

THE SH FAR

A Publication of the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga

Volume 28 Number 4 December 2014

Come Light the First Candle With Us

Tuesday, December 16 at 6:45p.m.



Celebrate the first night of Chanukah at the Jewish Federation's Annual Community Chanukah Candle Lighting Party. Enjoy sufganiot (doughnuts), latkes, mazoh ball soup and more! Sing Chanukah songs in English and Hebrew. Bring your hanukiah and we'll supply candles and matches. \$5 per person, \$18 family of 4. Please RSVP by December 11 to 493-0270 or rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com.



And... Calling all food and toiletries!

As part of the community Chanukah party, you can participate in Hadassah's Annual Mitzvah Project. Please bring toiletries to the party for NHC HealthCare, and canned goods for the Chattanooga Area Food Bank. Unable to come to the party? Bring donated items to the Jewish Cultural Center from Nov. 17-Dec. 16 and Hadassah will do the rest.

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A Visit To Israel and Poland: Thoughts from Federation Travelers

A visit to Israel is like nothing else. From the beginning to the end, there is excitement, trepidation, comfort and complication. Fortunately, our trip was conceived and carried out by experienced Federation Executive Director Michael Dzik, our Israeli guide Tal Beit Yoseph, and travel agents here and in Israel.

Our group was composed of people who had been before and those for whom this was their first trip. There were two non-Jewish travelers. Our itinerary included holy sites like the Kotel (the Western Wall), Federation/Jewish Agency Partnership stops (the Neve Michael home for abused and abandoned children), and geopolitical hotspots on the Syrian and Lebanese borders. In between stops we ate, laughed, cried, discussed, and shared on so many levels. A trip to Israel does that to you.

A few lasting memories I would like to share: there was an unforgettable walk up the Snake Path to Masada, and the breathtaking vistas on the approach to the Kotel. We visited with IDF soldiers and listened to the passion of their kibbutz security chief. We saw coastline and mountain ranges, migratory birds and green vegetation seemingly out of place in this desert clime. Israel is a land of spectacular complexities, geologically, agriculturally and politically. What is constant is the Jewish will to survive, and to conquer adversity with a mixture of efficiency, creativity and determination. The Jewish spirit is alive and well in Eretz Y'Israel.

We as Jews owe a debt of gratitude and praise to the thousands of now-deceased heroes who ventured to a land unknown to reclaim and renew The Promised Land. Their story is still unfolding. Make it your ambition to visit Israel. Think of it not as visiting, but as returning to your homeland. You will never be the same, and neither will Israel.--Richard Zachary

Visiting Poland was bone chilling for me. Growing up and having learned about the Holocaust was nothing compared to my visit. Movies and books cannot depict what it felt like to walk in the "shoes" of those who perished. Israel was amazing. I feel safer there than I do at home. This was my second trip and I plan on many more.-- Dr. Ira Kraus

On my first two trips to Israel with Federation, I saw Israel. On this trip I saw Israelis. Walking between the front gate at the Birkenau concentration camp and the gas chambers, I saw many young Israeli students, some wrapped in Israeli flags, others in sweatshirts emblazoned with Yisroel in Hebrew. I couldn't help but think that they are living testimonials to the Jews' triumph over evil.-- Joel Susman

The Jewish Cemetery on Okopowa Street (Warsaw) had the greatest impact on me. Over 250,000 people are buried there, with at least 150,000 markers. Others were buried in mass graves, as seen in the long, raised mounds of earth. It is a life-size physical reminder of the many Jews who were murdered.--Jackie Rosenfeld

Sharing a trip to Israel with old and new friends was fabulous. Not only did we travel with our community, we reconnected with Hana, David and Iftach Meiri in Jerusalem and Rifka and Chaim Gordon in Eilat. These are former Chattanoogaans who have remained in our lives and hearts and each send regards. The beauty of the land, the tenacity and humor of the people, the diversity, and the incredible progress are inspirational. We are thankful for the opportunity and for the safe return with the help of many.--Elaine Winer

****More Thoughts from Travelers on page 5****

Super Sunday is December 7!

Haven't pledged yet?

Expect a ringy-dingy courtesy of Rob and Beth Lowe, Super Sunday Chairs, and their dedicated team of callers. Your campaign dollars make mission trips possible.



NOTES FROM LEADERSHIP



The General Assembly, Jewish Values, and Tikkun Olam

by *Warren Dropkin*
Federation Board Chair
boardchair@jewishchattanooga.com

The General Assembly took place this past week in our capital, Washington DC, and it appeared that more than 5000 people were in attendance. There were people from small, medium, large, and super large communities. Interestingly, when I talked to people, I discovered that, regardless of the size of the community, we all face similar challenges. I also discovered, however, that many of them are having to fight harder to get greater involvement and financial security than we in Chattanooga are. It makes me happy to know that we have a great staff and great volunteer base that is making such a difference here in Chattanooga.

One of the break-out sessions that I attended was on Jewish values. About 50 people were in it, and we discussed which Jewish values had brought us to work or volunteer for Federation. The values outlined included: Speaking out-When we see something wrong, it is important to say something or get support to stop the situation. If we do not, then we are complicit to the problem; Hospitality-When we take special care to welcome others into our organization and community, we honor them; Giving/Tzedakah-We have an obligation to give to those in need. Giving to others who have less without making them feel "less than" is an imperative in our tradition; Courage-It takes courage to stand up to for one's beliefs and convictions – to stand up to power and authority, to resist pressure to conform, and to be different; Taking the initiative-We look for occasions to contribute to society enthusiastically and swiftly; Kindness/Chesed-We are instructed to treat people the way we want to be treated, to think about taking care of those less fortunate; Tikkun Olam--All the above and more.

Tikkun Olam was the one piece that everyone agreed upon. It is the reason we all do what we do for our families, our friends, our communities, our house of worship, our country and for the greater good. We are told to leave the world in a better place than when we got here. Tikkun Olam—Repair the World-- is the ultimate Jewish value.

Here in Chattanooga over the past year, we have spoken out about our solidarity with Israel, we have opened our houses and lives to visitors and newcomers, we have taken the initiative on many issues facing our community, we have done a great job so far with our annual campaign (over \$900,000 has been pledged so far; if you have not made your pledge, please call the Federation), and through our social programs we have taken care of those who might be in need. Chattanooga, and your Federation, truly believe "We Are One."

Overall, gave us a great opportunity and talk about the the Jewish Federation is doing to help here and abroad. back in Washington want to encourage be an exciting and

Lastly, a member of our understands and values above. David an integral part of his work with P2G. He has just come back from Israel as our representative chair from our region. He has worked with students and teachers here and abroad to share what we are doing, building bridges for all of us. Those of us who have hosted and participated in the P2G program have made new friends that are almost like family. Mazel Tov to David as his year of leadership winds down. Thank you for all you do.



the General Assembly opportunity to see friends many programs that tion of North America build our communities Next year it will be DC once again, and I you to attend. It will uplifting experience. I want to recognize community who truly lives all of the Jewish Fairchild has become the Federation through



Sharing the Love

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

I think we can all admit that I get to sit in a very unique seat at the Federation. I see a lot, I hear a lot, and I participate in even more. No day is quite the same. Some days feel routine while others are all over the place. I have many encounters with community members, intriguing conversations and interesting questions and dialogue. Much of what I do is very public – you see me at events, throughout the Jewish community, and all over Chattanooga. I've been known to speak at universities, middle and high schools and even for many church groups. But one of the more unique opportunities is with a group called Christians United for Israel (CUFI).

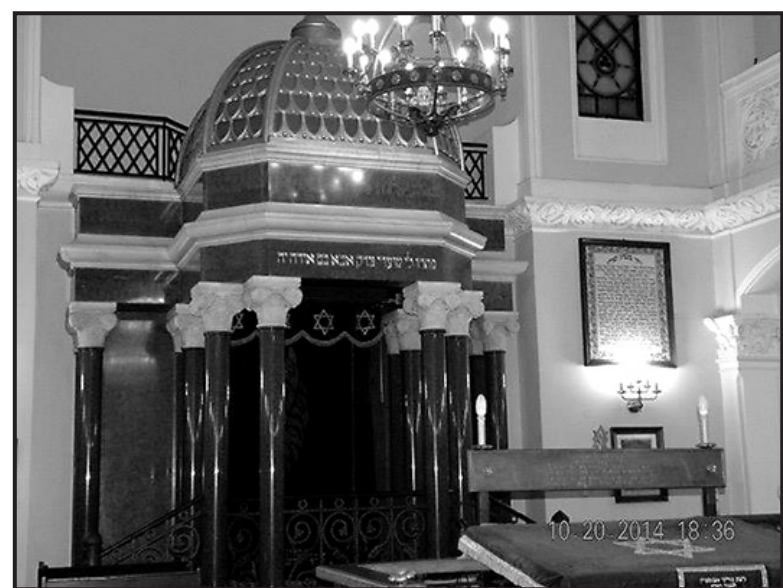
Many of you may have heard of CUFI, a national organization that was started by Pastor John Hagee in 2006 in San Antonio, Texas. I almost see CUFI as a Christian equivalent to AIPAC – although with some differences. However, they support Israel unconditionally, have a department that works with elected officials as well as support on college campuses across the United States. They have educational trips to Israel and many pastors speak in their churches about supporting Israel and their respective Jewish communities. "Fascinating" doesn't do this group justice.

As part of the Federation's outreach, I've made numerous friends in our local and regional CUFI organization. Several years ago some of the Federation leadership travelled to Calhoun, Georgia to be part of a Night to Honor Israel. I've attended several others since, in the Chattanooga area as well. Most recently, I've been part of a planning committee, along with Rabbi Tepper, for a Night to Honor Israel on November 13, in Ringgold. I've met local pastors and many congregants who share in their support of everything Israel.

I was fortunate to be asked to speak at the Night to Honor Israel about my recent experiences in Israel. It was, needless to say, a very friendly and vocal crowd! The attendees were warm and incredibly knowledgeable about Israel. The room was filled with ruach and it was a site to see so many Israeli flags waving. These CUFI members are some of the most staunch supporters of Israel.

Their reasons for doing so are varied, but most importantly, they are vocal, show public support, and speak with our elected officials for the benefit of Israel.

I'm all for supporting Israel and recognize that this support comes from people from all walks of life. Equally, I find it very important to create friendships outside of the Jewish community, to find our common bonds and shared goals. When anti-semitism erupts, it is our friends that we reach out to – and having friends in good times and in challenging times is a must. I was honored to speak and share my love for Israel – and to see so many others who share my passion and enthusiasm.



A synagogue in Warsaw

**Annual Campaign dollars are here for you!
Apply for Federation subsidies for Jewish
summer camp or travel to Israel.**

Applications due Dec. 15

Your contribution to the Federation's Annual Campaign makes these subsidies possible. **THANK YOU.**

SOCIAL SERVICES

Memory Really is For a Blessing



by Amy Boulware
Social Services Director
aboulware@jewishchattanooga.com

- Senior Programming
- Intergenerational Programming
- Family Support
- Community Partnering
- Friendly Visits
- Excursions
- Advocacy

As a child I remember my dad talking to me about his mother. He used to say that he thought about her every day. My grandma Mary died shortly after my parents married and years before she was able to enjoy any of us grandchildren. Obviously, I never knew her, and the only images I had of her were from old photos.

At that time it was hard for me to imagine that he did actually think about her daily. It is only now, as an adult who has lost my own mother (and others who I loved) that I am able to understand. I too think of my mom every day, and that doesn't seem to lessen with time.

It was with this in mind that my sister decided to take my niece Sammy D on a journey to know our mom. Sammy was only three when my mom passed away, and she did not have the years my girls had with their grandmother. She was cheated of the slumber parties and play dates, and the special way my mom made each of her grandchildren feel when she was with them.

Although Sammy does have some memories of her, we aren't sure whether they are memories we have "given" her by talking about my mom, or actual memories of experiences she had with her. So this past weekend, my sister took Sammy to our childhood hometown to meet two of our mom's best friends. These were women she raised her children with, was in book clubs and in dinner clubs with, taught school with and were a part of our growing up.

My sister Joy asked these friends to talk to Sammy about our mom and to tell her stories. At last Sammy got to hear stories about who her grandmother was as an adult from people other than us. She heard funny stories about how my mom dressed up as the Easter Bunny for a parade, and how she was always happy and fun to be around. How she loved to play with toys and read books and how you couldn't be in a bad mood when you were around her. Sammy was given a card that had notes written to her from my mom's co-teachers from a pre-school where she taught forty years ago.

Forty years of time had passed and these women still had fond memories of our mom. She was as vivid and alive in their minds as she is in ours. My sister shed some tears as she reminisced with these women. Sammy didn't really understand the tears, but said, "Gabby had some really cool friends!"

It has taken me five long years to really understand the Jewish saying, "may your memory be for a blessing". A blessing my memories are of my mom, and now my niece has memories of her own.

Your gift to the Annual Campaign enables the Federation to fund the social services program. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE
Double Opening Reception
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Israel and Me
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ANNUAL CAMPAIGN



We Must Never Forget

by Richard Zachary and
Roy Rosenfeld
2014 Campaign Co-chairs

Both of us went on the recent Federation mission trip to Israel with our spouses last month. In addition, Jacqueline and Roy joined the pre-mission visit to Poland. The focal point of that trip was the afternoon participants spent at the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp.

Just as every Jew remembers at Passover the suffering of slavery under Pharaoh and the exodus from Egypt from about 4000 years ago, every Jew must remember what happened in Europe in the 1930's and 40's. If one is blessed enough to afford it, one must visit one of the camps of horror. Whether through planning or happenstance, the people of Poland preserved as much of the evidence of what happened as they could.

Can we cry enough to drown the the pain and sorrow? No, but we must walk forward and see what happened, hear the stories from the guides who have studied and heard from survivors. We must witness the implementations of torture and see for ourselves the pure evil. It is especially in bearing witness that history will not be forgotten.

Haven't had the opportunity to pledge yet? Super Sunday is Dec 7!

Campaign Goal: 1.1 Million
Total as of November 13: **\$917,146**

Hatikvah

\$3,000 - \$4,999

Anonymous (2) #Elaine and #Sanford Winer
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Krissy and Charles Joels
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Brenda and Paul Lefkoff
Ruth Longway
Marty Redish
Ann Richelson
Jackie and Marty Scheinberg
Barry Schulman
Rachel and Henry Schulson
#Fern Shire
#Amy and Robert Snetman
Linda and Michael Spector
Judy and Kevin Spiegel
Cheri and Neil Spitalny
Sandy and Ben Tabakin

2015 Jewish Federation Campaign Honor Roll

indicates campaign worker

*indicates Federation/Aleph Bet Staff

King David \$100,000+

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Lebovitz Family Charitable Trust

Jerusalem \$75,000 - \$99,999

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

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#Alison Lebovitz
Betty Lebovitz
#Lauren Lebovitz
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#Pris Siskin
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ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

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Chavarim \$1-\$249

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Susan and David Leininger	*Dana Shavin	
Robert Levine	Gerte Shavin	
Gail Lindsey	Lillian Siegel	
Stella and Michael McHugh	Helen and Stan Smith	

Join the Legacy Society

Balser, Jeff
Binder, Claire
Chambers, Sandy
Cohn, Herb
Cohn, Sue (Deceased)
Dzik, Michael
Fairchild, David
Hochman, Lynn
Hodes, Alvin
Howard, Lynn
Jaffe, Dot



Jaffe, Sam
Lebovitz, Alison
Lebovitz, Charles
Lebovitz, Lauren
Malsh, Rebecca (Deceased)
Nash, Ike (Deceased)
Pregulman, Helen
Richelson, Alan
Siskin, Pris
Zachary, Richard

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.

More Thoughts From Travelers to Israel and Poland

Our recent trip to Israel was like reading a best seller. We read the prologue and can't wait to read Chapter One. All of our senses were engaged.

--Beverly and David Rice

Poland was a must stop but its history is dreary like its weather...The smells of Israel are captivating w/ the vegetables, fruit and market...The road roundabouts must go...Haifa and Tel Aviv are a testament to industrial people... How many ways are there to fix and serve humus, tomatoes, bread, carrots, vegetables... The sadness of leaving, the [happiness of returning to] one's own home. *Joel M. Nomberg*

Our 2014 Chattanooga Jewish Community Trip to Israel was tremendous! Each day resulted in new and remarkable experiences and adventures. Our time in Israel brought us closer to our extraordinary Jewish history, to our friends and family in Israel and to our Judaism...*Rabbi Bill Tepper*

...Everyone should see the concentration camps in person at least once. --*Billy L. Cordell*

The experience was one of a lifetime. I am so glad I got to go "home" and feel at "home" in Israel. I was wrapped up in the warmth of the country, the people and all the history of the land of the Biblical times. --*Joy Gendreau*

The trip began in Poland visiting locations of some of the darkest days for God's chosen people. As I walked through death camps, my heart cried out "why?". As walked through the land God gave to His people, I felt a redemption and gratitude for His promises to gather His people back to Him in a place that belongs to them. The fertile land, the beautiful terrain and tranquility of the seas along with the determination of the people makes my heart smile. --*Pamela Ward*

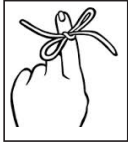
I had an amazing experience at The Wall in Israel. I was a witness to the Rosh Chodesh services held monthly at by a group known as The Women of the Wall. To my surprise, a tallit was lifted up and held by four women over a Torah that had been "smuggled" in, and a Bat Mitzvah was held. A young girl read her Torah portion with singing and celebration following. It was the first time in history this had occurred in the women's section of the The Wall. What a moment. --*Gail Susman*

One of the things that was encouraging to me was that while I was in the hospital in Haifa, I had both Jewish and Arab doctors and nurses, all of whom seemed to work well together. With the right political leadership, perhaps this cooperation could spread throughout the country. --*Sanford Winer*



Children's shoes at concentration camp. Photo courtesy of Jackie Rosenfeld

@JEWISH CULTURAL CENTER



Unless otherwise noted, all of the events on this page take place at the Jewish Cultural Center and YOU MUST RSVP at 493-0270, ext. 10 OR federation@jewishchattanooga.com.

Middle Eastern (Belly) Dancing

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Jillanna Babb-Cheshul of Merry Bellies teaches this drop-in, one-hour, very fun class.. Pay as you go. \$5/class. No RSVP.

Super Sunday

Sunday, December 7. Want to be a caller? Contact Rob and Beth Lowe 596-3894

Foreign Policy Supper Club

Monday, December 8 @ 6 p.m. Cost: \$10 includes dinner. Local topic.

Cafe Dilemma

Tuesday, December 9 @ 5:30p.m.

Join Federation shlichah Noa Hada for a conversation about issues of import in Israel. Flying Squirrel. Dutch treat, no RSVP. Contact Israel@jewishchattanooga.com for meeting place.

Intergenerational Lunch

Wednesday, December 10 @ 12 p.m.

PRINT Exhibit

Exhibit runs through December 12.

Erik Haagensen, Judith Paul, Michael Schulson, Voices & Visions. No RSVP.

Young Leadership Shabbat and Chanukah Party

Find us on facebook facebook.com/groups/YJLCHA/ or email us to get on the mailing list at Israel@jewishchattanooga.com.

Friday, December 12

(518) 256-5464 for information

Community Chanukah Candle Lighting and Party

Tuesday, Dec. 16 @ 6:45 p.m.

Join us for sufganiot (doughnuts), matzoh ball soup, singing, and more! BYOM (bring your own menorah). \$5/person, \$18/family of four. RSVP by Dec. 11.

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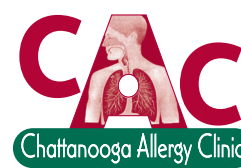
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The Federation will be closed December 25 and January 1



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FEDERATION SHLICHA



What You Need to Know About Israel Now

by Noa Hadad, Federation Shlichah
Israel@jewishchattanooga.com

Last month was a great month! I saw many of you at the Celebrate Israeli Culture programs. Thank you for coming and being part of this exciting time.

Israeli Art Expo



Your gift to the Annual Campaign enables the Federation to fund the Shlichim program. Thank you!



Hebrew Coffee (Hebrew speakers speaking!)



Israelis Treats (Games and treats for kids)



Israeli Dinner (Yum!)



Last Chance to Help Me Out!

*In January I will be mounting an exhibit at the JCC called **Israel For Me**. I need people of all ages to answer the question, "What is Israel to me?" Your answer can be reflected by a photo, object, art, or in words. Your contribution will be presented with a photograph of you and a few words about your entry. Want to participate but haven't been to Israel? You can still share your feelings and thoughts. Contact me, Noa, at 493-0270 ext 31 or on my cell: 385-0098. I look forward to hearing from you!*

Cafe Dilemma

Tuesday, December 9

@ 5:30pm.

Join me, Noa, to talk about the hottest things happening in Israel right now: Gaza's civilians' human rights, the cost of living in Israel, the security budget, and 67's Green Line Border Act. What's the right thing to do? Are we heading the wrong way? What's your solution?

Whether you have an opinion or just want to learn more, join us!

Everyone is welcome! Dutch treat. Flying Squirrel.

Spreading the Truth about Israel

Some important things happened in Israel last month, but unfortunately the U.S. media didn't report on them all. Here's an overview. Please share the information and help Israel spread the complete stories.

- The Third Intifada is already here. The uprising has been running for almost a year, initiated by Abbas and perpetuated by Israel's extreme nationalist right wing.
- Violence resumes in East Jerusalem as Israelis rally in western city. Despite Netanyahu's call to Knesset members to calm the situation, IEDs are hurled at police in East Jerusalem; an Arab attacks a Jew at Old City gate.
- Nasrallah: Hezbollah ready to fight Israel despite Syrian war. Shiite leader promises that rockets will again force the closure of Ben Gurion Airport during the next conflict
- Hamas chief's sister treated in Israeli hospital. Several relatives of the Islamist group's leaders known to enter reviled Jewish state to obtain medical care unavailable in Gaza. The hospitalization of the sister of Abu Marzouk is the latest case of a relative of a member of the terror group being treated in Israel despite a toxic relationship with the Jewish state.
- US veto at Security Council may no longer be a given. With ties growing colder, some in Jerusalem fear Washington's protection at the UN cannot be taken for granted, and that the midterms may further complicate the picture.
- An Israeli soldier to American Jews: Wake up!! I never believed that such anti-Semitism still existed, especially in the U.S. I never knew that the battlefield was not just Gaza, the West Bank, and hostile Middle Eastern countries wanting to destroy Israel and kill our citizens and soldiers. It is also here in America, where a battle must be waged against prejudice and lies.

Why am I telling you all of this? Because you can help. Pass this news to people who have no idea about what happens in the Middle East. Show them the other side of the story; help them see the whole picture.

Israel cannot fight this big battle alone. If you are affiliated with a Jewish organization, let us know you actively, openly and unequivocally oppose the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) against Israel campaign and those who support it. Inform yourself, your friends and families, by visiting websites of organizations like StandWithUs, Jewish Virtual Library, AIPAC (American Israel Public Affairs Committee), AJC (American Jewish Committee), ADL (Anti-Defamation League) and others that will update you and provide information about BDS and anti-Semitism.

I urge all of you –Jewish community members and friends of the Jewish community, to wake up and stand up for the State of Israel, for all it represents, and for all it works to achieve.

We can make a change, even just by learning the facts and latest updates. You are our shlichim, our ambassadors of Israel. If you want to be more involved, tell me! Tell your friends and family what is going on in Israel.

If you want to get more information on a daily basis go to:

- <http://www.YnetNews.com>
- <http://www.Haaretz.com>
- <http://www.timesofisrael.com>

ALEPH BET CHILDREN'S CENTER



by Vicki Cathcart
Aleph Bet Children's Center
Director/
PJ Library Coordinator
alephbet@jewishchattanooga.com

Coming this December!
100 reasons to give!
100 hours of giving!



The Children's Advocacy Center visited our Yellow and Blue Rooms to talk about Keeping Safe. Thank you Miss Kirsten for visiting us again this year!



Aleph Bet Children's Center, a program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga, aims to provide an educational, interactive and developmentally appropriate preschool program that is enriched by Jewish traditions and values and implemented by a trained, dedicated, and nurturing staff.



Aleph Bet is recognized by the State of Tenn. for its commitment to good health

At the Jewish Cultural Center
5461 North Terrace Road 37411
(423) 893-5486
Director: (423) 493-0270, ext. 18
alephbet@jewishchattanooga.com
www.aleph-bet.com

In October, Aleph Bet participated for the 4th year in The Great Central U.S. Shake Out. The children learned to stop, drop, and hold on if an earthquake were to happen in our area!

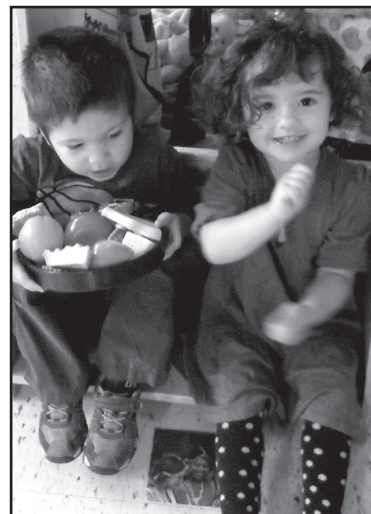
Aleph Bet will be closed
Wed., Dec. 24-Friday, Dec. 26
for winter break
&
Jan. 1 -New Year's
Jan. 2 -Teacher Training

We appreciate the following donations:

Emily Eiselstein-books and puzzles
World Sales and Jerry Kleinstub-noisemakes to make shofars
The Eves Family-K cups for teachers
Virginia and Ralph Murray-stickers
Samara and Daniella Cathcart-stamp sets
The Galletta Family-Lysol wipes



Fall Fun and Learning at Aleph Bet



FEDERATION NEWS

HEART TO HEART

A WOMAN'S JOURNEY TO ISRAEL February 1-5, 2015



Mission Highlights

- Participate in a workshop and fair with artists from Southern Israel
- Meet the spouses of IDF commanders and learn about their daily lives
- Meet with female combat soldiers in the desert
- Take part in a Heart-to-Heart-Style "Amazing Race" around Jerusalem, meeting female artists, chefs, designers and entrepreneurs along the way
- Learn from Israeli women who are in the forefront of some of the world's most interesting scientific achievements
- See some of the unbelievable programs and projects that are changing and saving lives, thanks to support by Jewish Federation dollars and our overseas partners.

Co-chaired by our very own Lauren Lebovitz! Contact her directly at 423-505-3090 or lalalebovitz@gmail.com

Please go to <http://www.jewishfederations.org/heart-to-heart.aspx> for a comprehensive overview of the trip

Join our intrepid group of smart, motivated women on a journey to Israel. Learn how Israeli women and their families are moving forward after last summer's conflict, and how we can continue to support them. Meet amazing women who are playing leading roles in the fields of medicine, fashion, art, business and spirituality. Experience groundbreaking, Federation-supported programs that are improving the lives of vulnerable Israelis. Return home empowered to be a leader in your community.



Est. 1984

3069 South Broad Street, Suite 1
Southern Saddlery Building
634-0677

Tuesday - Friday 10-6

By The Numbers:

52

Number of Pies Baked in Support of Mitzvah Meals



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(Dr. Mike)
Board Certified

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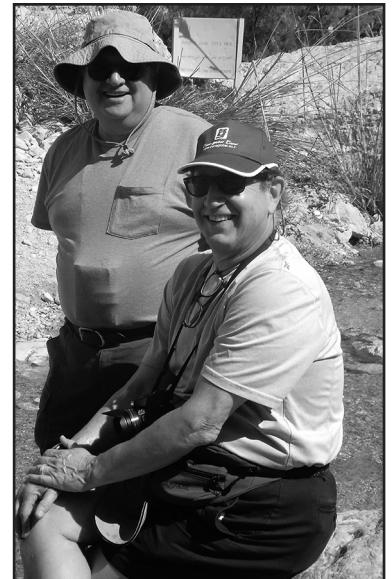
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FEDERATION PROGRAMS

Mission Trip to Israel and Poland



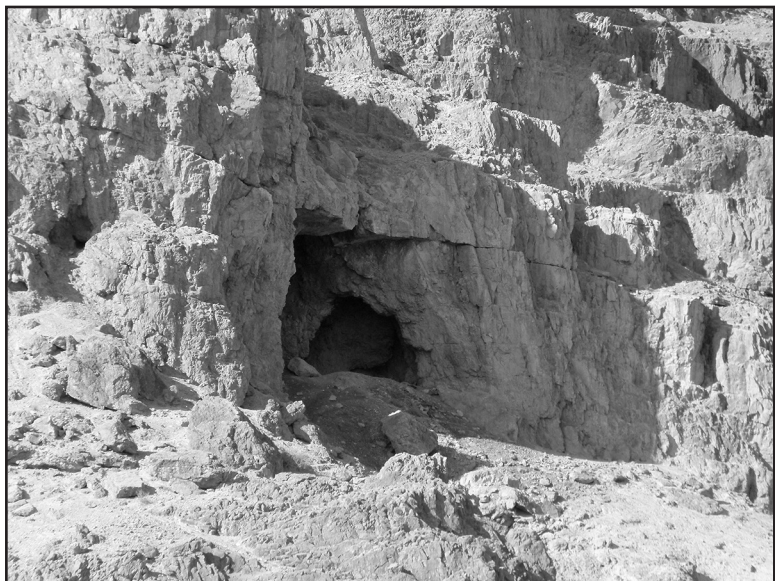
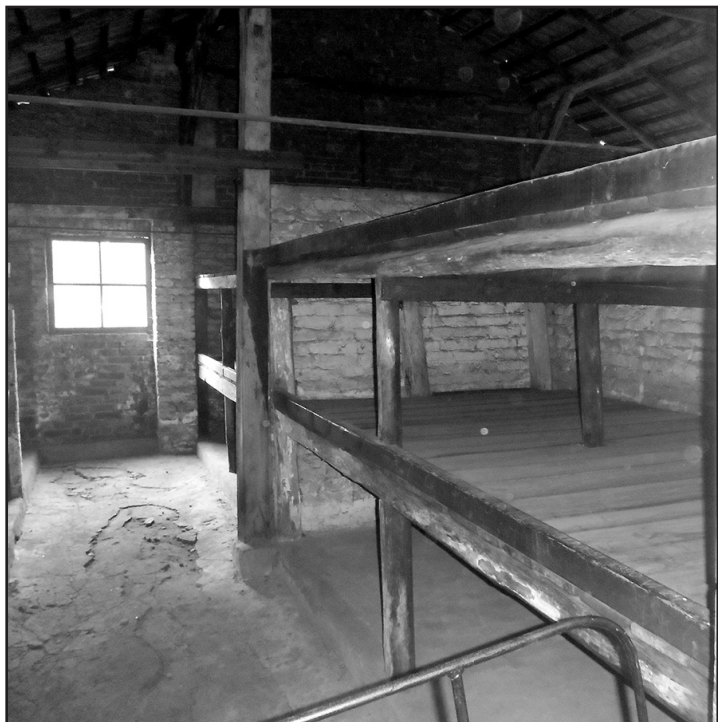
This page and next, photos courtesy of Michael Dzik and Richard Zachary.

Mission trip participants:

- Billy Cordell
- Joy Gendreau
- Bill Hillner
- Susan Hillner
- Ira Kraus
- Ruth Longway
- Lucia Meeks
- Jo-Ann Morris
- Joel Nomberg
- David Rice
- Beverly Rice
- Roy Rosenfeld
- Jacqueline Rosenfeld
- Gail Susman
- Joel Susman
- Rabbi Bill Tepper
- Joyce Thomas
- Sanford Winer
- Elaine Winer
- Pamela Ward
- Richard Zachary



FEDERATION PROGRAMS



Baseball Literalism

by Michael Schulson

There is a long and often ridiculous history of comparing baseball to a religion. Rule-bound, slow to change, cyclic, and timeless; an assembly of people presided over by men in funny outfits, who say what is safe and what is out; a space sealed-off from the rest of society, yet definitional to a national culture: the comparisons aren't too difficult to make. As noted in the movie "Bull Durham," there are 108 stitches on a baseball, and 108 beads in a rosary. Coincidence?

Well, yes. It's a coincidence. (Or a function of the exceptional divisibility of the number 108). Religious phenomena have plenty of overlaps with other products of human culture, but the whole game of "is it a religion?" is obnoxious at best. None of which changes the fact that, when Major League Baseball announced last week that it was planning to introduce instant replay to games, thereby allowing umpires to stop play after a difficult call and watch the whole thing again in slow-motion, all I could think, with a tinge of sadness, was that a new, especially virulent kind of fundamentalism had arrived in America's First Church.

Let me explain. Fundamentalist religions may attack modern culture, but they are also, as an abundant realm of scholarship argues, products of modernity. The kind of precision, authority, and certainty that motivates, say, the belief in the inerrancy of scripture, or the conviction that you can prove, through science, the veracity of the Biblical Flood, is part and parcel of the modern demand that things be absolutely correct and explainable—that things should be not just feel true, but be right. Perhaps it should not surprise us that religious violence is so often sourced from engineers, schooled in the arts of precision and certainty.

Back to baseball, home of a new and creeping unempirical dogmatism. Part of the sport's charm is its premodern character: where football has engineered plays and metrical grid, and basketball not one but two clocks (shot and game), baseball seems to obey a different rhythm, slow and summery and defined only by the necessary duration for its fulfillment, and not some digital device. Naturally, then, baseball is a technologically conservative place. Players use wooden bats. They wear knickers!

And umpires rely only on sight to make calls—aware, perhaps, in that way we so often forget to be, here in our modern world, that a kind of truth thrives in the realm of fate and subjective judgment, and not in the absolutes.

Now cameras have come along and ruined it all. Baseball is about to get literalist. Or perhaps more scientific. New atheist, fundamentalist, take your pick: starting next spring, the shrines of the diamond will be losing a little of their magic.

Baseball Literalism first appeared in "Killing the Buddha" Sept. 2, 2013. It is reprinted here by permission of the author. www.killingthebuddha.com/ktblog/baseball-literalism/. It is also a part of the current Print exhibit on display at the Jewish Cultural Center until Dec. 12.



FEDERATION PROGRAMS



The Same, But Different

by Ann Treadwell, Program Director
atreadwell@jewishchattanooga.com

My husband of 30 years has a girlfriend. He adores her. She sleeps with him when I'm not around. In many ways, she and I are two of a kind. We have the same red hair, and we are smaller than our peers. We are not aging gracefully, but are fighting it all the way. We both suffered a hernia, which required a trip to the hospital. And she lost a family member (a sister) around the same time my husband and I lost parents.

Like me, my husband's girlfriend expects that he will look after her food and shelter needs. And like me, she will often ignore others in favor of his attention (though she did watch over our son Jacob all through middle and high school (thus earning her the name Jacob Junior (JJ) until a trip to the vet revealed he was a she). But there are a few crucial differences between my husband's girlfriend and me. For one thing, she has a mean growl, whereas I just send "the look". And there's the fact that she's a cat and I am a person.

The moral of this tale is that although "Princess J" and I are two very different beings, we share many characteristics including the love of my husband and our family. But we have very different needs and perspectives on life. Princess J prefers to cuddle all day in bed, while I can't sit still. She watches everything, while I prefer to listen and act. She prefers cream after a meal—I like Merlot. (And for the record, while we both like to sit by the

fireplace on a cold night, she's usually the one that gets William's lap!)

So, what does this have to do with the Federation? Many of us have very similar characteristics and value similar things in life, but we have very different needs and interests.

Which is why, in December, our programming covers a wide spectrum of activity. We have wonderful people coming to help us with Super Sunday. Haven't made your pledge yet? Call us, or they will call you to remind you of the benefits Federation brings to our community and to people all over the world. Want to know what is going on in Israel? Come to Café Dilemma on December 9th and discuss hot topics pertaining to Israel with Federation shlichah Noa Hadad. Wish to celebrate the importance of eight days of oil? The community Chanukah candle lighting will take place on Tuesday, December 16, in conjunction with Hadassah.

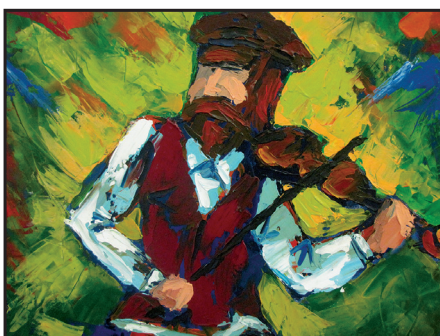
There is also the PRINT exhibit, which you can view until December 12, committee meetings, and lots of time to discuss and plan for 2015. Join us as we review 2014 and ready ourselves to share our similarities and differences in 2015.



Comedian Benji Lovitt Joins JCC for Israeli Culture Days



Bar Kocva Art Expo



Reading and book signing with Dana Shavin (left and below)

