



Shofar



December 2019

A Publication of the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga





Building a Better Jewish Life

Michael Dzik
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893-5443

I just returned from a first-time, interactive Federation Laboratory conference in Washington, DC, where nearly 700 volunteers and staff from throughout North America met to discuss challenges facing the Jewish community. Austin Center, Rob Lowe and I were there representing Chattanooga.

There were three tracks: Security (Austin took this one), Action for Good (Rob) and Engagement (me). This was an immersive experience that allowed us the freedom of honest discussion. Small groups (6-7 people) were created within each track and the group composition changed every few hours, so you were always with new people from different communities.

I brought home several new ideas about how to engage our newest--and oldest--community members. I learned that the Federation must have an obsessive focus on the individual: their needs, wants and connectivity to the Jewish community. We must meet each person where they are in their Jewish journey.

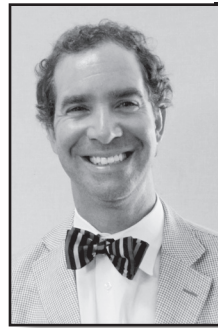
Through these conversations, I recognized how truly enormous the Jewish world is. I also discovered the joy in how small it can become as we connect and engage with one another. Building on these connections, via Federation staff and volunteers, will enable all Jews to “do Jewish” in whatever ways they want.

The Federation is no longer saying, “We want you to do something for us.” Instead, we want to help you find what it is in Jewish experience, learning, practice, and community that will help you live your life and be Jewish for your own betterment and that of the world.

I want every Jewish person to feel a part of something special. A place they can explore and ask questions and find their own meaningful experiences. Meaningful Jewish engagement is intentional, thoughtful, authentic, and not forced. Our goal is to give people the tools to build the community they want to be a part of and that they want to share with others.

Let’s build a stronger, more connected network of our Jewish community together. Together we can create countless opportunities to develop the skills, capacities, and inclinations necessary to live lives of meaning and purpose. I look forward to continue building a stronger, more united Jewish community together with each of you.

**from the
executive director**



Save a Child’s Heart

Austin Center

This past month, I’ve been keeping a record of anti-Semitic incidents across the world. They have been rising at an alarming rate. Recently Michael Dzik, Rob Lowe and I attended Federation Laboratory (FedLab), a strategic thinking and planning conference for the over 700 Jewish Federations of North America leaders. The purpose of FedLab is to gain a new perspective on the key issues and opportunities challenging all of our Jewish communities, in order to make them more resilient.

When we speak about the accomplishments of our Federation and the people we help, we are speaking of the work we do as Jews here in Chattanooga and around the world. I would like to share a story from Israel about an organization called Save a Child’s Heart based out of Edith Wolfson Medical Center in Holon, Israel.

A group of Israeli doctors formed this organization back in the early 1990s. One of the first patients was a young Ethiopian boy, age 15, who was living on the street with a life-threatening heart problem. These doctors, lead by co-founder Sion Hour, administered the treatment that saved his life. That child later started a school for homeless street kids in Ethiopia.

Since then, Save a Child’s Heart has saved over 5,000 children’s lives, including more than 2,000 from the West Bank and Gaza, 300 from Iraq and Syria and thousands of others from over 57 countries. Save a Child’s Heart has been honored by the UN for their work. In a time where antisemitism is at a record high and incidents and attacks seem like a daily horror, we can never lose sight that, as a Jewish people, we continue to make a difference in the world.

I feel a responsibility, and I hope you do too, to spread hope by telling these stories and more--the stories of the great works we do in our community and around the world, saving not only hearts, but minds and lives.



On Light and Being the Vessel

Ann Treadwell
atreadwell@jewishchattanooga.com
493-0270 ext 13



I have been thinking about candles and light. I don't know if any of you have seen my key chain, but it says (in Hebrew and in English) "Even a small light can brighten great darkness - Baal Shem Tov." I recently looked up Baal Shem Tov and discovered he was an 18th century leader who revolutionized Jewish thought. He also said, "When a Jewish person joins with their fellow Jews in a Holy act, they fuse together into a vessel that can receive Heavenly blessings."

I am not a scholar of Judaism. But these quotes made me think about how light can traverse centuries. Daily, I interact with my key chain. Daily, I am reminded that a little bit of light can make a difference to someone.

from the program director

Sometimes it's hard to muster that light. For example, the other day, after being cut-off on the highway four times, and then waiting in traffic, I had to think more than twice about letting the woman in the Krystal driveway turn into my lane. Just when I thought, "No random acts of kindness today!" I saw that her baby was screaming in her back seat. Clearly, she needed a little light.

Often when I dream, I dream of sculpture I want to create. Most recently I have been dreaming of vessels. Many of the vessels in my post-dream sketches are made of light, or have light coming from them. These vessels are very large, V-shaped pots with pinholes in the sides, made of rope lights with an interior glow. Imagine my delight when saw that the two Baal Shem Tov quotes were both about light and vessels! It turns out that not just light can transcend time but ideas as well.

During this holiday season, think of how a small light can brighten darkness and how you can be the vessel that fuses people together.



Chanukah Community Candle Lighting*

Sunday, December 22, 5:30 p.m.



Bring your menorah to the JCC and light the first candle of Chanukah with us as a community. Enjoy delicious sufganiyot and latkes!

Please bring donations of toiletries for Room in the Inn and nonperishable food for the Chattanooga Area Food Bank.

***A joint program with Hadassah
No cost but you must RSVP**

Foreign Policy Supper Club Local Hot Topics: Funding Public Education Monday, December 9 at 6 p.m. \$12, RSVP



The last FPSC meetings of the year are devoted to local hot topics. When the group was surveyed at the last meeting, they said they wanted to talk about Chattanooga's funding of the public school system. To this end we have invited **Josh Singh**, Director of Faith-Based & Neighborhood Partnerships

for UnifiEd, to the December meeting.

Josh is passionate about public education and every child having a chance at succeeding in school and beyond. He's also a voracious reader. When UnifiEd was founded in 2014, they spent months talking to thousands of Hamilton county residents to get their input on how to ensure a great public education for every child. The feedback shaped a four-point vision for what great public schools look like for the community. One of these points is building community support for public schools by prioritizing funding.

\$12 includes dinner and discussion. RSVP@jewishchattanooga.com, 493-0270, or on the website at Jewishchattanooga.com.

CAMPAIGN 2020:



Mike Spector

from the campaign chair

Let's have a serious Jewish conversation. Our community is aging. No surprise there – it's just reality. This information has consequences for our 2020 campaign. I have always been proud

of our community. Especially by the respect we have received on the JFNA missions I have attended for the last three years. Our campaign has always been exceptional based on the size of our Jewish community. Although our community continues to be incredibly philanthropic, we are starting to see a decrease in overall dollars. Younger generations today are committed to other things --AIDS, cancer, and diabetes research, for example--all very important causes. I believe these younger Jews are also committed to Jewish causes, and making sure that our Jewish community (and Jews around the world) remains a priority is important to me.

What are we doing about it? Your Federation board has been proactive. We have anticipated the decline in our campaign for several years now. Creating the Life and Legacy Endowment Fund was the first step. We have significantly increased our endowment's actual dollars as well as future promised gifts from community members. Have you made provisions in your will for the Federation? Just like our needing full community support of our annual campaign, we need everyone to include the Federation in their

will. Second, we are making a concerted effort to reach out to Jewish community members who have not given to our annual campaign in the past. So far this year we have received 44 new donations, and we anticipate more. Ready to make your gift? Every amount is important. Third, we are asking for more volunteers. We have over 40 ambassadors making calls to reach our current and soon-to-be donors.

And finally we are trying very hard to reach out to the younger generations to get them more involved. We have a vibrant young adult group and have, for the last many years, put on a leadership training series.

The leadership of your Jewish Federation is planning ahead. I look forward to becoming the Board Chair in January 2020, and I will definitely be calling on YOU to help. So when you get that call, say "Yes, I will help our Jewish community." Thank you in advance for your gift to the Federation Annual Campaign, and for your ongoing support.



Tikkun Olam Summer Exchange Trip

June 30-July 13, 2020

Israel Partnership Tikkun Olam Summer Exchange Trip (for teens in rising 10th and 11th grades) is a once-in-a-lifetime experience to be hosted and feel a part of the family of an Israeli teen. You will travel through Israel with both Americans and Israeli friends from our ten Southeastern US communities. This incredible opportunity combines touring and community service, planned programs and free time with your Israeli family. The friendships you make will last a lifetime and make you a part of the Partnership 2Gether family.

For more information and to fill out an application go to <https://jewishchattanooga.com/education-grants/grants-scholarships/review-qualifications-and-guidelines/com/> or contact Ann Treadwell at (423) 432-0270 X 13 or atreadwell@jewishchattanooga.com.

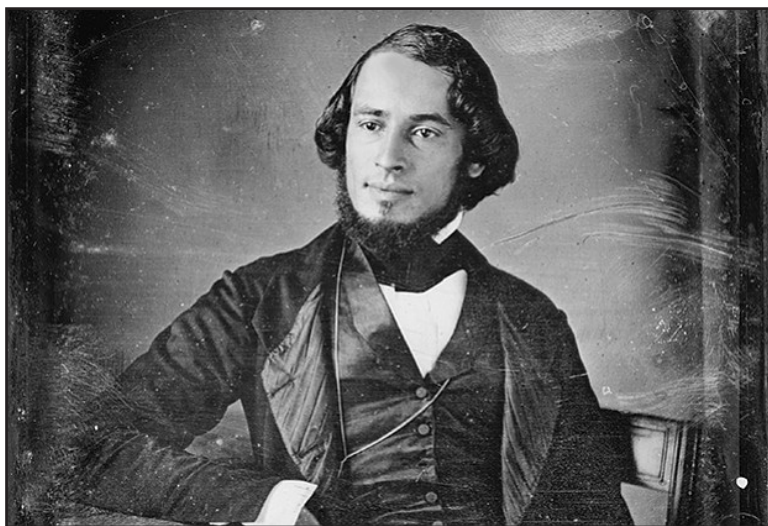
Jewish Resident Camp Grants

The Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga (JFGC) provides grants for recognized Jewish overnight camping experiences. Its purpose is to encourage our youngsters to have an intensive Jewish camping experience as part of their growing up, and the grant reflects the Federation's desire to increase the number of young people who will have this opportunity.

For more information about camp grants and to fill out an application, go to <https://www.jewishchattanooga.com/education-grants/grants-scholarships/review-qualifications-and-guidelines>.

**Applications must be postmarked
no later than December 15th**

Jewish Documentary Film Series Opens Jan. 15 with Carvalho's Journey by Stephen Black

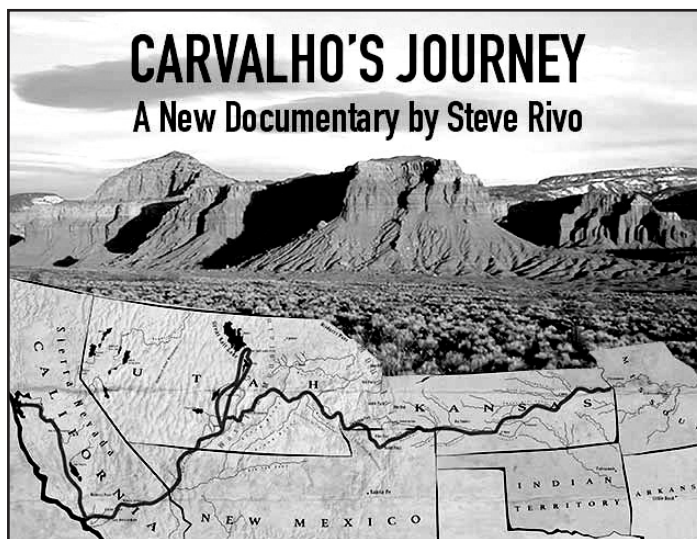


This fascinating documentary is about Solomon Nunes Carvalho, one of the earliest American pioneers in photography. He was born to Sephardic Jewish parents who emigrated from England to Barbados and finally the United States in the early 19th century. Solomon's father, David, established the first Reform Jewish Synagogue in Charleston, South Carolina in 1825. His uncle, Emanuel, was a Cantor and Rabbi. Solomon married Sarah and lived in Philadelphia but later became a member of the Shearith Israel Synagogue (Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue) in New York. They were also founding members of the first Sephardic Synagogue in Baltimore.

Solomon was an artist, author and portrait photographer, in which he was an early pioneer in the

“daguerrotype” method that used glass plates coated with silver. His portrait, “Child with Rabbits” was incorporated in some very early State Bank Notes.

In 1853 he traveled West with Colonel John Fremont (later, a Presidential candidate) to help photograph and document what Fremont hoped would become a central route for the railroad to the West. While many of his photographs were lost to a fire, some were copied and did survive (many attributed incorrectly to Matthew Brady). Nunes fell deathly ill on the trip and later met the Mormon community and Brigham Young in Utah, where he recovered his health. His friendship with Young and that community was rooted in their belief that their Exodus to the Western United States was connected to the Exodus message from the Bible. Please enjoy the film, photos and life story of Solomon Nunes Carvalho.



Jewish Documentary Film Series Subscription Plan



See you at the movies!

Introducing the Chattanooga Jewish Documentary Film Series subscription plan! For \$36 per person you get admission to films, popcorn, and a beverage. Alternatively, you can use your tickets for friends (for example, get admission for two people to two films, or four admissions for one film, etc.). This is a great way to attend and support the series!

Subscriptions can be prepaid by sending a check to the Jewish Federation at PO Box 8947, Chattanooga, TN 37414; online at jewishchattanooga.com; or by calling the office at 493-0270 with a credit card number.

Cost per film without subscription will be \$10 per film, per person and will include popcorn and a beverage.

Hint: We think subscriptions to the Series would make for excellent Chanukah gifts!

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

See how easy it is to join the Legacy Society!

Call Michael Dzik at 493-0270 ext 15.

You must RSVP to all programs to ensure we have adequate seating and/or food. RSVP on our website at Jewishchattanooga.com; by email at Rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com; or call (423) 493-0270. Specify if vegetarian.



**CARING
BRIDGE**

Show your support and keep up with Alice Goss-Morgan. Sign in to her Caring Bridge site.

**caringbridge.
org/visit/
alicegossmorgan**

Tuesday Cafe



Join us for lunch every Tuesday at noon. Menus in weekly email. Vegetarian options available with advance notice. \$10. Rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com or 493-0270.

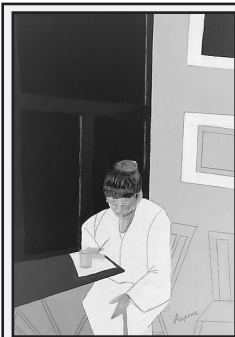
Mitzvah Meals Suggested Donations

- \$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.



A Place at the Table Artist Reception

Thursday, December 12
5-7 p.m.

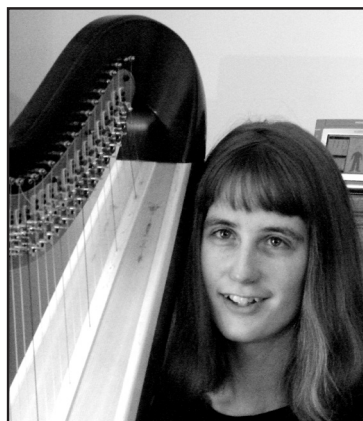
No cost to attend

Board Meeting 5:30



Dr. Perry Brickman (left) spoke at the Jewish Cultural Center on November 18th about his book, *Extracted*, and about antisemitism in American colleges and universities. The program was a joint presentation of the B'nai Zion Congregation Book Club and the Jewish Federation.

Harpist Margaret Marie Coulter to Perform at Tuesday Cafe Dec. 17



Margaret Marie Coulter has played in the Chattanooga Harp Ensemble since April, 2009. She volunteers at Erlanger Hospital, playing for the adult oncology patients. On December 17th, Coulter will play *Achat Sha'alti*, *Ana Hashem*, *Yavo Michael*, and a few other songs from

“Healing Music from the Jewish Tradition Vol. 1.”
Lunch is \$10. Please RSVP.

Former White Supremacist Leader to Speak January 8 and 9



T.M. Garret is a German American author, producer, filmmaker, marketing expert, radio personality, and former white supremacist leader turned human rights activist and founder of C.H.A.N.G.E, a Memphis-based non-profit organization which engages in community outreach programs, food drives, seminars, anti-racism campaigns and anti-violence campaigns. He is also the founder and organizer of the annual Memphis Peace Conference, which includes an Inter-Faith and Community Panel.

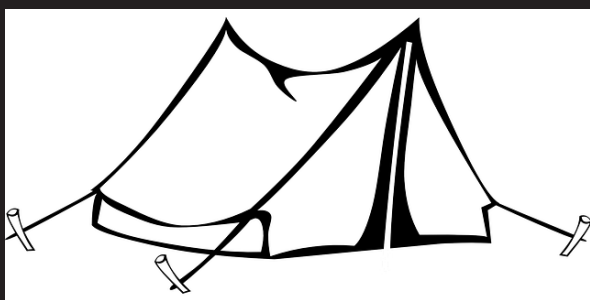
The Jewish Federation, in conjunction with area faith leaders, will be bringing T.M. Garret to Chattanooga in January. He will speak Wednesday, January 8th at Brainerd Baptist Church and Thursday, January 9th at the Camp House as a program of the Mayor's Council on Hate. More information, including times, to follow.

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Israeli-Style Scout Troop for Kids

We are considering forming an Israeli-style scout troop for boys and girls ages 8 to 13. The troop's focus would be on:

- Building ties among young people in the Jewish community
- Instilling a love of Israel
- Developing an appreciation for the outdoors
- Encouraging physical fitness
- Fostering independence, leadership, and team skills



An informational meeting will take place Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. at the Jewish Cultural Center, 5461 North Terrace Road. Please RSVP. If you are interested but unable to attend, contact Ann Treadwell (atreadwell@jewishchattanooga.com), 493-0270 ext. 13) or Tom Balazs 773-667-3385 (thomasbalazs@yahoo.com)



COUNCIL AGAINST HATE
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The Pleasures of Paint Therapy

In October, The Jew Crew had their annual paint party when ArtsyU set up a spectacular paint studio in one of the Mizpah classrooms. The teens were eager to learn the basic techniques of painting as everyone created original works of art based on a model of the moon at night. This was not only a fun social and educational program, it also turned out to be "one of the most therapeutic things" the teens had ever done, they said. We were all grateful for the time together but also grateful that painting is just a hobby. We have decided to keep our day jobs!

Annual Chanukah Party

Sunday, December 15



TRIBUTES

Wishing Amy Boulware a speedy recovery
From Helen Pregulman

In Memory of Beatrice Margolis
From Robin Hays
From Cecilia LaRue

Peacemaking Offering
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Mazel Tov

--to **Doug and Lindsey Dodson**, proud parents of Luna James Dodson, born November 15th.

--to **Austin Gross**, grandson of Judy Richelson, for becoming an Eagle Scout on November 4th.

--to **Rachael Waxler and Oscar Ruiz**, on the birth of Lettie Lynn Ruiz on November 1st.

--to **Arthur Winer**, son of Sanford and Elaine Winer, whose song "The Minor Key" won a Silver Medal in the 2019 Global Music Awards, an international songwriting competition.

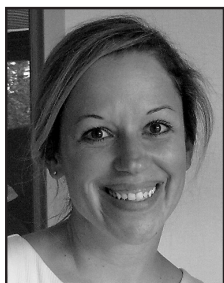
Condolences

We are sad to announce the passing of

--**Edward "Sonny" Brody**, husband of Helen Brody z'l, father/father-in-law of Michael and Nancy Brody, Cindy and Ben Sirota, and Louis and Deana Brody.

Contact Shofar editor **Dana Shavin** at
dshavin@jewishchattanooga.com to place a
mazel tov or condolence.

social services



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

As we wrap up the year, I want to say thank you to those who trusted me to help with their Medicare Part D plan.

Although it was at times stressful for all of us, we made it through another year of Medicare Madness! I also want to thank our kitchen staff, Sandra Hammonds and Alice Morgan, our Executive Administrator, Jake Balser, our Community Health Advocate, Charli Stanley-Parker, and the Federation drivers, Jason, Eddie, and Joel, for all their help during this time. Please remember I am available to you all year round to help with anything that might pop-up regarding your medications or Medicare questions in general.

I wanted to also talk about Federation services again for those who might be new to the community or just need a refresher. The Social Services department can assist with home visits--just friendly drop-ins to say hello--and assist with your medication organization (pill box) if necessary. Charli, our Community Health Advocate, can also check your vitals. Should you require anything more, in terms of medical needs, Charli will make a referral.

The Federation can provide transportation to your medical appointments and if you like, Charli or I can stay with you at your doctor's appointment. We can talk with your medical providers, pharmacy, family members, friends, and caregivers about your medical/health needs, as long as we have a release in your chart allowing us to do so. We can make referrals for mental health, new physicians, Medicare supplemental plans, financial resources, non-medical home care, community-based home care, etc. We can assist with signing up for TennCare (Medicaid), or referrals for the Affordable Care insurance (Obama Care), or if you're interested in a long-term care insurance policy, we can assist with that. I personally meet with people in the community on a weekly basis who need assistance with food vouchers, utility, or rental assistance. We look at each need on a case-by-case basis and assist as we can, but always provide community resources.

We can deliver kosher meals to your door on

Thursdays. We have a number of individuals who receive meals each week, some because they just want the



Charli Stanley-Parker
Community Health Advocate
advocate@jewishchattanooga.com
322-8641

yummy meals and others because they're in need, (recent discharge from hospital or rehab) and others, to help supplement their weekly meals. Please call me if you're interested in Mitzvah Meals and I'll be happy to talk with you about this service. If you or someone you know is in need of nursing home level care, or interested in assisted/independent living, we can not only talk to you about these facilities, we can take you there to meet staff and look around.

As far as transportation, I want to make sure that community members know that we prioritize medical appointments after which we can look at other visits to include: pharmacy runs, grocery shopping, hair appointments or visits with friends.

PLEASE let our drivers know as soon as possible about upcoming appointments. As it stands now, we are booked for several weeks out, so these slots fill up quickly. It appears that Mondays are days that are less busy, so if you can plan your appointments, consider a Monday. If you are new to Federation transportation, I will need to meet with you for a brief assessment to ensure proper fit. Transportation is on a first come, first served basis, but is free. We do the best we can, but from time-to-time, we are booked and will call you in advance to give you enough time to locate other means of transportation. We get phone calls on a regular basis requesting transportation, so get your request in early!

We'd love to have you join us for Tuesday Café every Tuesday (except holidays). Tuesday Café is from noon to 1pm and the menu changes each week. It's a great time to meet new people, see your friends, and enjoy a wonderful meal, complete with desserts and coffee. It also gives us time to meet with you and update you on the happenings here at the Jewish Federation. Let us know if you'd like to try it out!! Jake Balser, our Executive Administrator would be more than happy to hear from you and add you to our weekly list of Tuesday Café attendees.

I can't possibly tell you about ALL our services, but if you have a question or need to chat, you know where to find us! We look forward to seeing you soon!

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Eat Sip Walk, Chattanooga's premier South Side food tour company, is now offering a progressive Sunday lunch featuring Chattanooga's top-rated restaurants. Get the low-down on the history of the South Side, and the iconic sculptures and murals on Main Street. Walk less than one mile.

Popular stops vary but may include:

Bleu Fox Cheese Shop, State of Confusion, and Hot Chocolatier
 \$60 per person Includes two appetizers, cocktails or beer, a main course, and a dessert.
 Special rate for parties of 8 or more. Vegan and vegetarian options available.

2:30-5pm

Saturday tours also available. For more information or to sign up, go to www.eatsipwalk.com or contact Marilyn Goler at (847) 987-8755.

*Team building and holiday parties welcome!
 Makes a great holiday gift!*

Maral Rahmani Became Bat Mitzvah Saturday, October 26 at Mizpah



Maral Rahmani is originally from Shiraz, a historical city in Iran. She moved to the United States two years ago, where she earned a Master's Degree in Real Estate Development from Clemson University. Maral relocated to Chattanooga and is currently enrolled at UTC. Her Mizpah bat mitzvah family included Ryan Rosen, Richard and Ruth Longway-Zachary, and Carol Cohn.



Tal Cohen (r) with CUFJ city directors Margaret and David Bean at Dry Valley Baptist Church November 17th. Cohen presented at "Why Israel" night.



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Ariel Sloan Bar Mitzvah is December 14



Ariel Sloan will become a Bar Mitzvah at Mizpah Congregation, officiated by Rabbi Susan Tendler, during Shabbat morning services December 14th. The community is invited. He is the son of Traci Sloan and Adi Sloan, the grandson of Karen Hinkes and Elliot Bloom (z'l) and Florence Sloan and Meir Sloan (z'l). Ariel is in 7th grade at Heritage Middle School.

Ariel enjoys all subjects in school, especially math and science. He is a proud clarinet player in the band, and is a member of the robotics team. For the last few years, Ariel has volunteered at Signal Centers' many programs. This past summer he volunteered with Adult Services, working with individuals with disabilities. His primary focus revolved around his concern for a more inclusive environment for all individuals.

Mazel Tov!

Raise Your Voice!

Beginning in January, we will be seeking community voices on monthly themes (see below). Articles should not exceed 300 words and will be edited for clarity and space. Please be advised there is no guarantee that every article sent in will be published; inclusion in *The Shofar* is contingent on space and editor's discretion. We look forward to hearing your voices!

January: Embracing diversity

DUE DEC. 9th

Feb.: Environmental awareness

DUE JANUARY 8th

March: Paying it forward

DUE FEBRUARY 7th

April: Personal rituals

DUE MARCH 9th

May: Israel

DUE APRIL 6th

June: Reflections

DUE MAY 8th



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Ft. Oglethorpe · Hixson · Kimball · Lee Hwy





Meghan Greybeal

alephbet@jewishchattanooga.com

(423) 893-5486

Fall Program Fun

We had a wonderful time at our first program of the year. The children of Aleph Bet worked hard for weeks to be ready for their fall performance, where they sang songs celebrating autumn. With so many wonderful things to be thankful for, we were thrilled to have a chance to sit down and celebrate with our families.

Celebrate Shabbat with Aleph Bet!

There are still spots available to celebrate Shabbat with Aleph Bet! Each Friday morning, we welcome a guest to lead us in stories, songs, and Shabbat blessings. Email Meghan (alephbet@jewishchattanooga.com) if you'd like to join us!



shlichim program

Amit Matityau
Israel@jewishchattanooga.com
(423)385-0098



Bibi's Inexplicable Staying Power

How does a man who is charged with fraud, bribery, and breach

of trust, who is running against three former IDF chiefs (all in one party), who rarely gives interviews to the media, and with a party campaign slogan that says "Only Bibi" win in Israeli elections over and over again and stay in his position for over ten years?

Benjamin Netanyahu joined the Israeli political scene in 1988 and was elected prime minister for the first time in 1996. He was re-elected in 2009 and has been there ever since. In six months he will break David Ben Gurion's record for the longest time in the position.

Last week in Israel a new documentary movie called "King Bibi" was released, which discusses the prime minister's media skills. There is a mutual obsession between Netanyahu and the Israeli media.

Former prime ministers have been characterized by the "Tzabar" image, or as former IDF chiefs or Ashkenazi figures who reflect the majority of the people. All of those pale in comparison to Netanyahu's professional stand in front of the camera. The media in Israel has had a hard time accepting Netanyahu's ability to reach the people, which has been evident since the day he was elected for the first time. Even before Facebook and live streaming, Netanyahu knew that directly addressing the people was the key to winning their support.

In 1997, after he was acquitted of the charges against him in the "Bar-On Hebron" case, he broadcast a live video on all the news stations with only one camera in his office and without the presence of reporters in the room. He did not allow any questions. In this way, he has always spoken directly to the people, declaring himself superior to, and without need for, the media.



Netanyahu referenced Game of Thrones in talking about himself recently.

Join our cocktail class and learn how to make perfect cocktails with Amit Matityau, former bartender!

Tuesday | December 10th | 7:00 PM | JCC
\$10 to participate | 21+

RSVP
www.jewishchattanooga.com

Let's do this!

Lets meet Amit!

Let's get to know each other!

We can meet for



Email: Israel@JewishChattanooga.com

Call: (423) 385 0098

Facebook: Amit Matityau Shaliach

We welcomed Dr. Joel Hoffman (second from bottom, right) and our older students learned about the steps behind planting an apple tree and baking bread. One person can do both of these things for a whole group, and it goes to show the power of working as a team and the difference one individual can make. We also learned the real reason we ended up with matzoh, and it wasn't just because there was no time!



December 2019 Schedule

Dec 1, 8, and 15

Machanooga reconvenes January 12th

We welcomed special guest Eliana Light (in photos with guitar), and learned and sang with her. Our teachers met with her in the morning, and talked about how to teach the idea of G-d, while our students had an energetic, active tefillah experience. Our students got to pray and learn with Eliana, with a musical tefillah session.





923 McCallie Avenue
Chatt., TN 37403
423-267-9771

Office@mizpahcongregation.org
www.mizpahcongregation.org

**First Friday Shabbat Dinner
December 6**

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 pm
Shabbat Dinner 7:00 pm



שלום

Adult Introduction to Hebrew
December 5, 12, and 19; 6:30
Mizpah Library, Lily Dropkin, instructor

Mizpah Presidents at Yom Kippur



From left, seated: Iris Abelson, Alan Richelson, Susan Distefano, Donna White-Dropkin; Standing, from left: Richard Zachary, Warren Dropkin, Paul Lefkoff, Bev Coulter, Henry Schulson, Howard Levine, Rabbi Craig Lewis

WORSHIP AND STUDY SCHEDULE

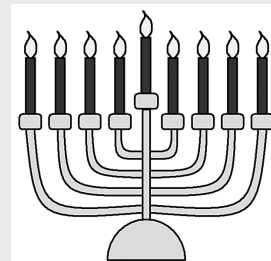
<u>Sundays</u>	Machanooga Joint Religious School	10:00 am
<u>Tuesdays</u>	Introduction to Judaism	6:30 pm
<u>Wednesdays:</u>	<i>Mussar</i> : Sacred Teachings and Ethics	7:30 am
	Hebrew School	4:30 pm
<u>Thursdays:</u>	Lunch 'n Learn: Seasonal / current events 1	2:15 pm
	Introduction to Hebrew	6:30 pm
<u>Fridays:</u>	<i>Oneg/Kabbalat Shabbat Services</i>	5:30 / 6:00 pm
Dec. 6th	First Friday Family <i>Shabbat Service</i>	6:00 pm
	Songleader: Lev Gross-Comstock	
	First Friday <i>Shabbat Dinner</i>	6:45 pm
Dec. 20 th	Shirei Shabbat	6:00 pm
Dec. 27 th	Latke / Brisket Dinner	7:00 pm
<u>Saturdays:</u>	Torah Study w/ breakfast	9:00 am
	<i>Shabbat services w/ Torah/Haftarah Reading</i>	11:00 am
Dec. 20 th	Bar Mitzvah of Ari Sloan	10:30 am
<u>Sundays:</u>	<i>Machanooga: Sunday School</i>	10:00 am

Please Note: Due to normal security concerns, Mizpah doors - front and back - are locked at all times. Use the code or ring the bell. Thanks.

Hanukkah Celebration

Friday December 27

Kabbalat Worship Services 6:00 pm
Hanukkah Latke / Brisket Dinner: 7:00 pm
Please RSVP: 267-9771
Office@mizpahcongregation.org



Deborah Levine Featured in Forbes Magazine



Mizpah member, and former Federation Director **Deborah Levine** is featured in the current edition of Forbes Magazine. Mazal Tov! You can see it here: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/janicegassam/2019/11/02/10-diversity-and-inclusion-trail-blazers-you-need-to-get-familiar-with/#195b5fd940c8>



BLT: Bagels, Lox and Tefillin
 Sunday, December 1 at 10 am

**Ein-Gedi Fall Subregional Convention
 December 6 – 8**

Join us as we visit all of our USY friends from TN, AL, GA, and SC for a weekend filled with *ruach*. **Kadima (middle school) is invited too!** This year Fall Subs take place at West End Synagogue in Nashville. Contact Eytan Oren with questions or for info to sign up!

**Christmas at Erlanger
 Wednesday, December 25**

Please consider volunteering to serve food for families visiting loved ones at the various ICUs on Christmas Day. If you are not available to help, but still want to participate in this *Chesed*, act of loving kindness, you can send a donation to BZ, earmarked for Christmas, so that we may purchase food items. We hope to have you join us for this *mitzvah*!

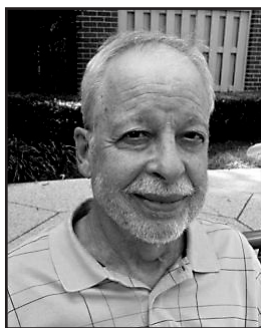
**Speaker Series: Laurie Fisher
 Saturday, December 28**

Laurie will speak on *Parshat Miketz* and the incredible work of drama, literature, and character development in the story of Joseph.

December Book Club: Raquela: A Woman of Israel, by Ruth Gruber (see B&N Day, right for place/time)

Raquela Prywes lived on the front lines of Israel's history. A 9th-generation Jerusalemite, she found her true calling as a hospital and battlefield nurse. *Raquela* tells the deeply moving story of an Israeli woman who knew passionate love, great danger, and shattering loss and who witnessed the darkest -- and most triumphant -- moments in the history of the Jewish people.

**A Day with Danny Siegel – an opportunity not to be missed!
 Wednesday, December 4**



“High theory and mere mind-stimulation are secondary; living itself – in the real world, among people – is the essence... I hereby promise to attempt to be a mensch, a decent, caring human being. Neutrality, non-commitment, indifference have no place in life. To be fully human, we are committed to being caring, sensitive, aggressively compassionate people. Our lives are defined by how we act. We are alive because we perform just and righteous deeds, deeds of gentle loving kindness.”

It would be enough if Danny Siegel just wrote those words. However, not only has he put them into life himself but, over the course of the last 50+-years, he has influenced generations of young people. Danny Siegel transformed the Jewish world by creating, publicizing, and encouraging all young Jewish adults to celebrate becoming *b'nai mitzvah* with a *mitzvah* project. A well-known author, lecturer, and poet, Danny has spoken in more than 500 North American Jewish communities on personalized *Tzedakah*, *Mitzvah* heroes, and Jewish values. Among many accolades, Danny is a recipient of the prestigious Covenant Award for Exceptional Jewish Educators.

**8th Annual Barnes and Noble Day
 Wednesday, December 18**

B'nai Zion Congregation presents Hanukkah at Barnes & Noble in Hamilton Place Mall
 Wednesday, December 18.

Back for the 8th year, B'nai Zion is excited to welcome Hanukkah with a fun-filled day!

11 am - children's story time

1 pm - book club (Raquela) at the cafe

4:30-6:30 pm - engaging activities for all children hosted by Beit Sefer Ivri

5 pm - Deborah Levine presents her new book, *When Hate Groups March Down Main Street: Engaging a Community Response.*

6 pm - candle lighting/program
 all day gift wrapping

Come on in (or shop online)!
 BZ receives a percentage of all sales using the code
 12569281



**Happy Chanukah
 from B'nai Zion**



Rabbi Shaul Perlstein

Chanukah Happenings

Chanukah on Ice - Monday, Dec. 23rd

Enjoy the exciting Chanukah On Ice extravaganza, lighting the beautiful ice menorah, sufganiot (jelly doughnuts), latke eating contest, all at @Ice on the Landing by the Chattanooga Choo Choo.

Menorah Car Parade

Building off last year's great turnout you can join over 30 cars parading through the streets of Chattanooga with Jewish pride. The parade will be police-escorted to the Choo Choo. If you would like a Menorah for your car please contact Rabbi P. (They are running out fast)

Latke Event- Tuesday, Dec. 24th

Bruce's Latkes and "traditional Chinese dinner"
Reservations Required

Chattanooga Teens join the Largest Teen Shabbaton including Havdalla at Times Square, tour of Manhattan and cteen banquet! Visit shabbaton.cteen.com

Friends and families got to experience the holiday of JOY with the best kosher sushi in town, outdoor laser tag, music, cookie sukkahs, l'chayim, and more!



Happy Chanukah



Hadassah Happenings

The Annual Margaritas and Maj Jongg social event at Mizpah was chaired by Dana Banks and Paula Israel. Amit Matityau, the Israeli shaliach, tended bar. It was another popular beginning for the new year. Those attending feasted, learned, and played Maj Jongg and Rummikub.

The HMO Hadassah Wellness Cruise, launched at the home of Elaine and Sanford Winer, was an impressive social and educational event. Bev Coulter coordinated this outstanding program on women's health with a team of Hadassah medical members. Jed Mescon emceed and Amy Boulware, Bev, Beth Thomas, Lucia Longway, Susan Distefano, and Sherry Cunningham contributed to the stimulating afternoon. A special thank you to Elaine and every member who contributed to the lovely tea and goodies.

Hadassah and Federation are busy planning the joint Hadassah-Federation Annual Chanukah program for the first night of Chanukah, December 22nd. Families are welcome to bring their menorahs to light the first candle, followed by latkes and traditional donuts. As part of this celebration, Carla Morrow has arranged for food bins to be delivered December 4th to the JCC for food donations to the Chattanooga Food Bank, and boxes will be available for toiletry donations for Room in the Inn, the home for abused women and their dependents.

Hadassah members are looking forward to a Dutch-treat luncheon on Tuesday, December 10th. (Time and place to be determined.) In mid-January, Hadassah will contribute to a dinner at Room in the Inn, chaired by Alexis Chenkus. On Sunday, February 16th, Amit Matityau will lead a hike/picnic at the Sculpture Fields for members and their families.

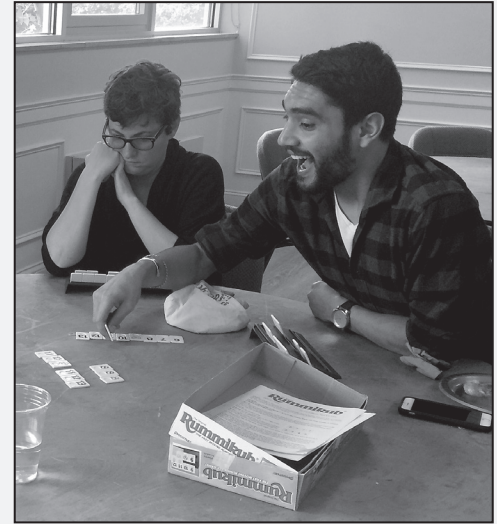
Celebrate each lifecycle event with membership in Hadassah. Contact Judy Sachsman for information about annual and life membership. (jmsachsman@gmail.com) and Dana Waxler for information about Annual Giving. (d.waxler@comcast.net). Lettie Lynn Ruiz, daughter of Rachael and Oscar Ruiz, granddaughter of Dana and Richard Waxler, is Hadassah's newest Child Life Member.

Annual Giving starts at Chai Society of \$180 a year and includes Keepers of the Gate, which starts at \$1,000 a year. Annual giving enables Hadassah National to plan the charitable support of Hadassah Hospital in Israel as well as countless other projects.

Hadassah Wellness Cruise at Winer Home November 17



Margaritas and Maj Jongg at Mizpah



Above, Marissa Street and Amit Matityau play Rummikub.



Above, members play Mah Jongg.

December

What's Going on at the JCC

A full listing of monthly programs is also on our website, jewishchattanooga.com, where you can RSVP.

- 9 Foreign Policy Supper Club/Hot Topics
- 10 Holiday Cocktails with Amit 7:00 pm.
See page 13 for details.
- 3, 10, 17, 31 Tuesday Cafe Noon, \$10. RSVP.
- 12 Artist Reception: A Place at the Table 5:00
- 13: YJL Shabbat
- 15 Jew Crew Chanukah Program
- 22 Community Chanukah Party and Candle Lighting in
Conjunction with Hadassah 5:30 pm

**The Federation will be closed
December 25th**

Happy
Chanukah
from the
Federation!



SAVE THE DATE:
T.M. Garret January 8,9
Annual Meeting January 12
Documentary Film Series Jan 15
International Holocaust Day Jan 27



Jewish Federation van driver and thespian Joel Scribner inhabited the role of Tevye, from *Fiddler on the Roof*, for Tuesday Cafe November 19th.

2020 Board of Directors

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David Israel Susan Matzkin Barbie Potts

Terms expiring January 2022

Robin Balsler Stephen Black Tal Cohen
Art Lewis Jed Mescon Marilyn Goler

Terms expiring January 2021

Owen Allen Lynne Herman Scott Israel
Roy Rosenfeld Joel Susman Marissa Street

One Year Board Chair Appointments

Karen Diamond Valerie Epstein

ROLLING OFF

Nicole Berger Rachel Hanan Robert Stahl Elaine Winer

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Kevin Rose	Treasurer
Cara Weiner	Secretary
Alison Lebovitz	Member-at-Large
Rob Lowe	Member-at-Large
Erica Newman	Member-at-Large
Fern Shire	Member-at-Large
Austin Center	Immediate Past Board Chair



Jewish Federation OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA

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Michael Dzik, Executive Director
Dana Shavin, Editor

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