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NEWS OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA

# THE SHOEFAR



A Publication of the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga

Volume 27 Number 6 February 2014

## Four Inducted into Chattanooga Regional Jewish Sports Hall of Fame at Federation Annual Meeting

Four area sports standouts were inducted into the Chattanooga Regional Jewish Sports Hall of Fame on January 8 at Jewish Federation's Annual Meeting. Jewish community leader, businessman, and Israeli Maccabiah Games medalist in cycling, Stephen Lebovitz, was the keynote speaker.

### INDUCTEES:



**Milton "Buster" Edelstein** was born in 1918 in Chattanooga, attended City High School, and was captain of the school's basketball team in 1936. He went on to play varsity baseball and football. By graduation, Edelstein had earned 8 letters in basketball, baseball and football, and was voted an All-City player. Edelstein batted over 400 in the John Hancock Baseball League. Had it not been for an auto accident which left one hand permanently injured, he was on course to play professional baseball.

Edelstein was a lifelong member of B'nai Zion Congregation. He died in 2010.

**Hallie Hochman McFadden** grew up in Chattanooga and is a member of B'nai Zion Congregation. A star on the Girls Preparatory School swim team, she was an All-America swimmer and swam at the YMCA Nationals.

McFadden is a graduate of The University of Virginia and UCLA School of Law. After practicing law in the Los Angeles area, she joined the United States Navy during the first Gulf War in 1990 as a JAG officer. She was stationed in Yokosuka, Japan and Rota, Spain and was able to travel extensively throughout Asia and Europe. In Rota, she met Patrick McFadden, whom she married in 1994. Currently McFadden coaches the mock trial team at Signal Mountain Middle/High School and swims an average of 10-15 miles per week. A certified U.S. Masters swim coach, she coaches triathletes and iron man contenders and gives private swim lessons.



**Harold David Shavin** was born on December 6, 1927 in Chattanooga. He was an outstanding basketball player in junior and senior high school, after which he joined the Air Force. Wherever Shavin was stationed, he played basketball



and softball, traveling with his team to bases for games. After completing military service, he operated a general clothing store on Main Street and then opened a store in Summerville, Georgia called Harold's Outlet Store.

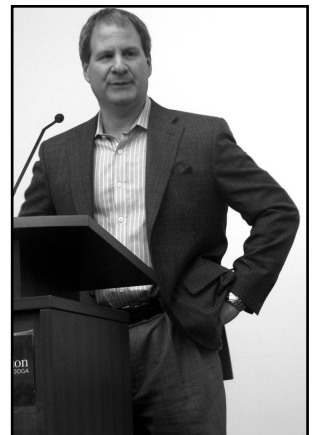
Although he modestly credits Lou Ornstein and Bill Raider, many people say Shavin was the driving force in rejuvenating the entire sports program at the Jewish Community Center after World War II, both as a player and a coach. He was enshrined in an earlier Sports Hall of Fame established by the Jewish Community Center (JCC) in the 1960s. Lifelong friend Izzie Frumin, says,

"Harold was an absolutely fierce competitor."

**Ira Edward Stein** grew up in Chattanooga during a time when the JCC was the Jewish hub for everything social and athletic. Stein remembers watching his uncle, Norman Hofferman, play basketball and softball. "He was a tremendous inspiration," Ira says of his uncle, a 2011 inductee to the Chattanooga Regional Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.

When Stein was seven years old, he started taking diving lessons with Ed Lewis, then coach of the Chattanooga Diving Club and McCallie School. He swam and dove for the JCC and AAU and won both the 8 & Under and 10 & Under Boys Swimming High Point Trophy for Chattanooga. At age 12 he won the southeastern diving championships for both 1-meter and 3-meter. At McCallie School he placed 2nd at the State Meet and became an All-American diver as an eighth grader. At the end of his ninth grade year he won the AAU National Championship for 14 & Under Boys 3-meter Diving, and was 5th in the 1-meter in Woodlands, TX.

Stein earned a diving scholarship to the University of Iowa, where he dove for 4 years. In 1985 he tried out for the U.S. Maccabiah team and was first alternate for the 12th Maccabiah. In his senior year he placed 17th at NCAA championships in the 1-meter. His last competitive dive was in April of 1986, and Stein started medical school at UT Memphis in July the same year. Dr. Stein is a gastroenterologist at the Frist Clinic in Nashville, TN.



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Feb. 13  
6 p.m. Dessert reception  
7 p.m. Program  
• RSVP 493-0270, ext. 10

Join Hadas Peled at the Jewish Cultural Center for an exhibit and discussion about women of distinction from a variety of disciplines who left a mark on Israeli society and culture. Exhibit runs Feb. 13 through Mar. 21.



**Jewish Federation**  
of Greater Chattanooga

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

# FEDERATION NEWS



## We Are One: Comments from the Annual Meeting

by Warren Dropkin  
Federation Board Chair  
boardchair@jewishchattanooga.com

First and foremost, I want to thank Andy Hodes and the leadership team for their hard work and dedication these past two years.

They have done a phenomenal job of leading by example. Our Federation and staff are recognized as leaders in management and in programming. We are making a difference in lives both here in our area and around the world.

We Are One!

What does that mean, *We Are One*? We live in a small community that is rich with wonderful, talented people who believe in our Federation mission. Sometimes we don't always agree on how to get things done, but that's not unusual. In our community we have Mizpah Congregation, B'nai Zion Congregation, Chabad, and Hadassah—many different views but all with one focus: a strong Jewish community. If you come from Chattanooga, Dalton, Cleveland, South Pittsburg, Whitwell, Signal Mountain, or any other part of our greater Chattanooga community, you are part of our Federation family.

We Are One!

Over the next two years as your Federation Board Chair, my goal is to enrich and strengthen our collective Jewish identity. I hope to do this by first finding ways to share Israel with each and every one of you, either by getting you there or bringing Israel here. It's important to understand exactly what it is that we do in Israel and around the world.

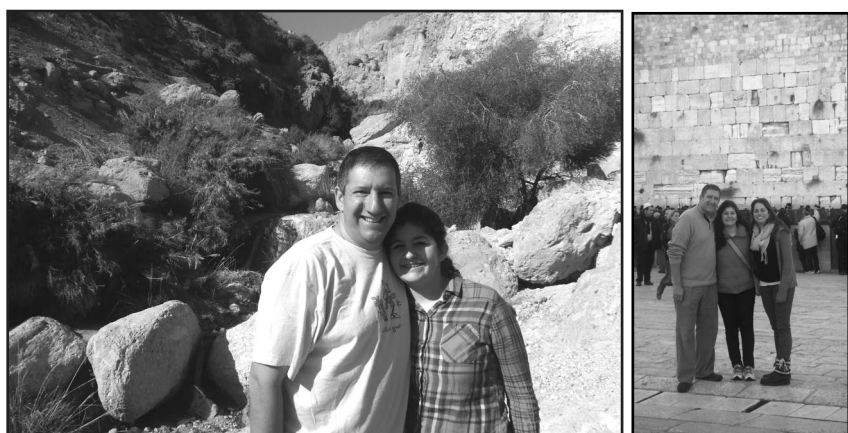
Second, I would like to find a way for us to encourage and see to it that every Jewish child in Chattanooga has the opportunity to spend his or her



summer at a Jewish camp. This truly positive experience allows our kids to make life-long friends with Jewish children from outside our community and from other countries, thereby promoting our sense of unity.

If we can learn from, educate, work with, and support each other like a truly unified family, I have no doubt that all of us, whether involved or not involved in Federation, can grow communally and spiritually, and can make a difference in the years ahead.

Yes, in Chattanooga, our surrounding communities and around the world, we are one Jewish community.



## Meet Your Israel Today

by Michael Dzik  
Federation Executive Director  
mdzik@jewishchattanooga.com

Many of you know that I recently took my oldest daughter, Rachel, on her first trip to Israel. It was an amazing experience to be with her for 11 days, and to watch the excitement in her eyes at every corner of the country. It was a special father-daughter time of bonding, but just as importantly, it was her first experience with her homeland.

In simplest terms, I wanted Rachel to understand the connections that she inherently has with Israel. Sure, we visited sites such as Masada, the Western Wall and its underground tunnels, Yad Vashem, and the City of David and the Davidson Center. She learned about the history of the land and the Jewish connection to it. She learned about the amazing country that invented drip irrigation, many medical devices and pharmaceuticals, and that advanced technology in many ways. We took several hikes at Ein Gedi and Mount Meron as well as a bike ride through the Hula Valley Nature Reserve. All of these connections with the land are great. But best of all were the connections Rachel made with its people.

I made a concerted effort to be with both family and Israelis—which are basically one and the same. We stayed with a first cousin who made aliya (moved to Israel permanently) about twelve years ago. We stayed with my friend Tal, whom many of you have met on mission trips. We stayed with our past shlichim, Einav and Raoul—and we even stayed with our newest friends, Einav's parents. Lastly, we stayed in the Federation partnership region of Hadera for two nights.

We went to a mall with my cousins, and we spent a very full day at Masada and the Dead Sea with Tal, his wife Rachel, and their three children. We spent our first Shabbat in Jerusalem with Einav, and Einav's parents spent a day with us in the Hula Valley, hiking Mt. Meron, and on a visit to Tzfat. Raoul gave us a fantastic tour of Netanya, Tel Aviv and Jaffa. Our partnership friends hosted

us for Shabbat and many special excursions. Are you getting the picture?

One of the best moments in Israel was in Hadera. We saw Federation sponsored programs as well as the beauty of the region. But the most special part was that Rachel was invited to spend the night with one of the teenagers who came to Chattanooga this past summer, Aviv—and then the other three—Artur, Lotem and Shahak showed up for a special visit. Meanwhile, I was invited out for a "guys night" with two of the volunteers with our partnership, Aviad and Elisha. It was a special time for us to connect and talk about our lives and who we are. The next morning, Rachel went to school with Aviv for a few hours while I visited the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class of Malka, one of the two teachers who visited Chattanooga last September.

Israel is special for so many reasons: the places, the history, and the spirituality, and Rachel and I had an amazing time. It's my hope that she now sees Israel as not just a country but a people—and I think she does. She now has friends in Israel she is staying in touch with. She recognizes my relationships with the people and how we are truly one family. And that's the point—we're not just friends, we are family with Israel. The homeland belongs to all of us.

Make sure you share Israel with your family. I would love to help you with a trip, or to have you join our October mission. Start making your connections and meeting your Israeli family today.

# FEDERATION PROGRAMS



## Strong Women, Positive Changes

by Ann Treadwell  
Program Director  
atreadwell@jewishchattanooga.com

When I was in high school I went to what was then called a community school. The school did not have traditional classrooms or schedules. We made contracts with each teacher for the grade we

wanted to achieve and had to fulfill the contract or fail the class. The academic bar was set very high.

Additionally the school required that each semester we have classes with a professional in the community. One semester I worked with a stock broker. I learned all about how the market functioned and visited the stock exchange and brokerage houses. Another semester I worked with an architect and spent hours and hours drafting Magic Pan interiors (remember that now-defunct crepe restaurant chain?) to the point that I dreamt about them at night. I also worked with a psychiatrist who specialized in child assessment and group therapy.

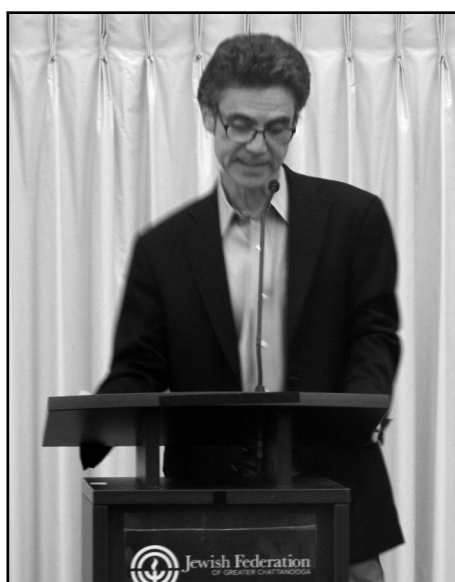
And I realized that none of these was the career path I would take.

Then I met Westchester County Commissioner Carolyn Whittle. She was one of few women involved in government in the early 1970s. I met her after the election, but it wasn't the campaign that interested me. Carolyn was a consumer advocate. The Universal Product Code (UPC) barcode had just been introduced at grocery stores. Carolyn was concerned that stores could potentially take advantage of consumers if prices scanned at the register didn't match those on the shelves. I was sent to stores to test her theory, buying products and then matching my receipts to the shelf prices. She was right. In the early days of UPC codes, before the technology improved, there was often a delay in syncing the price on the shelf with the price in computerized cash registers. Active, truthful, reliable government as a tool for community protection was a value she instilled in me.

Strong women making positive changes in their communities is the underlying theme for programming in February. Please join Hadassah and the Jewish Federation as we present a program on domestic violence. Walk through the gallery area and take in the information about little-known Israeli women who changed the face of Israel, presented by Hadas Peled, our Schilcha (cultural emissary), and dine in fellowship with friends as Judith Mogul discusses her recent MakeWork grant at Noon Nosh.

## Lessons Learned, Jan. 13 Jewish Cultural Center

Rabbis Perlstein, Tepper and Tendler discussed the most important lessons they've learned as rabbis and feel are most important to pass on.



# FEDERATION PROGRAMS

## Community Events

### FeminIsrael Program and Exhibit

Hadas Peled leads a discussion about women of distinction who left a mark on Israeli society and culture. Community dessert reception Feb. 13 at 6:00 p.m. and program at 7 p.m. No cost to attend. RSVP 493-0270, ext. 10 or [rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com). Exhibit runs through Mar. 21.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please remember to RSVP for Jewish Federation programs. Your RSVP helps us to prepare the right amount of food so that no one is left out and nothing goes to waste.

There are three easy ways to respond:

1. use the RSVP form at [www.jewishchattanooga.com](http://www.jewishchattanooga.com)
2. call 493-0270, ext. 10
3. email [rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com).

Prefer a vegetarian meal? Just let us know in advance.

*Thanks for helping us serve you better!*

## Young Leadership (Ages 21-40)

YL Annual Meeting, Sunday, Feb. 23, 2 p.m.

YL Shabbat: Friday, Feb. 28

See [www.facebook.com/groups/YJLCHA](http://www.facebook.com/groups/YJLCHA) for details

### SAVE THE DATE



Saturday, March 29, 9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

#### The Ori Naftaly Band

This “funk-infused jazz band” was voted Best Israeli Blues Act of 2013 and was voted ‘Best Blues Album in 2012’ by [Bluesmagazine.nl](http://Bluesmagazine.nl).

\$18 includes beverages and hors d’oeuvres.

## Just for Fun



#### Men’s Night, Monday, Feb. 10, 6 p.m.

Bruce Weiss (River Street Deli) cooks up a storm. \$12 includes a program.

RSVP a must! 493-0270, ext. 10 or [rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com).

## Happenings with Hadas (Israeli Shlichah)



Liora Lenger (*left*), chairwoman of the non-profit movement Na’amat (Movement of Working Women and Volunteers) for the Tel Aviv-Yafo region, will share her thoughts (via video) about Na’amat’s work, specifically, what it’s doing to advance and strengthen the status of women in the Israeli family, work force and society.

Join Lenger and Hadas at the Jewish Cultural Center Thurs., Feb. 13, 6p.m., for a dessert reception and discussion. No charge, but please RSVP to 493-0270, ext. 10 or [rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com).

Hadas Peled is available for public speaking for civic groups, schools, churches, and other community organizations. Please contact Hadas at [Israel@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:Israel@jewishchattanooga.com) or 385-0098

## Well-Being

### Middle Eastern (Belly) Dancing

Jillanna Babb-Cheshul of Merry Bellies teaches this drop-in, one-hour, very fun class, Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Pay as you go. \$5/class. For information, contact 493-0270, ext. 10; [federation@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:federation@jewishchattanooga.com).

### What You Need To Know About Family Violence, Tues., Feb. 4, 7p.m.



Dr. Charlotte Boatwright is a founding member and president of the Coalition Against Domestic & Community Violence of Greater Chattanooga, Inc. and the Family Justice Alliance. Her work with the Coalition over the past 20 years includes professional and public education about the impact of family violence on communities, and building collaborations among public and private partners, justice system, education, clergy, health care, business and industry to reduce family and community violence. She is currently working with a team to establish a Family Justice Center in Chattanooga.

This is a joint program sponsored by The Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga and Hadassah. Dairy desserts provided by Hadassah. There is no cost to attend. [Rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com) or 493-0270, ext. 10.

### Noon Nosh with Judy Mogul

Tuesday, Feb. 18, 12p.m.

Judy Mogul discusses her Makework grant project, a beautiful, slightly supernatural film titled *Field Play*. DVDs will be available for sale. For a preview, visit [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8\\_yk18LoSMo&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8_yk18LoSMo&feature=youtu.be).

Cost: \$8.00 RSVP to 493-0270, ext. 10 or [rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com).

## Expand Your Mind

### Foreign Policy Supper Club

Monday, Feb. 24, 6:00 p.m., Defense Technology

First FP Supper Club meeting of the year. Topic will be defense technology and the issues and challenges facing the U.S. with regard to the 21st century battlefield. Supper Club events are open to everyone.

Enjoy a family-style dinner, watch a brief presentation, and discuss a different topic one Monday each month. Articles produced by the Foreign Policy Association and Great Decisions will be available prior to the discussion, and, when possible, an informed guest will join the discussion.

\$10 includes dinner. **RSVP** 493-0270, ext. 10; [rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com)



### By the Numbers

# 350

**Number of potato latkes consumed within the first hour of Chai Nite--and it's not even Chanukah!**

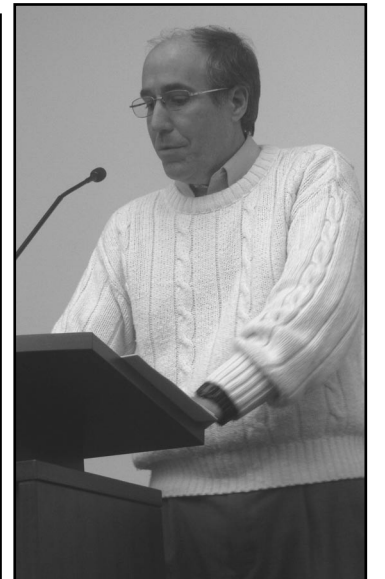
# FEDERATION PROGRAMS

## Jewish Federation Annual Meeting

Jan. 8, Jewish Cultural Center



Thank you to outgoing Board Chair Andy Hodes, address by incoming Board Chair Warren Dropkin, keynote speech by Stephen Lebovitz, induction of members into the Chattanooga Regional Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, Volunteers of the Year announcement.



# FEDERATION SOCIAL SERVICES



-Senior Programming  
 -Intergenerational Programming  
 -Family Support  
 -Community Partnering  
 -Friendly Visits  
 -Excursions  
 -Advocacy  
 by Amy Boulware  
 Social Services Director  
 aboulware@jewishchattanooga.com

## Keys to the Kingdom

Two weeks ago I went on an adventure. It was actually the culmination of an adventure that started 18 years ago with the birth of our daughter Hannah. Hannah has always loved everything Disney. Early on it was Winnie the Pooh, and so she had Pooh bear images on everything from her pacifier to her sandals.

Rather quickly, however, her passion for Pooh changed to a passion for all things princess. She loved the dresses and crowns, but most of all she loved the idea that she could *be* a princess. She spent many an afternoon pretending to be Cinderella or Ariel. So it wasn't much of a surprise when, a month ago, Hannah asked to go to Disney World. Not to see the princesses, but to audition to BE one. True to her nature, she had researched the idea completely. She knew what the physical requirements were, what she needed to do to prepare, and when try-outs were.

Of course, there were a bunch of reasons for me to say no. If she got the part, where would she live for the summer? The hot summer heat might not be good for her, having suffered a head injury not so long ago. What if she had a seizure? Or what if she didn't get the part and her dreams were dashed? The list could go on, and Hannah knew it.

Which is why, when I said she could go, her eyes lit up. How could I interfere with her chance to live out a childhood dream? Off to Orlando we went.

We arrived 30 minutes early on audition day. While she waited her turn, Hannah scoped out the competition. There were over 300 girls auditioning to be princesses, and almost all of them looked like princesses—or at least Disney princesses: bright eyes, big smiles, tall, thin, and young. Hannah, too, fit the bill. (On a side note, there was also one woman my age trying out to be Tinkerbell, but that is another article entirely!)

Hannah made it through five call-backs, but in the end, she was dismissed. She didn't get to tell them about herself, or perform, or do improv. She just got looked at, measured, asked to smile and then told no.

I asked Hannah about the two girls from her group who were moved on to the next round.

"They were nothing special," she said.

Which, I realized, was exactly why Hannah wasn't chosen. They were looking for girls who could put on a wig and make-up and look just like the girl standing next to her.

For Hannah, the magic of the Disney princess was lost. But in an effort to fulfill her childhood dream, she found that it wasn't Disney's ideal she wanted to live up to, but her own. Hannah said they were looking for vanilla ice cream and she is rocky road. What the casting agents didn't get to see about Hannah is that she is kind like Snow White, clever like Rapunzel, smart like Belle, and persistent like Ariel. Hannah is the epitome of everything good a princess can be—Disney just didn't look deep enough. I have learned from Hannah that embracing uniqueness is one of the keys to a happily ever after.



## NURSE'S NOTES

by Edie Redish  
 Community Nurse  
 nurse@jewishchattanooga.com

### Chicken Soup: It's Good For What Ails

Bubbe was right after all.

Chicken soup is not just good for the soul, it is good for a cold. Some doctors believe that the soup's benefits are mainly psychological, and that the body tricks itself into feeling better. Others say the steaming hot soup clears congestion and provides the body with the necessary hydration to flush out viral bugs.

Iwin Ziment, M.D., chief of Medicine at UCLA Medical Center in Silmar, California, states that chicken soup contains drug-like agents similar to those in modern cold medicine. For example, an amino acid released from chicken during cooking chemically resembles the drug acetylcystein, prescribed for bronchitis and other respiratory problems.

Some studies seem to suggest chicken soup has healing properties while others say any hot soup or liquid can produce the same results.

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

Purchase matzo ball soup or chili for just \$4 for a one-bowl container or \$8 for a two-bowl size.

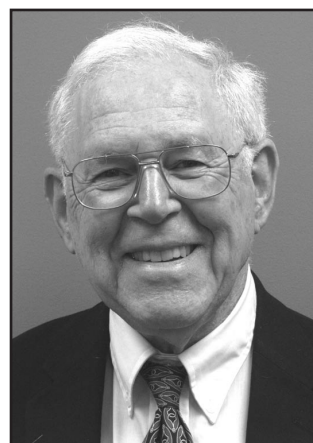
Call ahead to reserve; we *do* run out. Contact Ann Treadwell (do *not* call the kitchen directly), 493-0270, ext. 13; atreadwell@jewishchattanooga.com to get your order packaged and ready to go!



Doctors do seem to agree that the hot savory broth helps open nasal passages and soothe the throat for a period of up to an hour. Sipping soup through a straw does not produce the same benefits as consuming the hot soup with a spoon. Vapor and aroma are important factors.

Clear soups also provide necessary substance and hydration while helping to stimulate the appetite. The additional active ingredients of celery, onions, carrots, and parsley are also nutritionally beneficial to an out-of-order body.

In the Jewish community, where food is a valued part of our culture, people may cook for members of the family and friends who are feeling ill. Chicken soup is the common choice among Jews and gentiles alike, because it's wholesome and easy to consume. And because, for many of us, memories of home, of our moms and grandmoms filling the home with the aroma of soup, speeds recovery. We all know that love is good medicine too—so make a soup with love on these chilly days. See? Bubbe did know best.



- *New to the area?*
- *Recently turned 65?*
- *Turning 65 in the near future?*
- *Receiving veteran's benefits?*

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# ALEPH BET CHILDREN'S CENTER



by Vicki Cathcart  
 Aleph Bet Children's Center Director/  
 PJ Library Coordinator  
[alephbet@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:alephbet@jewishchattanooga.com)



Referral discount and spaces available!

Aleph Bet has space available in our 3 year-old (turning 4) and pre-K classrooms. Refer a new family whose child starts at Aleph Bet before March 1, and you will receive a \$50 gift card or \$100 tuition credit if they enroll part-time, and a \$75 gift card or \$200 tuition credit if they enroll full-time. (Note: discount will be applied after the child attends for one month).



**COME LEARN  
 AND PLAY WITH US!**

## Donations to Aleph Bet (as of Jan. 23)

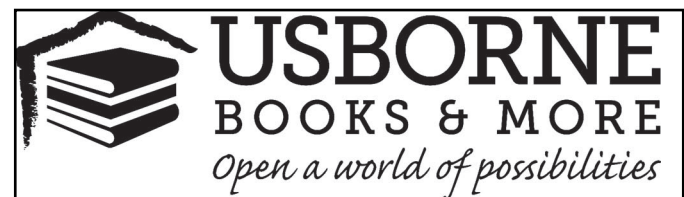
**THANK YOU  
 VERY MUCH**

Chris, Tara, Macy, and Harper Poole  
 Dr. Joe and Fran Dzik  
 Judge Don and Candy Poole  
 The Cowan Family  
 The Kaplan Family  
 Virginia and Ralph Au  
 Anonymous  
 Sandy and Ben Tabakin

mega pack paper towels and Lysol supplies, games, and books  
 cash donation  
 cash donation  
 books  
 computer, monitor, and printer  
 balls-football, soccer, and basketball  
 2 mega paper towel packs



Contact paper, construction paper packs (any colors), activity (busy) books, Aldi gift cards, wireless keyboard and mouse (3), metallic paint, cotton balls and Q-tips, stamps and ink pads, paper towels, and Lysol.



### Usborne Books & More Book Fair

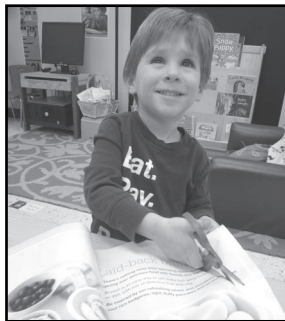
Thursday, February 13 from 3:00-7:00 p.m.  
 Friday, February 14 from 8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
 Benefitting Aleph Bet Children's Center



**Interested in sending your child to Aleph Bet?**

You are invited to an open house!  
 WHEN: Thurs., February 13 from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

*Intergenerational Lunch, Tu B'Shevat, creative movement, and everyday learning and fun (below).*



*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.*



At the Jewish Cultural Center  
 5461 North Terrace Road 37411  
 (423) 893-5486

Director: (423) 493-0270, ext. 18  
[alephbet@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:alephbet@jewishchattanooga.com)  
[www.aleph-bet.com](http://www.aleph-bet.com)

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



Register now for Camp Aleph Bet (June 9-July 30) and the 2014-2015 school year (August 5, 2014-May, 29, 2015). Visit [www.aleph-bet.com](http://www.aleph-bet.com) for registration forms. Sign up today before spaces run out!

# "CHAI" LITES 2014





# “CHAI” LITES 2014

*Thank You* To our sponsors

To our volunteers: Chair: Rachel Privett  
 Robin Balsler, Austin Center, Erin Cohen, Julie Cowan, David Fairchild,  
 Adam Gerson, Jan Hanan, Laura Israel, Beth Lowe, Jed Mescon, Erica  
 Newman, Rebecca Parker, Kevin Rose, and Fern Shire



Thank you sponsors for making this event possible!

Gold

- Chattanooga Allergy Clinic
- Monique and Jeff Gifter
- Jacobs Wholesale
- Alison and Alan Lebovitz
- Lauren and Michael Lebovitz
- Shire Plastic Surgery

Silver

Logistics Made Simple

Bronze

- Jeff Balsler
- Jane and Bob Berz
- Donna White-Dropkin and Warren Dropkin
- Rachel Privett
- Jackie and Dr. Marty Scheinberg

*Thank You*

To Our Raffle Package Contributors:

- American Laser Center, Barnsley Gardens, Black Creek Club, Brody Jewelers, Chattanooga Symphony and Opera, Creative Discovery Museum, Dr. Keith Dressler, Henderson Hutcherson & McCullough, Jesse James Hair Studio, KitchenAid, Alison Lebovitz, Molly Maids, Monen Restaurants, N2shoes, River Street Deli, Dana Shavin, Southern Star Restaurant, Daryl Thetford



Photography by David Humber

Thanks to everyone for making it a great night!

# CHATTANOOGA JEWISH CONGREGATIONAL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL



## February is Special Needs Month

by *Ronni Charyn, Director*  
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892-6175

Please take a minute to think about the pronunciation of the word “disability.” On which syllable do you place the most emphasis? It’s important to remember that “ability” is what we should focus on.

As a Jewish educator, I am responsible for making sure that all of the students, parents and faculty of the CJCRS feel warm and welcome. Over the years I have worked with a number of mainstream and special needs students, no two of whom were the same. There was, and is, beauty in diversity. There is dignity in every person that is to be respected and celebrated.

By now our community is familiar with the term “Tikun Olam,” or “Repair the World.” There are many people who are broken, fractured or lost. Inclusivity and sensitivity are part of our Jewish credo. Our rabbis remind us vigilantly, “derech erez kadmah l’Torah”: respect for humanity comes before the study of Torah.

Remember: every face is a symbol of life. We honor our Creator and ourselves by honoring others.



## Judaism and Sexuality Class

Session 1: February 2  
Session 2: February 9  
Session 3: February 23

**Sunday mornings, 9:30-noon**  
Mizpah Congregation library.

Cost: \$18.00 for congregational members, \$25.00 all others.

Contact: Barbara at bpaper@epbf or 423-553-1042.

Topic covered: Jewish sexual values, pre-marital and non-marital sex, and homosexuality.

Classes are participatory; all opinions respected.

Questions and course suggestions welcome. Registration forms will be completed prior to start of first class. To pre-register via email, contact Barbara.



## Love is in the Air

by *Adam Wassell, Education Fellow*  
*Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life*

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“Love is in the air, everywhere I look around,” was perfectly stated in John Paul Young’s 1978 song, “Love is in the Air.” Chocolates, flowers, and hearts all point to signs that February is upon us and Valentine’s Day is right around the corner. The first Valentine’s Day was a liturgical celebration of an early Christian saint named Valentinus. He was imprisoned for performing wedding ceremonies for soldiers who were forbidden to marry under the rule of the Roman Empire. It is said that while in prison he healed the daughter of his jailer, Asterius, and just before his execution wrote her a letter stating his farewell. He signed it “from your Valentine.” The holiday went on to be associated with love during the Middle Ages, when the notion of courtly love became overwhelmingly popular. Valentine’s Day began to take its current form in England during the 18<sup>th</sup> Century.

Although Valentine’s Day is not celebrated in Judaism, many American Jews have adopted the celebration as a way to honor their loved ones. In Jewish tradition, however, Tu B’Av (although not celebrated in February) rivals the Valentine’s Day celebration. Tu B’av, according to the Talmud, was first celebrated in the days of the Temple in Jerusalem and marked the beginning of the grape harvest, which lasted until Yom Kippur. On both dates, the unmarried girls of Jerusalem dressed in white garments, which they borrowed, and went out to dance in the vineyards. The Talmud states that no other holy day is as happy for the Jewish people as Tu B’Av and Yom Kippur.

Tradition says Tu B’Av is an informal “high” to counteract the three weeks leading to Tisha B’Av - the anniversary of the destruction of the first and second Temple. While Tu B’Av does not have many established religious rituals associated with its celebration, it has become a Jewish Valentine’s Day and a popular day for wedding ceremonies, engagements, and renewal of vows.

Although our calendar gives us a designated time frame within which to celebrate the connection with our loved ones, it’s important to demonstrate these feelings on a daily basis. Holidays put a point of emphasis around these relationships, but you’ll find it more rewarding if you celebrate companionship often. John Paul Young simply stated, “Love is in the air, everywhere I look around.” He did not specify the time of year or the holiday.



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