

the
Shofar

January 2020

A Publication of the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga



Reconciling Hate

Embracing Diversity



from the executive director

Michael Dzik
mdzik@jewishchattanooga.com
893-5443

Seems like every December we say, “Where did the year go?” We at the Federation have been working to build

a stronger and more unified Jewish community, providing necessary services and programs, engaging people through our shaliach, providing formal education through our Aleph Bet preschool and Machanooga, building leadership for all of our Jewish institutions, and so much more. A few highlights from 2019:

- Through our Partnership2Gether (P2G), we have added two new communities to our consortium: Greensboro and Prague.
- A community mission to Israel in May.
- Five community members have attended three P2G exchanges in Israel: Jon Cohen, Tal Cohen, Cara Weiner, Alexis Chenkus, and Kat Kennedy.
- Leadership development through our local leadership course as well as national Federation missions.
- Record breaking attendance and sponsorships at the Jewish Film Series, and more recently adding a Documentary Film Series.
- Through a federal grant, the Federation now has a handicap-accessible vehicle to ensure all community members have access to transportation (with a lift!).
- Increased the number of volunteer Ambassadors assisting with campaign AND increased the number of donors to the annual campaign.
- New relationships with the University of Tennessee as well as many Israeli universities through our November Israel mission.
- Multi-faith engagement for anti-hate programming, general dialogue, and Mayor’s Council Against Hate.
- New United Way funding model that enabled Federation to ask for and receive additional funds towards our social services.

These successes are due to engaged volunteers as well as dedicated and philanthropic community members. You continue to invest your dollars in helping create a vibrant Jewish community with so many opportunities.

A special and personal ‘thank you’ to Austin Center, who is completing his two years of Board Chair service on January 12th. I have enjoyed the work we’ve done together. Your passion exudes warmth with a caringness that is genuine. Thank you for being a great partner and leader. I look forward to our continued work together in your future leadership roles at the Federation and throughout the Jewish community.



Thank You

Austin Center

These past two years representing the Jewish Federation as Board Chair has instilled in me an even greater appreciation for our Jewish community, and an understanding of the power of all of us. I am honored by the trust you put in me to lead,

and to be a part of a community whose foundation of volunteerism and giving back is a beacon of hope that brightens people’s lives.

Time and time again over these past two years I have seen, and been profoundly moved by, how this community comes together when someone is in need. I am thankful to all of you for your compassion.

When I think of this community and how strong we are, I am reminded of my visit to Budapest on one of

from the board chair

our Federation National Missions. There I met a young woman named Suzanne who, in 1944, at age 8, lost both of her parents

in Jewish pogroms. Thanks to our Federation missions, Suzanne says, she was never alone or without hope.

I also met 17-year-old Sophie who, when she was 8, first discovered her Jewish roots after a teacher at school confronted her about her religious traditions. As a result of her curiosity, her family re-embraced their heritage, and began to celebrate Shabbat and the holidays. Sophie will visit Israel for the first time this year, thanks in part to our Federation.

Their stories inspire me to want to do more for our community and around the world. I hope they inspire you as well. In a time when politics has become so polarizing, where we feel that forces are trying to tear us apart, the work our community has done and continues to do together for the greater good shows me that no matter what is going on in the world today, we here in the Jewish community of Greater Chattanooga will make sure we support one another, and we will pass this support, this understanding of tikkun olam, to the next generation.

Let us all take it upon ourselves to make a difference in our community. Let’s continue to give hope to the Suzannes and the Sophies and to each other. I am truly grateful to have served as your Board Chair. I will forever carry the lessons I learned from you in my heart.



A Sense of Place



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

When it came time for my husband William and me to decide where to get married, there was no contest. It would be at my maternal grandfather's house. My parents were surprised that I did not pick "home" or the city where my

finance and I were living. Everyone--including William and I--would have to travel for the wedding. But my grandfather's house was my heart's home, my sense of place.

Over the years, several places have spoken to my heart. Some of these were structures, others landscapes. For example, the small synagogue's sanctuary in Dalton spoke to me when we first moved here. I can't tell you why. I never went to services there. I didn't really know the congregation or the rabbi, but the place calmed me amid lots of transition. On a crazy weekday, I would just go there and sit, and be still.

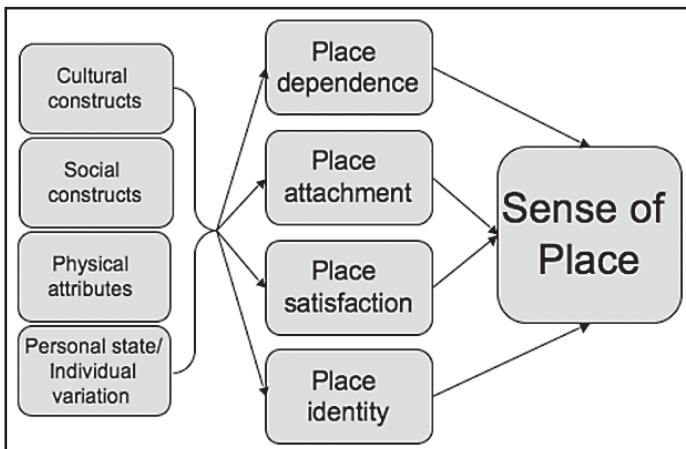
The beach at St. George Island, Florida--the expanse-- also calls to me. As do the crowded streets in

from the program director

Jaffa and the ocean view from the top of the mountain in Haifa. Both bring an ancient comfort to my contem-

porary soul. When I get homesick (yes, you can live someplace for over 25 years and still get homesick) it is always this time of year, and it is always for walking the street in lower Manhattan in the winter. Go figure.

People and structures have never determined my sense of place, but place for me is determined by where my heart and soul feel safe. So let's talk a bit about the things that make a soul feel safe. There is physical safety: knowing that no harm will come to your body. There is psychological safety: when you are comfortable with what is happening around you. Does your sense of safety involve people?



Reconciling Hate

Listen to the incredible story of a former White Supremacist turned human rights activist. No cost to attend these events which are open to the entire community.



Wednesday, January 8
 7 PM, Brainerd Baptist Church
 300 Brookfield Ave.

Thursday, January 9
 5:30 PM,
 Mayor's Council Against Hate
 St. Paul's Episcopal Church
 305 W. 7th Street

Tom Garret
 TM Garret

A sense of history? What feeds your soul?

My soul is fed by hope. Perhaps this is why I don't have time to drown in the bleakness of past experiences. Glimmers of hope for what the future can bring ground me and act as my foundation for a sense of place. My sense of place is inspired by that hope. Let's go back to my wedding and grandfather's house. It was his hope for my future that made his home a special place for me from the time I was born. Sitting in the little synagogue in Dalton, it was the hope of making the right and courageous decisions for my family's future that created the sense of place for me. And I have to admit that on that beach, it is the hope that, in my smallness and the vastness of the horizon, I am the one in control of my destiny.

The Chattanooga Jewish community is feeling its way through several "sense of place" conversations. Hopefully each of us will take the time to really think about what a sense of place means to us--without territorial, physical or financial implications. What kinds of places do we want to have, and what do we as a community need to do to get there?

2020 Foreign Policy Supper Club

Jewish Cultural Center, 5461 North Terrace Road
 All programs begin at 6:00 p.m. with dinner.
 Cost \$12 per person. Please RSVP

- February 17 Climate Change and the Global Order
- March 16 India and Pakistan
- April 13 Red Sea Security
- May 18 Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking
- June 15 U.S. Relations with the N. Triangle
- July 20 China's Road into Latin America
- August 17 The Philippines and the U.S.
- September 21 Artificial Intelligence and Data

CAMPAIGN 2020: from the Campaign Chair



Campaign 2020 is rapidly coming to a close! Thank you to the 40 Ambassadors who have engaged and educated community members about the Federation. Remember the puzzle pieces that were mailed out in August? See page 11 for the full picture!

Mike Spector

There are still many community members we've not yet reached. It's not too late to send in your puzzle piece and make your annual gift. Remember, the pledge you make today is not due until December 31, 2020. Consider a one time gift, or, to maximize your impact, you can use a credit/debit card to pay smaller amounts monthly. Many community members pay monthly so they can more easily budget their philanthropy as well as make a larger yearly gift to the Federation.

We have had many new gifts to the campaign so far. With your generosity, the number of donors to this year's campaign will be at the highest level in nearly 10 years! You can still make your pledge. Call the Federation, go to jewishchattanooga.com or even send a quick email to federation@jewishchattanooga.com. It's simple and easy. No gift touches more lives.

I am very appreciative of your financial investment in the Federation. Your gifts allow the Federation to provide the much needed services and programs that engage and help this Jewish community. Thank you for your support.

2020 Board of Directors

Terms expiring January 2023

Ross Cohn Steve Cohn Ken Goldsmith
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

Executive Committee Members

Mike Spector	Board Chair
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

Annual Meeting January 12

Join us at the Annual Meeting Sunday, January 12th at 4:30 pm. What's on tap:

Israeli Consul General

Anat Sultan-Dadon will keynote.

Where are they now?

We'll have video messages from former shlichim updating us on what life has been like since leaving Chattanooga.

Soup's on!

We'll enjoy warm, comforting soups and bread. Choose from Beef Chili or Vegetable.

Honoring the Service of Others

We'll announce the Volunteers of the Year and honor them with certificates.

Volunteers of the Year

The following people were nominated Volunteer of the Year and will be recognized for their service:

Jewish Federation: Ken Goldsmith & Tal Cohen

Hadassah: Beverly Coulter

Machanoga: Will and Glyn Ruppe-Melnyk

Aleph Bet: Maria Mantel

B'Nai Zion: Howard Kaplan

Mizpah: Marianna Allen

Chabad: Carla Evans



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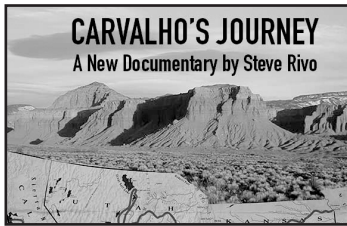
151 River Street
across from Coolidge Park

riverstreet-deli.com

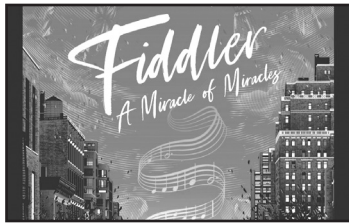
Check our website for our daily menu

Chattanooga Jewish Documentary Film Series

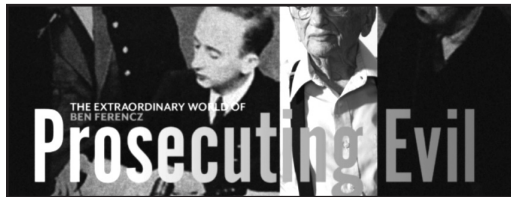
Beginning January 15th, the Federation will begin screening four outstanding films on consecutive Wednesdays at 7:15 pm. There will be closed captioning for all films. Cost is \$10 per screening and includes popcorn and a beverage, or you can purchase a subscription plan (see bottom of page).



JANUARY 15 **“Carvalho’s Journey”** This is the true American Western adventure story about artist Solomon Nunes Carvalho, the photographer for John Fremont’s 1853 expedition to the West. Carvalho was an observant Sephardic Jew born in 1815 in Charleston, S.C. whose family helped found the first reform synagogue in the United States. The sweeping views and rough terrain of the West were captured on Carvalho’s daguerreotypes, which are recreated for the film. He shared the hardships of travel and starvation with mountain men and Native Americans. **English, running time 85 minutes.**



JANUARY 22 **“Fiddler: A Miracle of Miracles”** This is NOT “Fiddler on the Roof.” This is the story of how the musical came to be and why it is so beloved around the world. Intimate interviews with the show’s creators, along with excerpts from a variety of productions, explain the international success of “Fiddler.” If you love “Fiddler on the Roof,” you’ll love this film. **English, running time 97 minutes.**



JANUARY 29 **“Prosecuting Evil: The Extraordinary World of Ben Ferencz”** To commemorate International Holocaust Remembrance Day we present the amazing story of Ben Ferencz who was one of the chief prosecutors of the Nuremberg Trials after World War II. He was in charge of the trials of the Einsatzgruppen. An immigrant from Romania, he grew up in New York City’s Hells Kitchen, became a lawyer, and then enlisted

in the US Army. He was the youngest chief prosecutor at Nuremberg who pushed to make those responsible pay for their crimes. Subsequently he helped found the United Nations International Criminal Court in the Hague, where War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity are prosecuted. His life has been dedicated to world justice. **English, running time 83 minutes.**



FEBRUARY 5 **Picture of His Life”** World renowned wildlife photographer Amos Nachoum has one final photographic dream remaining - to photograph a Polar Bear underwater, while swimming alongside it. The film follows Amos in the Canadian Arctic, as he prepares for his ultimate challenge. As the journey unfolds, so does an intimate and painful story of dedication, sacrifice and personal redemption. **English,**

Hebrew, Inuktituk, Running time 72 minutes.

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.

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
Balser, Jeff	*Cohn, Sue	Hochman, Lynn	Lowe, Rob	Susman, Gail
Balser, 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.



DANNY KOO
 "VIOLIN VOICES"
 SATURDAY, JANUARY 25
 7:00 p.m.
 MIZPAH CONGREGATION
 SANCTUARY

A presentation of the Music at Mizpah Series

Born in Chicago in 1991, Danny is an outgoing and engaging personality and well-known media star in the USA and Korea. He holds a BA and MA in Music from the New England Conservatory, Boston. His performances are enhanced by his musical knowledge and contemporaneous dialogue with his audience.

\$10 for adults, 18 and under free
 Volunteer donations accepted
 Payable on Mizpah website:
www.mizpahcongregation.org
 (423) 267-9771, or in person in the office.

We are grateful to **Gloria Chien** and **String Theory** for sharing Mr. Koo on this weekend.

Program: Igudesman Applemania; Meditation from Thais; Piazzolla Tango; Estrellita; Bach; Chaconne

Mazel Tov

--to **Jordan and Cassi Combs**, who were married November 24th at Mizpah.

--to **Jacque Nodell and James Carey** on the birth of their daughter, Amelia June Carey on December 3rd.

--**Sandy and Ben Tabakin** on the bar mitzvah of their great-grandson, Graham Henrich, on December 9th, in Wayland, Massachusetts. Parents are Renee and Michael Henrich of Wayland, MA, and grandparents are Linda and Bill Henrich of Syosset, NY and Jan and Chuck McCall of Madison, WI.

Condolences

We are sad to announce the passing of

--**Leonard Chill**, husband of Valerie Saxe Chill.

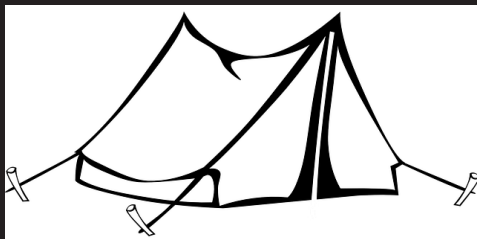
--**Marsha Deitch**, daughter of Ida Fanburg "Skeedie" Deitch, z'l and A.B. "Spike" Deitch, z'l, sister of Carole Shapiro and Gilbert Deitch.

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

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)

Federation Obtains New Handicap-Accessible Van for Client Transport

Last month the Federation was able to purchase a new, handicap-accessible, ten-passenger Ford Transit, thanks to state and federal grant sources, with assistance from CARTA. The van has a lift which can accommodate two wheelchairs. Federation drivers and staff have been trained on the use of the vehicle and it is now in service.



J*CREW

#GivingSunday

With all the hype around #GivingTuesday, The Jew Crew decided to celebrate #GivingSunday this year by giving back and giving thanks through a special volunteer day at Signal Centers. Signal Centers is a local nonprofit whose mission is to strengthen children, adults and families through services focusing on disabilities, early childhood education and self-sufficiency.

On a Sunday afternoon in November, the Jew Crew spent a few hours at the Center, starting with a special presentation and VIP tour by Chief Executive Director Donna McConnico, followed by a competitive collating session where the teens managed to assemble more than 1,000 envelopes with #GivingTuesday pledge cards. The massive mailing is hoping to inspire donors to support Signal Centers and help realize their vision of a community that fosters lifelong independence for children, adults and families. Our group was definitely inspired by our time there, and we plan to make #Giving Sunday an annual tradition. *(See pics, right. Below: JC Chanukah pics.)*



young jewish leadership

Collaboration Weekend with Nashville YJL Professionals (NowGen)

Weekend events included a charity event at Ronald McDonald House, a Tennessee Titans football game, and a “friendsgiving” dinner. Our Facebook page is Young Jewish Leadership of Greater Chattanooga.



social services



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

New Support Group Forming for Survivors of Domestic Violence

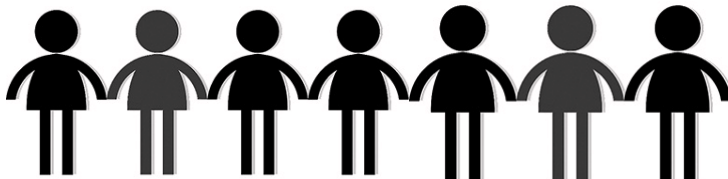
In mid-January, I, along with Brenda McColpin (RN, MSW) from the Family Justice Center will be facilitating a support group designed for survivors of domestic violence. This support group will focus on female elders (defined as age 50 and over by the Family Justice Center) and is open to female survivors of domestic violence.

According to the National Domestic Violence Hotline, "Domestic violence includes behaviors that physically harm, arouse fear, prevent a partner from doing what they wish, or force them to behave in ways they do not want. It includes the use of physical and sexual violence, threats and intimidation, emotional abuse, and economic deprivation. Many of these different forms of domestic violence/abuse can be occurring at any one time within the same intimate relationship.

"Domestic violence does not discriminate. Anyone of any race, age, sexual orientation, religion or gender can be a victim – or perpetrator – of domestic violence. It can happen to people who are married, living together or who are dating. It affects people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels."

Support groups will be held weekly on Thursday afternoons from 1p.m. until 2:15/2:30 p.m. at The Family Justice Center. This will be a 10-session educational program that will run 10 weeks. The fundamental curriculum will center on basic rights, an understanding of, and ability to set, boundaries, and the use of basic assertiveness. Activities will focus on improving self-esteem, understanding one's own needs and desires, practicing assertiveness skills, and gaining insight into positive and nurturing relationships.

Should you have any questions, call or email me at chaustein@jewishchattanooga.com. If you know anyone who might be interested in participating, or if you are interested, please feel free to reach out to me at (423) 893-9241 or Brenda McColpin at (423) 643-7627.



Cocktails & Comedy



Can You Hear Me Now?

Moody Molavi for Couples Communication
February 12th at 6p.m.
Jewish Cultural Center

Nationally known comic Moody Molavi brings his humor to the stage for this event that tackles the frustrating (and sometimes funny) problem of couples dealing with hearing loss. Molavi is originally from Chattanooga. He and his wife experienced the seriousness and humor of hearing loss on a daily basis until his wife received her first pair of hearing aids through the nonprofit Speech & Hearing Center.

Join us for this fun event and laugh, learn ways to express yourself, and get hearing health tips. This event is brought to you by the Speech & Hearing Center in partnership with The Jewish Federation. Cost and additional details to come.

Charli Stanley-Parker Leaving the Federation



We are sorry to say goodbye to Charli Stanley-Parker, who is moving back to Florida to be with her family. We are currently interviewing to fill her position. In the meantime, please contact Social Services Director Christi Haustein if you need assistance.

William M. Hillner, Ph.D. Clinical Psychologist

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Federation Mission Trip to Israel with University of Tennessee, Nov. 15-22



Left: Mission group at Ben Gurion University in Beer Sheva.

Below left: Former Federation shlichah Chen Dahan, Michael Dzik, Einav Cahaner and Austin Center in Jerusalem. See page 19 for one more.

Below right: UT at the Western Wall.



MEMPHIS JEWISH FEDERATION'S 11TH ANNUAL HOLOCAUST ART & ESSAY COMPETITION 2020

LIBERATION & RECOVERY

Seventy five years ago, in the winter and spring of 1945, Allied troops liberated Auschwitz-Birkenau and other death camps. The soldiers were overwhelmed with the charge to care for the physically and emotionally traumatized survivors, who continued to face an uncertain future in war-ravaged Europe.

Contestants Should Choose a Group Impacted by the Liberation and Explore the challenges and opportunities faced in moving from the darkness of absolute evil to the light of recovery and renewal.

Open To Grades 6-8 Art and Grades 9-12 Essay

All Entries Are Due to Memphis Jewish Federation by close of business, Thursday, March 5, 2020.

Visit jcpmemphis.org/holocaustartandessay for full contest guidelines, award categories and detailed instructions for submitting art and essays.

Top Winners in both categories will receive cash awards and gift cards made possible by the Kaethe Mela Family Memorial Fund of the Jewish Foundation of Memphis.

Kaethe, husband Paul, and their 17-year-old daughter, Doris, were murdered in Auschwitz.

MEMPHIS JEWISH FEDERATION
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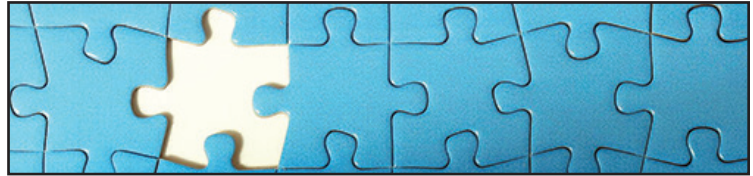
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Andy@AndyHodes.com
www.AndyHodes.com

kw
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You Complete Us

Remember the puzzle piece you received (and hopefully returned) with your pledge sheet? Here's what it looks like when everyone contributes! See the real deal at the Annual Meeting Sunday, January 12th and hear Anat Sultan-Dadon, the Israeli Consul General, honor our community's Volunteers of the Year, enjoy some warming soups and breads, and hear what our former shlichim have been up to since leaving Chattanooga. See page 3 for details.



Raise Your Voice!

We are 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!

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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- Eczema and Hives
- Immunologic Disease
- Insect Sting Allergy

423.899.0431 • ChattanoogaAllergyClinic.com

Cleveland • Dalton • Downtown • Erlanger Wellness Center
Ft. Oglethorpe • Hixson • Kimball • Lee Hwy





Meghan Greybeal

alephbet@jewishchattanooga.com

(423) 893-5486

Our school year has reached the half way point, and we're ready for more adventures and learning! As we move through the next months, we're particularly excited for the next subject of our enrichment program: creative movement and dance! We can't wait to see all of our friends' best moves.

Thank you to everyone who spent a little time at the school or one of our fundraisers, or sent in craft, toy, book, and monetary donations during 2019! If you're wondering how you can be more involved at Aleph Bet, please contact me and we'll find the perfect way for you to share our fun during 2020.




PRIORITY ENROLLMENT TIME!



For all current and alumni families, we will begin enrollment for Camp AB and the 2020-2021 school year on January 27th.

**CONTACT THE ALEPH BET OFFICE AT
ALEPBET@JEWISHCHATTANOOGA.COM**



shlichim program

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



A New Year of Adventure and Hope

In January 2019 I left engineering school to pursue what would become my next step. Starting from scratch is never an easy task, and it brought up a lot of questions, like *What drives me in life? What's my passion? What are my strengths and weaknesses?*

I saw myself as an educator who loves people, as a Zionist and an adventurer, and so I decided to go on a journey in the education world. I found everything I was looking for in the Jewish Agency Shlichim Program, and started the sorting process.

Being a shaliach is a job that requires a lot of personal sacrifices. Giving yourself to a community that you don't know and giving up your comfort zone - leaving the country you love so much, as well as the family, friends and lifestyle that you have become accustomed to, to strengthen the Jewish people's relationship with Israel--that's a tall order. Was I ready for such an important but scary task?

As an adventurer, I was all in, but I had a lot of concerns. These concerns escalated as the process progressed. I first heard the name "Chattanooga" in February of 2019. I got an email from the Jewish Agency with phrases like "They fit your profile" and "You meet their criteria" and suddenly the idea started to become real. I had an interview with Michael Dzik and Ann Treadwell, and two days later we sealed the deal. By March I had already met with both of them and with the previous Chattanooga shlichim, who automatically embraced me as one of the family.

I had six months to prepare myself mentally for this mission. I went through the training with the Jewish Agency and got to know other shlichim like me starting their shlichut journey, amazing people who were all about to go on the same mission for the same reasons as mine. The Jewish Agency did its best to quell our feelings of uncertainty. We were told about the culture and customs of American society, painted a general and comprehensive picture of American Jews, and given information about the past, present, and future that is to come for the Jewish

people in Israel and the Diaspora.

But there is nothing like the real thing: that is, hearing about a place is nothing like arriving in that place. I arrived in Chattanooga in August of last year with a bag of concerns and fears, but with a lot of determination. The community welcomed me with open arms and helped me acclimate. My concerns slowly disappeared, and I quickly realized that I had made the right choice.

Today, I call Chattanooga my second home. 2019 was a roller coaster of emotions. Adventure of the magnitude I went through is a big deal, but thanks to this amazing community, I feel like I'm settling in and for that I thank you all!

2020 is coming and it will be no less challenging! I hope that in the coming year I continue to grow and develop as a person, that I will get to know each and every one of you on a more personal level, and that I will be happy. Because at the end of the day, the most important thing is for me is to enjoy what I do. Wishing you and yours a very happy New Year!



December's Israeli Cocktail Night was well-attended despite inclement weather. Congrats to winners of the Cocktail Night Quiz Art Lewis, Jon Cohen, and Meryl Stark.

Cookies with Compassion



January 20th 10 am - 1:30 pm.

Lunch will be provided.

Community service for kids to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Make and deliver cookies to members of our community.

Kids ages 8-14.

For more information contact Amit Matityau.

423-385-0098 / Israel@JewishChattanooga.com

מחנוגה
machanooga
 A bridge to Jewish learning

923 McCallie
 Avenue
 youth@miz-
 pahcongre-
 gation.org
 or
 traci.sloan@
 gmail.com.



Lily Dropkin Traci Sloan



Machanooga Chug Blocks 2019-2020 Year

Everyone has a passion, interest, or skill, whether it be math, art, music, science, cooking, drama, dancing, gardening, sports, history, photography, technology, yoga, or meditation. The possibilities are endless, and we need your help to ensure that Machanooga thrives as a community-wide endeavor and opportunity.

Our new Sunday educational initiative is excited to offer at least two parallel chugim (elective group activities) for our kids' learning and enjoyment. We are looking for volunteers from the community to consider coming to Machanooga to talk about what you do professionally or what you are passionate about. We truly believe that the best way to learn is to teach which, with the help of you as a volunteer, translates into Machanooga being an incredible opportunity for both our young in age and our young at heart.

Each chug will consist of a 2 to 4 week block (can be non-consecutive) with your classes lasting 45 minutes (11:15 to 12:00).

To sign up to teach a chug, contact Lily at youth@mizpahcongregation.org or Traci at traci.sloan@gmail.com.

SLOTS AVAILABLE:

January 26th
 February 2, 9, 23
 March 1, 15, 22
 (NO CHUG MARCH 8th or 29th)
 April 19, 26

Spring Semester

January 12- Spring Semester Begins
 January 19 - NO SCHOOL - MLK Day
 January 26
 February 2
 February 9
 February 16 - NO SCHOOL - President's Day
 February 23
 March 1
 March 8
 March 15
 March 22
 March 29 - Good Deeds Day
 April 5 - NO SCHOOL - Spring Break
 April 12- NO SCHOOL - Passover
 April 19
 April 26
 May 3- Last Day of Spring Semester



Torah on Tap Torah Study: after hours, informal setting. **January 11th at 5:30 at The Mad Priest Coffee House.**

1900 Broad St., Apt C. Ages 21 and over.

SAVE THE DATE:
Night in the Catskills Review
February 15th
Comedy, heavy hors d'oeuvres, wine

JANUARY 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>	Hebrew School	4:30 pm
<u>Thursdays:</u>	Lunch 'n Learn: Seasonal / current events	12:15 pm
	Kulanu program	4:00 pm
<u>Fridays:</u>	<i>Oneg/Kabbalat Shabbat Services</i>	5:30 / 6:00 pm
January 3	First Friday Family <i>Shabbat</i> Service	6:00 pm
	Songleader: Lev Gross-Comstock	
	First Friday <i>Shabbat</i> Dinner	6:45 pm
<u>Saturdays:</u>	Torah Study w/ breakfast	9:00 am
	<i>Shabbat</i> services w/ Torah/Haftarah Reading	11:00 am
January 11	Bar Mitzvah Joey Nash	10:30 am
<u>Sundays:</u>	<i>Machanooga:</i> Sunday School	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.

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

Office@mizpahcongregation.org www.mizpahcongregation.org



Rabbi Lewis conducts consecration ceremony with new students in Religious School



Havdallah and Supper at Art and Vicki Lewis' home.



Will and Glyn Melnyk teach weaving at Machanooga



Mizpah Munch Bunch



Special Speaker, Rabbi David Baum - Saturday, January 4 at 9:45 am at the JCC : Rabbi David Baum is the first full time Rabbi/Spiritual Leader of Congregation Shaarei Kodesh in Boca Raton. Rabbi Baum has diverse experience ranging from congregational work in the Northeast and South, to Hillel and organizational work, to social justice work and community organizing. Nationally, Rabbi Baum sits on the



Rabbinical Assembly's Social Justice Commission and has presented at various national conferences. Rabbi Baum was honored to participate as a Clergy Leadership Incubator (CLI) Fellow to support and encourage innovative thinking, change management, and institutional transformation.

January 6 to 12 - We will again be teaming up with the First Church of the Nazarene and Grace Episcopal to host homeless families from **Family Promise of Greater Chattanooga**. Contact Ruth Votava to be part of this important life saving *mitzvah*!



As in the Torah, we find ourselves in a strange land. Having fled for our lives, we arrive at a crossroads between the end of Genesis and Exodus. We welcome Hannah Mask from Bridge Refugee Services, who will speak to our ancestors' story, our story, and share what the city of Chattanooga does today to welcome people who are seeking refuge in our country. **Saturday, January 11th during services at the Jewish Federation (around 11 am).**

Interfaith Clergy Swap - January 18 9:45 Join us for a special Shabbat where we have the honor and privilege of participating in an **Interfaith Clergy Swap**. Keep your eyes peeled for more details about which city faith leader will address our congregation on this day!



January Book Club- Barnes & Noble Café, Tuesday, January 21 at 2:30 pm

Joshua: A Brooklyn Tale by Andrew Kane explores the entanglements of three lives: Joshua Eubanks, a young black man struggling to overcome the despair of the streets; Rachel Weissman, daughter of a Hassidic rabbi, wrestling with pangs of rebelliousness; and Paul Sims, a young man from a privileged Jewish family yearning to escape his troubled past.



Feb 8: JNF brings us Tiran Attia, a retired Lieutenant Colonel in the IDF who will share more intimately about **Special in Uniform**-- an innovative program that integrates youth with disabilities into the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and helps prepare them for careers following their army service. Come take pride in Israel and learn about the positive difference this army program makes not just for the individuals with special needs, but for their families, for the other soldiers who work alongside them, and for society as a whole. https://nyblueprint.com/sites/default/files/styles/flexslider_full/public/special_in_uniform.jpg?itok=8IG34hTN



Rabbi Shaul Perlstein

Every WEEK, every CHILD! New, original, hands-on learning and activities, engaging all learning styles, in a happy, meaningful, and inclusive environment that our students call home. Chabad Hebrew School is where it's at!! We look forward to next semester's activities including Alef Champ, a field trip, Safrut workshop, model matzah bakery, Mothers Day brunch, and lots more!



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

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INTERNATIONAL SHABBATON



Hadassah Happenings

Hadassah and Federation celebrated the joint Hadassah-Federation Annual Chanukah program for the first night of Chanukah. Families brought their menorahs for lighting the first candle, followed by latkes and traditional donuts. As part of this

celebration, Carla Morrow arranged for food bins for donations to the Chattanooga Food Bank and baskets for toiletry donations for Room in the Inn, the home for abused women and their dependents.

At the Federation Annual Meeting January 12th, Hadassah will honor its Volunteer of the Year, Bev Coulter. As Chattanooga Chapter Chair of Wellness, Bev has been coordinating medical programs for the last two years, culminating with the November Wellness Cruise, which helped members understand how to navigate the labyrinth of medical providers as women advocate for themselves and their loved ones. Thank you, Bev, for your creativity and enthusiasm as you model the Hadassah *Women Who Do*.

On Tuesday, January 14th, Hadassah will be contributing to a dinner at Room in the Inn, chaired by Alexis Chenkus. Members are encouraged to bring their labeled food items to Room in the Inn before 5:30 pm on that day. Contact Alexis with questions and contribution offers. (alexisstreet82@gmail.com)

Federation shaliach Amit Matityau will lead a hike/picnic at the Sculpture Fields on Sunday, February 16th for members and their families, starting at 11 a.m.. An art representative of the Sculpture Field will help with the tour. Spouses and children are welcome to join this art exploration event.

Rosie Perlstein will lead a discussion of the Torah and coordinate baking hamantaschen as part of the "Torah and Tea" Chabad program to celebrate Purim with Hadassah members on Monday, March 2, at 6:30p.m.. Purim honors Queen Esther, known as Hadassah.

Congratulations to new annual Hadassah member Emily Schwartz, who won a free membership at the Margaritas and Maj Jongg event. Thank you to Bonnie Black, who renewed her Hadassah membership with the Chattanooga Chapter.

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 enhances the health and lives of people in Israel, the United States, and worldwide. By connecting and empowering Jewish women to effect change, we are the women who do.

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).

Planning the May 3 Donor Event



Hadassah members (from left) Dana Waxler, Bonnie Black, Judy Sachsman, and Millie Lander started planning the May 3rd donor event. The speakers at this event will describe their experience with a high-risk pregnancy at Hadassah Hospital.

This major fund-raiser for the chapter will be a dinner at the JCC. Any member who would like to work on this program should contact Judy Sachsman at jmsachsman@gmail.com.

january

What's Going on at the JCC

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

- 7, 14, 21, 28 Tuesday Cafe
- 8, 9 Reconciling Hate with TM Garret
- 12 Annual Meeting
- 15, 22, 29 Jewish Documentary Film Series
- 20 Cookies with Compassion with Amit Matityau
- 27 International Holocaust Day

SAVE THE DATE:

- February 5 Final documentary film
- February 17 FPSC resumes
- March 7 Joe Buchanan Concert
- March 29 Good Deeds Day



Federation Board Chair Austin Center, former Federation shlichim Noa Hadad, and Federation Executive Director Michael Dzik in Jerusalem in November, 2019.

Above two photos: Young Jewish Leadership Shabbat at Federation shlichim Amit Matityau home in December. Keep up with YJL events through Young Jewish Leadership of Greater Chattanooga on Facebook.

Celebrating Helen Pregulman



In January, "The A List with Alison Lebovitz" will celebrate the life and legacy of Helen Pregulman. The program will air Thursday, January 9th at 8:30 pm on WTCL.

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.

Deadline to apply January 24th



Jewish Federation OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA

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The Shofar

Published ten times a year by the
Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga
Austin Center, Board Chair
Michael Dzik, Executive Director
Dana Shavin, Editor

The Shofar is mailed at no charge to local
members of the Jewish community.
Cost for out-of-town subscribers is \$30/year.

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