

# THE SHOFAAR

A Publication of the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga

Volume 31 Number 6 February 2019

## ISRAELI – PALESTINIAN CONFLICT SERIES

Join Federation shlichah Chen Dahan at the JCC for a three-class series discussing the historic events that shaped the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. We will explore the narratives that shaped the conflict and discuss the possible solutions. No cost to attend.

**TUESDAYS DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 5:30 - 7:00 PM**

**FEBRUARY 12TH - NARRATIVES OF TWO PEOPLE**

**FEBRUARY 19TH - THE PEACE PROCESS**

**FEBRUARY 26TH - WHERE ARE WE GOING?**



PLEASE RSVP AT [ISRAEL@JEWISHCHATTANOOGA.COM](mailto:ISRAEL@JEWISHCHATTANOOGA.COM)

## Hate Speech Exhibit Shows Scope of Problem



by Ann Treadwell, Program Director

Hate speech is not new. Words have always been used to denigrate people, poke fun at them, and bring to our attention the worst and best of our contemporary thinking.

In the years before the printed word was readily available, images were used to create hate speech and rhetoric to describe our contemporary lives. Cartoonists have always been

at the forefront, mirroring our thoughts and actions through their images. As times changed, images included words to elevate the descriptions.

In the past few decades, with the advance of digital communications, hate speech has been able to travel across countries and through our communities with just the touch of a keyboard. All of the images you'll see in this exhibit were easily taken from the Internet. I had a difficult time selecting images because there were so many to choose from.

I hope that some of the cartoons will anger you. I would also expect that you will agree with some of the cartoons' messages. I encourage you to pick a cartoon and ask yourself several questions:

- How does this cartoon make me feel? Why?
- What is the message the cartoon is addressing?
- If it made me angry, would I take action?
- What is the line between freedom of expression and hate speech? Does this image cross it?
- Is it important for me to share this image?

The images in this current exhibit are for educational purposes only. The Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga does not condone hate speech in any form.

Jewish Federation®  
OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA

P.O. Box 8947  
Chattanooga, TN 37414  
Change Service Requested



THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE  
THE POWER OF A COMMUNITY

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

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Permit No. 63  
Chattanooga, TN

## First of Three Cabaret-Style Events Coming to JCC Saturday, February 23rd



Danny Sample February 23

Join us February 23rd for the first of three Cabaret Music Nights, featuring jazz music by Danny Sample. Enjoy adult beverages and dinner-quality appetizers along with the live music.

Danny Sample was born in Memphis, took up piano at an early age, and was performing R&B and jazz by age 10. He began developing his musical concepts



Deacon Bluz March 9

in high school through private studies and analysis of the styles of personal influences such as James Williams, Phineas Newborn, Jr., Oscar Peterson, and McCoy Tyner.

After high school graduation, he enrolled at Christian Brothers College and Memphis State University. In addition to his engineering studies, he worked in local clubs with his own band and with saxophonist Herman Green and numerous other Memphis musicians. Also during this period he toured with Isaac Hays, Dionne Warwick, and opened for Grover Washington, Koko Taylor and B. B. King.



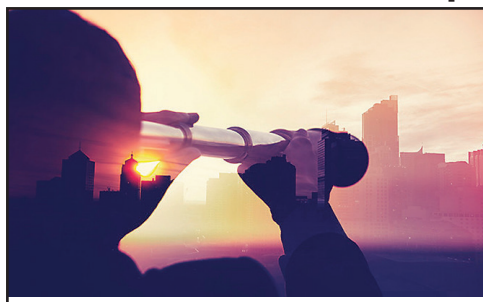
Rick Rushing, March 23

Since then, Mr. Sample has shared the bandstand in the Chattanooga area and around the country at various clubs, colleges, private engagements, and festivals such as the Oregon Mount Hood Jazz Festival; the Riverbend Festival; Nightfall Concert Series; the The Choo Choo Jazz Festival; and the Bessie Smith Traditional Jazz

Festival. Subsequent Cabaret Music Nights are March 9th with the Blue Good Hollow Ensemble featuring Deacon Bluz (Dr. Clark White), and March 23rd, featuring Rick Rushing.

Cost per person is \$18 per musical event and includes appetizers and adult beverages. Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

## 2020 & Beyond: Visioning our Jewish Tomorrows Leadership Class



2020 and Beyond is a forum for emerging community leaders. Its purpose is to create a vision for the Jewish community moving forward. There will be eight ninety-minute sessions beginning March 12th at the JCC. Dinner will be available thirty minutes prior to the start of each session. Topics will include community demograph-

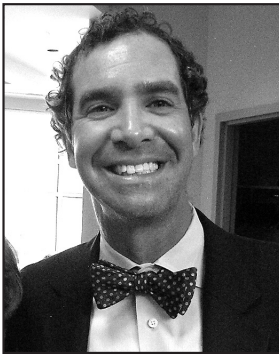
ics; Federation and Jewish organizations; congregations; building cohorts; service; visioning; and a final reflection dinner and graduation party. The course was designed and will be led by Ken Goldsmith, Federation board member and Chattanooga State law professor. The cost to participate is \$118; subsidies are available. For more information, contact Michael Dzik or Ann Treadwell at (423) 493-0270.

### SAVE THESE DATES

- March 3 Israel Hot Topics
- March 9 & 23 Cabaret Music Series continues
- March 12 2020 & Beyond begins



# NOTES FROM LEADERSHIP



## The Value of Your Jewish Federation

*Austin Center  
Federation Board Chair  
boardchair@jewishchattanooga.com*

For the ninth year in a row, our community of 1500 Jews has raised over one million dollars.

The total as of this writing is \$1,081,472 and we are on track to have more donors to our Annual Campaign than ever before. This is quite a feat, especially since there has been a downward trend in Federation giving. We are strong because we are active and engaged.

Just last month our Community Relations Committee facilitated a meeting with clergy and a representative of the Mayor's Council Against Hate to discuss the prevalence of hate in all forms, and to create steps to combat it. In addition, we as a Federation offer speakers and programs that educate our community on the issues of today, including Iran, the BDS, and Israel's relationship with the diaspora, to name just a few. Our Film Series and First Amendment Dinners are also examples of what we do to reach out and educate.

Our programs and speakers are diverse and scholarly. I call on each of us to attend a program, read *The Shofar*, educate yourself about upcoming events, and attend something that interests you. While you're doing this, remember that we need to engage our larger community too. We always need to invite another Jew to join us, as well as someone not in the Jewish community.

Volunteerism and commitment to our community are the reasons our Federation is strong and successful. Continuing to engage the next generation ensures that strength and our stability.

Your Federated giving touches so many lives, and our dollars truly make a difference. As we look to the future, we can be proud of so many things: our campaign, our outreach, our engagement. But we also have to be mindful. Our donor base is aging, and demographics show that the next generation will not be able to give at the level of their parents' generation. Organizations like United Way are moving to grant-based allocations. While we see opportunities to apply for more dollars for specific program-based grants from the United Way, this change will affect all of us. We have to be cognizant that three to five years from now our Annual Campaign may not be where it has been for the past ten years. We might have to have tough conversations in the future, but as a Board, and as an organization, we continue to work to position our Federation's future viability and stability.

Over the past three years, our Federation has taken the lead in growing our endowment, and we are now ahead of the game. The two-year Grinspoon Life and Legacy challenge has generated 54 letters of intent equaling 2.5 million dollars to our endowment. Between our three congregations, we have signed 137 letters of intent for a community total of 3.6 million in endowed gifts, and each congregation received \$10,000 for the two-year Grinspoon challenge. I want to thank Andy Hodes for his past work as chair of Life and Legacy, and Susan DiStefano, current chair, for her work this past year in growing our Life and Legacy endowments. Please know that endowing a gift to our Federation is a lasting legacy that will allow us to continue the great work we do for generations to come.



*Austin Center addressing the Jewish community at the Federation Annual Meeting at the JCC January 6th*



## Expanding our Partnerships, Together

*Michael Dzik  
Federation Executive Director  
mdzik@jewishchattanooga.com*

The Chattanooga connection with Israel is so incredibly strong. Eight-plus years of shlichim in Chattanooga has resulted in deep relationships with Israelis, including our shlichim families and their friends. It's been a beautiful and unique way to bring Israel to Chattanooga.

Additionally, through over a decade of involvement in our Partnership2Gether program (P2G), we have formed many close bonds. Teens, educators, young adult leaders, doctors, and even runners have all participated in exchange programs with Chattanooga through our P2G connection with Hadera, Israel. FYI – our P2G family includes the Jewish communities in Chattanooga, Nashville, Knoxville, Charlotte, Richmond, Charleston, Ft. Myers, Daytona Beach, Jacksonville and Pinellas.

About six months ago, our volunteers in Israel were approached by the Jewish community in Prague, Czech Republic about joining our consortium. After some discussion, we decided to take a fact-finding mission to Prague to meet the Jewish community. I was joined by Federation staff from Jacksonville and Pinellas, staff and volunteers from Israel, and the head of the P2G department with the Jewish Agency.

What we found was a historic, growing and unique community. The people of Prague and the Czech Republic have only been able to live an openly Jewish life for twenty-nine years, since 1989. As in other Eastern European cities, it was not possible under Communism from 1968 - 1989. Which means that following the devastating loss of life in the Jewish communities (350,000 during the Holocaust), twenty-three years later, Judaism was outlawed under Communism.

With this in mind, the reality of us seeing a kindergarten with Jewish children, a Jewish day school with children from first through twelfth grade, a living center for survivors, a functioning synagogue, a community center - any and all of this--is a miracle that has only been made possible in the intervening three decades.

Prague's Jewish community has a unique structure that includes a Jewish Federation as well as a Jewish community board. A small staff at the Federation includes family and teen programming, and community relations work. The Federation is responsible for the entire population of the Czech Republic (10 communities) as well as for preserving Jewish sites and history. The Prague Jewish community board is a separate body that works more with volunteers, engaging community members with the Jewish community. Through the community board, various agencies receive funding to carry out their specific responsibilities (nursing home, day school, social services, etc).

Even after a few days there, I'm still not 100% sure how this unusual structure works. What I do know is that it does work for them. We met so many wonderful leaders and community volunteers. We shared our mutual interest in working together and in being part of an even larger Jewish community and world. We recognized our commonality, and our shared faith, culture and history. We discussed how a trilateral partnership could work and benefit all three sides.

What I found the most fascinating about this trip was the immediate connection we had with the people that make up the Prague Jewish community. I have always felt a unique connection – Jew to Jew – that I've never been able to find the right words to describe. There's a sense of trust, a sense of connection, a sense that we share the same story. It's an intangible feeling that is hard to put into words, yet we all know it exists.

What is most important is that the Chattanooga/Israel partnership remain strong and continue to deepen. This new venture could give the Prague Jewish community a similar opportunity, to have a deeper connection with Israel. There are many benefits that would come of connecting three continents of Jews to each other. Imagine teens from Prague visiting Israel AND Chattanooga, or families hosting educators from Israel AND Prague. I can even see a future mission to Israel that includes a stop in Prague! The opportunities and connections are practically endless.

The Prague Jewish community will be meeting in early February with their leadership to discuss this P2G opportunity. Likewise, our consortium will be



meeting in early March in Charleston to approve our yearly budget and of course discuss the inclusion of Prague. As we continue to digest our trip, we are hopeful that this new partnership will come to fruition very soon, as early as this summer.



# @JEWISH CULTURAL CENTER



## Acting on Hate Speech

**Ann Treadwell**  
*Program Director atreadwell@jewishchattanooga.com*

I am intolerant of hate speech. I am fearful that hate speech is creating hateful actions among people who I once respected, because for some reason people think it is all right. Since when is it all right to speak your mind in an uncensored, uneducated manner and expect people to respect

you? My parents would be dismayed. There were many heated dialogues in my childhood home. My father, a Barry Goldwater Republican, and my mother, a Hubert Humphrey Democrat, often had words. But they were spoken with respect and backed up with solid information. Never would either of them have considered hate speech acceptable in any discourse.

My anger about hate speech is fueling action. I am trying to be respectful in my actions. I turn off the T.V. and radio versus yelling back at it. I walk away from arguments when no one is being respectful. Whether right-or-left-leaning, extreme speech can't be tolerated if we are to bind people together as community.

I am committed to making the action I take positive, or at least educational. At the end of January, the Federation hosted two groups of teens. The first was an interfaith group combined with Jew Crew. The second was a screening of *Who Will Write Our History*. Over 200 hundred high school students attended these combined events. They were led by volunteers who understand the importance of teaching tolerance. I thank them for creating positive action.

The exhibit hanging in the JCC reception area through February is called "Hate Speech: Contemporary Cartoons." Sometimes we overlook the fact that we are bombarded by images that are not teaching tolerance. It was hard for me to narrow down my choices because there are, unfortunately, so many hate images to view, many created since the 2016 election. Is there a relationship between hate speech and hate crime? Because I don't know, I turned to the Southern Poverty Law Center for answers.



## The Southern Poverty Law Center's #ReportHate Initiative

After the 2016 election, the SPLC added a form to its website asking the public to report hate crimes to them after they've reported them to law enforcement. The Center has also been collecting incidents from social media and news reports. The time period covered is November 9, 2016 to the present.

**What the data shows:** As of November 18, 2016 the SPLC has found 701 "incidents of hateful harassment".

**What the data does not show:** Although this collection has been cited as evidence of a "spike" in hate crimes since the election, the Center has not been collecting data long enough to show any trends. The SPLC also pointed out in a recent blog post that while they're making attempts to verify the incidents, they haven't verified them all.

These incidents, aside from news reports, are largely anecdotal. The SPLC did follow up with a majority of user submissions in an effort to confirm reports. As we reported earlier, many incidents involved direct references to the Trump campaign and its slogans.

The SPLC also maintains a larger data set of more than 4,000 "hate incidents," which is "drawn primarily from media sources." The data set contains incidents from January 2003 to May 2015, and includes non-criminal activity like rallies. This sort of data may provide some insight into how hate crimes and related incidents are covered by the media, but not in how frequently they occur.

The SPLC also maintains a "Hate Map." You can view it at <https://www.splcenter.org/hate-map>. If you enter the city of Chattanooga into the database, you will discover one hate group listed. The SPLC website also has a section called "Hate Watch," where it monitors extreme right hate language on social media and other sources.

I hope you will come to the Federation in February to see the exhibit and think about how hate speech affects your thinking and your actions. And most importantly, I hope it inspires you to think about how you can be a positive force for tolerance.

*For more about this exhibit, including the curatorial statement, see front page.*

Your R.S.V.P. assures you a seat, a meal, and allows us to meet your special dietary needs.

There are three easy ways to RSVP:

1. On the WEBSITE at <http://www.jewishchattanooga.com>.
2. Via EMAIL at [rsvp@Jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:rsvp@Jewishchattanooga.com)
3. Via the old fashioned TELEPHONE, at 493-0270 ext. 10.

### No Meat? No Problem!

If you prefer a vegetarian meal at one of our events simply RSVP to the Federation AT LEAST three work days prior to the event. **We are happy to accommodate you but must give advance notice.**

## Tuesday Cafe



Tuesdays, February 5, 12, 19, 26 at noon. Menu will be listed in the community email. \$10. To-go orders may be available after all event attendees are served. Please RSVP.

## Women's Night

Tuesday, February 5th at 5:30 pm. See page 8 for more information.

## Israeli Dance Classes

Mondays, February 11 and 25th at 5:30 pm. Contact [israel@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:israel@jewishchattanooga.com) for info.

## Foreign Policy Supper Club: Refugees and Global Migration

Monday February 18 @ 6 p.m. . \$12 includes dinner and materials for discussion. Please RSVP.

## Federation Board Meeting

Thursday, February 21st at 5:30 pm.

## Israeli-Palestinian Conflict Series

Tuesdays, February 12, 19, 26 @ 5:30 pm. No cost. See front page for more.

## Cabaret Music Night (1st of 3)

Saturday, February 23rd at 7:30 pm. \$18 pp includes appetizers and beverages.

## Hate Speech: Contemporary Cartoons

At the JCC through February. Open during office hours. No cost to view.

THE JEWISH FEDERATION AND ALEPH BET PRESENT

# Harry Potter

## TRIVIA NIGHT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28 @ 7PM  
 AT THE JCC

**\$100 FOR A TEAM OF UP TO 4 PEOPLE,  
 WINNING TEAM TAKES HOME \$200!  
 SNACKS, BEER, WINE &  
 NON-ALCOHOLIC DRINKS PROVIDED**

VISIT [ALEPH-BET.COM](http://ALEPH-BET.COM) TO RSVP OR PURCHASE TICKETS

Pick Your Team Now!

Proceeds Benefit Aleph Bet Children's Center

## By the Numbers

# 316

Total number of Documentary Film Series attendees

## Take Home Chef Alice Goss-Morgan's "Bowls of Love"



Purchase matzo ball soup or chili for just \$4 for a one-bowl container. **Call ahead to reserve; we do run out.** Contact Ann Treadwell (do *not* call the kitchen) at 493-0270, ext. 13; or [atreadwell@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:atreadwell@jewishchattanooga.com) to get your order packaged and ready to go!



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Young Jewish Leadership Has First Meeting of 2019

On January 3<sup>rd</sup>, Young Jewish Leadership of Greater Chattanooga had its first meeting of the year to discuss the direction of the group. We were excited to see more than twenty young adults eager to discuss pathways to a vibrant Jewish life in Chattanooga. For more information about this group, contact Federation shlichah Chen Dahan at [israel@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:israel@jewishchattanooga.com).



## Chattanooga Moms for Social Justice Workshop Sunday, February 17th

Join the Chattanooga Moms for Social Justice (MSJ) and the Jewish Federation at the Jewish Cultural Center for a workshop on February 17th from 2-6 pm when we start the conversation around breaking the cycle of discrimination and undoing racism.

Discrimination and racism are learned behaviors and the purpose of this workshop is to identify personal biases, analyze how racism shaped America, and teach participants how to break the cycle of discrimination. Attendees will review historical factors, white privilege, and the impact of slavery and oppression.

In order to break the cycle of discrimination and combat racism, we must work toward undoing negative behavior by learning how to cancel out or remove unhealthy prejudices and harmful thoughts, and by seeking mutual understanding and a willingness to step outside of our comfort zones.

The workshop includes a breakout session and hands-on activities. Attendees must be prepared to step outside their comfort zone. MSJ strives to make all of our events free and accessible, so there is no formal fee to participate in this workshop. There are, however, a limited number of spots available, so please reserve your space. Donations at the door are welcome and appreciated so that we may continue to do this kind of work in our community. For more information: <http://bit.ly/UndoingRacismChatt>.

About the leader: Mokah-Jasmine Johnson (below) is the President and Co-founder of the Athens Anti-Discrimination Movement. She holds a Master of Science Degree in Education Media Design and Technology, a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Marketing Management, and currently serves her community as an adult educator and civil rights activist. In addition to her educational achievements and activism, Mokah has over fifteen years' experience as an entrepreneur-businesswoman and is also the co-founder of "United Group of Artists" (UGA Live), a grassroots marketing consulting and event production company, and the Hip Hop Director for Girls Rock Athens.



4 February 2019 *The Shofar*

## Federation Summer Intern Opportunity

The Jewish Federation is announcing its third annual paid Summer Internship Program. Candidates should have completed at least their first year of college. Preference will be given to applicants whose families have been donors to the Federation.

The commitment is for an average 10-20 hours per week for twelve weeks for a total of 160 hours. Some weeks may be twenty-six hours and other weeks ten hours depending on the activities and the intern's personal schedule. The majority of these hours will take place during regular Federation office hours, 9-5 pm Monday – Thursday and 9-4 pm on Fridays. However, from time to time the intern will be asked to work evenings or Sundays. They will not be asked to work on Shabbat (Friday evening through Saturday evening).

In addition to other duties, interns will assist with Philanthropy Camp from June 28 – August 2. Past summer interns have included Rachel Raisin and Will Potts.

Candidates will go through an application and interview process. For more information or to request an application contact Ann Treadwell, Program Director, 423-493-0270 ext. 13 or [atreadwell@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:atreadwell@jewishchattanooga.com).



## Help Wanted: Philanthropy Camp Counselors

### PHILANTHROPY CAMP COUNSELORS WANTED

Counselor applications available for rising grades 10, 11, 12, college freshman to 18 years old.

Application on website at <http://jewishchattanooga.com/camps>



### PHILANTHROPY CAMP

For rising 1-6th graders

### CAMP TIKKUN OLAM 2019

For rising 7th Graders – rising 9th Graders

Camp Date: July 30-August 2  
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily

First Church of the Nazarene/Jewish Cultural Center  
5455/5461 North Terrace Road, Chattanooga, TN 37411

Philanthropy Camp and Camp Tikkun Olam are one week day camps for children, with opportunities to "give back" to others and to understand the positive differences they can make in their community. Through age-appropriate, hands-on-activities, games, field trips, speakers, art, and drama, campers will explore the concept of, and the relationship between, philanthropy, faith, family, and community. These camps are a joint program of Chattanooga First Church of the Nazarene and the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga.

\$125.00 for the first child

\$110.00 for each additional sibling

Application on website at <http://jewishchattanooga.com/camps>



# FEDERATION NEWS

## 2019 Federation Campaign Honor Roll

### Maccabi \$25,000-\$49,999

Sarah and Jeffrey Lorberbaum

### Hatikvah \$3600-\$4999

Laura Lea and Keith Dressler

Jen and Aaron Lincove

### Pomegranate \$1800-\$3599

Anonymous

Rebecca and Jordan Parker

Jennifer and Martin Redish

### Ben Gurion \$1000-\$1799

Valerie and Eron Epstein

Barry Gold

Barry Hoffman

Barry Schulman

Cheri and Neil Spitalny

### Mensch \$500-\$999

Karen Diamond-Giblin and John Giblin

Laura and Howard Grody

Rabbit and Jerry Finkle

Janet and George Sivils

### Aliyah \$250-\$499

Danny Gottlieb

### Chavarim \$1-\$249

Florence Abelson

Deborah and Roy Dunn

Brett Fuchs

Paula and David Israel

Phyllis and Jed Mescon

JoAnna Nash

Deborah and Charles Poss

Juniper and Tristen Russo

Gail and Tim Stadfeld

Total as of January 23

**\$1,081,472**

*Thank  
you*

## Dear Jewish Federation Community,



*I want to thank you for honoring me so thoughtfully at the Annual Meeting last month. The metal carving you gave me in honor of my twentieth anniversary at the Federation is truly beautiful and I can't wait to find the perfect space to hang it.*

*I was deeply touched and humbled by the kind words Austin Center shared. It has been an honor to serve the Chattanooga Jewish community for the past twenty years, and I look*

*forward to overseeing the Federation's continued impact in the community and in people's lives. I remain as passionate today about its mission as I did when I started back in 1998 – maybe even more so!*

*I truly appreciate your thoughtful gift and recognition. It means a great deal to me.*

*--Michael Dzik, Federation Executive Director*



## Join the Jewish Federation Legacy Society

The Legacy Society is made up of individuals who, in the tradition of our Jewish faith, wish to share their blessings with others by providing for the future needs of the Jewish community. There are a number of ways to contribute to the Jewish Federation's Endowment through estate planning: a bequest in a will, contribution of the remainder of an IRA or other retirement plan, a life insurance policy, charitable remainder trust, donor advised fund, charitable gift annuity, piece of real estate, securities or other property, or the donation of other assets. However they choose to contribute, Legacy Society members can be sure that their planned gift will turn their dreams for a strong future Jewish community into a reality. Join today.

Anonymous (2)	Dropkin, Warren	Lowe, Beth
*Allen, Amelia	Dzik, Michael	Lowe, Rob
Allen, Owen	Dzik, Paula	*Malsh, Rebecca
*Alper, Maxine	Fairchild, David	*Nash, Ike
Balsler, Jeff	*Frank, Estelle	Oxenhandler, Barbara
Balsler, Robin	Hanan, Jan	Parker, Jordan
Berz, Bob	Hanan, Michael	Parker, Rebecca
Binder, Claire	Hanan, Rachel	Pregulman, Helen
Black, Bonnie	Hanan, Victor	Richelson, Alan
Black, Stephen	Hill, J.R.	Rosenfeld, Jackie
Bogo, Jerry	*Hochman, Colman	Rosenfeld, Roy
Bogo, Rosalee	Hochman, Lynn	Siskin, Pris
Bohn, Jerry	Hodes, Alvin	Sivils, Janet
Brooks, Ellyn	Hodes, Andy	Spector, Linda
Brooks, John	Hodes, Melody	*Spector, Mark
Brouner, Betsy	Howard, Lynn	Spector, Mike
Brouner, Lee	Israel, David	Susman, Gail
Center, Austin	Israel, Scott	Susman, Joel
Center, Marilyn	Jaffe, Dot	Weiner, Cara
Cohen, Tal	*Jaffe, Sam	White Dropkin, Donna
Cohn, Herb	Lebovitz, Alison	Winer, David
*Cohn, Sue	Lebovitz, Alan	Winer, Elaine
Cowan, Rob	Lebovitz, Betty	Winer, Finette
Diamond, Karen	Lebovitz, Charles	Winer, Sanford
DiStefano, David	Lebovitz, Lauren	Zachary, Richard
DiStefano, Susan	Lebovitz, Michael	
Dittus, Sandy	*Levine, Lawrence	

\* Deceased

**See how easy it is to join the Legacy Society!**

**Call Michael Dzik at 493-0270 ext 15.**

## JCRS CAMP, COLLEGE 2019 SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES FEBRUARY 15, MAY 31

Southern Jewish families seeking financial assistance to send their children to Jewish overnight camp, and families in search of funds to pay the costs of undergraduate college education, have a special friend in the Jewish Children's Regional Service (JCRS), the oldest and only regional Jewish children's social service agency in the United States.

Primary qualifications to apply for and receive consideration for assistance are relatively simple. First, the family must live within the seven-state service region, which includes Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas. The family must also provide requested financial information and documentation, as the primary factor in approving any amount of aid is financial need.

The overnight camp scholarship deadline for the summer of 2019 is February 15th, and the undergraduate college aid application for the 2019 Fall Semester is May 31st. Applications received after those dates will be considered, but will fall into a lower range of priority from those received by the published application deadlines.

JCRS typically receives 450-500 applications, each year, just for these two programs, and has provided annual funding to approximately 450 of the applicants. In all seven JCRS programs combined, over 1600 unduplicated Jewish youth receive annual funding, and over 1700 are served. Many youth served are from single-parent or grandparent-led families, or possess family members with serious health, mental health, unemployment, or disability concerns.

The JCRS website: [www.jcrs.org](http://www.jcrs.org) contains information on all of the JCRS programs and provides applications that can be sent electronically back to the JCRS office. The headquarters address is P.O. Box 7368, Metairie LA 70010-7368 and phone is 1-800-729-5277 or (504)828-6334.

The \$1,600,000 annual budget of JCRS is supported primarily through general donations, as well as from the annual income that results when dedicated scholarship funds are created by donors, past aid recipients and JCRS "success stories."



# COMMUNITY NEWS



## Foreign Policy Supper Club 2019

All dates below are Mondays.  
6 p.m.start time;  
\$12 includes dinner and materials.

February 18	Refugees and Global Migration
March 18	The Middle East: Regional Disorder
April 15	Nuclear Negotiations: Back to the Future?
May 20	The Rise of Populism in Europe
June 17	Decoding U.S. – China Trade
July 15	Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics
August 19	The United States and Mexico: Partnership Tested
September 16	State of the State Department and Diplomacy
October No	Foreign Policy Supper Club due to High Holidays
November 18	Topic To Be Announced
December	No Foreign Policy Supper Club

### Foreign Policy Supper Club Returns Monday, February 18: Refugees and Migration

Today, no countries have open borders. Every state in today's global system has its own laws and policies about who is permitted to cross its borders, and how they will do so. Who determines whether someone is a refugee or a migrant? How have different countries, including the United States, reacted to migration? How effective are the international laws, policies and organizations that have evolved to assist and protect refugees and migrants?

#### How Will You Assure Their Future, Rain or Shine?



**LIFE & LEGACY**  
Assuring JEWISH TOMORROWS

The time to act is now.  
Contact your congregation president or Michael Dzik

#### The Ultimate College Prep Study Abroad Adventure

Spend six weeks, eight weeks, or a full semester in Israel with our academic study abroad programs.

Dana Gerbie Klein 617.423.0999 x484  
or dklein@amhsi.org

amhsi.org



### Volunteer Lunch Service at Erlanger North Appreciated

by Stephen Black

“Thank you so much for this”.  
“We really appreciate all that you are doing today for us”.  
“God Bless You for this”.

These are just a few of the comments I heard as I moved around the waiting rooms and the cafeteria at Erlanger North, speaking to the hospital staff and patient families. My response was always, “We are all one community of people and are happy to help. We hope your loved ones recover quickly.”

As in all previous years, our volunteers did a wonderful job and made the directors of this event, Richard Zachary, Andy Hodes, and my wife Bonnie and me, extremely proud. We served several hundred meals and made a lot of people happy with our arts and crafts table, where both adults and children made cards and other craft items with the help of Bonnie, Barbara Oxenhandler, and Jen Lewis. I was particularly impressed with the children of our volunteers, who took it upon themselves to make holiday cards and distribute them to the patients’ family members and children. It was a special mitzvah.

This event is held to provide relief and joy to the dedicated doctors, nurses and other staff and volunteers at Erlanger Hospital, as well as to patients’ families.

I want to thank all of the more than eighty Jewish community volunteers for their help at both the main hospital and at Erlanger East. This was our fifth official year serving at Erlanger in memory of Seth Lurie Eichenthal and Sylvia Wygoda. To Bea and David Eichenthal, and to the Wygoda family, we appreciate the opportunity to honor them with our community service.

I also want to make special mention of Kevin Spiegel, Emillia Jones, Elizabeth Cochrane, Jed Mescon, and the many people at Erlanger without whose strong support this event would not be possible. The staff of Sodexo, led by Jeff Cunningham and his team, saved the day many times and made sure we had the most perfect location, plentiful and delicious food, and all the help we needed when we needed it. Thank you to Jeff and his team, as well as the Sodexo staff at Erlanger East. We hope to see you all next year.

--- Stephen, Bonnie, Richard and Andy





# COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

## Mazel Tov

--to 2011 Federation shaliach Raoul Molnar, who became engaged in Israel on January 12th, to Mati Dias.

## Condolences

*We mourn the passing of the following beloved friends and family:*

- Lidia (Carbajal) Anavi**, wife of Meir Anavi, mother of Chayah Anavi of Netanya, Israel and Yigael Anavi, grandmother of Daniel Anavi also of Netanya, Israel, on December 10.
- Ruth Bible Huff**, mother of Patricia (David) Rose.
- Timothy "Stuart" Kelly**, husband of Keri Peardon.
- Gerald "Jerry" Kraft**, brother of Sheila (Jerry) Sear.
- Robert Irwin Marder**, husband of Carol Marder, brother/brother-in-law of Art Marder and Cathryn Cohen, on Dec 14.
- Steve Oliverio**, brother-in-law/brother of Ken and Annette McJunkin.
- Kenneth Phinney**, step-father of Christi Haustein, on January 10.
- Tanner Robinson**, son of Robby and Rebecca (Brock) Robinson, grandson of Laureen Brock and Todd Brock, on December 24.
- Dr. Harley H. Ross**, wife of Ginger Ross, father/father-in-law of Susan and David DiStefano, grandfather/grandfather-in-law of Sarah, Victoria, Blaise, and Bridget DiStefano, on December 21.
- Cathy Waxler**, sister/sister-in-law of Richard and Dana Waxler, aunt to Rachael Waxler, on December 19.

*Although the Shofar deadline is the 8th of the month, mazel tovs and condolences are accepted at any time. Contact Dana Shavin at 493-0270, ext. 12 or [dshavin@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:dshavin@jewishchattanooga.com).*

## Tributes

### In Memory of

- Colman Hochman**, *Lee and Edene Lasser*
- Mildred Stein**, *Robert and Pris Siskin*
- Dr. Harley H. Ross**, *Robert and Pris Siskin*



*Tuesday Cafe and weekly poker buddies Sheldon Gelburd, Howard Gropper, and Jerry Bohn*

## Have You Lost Touch?

No longer getting weekly e-mails from the Federation? Please call Jake at the front desk at 493-0270 to make sure we have your correct e-mail address. If we do, but you're still not getting them, you may have accidentally unsubscribed. It is very easy to get you back in touch. Just let us know.



## The Shortest Distance Between Listed and Sold



It is important to choose a real estate professional who understands the value of a straightforward approach. That's why people work with Andy.

With his dynamic marketing abilities, his extensive network, and his relentless energy, Andy can get your home sold. Period. End of Story.

**Don't take a winding path down the road of frustration. Choose the shortest distance between listed and sold - Andy Hodes!**



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**[www.AndyHodes.com](http://www.AndyHodes.com)**



Our website is up-to-date and state of the art. Please begin using it if you haven't already!

You can rsvp to events, register to volunteer, read *The Shofar*, and even donate.

<http://www.jewishchattanooga.com>.

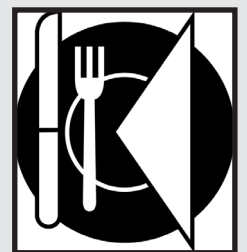
**You're gonna love it!**



## Mitzvah Meals Suggested Donations

- \$8 per meal
- \$90 per month based on 3 meals/week
- \$125 per month based on 4 meals/week
- 160 per month based on 5 meals/week
- 190 per month based on 6 meals/week

**Meals are available for pick-up or delivery.**



To-go orders from any/all community programs will be charged the program fee (\$10-\$12) as opposed to the Mitzvah Meal fee. All Mitzvah Meal recipients must be pre-approved by the Director of Social Services. Menus are set by the Kitchen Supervisor and Director of Social Services.

*Jewish-style food, haimisha atmosphere  
Catering for all events!*

**OPEN 7 DAYS**

**Sun.- Fri. 10:30-3:00**

**Sat. 10:30 to 5:00**

**tel 756-3354 (DELI)**

**fax 266-8646 (TOGO)**



**151 River Street  
across from Coolidge Park**

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**Check our website for our daily menu**



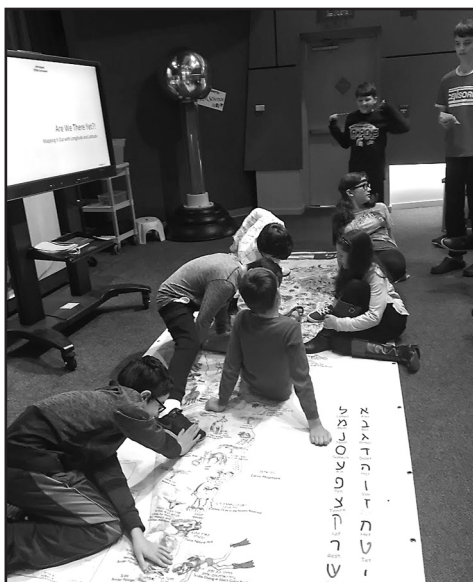
# SHLICHIM PROGRAM



## Creative Teaching About Israel

*Chen Dahan, Federation Shlichah*  
 Israel@jewishchattanooga.com

As part of the Partnership 2Gether program with the Hadera/Eron region in Israel, the Creative Discovery Museum homeschooling program is participating in a STEM program with a class in Beit Eliezer Hadera Middle School. The students in Chattanooga meet with me once a month to learn about Israel. On January 8<sup>th</sup>, we visited the Creative Discover Museum and played "Israel twister," and I took the opportunity to teach them about different places in Israel, and how to say directions in Hebrew.



**DID YOU KNOW?**  
 The Shlichim Program is made possible by your donations to the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign.

**FEBRUARY 5**  
 5:30 PM | JCC

**ALL AGES!**  
 NO COST TO ATTEND!



CELEBRATE ISRAELI MOTHER'S DAY:  
**WOMEN'S NIGHT**  
 JOURNEY DANCING | DINNER & DRINKS |  
 ROUND TABLES | BEAUTY CARE | ARTS & CRAFTS  
 PLEASE RSVP BY FEBRUARY 3  
 RSVP@JEWISHCHATTANOOGA.COM



## ISRAELI - PALESTINIAN CONFLICT SERIES

Join Federation shlichah Chen Dahan at the JCC for a three-class series discussing the historic events that shaped the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. We will explore the narratives that shaped the conflict and discuss the possible solutions. No cost to attend.

**TUESDAYS DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 5:30 -7:00 PM**  
 FEBRUARY 12TH - NARRATIVES OF TWO PEOPLE  
 FEBRUARY 19TH - THE PEACE PROCESS  
 FEBRUARY 26TH - WHERE ARE WE GOING?

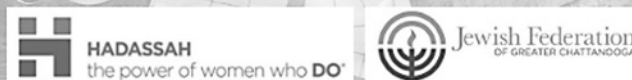


PLEASE RSVP AT ISRAEL@JEWISHCHATTANOOGA.COM

## ISRAELI BRUNCH & COOKING CLASS

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1 PM**  
 VICKI LEWIS' HOME  
 ~ \$10 per person, Guests are Invited! ~  
 1720 West 39th Street, Chattanooga 37409

Please RSVP by February 6 at:  
 Israel@Jewishchattanooga.com



## I feel like dancing!

Join us for Israeli dancing classes  
 Every other Monday during January - February  
 5:30 pm, JCC



January 14th  
 January 28th  
 February 11th  
 February 25th

for more information please  
 contact Elizabeth Ford at  
 corvaluesllc@icloud.com

Please RSVP at Israel@jewishchattanooga.com



# SOCIAL SERVICES



## The High Cost of Illness

**Christi Haustein, LMSW**  
**Social Services Director**  
*chaustein@jewishchattanooga.com*  
893-9241

Here in the U.S., we pay more for our prescription drugs, per capita, than any other country in world. According to a recent NBC report, paying for medication can be the largest out-of-pocket expense for many of us. Many Americans are having to consider major lifestyle changes, like downsizing their home or vehicle or filing bankruptcy, just to pay for their prescription medications.

It's not news that healthcare and finances are intimately intertwined. CNBC notes that bankruptcies resulting from unpaid medical bills will impact nearly two million people this year, making healthcare the number one cause of filings, outpacing credit cards and unpaid mortgages. Having health insurance does not serve as a buffer from these financial hardships. Keep in mind, many of these medications are life-sustaining medications.

The cost of healthcare is driven by new drugs coming into the market and by brand name medications; however, it's not just the new drugs that are astronomically expensive. The EpiPen, which has been out for four decades, has seen a recent hike in price. In 2007, the pharmaceutical company Mylan obtained the rights to sell EpiPen; it retailed for \$94. By 2014, the price had increased to \$609. A few of the new drugs brought to the market, according to the May 2017 cover story in the AARP.org bulletin, and their prices: Bavencio, a cancer medication: \$156,000 a year per patient; a new muscular dystrophy drug with a price tag of \$300,000 per year; and Tecentriq, a bladder cancer drug: \$12,500 a month.

Drug companies will tell you that the cost associated with the drugs helps pay for research and development. This is true to an extent, but Global Data, a research company, revealed that nine out of ten big pharmaceutical companies spend more on marketing than research. AARP also looked at the profit margin of some drug manufacturers compared to other companies including Coca-Cola, GM, and Exxon, and found that five out of the six most profitable companies are pharmaceutical.

In my Medicare meetings at the Federation this past year, I've seen firsthand just how expensive insulin, heart meds, inhalers, mental health treatment, allergy injections, and many other medications, cost. I had one client whose medications for the upcoming year were going to be over \$11,000, and that's with a Medicare Part D prescription plan! I could see and feel their anxiety and was angry and frustrated with and for them. Yes, there are a few savings cards and certain pharmacies that offer savings programs, but the fact remains that Americans are having to dig deeper into their pockets to stay well. My opinion is that we have enough to worry about in our day-to-day lives, and don't need the added stress of figuring out how to maintain our health in complicated financial times.

According to Bloomberg.com, in the U.S., companies are allowed to set their own prices and raise them over time. Medicare, the largest buyer of medication, is not allowed to negotiate directly with drug companies, while private insurers and benefit managers are allowed to strike their own deal and details of these prices are not disclosed. In contrast, in Europe, drug prices are set by the government health system. The bottom line is that drug costs in the U.S., even with discounts, remain higher than in other developed countries.

## **William M. Hillner, Ph.D.** **Clinical Psychologist**

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[www.relationshipTherapy.com](http://www.relationshipTherapy.com) Fax(423) 855-8928

### So what can we do to reverse this trend?

- We can keep pushing and fighting with legislators to create a price ceiling for drug companies. Although there has not been much progress, there must be some accountability and regulations in place to prevent these astronomical prices. Manufacturers will charge what they want and what the market will bear, just because they can.
- Use generic drugs if you can and your physician allows it. The cost savings can be considerable.
- Some drug companies offer savings, such as Patient Assistance Programs. You go directly through the pharmaceutical company and apply. This can be accessed through websites such as [needy meds.org](http://needy meds.org) or [rxassist.org](http://rxassist.org). Your MD must fill out and sign this application.
- Use mail order. In some cases, mail order can save about 30%. Make sure your doctor writes a prescription for that length of time, typically, a 90-day supply.
- Some pharmacies are considered preferred pharmacies and may offer discounts. This may also be true of certain employers who use preferred pharmacies.

### What is our focus?

For decades America has been known as the country of "a pill for every ill." This means we are guilty of treating everything with medicine, instead of considering the cause of the illness. Of course there are things that are out of our control, but many times there are symptoms that ARE in our control. Obesity is our nation's #1 health concern. Most individuals can have some control over their food consumption, weight, and exercise regimen. Extra weight can lead to a plethora of illnesses and directly correlates to the top ten causes of death in the U.S. according to the CDC.

If we can actively pursue a healthier lifestyle and reclaim some control, we can work towards eliminating or at least reducing expensive treatment, medicine and medical procedures. We all know it's not easy to change lifelong habits, but if we can work on changing our focus to *causes* of certain illness, and not rely solely on medication after we are ill, we be a step closer to not needing costly medications in the first place.

### STAY IN THE LOOP!

**Our website is <http://www.jewishchattanooga.com>.**  
**Our Facebook page is Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga (JFGC)**

## Need a Ride? Tips for Van Travelers



Contact the Social Services department for approval to receive transportation services. Once you have been approved, you may call the appropriate driver for the day you need transportation.

Please book trips at least 48 hours in advance by contacting the appropriate driver **during office hours** (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

--Contact the office or driver as soon as possible if unable to take the trip.  
--Please schedule all possible location stops with your driver while making your appointment to accommodate your needs.  
--We are more than happy to stop at an unexpected location for you but we cannot guarantee to accommodate you because of other scheduled trips

**Mondays** - Rick Jacobs  
**Tues. & Thurs.**- Eddie Reel & Jason Shuman  
**Wednesdays** - Eddie Reel & Rick Jacobs

Eddie: 423-298-7169  
Jason 423-320-1480;  
Rick Jacobs 423-432-2222

### DID YOU KNOW?

**The Social Services Program is made possible by your donations to the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign.**



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## 2019 Annual Meeting



*Austin Center presents Federation Executive Director Michael Dzik an original art piece as a thank you for twenty years of service to the Jewish Federation, from the community.*

The 2019 Annual Meeting was held Sunday, January 6th. The meeting marked the official end of the 2019 Annual Campaign (although it is never too late to give). Mike Spector announced the campaign total as of January 6, and the Sapir award recipient. Robin Balsler announced the Volunteers of the Year, followed by Erica Newman, who spoke as head of the nominating committee. Federation Board Chair Austin Center then gave the “State of the Federation” address. (Please see Austin’s article on page 2 for a partial re-cap of his remarks.)

Lastly, Austin Center presented Federation Executive Director Michael Dzik with “Peace Dove,” an original rendering by artist Melanie Dankowicz, from our Partnership Region, Hadera, in Israel. The plaque reads Michael Dzik, January 6<sup>th</sup> 2019, In Appreciation for 20 years of Service and Dedication to our Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga.

### Sapir Award: Judy Sachsman

Judy has decades of service as an ambassador. Every year, she begins speaking with community members as soon as the campaign begins, and she has participated in every Super Sunday. Thank you, Judy, for your lifelong commitment to the Federation’s annual campaign and mission.

### Aleph Bet: Samantha Coffman

Since her daughter Harlee started at Aleph Bet in 2016, Samantha Coffman has been a reliable and steadfast volunteer. She is an active participant in our Parent Group Association and has been integral in the planning and implementation of several fundraising efforts. Samantha has helped plan school parties, sent new families in our direction, and is always available when it’s time for the “dirty work” of set-up and clean-up. Her presence at Aleph Bet has always been greatly appreciated. We will miss seeing her daily when Harlee goes off to kindergarten this fall.

### B’nai Zion Congregation: Randi Weiss

Randi and Jeff Weiss moved to Chattanooga in April of 2015, and B’nai Zion quickly became their home away from home. While waiting for her Physical Therapist license to transfer between states, Randi started volunteering in the office. Even after she started working as a PT, she felt it was important to continue to “give back” to the synagogue that had played an important role in her (and Jeff’s) feeling at home in Chattanooga.

Randi currently makes the weekly yahrzeit and minyan list calls, schedules the Shabbat greeters and pulpit officers, shops and prepares the kiddush for Shabbat weekly, chairs the programming committee, and teaches the kindergarten and first grade at our Wednesday BSI. She always has a smile and a hug for everyone.

### Hadassah: Vicki Lewis

Since Vicki arrived in Chattanooga from Birmingham, where she was also an active Hadassah member, she has been a welcome addition to our community. For the second year, Vicki is chairing the donated dinner event at Room in the Inn, a residence for homeless women and their dependents. Vicki was the first member to offer her kitchen for Chen Dahan’s cooking demonstration in honor of Israeli Mother’s Day, and she is quick to volunteer to assist with any Hadassah program.

10 February 2019 *The Shofar*

### Jewish Federation : Rob Lowe

Rob has been an active participant with the Jewish community and Federation since his family arrived in Chattanooga. A Federation Board member, he will be joining the Executive Committee in 2019. He has been an active leader with the Federation’s Young Jewish Leadership group, providing expertise and advice in recent years. A participant in both the JFNA Campaigner’s Mission to Israel as well as the local YESOD leadership class, Rob used Federation educational opportunities to support the community. He has been active as a Chattanooga Night Run committee member since its inception, this year as the event Chairman. A yearly campaign ambassador, Rob goes above and beyond his campaign responsibilities every time.

### Mizpah Congregation: Henry Schulson

Henry selflessly served as president of Mizpah for four years, extending a two year term twice. During his tenure, Henry worked hard to help keep Mizpah on course through the arrival and departure of three rabbis. He was instrumental in helping to create a nomination process that assures the election of a diverse and engaged Board as well as Committee Chairs, and he contributed to the formation of a solid budgeting process which includes the Endowment Trustees. Also during Henry’s tenure, Mizpah saw an increase in membership and participation. Thank you, Henry, for your tireless work for Mizpah

### Chabad of Chattanooga: Judy Spiegel

Judy Spiegel demonstrated outstanding organizational skills and leadership in putting together the largest-ever attended Jewish event in Chattanooga history, “Voices From Auschwitz.” Judy was a tremendous advocate throughout the year, actively introducing others to help Chabad sustain its amazing programs. There was no request of her that she did not joyfully accept. Additionally, her warm, friendly and caring personality has made her a friend to many.

### Machanooga: Jennifer Lewis

Jennifer Lewis has answered the call for Machanooga whenever we were in need, and is always a welcome, positive force. She brings a wealth of knowledge to co-teaching our fifth and sixth grade class, and offers a helpful hand and a cheer of encouragement for all of our children. She embodies the spirit of Machanooga, not only as an engaged parent, but also as an energetic, creative chug leader, approaching students with compassion and a genuine love for Jewish learning.



*Campaign Chair Mike Spector*



*Robin Balsler*



*Erica Newman*



*Board Chair Austin Center*



*Federation Executive Director Michael Dzik presents Judy Sachsman with the 2018 Sapir Award*



*2018 Volunteers of the year, left-r: Rob Lowe, Jewish Federation; Samantha Coffman, Aleph Bet Children’s Center; Jennifer Lewis, Machanooga; Randy Weiss, B’nai Zion; Vicki Lewis, Hadassah. Not pictured: Henry Schulson, Mizpah Congregation, and Judy Spiegel, Chabad of Chattanooga*