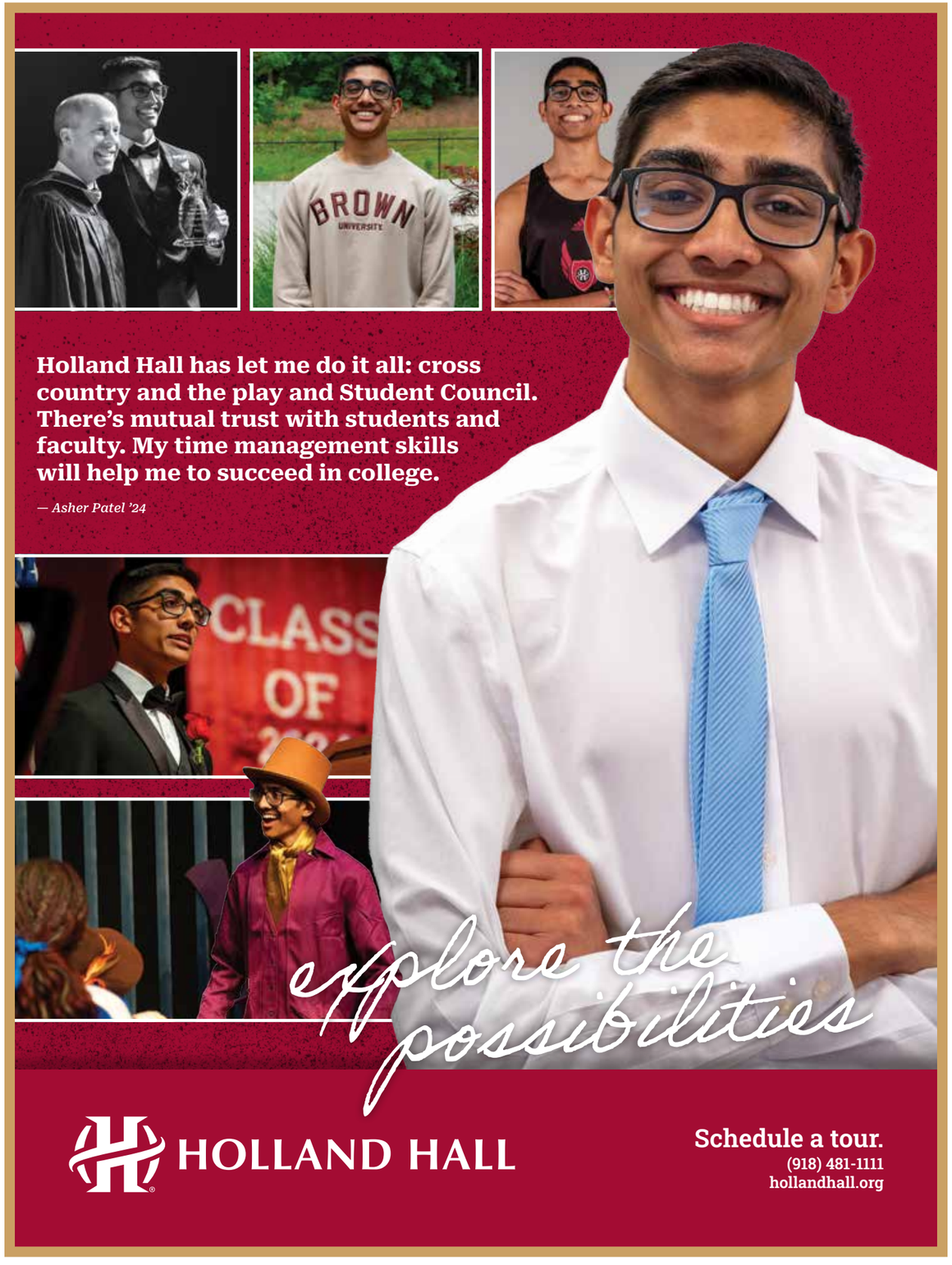
TULSA Jewish Review

Elul/Tishri 5785-86
September 2025



Contents

5 Director's Corner by Joe Roberts
6 Jewish Federation of Tulsa Upcoming Events
8 Marking October 7th
9 Charles Schusterman Jewish Community Center Upcoming Events
10 The People Who Power Us: Austin Polun and Rosalie Silberg by Isabella Silberg
12 Israel at Camp Shalom by Shahaf Feinkuchen
13 The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art
14 Standing On Their Shoulders: In Memoriam: Isabel Raffkind Sanditen by Rabbi Charles P. Sherman
15 Honey from the Heart: The Sweet Way to Raise Money by Isabella Silberg
16 Small Stage, Big Impact: The Power of Jewish Theatre by Sandy Sloan
18 Mizel JCDS Leads the Way in Social, Emotional, and Digital Leadership by Amanda Anderson
19 Resistance, Rescue, and Resilience SB1671 Oklahoma, Holocaust Legislation Coalition Teacher Conferences by Janet Dundee
20 The Jewish Genealogy Society of Tulsa...Celebrating 20 years!© by Phil Goldfarb
23 Zarrow Pointe Butterflies
24 Congregation B'nai Emunah - Events Calendar
25 "We" Have Sinned? by Rabbi Daniel S. Kaiman
26 Temple Israel - Events Calendar
27 New Notebooks & New Books for the New Year by Rabbi Batsheva Appel
28 $6 Dollah Challah

September 2025
Elul/Tishri 5785-86
Volume 97 | Number 9

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.

Richard J. Borg, Attorney
borglawok.com

Circle Cinema
circlecinema.org

Coral Pools
coralpoolsupplies.com

Fitzgerald Funeral Service
fitzgeraldfuneralservice.com

Karen Watt Grimes
K-Grimes.kw.com

Holland Hall
hollandhall.org

Jewish Theatre of Oklahoma
jewishtheatreok.org/tickets

Lithaprint
lithaprint.com

Magen David Adom
866.632.2763

Plost Dental
plostdental.com

Summit Heat & Air Tulsa
SummitHeatAndAir.com

Jenny Wilner
415-624-7353

September Shabbat Candle Lighting Times

Tulsa Jewish Review

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
Joe Roberts
joe@jewishtulsa.org

EDITOR
Sandy Sloan
sandy@jewishtulsa.org

ADVERTISING MANAGER and COPY EDITOR
Sarah Howman
showman@jewishtulsa.org

DESIGN
Stephanie Krautheim
skrautheim@jewishtulsa.org

BOARD PRESIDENT, JEWISH FEDERATION OF TULSA
Tyler Coretz

Front Cover

Rosh Hoshanah artwork
by Nasik-Nosik

JEWISH FEDERATION OF TULSA

MISSION:

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

VALUES:

Kehila – Community

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

Tzedek – Justice

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

L'Dor V'Dor – From Generation to Generation

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

ADVERTISE WITH US!

This publication is brought to you each month thanks to the support of our advertisers.
Contact Advertising Manager, Sarah Howman to become an advertiser!
showman@jewishtulsa.org

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Get social with us on Facebook and Instagram!
@JewishTulsa
@CharlesSchustermanJCC
@JewishMuseumTulsa

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

WHAT REALLY MATTERS

by Joe Roberts, Executive Director

Rosh Hashanah arrives with the sound of the shofar. It is not polite. It is not gentle. It is a cry. It cuts through the noise of our lives and asks a question we all need to hear: *Who are you becoming?* The world is new again. Are you ready to be new too?

This past year has been heavy. I know many of us have felt it—grief, frustration, exhaustion, the kind of fatigue that comes from caring too much. Some days, I left the office wondering if any of it mattered. Some nights, my prayers felt like shaky whispers, words that barely reached the ceiling. And yet, even on those days, Tulsa kept showing me what really matters.

I would walk across our campus and hear children laughing as they learn Hebrew songs, sticky fingers clinging to apple slices, voices full of joy and curiosity. I would see a senior finish a workout and grin, saying, *I feel stronger than last month*. I would watch volunteers pack and deliver food quietly, without a thought for recognition. And sometimes, a new family would tell me, *We moved here because Tulsa feels like a place where we can build a life*.

Those moments are simple, small, easy to overlook. But they are the truth of community. Community is not statistics. It is not a spreadsheet or a report. Community is the choices we make every day—to show up, to care, to notice, to help. And each day, we get to choose again. Hope is built one small act at a time.

Rosh Hashanah is a chance to press reset. To ask yourself: *Who do I want to be this year?* We cannot control the winds that shake the trees, but we can control how we plant our feet. We can control how we speak, how we act, how we show up for each other. The courage to begin again starts in ordinary moments.

"Every year gives us a chance to be braver, kinder, and more present."

I believe this year can be different. I believe it can be better. Not because life will suddenly be easier, but because we can meet it with intention, love, and care. I have seen it in Tulsa. I have felt it in myself. The smallest gestures, repeated over and over, have the power to change everything.

The shofar calls us inward. Renewal is not always easy. It asks for honesty. It asks for courage. It asks us to face the parts of ourselves we might rather ignore. And yet it also reminds us that even after a hard year, there is space to grow, to heal, and to show up for each other. Every year gives us a chance to be braver, kinder, and more present.

This year, I want to plant my feet firmly. I want to speak with care, act with intention, and notice the small moments that make life meaningful. *The world is new again. Are we ready to meet it with our best selves?*

There will be setbacks. There will be sadness. And yet, there will also be laughter, connection, and quiet moments that remind us why we keep going. This year, let us not wait for life to change around us. Let us be the change. Let us choose courage over fear, hope over despair, presence over indifference. The future is shaped by what we do today.

Shanah Tovah. May this year be filled with growth, courage, and the determination to become the people we hope to be. And may we take steady, deep pride in this Jewish community—the families, the neighbors, the friends—that makes Tulsa not just a place to live, but a home. ■

UPCOMING EVENTS

Paws in the Pool | Sunday, September 7 | 2 pm | CSJCC Pool

Let your best friend cool down after a hot summer! The Sharna and Irvin Frank Aquatics Center will be open for your dogs for an afternoon of supervised swimming and play before the pool is closed for the season. Local Jewish-owned Knot Yours pet boutique will be onsite with handcrafted pet products. They will also be serving up free pup cup treats for your furry friends. All pups must be people and dog friendly. This program is free for Pet Campaign donors and CSJCC Members or $10/family for non-members.

RSVP: jewishtulsa.org/paws

Lunch Bunch | Monday, September 8 | 12 pm | Jewish Federation

Join us for another Lunch Bunch where we learn a bunch in just one lunch. We will be joined by the newest employee at the Jewish Federation, Michael Sachs, Senior Director of Strategic Philanthropy. Mike is an accomplished Jewish community leader and philanthropy professional with extensive experience in organizational leadership, advocacy, and strategic development. He will share his background, what drove him to Tulsa, and what his big goals are for the community. $13 optional lunch

RSVP: JewishTulsa.org/lb-sept2025

Jewish History of Bourbon | Thursday, September 11 | 7 pm | Tulsa Country Club

Did you know that the Kentucky bourbon industry has a surprisingly Jewish history? Join us for a discussion on the impact that Jews have on the bourbon trail. Led by Louisville native and Tulsa local, Evan Anderson, we'll take you through a bourbon tasting with food pairing. Enjoy the stunning views of downtown Tulsa and a quaint and cozy fireside room as we dive into history and delicious drinks. The program is $200/person, which includes bourbon and food.

RSVP: JewishTulsa.org/bourbon

Chai Society Kickoff: Sunset Sip & Shabbat | Friday, September 12 | 7 pm | 108 Contemporary

Calling all young adults (ages 21–40) who are ready to take the next step in their Jewish community journey! Join us for the kickoff of *Chai Society*, a giving society for those who commit $180/person to the Federation's annual campaign. We're celebrating with a Shabbat dinner like no other—wine and food pairings, a beautiful sunset setting at 108 Contemporary, and stories from fellow young adults about what inspires them to give back. Haven't made your Chai Society gift yet this year? No worries, you'll have the opportunity to make your commitment that night. Come sip, schmooze, and discover your *why*. $36/person for the event.

RSVP: JewishTulsa.org/chai-sept2025

To RSVP for ALL Events visit: JewishTulsa.org/event

UPCOMING EVENTS

YJP Torah on Tap | Tuesday, September 16 | 7 pm | Nothings Left Brewing

Rabbi Daniel Kaiman from The Synagogue | Congregation B'nai Emunah joins us to discuss Yom Kippur. *We Have Sinned: Owning What's Not Yours (and What Is)* dives into the messy space between collective responsibility and individual conscience. How do we stay part of a group when we don't agree with everything it does? And what does it mean to show up, even when it's complicated? Whether you're curious or want to broaden your knowledge of Jewish tradition, this session provides a welcoming space for exploration and discussion. YJPs are ages 21-40.

RSVP: JewishTulsa.org/torahtap-sept2025

Mahjong Lesson | Wednesday, September 17 | 3 pm | Jewish Federation

Always wanted to learn Mahjong? Join Mahj918 for a one-time, deep dive into all things Mahjong! This four-hour session is perfect for beginners and includes the 2025 card, a handy booklet, and snacks to keep your brain fed during the session. We will take a short break during the lesson for refreshments and to help alleviate learning fatigue. After this lesson, you will be invited to join intermediate players, which will sharpen your skills! This program is a partnership between JFT and CSJCC. Mahj918 is a Tulsa-based organization, founded by two women who love games, friends, and fun. The cost is $72/per person.

RSVP: JewishTulsa.org/mahj918

Women's Philanthropy: Lion of Judah and Pomegranate Society Luncheon | Friday, September 19 | 12 pm | Private Residence

If you've made a Lion of Judah or Pomegranate Society gift to the 2025 campaign—or are considering joining this remarkable sisterhood—you're invited to a special luncheon, hosted in a private home, honoring the bold and compassionate women at the heart of our community. We'll enjoy a lunch and conversation with inspiring guest speaker, Deputy Mayor Krystal Reyes, along with the chance to connect with other incredible women who are making a real impact through philanthropy. $15 for lunch | Location provided upon registration

RSVP: JewishTulsa.org/luncheon-sept2025

Legislator Appreciation Lunch | Tuesday, September 30 | 1:30 pm | SMMJA

Join us for a special luncheon honoring two outstanding legislators for their leadership in advancing legislation combating antisemitism. Senator Kristen Thompson and Representative Emily Gise will receive the inaugural *Yolanda Charney Award for Public Leadership* in recognition of their roles in the passage of Senate Bills 991 and 942. These important measures represent significant strides in defining antisemitism and increasing civil rights protections for Jews in Oklahoma. This event will bring together community leaders, advocates, and policymakers to celebrate this historic legislative achievement and the impact it will have across our state. A catered lunch will be served, followed by a short program and award presentation. RSVP required.

COMING SOON

Zionist Book Club – Auto-Emancipation by Leon Pinsker Tuesday, October 21 | 7 pm

Download the 16 page PDF by searching: Auto-EmancipationPDF

Community Mission to Israel, November 3-11, 2025

For details on pricing, itinerary, and more, contact Isabella Silberg, isilberg@jewishtulsa.org, 918-935-3690

Marking October 7th

Sunday, October 5
3 – 5 pm
At the Jewish Federation of Tulsa

Commemoration & Concert
with Daniel ve Jacobi "Calling Home"

A powerful performance of music, stories, and shared experience.

Free performance • Childcare available

SAVE YOUR SEAT:
JewishTulsa.org/callinghome

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fitness Challenge: Steeptember

Take your fitness goals to new heights with Steeptember—a community stair-climbing challenge where you'll join either Team Hannah or Team Laura in a friendly competition to see which team climbs the most flights of stairs! A flight equals 10 consecutive steps—tracked using stairs, a stair machine, or a fitness app. Every flight you climb adds to your progress and your team's total. To keep the momentum going, our community bulletin board will feature a cartoon Hannah and Laura climbing a mountain. As each team racks up more flights, their character will climb higher and higher up the mountain. It's a fun, visual way to celebrate your effort and see who's leading the climb! Track your flights daily, support your teammates, and cheer each other on as we climb our way through Steeptember—one step at a time.

Wellness Series
FALL PREVENTION

Wellness Series: Fall Prevention | Wednesday, September 3 | 10:15 am | Dan Room

Falls are the leading cause of injury in older adults, but there are things that you can do to decrease your risk. In this session, you will learn about risk factors for falls and strategies to prevent falling, including home safety and different types of physical activity that can help you move with more confidence and stability. Learn more from Dr. Sarah-Anne Schumann, Family and Lifestyle Medicine Physician and Advanced Teacher of Therapeutic Yoga. After this session, Sarah-Anne will lead two Friday yoga classes focused on balance (no yoga experience required).

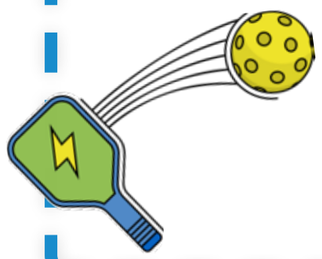
RSVP at: csjcc.org/wellness-sept2025

Fall Prevention/Balance Yoga Series | Fridays, September 5 and 12 | 10:30 pm | Dance Studio

All are welcome in this gentle yoga class focusing on balance. Designed specifically for older adults, this class focuses on improving balance, flexibility, and core strength through simple, accessible yoga poses and breathing techniques. Certified yoga instructor, Dr. Sarah-Anne Schumann, will guide you through movements that enhance stability, increase body awareness, and reduce the risk of falls—all in a safe, supportive environment. No prior yoga experience is needed, and all equipment is provided. You are welcome to bring your own mat. Limited capacity, please reserve your spot.

RSVP at: csjcc.org/balance-yoga

Gym Updates:



OPEN PICKLEBALL

RETURNS TO MONDAYS, 5-7 PM

PICKLEBALL LESSONS EVERY MONDAY

BEGINNERS 2-3PM

INTERMEDIATE 1-2 PM

OPEN BASKETBALL

HAS MOVED TO MONDAYS

7- 9 PM

PEOPLE WHO POWER US:

CHAI SOCIETY SPOTLIGHT WITH AUSTIN POLUN AND ROSALIE SILBERG

by Isabella Silberg, Director of Development

Q What first drew you to get involved with the Jewish Federation of Tulsa as a young adult?

Rosalie: I was looking for a way to feel rooted in the Jewish community beyond just attending events or holidays. The Federation felt like a space where I could give back, connect deeply, and grow alongside others who share a passion for Jewish life and continuity.

Austin: I moved to Tulsa in late spring 2023 and wanted to find friends and a community. When I heard from Isabella and Bekah (Kantor-Wunsch) what the Young Jewish Professionals (YJPs) were doing, it sounded interesting and worth exploring.

Q Why did you take on a leadership role with Chai Society, and what has that experience meant to you?

Rosalie: I wanted to show that young adults don't have to wait to make an impact—we can be leaders now. Taking on a leadership role with Chai Society has given me the chance to amplify voices, shape initiatives, and build meaningful relationships with other young Jewish adults in Tulsa.

Austin: This community has welcomed me in and made me feel a part of something special. They've supported and encouraged me to follow my passions, and I want to use the skills they've helped me develop to give back. This experience has shown me the power of being intentional and how much can be accomplished through meaningful communication.

Q How does giving through Chai Society align with your personal values or identity as a young Jewish adult?

Rosalie: Tikkun olam—repairing the world—is a core part of how I live my life. Giving through Chai Society is an expression of that value. It reflects my belief that community is strengthened when we each do our part, however big or small.

Austin: Giving through Chai Society aligns with my values because it represents the voices and priorities of our YJP community. When I give, I know my support is going toward causes that truly matter to me and the people I care about

Q What makes giving through the Federation meaningful to you at this stage of your life?

Rosalie: At this stage, I'm still figuring out a lot—but I definitely know that I want to contribute to something bigger than myself. Through the Federation, I can make an impact locally and globally, while staying connected to the people and traditions that shape who I am.

Austin: Giving through the Federation is meaningful to me because it helps keep me connected locally and to the larger Jewish community as a whole.

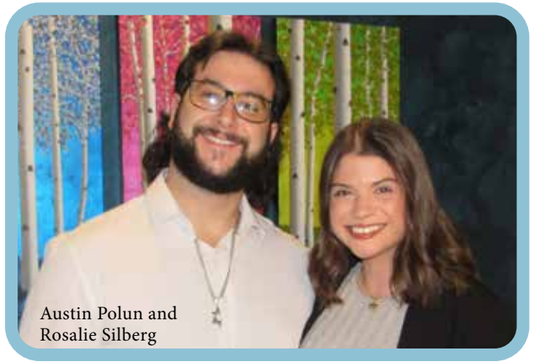
Q Can you share a moment, event, or conversation that solidified your commitment to Jewish philanthropy?

Rosalie: I participated in the 2024 Jewish Changemakers Fellowship, which led to the opportunity to attend the Jewish Federation of North America's General Assembly (GA) in Washington, DC. It was during the sessions focused on the next generation of Jewish leaders that I felt truly inspired to deepen my involvement in the Tulsa Jewish community. After returning from the GA, I joined the Jewish Federation of Tulsa's Community Relations Committee, helped lead Torah on Tap, and shared programming ideas with the Federation team that works so hard to engage young adults. That experience solidified my commitment to Jewish philanthropy and is a big part of why I'm proud to co-chair this initiative.

Austin: The Spring 2025 Tulsa Tomorrow weekend is one of my favorite experiences. I felt like a valued member of the community, attending the events and being asked to advocate for the YJP community. I made an incredible connection at this event when I learned that a young Jewish man visiting attended the same middle school as I did. We connected instantly! He decided to move to Tulsa, and now we're neighbors. And it's all thanks to Jewish philanthropy!

Q What impact do you hope young adult giving—like yours—can have on our local and global Jewish community?

Rosalie: I hope it shows that we're not waiting for "someday" to get involved. I want our giving to inspire a ripple effect: more programs, more



Austin Polun and Rosalie Silberg

connection, more innovation in how we support Jewish life and those in need, both here and around the world.

Austin: I feel so grateful for the young adults who came before me—those who built the foundation for Tulsa's young Jewish community. Because of them, I get to share in monthly potluck dinners that feel like family gatherings, enjoy creative events, and form friendships that have truly enriched my life. My hope is to carry that forward—welcoming new members who come to Tulsa, and connecting with the broader global Jewish community—so we can keep building something meaningful together.

Q What would you say to peers who are considering getting involved but aren't sure where to start?

Rosalie: Start by showing up. Attend one event, have one conversation. You don't need to know everything or have all the answers. Just being curious and open is enough, and you'll find your place in the community naturally from there.

Austin: Start by asking questions and determining what matters most to you—what changes you'd love to see and what experiences you want to create. YJP leadership values feedback and ideas, and they'll support you every step of the way. When I moved here, I wanted to start pick-up basketball games. Not only did the Federation spread the word in the Tulsa Jewish Review and through the community, but now Monday night pick-up basketball at the JCC has become a regular event—and one of the highlights of my week.

Q Finish this sentence: "I give because…"

Rosalie: I give because I believe in building a future where Jewish identity, community, and caring for one another thrive across generations.

Austin: I give because this community has given me so much. It's helped me grow into the person I want to be, and I believe in paying it forward—leaving the world better than you found it. ■

ISRAEL AT CAMP SHALOM

by Shahaf Feinkuchen, Israeli Emissary

If you visited Camp Shalom this summer, it was impossible to miss the spirit of Israel—it was everywhere you looked.

This year, we were thrilled to bring back a beloved program from the past: the **Summer Shlichot**—Israeli camp counselors who come to share the culture, language, and warmth of Israel with our community. Our two Shlichot, Adi and Roni, traveled all the way from Israel to spend the summer in Tulsa and bring a living, breathing piece of Israel to Camp Shalom.

Thanks to their creativity, passion, and hard work, campers took part in a wide variety of Israeli-themed activities, including:

- **Israeli Outdoor Adventure Week**
- **Maccabiah Games** inspired by Israeli Olympians
- **Challah baking** and **pita making over a campfire**
- **"Just Dance" sessions with Israeli music**
- **Writing notes to our handmade Western Wall**
- **Hamsa decorating**, learning to write Hebrew names, and much more

Beyond these fun and educational programs, it was Adi and Roni's everyday presence that made Israel come alive at camp. Through personal conversations, they shared stories about life in Israel, explained Hebrew slang and humor, and naturally wove Hebrew words into our camp lingo. Just by being caring, energetic, and approachable counselors, they created meaningful connections that left campers with a warmer and deeper sense of connection to Israel.

A Deeper Exchange: Beyond Camp

Another highlight of this cultural exchange program, made possible through our partnership with The Jewish Agency for Israel, was Adi and Roni's engagement with host families and staff outside of camp. While in Tulsa, they explored the area, celebrated the 4th of July, went swimming, and learned firsthand about American and Jewish-American life. They are returning to Israel with unforgettable memories, new friendships, and pieces of Tulsa they will carry with them forever.

We asked the girls to share their experiences:

Roni: This past summer, I had the amazing opportunity to be part of Camp Shalom's summer Shlichim program. I am so appreciative of all the staff, counselors, campers, and my host families for giving me the best summer experience and welcoming me into their community.

I loved getting to know Tulsa, meeting everyone, and sharing my culture while learning new things, as well as visiting the US for the first time! I am sure that the next shlichim will have an amazing time like I did, as they experience the joy of meeting all the campers and helping them have an unforgettable summer!

Adi: Being a Camp Shalom Shlichut was an unforgettable experience! Camp served as a home away from home. I feel lucky that I got to do what I love—working with

(Continued, pg. 22)

The following host families opened their homes and hearts to our Israeli guests this summer. A big THANK YOU goes out to:

Ofir Bar and Family

Shana and Isaac Deneen and Family

Hannah George and Family

Danielle and Gilad Gurevitch

Sarah and David Howman

Miranda and Philip Kaiser

Donnie Suter-Levin and Itzik Levin

Sara and Matt Levitt and Family

Hillary and Lawrence Lieberman and Family

Nena and Michael Mudd and Family

Christie Osborne and Family

Patty Stone and Family

Roni, Shahaf, and Adi at Camp Shalom

~ ON VIEW NOW ~

Sunrise Sunset: The History and Legacy of *Fiddler on the Roof*

Tradition! *Fiddler on the Roof* is an international classic that has made its way into the hearts and homes of generations of people—and not just theater kids! This exhibition has a little bit of everything—history, Judaica, art, and even set pieces and costumes from the Tulsa Performing Arts Center's most recent production of *Fiddler*. Join us for a celebration of this much-loved story and be prepared to learn a thing or two about this timeless classic.

Bashert: The Art of Jewish Love

Love is in the air! Grab your sweetheart and join us for a celebration of love as depicted by works in our permanent collection. This multi-media exhibition includes prints, oil paintings, sculpture, and Judaica. The opening reception includes the sharing of Jewish love stories from local couples.

Theodore Fried: Art in Hiding

This exhibition is a celebration of the survival of art in dark times with Theodore Fried's work that was hidden in Europe during the Holocaust. SMMJA is honored and privileged to house the largest collection of Fried's work.

The BIG BEAUTIFUL FRIED Exhibit

New! The Big Beautiful Fried Exhibit

See our display of some of our largest works by Jewish-Hungarian painter, Theodore Fried! He painted a wide variety of subjects and objects, such as musicians and city scenes.

SAVE YOUR SEAT TODAY!
OCTOBER 26, 2025

Celebrating Jewish Art Museums Around the World!
WE'RE IN GOOD COMPANY
The Museum Gala

ENJOY CUISINE INSPIRED BY:
Buenos Aires | Jerusalem | Rome | Shanghai | Tulsa

jewishmuseumtulsa.org | 918.492.1818

STANDING ON THEIR SHOULDERS
IN MEMORIAM: ISABEL RAFFKIND SANDITEN

by Rabbi Charles P. Sherman

In her typical unassuming way, Isabel Sanditen left instructions that she did not want a fuss made over her accomplishments in any formal eulogy. I want to honor that request, and rather, as Mike suggested, use her long life—102 years, 80 in our community—as a way of providing an overview of this very special Jewish community of which she was an important part. Let's begin with names, the families who have made this community what it is today, and with whom Isabel interacted over the course of her eight decades here. These names will jog your memories as they do mine, but by no means is this list exhaustive:

Adelman, Adelson, Altman, Borg, Borochoff, Brand, Brouse, Burnstein, Cash, Davis, Elson, Fenster, Fist, Frank, Froug/Smulian, Gimp, Goodall, Gussman, Jacobs, Jankowsky, Kaiser, Kantor, Klar, Kravis, Livingston, Lubell, Lubin, Madansky/May, Magoon, Miller, Milsten, Myers, Nadal, Newman, Renberg, Robinowitz, Rosenstein, Rothbaum, Sanditen, Schuman, Schusterman, Singer, Solow, Travis, Zarrow, Zeligson

Some of these folks were among Isabel's dearest friends; others, acquaintances with whom she socialized or worked as a volunteer. What would the Jewish community of Tulsa be like were it not for these individuals and families? Children of some of these families have moved from Tulsa. Children, grandchildren, and even great-grandchildren of others, thankfully, remain active participants in Tulsa Jewish communal life.

Isabel's years encompassed the construction of two synagogues, both of which she and Edgar supported in a manner unique to Tulsa. The Zarrow Campus, housing the Jewish Community Center, Federation, Miller Museum, The Retirement and Healthcare Center, Mizel Community Day School, Camp Shalom— what other Jewish community of our size boasts such an array of institutions and support?

Yet our community's members have not limited their generosity of funds and service to just local Jewish endeavors. NCJW, Jewish Federations of North America, American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, AIPAC, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, National Jewish Hospital, CLAL, MAZON, etc. have been beneficiaries of Jewish Tulsans' leadership and largesse.

Nor have Jewish Tulsans limited their vision or initiative to only Jewish causes. Our members have also supported the NCCJ – now OCCJ - Oklahoma Center for Community and Justice, the Day Center for the Homeless, Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma, The Center for the Physically Limited, Women in Recovery, Mental Health Association, Ronald McDonald House, Tulsa Metropolitan Ministry, Planned Parenthood, Family and Children's Services, Good Will and our community's hospitals, museums, libraries, symphony, opera, ballet, schools, colleges, universities, and more. Tulsa is a far better and healthier place to live today because of the contributions of so many different kinds by members of our Jewish community.

Isabel Sanditen

As you know, tzedakah is an important Hebrew word and Jewish concept. Sometimes translated as "charity," tzedakah means far more than alms-giving. It is a unique combination of justice and righteousness. Righteous acts of caring, stewardship of one's material possessions, as well as gifts of time, energy, and dedication. The Sanditen family has been exemplary role models of tzedakah, and Isabel fully participated in so many of their accomplishments. Often Edgar preferred working behind the scenes and, as I said 22 years ago, just one step behind Edgar—supporting him, often reminding him, encouraging and inspiring him - was his devoted helpmate, Isabel. Edgar and Isabel—and so many of their peers—considered it a privilege to be able to devote time and resources to Tulsa's health, welfare, and cultural organizations. They believed that "charity and service to the community is the rent we pay for our being here."

So, while we bid final shalom to Isabel, we recognize—as she did—what a truly remarkable community she was privileged to be part of. One of the highest tributes we can pay Isabel is to recognize our blessings and to continue to build upon her legacy. Thus, may Isabel Sanditen indeed rest in peace.
Amen.

by Isabella Silberg,
Director of Development

Honey from the Heart: The Sweet Way to Raise Money

125 jars sent!

Thank you to our donors who made this New Year extra sweet by sharing the joy of Rosh Hashanah by sending kosher honey to friends and loved ones.
L'Shanah Tovah to all!

Jenna Aizenman
Adriana Beatty
Brenda Blumenthal
Michael Boyd
Randi Brodsky
Mariel Ferreira
Julie Frank
David Goldenberg
Jackie Lasky
Nancy Rosen
Jerry Sandler
Lynn Schusterman
Regina Scissons
Isabella Silberg
Nancy Sossin

PLOSTDENTAL

NO INSURANCE, NO PROBLEM.
Visit us online for our In-House Membership Plan.

plostdental.com | 918-749-1747
2738 East 51st Street, Suite 120
(Inside the Rich and Cartmill insurance building)

FAMILY DENTISTRY | COSMETIC DENTISTRY | IMPLANT DENTISTRY

SMALL STAGE, BIG IMPACT: THE POWER OF JEWISH THEATRE

by Sandy Sloan, Editor, Tulsa Jewish Review

As the pandemic hit, most theatre organizations ceased operations. Yet for Jewish Theatre of Oklahoma, based in Oklahoma City, the shutdown era was the perfect time to launch, initially as a remote theatre. "Our first production was a Chanukah play in December of 2020," stated founding director, teacher, and award-winning actress Roberta Sloan. With positive feedback from the audience, Roberta decided that this may be a thing for the Oklahoma City area and quickly moved to in-person productions once the lockdowns ended. I recently sat down with founding director, Roberta Sloan (of no relation), to learn more about this little-known theatre company, Jewish Theatre of Oklahoma (JTO).

Roberta Sloan caught the acting bug at three years old and it never left. "My parents signed me up for drama school so I would stop performing for their friends," recalled Roberta. Theatre has been her passion ever since. She received her BA at Northwestern University and her MA and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan—all in theatre. Roberta has taught theatre for decades, as well as being an actress and director. She has been the theatre chair at the University of Central Oklahoma, the University of Central Florida, and Temple University. After she and her husband retired from teaching, she decided it was time to bring her passion to her community.

"JTO does staged readers theatre rather than fully staged productions, which allows us to get extraordinary experienced actors, because we only engage them for one or two weeks," explained Roberta. Staged readers theatre is different than general salon-type theatre. Instead of actors memorizing every line and using elaborate sets and costumes, the actors hold scripts in hand and focus on bringing the story to life through their voices, facial expressions, simple movements, and creative staging.

Going into their 6th season, Roberta describes Jewish Theatre of Oklahoma as "the wandering Jewish Theatre" due to the fact that they do not have a permanent home. JTO's audience continues to grow each year. This season they are adding a 3rd performance, which will be on Sunday evenings.

Last season was their biggest season yet when they partnered with St. Luke's Methodist Church to co-produce *The Diary of Anne Frank*, selling over 750 tickets, far from their normal capacity of 130 patrons per show. "It was incredible. The church brought in 600 non-Jewish patrons to learn about Anne Frank, which is the type of outreach we feel we should be doing," exclaimed Roberta. "Due to this success, our audience in the non-Jewish community for our other productions continues to grow." She estimates that approximately 1/3rd of the audience is now non-Jewish.

"Every time we get non-Jewish people in our audience, we are fighting antisemitism, which is part of our mission," stated Roberta. "I was amazed how many non-Jewish people in the audience were not that familiar with *The Diary of Anne Frank*. People left with tears running down their faces. By sharing Jewish history, culture, and viewpoints, it's hard to be antisemitic when you understand and appreciate things about the 'other.'"

The Diary of Anne Frank

When asked how the organization has changed since October 7, Roberta told me, "We haven't changed, but we do deal with some difficult issues. Last year, we presented *How to Remain a Humanist After A Massacre in 17 Steps* by Israeli playwright Maya Arad Yasur." The play dealt with the meaninglessness of war from the mother's perspective—on both sides of the conflict. For the 2025-26 season, JTO is presenting another Israeli playwright, Motti Lerner's *On the Edge*.

Regarding JTO's upcoming season, Roberta is excited about all the plays as they all have something different to bring to the audience. This upcoming season, both *Provenance* and *On the Edge* were finalists in the 14th Annual National Jewish Playwriting Contest, with *Provenance* taking the overall title!

(Continued)

BrisAmiss The Musical

JEWISH THEATRE OF OKLAHOMA

ANNOUNCING OUR 2025-2026 SEASON

BAD JEWS
by Joshua Harmon
Oct 4 & 5
Carpenter Square Theatre

PROVENANCE
by Jennifer Maisel
Nov 8 & 9
Oklahoma Shakespeare

THE SCRIBE
by Jesse Bernstein
Jan 3 & 4
Oklahoma Shakespeare

THE APPLE TREE
by Bock, Harnick & Coopersmith
Jan 24 & 25
Oklahoma Shakespeare

ON THE EDGE
by Motti Lerner
March 14 & 15
Oklahoma Shakespeare

THE CEMETERY CLUB
by Ivan Menchell
May 2 & 3
Carpenter Square Theatre

SUBSCRIBE & SAVE
Explore JTO's subscription options and ways to save while enjoying Jewish Theatre in Oklahoma this year at:
www.jewishtheatreok.org/tickets

Bad Jews is a very funny show, plain and simple. *Provenance* deals with stolen art during the Holocaust. *The Scribe* is an anachronistic, funny, and thoughtful one-man show by playwright Jesse Bernstein about how the Torah was put together. *The Apple Tree* is a sweet musical about Adam and Eve from the songwriting team behind *Fiddler on the Roof*. *On The Edge* is a political family drama that focuses on a father-son relationship, their publishing company, and their moral and ideological controversies over whether to publish stories written by soldiers from past operations in Gaza. Finally, *The Cemetery Club* is a sweet drama/comedy about three Jewish widows who visit the graves of their husbands once a month. It was made into a feature film starring Ellen Burstyn, Dianne Ladd, and Olympia Dukkakis.

JTO hires some equity (union) actors, while the majority are very experienced community theatre actors. Ironically, very few are Jewish! "If we had to use all Jewish actors in the OKC area, we couldn't do this," stated Roberta. All JTO's productions culminate with a thought-provoking post-discussion, giving a safe space for audience members to discuss what they just witnessed.

Funded through grants, donations, and ticket sales, the future of Jewish Theatre of Oklahoma looks bright. "My hope is that eventually we can have our own theatre space and that there is enough interest from the Tulsa community to bring our plays to Tulsa."

As Jewish Theatre of Oklahoma continues to grow, it's clear that its mission extends beyond the stage. Through powerful storytelling, meaningful discussions, and collaborations that bring in diverse audiences, JTO is not just producing theatre—it's building understanding, fostering dialogue, and celebrating Jewish culture in the heart of Oklahoma. With each performance, they are proving that art has the power to connect communities, challenge perspectives, and keep important stories alive.

MIZEL JCDS LEADS THE WAY IN SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, AND DIGITAL LEADERSHIP

by Amanda Anderson, Executive Director

At Mizel Jewish Community Day School, we prepare our students to thrive not only in academics but also in the complex social, emotional, and digital world they navigate every day. This year, we are proud to partner with The Social Institute (TSI), a nationally recognized organization that empowers young people to make healthy, values-driven choices—online and offline.

Rather than focusing on restrictions or fear, TSI uses a positive, student-centered approach to help children "win at social" by building character, empathy, and integrity. At the heart of this partnership are the Seven Social Standards, a framework that gives students lifelong skills to make thoughtful decisions, form meaningful relationships, and lead with kindness.

The Seven Social Standards:

1. Play to Your Core – Stay true to your values to build trust and confidence.
2. Protect Your Privacy Like You're Famous – Keep personal details, passwords, and locations safe.
3. Strike a Balance – Manage time for school, family, friends, rest, and screens mindfully.
4. Cyberback – Stand up for others and take safe action against hurtful behavior.
5. Find Your Influencers – Follow role models who inspire; limit negative influences.
6. Use Your Mic for Good – Use your voice to spread kindness and support causes you believe in.
7. Handle the Pressure – Cope with stress through healthy strategies and bounce back from challenges.

Bringing the Standards to Life at Mizel

These principles are woven into daily life at Mizel JCDS through classroom lessons, school-wide discussions, and real-life scenario practice. Students learn not only what to do, but why it matters, giving them the tools to act with confidence and integrity.

We also partner with families to reinforce these lessons at home:

- Family Huddles – Weekly dinner discussions on one standard.
- Role Model Spotlights – Identifying and talking about inspiring people.
- Digital Mindfulness – Creating device-free routines and shared quality time

Why It Matters for Our Community

The Seven Social Standards go beyond digital safety; they're about preparing our children to be respectful, empathetic leaders in the Jewish community and beyond. By teaching students to think critically, act responsibly, and treat others with kindness, Mizel JCDS is shaping the next generation to navigate life with strength and integrity.

Our commitment to this work reflects our core values: nurturing not just smart students, but good people, mensches, who will make a difference in the world. ■

Students at Mizel Jewish Dommunity Day School

RESISTANCE, RESCUE, AND RESILIENCE

SB1671 OKLAHOMA, HOLOCAUST LEGISLATION COALITION TEACHER CONFERENCES

by Janet Dundee

The reviews and responses are in from the Oklahoma teachers, who attended the 4 teacher conferences, sponsored by the SB1671 Oklahoma Holocaust Legislation Coalition.

"this was my favorite professional development conference."

"I have attended every year... always learn something new and how to be a better teacher of the Holocaust."

Since 2022, with the passage of Oklahoma Senate Bill 1671, the Coalition has been working with the Oklahoma Department of Education and Oklahoma curricula experts to develop courses and organize teacher conferences on Holocaust education.

Thirteen highly qualified teacher presenters lead sessions in Lawton, Tulsa, Norman, and Enid. Teacher registration grew 63% from the 2024 conferences, demonstrating that Oklahoma teachers, grades 6-12 are eager to receive and utilize new Holocaust material in their English, Social Studies, and Visual Arts classrooms.

Teachers from 64 Oklahoma communities, representing 114 school districts, came together to learn and discuss new Holocaust courses for the school year. The conferences were tuition-free and each teacher received seven Professional Development credits.

This year's guiding theme was: *Resistance, Rescue, and Resilience*

Nancy Pettus, Coalition Professional Development consultant and former Holocaust teacher, remarked that the question asked most often in her Holocaust classes was whether the Jews resisted the Nazis during World War II. "Did Jews go willingly to the slaughterhouse?" Conference presentations gave teachers credible information and stories about how Jews did resist and furthermore, what rescue and resilience looked like before, during, and after the Shoah.

At the request of teachers, presentations also related events from the Trail of Tears, the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre, and the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. Teachers discussed everyday experiences concerning bullying and hate, demonstrating that the values of fighting hate can be the basis of dialogue in the classroom. SB1671 Coalition's mission is to: "Fight hate, Respect diversity, Protect democracy. Teach these values to future generations through study of the Holocaust."

One teacher commented, "The presenter brought us ideas on how to talk about uncomfortable subjects that need to be discussed."

In 2025, the coalition's executive committee explored ways of expanding its impact in the classroom.

Visits by Nancy Pettus and Representative John Waldron, the Coalition's Legislative Consultant, sparked an additional direction for Coalition programs.

Nancy and John visited over 700 students in Verdigris, Jenks, Tulsa, and Coweta. The enthusiastic response from students made it clear .... adding classroom presentations by the Coalition is a powerful and inspiring addition to our summer conferences.

Student comments included:

"I have been taught to recognize injustice and have been given the courage to speak out."

"words can both hurt and heal."

Due to the success of these classroom presentations, as expressed by student comments and with a desire to carry out the intent of SB1671 throughout the state, the Coalition will implement a new initiative in 6 more remote and rural communities this school year.

Lisa White and Nancy Pettus Enid 2025

A new teacher appreciation program took place in July. This program recognized committed Oklahoma teachers of Holocaust studies by providing them with opportunities to study and travel to Holocaust museums and programs in the United States and eventually Israel.

Eight teachers, with two Coalition members as tour leaders, traveled without cost to visit the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, the African-American Museum, and the Native

(Continued, pg. 25)

THE JEWISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY OF TULSA... CELEBRATING 20 YEARS! ©

by Phil Goldfarb

On September 11, 2025, the Jewish Genealogy Society of Tulsa will celebrate its 20th year of existence. An affiliate of The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art, the Society started with a presentation by Phil Goldfarb to The SMMJA Board for approval to form the Society and then a "formation meeting" on September 5, 2005 with potential interested members. Some of the founding members included Rita Newman, Irv Braverman, Marion Brodsky, Isabel Sanditen, Lou Levy, Nancy and Mark Lobo, Donna Matles, Rabbi Marc Fitzerman, Phyllis Raskin, Gete Weisman, Renee Kaplan, Sandy Klein, Art Lasky, Susan Fenster, Jack Zarrow, Henry Zarrow, Harold Stein, Stan and Ann Shapiro, Hank Sossin, Mark and Irene Bookbinder, Marvin Lebow, Sandy Klein, Fred and Martha Strauss, Lauren Zeligson, Curtis Green, Bruce Singer, Eva Unterman, Marshall Grossbard, Allan Avery, Jenny Brouse, and Phil Goldfarb.

It was founding member Rita Newman who provided the funding for the renovation of the Markovitz Jewish Genealogy Study and Research Center, (constructed by Charles Taylor) which allowed us to have high speed internet, join several of the costly web sites, and started our genealogy journal reference collection. The section was named after Rita's great, great grandparents while Jack Zarrow and the Zarrow Family Foundation provided the funding for the computers, monitors and printer.

The initial officers elected were:

Phil Goldfarb-President, Marvin Lebow-Vice President, Bruce Singer-Vice President, Susan Fenster-Program , Sandy Klein- Library, Martha Strauss-Membership, Lauren Zeligson-Publicity

Starting with the first Jewish Genealogical Society in New York City in 1977, the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) had 60 societies around the world including 20 International societies and 44 throughout the United States when we first joined. It now has a total of 90 members with 21 International, 55 in the U.S. and 14 Associate Members. The JGS of Tulsa was the first Jewish Genealogical Society in Tulsa, and is still the only one in the State of Oklahoma.

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Tulsa's goals were to:

- Establish a scholarly organization with the goal of pursuing, encouraging, and preserving Jewish family history and genealogical data.
- Assist and promote the research of Jewish family history while elevating the status and role of genealogy in the Community.
- Provide opportunities for sharing Jewish Genealogical information.
- Help develop interesting exhibits for The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art.

Over the years, some of the highlights included: A collaboration with the Tulsa Historical Society on the 2020 Emmy Award winning documentary…*L'Dor V'Dor: Generation to Generation…A History of Tulsa's Jewish Community*, Monthly articles in the Tulsa Jewish Review, taking pictures of all the Jewish Graves in Oklahoma which is now found on JewishGen's Jewish Online Worldwide Burial Registry (JOWBR), a joint meeting with the Jewish Historical Society of Texas and through the generous contributions of JGS of Tulsa member Lynn Schusterman we have had renowned speakers such as Miriam Weiner one of the most prominent female Jewish genealogists in the world, Andrew Porwancher from the University of Oklahoma, Alan Levinson, Schusterman/Josey Chair of the Judaic Studies program at the University of Oklahoma, Jerry Sherer from Toronto, Canada along with local speakers such as Holocaust survivors Sherman Ray and Eva Unterman, and Kathy Huber, head genealogist from the Tulsa City County Library.

We have given programs on various subjects in Jewish genealogy to B'Nai Emunah, Temple Israel, Zarrow Pointe, Tulsa City County Library Genealogy Members, Heritage Academy (Mizel) students, Retired Men's Club, Institute of Adult Jewish Learning, Osher Institute of Learning (OSU) as well as several presentations at the International Association of Jewish Genealogy Society annual meetings and individual JGS meetings.

For an example of a genealogy journey and how genealogy can impact you, see the story below from JGS of Tulsa member Barbara Winder:

"Visiting the shtetl where my maternal grandfather was born and lived has always been a dream of mine. I am eternally grateful that my ancestors left the hardships of their country of origin to eventually land in Oklahoma. That gratitude has always been a part of me.

My husband, Ron, who has valued my dream, made it come true this May with a trip to Lithuania. Ron has explored our family history for years and found answers to the many questions that surrounded who they were and how they moved from country to country.

My maternal grandfather was born in Eishyshuk, then in Russia. The town is now part of Lithuania. Fortunately, he left sometime before World War I. On September 25 and 26, 1941, the Nazis murdered all the Jewish men, women, and children in Eishyshuk while also destroying the Jewish cemeteries.

The history of this little village is notable. Professor Yaffa Eliach, a native of this shtetl, wrote a book entitled *There Once Was a World*, which is a 900-year history of Eishyshuk. In the United States Holocaust Museum in Washington, DC there is a permanent exhibit of pictures she collected called the *Tower of Life*.

Through LitvakSIG, Ron found a notable Jewish tour guide in Vilnius who introduced us to the Jewish history of my grandfather's shtetl as well as the archives in Vilnius. Walking on the streets where I knew he had walked was a sad but welcome gift to me. I know that the blessing for my family and me was that he left that world and found the United States.

We don't know the details, but he married my grandmother, and they made their way eventually to Wewoka, Oklahoma. My grandmother was from what is now Safed, Israel. They raised four children in Wewoka where they were able to safely provide for their family. My mother was the oldest child and married my father, who also came from a Jewish family in Chickasha, Oklahoma. This experience has deepened my gratitude for the life my grandparents made possible. Ron and I hope others will also research the family members who bravely journeyed to unknown lands in order to find a better life for their descendants. Phil Goldfarb, founder and President of the Tulsa Jewish Genealogy Society, has introduced us to Jewish Genealogy with his wonderful work, and we encourage you to join for the mere $18 annual dues. You never know what mysteries you have yet to uncover about your family." ■

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

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

David Dopp

Levi Olsen

The Fitzgerald FUNERAL SERVICE
BOULDER AT FOURTEENTH, TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74119
918.585.1151

(Continued from p. 12)

kids. I got to do a lot of fun activities, but my favorite was the Maccabiah Games. Although I enjoyed planning all the summer activities, the Maccabiah Games felt like bringing a piece of Israeli sports to the kids. Outside of camp, I visited a lot of places in and out of town. Some of my favorites were the Gathering Place, the mall, and Utica Square. Tulsa has so much to offer—it's hard to choose only one place that I liked.

I want to say thank you to Camp Shalom and all the amazing host families who made my summer experience so fantastic. The biggest thank you is to the kids at camp who stole my heart. I'm very sad to say goodbye, and I will always keep you close in my heart. I'm taking home with me my love for you, along with the fun stories and moments we shared. I love you all so much!

The Return of the Israel Scouts Friendship Caravan

We were also proud to welcome back another beloved program: the Israel Scouts Friendship Caravan. Their visit included two dynamic performances filled with Israeli music, dancing, and culture. Between shows, the scouts led fun and interactive educational stations and games, engaging our campers in a unique and meaningful way.

This special visit was made possible by a generous grant from Mit-habrim | CONNECTIONS, a joint initiative of the JCC Association of North America and the Israeli Government's Ministry for Diaspora Affairs and Combating Antisemitism.

Looking Ahead

We're already looking forward to welcoming more Israeli Shlichim to Camp Shalom next summer. Programs like these don't just educate—they inspire. They strengthen Jewish identity, build bridges, and remind us that we're part of a global Jewish family.

Camp Shalom

LITHAPRINT
FULL SERVICE PRINTING
STATIONERY
BROCHURES
NEWSLETTERS
BANNERS
POSTCARDS
DOORHANGERS
YARD SIGNS
AND MORE!
5129 South 95th East Avenue
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74145
918.587.7746
www.lithaprint.com
SINCE 1962

Holocaust Studies - Lecture Series

A Journey in Understanding the Complexities of the Holocaust

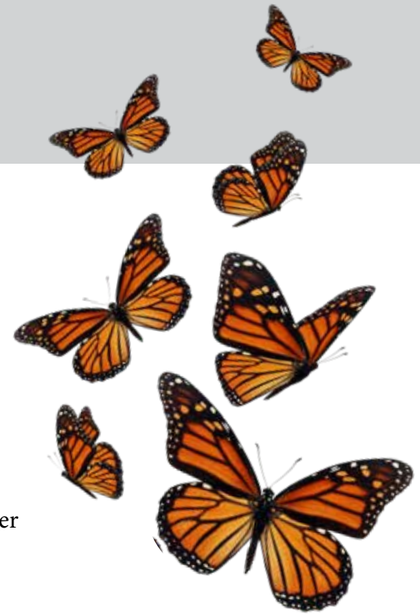
- Adolf Hitler: From Innocent Child to Mass Murderer
- The Persecution of Homosexuals in the Holocaust
- Kristallnacht: The Beginning of the Holocaust?
- St. Maximilian Kolbe: Priest, Prisoner 16670, Martyr, Saint

Guest Lecturer
Nancy Pettus

Each Friday in September
1:00 p.m.
Zarrow Pointe
Burnstein Auditorium

Butterflies

Honoring Donors to the Zarrow Pointe



FROM:

Rosalie Childs
Julie Frank
John and Toni Imbler
Jewish Federation of Tulsa Foundation on behalf of the Scott & Jolene Sanditen Philanthropic Fund
Myrna Lubin
Sallye Mann
Barbara Sylvan
Ellen Murphy and Steven Unterman
Philip and Cinda Viles

BIRTHDAYS:

Felice Abels

IN MEMORY:

Peggy S. Cameron
Dr. E.N. Lubin
Phyllis Raskin
Jeanne Ronda
Isabel Sanditen
Andrea "Andy" Schlanger
Herbert Unterman

NO ONE SAVES MORE LIVES IN ISRAEL IN TIMES OF CRISIS.

We can't ensure this Rosh HaShanah will usher in a peaceful year. But with your support, Magen David Adom can continue to be a source of light, hope, and lifesaving care to all Israelis — no matter what 5786 brings.

Support Israel's lifesavers at **afmda.org/give** or **866.632.2763.**

AMERICAN FRIENDS OF MAGEN DAVID ADOM
מגן דוד אדום
Israel's Emergency Services System

Please visit www.tulsagogue.com/events for more information and to register for Synagogue services and events.

Bibi Dibi – Shabbat for Little Ones
Friday, September 5 | 5:30 p.m.

Join us for a Shabbat gathering crafted for babies and their families. Revel in the joy of singing songs, playing games, and savoring a delightful Shabbat dinner. It's an excellent opportunity to establish and embrace your own family traditions. While no reservation is required for the celebration, please secure your spot for the meal through event registration.

Sisterhood Opening Meeting and Membership Brunch
Sunday, September 7 | 10:00 a.m.

Join us as we gather for our annual Sisterhood Opening Brunch at The Synagogue – a warm and welcoming morning for current and prospective members alike. This beloved tradition brings together women of all ages to connect, reflect, and look ahead to a meaningful year of community, support, and shared purpose. Whether you're a longtime member or new to our Sisterhood, come mix and mingle as we celebrate the power of connection and the joy of starting the year together. Please indicate your attendance through event registration.

Lifelong Learners at Zarrow Pointe
Wednesday, September 10 | 11:30 a.m.

Lifelong learners from all over the community are invited to join Rabbi Kaiman for a learning session and lunch provided by Zarrow Pointe. Please check-in at Zarrow Pointe Town Center, and you will be directed to the Dining Hall for the learning seminar. There is no cost to attend the learning series, but please indicate your attendance through event registration.

Blatt + Blue: Here We Are
Thursday, September 11 | 7:00 p.m.

Here We Are, directed by Nir Bergman, is a sensitive Israeli Italian drama that centers on the deep, codependent bond between Aharon—a devoted single father—and his autistic son Uri. The film earned multiple Israeli Ophir Awards and garnered acclaim for its nuanced storytelling and moving portrayal of a father-son relationship on the brink of change. The film is brought to our community in partnership with Menemsha Films. Please call our office at 918-583-7121 or e-mail rbolusky@bnaiemunah.com to receive the link to view the film. Join us for our conversation at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom (918 583 7121). Newcomers are welcome to join the dialogue.

Milestone Selichot Service and Dinner
Saturday, September 13 | 6:00 p.m.

A traditional prelude to the Jewish New Year, we gather this night to sing a service that highlights the themes and ideas of the holiday season. The evening begins with a dinner where we'll celebrate the contributions of our members in their 70's and 80's, and pay special tribute and honor our much beloved members in their 90's. Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m., prior to a Klay Kodesh led, musical Selichot service starting at 7:00 p.m. The evening culminates with blasts from the shofar as we begin our preparations for Rosh Ha-Shanah and Yom Kippur. Please indicate your attendance through event registration.

Family Jewish Cooking Club
Sunday, September 14 | 12:00 p.m.

Join the club and embark on a flavorful, family adventure. Participants will meet after ShulSchool for lunch, schmoozing, and a hands-on kitchen session. Throughout the experience, we'll learn about the history and meaning of a traditional Rosh Ha-Shanah related dish and get to work making it ourselves. Each family will leave with their dish in hand, along with a recipe and instructions to recreate the experience at home. Please indicate your attendance through event registration.

Rosh Ha-Shanah: Entering the New Year Monday, September 22 – Wednesday, September 24

No tickets, just you. All you have to do is walk through the door. There are no admission requirements of any kind for High Holiday services at Congregation B'nai Emunah. Sit where you like and bring friends who might appreciate a spirited observance of this Jewish New Year. We'll be waiting for you just inside. A variety of services and celebrations highlight the holiday. The daytime services begin at 9:30 a.m. Sermons will be delivered around 10:45 a.m. Music, big ideas, and spending time with community combine to create a powerful way to start the New Year. We hope to see you there. As is now always the case, all programs and services will be available on Zoom for hybrid participation. For a full calendar and detailed description of events, please visit tulsagogue.com/highholidays.

Afternoon/Evening Services

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

Shabbat Morning Services

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

"WE" HAVE SINNED?

by Rabbi Daniel S. Kaiman

There's a moment on Yom Kippur that I bet has made some of us uncomfortable. It happens during the confessional prayer—and it all comes down to language. Not "I have sinned," but "*We have sinned*." Whether or not we personally lied, cheated, or acted violently, we confess as a collective.

It's one of the most powerful—and perplexing—elements of the season: owning up to wrongdoing that may not feel like our own.

This raises a deep and relevant question: What does it mean to belong to a group—whether it's a religion, a people, or a nation—when you don't agree with everything it does? How do we reckon with actions done in our name, or made possible by our silence?

Jewish tradition has long held that responsibility doesn't end at the edge of our own actions. We *are* responsible for one another—and *to* one another. That doesn't mean guilt for guilt's sake. It means standing up, speaking out, and showing up—even when it's uncomfortable.

Collective responsibility is a double-edged sword. It draws us into the experience of Jewish identity, but it can also feel alienating—one of the very things that makes belonging hard. I wrestle with this all the time. From what many of you have shared with me, you do too.

And maybe that's exactly why the tradition insists on collective language. It forces into the open what might otherwise remain unspoken—the tension between personal integrity and collective identity.

So as we enter the High Holiday season, let's carry that tension honestly. When are we proud of our communities? When are we uneasy? How do we stay engaged even when it's complicated?

These are not easy questions. But they are the right ones for the season.

Wishing you holidays of reflection, connection, and meaningful return. ■

Shanah Tovah!

Rosh Hashanah is a time for fresh starts...so whether you're ready to make a move or just dipping apples in honey, I'm here for all your real estate needs!

JENNY WILNER | (415) 624-7353
JWILNER@MCGRAWREALTORS.COM
@JENWILNERSELLSTULSA

JENNY WILNER REALTOR
McGraw REALTORS®

(Continued from p. 19)

American Museum. By committing to the trip, teachers agreed to attend one of the summer conferences, returning to their schools with new materials and ideas for classroom Holocaust studies, and reaching out to their communities with reports on what they experienced.

A teacher from Roff Public Schools commented, "Passion for the topic will increase due to being at the Museum (the Holocaust Museum) and seeing these primary sources."

One teacher from Tahlequah wrote, "Personally, it was a really emotional and eye-opening experience. It made me reflect on my own role as a teacher and how I can use my platform to make a difference. Professionally, I walked away with new resources, strategies, and connections with other educators who cared deeply about teaching truth and fostering empathy. It was honestly one of the most impactful professional learning experiences I've had."

The Coalition is presently seeking funding for more teacher appreciation trips to Washington, D.C. and eventually, Israel. ■

All services and events will be held on the campus of the Jewish Federation as Temple Israel transitions to its temporary space.

Jewish Federation of Tulsa
2021 E. 71st St, Tulsa 74136

Visit our Temple Israel website www.templetulsa.com and our events page for details about all we offer!

Shabbat Service in person, on Zoom & Facebook Live • Fri., Sept. 5 • 6:00 p.m.
Join us as we welcome in Shabbat during the first Shabbat of the month of Elul. Come at 5:30 p.m. for our joyous pre-oneg.

Birthday Shabbat Service in person, on Zoom & Facebook Live • Fri., Sept. 12 • 6:00 p.m.
Join us as we welcome in Shabbat and celebrate September birthdays during the month of Elul. Come at 5:30 p.m. for our joyous pre-oneg.

Selichot • Sat., Sept. 13 • 7:30 p.m.
Join us during the month of Elul for our Selichot service, as we prepare ourselves for the magnitude of the Days of Awe.

Zamru L'Shabbat & Anniversary Shabbat in person, on Zoom & Facebook Live • Fri., Sept. 19 • 6:00 p.m.
Join us as we celebrate Shabbat during the month of Elul with Elijah's Minor Prophets and celebrate September anniversaries. Come at 5:30 p.m. for our joyous pre-oneg.

Erev Rosh Hashanah • Mon., Sept. 22 • 7:30 p.m.
Join us for the New Year on the CSJCC Campus in the Barbara & Dave Sylvan Auditorium for Erev Rosh Hashanah. Due to seating capacity in the Sylvan Auditorium, services will also be live-streamed to the Burnstein Auditorium at Zarrow Pointe. The service will also be broadcast via Zoom. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com for the Zoom link.

TEMPLE ISRAEL
Est. 1914
TULSA OKLAHOMA

Rosh Hashanah • Tues., Sept. 23 • 10:00 a.m.
Join us for the New Year on the CSJCC Campus in the Barbara & Dave Sylvan Auditorium on Rosh Hashanah morning. Due to seating capacity in the Sylvan Auditorium, services will also be live-streamed to the Burnstein Auditorium at Zarrow Pointe. The service will also be broadcast via Zoom. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com for the Zoom link.

Rosh Hashanah Young Family Birthday Party at the Zoo • Tues., Sept. 23 • 3:00 p.m.
Young families are invited to meet at the Tulsa Zoo for this special Birthday of the World party, including a children's service with songs, stories, and animal guests! Our afternoon concludes with the sounding of the shofar and birthday cake. RSVP on our website.

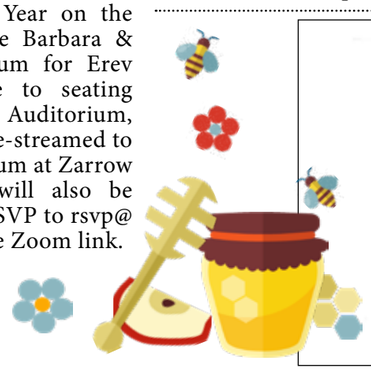
Shabbat Shuvah Service in person, on Zoom & Facebook Live • Fri., Sept. 26 • 6:00 p.m.
Join us as we welcome in Shabbat Shuvah, during these Days of Awe. Come at 5:30 p.m. for our pre-oneg.

Kever Avot Memorial Service • Sun., Sept. 28 at 10:30 a.m.
Join us as we honor our ancestors with Yizkor at Rose Hill Cemetery. Tashlich • Sun., Sept. 28 • 3:00 p.m.
• The Gathering Place • Tashlich, meaning "to cast away", is a ceremony in which we symbolically rid ourselves of the wrongdoings we committed during the previous year. We will meet at The Gathering Place to cast our transgressions into the water as we reflect upon how we may be better in the coming year. Join in the warmth of community as we usher in the New Year with personal reflection and song.

Kol Nidre • Wed., Oct. 1 • 7:30 p.m.
Join us for Kol Nidre on the CSJCC Campus in the Barbara & Dave Sylvan Auditorium. Due to seating capacity in the Sylvan Auditorium, services will also be live-streamed to the Burnstein Auditorium at Zarrow Pointe. The service will also be broadcast via Zoom. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com for the Zoom link.

Yom Kippur • Thurs., Oct. 2 • 10:00 a.m.
Join us on the CSJCC Campus in the Barbara & Dave Sylvan Auditorium for Yom Kippur morning. Due to seating capacity in the Sylvan Auditorium, services will also be live-streamed to the Burnstein Auditorium at Zarrow Pointe. Participate in Afternoon Learning, Music and Meditation, Yizkor, and Neilah. The services will also be broadcast via Zoom. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com for the Zoom link.

Break Fast • Thurs., Oct. 2 • 6:00 p.m.
Compliments of the Sharna and Irvin Frank Foundation directly following N'eilah Service in the foyer of the Sylvan Auditorium on Yom Kippur. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com.



RICHARD J. BORG, ATTORNEY
ESTATE PLANNING & PROBATE

FOX PLAZA
5416 SOUTH YALE AVENUE, SUITE 225
TULSA, OK 74135

918-744-5250
rjborg@sbcglobal.net
www.borglawok.com

NEW NOTEBOOKS & NEW BOOKS FOR THE NEW YEAR

by Rabbi Batsheva Appel

I will always love the autumn ritual of new notebooks and new pens, because of the promise of learning new things and the joy of a new year.

The High Holiday liturgy speaks of writing in books, particularly the *Book of Remembrance* that G-d reviews during the Days of Awe. The metaphor is compelling. The contents are a record of our actions from the past year, compiled and acknowledged by us. We cannot say that we didn't do it or we don't remember, the Book is comprehensive evidence to be used against us and for us.

Whether or not we believe in G-d, now is an excellent time of year to take a new notebook and a new pen to reflect and learn about ourselves. The act of cheshbon hanefesh, an accounting of the soul, is part of every new year. We are encouraged to think back on the past year and plan for the new year. We might answer questions such as:

- Where did we miss the mark?
- What things did we do that we wish we hadn't? To whom do we owe an apology?
- Looking at our calendar, how did we spend our time this past year?
- Looking at our transactions, how did we spend our money this past year?
- What do we want to change in the coming year? How will we accomplish that change?
- What do we want to leave behind and what do we want to bring with us into 5786?

Wishing everyone *L'shanah tovah tikateivu!* May you be inscribed for a good year in 5786!

Would You Like To Study Hebrew or Biblical Archaeology but Haven't Found a Chance? Here's Your Opportunity!

The lifelong learning program is excited to present two new courses: **Beginning Hebrew I** (with Dr. Danielle Gurevitch) and **Archaeology of the Lands of the Bible** (with Dr. Miriam Belmaker)

This unique program offers anyone the opportunity to audit undergraduate classes for $500 a course! With discounts for alumni and those 65 and older.

Additional information and the complete list of courses can be found at the link or QR code below:

https://utulsa.edu/academics/arts/opportunities/lifelong-learning/

Classes start August 25 2025

For more information, contact
Stephanie Boulden,
Director of Operations
918-631-3795
stephanie-boulden@utulsa.edu

THE UNIVERSITY of TULSA

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

$6 DOLLAH CHALLAH

- ***Order*** by 12AM Wednesdays
- ***Pick Up*** Fridays between 1-5PM at the Jewish Federation
- Online payments only