

the Shofar

January 2021

A publication of the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga



Sunrise on a hopeful 2021



Michael Dzik
mdzik@jewishchattanooga.com
893-5443

Dana Shavin, Shofar Editor, Leaves Federation

Dear Dana,

With internal restructuring, along with outsourcing of your Federation responsibilities, it's time to say goodbye. You've added so much to the Federation team spirit, always giving us a laugh and usually keeping us on our deadlines. You were always one to step up when asked to help with program names or themes, and every month you reviewed every word from the *Shofar* contributors to make sure they communicated as clearly and succinctly as possible.

You've lead us through two website revisions and put us on the social media map with Facebook. You took us through a *Shofar* upgrade a few years ago that resulted in a cleaner look on better quality paper and four color pages, and, last year, transitioned us to a magazine format. Your efforts did not go unnoticed; these upgrades were received positively throughout the community.

One of the challenges of our new *Shofar* magazine is deciding on and creating the cover photo. The cover sets the

from the executive director

tone of each issue and has to be unique, eye-catching, and relevant, and reflect the public face of the Federation. You've handled the task with such professionalism.

One of my favorite "off the books" things you did was to create original, hand-painted place mats for our conference room, bearing each staff member's face. What a fun and creative way to connect with your colleagues. (FYI – we're happy to share our place mat paintings with the community if anyone would like to see them). I'm sure we'll be using and enjoying them for a long time. I am also a huge fan of your love for animals and will always remember the giant dog cutout that was in your office!

Although your journey will continue outside the Federation walls, I send you off with much thanks and appreciation. We'll all miss you (and your pups) around the office.

To the community: *The Shofar* will continue to be produced ten months per year without interruption. Executive Administrator Jake Balsler will become the project manager, collecting photos and text from contributors and funneling them to our freelance editor and graphic designer. Additionally, Jake will manage the Federation website and Facebook presence. I am appreciative of Jake's willingness to learn these new skills and take on these important responsibilities.

Recently, Federation Executive Director Michael Dzik brought together all of 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. Sure, we can offer more programming, but do we truly have buy-in from everyone? We all renewed our commitment to offer as many opportunities as possible for the community to join together. And it is imperative that all congregations be inclusive. Are you in?



Mike Spector, Board Chair
mspector@kleenamatic.com

Inclusiveness is Key

The Federation has always been the central Jewish agency in Chattanooga. We work to create and enhance Jewish opportunities for all ages - from our Aleph Bet preschool to our social services and beyond. Through programming, we get engagement and volunteer opportunities. Many people make connections by attending and thereby making life-long friendships.

Your Federation is all about building community. It works hard not only to provide diverse and interesting programs, but also to make all Jews feel welcome and comfortable. For example, we make sure that all of the

from the board chair

food prepared, served and delivered throughout the Jewish community is kosher. We strive to make everything

we do inclusive so every Jew can feel comfortable coming to our events and enjoying the food and the company.





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

The Parable of Pippin

Almost 17 years ago a feral cat had kittens on our back door-step and promptly left. Four

mahogany-colored males and one gray tabby female were orphaned. By afternoon it became apparent that we would be fostering them. By dinner time the female kitten had died, leaving us four thirsty, hungry boys to feed. They were whisked inside to the basement bathroom, which became their home for the next three months. We bottle fed, cleaned up poop, and cuddled them in shifts, always with the intention that as soon as they were weaned, they would return to the woods.

As the days progressed, we named them. All of them had white heart-shaped fur on their bellies, so their names had to have special meaning. There was Zeus,

from the program director

so named because he thought he was immortal with death defying tricks. Mack, for

Mt. McKinley, because he always climbed to the highest point to survey activity. Morgan for Captain Morgan because he stole anything shiny, including my good earrings, and hid them. And Pippin, named for King Charlemagne's son who just wanted to be "normal."

For years the boys entertained us. I remember the day they decided they'd had enough of living in the basement bathroom. They climbed, Mack leading the way, between the floorboards into the heating/cooling ducts and were mewling from inside the vents in the kitchen on the opposite side of the house. After dismantling the vent to retrieve them, we went downstairs, boarded up their passageway, gathered their blanket and toys, and officially moved them upstairs. Life was never the same. Antics were daily, except from Pippin.

I had a beautiful, ten-year-old ficus tree. The tree had survived the move from Michigan and the investigation of its soil by a toddler. But four boy kittens would roost in it until its branches became bare, and I let them. I guess I felt a little guilty that they would never climb large, big trees or eat grass outdoors.

As you may have guessed, the boys never returned outdoors. Where we live, a coyote, a hawk or a snake could have easily gobbled them up. After all that bottle feeding and cuddle time my mother's heart wouldn't allow

that to happen. They became fixtures around the house. I could count on Morgan to steal bits of aluminum foil from the kitchen and hide it under a bed. I could expect that Mack would always sit on top of the refrigerator and watch who went in and out of the back door. And Zeus, who passed away just a few months ago, always placed himself in the way of everything, defying being run over.

Pippin is the only surviving brother. Every night, as the house gets quiet, he walks the hall, checks out the kitchen, and eventually settles next to me. In the morning he is the second one up, after me. He walks to the kitchen with me to start the morning ritual. He is the one who announces breakfast, dinner, bedtime, and, if his litter isn't up to his very high standards, he complains loudly to any creature who will listen. The dogs have come to realize that Pippin keeps the household "normal" no matter how busy the humans get, how bad the weather is, and regardless of what activity may be going on.

Pippin has adapted to how our lives change. He has remained unwaveringly dedicated and concerned about the welfare of "his" people.

The moral of this parable is that all of us need to have someone, some thing, maybe even an institution that will help us navigate our lives and our changes. Not just now, during challenging times, but always. Here at the Federation, we are here for you, helping you navigate through whatever challenges come up. Call on us.



The first-ever National Jewish Virtual Mission to Washington is an opportunity for communities across the United States to join together virtually with political leaders and policymakers from both sides of the aisle, to advocate for the future of the Jewish community.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn about and advocate for laws that fight antisemitism, ensure a strong U.S.-Israel relationship, and provide government resources to keep Jewish institutions flourishing.

Want more information or to register?
CONTACT dcvmission@jfna.org

social services



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

The Fresh Start of a New Year

For many of us, 2020 was a challenging year. We all know someone who had COVID and may have even lost someone we care about to this dreadful virus.

It is a new year though, time for a re-start, a chance for us to change for the better, to shed the baggage and set new goals for ourselves. Below are ideas for how we can achieve this. I've adapted it from Zenhabits.net. Here's hoping January brings renewed optimism!

Let go: Many times we are held back by our own baggage: bad decisions, failures, unhealthy relationships, emotions, spoken or unspoken family commitments, etc.. Maybe now is the time to let go of some or all of it. I know this is easier said than done, but try to create a clean slate. We all tend to hold on to the coulda, woulda, shoulda's, or overthink what our life could look like, "if only." We can't go back in time, we can only move forward, so dwelling isn't changing much. Let's try realize we're human and make mistakes, and learn from them.

Let go of the past and move on from what you believe were poor decisions. Let go of failures and fear and long-held beliefs and habits that are no longer serving you. Let's open our minds to positive and uplifting thoughts, beliefs and healthier habits. Learn to say "no" to others and yes to yourself!

Decide what matters most today: Take time to think about what matters most to you, to your life. What things excite you, invigorate you, or give you the most fulfillment? What are you passionate about? Try to let go of goals from previous years and decide: What do you want to do *today*? You might find that you like helping people, or you enjoy projects that bring a feeling of accomplishment, or creating something new. I have personally found that volunteer work has brought me so much happiness. Not only because I like helping those in need, but because I enjoy being around others and seeing their joy in helping. I love the camaraderie, the family atmosphere, and friendships that form. Whatever your answer to the question of what you want to do, have it clear in your head and remind yourself of it daily. Make it a priority.

Clear away distractions and focus: Try not to allow social media, your cellphone, unfinished work, or chores to clutter your mind. Instead, try and sweep these to the side and focus on what it is that matters to you most. Then focus on the next thing that matters the most, and so on. I have let go of ALL social media, and it has been nice. I feel like I

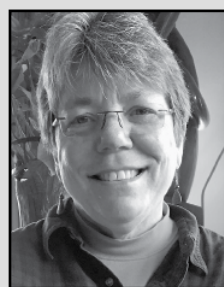
have escaped the ugliness and the negativity the platform can so often bring!

Find happiness now: Try not to think of happiness as a destination. Rather, think of it as something we can experience right now. Happiness is not necessarily in achieving a certain status or gaining a certain amount of wealth. Growing up in a poor family, I use to think that wealth equaled happiness, but as life went on, I learned this was not true. I constantly think about what means the most to me--my family and close friends-- and try to remain thankful for all I have. Happiness is possible right now, so don't push it off until later. Do what you love in life, decide what is worthy of your time and heart, and focus on that. As I tell my husband, we are responsible for, and can actually create, our own happiness.

Reinvent yourself, everyday: Do what matters most to you, today. It could be that the same thing that mattered most yesterday is the same today. Good! Do that. What's important is what is important to you today, right now.

If we can help you in any way, please call on us. Meantime, we wish you a healthy and happy 2021.

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

Gratitude Helps. Here Are a Few Ways to Cultivate It

Research completed at Harvard shows that having gratitude produces happiness. Emotional well-being, improvements in health, coping with adverse situations, and developing stronger relationships are all outcomes of nurturing an attitude of gratitude. Here are just a few suggestions: Write thank you notes. Journal weekly about your gratitude. Count how you have been blessed. Say a prayer. Meditate. Start cultivating gratitude today and you'll enhance your world and the world of those around you!

**Join us for Tuesday Cafe via ZOOM
January 5, 12, 19, 26**

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 meal delivery and transportation available to our community.

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Jewish Federation Annual Meeting January 25



Rabbi Sandra Lawson to Keynote

Please plan to ZOOM with us **Monday, January 25th at 7 pm** when we will welcome Rabbi Sandra Lawson as our keynote speaker.

Rabbi Lawson received ordination from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in June 2018. She was born in St. Louis, Missouri and grew up in a military family. She graduated from Saint Leo University magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology. She also holds a Master of Arts degree in Sociology from Clark Atlanta University.

Rabbi Sandra has served in the United States Army, as a Military Police person with a specialty in Military Police Investigations, specializing in cases involving child abuse and domestic violence. Upon leaving the military she started a personal training business and later worked as an Adjunct Instructor of Sociology at local community colleges. She has also served as the Investigative Researcher for the Anti-Defamation League's Southeast Region, becoming the go-to person when Law Enforcement in the South needed information on hate groups. Rabbi Sandra uses her rabbinic training to bring Judaism to where people already are in their lives.

As a rabbinical student, Rabbi Sandra received a prestigious grant to lead Shabbat services for unaffiliated Jews in a vegan cafe. She also received a grant to launch her podcast, Minutes of Torah.

Rabbi Sandra's vision as a Rabbi is to help build a more inclusive Jewish community where all who want to come are welcomed, diversity is embraced and we can come together to learn and to pray.

Monday, January 25th at 7pm
Zoom Meeting ID: 747 223 9161
Passcode: 940790

**Campaign total as of
December 17th:
\$904,994
Number of gifts: 384**

**Thank you to all who gave
to the 2021 Annual Campaign!
Your pledge helps Jews
around the world
as well as right here at home.**

2021 Board of Directors

Terms expiring January 2024

Owen Allen Valerie Epstein Alan Richelson
Roy Rosenfeld Joel Susman Marissa Street

Terms expiring January 2023

Ross Cohn Steve Cohn Lindsey Dodson
David Israel Barbie Potts

Terms expiring January 2022

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

One Year Board Chair Appointment

Lee Brouner Lynne Herman

ROLLING OFF – WITH THANKS

Karen Diamond Susan Matzkin

Executive Committee Members

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

Nominating Committee

Mike Spector, Erica Newman, Ken Goldsmith, Fern Shire

Dr. Eric Goldman
Film Educator, Critic, and Historian
Thursday, January 14th
at 8:00pm Eastern

Watch for ZOOM information in the community email

Dr. Goldman is one of the world's foremost scholars of Jewish cinema. He holds a doctorate in Cinema Studies from New York University and graduate degrees in Theater Arts and Contemporary Jewish Studies from Brandeis University. Dr. Goldman is an adjunct professor of cinema at Yeshiva University.

**"The Coming of Age of American Jewry:
 A Study through Film of the 1940s & 1950s"**
An Evening of Learning with Dr. Eric Goldman

The period after WWII should have been a time when Jews found comfort in America. Instead, they remained concerned about antisemitism and various restrictions and quotas that limited their inclusion. The House Un-American Activities Committee hearing, McCarthyism, and the executions of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg impacted how Jews felt about their place in American Society. Join the conversation with Eric Goldman.

A Special Moment from our P2G Partnership

Dr. Ranat Raines-Carmel, a senior physician at Hillel Yaffe Medical Center, shared sad news about a young woman's mother's condition. Due to Covid-19, and now with her mother's condition, the woman was unsure when she would be able to get married. Furthermore, it meant that most likely her mother would not make it to her wedding.

The doctor asked the young couple if they were interested in organizing a quick wedding at the hospital. The answer was yes.

From that moment, a snowball started to roll. All hospital resources joined hands to help, from the ward staff, hospital rabbi, laundry department, and the hospital catering. The hospital spokesperson issued a call to individuals and local businesses, and, in no time, a hairdresser came to their help in addition to a makeup artist, and DJ. Many other generous people from the area donated cakes, flowers, decorations and more.

Thanks to all the people with a beautiful heart, in

less than three hours, a very exciting wedding was held and no eye was left dry to see the mother and daughter at this special moment.

Story and photo by Rafi Koren



Chanukah Drive-thru Event Gives Back!

You filled multiple boxes with your canned goods, nonperishables, and toiletry items and the Federation and Hadassah took them to the Brainerd Food Pantry and Room in the Inn, where they will go to help those who are hungry and in need of supplies. Thank you for your generous donations!



Shlichim Program



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

Because of my High School Experience, I Feel Right at Home

Just a few weeks after moving to Chattanooga, I had a work meeting at Starbucks on Brainerd Road. During the meeting, US military airplanes flew non-stop over our heads. It reminded me my days at high school.

I attended to WIZO Nahalal High School from 7th to 12th grade. The school is just two miles from Ramat David Air Force base, where IDF airplanes take off and land all hours of the day.

WIZO Nahalal Youth Village consists of three units: the day school, a boarding school and the farm. The campus is located at the entrance to Moshav Nahalal, and was designed around a concept that combines old with new. The round structure of the school mimics the round structure of Moshav Nahalal.

The school was established in 1923. The idea was to establish an agricultural school for young women, to train immigrants and residents to integrate into agricultural work in the Land of Israel, and thus fulfill the Zionist dream. At the end of World War II, it was decided to admit boys to school, mainly to absorb Aliyah. Today, the school has 1,300 students, 200 of whom are educated in the boarding school, including students from the former Soviet Union, Ethiopia, Druze, Circassians and Sabras.

Over the years, many graduates have played key roles in Israeli society in security, economy, society and culture. Famous graduates include Hannah Szenes, who parachuted in WWII in occupied Europe; Moshe Dayan, Minister of Defense; Shaul Mofaz, Chief of IDF, and one very special graduate, my father's aunt, Israela, who studied there in the 1940s.

Nahalal, where the school is located, is a special and important place in Israel's history. The first settlers of Nahalal immigrated to Israel from Eastern Europe. Their ambition was to settle in the country in a way that would conform to the socialist values they espoused, while maintaining the privacy of the individual and the family unit, unlike the kibbutz society. The establishment of Nahalal is officially considered the first moshav, workers' settlement, in the country in 1923.

Nahalal was built in the shape of a circle, according to the plan of the architect Richard Kaufman. The purpose was to meet security and practical requirements, but it mainly reflected the desire to establish a Moshav based on the principles of equality. In this way, the distance of each farm from the center is equal and the plots can be divided so that their size is equal as well. In the outer ring of the circle were the agricultural plots; the huts of the farmers were built in the ring near these plots, and in the inner part of the circle, they built the public institutions.

Over the years, there have been many changes in the organizational structure of Nahalal. The difficulties in agriculture in the country have caused many residents to turn to other sources of employment, although there are still relatively many active farms.

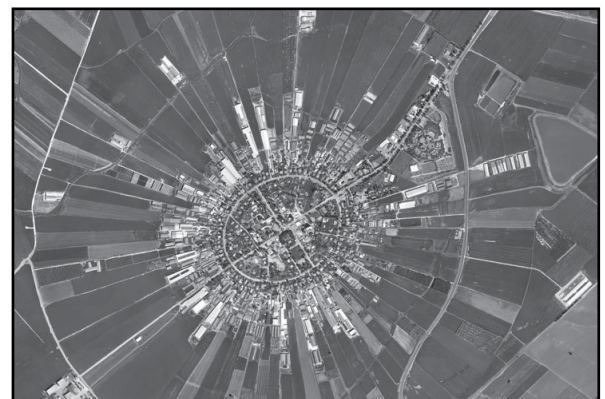
I'm very proud to be a part of such a legacy. Generations of Israeli leaders, singers, writers etc. have graduated from this school. I'm waiting to find out who will be the next important person to have come from my high school. Maybe it will be a personal acquaintance! I have some ideas, but I'll wait and see.



WIZO Nahalal High School in the city of Nahalal



Nahalal in 1937



Nahalal in 2010



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

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Chanukah 2020 at Aleph Bet



Simply train your
cell phone camera
on the QR code at
right to be taken
to the aleph bet
website



Federation Shlichah Inbal Lev's Parents to Address Issues in Israel



Limor, my mom,
is going to talk
about social gaps
in northern Israel

**Meet the
Parents***

A TWO NIGHT EVENT

MONDAY | JANUARY 11

TUESDAY | JANUARY 12

6 PM

MEETING ID: 747 223 9161

PASSCODE: 940790

Alon, my dad,
will give insight
into the
importance of
water in Israel



Two Words of Advice for the Concerned Buyer or Seller:

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Chattanooga Jewish

DOCS

Documentary Film Series



January 19-21 **Shared Legacies**

The African American– Jewish Civil Rights Alliance

The often forgotten story of the coalition and friendship between the Jewish and African-American communities during the Civil Rights Movement. *English, 96 minutes*

Thursday, January 21 at 7:00 p.m. A panel discussion about Chattanooga's African American-Jewish role in the Civil Rights Movement will take place via Zoom.

January 26–28 ***Syndrome K***

This is the true story about a highly contagious, highly fictitious disease created by three Roman Catholic doctors during the holocaust to hide Jews in a Vatican-affiliated hospital.

Italian, subtitles 80 minutes



February 2-4
Rabbi Goes West

A Chabad rabbi and his wife adapt to their new home in Montana and encounter a mixed reception from that state's small Jewish community. *English, 73 minutes*

February 9-11 ***Chewdaism: A Taste of Jewish Montreal***

Struggling with their own proverbial "YidLife Crisis," two Montrealers on the cusp of middle age return to Montreal to discover their own mixed-up heritage in the story of Jewish Montreal, as told through an entire day's worth of eating in and around the city. *English, 62 minutes* followed by the short film *Gelfite*, about the making of this special Jewish dish. *11 minutes*



February 16-18 ***Nobody Was Interested, Nobody Asked***

Montreal after the war became home to Canada's largest community of Holocaust survivors, and after New York, the second largest in North America. The film describes how those who survived the Holocaust were marginalized. *English, 60 minutes*

Thursday, February 18, 7:00 p.m. director Max Beer, and producer Deena Dlusy-Apel will hold a Zoom conversation about the film.

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 7:00 p.m. on the Thursday of that film's screening. Virtual screenings must be pre-paid in advance by visiting www.jewishchattanooga.com; you will receive the login code the morning of the screening and a Zoom code for discussions, if any, on Thursday. **Subscription for all films \$36. \$12 one film at a time.**



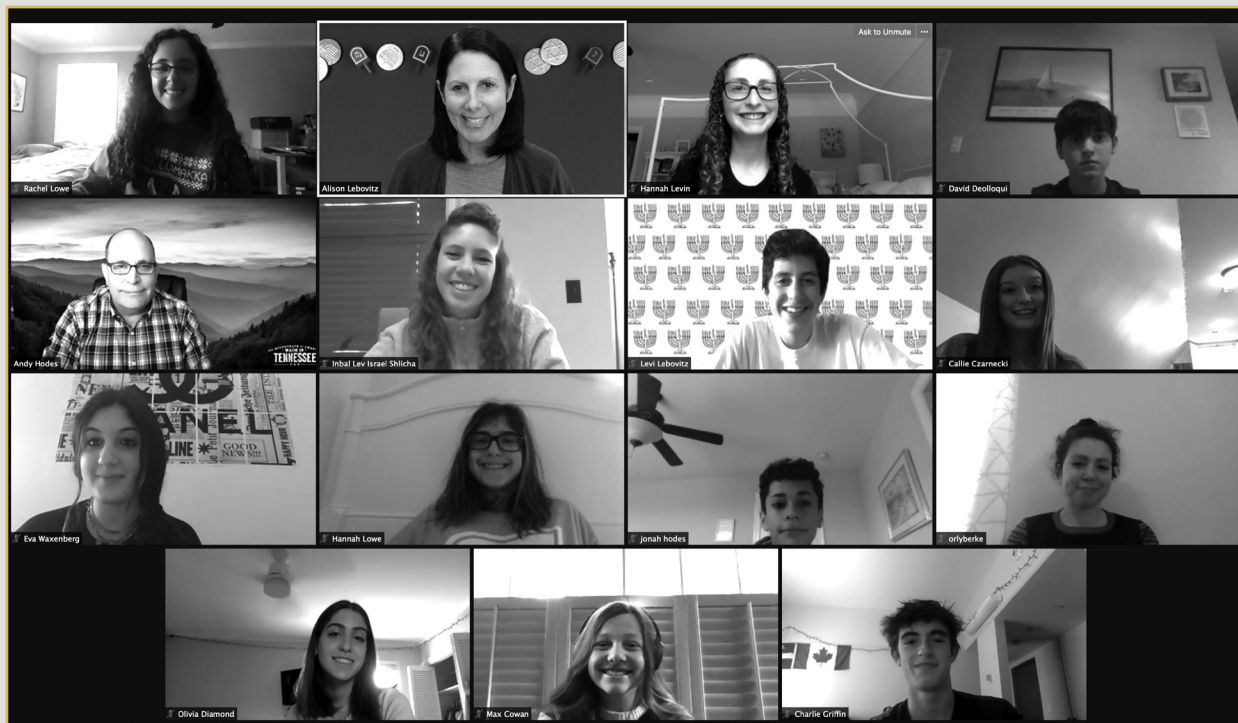
It's a Miracle!

While the Jew Crew couldn't gather in person for our annual Chanukah Party, or eat Chef Andy Hodes' amazing homemade latkes, we did manage to celebrate the miracle of technology that allowed us to be together even while isolated from each other.

Our December Zoom Crew started with everyone sharing their own personal Chanukah "miracles" - from completing the long-dreaded ACT or their college applications, to the stellar performance of the Miami Dolphins this year. It was a great time to celebrate and appreciate the small joys and victories in our lives.

We then played a game of "Guess My Gift," where one teen described something they got for Chanukah (or a random object in their room) while the others attempted to draw the object based on the very loose and limited description. The item was then revealed and the person who drew something that most resembled the actual object was the next to describe their own. Overall, it wasn't the Chanukah celebration we had all anticipated, but it was definitely one we all needed.

Happy Chanukah and Happy New Year, from our Crew to Yours!
Alison, Andy and Inbal



It's Not Too Early: Camp 2021

The Southeast Virtual Jewish Camp Fair is an opportunity for families to hear from our five regional Jewish overnight camps as they begin to plan for their children's camp experiences for this summer and many years to come. Families will learn about the importance of Jewish overnight camp for kids and counselors, financial aid options, mental wellness, and approaches to inclusion. Watch videos from additional immersive summer experiences across the spectrum of possibilities for those who are open

to expansive possibilities. We hope this is the beginning of conversations that lead to many happy campers in summer 2021. *Camp scholarships and grants are still available from the Jewish Federation. Please contact Michael Dzik (mdzik@jewishchattanooga.com) for more info and applications. Applications can also be found on the Federation website, jewishchattanooga.com.*

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

Executive Administrator Jake Balsler Takes over *Shofar* Project Management

We are sorry to see Dana Shavin leave the Federation. *The Shofar* will continue to go out ten months a year as always, with contributions from Federation staff, congregations, community organizations, and volunteers. The design will be outsourced to a local graphic designer.

Jake Balsler (below, right) will be taking on *The Shofar* project management, along with social media duties with Facebook and the Federation website.



Museum of Southern Jewish Experience Opening in New Orleans



The American tapestry is woven of many threads. A nation of immigrants, America's promise has brought Jews to its shores for almost 400 years.

Like others, Jews came seeking religious freedom, economic opportunity, even adventure, in the New World. Most came through and settled in the big northeastern port cities, where they found support and fellowship, their numbers being sufficient to form strong communities.

But what of Jews who came to the South, through Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, New Orleans, Houston? What of the Jews who moved inland, peddling their wares from farm to farm through the Appalachian Piedmont and the Mississippi Delta? What of their children, grandchildren? What challenges did each generation face? And how did each strengthen America's tapestry while maintaining their Judaism?

Their stories are our stories and serve as powerful reminders of the immigrant experience that has so enriched our past and holds so much possibility for the future.

The Museum's importance lies not only in the preservation of this unique history, but in its potential to engage current and future generations in an on-going conversation about American values. Through dynamic, interactive exhibits and compelling educational programming, every visitor to the Museum of the Southern Jewish Experience will gain new perspectives on how America was built, what makes it strong, and how it might continue to grow, enabling meaningful and secure lives.

Ultimately, we hope to strengthen the bonds among people by using the experience of a people with a distinct culture and history, to demonstrate the splendor of the American Tapestry. *Visit <https://msje.org> for more.*

TRIBUTES

In Memory of Robert Shapiro

Shelley and Martin Simms

In Memory of Kenny Green

Beth Lowe

In Memory of Bernard Kleinstub

Teddi Mendel

Brenda and Joel Shavin

Mazel Tov

--to Deborah Levine, who received the HerStory Award" from the Women's Federation for Global Peace.

Condolences

We are sad to announce the passing of:

--Alan Ruderman, husband of Harriet Ruderman, father of Joe (Tammy) Ruderman, and grandfather of Jasmine.

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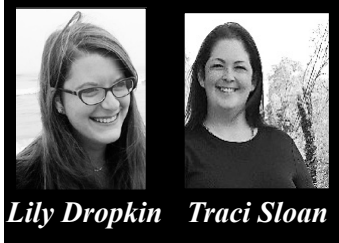
Check our website for our daily menu

YOUR AD HERE

Buy an ad in the monthly *Shofar*. They're the best deal going. Email Jake Balsler at federation@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

We have a limited number of Machanooga face masks for sale! These masks are two layers of soft cotton and come in red, orange, and teal. We are selling them as a fundraiser - \$7 dollars per mask. Please email Lily at youth@mizpahcongregation.org if you would like to support us and buy them! We will arrange delivery with you on a case-by-case basis.



Modified 2021 Dates
 All school days are subject to change.

- 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



Left: Hannukah "card" created by Machanooga Pre-K class, on the white-board. Below, images of kids creating their own crafts. During COVID, it's been a challenge to keep everyone creatively involved and engaged, but activities like these are popular, and the results can be seen by all.

Have some ideas for ZOOM activities? Drop Lily and Traci a line (email above). We love to hear from our parents and other commu-

nity members as well, about how you're keeping your kids active and intellectually stimulated outside the classroom. And please: send us your photos from home!





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:	<i>Mussar</i>	7:30 am
	Hebrew School	4:30 pm
Thursdays:	Lunch 'n Learn	12:15 pm
Fridays:	<i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> services	6:00 pm
Saturdays:	Torah Study	9:00 am
	Shabbat worship:	11:00 am

Special Activity: Black-Jewish Dialogue January 10th at 4:00 pm
To sign up:

Contact Deborah Levine at AmericanDiversityReport.com

For details: www.MizpahCongregation.org



Yasher koach and toda raba to all who made our December 13th Hanukkah Drive-in a HUGE success. We parked about forty cars and served food and treats to about 110 people. The food was great, the music was entertaining, the DJ was great, the games fun and the prizes were perfect.

Thanks first to Rabbi Lewis for the creative idea, and to the following people who worked hard to make it happen: Lily Dropkin, Frank Miller, Angela Rickert, Steve Smith, Carla Morrow, Joseph Nixon, Vicki Lewis, Susan Wolf-Schwartz and Vivian Hershey. Thank you to everyone who attended.



Introduction to Adult Hebrew taught by Lily Dropkin

Learn Hebrew from our worship services and in the Torah. We will teach the basics, starting with the Aleph Bet, with the goal of giving you a greater understanding of the Hebrew in our sacred texts. Class is for beginners with no Hebrew familiarity. Classes will start at 4:30PM January 3rd and be on January 17th, 24th, 31st; February 7th, 21st, 28th; March 7th, 21st, 28th; April 4th, 18th, 25th; May 2nd.



Intro to Judaism –A Virtual class taught by Rabbi Lewis

We will use the CCAR publication, *Honoring Tradition, Embracing Modernity*. Additional texts will be provided as PDF or Word attachments by email and/or Zoom Share Screens. The class will be a survey of Jewish traditions, beliefs, lifecycle practices, holiday celebrations, and history, taught over 15 sessions, December through March. The remaining dates are Tuesdays at 6:30PM on Jan 5, 12, 19, 26; Feb 9, 16, 23; March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30.



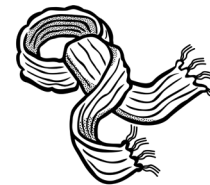
January 22nd--Rabbi Lewis Shabbat services from new Kindertransport Memorial Chapel.

Formal dedication will occur after Mizpah is reopened. The Kindertransport Chapel will serve as an important teaching tool for our congregation and community, and provide Mizpah with additional worship options for adults as well as children as we embark upon our new adventure sharing space with B'nai Zion congregation. It will add a new focus of hope as we look forward to the eventual reopening of our building.



January 27 "Skeletons in the Closet: Mizpah's Most Famous to Most Notorious and Other Tales From the Last 155 Years."

Max Brener, Mizpah Past President and Chair of our Archives, will present.



The Sue Cohn Warm Scarves Chairwoman, June Collins, thanks the following dedicated volunteers: Susan Wolf-Schwartz,

Marianna Allen, Susan Caminez, Herb Cohn.

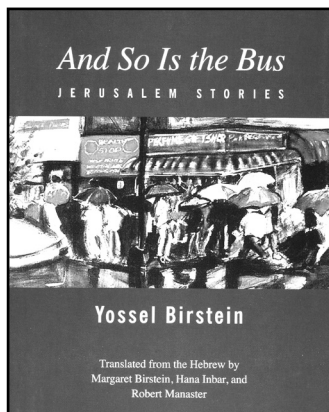


Above l-r: Rabbi Lewis (kneeling) as Mizpah President Frank Miller (center) presents recognition thank-you gifts to Immediate Past President Alan Richelson.



Office Closure
 The B'nai Zion Office will be closed Friday, January 1st (New Year's Day). We will resume normal business hours on Tuesday, January 5th

Touchstones and Mile-markers “Imagining the Milestones Ahead”: *Our Goodbye to the Building Drive-In Service - Sunday, January 10 at 3:00pm at B'nai Zion Congregation, 114 McBrien Road* Join us as we say a heartfelt goodbye to our beautiful synagogue, and look ahead to B'nai Zion's future. You'll hear from a few key members of the congregation, including a word from our president Scott Israel. There will be an opportunity to have your family's photo taken in front of the building. Enjoy an oneg from the safety of your vehicle. Individual, pre-packaged snacks and beverages will be provided.



Book Club: Tuesday, January 26 at 10:00am

This month, we will read *And So Is The Bus* by Yossel Birstein. It's an evocative “reporting” of Birstein's encounters with the daily riders of Jerusalem's many bus lines: housewives, Chasids, beautiful women, a blind man, a shoemaker, and more. The book is sure to please. We can't wait to discuss it with you.

Meeting ID: 881 7003 6650
passcode: book (2665)



Havdalah: Saturday, January 23 at 6:00pm Our monthly havdalahs are a fun chance to enjoy each other's company in song, chit chat and more. Let us light candles together. Bring your own festive spices, and wine or grape juice for another fun night of community. Led by Rabbi Norry. Join us to have a roaring good time! Meeting ID: 815 9500 0196; passcode: service



Tu B'shevat Seder Dinner on Zoom: Wednesday, January 27 at 6:30pm

Everyone has been to a Passover Seder. But have you ever been to a Tu B'shevat Seder? If you have, then you know how much fun they can be. If not, Rabbi Norry and B'nai Zion want to invite you to your first one. This lesser known holiday, the Jewish Arbor Day, is a fun opportunity to reconnect with nature, and to learn about Judaism's mystical teachings about trees and their symbolism. We hope to see you there!
Meeting ID 845 0521 2418; passcode: service.

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!



Rabbi Shaul Perlstein

Chanukah on Ice was joined by 5000 menorah lightings world wide, from the White house to the Kremlin, from Beijing to LA Joining us this year was the grand menorah in front of the Burj Kalif with Rosie's brother Rabbi Levi Duchman, Chabad Rabbi of Dubai. Of course the top-10 rated Chanukah celebration in the world was right here in Chattanooga.

This has been a unique year. We have all been impacted by COVID-19. Many have lost loved ones. Many have been ill. Many have been traumatized by the fear and the isolation. Many have experienced economic difficulty. Our religious and social communal experiences have been significantly altered. Our children's education has been on a roller coaster. This is just some of the fallout of COVID-19.

But the Chanukah candles reminded us that what outlasts destruction and continuous persecution is our inner jug of oil — our faith and our hopes, which are inextinguishable.

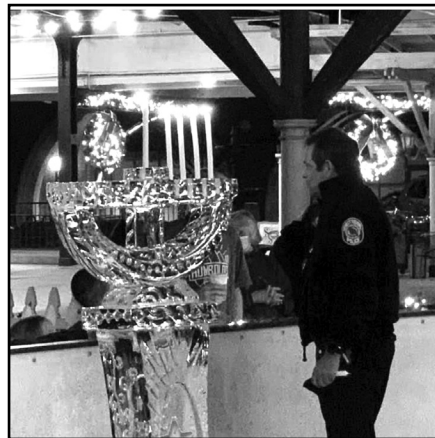
Strength founded on military power alone is temporary. Only strength founded on spiritual light, on strong moral and ethical pillars, on trust in G-d, can never be destroyed.

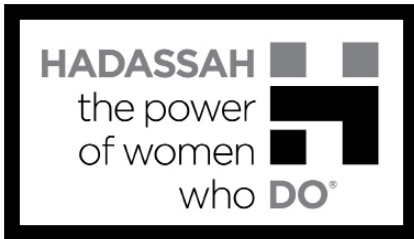
This year we paid tribute to the heroes of recent days: our leaders, healthcare workers, and first responders, who, like the Maccabees of old, never allowed themselves to be daunted by the overwhelming odds against them or the challenges they faced. They have shown remarkable resilience in their quest to treat, mitigate and eventually eliminate the threat of this horrific disease. Our teachers and small business owners sacrificed their well-being day in and day out to ensure that others could continue to survive and grow in a healthy environment.

The four representatives of the Chattanooga community corresponding to the four candles we lit were: Mr. Sam Roistacher, from the East Ridge Police Department, representing all of our first responding heroes; Mrs. Kimberly Wolff, trained COVID nurse from the Erlanger Health care system, representing all of our healthcare workers; Ms. Jen Wachs, teacher at Spring Creek Elementary School, representing all of our heroes in the education system; and Mr. Bruce Weiss from River St. Deli, representing all of our small business owners and employers.

May the Almighty watch over our brothers & sisters and keep them safe and sound and may we merit to see the full light of the Chanukah candles and the light of Moshiach speedily in our day. May G-d bless us all and may G-d bless the USA.

- Jan 3
- Talmud - Pesachim 43
- Jan 10
- Talmud - Pesachim 50
- Jan 12
- Thinking good with Mr. Natan Sharansky
- Jan 17
- Talmud - Pesachim 57
- Jan 19
- Bury or Burn – Jewish perspective on cremation with Doron Kornbluth
- Jan 24
- Talmud - Pesachim 64
- Jan 31
- Talmud - Pesachim 71
- Feb 2
- JLI - Journey of the Soul





Hadassah Happenings

by Judith Sachsman

Hadassah and the Jewish Federation celebrated Hanukkah by collecting food for the Brainerd Food Pantry and toiletries for Room in the Inn for homeless women and their dependents. The effort was coordinated by Carla Morrow. Thank you to all who helped fill our boxes!

In honor of Tu B'Shevat (January 28th), Hadassah will be selling tree and water certificates. Think environment; think Israel. Contact Millie Lander to purchase an \$18 certificate at millander523@gmail.com

On Sunday, January 31st at 2 PM, Hadassah will present a Zoom program "Holocaust Education in Tennessee, the USA and Beyond" featuring Dr Irven Resnick, Chair of Judaic Studies at UTC; Alison Lebovitz, a member of the Tennessee Holocaust Commission; Inbal Lev, the Federation Israeli shlicha; and Nashville Hadassah member Erin Coleman, who is making a movie about the grandchildren of Holocaust survivors. Interested members should register in advance so they can receive the Zoom link.

Start looking for award-winning masks for Chattanooga's Maskerade Zoom event in honor of Purim at the end of February. More information will follow.

Annual Giving enables Hadassah to allocate support of its many medical 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.

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

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.

HADASSAH CHATTANOOGA PRESENTS
**HOLOCAUST EDUCATION IN TENNESSEE,
 THE USA AND BEYOND**
 SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2021
 2:00 PM | VIA ZOOM

FEATURING:

Dr. Irven Resnick, Chair of Judaic Studies at University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Alison Lebovitz, a member of the Tennessee Holocaust Commission

Inbal Lev, the Israeli Shlicha

Erin Coleman, Hadassah Nashville member, who is making a movie about the grandchildren of Holocaust survivors.



Meet Malia.
She has multiple sclerosis.

Today, she lives a fuller life than anyone believed possible, thanks to an innovative stem cell treatment she received at Hadassah Medical Organization.

She calls herself lucky because of her improved energy, strength, and motor skills.

She calls her doctor the Rock Star of Stem Cell Therapies.

We call her—and her treatment—the face of new possibility.

March is Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month. Advance Hadassah's groundbreaking MS research. Bring hope to more families. **Donate.**

HADASSAH
the power of women who **DO**

800.928.0685 hadassah.org/MSresearch
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January

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

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

P.O.Box 8947
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