



A PUBLICATION OF THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA



**Renovations Underway: See page 7**

## *In This Issue*

- Volunteers-of-the-Year - Pages 12-13
- Falafel Thursday - Page 10
- Federation Annual Meeting - Back Page

# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## Shalom x2



I remember meeting with current Board Chair Mike Spector many years ago at Ankar's for lunch. Mike had always been involved in Federation—and was one of our best campaigners too! Mike was retiring (or at least cutting back), and I thought this would be a great opportunity to catch up and gauge his interest in Federation leadership. Little did Mike know that this would lead him down an incredible path.

A couple of weeks after our lunch and discussion, Mike got back to me and was "all in." Mike took on the role of Campaign Chair for two years and is now completing his two-year term as Board Chair. Mike was in the first graduating classes of our local Jewish Leadership program. He also attended JFNA (Jewish Federations of North America) Campaign Missions to Buenos Aires/Montevideo, Berlin, Budapest, Kiev and Israel. It was obvious that Mike's passion for the Jewish community was strong, and he was more than ready for his new roles.

Mike has probably had one of the most unique Board Chair terms. Of the 12 meetings during his term, only one, February 2020, was in person! Maybe we'll remember Mike's term as the COVID years. But what I will remember most is the way he engaged the Board and community. Through his leadership, the Board was more active than ever, reaching out to the community through calls, emails and cards, and by overall participation including committee work.

Mike has a great sense of humor along with a strong business

sense. He is always calm, cool, and collected and he thinks through issues as they arise. I've been fortunate to be part of Mike's Federation journey and experiences, from meeting Holocaust survivors and seniors to engaging with teens and young adults all over the world. Mike and his family have been lifelong Federation supporters; his father, Mark, was also a Federation Board Chair. Thank you, Mike, for your leadership, friendship, and mutual trust. Your passion inspires me; you're leaving the Federation in an even better place than you found it.

I am equally excited to welcome Rob Lowe as our next Board Chair. Rob and his family thought Chattanooga was going to be their home for two to three years. Now, ten plus years later, they are one of the most involved families in the Jewish community. Rob is also a

graduate of our Jewish Leadership class and has traveled to Israel and overseas locations to see the Federation's work firsthand. He intimately understands the daily work of our social services, programs, and preschool. He's more than ready to take the leadership reins.

Rob is known for his thoughtfulness. He is not only a caring person, but his insight and suggestions lead to informed, thoughtful decisions. He's not afraid to ask for guidance and input from others and to surround himself with other competent leaders—all great leadership characteristics. And there is no doubt that Rob is a team player, as he's completing his second year as Co-Campaign Chair with Fern Shire. Falling in love with Chattanooga has turned out great for the Lowe family and our Jewish community.

### 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Terms expiring January 2025

Adam Gerson Marilyn Goler Andy Hodes  
Art Lewis Jed Mescon Erica Newman

#### Terms expiring January 2024

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

#### Terms expiring January 2023

Ross Cohn Steve Cohn Rob Cowan  
Lindsey Dodson David Israel Barbie Potts

#### One Year Board Chair Appointment

Amy Cohen Al Jarman Jen Lincove Edie Weiss Richard Zachary

#### ROLL OFF

Robin Balsler Stephen Black Lee Brouner  
Austin Center Lynne Herman Susan Matzkin

#### Executive Committee Members

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



## FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

**Mike Spector** Mspector19@Gmail.com

### ***Thank You, Chattanooga!***

This is my farewell and thank-you article. I suspect my tenure as Board Chair will rate as one of the wildest. We had only one face-to-face board meeting, in February 2020, and then we met by Zoom for every other one. I certainly hope my successor, Rob Lowe, has a more typical term.

I have been president of several organizations in my past, and the Jewish Federation has been the easiest. Executive Director Michael Dzik is the best. He has made the ride very smooth, ensuring that I was prepared at every step. I was around when my father was Federation Chair when Steve Drysdale, now with ORT, was Executive Director. I thought Steve was the best, but Michael has him beat hands-down. I also thank Program Director Ann Treadwell, who always is on top of the programs. Social Services Director Christi Haustein came through my time with the Federation with flying colors. She has even reached out to me now that I am a senior citizen.

Office/Accounting/Facilities Manager Annette McJunkin is infallible with the Federation's finances, and Communications Manager Jake Balsler is tireless. The entire staff is great. And Alice – just wow!

My hope is that the community knew during my tenure and continues to know that I am committed to the mission and the future of the Chattanooga Jewish Federation. If you are thinking about our mission, I recommend that you participate on a mission trip. You will see the good that we, as a collective, do. The Federation is there for Jewish children, teens, adults, and seniors. We raise and distribute close to a billion dollars every year, and very dedicated people know where the needs are locally and around the world.

Bottom line: get involved. Donate, and definitely consider a legacy gift so what we do continues far into the future. ***Thank you, Chattanooga!***



## FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

**Ann Treadwell** Atreadwell@JewishChattanooga.com • 493-0270 ext 13

### ***Engage for a Strong Foundation***

Recently my husband and son tore apart one of our bathrooms. The floor had become "soft," although they couldn't find any moisture on the floorboard or on the ceiling below. As they ripped apart the first, then second, and finally the subfloor, they discovered the problem. We had a rotten floor joist. Upon investigation, we found that an original valve had been incorrectly installed on a pipe affecting the original toilet. When we had cosmetically updated this bathroom, we didn't replace the toilet and therefore did not discover the problem.

The weekend then included several trips to Lowe's and Home Depot, hammering, and replacing part of the joist. It required full family engagement. I became the measurement person, courier, and accountant. My husband and son were plumbers and carpenters. Once the rest of the new subfloor is in, we will replace the 50-year-old chocolate brown

toilet with a water efficient one and become tilers and painters.

With the renovation of the Jewish Cultural Center we, too, have an opportunity to consider how and with what we want to replace what we have. The contractors are transforming the building, taking it down to its bare bones. We can metaphorically now take the Federation housed by the Cultural Center down to its bare bones by closely reviewing our services. Without a facility, the first step is to find spaces to gather for that review, but the Cultural Center is unavailable to us from January through March. I'd like for us to get together in smaller, more intimate spaces where six to eight vaccinated and boosted people can gather socially and in conversation.

***Will you volunteer to host in your home for a couple of hours in January, February, or March?***

Cont. Page 5





**FROM SOCIAL WORKER** Hours: Mon., Tues., and Wed., 9:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.

**Marki Kaim, MSW, QMHP** Mkaim@JewishChattanooga.com • (423) 322-8641

## The Vicious Cycle

Now, perhaps more than ever, isolation is the common denominator among us. Unfortunately, isolation is a breeding ground for a series of unfortunate events, experiences, and diagnoses. In particular, isolation is regularly linked to depression.

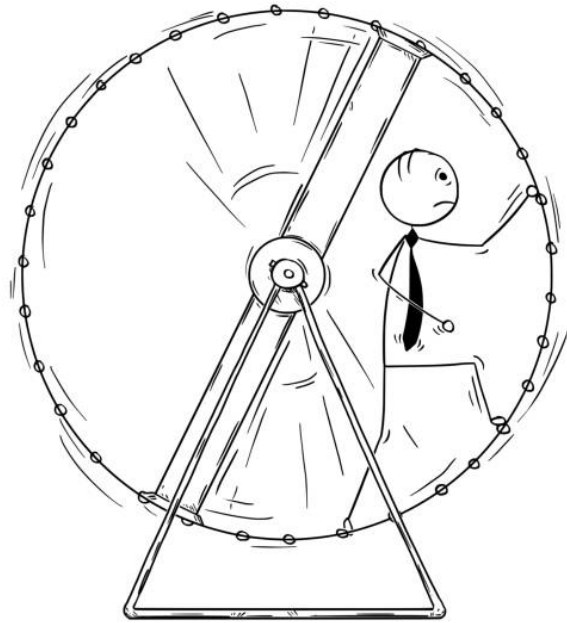
The trouble here is that isolation exacerbates depression and depression exacerbates isolation. This means the following: a lack of human interaction leads to depressive feelings and the more we have these unhappy feelings the less likely we are to socialize. This leads to a domino effect of other adverse effects. While depressive symptoms look different for everyone, they may involve experiences of:

1. No longer finding pleasure in activities one used to enjoy
2. Appetite changes
3. Change in sleep habits
4. Inability to concentrate
5. Weight gain or loss
6. Irritability
7. Hopelessness
8. Mood swings

Most of us endure some of these feelings from time to time. The vicious cycle, however, is when one of these symptoms leads to another and soon we find ourselves unable to break out of the darkness.

**A synopsis from a past client, we'll call Beth:** Unable to leave the house due to COVID, Beth began working from her bedroom instead of the office. Without time outside each day her body was not releasing the chemicals responsible for happiness. Without this chemical release, Beth did not feel inclined to see her friends. Beth stayed in her room for most of the day and without her normal outdoor exercise routine she lost her appetite. Because she was home most of the day she began to stay awake later and wake up much later. Most of the day she was drowsy. It became more challenging to leave her bedroom to cook, clean, socialize, and move her body.

This initiated feelings of guilt, dejection, and agitation. Her home was closing in on her and before she knew it there was too much to tackle.



**Tips for escaping the cycle:** One change can make all the difference. Will yourself to make one small change. Since Beth loves the outdoors, she began to work on her porch instead of in her bedroom. This one adjustment created an opportunity for everything else to follow suit.

Another client was able to break free of the cycle by committing to a nighttime routine. Each night at a predetermined time she got ready for bed and, instead of watching TV to fall asleep, she read. This redirected her sleep cycle and improved her mood, mitigating her other day-to-day isolation habits.

These examples are not meant to minimize the impact of mental health challenges. Rather, I hope to normalize the grave impacts that COVID has had on our mental state to help us elevate our wellbeing. In many scenarios, it is not this simple to ameliorate our lives, but in the off-chance you have recently found yourself in a period of seclusion and overwhelming challenges, find six seconds of courage to alter the course of your day.

**Ann Treadwell (Strong Foundation) Cont. from Page 3**

The Federation would supply something to nosh, maybe a bottle of wine or two, a special tea or coffee. A Federation volunteer or staff person would also be there. Think of it as a non-fundraising salon. Ask any question about Federation, or perhaps let one of us tell you about something we do that you might not be aware of. But most importantly it would be a way for you to personally get to know more about the volunteers and staff that want to make the Federation and Jewish Cultural Center a place where you want to engage when we reopen after the renovation.



If my family hadn't done our renovation, we would have learned the hard way about the importance of a strong foundation. The Federation and its programs also need one to inspire you to engage with us. Contact me if you are interested. Email is best during the renovation: [atreadwell@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:atreadwell@jewishchattanooga.com). I look forward to hearing from you!



SAVE THE DATE

Friday  
January 14  
YJL Shabbat Dinner

More details to follow on our Facebook group.  
Look us up on  Young Jewish Leadership of Greater Chattanooga

*Jewish-style food, haimisha atmosphere*  
Catering for all events!

**OPEN 7 DAYS**  
Sun.- Fri. 10:30-3:00  
Sat. 10:30 to 5:00  
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fax 266-8646 (TOGO)



151 River Street  
across from Coolidge Park

[riverstreet-deli.com](http://riverstreet-deli.com)  
Check our website for our daily menu

# the JEW CREW

## WE LOVE CHANUKAH A LATKE!

by Alison Lebovitz and Andy Hodes, Jew Crew Advisors

The Jew Crew gathered in December at the Lebovitz home for our annual Chanukah Party, complete with Chef Andy Hodes' world-famous homemade latkes and an awesome game of "Dirty Chanukah," complete with lots of laughter and lots of gift stealing. Of course, considering everything that has happened over the past two years, everyone agreed that being together in person constituted a modern day miracle. We are looking forward to more exciting Jew Crew programs in 2022, including our annual Jew Crew Retreat at Camp Ramah Darom February 25 to 27. Happy New Year!



LOVE  
LIGHT  
LATKES

## Tuesday Cafe via ZOOM

January 4, 11, 18

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

The Juliets, a women's lunch group, will meet for lunch once a month outside of the Jewish Cultural Center. For more information and the January date, contact [mkaim@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:mkaim@jewishchattanooga.com)



Do you need assistance  
with your home  
to stay independent?

## Handy Helpers

Are you 60 years old or older?

Do you need assistance with home maintenance, repair, or minor accessibility upgrades?

Do you want to decrease your utility bills?

For more information or to register  
contact **Christ Haustein, (423) 493-0270**  
or visit [www.jewishchattanooga.com](http://www.jewishchattanooga.com).

Brought to you by the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga, St. Alexius Outreach Ministries, United Way of Greater Chattanooga, Impact 1 and Build It Green.



## Mitzvah Meals Delivered or picked-up

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.

**Contact: Christi Haustein**  
[Chaustein@JewishChattanooga.com](mailto:Chaustein@JewishChattanooga.com)  
(423) 893-9241

## Condolences

*We are sad to announce the passing of*

**Greer Brody** - died on Dec. 19, 2021, in Chattanooga. He was a son of Dr. Kirk and Donna Brody and a brother to Griffin Brody and Grace Brody.

## Bar Mitzvah

**Jan. 15 at Mizpah Congregation**

Jacob Nash, 14, will be called to the Torah at 10:30 a.m. on Jan. 15 at Mizpah Congregation. Jacob is a son of Joanna Nash-Presley and a stepson of Scott Presley. He has one brother, Joey Nash, 16.



Jacob attends Ooltewah High School. He has been a drummer with Rock Skool of Chattanooga for almost eight years. He enjoys playing basketball, following the San Francisco Giants baseball team, and visiting his cousins in San Diego.

"Becoming a Bar Mitzvah means I'm growing up and taking responsibility for my Jewish identity," says Jacob. "I'm grateful for the influence of Rabbi Lewis and Rabbi Tepper throughout the years."

For the past few months, Jacob has been working with Helping the Chattanooga Homeless. Among the work he does is to bring warm clothing, sleeping bags, or tents to homeless individuals every other week. For his Bar Mitzvah, Jacob requests donations of these items or a monetary contribution to Helping the Chattanooga Homeless to assist with this important work.

## 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-Thursday: Joel

Tuesday & Thursday: Susan

Tuesday & Wednesday: Billy Joe / Zev

**Joel Scribner (423) 321-4236**

**Susan Berner (423) 508-4895**

**Billy Joe Ragland (423) 298-7169**

**Temp: Zev Kaplowitz (423) 298-7169**



## CHANUKAH ON THE MOUNTAIN

December 1, 2021

Dozens of members of the Signal Mountain Jewish Community joined for a sunset celebration of Chanukah. The eight- night holiday celebrating the victory of a small band over a large army is celebrated with the lighting of the nine branched Hanukah menorah. Each night a candle is added until the entire menorah is lit.

Signal Mountain residents, Jennifer Brownfield Lewis and Susan Wolf-Schwartz sponsored the event which was attended by community members ages 1-91. Each family brought their own menorah and candles for the fourth night of Chanukah and the candles were lit and enjoyed.



## RENOVATION BEGINS!



Lobby



Multi-purpose Room



Bathroom

## JEWISH FEDERATION COMMUNITY CHANUKAH PARTY



Rob Lowe in the latke eating contest



Winners of the latke eating contest:  
Cassie Rose and Justin Sigman

The photos above were captured by William Johnson, Instagram [wm.johnsonphotography](https://www.instagram.com/wm.johnsonphotography)



## ALEPH BET CHIDRENS CENTER

Meghan Graybeal AlephBet@JewishChattanooga.com • 893-5486



Aleph Bet provides an educational, interactive and developmentally appropriate preschool program enriched by Jewish traditions and values.

### The Outdoor Education Movement

In the recent past, we've seen a trend in early childhood education: the outdoor kindergarten. Especially with concerns over COVID, more and more families are concerned with how much time their child spends outside each day. But, as with most fads, outdoor kindergarten actually has a long established history.

The Nature Study movement arose at the end of the nineteenth century, born out of a fear of what children may be losing by growing up in an industrialized society. It was reimagined in Western Europe and the U.S. as open-air schools, primarily for children recovering from common illnesses, particularly tuberculosis. With the rise of antibiotic treatments, the open-model fell out of fashion in the mid-twentieth century.

The modern forest school is a child-focused, play-based program generally conducted in a wooded area. Students may spend all or most of their day outside, interacting with nature and exploring what holds their interest.

At Aleph Bet, we prize our access to nature. We enjoy direct experiences in a natural setting when we have the opportunity to explore our small patch of trees. The children also love the indirect experience of tending to our garden and indoor plants, watching the birds that visit our feeders, and the other animals and bugs that live in our little corner of the world. Finally, the symbolic representations we provide with our chosen books, as well as the natural items we incorporate in arts, crafts, and playtime, help us bring outdoor wonders into our classroom. We take every opportunity to be outside year-round!

This winter and early spring, we'll be spending more time than ever enjoying our outdoor space, as access to our big room is limited during facility renovations. We're looking forward to the fresh air and the exploration that awaits!



Discovering ice on a chilly morning



Organizing leaves



Creating leaf artwork





**Inbal Lev** *Federation Shlicha*

Israel@JewishChattanooga.com • (423) 385-0098

## **An Unusual Reason to Eat Falafel - Thursday, Jan. 20**

In January, I invite you to take part in "Operation Dogo" and join me in eating falafel! Why January, and why falafel? Here's the story from the Yad Vashem website:

David Leitner (Dogo) was born in 1930 in Nyiregyhaza, Hungary, into a religious family of six. In 1938, his father was drafted into the Hungarian army, returning in March 1944, just before the German invasion. Within a few weeks, local gendarmes had confiscated the Jews' valuables and herded them into a ghetto. Six weeks later they were taken to the train station, packed into cattle cars and deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau.

At Birkenau, the men of David's family were separated from his mother and sisters, who were murdered immediately. David's father and brother were sent to Buchenwald and from there to Bergen-Belsen, while David remained in Birkenau with 40,000 other children. Being tall and strong, David survived further selections, as well as a severe beating after he was caught trying to escape on one of the transports exiting the camp. On Simchat Torah, David was herded with hundreds of other children to the crematorium. Amid cries of Shema Yisrael and calls for their parents, the children were stripped naked for extermination. Suddenly the process stopped; a group of children was needed to unpack potatoes from a train of supplies that had just arrived. David was among 50 children chosen for the task: they worked amidst the whistle of bullets, as guards shot at them for amusement.

In January 1945, David was transported to Mauthausen where the prisoners were whipped by SS soldiers and left naked in the freezing cold for three days. In April, they were marched through the pouring rain to Gunskirchen, where thousands of them huddled together in a camp of roofless shacks. On 4 May, the survivors discovered that the Germans had fled the camp, so David made his way to a nearby town. After six months in hospital, David was strong enough to return to his ruined home. There he found his brother, who told him that their father had died marching from Bergen-Belsen.

Three months later David traveled to Czechoslovakia with the Bricha (Escape) organization, and then to Austria and Italy. In 1949, he sailed to Israel, joining the IDF while still aboard the ship. He settled in Nir Galim, where he met his Israeli-born wife, Sarah. Today David and Sarah have two daughters, ten grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Shortly after immigrating to Israel, Dogo toured the Mahane Yehuda market in Jerusalem, and saw falafel balls fried in oil. He decided that every year, on January 18,

the day he started walking in the death march, he would eat falafel as much as he could until he "exploded" to celebrate that he is alive, that he is no longer hungry, that he fulfilled his mother's dream and came to the Land of Israel. (He said he used to be able to eat more than three servings of falafel alone. In recent years, due to his age, he eats one serving.)

In 2016 The Testimony House\* initiated "Operation Dogo," turning Dogo's private custom into something the entire public can take part in. The community center invited people from all over the country and the world to eat falafel on the same date, January 18 (or around the same date in our case), and upload the photos to social media.

The Prisons Service in Israel serves falafel in the dining rooms that day, many schools around the country and the world are learning about the death march, and additional participants include government offices and embassies, workplaces, catering companies, youth movements, and communities and individuals. In 2019, President Reuven Rivlin participated in Operation Dogo, and, in 2020, IDF's Chief of Staff, Aviv Kochavi, participated, eating his falafel with Dogo himself.

**Our local Operation Dogo event will be Thursday, Jan. 20. at 5:30 p.m. at The Edney Innovation Center, 1100 Market Street. We will meet for dinner and conversation.**

\* The Testimony House, which focuses on the Holocaust and the post-Holocaust revival, is the unique realization of the burning passion of a group of Holocaust survivors to share their firsthand experiences with future generations. The museum is located in Nir Galim, Israel,, a pastoral village south of Tel Aviv established in 1949 by these survivors.



# Falafel Thursday

"OPERATION DOGO"

Dogo (David Leitner) is a Holocaust survivor who marched on the death march from Auschwitz. Every year on January 18 he avenges his private revenge on the Nazis and eats two servings of falafel. He invites his family and all the people of Israel to eat the falafel with him and announces "The people of Israel are alive and happy and eating falafel!" In 2016 the House of Testimony initiated "Operation Dogo", turning Dogo's private custom into something that the entire public can take part in.

**THURSDAY**  
**JANUARY 20, 2022**  
**5:30PM**

Join us at **THE EDNEY**  
**Innovation Center**  
 1100 Market Street  
 for dinner and conversation

**\$15 PER PERSON**  
 for more information and to  
 purchase tickets  
[www.jewishchattanooga.com](http://www.jewishchattanooga.com)

**Dogo's Falafel**  
 הפלאפל של דוגו



# nashim A Rosh Chodesh Women's Group

Rosh Chodesh (the holiday of the new month) is traditionally a celebration for women



Join women of all ages from Israel, the Southeast USA, and Prague for a series of study sessions in which we will delve into the world of women and Judaism.

- |                                      |                                    |                                 |                          |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (Leadership)<br>אדר א'<br>January 30 | (Courage)<br>אדר ב'<br>February 27 | (Liberation)<br>ניסן<br>April 3 | (Love)<br>אייר<br>May 15 |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|

- Facilitated by Jasmine Hubara, Hadera-Eiron P2G Fellow
- Co-hosted Rabbi Michal Ratner Ken-tor, Pardes-Hanna Karkur
- Special guests from the Southeast Consortium

All events will take place at  
 1pm EST/ 12pm CST/ 8pm ISR



## 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!**



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# Chattanooga Jewish

2022

**DOCS**  
Documentary Film Series



**February 15 - 18: *Yerusalem, The Incredible Story of Ethiopian Jewry*** For 2500 years, the Jews of Ethiopia believed that they were the last Jews on Earth. Deeply connected to their faith, Yerusalem brings to life the long, dramatic and tumultuous journey of this community as they finally find their way back to the heart of the Jewish people, Jerusalem. Hebrew, Ethiopian, subtitles 90 minutes

**February 22-25: *Mish Mish*** In a basement near Paris a treasure - trove of Egyptian animated films has been found. The films show the work of the Arab world's pioneers in this genre, the Frenkel brothers: three exceptional young film - makers, creators of Mish-Mish Effendi, the Mickey Mouse of the entire region, which disappeared from Egyptian screens when the State of Israel was created. English, Hebrew, French, subtitles 74 minutes



**March 1- 4: *Outremont and the Hasidim*** The challenges of accommodating the "Hasidim", or ultra-Orthodox Jews, in the affluent Montréal borough of Outremont highlight the need for relationship building. After settling there more than 70 years ago, the Hasidim are a rapidly growing minority group which today represents about 23% of Outremont's population. The growing presence of the Hasidim and their believed refusal to integrate causes distrust and fear. English, French, Yiddish, subtitles 53 minutes

**March 8 - 11: *The Legacy of Aristides*** In June 1940 in Bordeaux, France Aristides de Sousa Mendes saved tens of thousands of Jews and non-Jews by issuing them visas for Portugal. As the Portuguese consul to France in the early years of the Second World War, Sousa Mendes found himself continually more restricted by the policies of Portugal's prime minister, who had assumed a position of neutrality in his desire not to offend Hitler. French, subtitles 72 minutes



All films will screen virtually for 72 hours beginning at noon the day listed (Tuesdays) and ending at noon 48 hours later (Friday). 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](http://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.**



## 2021 Volunteers

### **JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA: Stephen Black**

The Jewish Federation is pleased to name Stephen Black our 2021 Volunteer-of-the-Year. Stephen has been an active member of the Federation Board and a Jewish Film Series committee member for many years. He chaired the Documentary Film Series in 2021 and will do so again for the 2022 series that begins on Feb. 16.

Stephen has helped lead the committee in new directions that included the documentary selection process, the shift to a subscription process, working through virtual versus in-person screening during the pandemic, selecting dates, discussion about school screenings of Holocaust films, filming a cultural cooking session, and promoting conversation about the future of the Series.

Thank you, Stephen, for your tireless work and for ensuring our community has diverse films to view each and every year.

### **ALEPH BET CHILDREN'S CENTER: Rose Zulliger**

Rose joined the Aleph Bet family last spring when her children, Miguel and Sadie, were first enrolled in the Blue and Yellow classrooms. From the outset, Rose has been eager to help in whatever way she can. Rose's time to truly shine came as we planned Aleph Bet's virtual 5K, the Gobble Wobble.

As a running enthusiast, Rose was key in building anticipation in the community for this inaugural event. In addition to being a vocal colleague and organized leader during committee meetings, Rose personally created multiple meet-ups to give supporters a chance to meet and participate together.

### **CHABAD OF CHATTANOOGA - Robert J. Krigelman**

If you ask anyone who visits Chabad to describe Robert, they won't talk about him as the one on the ladder changing the Ner Tamid. They may not mention his building of the individual tables we used during Covid or setting up the telescopes and "fireworks" for Camp Gan Israel. They may not talk about his volunteer drives to Huntsville or even to Houston! They will talk about his friendship and warmth.

Robert is everyone's first and true friend at Chabad. In addition to keeping us in shape with all his volunteer work and assistance, he is the reason Chabad is known for its warm and loving atmosphere. With Robert, we all fulfill the teaching of Rabbi Yehoshua Ben Prachiya to "acquire for yourself a real friend" (Mishna Avot).

Chabad of Chattanooga is honored to recognize Robert J. Krigelman as our Volunteer-of-the-Year.

### **B'NAI ZION CONGREGATION - Dr. Bill Hillner**

Two of the most critical elements of a synagogue are its rabbi and its space. During a period when both were in transition at B'nai Zion, Bill has given, and continues to give, generously of his time to address these challenges. When BZ transitioned from Rabbi Tendler to an interim rabbi, Rabbi Norry, and then from Rabbi Norry to Rabbi Rotenberg, Bill was there each step of the way, doing the legwork to make the transitions smooth and the rabbinic search successful.

address a critical issue head-on. Beyond this, he is a former BZ President, has been a member of the Board and of the Executive Committee for more than 10 years, is an active service leader, is inspirationally passionate about B'nai Zion, and, overall, is an extraordinary mensch.

We are grateful for everything Bill has given to our community, and are extremely lucky to have such a remarkable volunteer. Thank you so much, Bill.

Now, as chair of the Building Committee, Bill is again leading the charge, putting in the hours, and making difficult decisions to







## **HADASSAH - Katherine Kessler**

For many years, Hadassah Life Member Katherine Kessler served on the Rosh Hashanah Greeting Card committee, which coordinates an important annual fundraiser for the chapter. Katherine carefully compiled names for printing the lists of donors, recorded the donations received, and prepared the remittances sent to National Hadassah.

Katherine's volunteer contributions

to this project helped make the Greeting Card a success! Her support of Hadassah projects has made events such as last year's Purim Zoom program possible, even enabling Hadassah to use the musical talent of Edward Bergin to ensure a successful program.

Hadassah is grateful for the continuing efforts of members like Katherine.

## **MACHANOOGA - Juniper Russo and Elizabeth Brunton**

Machanooga is pleased to honor these 2021 Volunteers-of-the-Year. Our Machanoogan families juggle so much throughout the year. When we have parents able to find time in their busy lives to lend a helping hand or bring their expertise to our students, it is honorable and greatly appreciated.

Thank you, Juniper, who taught our students about caring for animals by bringing in the animals they care for during our Noah's Ark programming. Thank you, Elizabeth, who jumped in to lend a hand as a seller in our shuk (market) for our Jerusalem programming. Machanooga thanks you both for your willingness to help and especially for your time. Mazel Tov.



## **MIZPAH CONGREGATION - Dr. Frank Miller**

In his role as President, Frank has gone beyond the call these past few years. He has successfully carried out his duties as President of our congregation. Frank is able to bring people together and make things happen. He, like the late Henry Kissinger, negotiates and gets along with others to achieve goals that benefit many.

He developed protocols for COVID isolation, bringing together people with varying opinions and expertise. He organized a Safety and Security Committee for our Temple during a time that anti-Jewish sentiments across the world are increasing.

Frank brought the Sheriff's department in to help develop a customized plan involving multiple congregants.

In the greater Chattanooga Jewish community, Frank continues to chair the Jewish Film Series. He worked with the Leadership of B'nai Zion Congregation at a time when their congregation needed a space to worship, establishing a Shabbat schedule so that we shared our beautiful Ochs Temple in 2021. It is with unanimous support of the Mizpah Board of Directors that we submit Frank Miller's name for Volunteer-of-the-Year.



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



Susan Caminez  
roshnooga@gmail.com

## Machanooga Blazes a New Trail Spring Semester Starts Jan. 23

When December 2021 began, we only had a few classes remaining in the fall semester of Machanooga. We celebrated the last night of Chanukah by decorating our own dreidels and making nine candles for our chanukiah. We had a groovy time when we conducted an experiment with oil, water, and sodium bicarbonate to make what looked like lava lamps! If that wasn't enough, we made Jewish calendars for the secular new year.

Our last class of the semester was a blast as we toured Jerusalem's shuk, or market. We spent our shekels on wares such as spices for our besamim box, new kippot that we decorated, hamsa bracelets, Jerusalem art, and scarves at the textile shop. We got to try new food like baklava, Israeli chocolate (especially the one with the pop rocks in it), Osem's Bissli chips, and of course, hummus and pita. We even visited the Kotel and placed our prayers between the stones. It was an incredible ending to what has been an incredible semester.

Our teachers are busy planning what will be an even more incredible spring semester. We will hold Maccabiah Games leading up to Purim carnival, a special seder for Passover and many more adventures yet to come.

At Machanooga our students have learned their prayers through fun, interactive music. They have learned Torah by engaging with weekly parashot through art, play, or activities. They have learned Jewish culture by experiencing it through taste or hands-on activities. Most importantly they have built community by being with others like them. We have rolling registration, which means your students are welcome to join us along this learning trail at any time.

Machanooga meets Sunday mornings from 9:30a.m. to noon. Our spring semester starts Jan. 23. It is available to students from preschool to eighth grade. If you want your student to try it, please email me at roshnooga@gmail.com to arrange a visit. See you on the trail!



MACHANOOGA SPRING SEMESTER 2022
January 2
January 9
January 16
January 23
January 30
February 6
February 13
February 20
February 27
March 6
March 13
March 20
March 27
April 3
April 10
April 17
April 24
May 1



923 McCallie Avenue  
 Chattanooga, TN 37403  
 423-267-9771  
[www.MizpahCongregation.org](http://www.MizpahCongregation.org)  
[Office@MizpahCongregation.org](mailto:Office@MizpahCongregation.org)

Page Editor: Richard Zachary



We are a welcoming and inclusive congregation, offering worship, learning, social action, and social programming that enhances the lives of our members, helping us as we make choices of our lives that we might better ourselves and our world by our actions.

**Temple Open for Business!**  
*Rabbi Lewis and our Board Welcome You!*

Friday Kabbalat Shabbat services  
 Shirei Shabbat: Sabbath of Song  
 Torah Study  
 Bar and Bat Mitzvah Classes and Celebrations

Weddings  
 Individual Hebrew teaching for children  
 Zoom, Temple Livestreaming and Facebook Live  
 Bar / Bat Mitzvah training

*Please check with Temple Administrator Angela Rickert for details and read our Weekly Email Announcements*

**HANUKKAH CELEBRATIONS**



*Mizpah Family Hanukkah Night at Camp Jordan*



*Malcolm Brown at Mizpah Hanukkah on the Steps*



*Signal Mountain Hanukkah Party*



**TORAH STUDY**

**Shabbat Morning Torah Study | 9:00 a.m.**

Join Rabbi Lewis for Torah Study. We read portions of the parsha from Plaut Commentary and other chumashim. ZOOM LINK included in our bi-weekly email announcements

**MIZPAH Ongoing and Special Activities**

*Please attend your favorite Mizpah activity  
 We offer in-person and virtually everything  
 you've come to expect*

- Sundays:** Machanooga 9:30 a.m.
- Wednesdays:** 7:30 a.m. Morning Mussar  
 (contact Rabbi Lewis)  
 1:30 p.m. Federation Caregivers Support Group
- Thursdays:** 6:30 p.m. Adult B'nai Mizpah Classes
- Fridays:** Kabbalat Shabbat services 6:00 p.m.
- Saturdays:** 9:00 a.m. Torah Study  
 11:00 a.m. Shabbat worship services

**January 15th Bar Mitzvah Jacob Nash 10:30 p.m.**

**For Details: [www.MizpahCongregation.org](http://www.MizpahCongregation.org)**

**Shabbat Learner's Service**

Hebrew students' preparation for Bar or Bat Mitzvah! Held in conjunction with our regular Shabbat worship services.



## Celebrate and Enrich Jewish Life

B'nai Zion's vision is to inspire a vibrant, uplifting, and inclusive community connected to the dynamic traditions of Conservative Judaism.

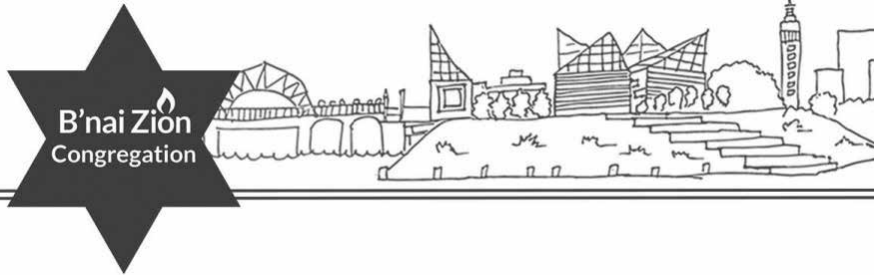


P.O. Box 3293  
Cleveland TN 37320  
423-894-8900

[www.BnaiZionCongregation.com](http://www.BnaiZionCongregation.com)  
[Shul@BZCongregation.com](mailto:Shul@BZCongregation.com)

### Want to learn more about BZ?

Contact Rabbi Rotenberg to set up a time to meet!  
[rabbi@bzcongregation.com](mailto:rabbi@bzcongregation.com)  
423-894-8900



Muffins + Shabbat =



mmm!

## SHABBAT MUFFINS

BZ's Shabbat morning kids program  
with Rabbi Keilah Lebell

Saturday, January 8 | 10:30 AM | Mizpah 2nd floor

## Southern Schmooze

at Ramah Darom

Join us in the North Georgia mountains for a fun-filled weekend with members of our congregation and a chance to schmooze with others from around the Southeast.



February 4 - 6, 2022

Learn more and register at

[ramahdarom.org/schmooze](http://ramahdarom.org/schmooze)



For New and Prospective Members:

## A TASTE OF BZ

Social Gathering and Wine Tasting with Imbibe!  
Tuesday, January 18  
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
At a Private Residence

Email the Office or  
Scan Here to RSVP



## Tu B'shevat

FAMILY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY JANUARY, 16 2022

AT THE FOREST FUN CENTER IN HIXSON, TN  
10:00 - 10:45: FREE PLAY IN THE "FOREST"  
10:45 - 11:15: FAMILY TU B'SHEVAT SEDER  
11:15 - 12:00: FREE PLAY IN THE "FOREST"

SCAN HERE TO LEARN ABOUT TU B'SHEVAT!





950 Vine Street  
 Chattanooga TN 37403  
 423-490-1106  
 www.JewishChatt.com  
 Rabbi@JewishChatt.com



**Chabad is a philosophy, a movement, and an organization.**

Chabad is an educational organization dedicated to helping every Jew, regardless of background, affiliation, or personal level of observance, to increase their level of Jewish knowledge, enthusiasm, and commitment.

## CHANUKAH ON ICE WAS EPIC!

The feeling of 40 Menorah topped awesome cars driving through the streets of Chattanooga filled us all with Jewish pride. We all enjoyed seeing the beautiful ice Menorah and skating at the Choo Choo to Chanukah music.

It's truly no wonder that Martha Stewart Magazine, Expedia and many other travel sites count Chanukah on Ice in Chattanooga as one of the top places to celebrate Chanukah. (try googling it for yourself).

*Thank you Bruce Weiss for the awesome Latkes, we all know Chanukah would never be Chanukah without them!*



**YOU BELONG HERE**

JOIN A WEEKEND YOU'LL NEVER FORGET

Make friends from around the world.

Explore a new city.

Create Jewish memories.

to last a lifetime!

If you are Jewish and in high school you could be part of the fastest growing network of Jewish teens.

FEBRUARY 24 - 27, 2022  
**CTEEN.COM/SHABBATON**



**LEARN TO READ HEBREW IN JUST FIVE SESSIONS!**

4 Tuesdays January 4, 11, 18, 25  
 1 Monday January 31  
 7:00 PM  
 Course - Free  
 Flash Cards - \$35

READ IT IN HEBREW



R.S.V.P. to Rabbi@JewishChatt.com or call 423.490.1106

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.



**Judy Sachsman,  
President of Chattanooga  
Chapter of Hadassah**

### CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

Hadassah members and the Federation community celebrated Chanukah on the third night with dinner, menorah lighting, and Chanukah games, and music at the Waterhouse Pavilion in Miller Plaza.



### HADASSAH'S VOLUNTEER-OF-THE-YEAR

*Congratulations to Hadassah's Volunteer-of-the-Year, Katherine Kessler, who will be recognized at the Annual Federation meeting on Tues., Jan. 25. Katherine has been an essential volunteer, assisting with the High Holiday greeting card and countless other projects. Hadassah appreciates "the women who do."*



Support of the Hadassah Medical Organization enhances the health and lives of people in Israel, the United States, and worldwide through medical care and research. For instance, the transformation of Hadassah's iconic Round Building has been underway for two years. When the pandemic hit, parts of the building were converted into ICUs where countless lives were saved. Despite that interruption, 360 of Healing, The Full Circle Campaign, continued with a new Dialysis Unit, several nursing control stations, and rooms for more than 200 new patient beds. Fortified Safe Rooms on every floor will protect patients and staff against earthquakes, terror attacks, and other disruptions.

Annual Giving enables Hadassah to provide ongoing reliable funds for its many projects such as: Hadassah Medical Organization, which supports saving lives, healing, research, and cutting edge medicine at its two Jerusalem hospitals; Youth Aliyah, which educates and nurtures children at risk; and Young Judea scholarships, which enables children to attend camp and young adults to spend a "gap" year in Israel.

***Annual Givers start with:***

- Chai Society members (\$180/year)**
- Silver Chai members (\$360/year)**
- Traditional Keepers (\$1,000/year)**
- Chai Keepers (\$1,800/year)**
- New Silver Keepers (\$2,500/year)**
- Golden Keepers (\$5,000/year)**

Those who are already Annual Givers should consider increasing donations or stepping up to the next level. Contact Dana Waxler at [dwaxler@hadassah.org](mailto:dwaxler@hadassah.org).

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. In the time of a global pandemic, we are Hadassah. Be proud of who you are, Hadassah women.







## 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 or a strong future Jewish community into a reality. Join today.

- |                 |                  |                   |                     |                         |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Anonymous (2)   | Center, Austin   | Hanan, Victor*    | Lebovitz, Michael   | Spector, Mark*          |
| Allen, Amelia*  | Center, Marilyn  | Hill, J.R.        | Levine, Lawrence*   | Spector, Mike           |
| Allen, Owen     | Cohen, Tal       | Hochman, Colman*  | Lowe, Beth          | Susman, Gail            |
| Alper, Maxine*  | Cohn, Herb       | Hochman, Lynn     | Lowe, Rob           | Susman, Joel            |
| Balsler, Jeff   | Cohn, Sue*       | Hodes, Alvin      | Malsh, Rebecca*     | Weiner, Cara            |
| Balsler, Robin  | Cowan, Rob       | Hodes, Andy       | Nash, Ike*          | White-Dropkin,<br>Donna |
| Barukh, Rebecca | Diamond, Karen   | Hodes, Melody     | Oxenhander, Barbara | Winer, David            |
| Berz, Bob       | DiStefano, David | Howard, Lynn      | Parker, Jordan      | Winer, Elaine           |
| Binder, Claire  | DiStefano, Susan | Israel, David     | Pregulman, Helen    | Winer, Finette          |
| Black, Bonnie   | Dittus, Sandy    | Israel, Scott     | Richelson, Alan     | Winer, Sanford          |
| Black, Stephen  | Dropkin, Warren  | Jaffe, Dot*       | Richelson, Miriam*  | Zachary, Richard        |
| Bogo, Jerry     | Dzik, Michael    | Jaffe, Sam*       | Rose, Cassie        |                         |
| Bogo, Rosalee   | Dzik, Paula      | Lakow, Harry*     | Rose, Kevin         |                         |
| Bohn, Jerry*    | Fairchild, David | Lebovitz, Alison  | Rosenfeld, Jackie   |                         |
| Brooks, Ellyn   | Frank, Estelle*  | Lebovitz, Alan    | Rosenfeld, Roy      |                         |
| Brooks, John    | Hanan, Jan       | Lebovitz, Betty   | Siskin, Pris        |                         |
| Brouner, Betsy  | Hanan, Michael   | Lebovitz, Charles | Sivils, Janet       |                         |
| Brouner, Lee    | Hanan, Rachel    | Lebovitz, Lauren  | Spector, Linda      |                         |

\* Deceased

**Thank you  
for insuring  
our future.**

**See how easy it is to join the Legacy Society!  
Call Michael Dzik at 493-0270 ext 15.**

## STAY INFORMED

A full listing of monthly programs is on our website,  
[www.JewishChattanooga.com](http://www.JewishChattanooga.com), where you can RSVP

Find up-to-date information about online programs,  
cancellations and changes in our:

- Weekly Community Email
- Federation Facebook Page  
(Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga)
- Federation Website  
(JewishChattanooga.com)

**QUESTIONS? Call us!  
423-493-0270**

### CONTACT LIST

- |                  |                                  |
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| Jake Balsler     | Federation@JewishChattanooga.com |



**Jewish Federation**  
OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA

THE **STRENGTH** OF A PEOPLE  
THE **POWER** OF A COMMUNITY

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**Mike Spector**, *Board Chair*  
**Michael Dzik**, *Executive Director*

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Cost for out-of-town subscribers is \$30/year.

Find us online at  
[JewishChattanooga.com](http://JewishChattanooga.com)



## Jewish Federation Annual Meeting

Tuesday, January 25, 7:00 p.m.

Due to renovations the event will be held at Mizpah, 923 McCallie Avenue



**Special Guest: JFNA President and CEO,  
Eric Fingerhut**

The election of Board Members and Officers,  
Volunteers of the Year, and a dessert reception will follow.

[rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com)