



the
Shofar

December 2020

A publication of the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga



Michael Dzik
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893-5443

Collaboration and Continued Generosity

How can it be December? 2020 has both flown and crept by at the same time. As the song goes in one of my favorite Broadway musicals, *Something Rotten*, “When life gives you eggs, make an omelet.”

from the executive director

I am so proud of the Federation volunteers and staff for all they have done during the pandemic. Our programming and outreach remains dynamic and diverse. Our Social Services department has worked overtime to ensure the health of everyone in our community, both physically and mentally. Our preschool has added new safety measures to ensure our youngest community members are healthy and well at school. I know we are all optimistic about a vaccine that will (hopefully) be available in the next several months. Meanwhile, the Federation will make sure the show goes on.

While the show goes on, please know that we at the Federation never take you for granted. We understand the struggles you are facing. Many have lost jobs; others have lost loved ones. Each of us is suffering from various forms of loneliness. And when I see so many of you at a drive-thru or a Zoom event, the smiles are as wide as can be. There’s a real sense of gratitude that we are together as a Jewish community. If I have learned anything from these past many months, I know not to take anyone or any moment for granted. And as I’ve slowly recovered from foot surgery, I also am beyond grateful for my health and ability.

The generosity of this community continues to amaze me daily. You have stepped forward to continue your annual gifts, to make new gifts, and to increase your gifts. Sure, some have needed to cut back as well. Yet I am overwhelmed by the response to this year’s campaign. In the middle of uncertainty, you have helped give normalcy and consistency to the Jewish community through your generous financial support.

Please continue to make your pledges during the month of December. Our 50% match program – that will match new and increased pledges – continues (see page 5). All of these matching dollars go to our Federation’s local social services. The impact of every dollar is so important—even more so now.

We will conclude 2020 with a community-wide collaborative Chanukah program on December 10th

(see page 10). I am incredibly thankful for rabbis Perlstein, Lewis and Norry, who are coming together for a drive-thru and Zoom candlelighting event and regional music concert. Hadassah will continue its community support with the Chanukah Drive-thru by collecting food and toiletry items for local organizations. Although there is no cost for this event, RSVP in advance is required. We want to make sure everyone gets their Chanukah Celebration Box!

In a time when we are beset by difficulties and challenges, this Jewish community has chosen to look at the good, take action, and turn our eggs into omelets. I could not be more proud. Wishing everyone a Chanukah filled with happiness, health and much light!



Connection is Key

Mike Spector, Board Chair
mspector@kleenamatic.com

The Federation has always been the central Jewish agency in Chattanooga. We enhance Jewish opportunities for all ages - from our Aleph Bet preschool to our social services. Through programming, we offer great engagement and volunteer opportunities. Most people make connections by attending events and make life-long friendships in the process. Your Federation is all about building community.

One of the Federation's primary goals is to engage all Jews in our community. The Federation works hard to

from the board chair

provide diverse and interesting programs and to make all Jews feel welcome and comfortable. For example, we

make sure that all of the food prepared, served and delivered throughout the Jewish community is kosher, even though some may not observe *kashrut*.

Recently I was part of a leadership Zoom meeting with our community rabbis, presidents and congregational leaders and volunteers. We were discussing ways that we can continue working together to support the wants and needs of our community. One of the discussions was about how we can and should be doing more things together. We renewed our commitment to giving as many opportunities as possible where all of our community can join together, meet each other, and truly have the feel of community.

In a Jewish community the size of ours, it is so important that we get to know each other, understand each other, and hopefully become friends with each other. It's important that our children know the other children in the community. Sure, there are times when we should have our own, distinct events independently (like prayer services for example). But this community has so much to gain by engaging with one other. *(Continued on page 8)*



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

This is Your Mission: Engage

During the crazy week of the elections, I discovered the Star Trek Voyager series on Netflix. I needed a fantasy trip into the unknown, and I'd never seen this before. Apparently, I wasn't anywhere near a television from 1995-2001 when the series was seen by tens of million people.

It's a story of the 24th century new Federation star ship USS Voyager, which is taking off for a Deep-Space mission to the Badlands. Voyager is thrust into worlds far away from what it had known, and establishes a new normal while building a different sense of community.

There are several interesting things to me about this series. One is that the spaceship--the main structural body--is called the Federation. Another is that the captain of the star ship is female, the first of her kind. She often encounters challenges to her leadership, displays concern for her crew, and tackles the moral quandaries of moving forward into the unknown. In their own way, all of these concepts are in play for us right here and now, locally and nationally.

I am not a huge fan of sci-fi, but I am intrigued by how the writers of the series make the Federation crew interact with people unlike themselves. The series reminds us that the Federation's prime directive is to prohibit its crew from interfering with the internal and natural development of the community, especially when it comes to technology, religion and government.

This gets me thinking about how and what our Federation does and does not program. Take religion, for example. All religious services and rituals are provided by the congregations, not the Federation. Religious celebrations, cultural activities, programs that present the diversity of the Jewish experience--these events are where Federation programming comes in. Sometimes it's hard not to interfere with the internal and natural development within the Jewish community. This is where a dialogue between us becomes crucial, to flesh out ideas and visions for the future.

As for what's happening in the government, the Federation is only a platform for education. The Foreign Policy Supper Club discussions sometimes leans left. The

recent Domestic Policy discussions have leaned right. Past programs have focused on the "all politics are local" concept by inviting speakers from the left, the right, and those who are independent, to discuss issues. Our Federation does not support any one political point of view or vision.

And as for technology, this year has taught all of us that we now live in a different age. Star Trek communicators and tri-coders are not much different than the smart phones we carry with us everywhere. And although we can't yet beam up, we can virtually see each other over laptops. But the film series has taught us that there are people being left behind. There are people in our community without Internet access, the inability to communicate by smart phone, or use WIFI, and they therefore are unable to engage with others during the time of a pandemic. Their isolation is real. It now becomes the role of Federation programming to engage all of us regardless of the access.

To this end, let's take our version of the star ship Voyager and venture into the unknown. Learning together. Communicating in a variety of ways. But most importantly, consciously working to build a sense of community going forward. Follow the light! Join the community on December 10th when, both without and with technology, we will celebrate the first night of Chanukah. Register to drive through the Federation and pick-up a box of Chanukah goodies. Then, light candles together, maybe on Zoom from your home, maybe social distancing in a park with friends, but together. As the Captain says: Engage.

Chattanooga Jewish

DOCS

Documentary Film Series

The principle purpose of a documentary film is to inform and educate its audience exclusively about historical figures, facts and real life events. Documentaries deal in truth, not fiction...Stephen Black, Doc Series Chair

January 19 - February 11

Subscription for four films - \$36 or \$12 per film

Film details forthcoming, www.jewishchattanooga.com

All films will screen virtually for 48 hours beginning at noon the day listed (Tuesdays) and ending at noon 48 hours later (Thursday). Scheduled discussions about the film will take place virtually at 7PM on the Thursday of that film's screening. Virtual screenings must be pre-paid in advance at www.jewishchattanooga.com; you will receive the login code once payment has been received.

social services



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

8 Ways to say NO to Chanukah Blues

Stick with routine Stick to a healthy routine as much as possible. The body has its own rhythm that needs to be maintained. Sleeping in once or twice is okay of course, but continuously over-sleeping in will lead to increased stress, depression, and overall yuckiness.

Break with a capital B Avoid work-related obligations as much as possible; if you're taking a break, really take a break. Don't half break/half work lest you end up miserable.

Unplug Try going cell-phone, laptop, or tablet free for a specific duration. Maybe for the first half hours the candles are lit, a particularly auspicious time. When we are free from the distraction of our phones, a world of curiosity and possibilities opens up.

Keep moving Stick to a fitness routine; the extra food and less movement over the holidays can catch up to us emotionally and having a fitness routine built in is one way of combating this. Exercise also reduces anxiety and stress by increasing the production of feel good hormones circulating our bodies.

Stay with therapy & meds If you are in therapy or taking medication make sure you have your medication and discuss potential issues with your therapist ahead of time.

Take advantage of remote sessions if necessary
Food & mood Watch what you eat; stay mindful of food choices & portion sizes. This is not about being calorie conscious, this is about how foods affect us in different ways. It is important to realize the effect food has on our energy levels (salt, sugar, caffeine, alcohol etc.), especially the fried foods we are accustomed to on Chanukah. If you find yourself sensitive to the food and mood correlation, try cutting portions in half, and have fun experimenting with healthy food swaps like baked latkes or donuts!

Excuse yourself, yes you can! Know how to remove yourself politely. If people are discussing something you find stressful or hurtful it's okay to walk away and take some time for yourself.

Designate a safety pal Try to have a 'safety person'; someone you can utilize if you find yourself overwhelmed. This is a person you can check-in with to remind you to breathe and take a time-out. This can be your therapist, friend, parent, sibling, or get creative.

Article by Yehuda (Hudi) Kowalsky and is reprinted from OKclarity.com.

If you think you might have COVID, there are many places in Chattanooga offering free testing. Call the Health Department at (423) 209-8000 or follow this link [http://health.hamiltontn.org/AllServices/Coronavirus\(COVID-19\)/HealthDepartmentAffiliatedFREETestingSite-sinHamiltonCounty.aspx](http://health.hamiltontn.org/AllServices/Coronavirus(COVID-19)/HealthDepartmentAffiliatedFREETestingSite-sinHamiltonCounty.aspx).



Brenda McColpin, RN, MSW

(423) 322-8641
Hours: Monday/Tues/Thursday

In Life, We're a Team

Although we have made progress in our understanding and treatment of COVID-19, we have much more to

learn. We are seeing mutations of the virus, and we're as yet unable to fully predict the course of the virus or to develop a credible pattern of symptoms. We can't determine, with any accuracy, who will fare well and who will not. We are also hearing about potential long-term adverse effects of COVID-19 that can involve neurological or other physical changes that appear after the virus has seemingly run its course, as well as re-infections.

COVID-19 seems to be "a horse of a different color." To best address the virus, we need to be able to consistently utilize rapid testing with immediate results. We also need studies that offer the opportunity to learn

everything we possibly can about the virus. We desperately need to find a way to totally eradicate it. However, it takes time and testing to establish treatments that are fully reliable and to develop a vaccine that has been fully tested and proven effective.

There is some good news. In some instances, convalescent plasma has shown signs of being a successful treatment. It appears that a vaccine may be available in 2021, though distribution will likely be uneven at first.

In the meantime, we need to find ways to allay fears and to protect one another wherever and whenever possible from contracting the virus. We are better when we work together to take care of one another. It is crucial to show love, care, and support for one another, especially now, when life seems like a football game. There are days we may score touchdowns or maybe field goals, others we may gain a few yards; however, there are days we feel pushed back or like we have fumbled the ball or the ball has been stolen and we've lost control.

We need to remind ourselves we are a team. When we address difficult times, adversity, or hardship, and celebrate wins as a united front, we can become an impenetrable force.

**Join us for Tuesday Cafe via ZOOM
December 1, 8, 15**

Fix your lunch, sit down in front of your computer, laptop, or phone, and let's chat!
Meeting number: 747 223 9161
Password: 940790



Purchase matzo ball soup or chili for just \$5 for a one-bowl container. **Call ahead to reserve; we do run out.**

Contact Jake Balsler at 493-0270, or federation@jewishchattanooga.com to get your order packaged and ready to go! Do not call the kitchen.

NEED A RIDE?

The Federation will continue to provide rides to doctor appointments and the grocery store though we encourage you to utilize grocery store and pharmacy delivery services. Some offer these for free but we can cover the cost of delivery if you need help.

Our van drivers practice strict cleaning procedures before and after each client.

Contact them directly for rides.

*Monday-Wednesday: Eddie or Joel
Tuesday- Jason and Eddie (Jason is primary contact for Tuesday)
Thursday- Eddie and Jason (Eddie is primary contact for Thursday)*

Eddie Reel (423) 298-7169
Joel Scribner (423) 321-4236
Jason Shuman (423) 320-1480



**Mitzvah Meals
Delivered or picked-up 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

We are delivering meals on Thursdays.

- All Mitzvah Meal recipients must be pre-approved by Christi Haustein, Director of Social Services.
- Menus are set by the Kitchen Supervisor and Director of Social Services.

Contact:
federation@jewishchattanooga.com
or Christi Haustein
chaustein@jewishchattanooga.com
(423) 893-9241

Your campaign gift helps support Mitzvah Meals and Social Services, which makes make meal delivery and transportation available to our community.

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

Marital and Family Therapy
Individual and Group Counseling
Help with Trauma and Divorce
Learning Disability and ADHD Testing
Custody Evaluations

Neuropsychological Evaluations
drhillner@gmail.com Office (423) 855-4091
www.relationshipTherapy.com Fax(423) 855-8928

Shlichim Program



Inbal Lev
Federation shlicha
(423) 385-0098
israel@jewishchataanooga.com

I was born and raised in a small settlement in the north part of Israel called Alon HaGalil. It is an agricultural community settlement that is surrounded by three different

Bedouin villages.

In a culturally and traditionally aspect, the Arab population in Israel is divided into four main groups – Muslims, Druze, Christians and Self-identification. The Muslim population is divided into two smaller groups – the Bedouin (nomadic) and the traditionally settled communities.

The Bedouin villages are unique phenomenon in northern Israel. For many of them the period of nomadism is very different from the past. In my area, the Bedouin tents have almost completely disappeared. In new Bedouin villages the house is designed according to the special character of the Bedouin family. Each group of houses belongs to families from a different tribe and in the center, there are all the other services needed for the village.

Until these days, the Arab population is trying to keep their traditional and cultural identity as much as they can by almost not having intermarriages at all.

Since the beginning of Jewish settlements in early 1920s, the Bedouin villages started to grow around them. One of the most special things about the Bedouin society in Israel is the fact that they are involved in the Jewish-Israeli society, especially because a high percentage of their population serves in the IDF, unlike other Israeli-Arabs groups.

The connection between the community in Alon HaGalil to the Bedouin villages around us is daily – many of the people who work in Alon HaGalil are from the villages around, and on the other hand, we use their services (barber shops, garage, grocery stores etc.).

In high school, I got to know Maayan Mazarib. She was a student in my school. Her mother was born and raised at a Kibbutz nearby, and her father is Bedouin who was born and raised in one of the Bedouin villages around us – Zarzir. He served in the IDF for many years and fell in love with Maayan's mother, despite all the obstacles they had.

In my senior year, I studied communications and I needed to do a graduation documentary film with two of my friends. We decided we wanted to interview Maayan and her family and tell their unique story. At first, she didn't want to expose herself that way, to open her house

and her heart to us and the camera, but after a while we were lucky – and she agreed.

Making this film taught me a lot. Not just about the process of making a documentary film, it taught me more about our society, about the human and social complications that were (and still are) in my area and about intermarriage.

I invite you all to the US premier of the short film "El Yehudia" (The Jewish Girl), on December 15th at 6PM.



At Haifa Film Festival, October 2016. We won the first place in the Youth Film competition. Left to right: One of the teachers; director of the film; film photographer; Inbal; Maayan, the subject of the film; and another teacher. See invitation, below.

INBAL'S GRADUATION MOVIE

EL YEHUDIA

THE JEWISH GIRL

U.S. PREMIER

AND CONVERSATION AFTERWARDS

TUESDAY | DECEMBER 15TH | 6PM

MEETING ID: 747 223 9161
PASSCODE: 940790

1ST PLACE AT THE 12TH YOUNG FILM COMPETITION
OF HAIFA FILM FESTIVAL, 2016

Campaign total as of November 18
\$842,191

Number of gifts: 321

If you have not yet pledged, it's easy to do so!
Simply contact Jewish
Federation Executive Director Michael Dzik at
(423) 493-0270 or email him at
mdzik@jewishchattanooga.com

Matching Funds for Local Social Services Departments

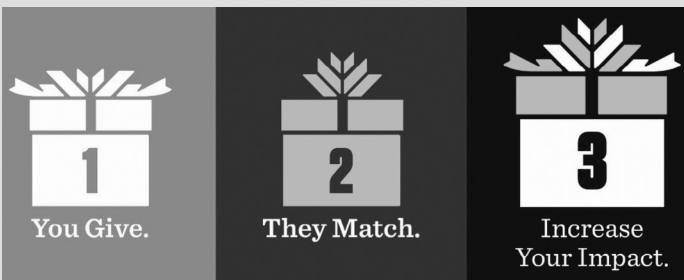
Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA), our parent organization, has announced an \$18 million matching fund for social service needs. This special fund is to help with the increase and ongoing community needs due to COVID-19. Chattanooga is eligible for up to a \$25,000 that would go directly to our social services department. The match is 1:2 – so every \$2 in new money will be matched with an additional \$1 from the matching fund. Payment does not need to happen now – just new and increased pledges. Here's how we can tap into these funds:

--Any new and first time campaign pledges received September 1st through December 31st will be fully matched 1:2 (50%)

--For any increased pledges received September 1st through December 31st, the increase amount will be matched 1:2 (50%)

Have you already made your 2021 campaign pledge? Please consider a modest increase now to help us unlock these matching dollars. Reach out to Michael Dzik to let him know: mdzik@jewishchattanooga.com.

Over the past six months the Federation has ramped up numerous social services including transportation, grocery shopping, check-ins, medication deliveries, and meals. Your extra dollars will help us continue these increased services during these challenging times. One hundred percent of these funds will go to our local social service needs!



Mazel Tov

Mazel tov to Randi and Jeff Weiss family on the birth of grandson Carson Timothy Weiss, born November 6th.

Condolences

We are sad to announce the passing of:

--**Helen Center**, on October 26. She is survived by daughters, Alyson (Tom) Zonitch Fran (Steven) Moss, and Marla (Doug) Krohn as well as several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

--**Kenny Green**, father of Erica (Brandon) Newman and grandfather to Henry and Lydia, on November 15th, in Boston.

--**Carol Beilenson Katz**, on November 6. She is survived by her husband, Benjamin Katz; daughter, Allison Katz-Edler; son, Bradley (Tracey Conrad-Katz) Katz and sister Barbara Oxenhandler, as well as several grandsons.

--**Robert Bruce Richelson** on October 24th. He is survived by his wife Jeanna.

--**Howard Rose**, on October 27th. He is survived by wife Glynne, mother Shirley Rose, and two daughters.

--**Anna K. Schultz** on October 25th. She is survived by daughter Sylvia Albert (Bubba) and son Barry Schultz (Cindi), and several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

--**Robert Hyam Shapiro**, on November 7th. He is survived by his wife Carol, his children Alyse (Paul) Bettinger and Sande (Barry) Schulman, and several grandchildren.

--**Tillie Tenenbaum**, on November 9th. She is survived by her husband Albert Tenenbaum, children Charlotte (Joel) Marks, Lenore (Scott) Kaye and Toby (David) Fagin and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

--**Carol Young**, wife of Larry Young, mother of Evan and Traci, and grandmother of Elijah Young, on November 13th.



Like *The Shofar* in print?
You'll love it online!
You can also use the
website to order pies,
RSVP for Drive-Thru
events, and to make your
campaign contribution.
Go to <http://www.jewish-chattanooga.com>.



The Jew Crew: Keeping It Real...Even Virtually

Between the consistent challenges of COVID and post-election anxieties, the November Jew Crew program couldn't have come at a better time for us all to do a much-needed check in.

We started our ZOOM Crew with a confidential conversation to see how everyone was doing and feeling, and kicked it off with a quote from the Notorious RBG who said, "We can disagree without being disagreeable."

Since what happens in Jew Crew, stays in Jew Crew, we are not at liberty to divulge the specifics of this dialogue, but let's just say it was done with a level of honesty, respect and integrity that even Ruth would admire.

We then transitioned from the serious to the seriously fun with a virtual game of Scattegories - one of the best board games that's actually just as engaging and entertaining via Zoom! In fact, it was so engaging we only had time to get through a single round, but could still declare freshman David deOlloqui the reigning Virtual Scattegories champion! (His win was unanimously certified by the group and his acceptance speech was truly inspiring.)

Overall, we had an awesome time together - even while physically apart - and we look forward to our December program where Chef Andy Hodes has been challenged to somehow pull off his traditional gourmet latke-making in a safe and socially distanced fashion. Can he do it? Stay tuned.... *With love,*

Alison, Andy and Inbal



ONE2ONE ENGLISH



Are you an experienced educator?
Do you miss teaching young people?

We invite you to register for a new program matching American educators with Israeli middle school students for one-on-one English tutoring once a week.

Sundays in January - February 2021

9AM - 11AM EDT
8AM - 10AM CDT



הסוכנות היהודית
JEWISH AGENCY
FOR ISRAEL ישראל

Every one of us, together.

www.facebook.com/P2GHaderaEironSE

[p2g_hadera_eiron](https://www.instagram.com/p2g_hadera_eiron)



PARTNERSHIP
BETWEEN
HALUTZIM - EIRON
בין חלוצים ועירון

Spector, continued from page 2

Later this month, on December 10th, the first night of Chanukah, all of our congregations and organizations will be coming together for a Chanukah drive-thru followed by a community-wide candle lighting and music concert. Mizpah, B'nai Zion, Chabad, Hadassah and Federation are all working together to unite our community. Even socially distanced we can participate as a community and enjoy Chanukah treats and light our menorahs together. See page 10 for details.

Moving forward, the Federation will be engaging all three of our rabbis for community-wide programming to bring us together for shared learning, engagement and fun. Down the road, I'm sure we will all develop many new friends in our community. Connecting the Jewish community with each other is just one of the many special and important things the Federation does. Have a very happy Chanukah.





*Meghan
Graybeal
alephbet@
jewish
chattanooga.
com
(423) 893-5486*

NOW ENROLLING
AGES 2-PREK FOR 2020-2021



Schedule your tour today!

Call: 423.893.5486

Email: alephbet@jewishchattanooga.com

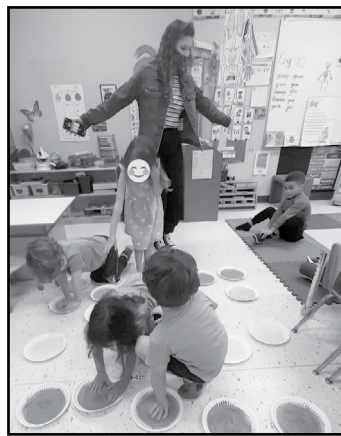
Online: aleph-bet.com

We so appreciate the support of our loving community! Thanks to your generosity before and during the Shabbat drive-thru on November 13th, Aleph Bet is much closer to reaching our annual fundraising goal. We did miss our standard stage show, but were so happy for this opportunity for so many to participate and for our family circle to broaden.

As we move through December and look to the next year, our Aleph Bet family sends warm wishes to all of you. Here's to a winter spent snuggled up with our nearest and dearest!



AB student Rosey (left) enjoying Shabbat Drive-through dinner with her family.



Inbal and the Blue Room play twister in Hebrew



Shabbat blessings



First Night of Chanukah

Thursday, December 10

Drive-Thru the JCC 2-5:00 p.m.

Drive-thru to pick up your celebration box containing latkes, donuts, gelt, and first night candles.

There is no cost but **you must**
rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com or call 493-0270
 by December 7.

While at the JCC drop-off your contributions to
Hadassah's annual non-perishable food & unopened toiletry collection.

ZOOM Candle Lighting 7:30 p.m.

Zoom for the community candle lighting and blessings.
 Stay and chat with friends.

ZOOM Meeting ID: 747 223 9161 Passcode: 940790

First Night brought to you in collaboration with:



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA



HADASSAH
the power of women who DO



The evening concludes with this Federation sponsored concert

Julie Silver 8:00 p.m.

Singing in both Hebrew and English, she performs original and traditional Jewish folk songs. A separate Zoom link will be sent after you RSVP.



May Chanukah
bring you peace

Claire Binder and
Family

Wishing you joy this
Chanukah

Elaine and Sanford
Winer

Wishing you joy this
Chanukah

Leta, Bob, Nicole,
Miriam and Samuel
Quinn Berger

May Chanukah
bring you peace

Sam and Dana
Banks

Greetings from the Sachsman Family



Happy
Chanukah from
baby Gabriel
and the entire
Pregulman
Family.

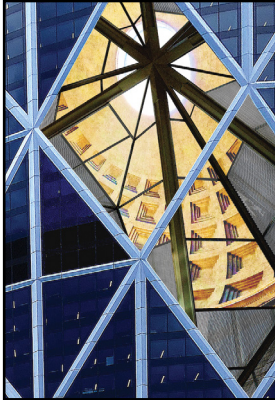
May your
celebration be
joyful.

Happy
Chanukah
from the
entire
Federation
staff and
Aleph Bet
and team!



Spotlight on Jewish Community Artists

We thought it would be fun to spotlight our Jewish community artists right in time for Chanukah gift-buying season. See below for artist medium, images, and contact information.



Howard Kaplan's medium is photography with an emphasis on exploring abstract and semi-abstract images. Many of his images use architectural elements as the basis for more complex and layered pictures. Prices range from \$85-\$110 and up. Contact: abby275@outlook.com for information or to purchase.



Susan Matzkin designs and creates traditional quilts with a modern spin, t-shirt quilts, and memory bears. Her work is heartfelt and can be personalized. She takes limited orders on commission. Prices vary based on project. Facebook: mangomoon-crafts@gmail.com or text (423) 315-0939.



Glyn and Will Melnyk are textile artists who produce handwoven prayer shawls, scarves, and table linens in their home studio in Chattanooga. They primarily work directly with clients to weave custom pieces. Etsy shop: <https://www.etsy.com/shop/EphodsPomegranates>, Prices range from \$45 to \$450. Contact: mail@eandphw@gmail.com.



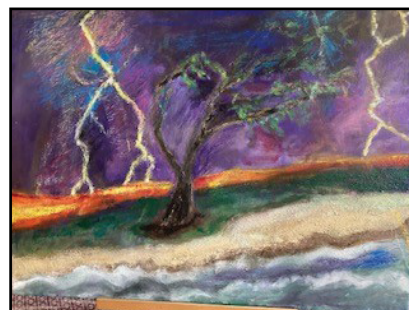
Mark Issenberg makes high fire functional stoneware pottery including bowls, vases, and planters. See his work at Lookout Mountain Pottery or contact ashpots@aol.com or follow him on Facebook.



Jennifer Lewis creates works using a 15th century art technique called "quilling:" rolling strips of paper to create small circles. She then creates an abstract image from the individual rolls. Contact: (513) 518-5908 or jenlewis111@gmail.com.



Austin Center creates 2- and 3-D works in ceramics, painting, and drawing. Everything has a hint of landscape or a portrait related to the world. Contact austincenterstudio.com or Gallery 1401 on Main Street.



Roslyn Steinberg's paintings are inspired by emotions and her surroundings. She can be reached at Roslynsteinberg@aol.com.



Two Words of Advice for the Concerned Buyer or Seller:

When you buy or sell real estate, and you want assurance that your investment is protected, heed these two words of advice: **Andy Hodes**

With his in-depth knowledge of the local market, Andy is more than a real estate agent. He is a real estate **counselor**, a caring **professional** who helps you make the **right** decisions.

Call Andy today for a free, no-obligation consultation!



D: 423-664-1818
O: 423-664-1600
Andy@AndyHodes.com
www.AndyHodes.com

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Each Office Is Independently Owned and Operated

Tax Breaks for Charitable Donations

We want to make you aware of one very important aspect of the CARES Program: a tax deduction on charitable giving. And yes, this applies to you!



Here's how it works:

According to the CARES Program, up to \$300 of your donation may be tax deductible, even if you don't usually itemize. The new charitable deduction allows most Americans to deduct donations to charities from their taxes when filing for 2020.

- This applies to your donations to the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga. When you give at least \$300 towards lasting change in your community, you get a tax break at the same time.

The time to act on this is now - this opportunity ends on December 31, 2020.

TRIBUTES

In Memory of Robert Shapiro
Robin Balsler

In Memory of Kenny Green
Dr. Jim and Fern Shire

In Memory of Carol Young
Tom and Trudy Trivers

In Honor of Randi and Jeff Weiss's Grandson
Dr. Jim and Fern Shire

A tribute is a great way to honor the memory of someone who has passed, recognize someone who is making a difference in the community, or to mark a milestone. Cost is just \$18 and the money goes to support Federation programming. Call Jake Balsler at (423) 493-0270.

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Did You Know:

Origins of Potato Latkes and the Dreidel



Of course we associate potato latkes with Hanukkah, but in reality latkes descended from Italian pancakes that were made with ricotta cheese. The first connection between Hanukkah and

pancakes was made by a rabbi in Italy named Rabbi Kalonymus ben Kalonymus (c. 1286-1328).

According to *The Encyclopedia of Jewish Food* by Gil Marks, the rabbi "included pancakes in a list of dishes to serve at an idealized Purim feast, as well as a poem about Hanukkah. After the Spanish expelled the Jews from Sicily in 1492, the exiles introduced their ricotta cheese pancakes, which were called *cassola* in Rome, to the Jews of northern Italy. Consequently, cheese pancakes, because they combined the two traditional types of foods—fried and dairy—became a natural Hanukkah dish."

Potato latkes are a more recent Ashkenazi invention that gained popularity in Eastern Europe during the mid 1800s. A series of crop failures in Poland and the Ukraine led to mass planting of potatoes, which were easy and cheap to grow. But before potatoes came on the scene, the latke of choice was cheese. *Reprinted from pbs.org/thehistorykitchen.*



The dreidel or sevivon is perhaps the most famous custom associated with Hanukkah. Indeed, various rabbis have tried to find an integral connection between the

dreidel and the Hanukkah story; the standard explanation is that the letters *nun, gimmel, hey, shin*, which appear on the dreidel in the Diaspora, stand for *nes gadol haya sham*—"a great miracle happened there," while in Israel the dreidel says *nun, gimmel, hey, pey*, which means "a great miracle happened here."

One 19th-century rabbi maintained that Jews played with the dreidel in order to fool the Greeks if they were caught studying Torah, which had been outlawed. Others figured out elaborate *gematriot* [numerological explanations based on the fact that every Hebrew letter has a numerical equivalent] and word plays for the letters *nun, gimmel, hey, shin*. For example, *nun, gimmel, hey, shin* in gematria equals 358, which is also the numerical equivalent of *mashiach* or Messiah. *By Rabbi David Golinkin, Reprinted from My Jewish*

Jonathan Sacks, the U.K.'s Inclusive Former Chief Rabbi, Dies at 72



Jonathan Sacks, the former chief rabbi of the United Kingdom who emerged as an important and widely heard voice on the role of religion in the modern world, died on Saturday in London. He was 72.

The cause was cancer, according to Dan Sacker, a spokesman. While his religious home was Orthodox Judaism, Rabbi Sacks was one of the

most inclusive voices within Judaism. His universalism sometimes got him in hot water with more fundamentalist elements of the Jewish community. When he was chief rabbi, Rabbi Sacks published "The Dignity of Difference: How to Avoid the Clash of Civilizations" (2002), a book whose central message was that religious communities had parity in their attempts to find God.

"God has spoken to mankind in many languages: through Judaism to Jews, Christianity to Christians, Islam to Muslims," he wrote. "No one creed has a monopoly on spiritual truth; no one civilization encompasses all the spiritual, ethical and artistic expressions of mankind." He added: "God is greater than religion. He is only partially comprehended by any faith."

Some in the Orthodox community accused him of heresy. Judaism, they said, is the ultimate truth. Rabbi Sacks later walked back some of his statements, subtly revising them in a later edition. Sacks served as the chief rabbi from 1991 to 2013. His official title was Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth, a title that made him the head of a large network of Orthodox congregations. The title has always been one of the most prominent Jewish positions in Europe, and he used that pulpit effectively, both during and after his time as chief rabbi, to speak out against anti-Semitism and in favor of the State of Israel.

Rabbi Sacks was knighted by Queen Elizabeth in 2005 and made a life peer in the House of Lords in 2009. He maintained a close relationship with former Prime Minister Tony Blair, who said in a statement that the rabbi "had the rarest of gifts — expressing complex ideas in the simplest of terms." He called him "a man of huge intellectual stature but with the warmest human spirit." *To read the full obituary go to <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/11/09/world/europe/jonathan-sacks-dead.html>*

Stay in touch through the website, community email, and our Facebook page. See inside back page of this *Shofar* for a handy list of contacts.

Jewish Camp and Israel Grants Due December 15th



The Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga (JFGC) provides grants for a recognized Jewish overnight camping experience. Its purpose is to encourage our youngsters to have an

intensive Jewish camping experience as part of their growing up, and the grant reflects the Federation's desire to increase the number of young people who will have this opportunity.

In addition, the Federation offers Israel Grants, whose purpose is to provide supplemental financial aid to high school and college students to be applied toward educational and Jewish identity-strengthening programs in Israel. Grant applications are due on December 15th. *Go to <https://www.jewishchattanooga.com> for more information and to fill out an application for camp and/or Israel grants.*

**Looking for a summer camp in 2021?
Find updates here!
<https://jewishatlanta.org/campfair/>**



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Business Card/ 1/8 page ad \$60/\$75 color
(3.375" x 2")

Prices are per insertion.

Advertising deadline is the 8th of the month before insertion month.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, please contact
Dshavin@jewishchattanooga.com



923 McCallie Avenue
 youth@mizpahcongregation.org
 traci.sloan@gmail.com.



Lily Dropkin Traci Sloan

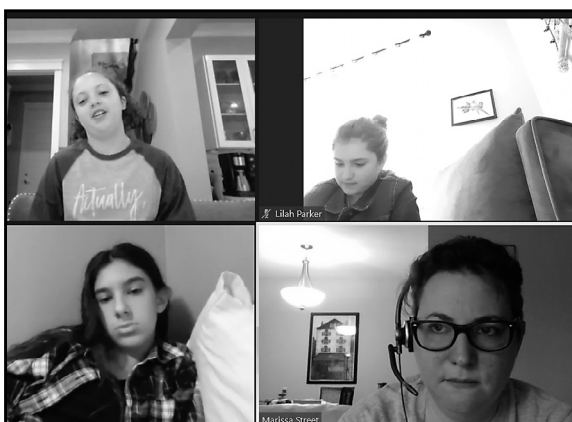
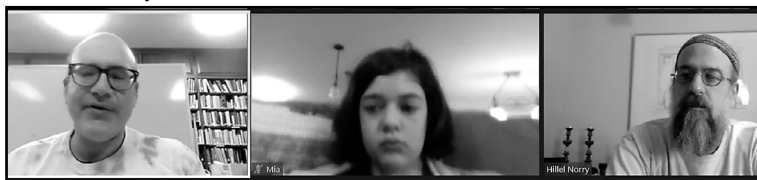
Machanooga is a joint program between Mizpah and B'nai Zion that serves children from pre-K to 8th grade

As COVID-19 cases continue to climb, Machanooga has made the difficult decision to finish out the rest of our school year virtually. While this could change as the landscape of the pandemic evolves, we feel that this is the safest determination to make at this time.

That said, we are nearly halfway through our year! We know this has been an adjustment for everyone, and it certainly hasn't been easy. Between technology issues, engagement on Zoom, and just everyday business, you all are busy! We are so glad that you have been able to fit Machanooga into your family's lives. In this, you are our superheroes.

Let us be your sidekicks. Tell us what we are doing well so far, and tell us what we need to improve on. Would you prefer fewer class days? Longer or shorter? Are we doing a really great job on one thing but falling short somewhere else? Let us know!
Traci and Lily

Modified 2020-21 Dates
 All school days are subject to change.
 December 6
 December 13 - Virtual Chanukah Party - Last Day of Fall Semester
 January 24 - First Day of School
 January 31
 February 7
 February 14 - President's Day - NO SCHOOL
 February 21
 February 28
 March 7
 March 14
 March 21
 March 28 - Pesach - NO SCHOOL
 April 4 - Spring Break - NO SCHOOL
 April 11
 April 18
 April 25
 May 2 - Last Day of School



**Kol ha'olam kulo
 Gesher tzar me'od
 Re - mi - fa - so - la - ti - do
 Machanooga... LET'S GO!!!
 The main thing is have no fear
 The future is drawing near
 HaShem hu adir
 Let the world hear
 Machanooga, Machanooga,
 Machanooga...
 CHOO CHOO!**



Richard Zachary, Page Editor

All Mizpah worship and study programs are online. Refer to your Monday and Friday email announcements and reminders. We continue to evaluate and judge when it is safe to reenter the building. Thank you for your patience. Please stay connected!

923 McCallie Avenue Chatt. TN 37403 423-267-9771
Office@mizpahcongregation.org www.mizpahcongregation.org

Mizpah Ongoing and Special Activities

Please attend your favorite Mizpah activity.

We offer *virtually* everything you are used to:

- Tuesdays:** Introduction to Judaism 6:30 pm
- Wednesdays:** Mussar 7:30 am
- Hebrew School 4:30 pm
- Thursdays:** Lunch 'n Learn 12:15 pm
- Fridays:** Kabbalat Shabbat services 6:00 pm
- Saturdays:** Torah Study 9:00 am
- Shabbat worship: 11:00 am
- December 6:** Black – Jewish Online Dialogue 4:00 pm

December 11, 12, 14-17: Virtual Hanukkah Nightly Menorah Lighting led by Mizpah Board 5:30 pm

December 13: Drive-in Hanukkah: Mizpah Parking Lot 5:30 pm

For details: www.MizpahCongregation.org

Hannukah Drive 'n Dine December 13th, 5:30pm

- WMZP Radio with Rabbi C. Lewis, DJ
- Hannukah program
- Games
- Hamburgers and latkes
- Gifts for kids

\$30 max per family
RSVP to the Office
SPACE IS LIMITED!

Social Services Warm Scarves Program:

Help by tying knots while you are here. Call June Collins for info.

Bring a pair of warm socks to donate to the **Rhonda Seeber Memorial Menorah Project**



Introduction to Judaism: Virtual Class taught by Rabbi Lewis

We will use the CCAR publication, *Honoring Tradition, Embracing Modernity*. Additional text will be provided. The class will be a survey of Jewish traditions, beliefs, life cycle practices, holiday celebrations, and history, taught over 15 sessions, December through March. Designed for many interests, including people considering conversion to Judaism, non-Jews interested in understanding their Jewish neighbors, non-Jewish significant others wanting to understand their partner's heritage, and Jewish people seeking a refresher or wanting to know more. *The dates are Tuesdays, December 1, 8, and 15; January 5, 12, 19, 26; February 9, 16, 23; March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30. All at 6:30 pm.*



Mizpah Menorah Virtual Lighting

Join us online for a virtual Menorah lighting led by different Mizpah Board members and families.

December 11th and 12th, and 14th-17th

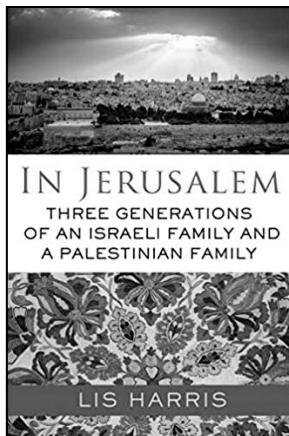
5:30 pm



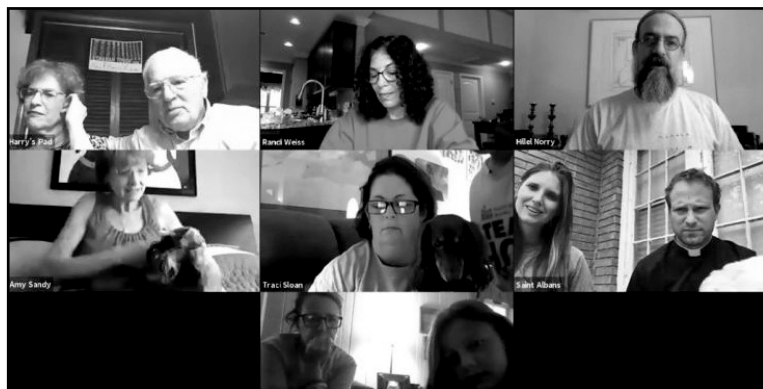
Hanukkah Social: Wednesday, December 16 at 6:45 pm following Minyan

Join fellow members and friends for a Hanukkah Social via Zoom. Let's celebrate Hanukkah, light candles together, socialize over cocktails if you so choose, and even participate in the Great Debate, Hamentaschen vs. Latkes: which is the superior Israeli treat? Is it the sweet treat of Purim or the fried deliciousness of Hanukkah?

Office Closure
The B'nai Zion Office will be closed the following days:
Thursday, December 24
Friday, December 25
Friday, January 1 (New Year's Day)
We will resume normal business hours on Tuesday, December 29 and Tuesday, January 5, respectively.



B'nai Zion Book Club: Tuesday, December 29 at 10:00 am
This month, we will discuss *In Jerusalem* by Liz Harris. This story gives a fresh take on the life-altering reverberations of wars and the ongoing tensions that everyday families in Israel encounter. Bring comments and questions that arose while reading to discuss among friends on Zoom from the comfort of your own home.



Our **Bark/Meow Mitzvah** went wonderfully last month! It was a great time seeing all the pups (and the kitty) being called to the Torah. While we miss having events like this in person, it is a welcome treat to still be able to enjoy a sense of community even when we are apart. Thank you to everyone who participated with their pet.



Thank you to all those who attended our book burial. We buried our books on a beautiful, fall day and were happy to have Rabbis Norry and Lewis in attendance with some of our B'nai Zion congregants.

Rabbi Norry is here for you! Reach him Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9am-noon at 423-894-8900, ext. 702. Check out our website at www.bnaizioncongregation.com and like us on Facebook!

Happy Hanukkah from all of us at B'nai Zion!



Rabbi Shaul Perlstein



Chabad Hebrew school is proud to present the 5781 Judaics curriculum, Bringing it Home.

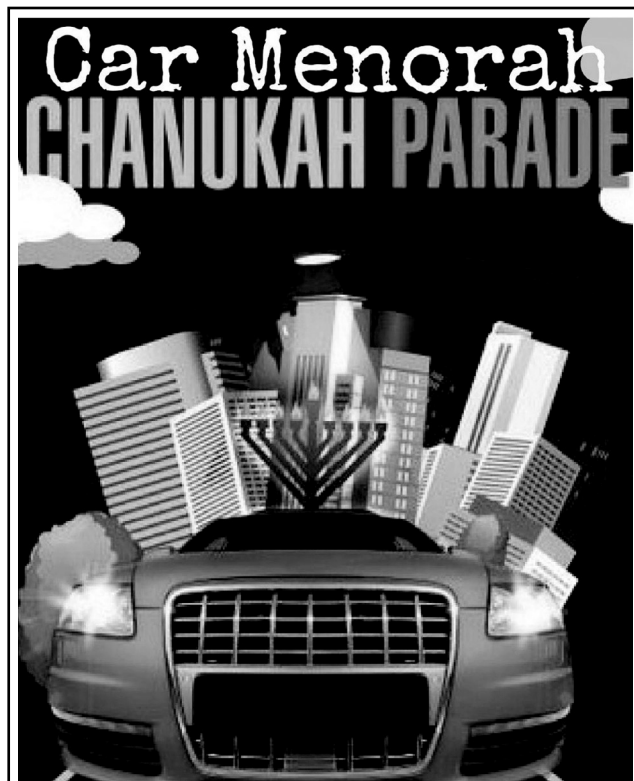
This year, G-d has willed that we reclaim our homes as the center of Jewish life, and that we transform the home into a holy, purposeful dwelling place, where we share our personal space with G-d.

For millennia, the Jewish home has always been the most important institution in Jewish life, and has served as the sanctuary for our physical well-being and our spiritual development. The home is the core where Jewish values are instilled, nurtured and developed. We are thrilled to partner with you this year, with our Bringing it Home curriculum plan, where we will learn, explore, excite, and engage, with what Judaism teaches us about the Jewish home.

Bringing it Home, the CHS Judaics program of 5781, brings Judaism alive through experiential and interactive learning. Our curriculum has been designed to be taught through a diverse set of mediums, including drama, construction, STEM, and stop-motion animation. The curriculum comprises seven units, focusing on lessons that are learned from each room of the home. The subjects will come alive as students learn about the Jewish holidays, empathy, respect and integrity amongst other life skills and Jewish values, while exploring each room of their house.

Hebrew School Makes Tiny Homes

Who needs to watch Tiny Homes when you can make your own? Take a sneak peek into one of the crafts from Hebrew School. It's a Mini Tin Home for Hashem, complete with real lighting!



The Chattanooga Car Menorah Parade, which has made headlines across the internet, is coming up Sunday evening, December 13th. Join over 30 menorah-topped cars for a police-escorted parade. If you would like a menorah for your car please contact Rabbi Perlstein (they run out fast).

Online study opportunities available

Dec. 1

JLI Secrets of the Bible

Dec. 3

Menorah's across America – Attorney Nathan Lewin

Dec. 6

Talmud Pesachim Daf 15

Dec. 8

JLI Secrets of the Bible

Dec. 13

Talmud Pesachim Daf 22

Dec. 15

JLI Secrets of the Bible

Dec. 20

Talmud Pesachim Daf 29

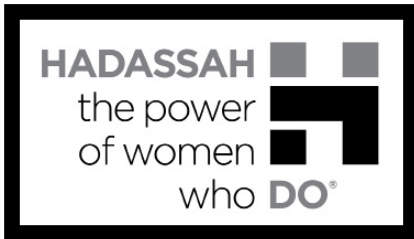
Dec. 23

Overcoming Tragedy - Mrs. Mandel, Frankel and Fishman

Dec. 27

Talmud Pesachim Daf 36

Email Rabbi@Jewishchatt.com or call 423.490.1106 for links



Hadassah Happenings

by Judith Sachsman

Inbal Lev, The Federation community shlichah (Israeli Cultural Emissary), posed for a Zoom screen shot when she joined Hadassah members for coffee and chatting. Inbal had an opportunity to answer questions about herself and Israel. Inbal comes from a family with a history of support for Hadassah and she will join Hadassah members in the January 31st Holocaust Education program. Hadassah is happy to welcome her to our community.

Hadassah's Zoom meeting on "Antisemitism in Chattanooga, Hamilton County, and Tennessee" included the following speakers: Deborah Levine, Editor-in-Chief of the American Diversity Report; Michael Dzik, Executive Director of the Jewish Federation; and Mayor Andy Berke of Chattanooga. After Deborah gave a brief overview of the term antisemitism, the mayor described what has occurred in Chattanooga and the surrounding area, Michael explained the role of the Federation in combating antisemitism, and Deborah described what has been happening throughout the USA and beyond.

On Sunday, January 31st, another Zoom program will follow on "Holocaust Education in Tennessee, the USA and Beyond" featuring Alison Lebovitz, a member of the Tennessee Holocaust Commission; Dr Irven Resnick, Chair of Judaic Studies at UTC; Inbal Lev, Federation Israeli community shlichah; and Nashville Hadassah member Erin Coleman, who is making a movie about the grandchildren of Holocaust survivors. More information will be available soon.


Hadassah is planning a joint Hanukkah celebration with the Jewish Federation on the first night, December 10th. Participants will drive by the JCC, picking up candles and goodies and dropping off food contributions for the Brainerd Food Pantry (supported by the Chattanooga Food Bank) and toiletries for Room at the Inn, the



home for abused women and their dependents. This "exchange" program will be followed by a community candle lighting program on Zoom. Carla Morrow will be coordinating the donation program.

Join Hadassah@Home for interesting recipes, videos concerts and interviews. See how Hadassah is fighting the war against Covid-19. Let Hadassah take you places!

Annual Giving enables Hadassah to allocate support of its many medical initiatives and programs on an annual basis. Annual Givers start with Chai Society members (\$180/year), Silver Chai members (\$360/year), and move on to Traditional Keepers (\$1000/year), Chai Keepers (\$1800/year), New Silver Keepers (\$2500/year) and Golden Keepers (\$5000/year). Anyone who is interested in becoming an Annual Giver should contact Dana Waxler at dwaxler@hadassah.org.



This year's Silver Keepers pin



Andy Berke



Deborah Levine



Michael Dzik

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. Now, and always, we are Hadassah. Be proud of who you are, Hadassah women.

December

Stay Informed

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

Up-to-date information about online programs, cancellations and changes can be found here:

- weekly community email
- Federation Facebook Page

(Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga

- Federation website

(Jewishchattanooga.com)

QUESTIONS? Call us! Our lines are forwarded to our cell phones during regular business hours.

CONTACT LIST

all addresses are @jewishchattanooga.com

Michael Dzik	mdzik
Annette McJunkin	amcjunkin
Ann Treadwell	atreadwell
Inbal Lev	israel
Christi Haustein	chaustein
Brenda McColpin	nurse
Meghan Greybeal	alephbet
Jake Balser	federation
Dana Shavin	dshavin

Please let the Federation know how we can help you during these challenging times.

Federation offices slowly re-opening. See you soon! Stay safe and stay masked.

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

See how easy it is to join the Legacy Society!

Call Michael Dzik at 493-0270 ext 15.



Jewish Federation OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA

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Michael Dzik, Executive Director

Dana Shavin, Editor

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