronavirus pandemic is indeed a war. Even if Israel can keep mortality rates for those infected to 1 percent, it will still mean the death of more than 30,000 people – more than all of Israel's wars combined.

Magen David Adom has been on the front lines against the coronavirus, but the fight has taken an extraordinary toll on MDA's resources. We need your support to keep saving lives. Observe Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel's independence day, by keeping the people of Israel strong.

**Give today to our Coronavirus Emergency Campaign at [afmda.org/corona-campaign](https://afmda.org/corona-campaign)**



Saving lives. It's in our blood.

[afmda.org/corona-campaign](https://afmda.org/corona-campaign)

# The Jewish History of Woodstock

by PHIL GOLDFARB

**T**HIS PAST AUGUST marked the 50th anniversary of the original Woodstock festival, which took place in Bethel, N.Y., on August 15-17, 1969. Woodstock lives on in memory as the culmination of the 1960s counterculture, the greatest rock festival of all time, and just plain and simple as shorthand for “the Sixties,” as in “the Woodstock generation.” It was also quite Jewish. In some ways, Woodstock was just a large-scale, Jewish Catskills pop-up, where the entertainment was rock ‘n’ roll instead of klezmer, the recreation was dancing naked in the mud instead of mahjong, and the rooms lacked floors, ceilings, and walls.

The quartet of Jewish men who created the original Woodstock Music & Arts Fair: An Aquarian Exposition, in White Lake, a hamlet of Bethel, N.Y., were promoter Michael Lang, who to this day remains the face of the festival, former record company executive Artie Kornfeld, and Joel Rosenman and John P. Roberts, two young financiers who at the time were scouting about for investment opportunities. Together they formed Woodstock Ventures, which would eventually become profitable. The festival itself was a monetary bust, but ancillary products, including

the Woodstock film and soundtrack album, and licensing fees insured a perennial revenue stream.

After realizing there was no suitable site for the festival in Woodstock proper — the town was always a haven for musicians and artists — some believe that the promoters wanted it to take place there to entice its most famous resident, Bob Dylan, out of seclusion. The promoters finally made a deal with a Jewish dairy farmer named Max Yasgur, the son of Russian Jewish immigrants, to rent his 600 acres in Bethel. Yasgur’s farm just happened to be located in the heart of the Catskills’ Borscht Belt, about a dozen miles from Grossinger’s, one of the best-known Jewish summer resorts.

The promoters were aided by Elliott Tiber, the young president of the Bethel Chamber of Commerce, whose parents owned a nearby motel. Born Eliyahu Teichberg in Brooklyn, where he attended yeshiva, Tiber already had a valid permit to stage an arts festival, which he transferred to the promoters, who made his parents’ motel their headquarters.

Both Tiber and Yasgur caught flak from a certain element of the local population who were unhappy about the prospect of having hordes of long-haired hippies in their backyard. That element reacted in a timeworn manner — with anti-Semitic vandalism. Tiber wrote about how Nazi swastikas and anti-Semitic epithets were spray-painted on his parents’ motel on a nightly basis. Yasgur, who was a hardcore Republican and a supporter of America’s war in Vietnam, quickly became a pariah and the subject of a boycott; a sign reportedly went up reading, “Don’t Buy Yasgur’s Milk, He Supports the Hippies.”

There were equally as many Jewish contributions to Woodstock onstage as there were off. The list of Jewish performers includes Country Joe and The Fish, who gained notoriety at Woodstock stemming from their expletive-laden “Fish Cheer,” in which the spelling of the word “fish” was replaced by the spelling of a different four-letter word beginning with “f.” Country Joe’s mother, Florence Plotnick, was the daughter of Russian Jewish immigrants. She and her husband were both Communist Party members before renouncing the cause, but not before naming their son after Joseph Stalin. In real life, The Fish was Brooklyn-born guitarist Barry Melton, whose maternal grandparents fled Odessa in 1914 for the promise of streets paved with gold in America.

Arlo Guthrie, whose mother Marjorie Mazia Guthrie (wife of Woody Guthrie) was a dancer for the Martha Graham Dancers and whose grandmother was American Yiddish poet Aliza Greenblatt, sang “The Story of Moses” in his set at Woodstock. Jefferson Airplane’s lineup included guitarist Jorma Kaukonen, who was raised by his immigrant Jewish grandparents, vocalist Marty Balin, born Martyn Jerel Buchwald, and bassist Jack “one Jewish grandparent” Casady.

Somehow, the Long Island-based hard-rock band Mountain, founded and fronted by singer-guitarist Leslie West, born Leslie Weinstein, wound up playing their third concert ever at Woodstock. Canadian-Jewish guitarist-songwriter Robbie Robertson steered his group, The Band (who actually did live



**WOODSTOCK**  
**MUSIC AND ARTS FAIR**

**JIMI HENDRIX** **JANIS JOPLIN**

**AUGUST 15-16-17 - 1969**

**THREE DAY PEACE AND MUSIC FESTIVAL**

★ **FRIDAY THE 15th - Joan Baez, Arlo Guthrie, Richie Havens, Sly & The Family Stone, Tim Hardin, Nick Benes, Sha Na Na**

★ **SATURDAY THE 16th - Canned Heat, Creedence Clearwater, Melanie, Grateful Dead, Janis Joplin Jefferson Airplane, Incredible String Band, Santana The Who, Paul Butterfield, Keef Hartley**

★ **SUNDAY THE 17th - The Band, Crosby Stills Nash and Young, Ten Years After, Blood Sweat & Tears Joe Cocker, Jimi Hendrix, Mountain, Keef Hartley**

**AQUARIAN EXPOSITION**  
**WHITE LAKE, NEW YORK**

in and around Woodstock) through their festival set, and the Grateful Dead was powered by Flatbush native Michael Steven Hartman, aka drummer Mickey Hart. Canned Heat — whose song “Goin’ Up the Country” became the unofficial festival anthem — included two Jewish members: guitarist Harvey Mandel and Brooklyn-born bassist Larry Taylor.

Folk singer-songwriter Bert Sommer, who grew up on Long Island and in Westchester where he became a bar mitzvah, turned in a rousing performance which included a rendition of Simon and Garfunkel’s “America.”

Hollis Hills, Queens-native Al Kooper (born Alan Peter Kupersmidt) laughs about having missed what would have been his biggest gig ever if not for the fact that he quit his band, Blood, Sweat & Tears, one year earlier. The group, however – sometimes lovingly referred to as Blood, Sweat & Jews – boasted a handful

of Jewish musicians, including Bobby Colomby, drums; Jerry Hyman, trombone; Steve Katz, guitar, harmonica, vocals; Fred Lipsius, alto sax, piano; and Lew Soloff, trumpet and flugelhorn.

Sha Na Na, an oldies (which in 1969 meant the 1950s) group that emerged out of a Columbia University a cappella ensemble, was helmed by Alan Cooper, who went on to pursue an academic career and became a Biblical scholar. He now serves as the Elaine Ravich Professor of Jewish Studies and provost at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. In addition to guitarist Elliot Cahn and singer Rich Joffe, the band also included Henry Gross, who at age 18 was the youngest performer on Woodstock’s main stage. Gross attended an Orthodox Jewish day school and as a teenager performed at resort hotels in the Catskills. Later in his career, Gross gained solo fame after recording a song he wrote about the death of former Beach Boys member Carl Wilson’s dog, Shannon. Gross also named his record label, Zelda Records, after his mother.

With food hard to find at Woodstock by the time an astonishing 400,000 or so concertgoers showed up, members of the nearby Monticello Jewish Community Center rallied to provide thousands of PB&J and baloney sandwiches to festivalgoers.

In 1971, Yasgur sold the 600-acre farm and moved to Marathon, Florida, where, a year and a half later, he died of a heart attack at the age of 53. He was given a full-page obituary in Rolling Stone magazine, one of the few non-musicians to have received such an honor.

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



Country Joe at Woodstock, 1969

## J.DAVIDJEWELRY

*Family owned and operated for 25 years.*



**71st & Aspen | 101st & Memorial | [Jdavid.com](http://Jdavid.com)**

# Mizel's Forty-Fifth Anniversary

MIZEL'S



ANNIVERSARY

To those who supported the campaign for the Scholarship Fund we want to say You Did It!!

With the health and safety of all in mind, the celebration of the 45th anniversary of the school was cancelled. However, those who donated to this event helped us to reach our goal for the Scholarship Fund.

We want to say Thank You to our donors. Mizel JCDS will open Fall 2020 because people cared. The Scholarship Fund is still receiving donations. Contact Mizel JCDS at 918-494-0953

**Sapphire Donors:**

Larry Mizel and Steve Mizel

**Emerald Donors:**

Marcel Binstock, John and Sarah Graves, The Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation

**Ruby Donors:**

Sandy Cardin, Jeff Darby & Janet Dundee, Julie Frank, Joan Green, Barbara and Dave Sylvan

**Amethyst Donors:**

Richard & April Borg, The Coretz Family Foundation, David and Jan Finer, Estelle Finer, Alan and Kelsea Greenfield, Frieda Grossbard, Melvin and Jasmine Moran, Janet Simmons

**Sponsor of the Video Tribute:** Blue Sky Bank/ Wendy and Gertner Drummond

**Sponsor of the Heritage/Mizel Memory Book:** Rosalyn Borg & Bonnie Spiesberger

**Pearl Donors:**

Edgar & Judy Benarrous, Brian Brouse, Iris Chandler, Jo Ann Clark, Frederick & Barbara Topper-Cohen, Sabrina Darby, Joe Degen, Louis & Marilyn Diamond, Bob & Gloria Estlin, Jacob & Jennifer Howland, Jeanne Jacobs, Stan & Cathy Kessler, Charles & Merrilee Langer, Marty Newman, Jennifer Paxton and Anton Von Ostendorf, Peter Rao & Jody Weise, Scott & Jolene Sanditen Foundation, Steven & Talya Weiner Shafir, Rabbi Charles & Nancy Sherman, Erin & Geoff Stackenwalt, Jon & Angie Stolper, Kevin & Angela Taubman, Erin, David & Brooke Wambold, Rabbi Weinstein & Temple Israel Staff, Sarah Woller & Jon Willey, Zeligson Family Trust

**Special Thanks:**

Third Floor Design, The University of Tulsa, Teresa Valero, Courtney Spivey, Lauren Hutson & Jesse Robinson; Joe Gaudet & Marriott Hotel Tulsa Southern Hills, Kara Staiger, Mike Pryor, Denise Hoey, Tracy Watson, Scott Gaffen, Greg Raskin, Drapp Studios, Lone Wolf Audio, TI Printing, Katie Irish & Lior Raz, Debbie O'Hearn, Jewish Federation of Tulsa, Tulsa Jewish Review, Barry Lenard

We honor and remember the generosity and dedication of the philanthropists who made it possible for Tulsa to have a Jewish Community Day School: Joe Borg, Charles Goodall, Louis Kahan, of blessed memory. ■



# Mizel Students Still Learning and Growing!

by DR. CATHY KASS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, MIZEL JEWISH COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL

**P**URIM SEEMS SO long ago. I remember the games, the costumes, and the children's spiel as my best ever Purim memory. Usually we celebrate Purim for one day; this was the longest Purim I've ever celebrated. Of course, it was my first Mizel Purim celebration, and since it was right before Spring Break and the coronavirus crisis, it will be more special in my memory as the last hurrah of the year!

Whether we are home alone, working with children at home, or with a spouse at home, these are not normal times. As the coronavirus began to spread, Mizel School went on Spring Break. Before we could return, we had canceled classes, and the Jewish Community Center had closed. Three staff members traveled out of state and were in quarantine, and the rest of us were told to shelter in place. However, Mizel School is still operating with our strong, creative, and dedicated teachers planning and implementing their classes remotely and online. Teachers have "posted" activities for math, vocabulary, reading, writing, new songs for music, art projects, and much more. Our staff started remote learning the week after Spring Break, never missing a beat! What a blessing these teachers are!

Canceling events has been the hardest for all of us. Canceling our 45th-anniversary gala was so difficult. However, the job the committee did to raise money is wonderful. Thank you to those hard-working volunteers on the fundraiser committee and special thanks to all our donors and supporters. Mizel School could not operate without your generosity.

As of this writing, our board of trustees has still been working on the goals they have established for the year. Zoom meetings happened on time, and these members have been so supportive and compassionate during these difficult times. Thank you to each member for all you have done.

Knowing life is different at each home, our teachers and I have been staying in personal contact and reaching out to children and parents. We use email, pictures, texts, FaceTime, What's App, and Zoom. Let me just say, our building may be closed, but we are still one school community actively learning together. ■

CALL FOR A TOUR  
**PRE-SCHOOL  
TO 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**



**M**  
Teaching. Tradition. Excellence.  
**MIZEL**  
FLO AND MORRIS MIZEL  
JEWISH COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL  
2021 E. 71st St. • Tulsa, OK 74136  
**918.494.0953**  
www.mizelschool.org

**A Well Socialized Dog is a  
HAPPY DOG!**

I get excited when I go to Woodland West Pet Resort. I get to spend the day socializing with the Woodland West Staff and playing with other dogs. My parents can even see how I'm doing with the remote view on their webcam! My parents couldn't have made a better decision. So come join me at Woodland West Pet Resort!



**Woodland West  
Pet Resort**

Where we offer  
professional grooming,  
daycare and boarding  
7 days a week.

**918.299.5720**

**Woodland West Pet Resort**  
9380 South Union Ave • Tulsa, Oklahoma 74132  
www.woodlandwestpetresort.com  
Kind, Loving Care 24/7, 365 Days a Year

LOOKING OUT FOR YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE  
FROM RIGHT HERE IN TULSA



## Stolper Asset Management

An Independent Registered Investment Adviser

**(918) 745-6060**

[stolperassetmanagement.com](http://stolperassetmanagement.com)

1924 South Utica, Suite 805  
Tulsa, OK 74104-6516

Stolper Asset Management is not a registered broker/dealer and is independent of  
Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., member FINRA/SIPC.

Securities offered through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc.,  
Investment advisory services offered through Stolper Asset Management.

Open & caring  
7 days a week,  
365 days a year!



Shalom,  
Arf! Arf!

918.299.1208

9360 S. Union Ave, Tulsa, OK 74132  
[www.woodlandwestanimalhospital.com](http://www.woodlandwestanimalhospital.com)



At the Don Thornton Automotive Group our promise is to  
always make business about PEOPLE.

Today, PEOPLE want and need different things from their  
automobile dealership.

We just want you to know that we are here and ready when  
you need us.

  
**DON THORNTON**  
AUTOMOTIVE GROUP



[www.donthorntonauto.com](http://www.donthorntonauto.com)

# A Token of Hope

by LIAT GAL, ISRAEL EMISSARY



Jim Jakobovitz – Zarrow Pointe CEO delivering keychains

**T**HESE DIFFICULT, MEANINGFUL days make one wonder. Can you challenge yourself to spot beautiful patches in this quilt of uncertainty and confusion? Does it help to feel that you belong? To see your community leaders still there for you, to be asked from time to time, "How are you?"

When my grandparents arrived in Israel they came with nothing, barely survived, and barely made their way to the Promised Land. But, as my grandma used to say - we were all refugees, and one was never alone.

I am very confused these days. I miss the way life used to be, but yet, with all of the recent challenges, I am still proud. I am proud of our great community leaders, our Rabbis, our wonderful Federation. I'm proud to be part of the Jewish Community of Tulsa. Today, on Yom HaShoah, we handed the residents of Zarrow Pointe a token of hope - simply to remind them we care. These Magen David (Star of David) keychain holders are made from the remains of rockets fired towards Israel. Creating beauty from hatred - isn't this the essence of Jewish history? ■

JEWISH FEDERATION OF TULSA

# PLANTING SEEDS OF HOPE

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

## JFT 2020 Annual Report

By Alix Liiv Caplan, Deputy Director of Operations

As we continue to plant "seeds of hope" this year, we are excited to present you with a summary of our Annual Report. Despite a difficult start to 2020, JFT made significant strides in 2019, and we are excited to leverage the momentum in years ahead.

Over the past year, JFT has deepened our understanding of who we are by listening to the distinct voices that make up the Tulsa Jewish community. JFT has made a commitment to playing a more active role in your lives, that means being a more transparent, adaptive, and engagingly innovative space.

By mobilizing our combined resources on the Zarrow Campus, The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art, the Charles Schusterman Jewish Community Center, the Mizel Jewish Community Day School, and Zarrow Pointe, we have a host of Jewish offerings and pathways. And with support from our program partners, local restaurants, coffee shops, and bars, we can bring Jewish to you!

This 2020 Annual Report is reflective of our efforts, a positive reminder of our purpose, and a reason to continue to invest in the future of the Jewish Federation of Tulsa. ■

The success of the Jewish Federation derives from an engaged Board of Directors, dedicated staff, generous donors, and an abundance of committed volunteers.

Our work is guided by these core values:

**KEHILA - COMMUNITY:** Fostering a connected and **collaborative** Jewish community, characterized by **respect**, empathy, and understanding.

**TZEDAKAH - JUSTICE:** **Continuously improving** the quality of life of all Tulsans, as well as our partners nationally and in Israel, through **philanthropic** giving of our resources and time.

**L'DOR V'DOR - FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION:** Sustaining the culture, traditions, and collective memory of the Jewish people, through **innovative** intergenerational programming that is meaningful, educational, and fun.

## FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Jewish Federation of Tulsa is a cornerstone for Jewish culture and life in Tulsa. Connecting regularly with Jewish Tulsans, your Federation works to advance and promote Jewish life through philanthropic, social, and community programs. The past twelve months have been punctuated by notable successes and significant challenges. However, we will continue to add value to our successes as we meet the myriad challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Crisis has a way of eliciting both the best and often the worst in communities. Regarding the Jewish Federation of Tulsa, our boards, members, staff, and community, only the best has emerged. Thank you all for your caring support and tireless efforts.

Drew Diamond

## A WORD FROM OUR LEADERS



**LARRY FELDMAN**  
President

### LARRY FELDMAN

The Tulsa Jewish community, like the broader American Jewish Community, continues to witness the seemingly ceaseless battle between hope and apathy. There are incredible examples in the Tulsa Jewish community of hope consuming community-minded ‘mensches.’ They devoted their time, effort, and personal fortunes in response to this value. The campus for the Jewish Federation of Tulsa is a striking manifestation of that conviction.

Hope has been a theme from the beginning of Jewish history, starting with the Torah. We have survived over 5780 years because of it. And now, the most palpable living example of Jewish hope is Israel.

The day Jews let hope give way to apathy, is the day the Jewish community will dwindle into non-existence. I hope in Tulsa we can regain a sense of optimistic urgency about our community. We have our own set of ‘forefathers’ who felt compelled by it. Our community needs to feel the sort of hope that gives it pride in its Jewishness and certainty that it will flourish. We need to again consider fellow Jews as family. I can only **Hope**.

### ANGELA TAUBMAN

*“There is hope in dreams, imagination, and in the courage of those who wish to make those dreams a reality.” – DR. JONAS SALK*



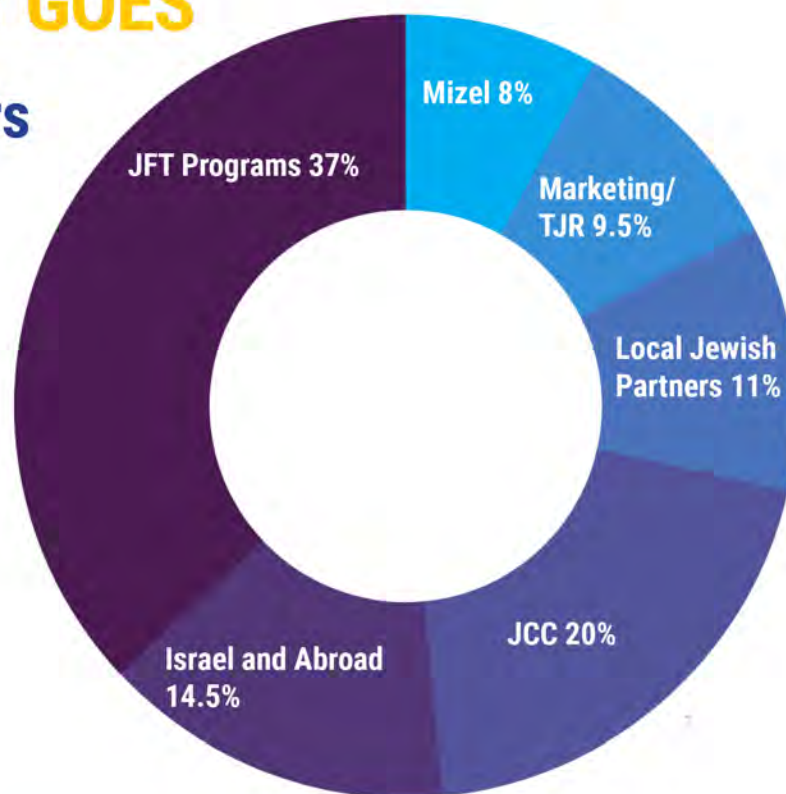
**ANGELA TAUBMAN**  
Incoming President

The Federation is here to help and offer hope to the community through this difficult time. Our staff is working diligently to meet immediate and long-term needs as we weather this crisis together. With the building temporarily closed, they have been innovative in creating platforms to engage our members. From the museum adding photos of the exhibits to the website so that the public can virtually experience our beautiful space, to our Shlichah live streaming on social media, it has been remarkable to see.

I am hopeful that when this uncertain and difficult time passes, we will continue to implement some of these new ideas to engage our community for the future. The goal for us should be to bring our rich Jewish heritage to life in the twenty-first century, in a way that is true to traditions but emphasizes Jewish identity and our values across all generations.

# WHEN YOU MAKE A PLEDGE TO THE FEDERATION THIS IS WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

## Campaign dollars in action



## WHAT DOES THE JEWISH FEDERATION MEAN TO YOU?

JFT Board members answered that question. We are certain one of these answers applies to you too!

- THE CENTER OF JEWISH LIFE
- THE PLACE WHERE ALL JEWS, REGARDLESS OF AFFILIATION, CAN COME TOGETHER
- A VITAL ORGANIZATION THAT OFFERS PROGRAMMING SEPARATE FROM ALL HOUSES OF WORSHIP
- THE BEATING HEART FULL OF PEOPLE AND VALUES
- AN ORGANIZATION THAT CAN UNITE THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY
- A PLACE OF INCLUSION AND EDUCATION TO BRING THE ENTIRE CITY AND COMMUNITY TOGETHER
- A UNITED JEWISH COMMUNITY

# THESE THREE MAIN PILLARS GUIDE OUR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES



## ENSURING THE JEWISH FUTURE: PJ LIBRARY

"We are so excited about our first book from PJ Library! Thanks to the Jewish Federation of Tulsa for gifting our child with a book that highlights Jewish culture and values. Thanks Jewish Federation of Tulsa for fostering reading and heritage in our community."

– CHRISTY TURKISH, YOUNG JEWISH PROFESSIONAL, PEARL SOCIETY MEMBER AND PJ LIBRARY RECIPIENT



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: YOZMIM K'AHILA

Young Adult Israel Trip: How Philanthropic Entrepreneurship Strengthens Community | Sept 2019

"Before this trip, I almost forgot why people care about philanthropy and making contributions to other people. I am so grateful for my experience on this trip, and I cannot thank those who made it possible enough - it made me realize that when I grow up and have the means to make these experiences possible for other people, I definitely will. The impact that not only being/exploring Israel had on me, but being able to do it with such amazing people from Tulsa will last my whole life."

– MICHAEL LERNER, JEWISH YOUNG PROFESSIONAL



## HELPING PEOPLE IN NEED: THE PEARL SOCIETY

Cultivate your spirit of philanthropy. The Pearl Society recognizes women who give from the heart. When you give a gift of \$180 or more to the Jewish Federation's Annual Campaign, you share a bond with women in Tulsa who are committed to the welfare and continuity of Jewish people locally, in Israel, and in 70 countries around the world.

# Zarrow Pointe Recognizes Earth Day

by RAY BACHLOR

**O**n **EARTH DAY**, 22 April, millions of people around the world marched, spoke, and sang to focus attention on our fragile earth and how our messy housekeeping can endanger its future—and ours.

While we here at Zarrow Pointe did not march, our solar cell parking cover, installation of LED lighting, electric vehicle charging stations, and our recycling program give silent testimony to our support.

Much of the Earth Day effort is aimed at stabilizing our rapidly changing climate due to global warming.

Global warming is caused primarily by “greenhouse” gas emissions, notably carbon dioxide, that tend to trap heat, thus preventing its escape into space.

And how do we know this? Fortunately, Greenland ice cores tell a lot about the earth over the past 800,000 years. The ice began as yearly snows that compacted into ice, the perfect storage medium for the snow-trapped oxygen and carbon dioxide, as well as spores, pollen, and other tell-tale ingredients. Approximate temperatures are ascertained by measuring fluctuations in the oxygen 180 isotope, and records show that increases in carbon dioxide have always been followed by increased temperatures.

Carbon dioxide levels are now over 400 parts per million—the highest in the history of the world! It is therefore expected that temperatures, presently on the rise, will reach record-breaking heights within the next few decades, even if drastic action is taken immediately.

If the earth is getting warmer, why do we have extreme cold snaps?

Normally a circular “Polar Vortex” of extremely cold air measuring about 600 miles in diameter rotates around the North Pole. Because of increasing temperatures, the vortex has expanded and lost its shape. As a protrusion of the vortex passes through a region, it will experience extremely cold weather for a short time.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) continually monitors ocean temperatures worldwide via satellite and has verified a recent rise of about 2.3° Fahrenheit in world oceans. Increased temperature causes more evaporation and rain-laden clouds that may increase hurricane intensity or hover for longer periods to bring extreme amounts of rain and floods. In many cases, this is preceded by droughts and fires, compounding the problem and causing mudslides.

So what can we do?

1. Recognize the problem. Stop redacting “climate change” and “global warming” from official documents and ridding the government of scientists who can help.
2. Promote the use of renewable fuel, especially wind and solar, and grid sharing of energy. Stop subsidizing coal, petroleum, and corn-based ethanol.
3. Promote the use of electric vehicles (EVs) and battery research and penalize the use of internal combustion engines, the largest polluters on earth. ■





# Protecting Residents in a Public Health Emergency

by **MATHEW SNYDER**, HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATOR

**T**HE LAST COUPLE of months have been an extremely challenging time at many nursing facilities (ours included) across the county. The global outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) has tested the limits of many facilities throughout the country; reduced or eliminated visitation for residents, canceled group activities, and dining restrictions have severely impacted the daily routine of millions of residents nationwide.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says that the vast majority of deaths have occurred in the 70+ population. People 70+ simply do not have the immune system of a younger adult to fight off the viral attack on the body; factor in other pre-existing conditions, and we have a very scary scenario should an older person become infected.

Restricting visitor access, reducing or eliminating social activities, and limiting dining options goes against everything I was taught in school. The most important part of my job, in my opinion, is creating an environment and social atmosphere that allows our residents to live the highest quality of life possible with their given conditions. I have been a patient advocate ever since I took my first job in a nursing home kitchen 23 years ago as a 16-year-old high school kid, and before I make any decision, I always ask myself, "How will this affect our residents?"

Given all the negatives associated with the restrictions we have had to make, I still feel that these changes are absolutely necessary. Endangering anyone's life is simply not a risk that we, as an organization, are willing to take for the temporary benefit of quality of life.

I am lucky we have such an understanding group of residents and families who have been so supportive of the restrictions we have had to make. While the whole COVID-19 response has definitely tested our internal capabilities, I think that it will make us stronger as a community and better prepared for the future. ■



**ZARROW POINTE**  
Senior Living At Its Finest

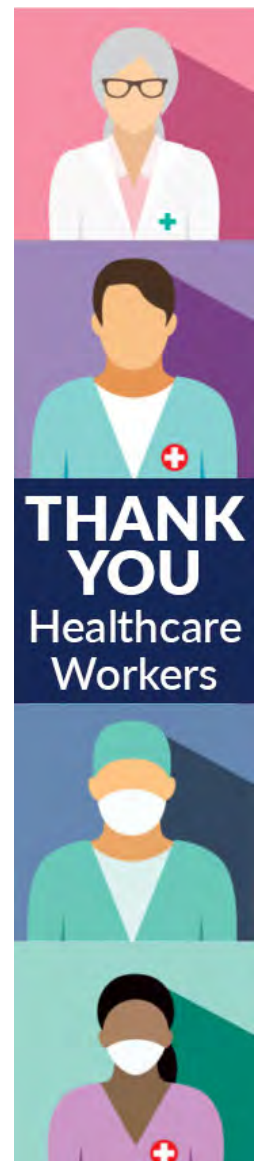


**Zarrow Pointe providing safe & active living options**

- Freshly made breakfast, lunch, and dinner are available every day.
- Residents are staying active and putting their skills to work by sewing medical masks and donating them to the healthcare community.
- Residents are encouraged to walk the grounds and participate in social distance appropriate activities.
- All Zarrow Pointe staff and medical personnel are screened daily prior to entering to ensure a safe living environment.
- Housekeeping services has increased in common spaces to ensure disinfection to those areas.

**918-496-8333**  
2025 E. 71st Street  
on Tulsa's vibrant Zarrow Campus

**Call today to discuss immediate availability options in our Villas and to schedule a virtual tour.**



# What Would You Harvest This Shavuot?

by LIAT GAL, ISRAEL EMISSARY

**F**OLLOWING PESACH (PASSOVER), we move on to Shavuot. Imagine the Israelites on the night before the liberation and their escape from Egypt; people who were used to being beaten and could no longer move, and those who lost almost everything. Could they really believe the time had come? Could they believe all of the sorrow would end? They had to rush and did not have the time to even bake the most basic food - bread.

While they wandered the desert at night, smelling the ashy scent of a giant fire cloud, did hope start to rise within? Did they still have a doubt? Did they remember the ones who were left behind?

The next holiday to come on the Jewish calendar is Shavuot - Shavuot is the Jewish holiday that celebrates the giving of the Torah, the first harvest, the ripening of the first fruit; one might say, the payout of faith and hard work.

In between the two holidays, we mention Yom HaShoah, one of our strongest, most meaningful collective Jewish memories, a time of horror and despair. Soon after Yom HaShoah comes a time of hope - the rebirth of the Jewish state, the State of Israel.

During these meaningful days, I imagine my grandparents on their journey to Israel on their own exodus. Did my grandpa hold my grandma's hand in the rocky boat when she gave birth to their first son? Did he look at her the way he always did - with admiration and love? Did her sparkly big dark eyes sparkle a bit more that night? Did hope start to rise within? Did they still have a doubt? Did they remember the ones who were left behind?

On this Shavuot, my brothers and sisters, what would you choose to harvest? Would hope rise? ■

 **Charles Schusterman**  
Jewish Community Center



All,

It is with many mixed emotions that I am writing to you all. As most of you know, I am from Florida, my parents live in Florida, and last year, my daughter moved to Florida. As most of you also know, my husband and I planned to make the move to Florida sometime in the near future. In a somewhat unexpected chain of events, my husband was offered a position with a company, and his territory will be most of the state of Florida. After much thought and discussion, we decided it was an offer that could not be refused.

With all of that said, it is a bittersweet announcement I am sending, as I will so miss the class participants, clients, and members. The people of the JCC have been so much more than just "members"...you are like an extended family.

As of the end of April, I will no longer be your instructor, coach, trainer, or whatever role I filled. I will forever, though, remain your friend and supporter!

I am leaving you in good, capable (and younger) hands. Hannah will be taking up right where I left off. If you haven't yet met her, take my word, that you will adore her! Please be welcoming toward her & recognize that all instructors/coaches are different (and that's a benefit to you)!

My intent was to tell you all in person; however, this terrible virus has prevented me from doing so. I hope that I will get to see you all before I leave to say proper goodbyes!

Always be active,  
Coach Stephanie

Hello everyone,  
Hannah Bakewell here! I am ecstatic to be working full time at the JCC. Being full time at the fitness center means I get to spend more time with every member! I have been working as the fitness instructor of the Jukebox Jams class for a year this summer. I couldn't be happier about this opportunity, and to be a part of your fitness journey. I have some big shoes to fill, but I know it is going to be an awesome learning experience. This past year has been amazing, and I am certainly excited for many days to come working with all of you! Be sure to join me on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays on Facebook at 9 a.m. for a fun workout on the Charles Schusterman JCC page.



# SACAL: A Universal Mexican Mexican Sculpture Art to Celebrate the 5 de Mayo

by TRACEY HERST-WOODS, DIRECTOR: MUSEUM OPERATIONS

The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art, in partnership with the Consulate of Mexico in Little Rock and the José Sacal Michá Foundation, is proud to present “SACAL: A Universal Mexican.” This exhibit opened to the public on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, to benefit all visitors to the museum in the framework of the celebration of 5 de Mayo.

José Sacal is undoubtedly one of the most prominent representatives of contemporary sculptural art. Known for his experimentation and freedom, Sacal recognized no boundaries in his sources of inspiration and was not afraid to find new meaning in old forms. Sacal’s work has been showcased in more than 40 individual exhibitions and dozens of collaborations in Mexico and around the world. In 2006, he became the first Mexican to have his sculpture art permanently displayed in the country of China. Today, more than 20 Sacal sculptures can be found in public spaces across Mexico, Israel, and the United States, including Los Angeles and Washington, D.C.

The sculptures featured at the Sherwin Miller Museum comprise two series: “The Paraphrase,” inspired by distinguished artists like Michelangelo, Frida Kahlo, and Picasso, and “Characters of Impact,” in which Sacal recreates unmistakable historical figures like Einstein and Churchill. This exhibit will be on display through July 2020. ■

*Editor’s Note: Once social distancing has subsided, this exhibit will be open once again to the public.*



Photo by Tracey Herst-Woods

TIKKUN OLAM REPAIRING THE WORLD  
SAVE THE DATE

The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art

THE SHERWIN MILLER MUSEUM of JEWISH ART

## Museum Gala

HONORING THE LEGACY of MILDRED & JULIUS SANDITEN HERMAN & KATE KAISER

**OCTOBER 25 2020**

[FORMAL INVITATION TO FOLLOW]

**“Call Charles .... Call Charles .... Call Charles”**  
 Don't wait! Protect your home or business now before it's too late. Call Charles Pest Control at **918-584-3323**.

— Free Estimates —

charlespestcontrol.com

**J.T. ENTERPRISES**

**JOSEF T. SHOHAH**  
 \*HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING  
 \*ELECTRIC  
 \*PLUMBING

**HVAC**

918.951.1618  
 jt64@cox.net

**PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST COVID-19**

**WASH HANDS** **COVER COUGH** **MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING**

6 Feet



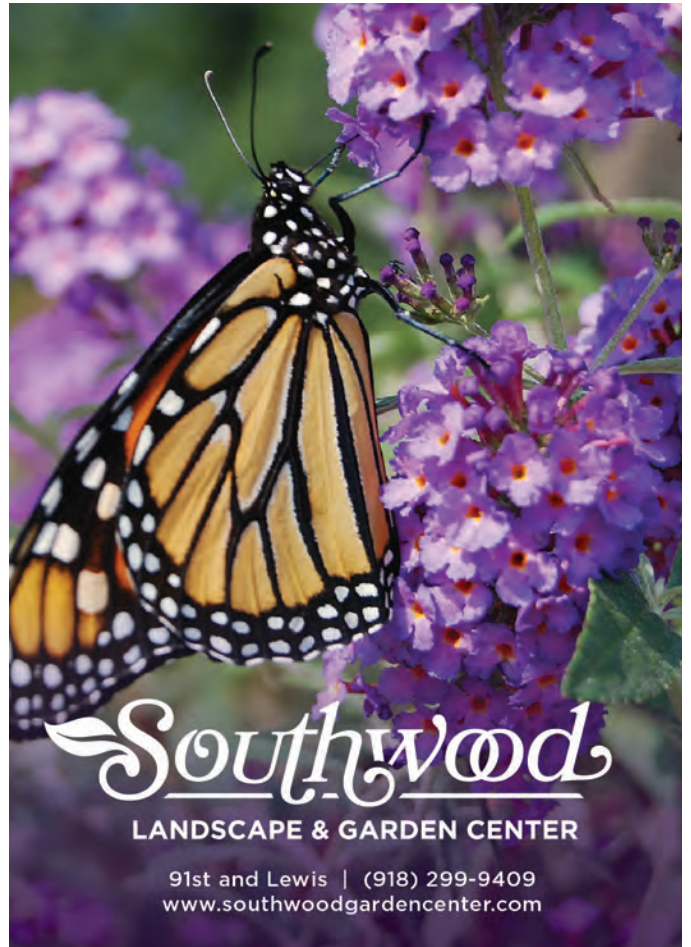
David Dopp



Levi Olsen



BOULDER AT FOURTEENTH, TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74119  
918.585.1151



**Southwood**  
LANDSCAPE & GARDEN CENTER

91st and Lewis | (918) 299-9409  
www.southwoodgardencenter.com



**Coral**  
SWIMMING POOL  
SUPPLY CO.

Since 1955  
2315 E. 69th Street (69th & S. Lewis Ave.)  
www.coralpoolsupplies.com  
(918) 494-0393

During this trying time we are offering delivery of any item we sell and curbside pickup as well.



**Providing Advanced Restorative & Cosmetic Dental Care**

Marti Levinson, DDS  
Carla Sullivan, DMD

**LEVINSON  
+ SULLIVAN**  
DENTISTRY

71st & Harvard | Tulsa, OK  
(918) 496-1358 | levinsonsullivan.com

## Jewish Federation of Tulsa

### Jewish Young Professionals Virtual Happy Hour

Mon., May 4 • 5 p.m.

May the 4th be with you! For more information or to log in, contact Bekah Kantor at tulsatomorrow@gmail.com. See ad on page 4.

### Men's Club

Wed., May 13 • Noon

A delicious lunch will be followed by our speaker Drew Diamond, Executive Director, Jewish Federation of Tulsa. 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., May 11. If sheltering in place is still occurring, the program will take place using Zoom. More information to follow.

### Ladies Who Lunch

Mon., May 18 • Noon

Come enjoy pleasant conversation and great food at Michael V's (8222 E. 103 Street). Each person pays her own check. Please RSVP to Mindy at mprescott@jewishtulsa.org or 918.935.3662 no later than Fri., May 15. If sheltering in place is still occurring, this event will be canceled.

### PJ Library Virtual Story-time

Sun., May 24 • 10 a.m. • Zoom

Watch for future emails and eblasts for additional information.

### Men's Club

Wed., May 27 • Noon

A delicious lunch will be followed by our speaker Simon Lowen, Program Director, Congregation B'nai Emunah, who will speak about "My Journey from Tulsa to Tulsa..." 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 Fri., May 22. (Our office will be closed on May 25.) If sheltering in place is still occurring, the program will take place using Zoom. More information to follow.

### JFT Annual Meeting

Wed., May 27 • 6:30 p.m. • Sylvan Auditorium

Come celebrate the "SEEDS OF HOPE" we continue to plant for future generations and bid farewell to our Shlichah, Liat Gal. Light hors d'oeuvres will be served. RSVP to Debbie at federation@jewishtulsa.org or 918.495.1100. Note: Virtual is the new normal. More info to come if we will be meeting online.

## The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art

### Online Exhibits

JewishMuseumTulsa.org

Explore current and past exhibits online including, Sacal: A Universal Mexican; the 14th Annual Purim Mask Invitational; Going Home, Jewish Romania in the early 21st Century; Views from the Collection Room; Chasing Dreams; Jews in Space, and many more.

## Congregation B'nai Emunah

### Open Forum with Rabbis

Every Fri. • 11 a.m.

One of the great missing pieces of our new digital world is the happenstance time to check in with

one another and simply shmooze because we find ourselves in the same place. Every Friday at 11:00 a.m., Rabbis Fitzerman and Kaiman are available on Zoom to catch up, connect, and make sense of our shared new realities. Visit [www.tulsagogue.com/digital-synagogue](http://www.tulsagogue.com/digital-synagogue) to find the link to the Zoom experience.

### Panim el Panim Shabbat Morning Service

Every Sat. • 10 a.m.

Our tradition speaks of a special power that exists when a group of people gathers together for prayer. "Panim el Panim" is a live broadcast service led by Rabbis Kaiman and Fitzerman. Rooted in our in-person Shabbat morning service, we spend time singing, reflecting, studying Torah, and connecting. To take part in this experience, head over to [www.tulsagogue.com/digital-synagogue](http://www.tulsagogue.com/digital-synagogue), where you'll find the link under "Prayer" or check our program calendar.

### Shabbat Together

Fri., May 1, 8, and 29 • 6 p.m.

As days and weeks go by, we are invited to pause, reflect, and enjoy time together. "Shabbat Together" is a short, digital gathering where we take a few moments to connect with community as we enter Shabbat. The gathering begins at 6:00 p.m. To join us, visit [www.tulsagogue.com](http://www.tulsagogue.com) to be directed to our Zoom experience.

### ToGather

Sun., May 3 • 10 a.m.

ToGather together! Families with children four and under should join us online on Sunday, May 3rd, at 1:00 p.m. for the last ToGather of the school year with the theme "Our Jewish Bodies." Storytime, singing, Yoga, what Judaism says about taking good care of our bodies, and more! RSVP to Morah Sara at [slevitt@bnaiemunah.com](mailto:slevitt@bnaiemunah.com).

### Challah Baking

Wed., May 6 • 6 p.m.

It's the greatest bread ever. On the first Wednesday of every month, we gather in the Synagogue kitchen to prepare our dough and explore the nuance of challah baking. With social distancing in mind, we're excited to transition this experience to a Facebook Live experience. If you'd like to follow along step-by-step, see the ingredient list on [www.tulsagogue.com/challah](http://www.tulsagogue.com/challah). To join us, simply click the link on that page to be directed to the Synagogue's Facebook page.

### Bibi-Dibi Online

Fri., May 15 • 5:30 p.m.

Our monthly Shabbat experience for babies, toddlers, and their families moves online! With songs, games, and community-building activities, we introduce the youngest members of our congregation to the wonders of Shabbat. Using commonly found household objects, we'll navigate our way through a short set of rituals and prompts. This service will be held on Zoom and streamed to Facebook Live. To join in, visit [www.tulsagogue.com/digital-synagogue](http://www.tulsagogue.com/digital-synagogue).

### Shabbat for Everyone

Fri., May 22 • 7 p.m.

We'll meet again in The Digital Synagogue for storytelling, song, and blessings. All of us are challenged to do our best in difficult times. The key thing is never to overlook an opportunity for Joy. We'll start at 7:00 p.m. and raise a glass of wine to close out the evening. Please click the link on the Synagogue website to connect with us by Zoom just before the starting time.

### Shavuot

Thurs., May 28 • 7 p.m.

A Priest, a Minister, and a Rabbi walk into a Zoom Room and start talking about the Book of Ruth. That's the format for tonight's digital discussion on refugees, romance, survival, lovers, and other strangers. Rabbi Fitzerman will moderate a roundtable exchange between Rev. Barbara Prose, Fr. W. Lee Domenick, and Rabbi Dan Kaiman. We'll finish the conversation with virtual cheesecake. Look for the link on the Synagogue website ([tulsagogue.com](http://tulsagogue.com)) on the day of the event.

## Temple Israel

### Shabbat Evening Services

Fri., May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 • 6 p.m.

Join your Temple Israel friends and family to welcome Shabbat at 6:00 p.m. every Friday in May on Zoom and Facebook Live. Your weekly eblast will have the link, or email Jenny@templetulsa.com for information.

### Shabbat Morning Learning on Zoom

Sat., May 2 • 10:30 a.m. • Zoom

Borrowing from our Temple Israel monthly Shabbat morning experience, join your clergy from the comfort of your home for an opportunity to study and learn from one another. We will explore Torah and Traditional Rabbinical texts based on themes of this week's Parsha, Torah Reading.

### Neshama Reboot

Thursdays in May • 1 p.m. • Facebook Live

Join your Temple Israel Music Team as we raise our spirits together through song, both Jewish and secular.

### Pirke Avot with Rabbi Weinstein

Thursdays in May • 2 p.m. • Zoom

Pirke Avot, The Ethics of our Ancestors, provides words of wisdom and an approach to living a good life. At a time when all of us are separated from the community, our study in Pirke Avot will bring us together as one sacred community. Join Rabbi Weinstein for this new, weekly class, as we learn together, heal together, and grow together.

### Shabbat- Symbols & Stories with Rabbi Kowalski

Fridays in May • 3 p.m. • Facebook Live

As we spend more Shabbat time at home, Rabbi Kowalski will walk us through traditional Shabbat symbols and their meanings. A short prelude to Shabbat, join her to help give context to our weekly observance.

### Tot Shabbat

Fri., May 8 • 6 p.m.

Join us for this special service geared for our young families with songs, prayers, and a story with our short monthly Tot Shabbat Service.

### Havdalah with Cantor Laurie Weinstein & Cantorial Soloist Jenny Labow

Saturdays in May • 7 p.m. • Facebook Live

As the joyous day of Shabbat comes to an end, we separate the sacred from the sublime, and begin the week anew. You are invited to join your Temple Israel Musical Team as they offer the prayerful songs of Havdalah, and the soulful music of the new week.

# European Diary, Part Two

by **BARRY FRIEDMAN**

A comedian, born in New York, Barry started performing comedy in Tulsa, concluding that while Manhattan was the place to be discovered, Oklahoma had more parking. Barry is a columnist, a political blogger, and the author of three books: *Road Comic*; *Funny You Should Mention It*; and the just-released *Four Days and a Year Later*. What follows is a recent trip he took to Germany and Poland with his daughter, Nina, in a search for Jews, family history, and meaning.

*Continued from the April 2020 issue*

## February 24—Krakow

It is the worst joke ever.  
It is the best joke ever.

*An elderly Jewish couple decides to pay their respects at Auschwitz, so they fly from NYC to Krakow, closest major city to the camp, to take a bus tour. The morning of the tour, however, they have a terrible argument in the hotel, so awful in fact, they stop speaking to each other. Throughout Auschwitz, throughout Birkenau, throughout the barracks and tracks, throughout the stacks of clothes and shoes and hair and dentures on display, throughout the explanations of the millions killed, throughout the unspeakable horror, not a word passes between them. On the way back to the hotel, the woman, so moved by her experience, says to her husband, "About our fight this morning in the hotel, I'm sorry."*

*"NOW you're sorry," he says, "you ruined Auschwitz for me."*

I told you that story to tell you this one.

Nina and I were on one of the tour busses today and none of the 20 or so with us was anywhere close to being alive during the Holocaust. They're here, I like to think, to say hello to the ghosts and souls, to pay their respects to a generation or two or three away — or maybe it's all for naught, as Nina said. Maybe the tourists scared the souls away long ago.

Andrei Codrescu, a poet and writer, long associated with a journal called *The Exquisite Corpse*, said the first thing he noticed after the fall of Romania under Ceaușescu, the first sound he heard in the capital city of Bucharest when he went back, was of church bells — something for years that had been banned in his homeland.

"You need the poets," he said, "for they are the ones who see the light ... hear the promise. They are the ones who remember to ring the bells."

When Nina and I were leaving the last site in Auschwitz — one of the gas chambers and the spent Zyklon B canisters — it was cold and rainy, as you would expect, but there was also the sound of clanging — a rhythmic, hypnotic, almost sweet, if slightly jarring sound.

Someone in a town between the living and the dead, someone in a town between the barbed wire and the tourists taking selfies had remembered to ring a bell.

## February 25—Frankfurt

We went to meet the past. It wasn't happy to see us.

It was too cold, wet, and windy; too many people who could speak English didn't; and too many memories of destruction and corrosion spoiled the resurrection of these once dark, dispirited places.

And these cities—Berlin, Warsaw, Lodz, Krakow—are beautiful now.

At least on the outside.

It was more the museums than even Auschwitz that got to me, for in the photos and exhibits, the Jews, people who looked like people I look like, are returning from work and school or walking to the market. The every day of their every day was heart wrenching.

Their lives haunt me more than their deaths.

Nina should have ended the trip in Israel, for there, Jews literally, figuratively rose from the ashes.

Three million Jews were murdered in Poland alone. Language. Not exterminated—bugs are exterminated. People are murdered.

And because of one thing—they were Jews. There are a little over three million in Oklahoma. Imagine every man, woman, and child in the state murdered—EVERYONE here— simply being murdered because ... they're Oklahomans.

On our last night, at an airport hotel in Frankfurt, Nina and I talked of meeting in Is-rael in 2021 ("Next year in Jerusalem" are the final words of the Passover Seder) and shared a loaf of German bread.

We then had a pillow fight.

It was never supposed to be a vacation — and it wasn't.

It was less.

It was more.

Nina told me the vegan food was ... fine. ■



Barry Friedman  
Photo courtesy of the *Tulsa World*

# HAND-SELECTED. METICULOUSLY INSPECTED.



CERTIFIED  
PRE-OWNED



Lexus was Named "Best Certified Pre-Owned Program" for 2020 by U.S. News & World Report. And it's a smart choice with the Lexus Two-Year Unlimited Mileage L/Certified Warranty...Which gives you peace of mind along with innovative design, technology and performance in every masterfully crafted vehicle.



42ND AND MEMORIAL  
[WWW.LEXUSOFTULSA.COM](http://WWW.LEXUSOFTULSA.COM)

# CAMP RAVEN

Riverfield Country Day School • 2020

arts • adventure • sports • themes • academics  
[riverfield.org](http://riverfield.org) • 918.446.3553





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

Come celebrate the “SEEDS OF HOPE” we continue to plant for future generations  
and bid farewell to our Shlichah, Liat Gal.

Light hors d’oeuvres will be served. RSVP to Debbie at [federation@jewishtulsa.org](mailto:federation@jewishtulsa.org) or 918.495.1100.

Virtual is the new normal. More info to come if we will be meeting online.

SAVE THE DATE

JEWISH FEDERATION OF TULSA

# ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

6:30 P.M.

SYLVAN AUDITORIUM

Virtual is the new normal.  
More info to come if we will be  
meeting online.



JEWISH FEDERATION OF TULSA