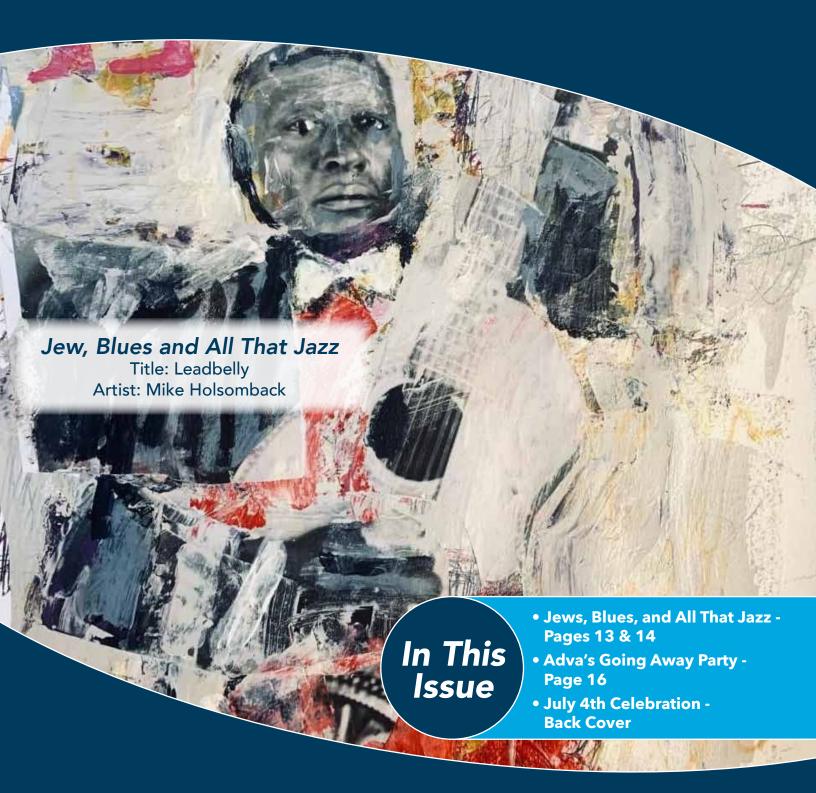




#### A PUBLICATION OF THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA



### FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### Jewish Federation leadership trip to Israel

In 2004 I traveled on the national Jewish Federation leadership trip to Russia and Israel with Stuart Bush.

The following year Alison Lebovitz joined me on this trip to Tblisi, Georgia and Israel. After returning, we sat around the room at a Federation leadership meeting telling our stories - doing a home visit to a senior citizen who received weekly food boxes from a social worker, visiting a Jewish center with activities for youth and adults, and touring a Jewish summer camp. In some cases, we met children who were just finding out for the first time that they are Jewish (this was very common in the Former Soviet Union). In Israel we met with new Olim (immigrants), visited programs to help youth at risk, and shared meals with Israeli soldiers. We laughed and cried - we experienced the passion of a worldwide Jewish community that embodies taking care of each other. These experiences, at its core, is what Federation does. We take responsibility for each other, making sure that no Jew is left behind wherever they may live.



Michael Dzik and Rob Lowe pictured with Noa, Chen, Inbal and Shiran. April 2023.

Now back to that meeting. Story after story, the people in the room were awed by the Federation's worldwide reach. All of us in that room felt the impact of what our Federation does. But taking one volunteer each year? How could we share this experience with even more people? There was a silence around the room until Richard Zachary chimed in – "I feel how powerful these trips must be. The answer is to get more people to see Israel." And that's exactly what happened. The following year, 2006, the Chattanooga Jewish Federation led it's first (in a LONG time) trip to Israel with 25 participants. Many were "first-timers" to Israel. Our ages ranged from teens to 70's; several multi-generational families too! Since that first trip in 2006, six additional Chattanooga trips have occurred; one included Poland. And another trip is happening

this month (June 25-July 6). We continue to bring community members on national trips as well, sometimes 3-4 volunteers per trip.

It's sometimes much easier to understand the Jewish Federation's reach in Chattanooga because we live and breathe it every day. We attend programs, we interact with our social services team, and our children go to preschool every day. Machanooga happens throughout the school year on Sundays. You're intimately involved in the local impact. Many pieces are tangible. But to best understand the worldwide reach of the Federation, we must travel throughout the world to experience and meet our brothers and sisters.

"But how do we get everyone to travel to Israel for these unique experiences?" someone asked. And that's when the next idea kicked off September 26, 2011. This is when Raoul Molnar, Chattanooga's first Shaliach, began working in our community. If we can't get everyone to Israel (although we'll keep trying!,) then we'll bring Israel to Chattanooga. Every one or two years the Shaliach will change, a new person with a different background and their own unique story. Lifelong friendships have been made. And the rest is history.

What we didn't anticipate, or at least not to the fullest degree, was how each of these Shlichim would become part of our Chattanooga family. We've had nine different Shlichim over the past 12 years: Raoul, Einav, Hadas, Noa, Shiran, Chen, Amit, Inbal and Adva. We remain forever connected to all of them. Many of them became friends with each other because of their connection with Chattanooga. Most have come back to Chattanooga over the years to visit us. When Chattanoogans go to Israel, our shlichim always make an effort to see their Chattanooga "family." And although many communities across the country have similar shlichim programs, no other community compares to Chattanooga. This special bond, between shlichim and between an American community, is unique. It doesn't exist in any other city.

I've had the honor to work with all nine of our shlichim, and look forward to welcoming Ofer later this summer (see page 4). When I was in Israel last month with several Chattanoogans,

#### FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Rob Lowe roblowe1770@gmail.com

My heart (and stomach) are truly full after recently returning from a twelve-day trip to our homeland of Israel, a trip

filled with special memories. This was my second visit to Israel. Seven years ago, I attended a Financial Resource Development (FRD) mission. That mission was a great initial way to explore many of the historical sites, while also learning about Federation partner agencies and meeting first-hand individuals whose lives are improved through our Jewish Federation's dollars. That first trip to Israel solidified my love for the country's culture and people, and it jump-started my involvement with the Jewish Federation, continuing to build our local Jewish community and supporting thousands around the world.

My recent visit was incredibly meaningful as I was fortunate to experience the series of special Israeli "Yom" days -- Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), Yom Hazikaron (Memorial Day), and Yom Ha'atzmaut (Independence Day). During Yom HaShoah, while heading toward Jerusalem we pulled over on the highway, where at exactly 10:00 a.m., a siren sounded for two minutes as millions around the country stopped to commemorate the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust. It was a surreal and moving moment. On Yom Hazikaron eve, we attended an outdoor service in Latrun (located between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem) with over 5,000 attendees from Jewish philanthropy organizations. The extremely moving event included musical performances and shared memories from family members and friends remembering their loved ones lost during military service or in terrorist attacks. As is customary, the end of the solemn Memorial Day leads immediately into celebrating Independence Day, this year being the 75th anniversary of the state of Israel's independence. Following an evening at a huge party in Tel Aviv filled with music, dancing, traditional foods, and decorations, we spent the next day at Neot Kedumim Park, a beautiful, sprawling, mountainous Biblical Landscape Reserve. As we walked along the paths, we interacted with "shepherds", ate Arabic foods, danced and played drums, tasted wine, learned how an olive press works, and planted a tree on a scenic overlook.

These "Yom day" outings were part of the Israel at 75 General Assembly conference, co-hosted by the Jewish Federations of North America, The Jewish Agency for Israel, Keren

HaYesod (United Israel Appeal), and the World Zionist Organization. It was such a pleasure to engage with many other attendees and to share this unique experience with our own Michael Dzik and Alison Lebovitz. One of many highlights was a



Rob Lowe, Alison Lebovitz and Michael Dzik at the Federation General Assembly in Tel Aviv

session about getting a better understanding of the largest protest movement in Israel's history. As you're probably aware, massive protests have been ongoing for months across Israel in response to Prime Minister Netanyahu's coalition's move to pass large-scale judicial reform, which by most is viewed as a serious threat to Israeli democracy. We listened to the stories and perspectives of three leaders in this movement: a 75 year- old career military leader; a founder and CEO of a large medical device company; and a British-Israeli biotech PhD candidate. It was fascinating to hear in person their perspectives on the dangers of the proposed reforms, the importance of fighting for democracy, and of ensuring those in the diaspora are informed and united in this protest to save the state of Israel. We were in fact able to hear the vocal protestors outside the convention center and engage with them before and after the conference.

Without question the best part of the trip for me was spending quality time with so many of our former shlichim, who became close friends during the time they worked and lived in Chattanooga. It was wonderful to also meet and spend time with their parents, spouses, children, and even grandparents. One of the fathers told me how much he appreciated how welcoming and supportive our community was to her daughter during her shlichut and wanted to return the favor. From hiking/swimming/waterfall adventures in the West Bank with Noa; to hanging out on Tel Aviv beach and exploring the old city and Mahane Yehuda shuk in Jerusalem with Chen; to crashing a food tour in Jaffa with Shiran; to having a family Shabbat dinner in Alon Hagalil and visiting Sea of Galilee and Golan with Inbal; to spending an evening at Caesarea and exploring historic sites of Hadera with Raoul; to noshing at a cafe and attending a Yom Hazikaron ceremony

#### FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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

#### **Exploring**

About a year ago I saw the film trailer for the movie "The Jews and

The Blues". It made me think about how Chattanooga's Federation community interacts with blues and jazz. I began exploring our local resources and found out that deaconbluz (Dr. Clark White) is ready to release a new CD. I saw massive paintings by Tom Farnum and could see jazz in his brush strokes, and I learned that he often created his art to music. Working with Ann Law and Barking Legs, I rediscovered Bruce Kaplan's love of jazz. As a voyeur I noticed several area visual artists are creating works around blues and jazz. And, in discussions with the Bessie Smith Cultural Center about joint programming, I realized that we have a great deal in common.

With your participation this summer, we can continue to explore my findings. On Sunday, June 11, our new exhibit "Jews, Blues, and All That Jazz" will shake the walls of the Jewish Cultural Center. At 2:00 p.m. our opening reception will highlight large works by Tom Farnum, and small works by several local artists including Lupina Haney, Bonnie Stoloff, Michael Holsomback, and many others. At 3:00 p.m., deaconbluz will talk about his history with the blues and release his new CD.

In July, the music will continue with the diverse jazzy and blues music of Lon Eldridge as part of the Triple L Trio on July 4th. And, the film which got me thinking about all of this, "The Jews and The Blues", will screen at no cost at the Bessie Smith Cultural Center on July 9 at 4 p.m. Every Wednesday during

the summer there will be a jazz performance at Barking Legs. Where else can you hear talented local musicians for \$5.00?

Wasn't it George Gershwin who wrote "Summertime"? Seems like Jews, blues and jazz is just meant to be explored this summer.

### BARKING LEGS / JAZZ IN THE LOUNGE

Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. - \$5.00 1307 Dodds Ave.

June 7 - Alan Wyatt Quartet June 14 - Ben Friberg Trio

June 21 - The Ahleuchatistas (main stage)

June 28 - Dexter Bell & Friends

SPECIAL: June 23 - Aaron Irwin Trio (main stage)

July 5 - Alan Wyatt Quartet

July 12 - Mike Salter Quartet

July 19 - Dexter Bell & Friends

July 26 - Jim Crumble Trio

**SPECIAL:** July 9 - Monica Shriver (main stage)

#### **FOREIGN POLICY SUPPER CLUB**

This Summer!

June 19 July 17 August 14 Energy Geopolitics War Crimes China and the US

Part of great decisions from the Foreign Policy Association.

6PM - \$12 for Dinner MUST RSVP to RSVP@jewishchattanooga.com

#### **WELCOME OUR 10TH SHALIACH**



The Jewish Federation is thrilled to welcome our 10th Shaliach this August – Ofer Musan. Currently living in Ramat Gan, Ofer has been working at the Museum of Illusions, a family attraction in Tel Aviv. During the pandemic, Ofer worked at the main hospital in Tel Aviv, in both logistics and security. He has also been a youth guide in several movements including Olim Hadashim, Bedouin youth, and a special program for refugees. Ofer's unique family – both religious and secular

- came to Israel from Syria, Turkey, and Iran. Ofer's Israel Defense Force (IDF) service was in the education corps.

Ofer found the Shlichut program through a social media ad, and he has quickly become very excited about being an Israeli emissary, especially in Chattanooga. Music is a big part of Ofer's life as he plays guitar, piano and drums. A big basketball fan as well, Ofer has been a player, coach, referee and fan. Ofer listens to all types of podcasts, his way of gaining general knowledge about any and all topics. He loves to walk, to spend time outside, and to socialize with his friends.

We are excited to welcome Ofer to the Chattanooga family and look forward to getting to know a new side of Israel through his eyes.



Adva Kasay Federation Shlicha israel@jewishchattanooga.com • (423) 385-0098

#### Wow, My Last Shofar Article

Wow, my last Shofar article! Time flies, and I can't believe this year is coming to an end.

I lived in Chattanooga for one year which is one of the best years I've ever had. I learned so much about myself and about the Jewish community here, and I even learned how to cook!

I would never have guessed that one year can change a person so much. I'm going to miss a lot of things that made my time in Chattanooga special.

Sunday mornings at Machanooga always meant fun teaching and learning. I was surprised about how much the kids knew about Israel. I loved playing with the kids, and I enjoyed getting to know them and their worlds. One unforgettable memory was when I asked the kids what was your highlight today, and he said "seeing you." At that moment I understood how important the Shlicha is for the kids.

Spending the holidays here was interesting because they are celebrated so differently than what I was used to. Surprisingly my connection to Judaism and to God is even stronger now then when I left. The whole experience of going to synagogue and spending holidays with different families made me better appreciate how important it is to celebrate Judaism.

I'm going to miss a lot of things like my home, the walking bridge, downtown area, and Mellow Mushroom! But most importantly I'll miss my host families: the Shire, Newman, and Caminez families. Thank you for making me feel at home while away from home, and I appreciate everything you did for me.

Rabbi Sam and Rabbi Lewis, I'm so grateful that you were so nice and welcoming. Rabbi Sam, Sukkot is my favorite holiday, and I'll never forget my first Sukkot here in the United States where I enjoyed spending time and playing games with your family. It's one of my favorite memories! Rabbi Lewis, I'm going to miss our Rembrandt's Coffee meetings where we met to teach each other different languages. You taught me French and we worked on your Hebrew (even though it's already amazing!). I loved it. I'll miss it and I'll miss you.

I loved talking about what's going on in Israel, YJL events, and trying new food with different people here in the community. Thank you also to the Federation staff, who were always there to help and support me. I now consider you my second family. Chattanooga is a beautiful city with an amazing Jewish community. I'm so happy that I got to spend my Shlichut here at a special place that feels like one big family.

I'm grateful that you accepted and loved me. I always felt so welcome here. I'm glad I got to tell my story and my family's story, and I hope I showed you a different and interesting side of Israel.

#### And now, back to Israel and back to home.

I want everyone here in the community to know that you all have family in Israel now. If you ever visit Israel, please contact me, as I would love to have you over for Shabbat or even just to walk around the city.

My personal Email Advakasy8@gmail.com.

## This is my last Shofar, but I have a few programs planned for the next two months!

Join me and Liron Bahar, the shlicha in Durham, NC for an Israeli cooking class on June 8

Also join me and Omer Shabbat for an Israeli dancing event on July 6.

You are all invited to my goodbye party on July 31, here at the Federation at 5:30 p.m. I would love to see everybody there!

Thank you, lots of love and hugs.





## Mitzvah Meals



Suggested Donations \$9 per meal

- \$108 per month based on 3 meals/week
- \$144 per month based on 4 meals/week
- \$180 per month based on 5 meals/week
- \$216 per month based on 6 meals/week

Menus are set by the Kitchen Supervisor.

We are delivering meals on Thursdays.

Contact: Social Services (423) 893-9241

All Mitzvah Meal recipients must be pre-approved by Social Services.



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#### **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 drivers practice strict cleaning procedures before and after each client.



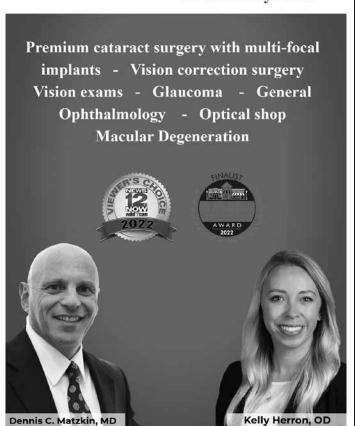
Monday - Thursday: Joel Tuesday & Thursday: Tom Wednesday & Thursday: Jonathan

Contact them directly for rides:
Joel Scribner - (423) 321-4236
Tom Saputo - (423) 508-4895
Jonathan Snyder - (423) 298-7169



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## Leadership2Gether

A P2G program supported in part by your campaign dollars

Thanks to a sponsorship by Chattanooga's Jewish Federation and the Partnership2Gether's L2G program, I was recently able to visit Israel for a whirlwind eight days. This was my third trip to the country, but my first venture as an adult. During my time in Tel Aviv as well as in our partner cities Hadera and Pardes Hanna, I had the opportunity to visit and learn about a number of programs that are supported by Federation funding. During this time, I also got to know some of the Israeli participants in the L2G program, including my lovely host, Neli Dvir.

The programs we learned about related to agriculture, youth development, innovation, Israel's role as a safe haven in the midst of multiple refugee crises, and Beta Israel Jews from Ethiopia. It was this last topic held my interest most.

I had first learned about the existence of the Beta Israel community during a three month stay in Israel when I was in high school. However, I did not learn much more than that about this particular African branch of the Jewish people. Twenty years later in Chattanooga, TN, I met Adva Kasay, our Shlicha from Kiryat Gat who is the daughter of two Ethiopian Jewish Olim. When Adva described her parents' childhood journey on foot from Ethiopia to Sudan, where they waited uncertainly for a plane to take them to Israel, I began to understand how remarkable that journey was.

Our very first stop (after lunch) was the Beit Alfa absorption center. Here, we heard the first-hand account of a woman who had come to Israel as a child herself. She and her family had also made the journey, on foot, from Ethiopia to Sudan, in the hopes of fulfilling the ancient dream of returning to Jerusalem. In the absorption center, new immigrants learn Hebrew and gain skills and knowledge about Israeli culture that will help them integrate into Israeli society.

On another day, we met with Ethiopian Israeli students at Amal High school to learn about their participation in SPACE, an extra-curricular program for students that is part of the Ethiopian National Project. ENP at large has a goal of ensuring that this community does not become part of a lower class in Israel. The SPACE program does this by encouraging academic success as well as instilling an appreciation of their unique heritage. Part of this project was for students to collect their parents' stories of immigration to Israel, a number of which have been published in a book I was

able to acquire, Documentation of Ethiopian Jewry and Their Journey to the Land of Israel.

As our trip went on and after I returned home, I was asked several times what the most meaningful or memorable experience from my time in Israel was. I repeatedly expounded on what I had learned from students in the SPACE program and the goals of the ENP. It is no secret that in the US, those of African descent have suffered greatly from generations of institutional and systemic racism. I think it is crucial for Israel's national identity to prevent the same thing from happening there. Now that I know about these programs, I plan to support them in whatever way I can.

At the Israel farewell dinner for this trip, a fellow member of the cohort from Prague, Czech, commented that he felt Israel is having a bit of an identity crisis: what does it mean to be a Jewish democratic state? Among other things, I believe it means providing a national space that all Jews can call home. The Beta Israel community never forgot that they were Jews and never forgot the dream to return to Jerusalem. Now that they have arrived, it is crucial that the larger Jewish community not forget them either.

-Marissa Street









## Leadership2Gether

A P2G program supported in part by your campaign dollars

For the past year and a half, I have participated in the Leadership Together (L2G) program, which pairs participants from small Jewish communities in the Southeast United States with Israelis from Chattanooga's sister city in Hadera, Israel.

My biggest takeaway from the L2G program and the trip to Israel was an overwhelming sense of community. I felt it when I went to my Israeli partner, Shira's, family home for Shabbat dinner. Although the setting was new, the prayers and traditions seemed very familiar. As I sat down with Shira's whole extended family, it reminded me of the Shabbats I spent as a child.

I also noticed a sense of community with my fellow Southeast cohorts. The 15 of us spent the Israel trip getting to know one another. We found a connection right away by sharing our similar experiences of living in small Jewish communities. Once we dug deeper, we found even more in common. The 15 of us built a community that was made stronger by our shared experiences and values.

Overall, my Israel trip will remain in my heart for years to come, and I feel privileged for the relationship I further established.

- Arona DeSure











## JEW CREW

#### PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

by Alison Lebovitz

The final Jew Crew program of the school year was pretty typical in many ways - bowling at Spare Time, a cookie cake wishing the seniors congratulations, lots of snacks and socializing - and then different in one significant way - it was Andy's and my last program as co-advisors for The Jew Crew.

I first got introduced to this Jewish high school group because Amy Cohen had been running a high school seminar as an extension of the combined Sunday School. When her oldest son, Geoffrey, was an emerging ninth grader, she decided to pass the reins to someone who was not a high school parent. I was nearly 30, had a one-year-old at the time and without hesitation I enthusiastically said, "Yes!" knowing that my youth group days in Birmingham were some of the most formative of my life, but not knowing that I would have the honor and privilege of running it for 22 years.

The year I started, 2001, Danny Waxenberg agreed to be my co-advisor and we decided to take the group to a different major city every year - Philadelphia, New York, Chicago, and Boston - and experience and explore the Jewish history and community there, while taking in a few shows and sites, of course. We held an auction every year to raise money for the trip, and Warren Dropkin was kind enough to serve as our annual emcee. Parent chaperones, including Ken Hays, Rachel Schulson, and David Eichenthal, helped us keep the teens in line as we navigated each city at the pace of crazed international tourists who had never visited the U.S. before.

When I overheard some of the teens, Geoffrey Cohen, Stephanie Hays, and Blair Abelson, often referring to something called "The Jew Crew" I finally asked what that was. They replied, "That's what we call our group!" And hence, The Jew Crew name was born. When Danny moved to England, Andy Hodes graciously took over as co-advisor. We soon decided that the annual trips were becoming both expensive and a bit hard to justify as a "Jewish experience" based on the many secular activities we ended up doing, so we made the bold move to hold an annual retreat at Camp Ramah Darom instead. The seniors that year were not thrilled, to say the least, but I will never forget going around the friendship circle at the bonfire after Havdalah,

and hearing Zachary Poss say it was one of the best weekends of his life. After that, we never looked back.

Of course, now as we do look back, Andy and I feel tremendous joy and pride for what we have accomplished together these last 16 years, including seeing all five of our children (his two boys, Micah and Jonah, and my three, Arthur, Abe and Levi) not only go through Jew Crew, but also insist that we stay on as co-advisors while they were in it. As Jonah, the last of the bunch, graduates from high school this year, Andy and I also celebrate our own commencement of sorts.

Indeed this is the end of an era for us, but only the beginning of the next chapter for The Jew Crew. As a current program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga, this teen experience continues to engage students from different schools, states, and religious backgrounds. They get the opportunity to be social and to do social action projects, thus becoming better friends with one another and better citizens in our community. We have watched these teens many of your children and grandchildren - mature, bond, flourish, and amaze us with their talents and dedication to tikkun olam. They are kind, smart, funny, quirky, fun-loving, and fabulous human beings and we adored spending time and getting to know each and every one of them. And now as we pass the reins onto the next Jew Crew co-advisors (stay tuned for that announcement soon) we leave you with full hearts, fond memories, and faith in a fantastic future for the Jew Crew. L'Hitraot.







# Jewish Federation Campaign Kick-Off

### Sunday, August 27

**6pm Reception** 

Dinner quality hors d'oeuvres & drinks

7pm Comedy Hour

Three comedians in 60 minutes

Jewish Cultural Center





... Shelley Stein, daughter of Alan Richelson and Marjorie Goldberg, on her new role as Director of Temple Shalom Religious School at Temple Shalom in Succasunna, NJ.

#### **Condolences**

We extend our sincere condolences to...

...the family and friends of Geraldine "Gerry" Sadow, who died on May 6 in Nashville, TN. She is preceded in death by her husband, Jay.

...the family and friends of Debra Gayle Polsky, who died on May 7 in Dallas, TX. She is preceded in death by her sister, Sharon Polsky.

...Juniper and Tristen Russo and their children Vivian, Darwin and Crystal, on the death of Juniper's mother, Donna Reeves.



For those who have experienced the loss of significant loved ones

## Grief Gathering

Tuesday, June 6th 10am Jewish Cultural Center

An informational meeting to explore community needs regarding grief

Facilitated by Marki Kaim, LMSW, QMHP

Sponsored by the Jewish Federation Contact Lorri Lipski llipski@jewishchattanooga.com | (423) 893-9241 to RSVF



#### FROM THE SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

Lorri Lipski llipski@jewishchattanooga.com • 893-9241

#### Dear Community,

First and foremost, I want to thank you all for the love and support you have shown me and my family over the past few months following the loss of our son, Jacob. Our lives are forever changed, and we are slowly learning to live in our new reality. I have moved to part-time status at the Federation to better balance taking care of my family and taking care of yours! For the summer, I will be working Monday - Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. That may change slightly when school resumes.

With that being said, I want to revisit the last Shofar article that I wrote in February. It seems a bit uncanny that I was bringing awareness to "Preparing for your Death" for anyone over the age of 18. I can now attest to the importance of getting your affairs in order regardless of age. I want to move forward with this program because I know the value of the information from a new perspective. We are back to the planning stage, but look out for more information to come your way.

We are also planning a support group for grief (again, something I had been working on prior to our own loss.) If you feel like you would benefit from this group, please call 423-893-9241 or email me at llipski@jewishchattanooga. com so I can add you to the roster.

With the pause of the busyness of the school year, now is the time to enjoy the slowness of the summer. Take a road trip, do something adventurous, or just bask in the sunshine and beauty of our area. Make memories with your loved ones and friends. Be sure to take pictures- they are priceless when you need them.

#### **MEMORY CAFÉ**

We are excited to announce that we are the recipient of a grant to host a "Memory Café," sponsored by the Tennessee Foundation on Aging and Amerigroup Tennessee. This funding will allow us to modify our activities to meet the needs of those who have memory issues. From the Memory Café Website:

"Many programs have been created in recent years for individuals suffering from all kinds of cognitive impairment. While Alzheimer's Disease is the most common, individuals with all forms of Dementia, along with those surviving a stroke or traumatic brain injury, can benefit from the safe, welcoming, and mentally stimulating environments of Memory Cafes. Again, there really is something for everyone."

What does this mean? We are hosting events to encourage families who may find engaging in social outings challenging. This may include events we have been doing for years (think 4th of July) but also some smaller, more intimate gatherings to support those with memory issues and their families.

HERE ARE SOME EVENTS WE HAVE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED:	
June 11	Jews, Blues & All That Jazz Reception
June 27	Ice Cream Truck @ JCC
July 4	4th of July Celebration
July 18	Cupcake bar
August 15	Family Tree
Sept 5	Game Fest
Sept 20	Name that Tune

**Legal Aid:** Do you need to update your will or have legal questions? If you are age 60 or older, you qualify for legal services through Legal Aid of East Tennessee at no cost. Our next session is Wednesday, June 28th. 30 min slots are available between 1:00-3:00. Call Lorri to schedule a session.

**Tai Chi:** Our summer Tai Chi Classes will be June 13th, 21st, 27th and July 11th, 18th, 25th. The cost for this term is \$30.

**Grief Group:** \*\*Marki is making a flier; not sure if you want to use that. We are trying to be specific with the verbiage. This can be a placeholder for now; she knows the deadline is approaching. If you have lost a loved one, we'd love to have you join us for a time of sharing and healing. An information Session will be Tuesday, June 6th at 10:00. Marki Kaim will be facilitating.



#### **ALEPH BET CHIDRENS CENTER**

Rebecca McDonald rmcdonald@jewishchattanooga.com • 893-5486



aleph bet children's center

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

As we head into Summer, AB has been super busy with Graduation, Mother's Day & Teacher Appreciation! Summer also means warmer days with more outdoor play! We will have a full Summer, learning and participating in activities that include Sun Safety, The World of Eric Carle, Fairytales and Safari's, Camping Out, Down on the Kibbutz and Getting Messy! There will be water play and in-house field trips. Thank you to everyone who helped make our school year a successful one!













Federation driver Tom Saputo volunteered his time to work in the Aleph Bet garden. He also took time to explain to the kids about dirt, worms and how we grow much of our food. Thank you, Tom, for going above and beyond!



## **JEWS, BLUES AND ALL THAT JAZZ**

### **Reception June 11, 2pm**

In conjunction with the summer exhibit, "Jews, Blues & All That Jazz," the Jewish Federation is hosting a launch party at which Chattanooga's own deaconbluz will release his new CD. Six original songs written and composed by deaconbluz a/k/a Dr. Clark White tell stories about his deep attachment to Chattanooga's history. Dr. White will play and talk about these songs and what inspired him to compose the music and lyrics at 3 p.m. There will be time for Q&A.

One song is "The Ballad of Ed Johnson," about the innocent black man lynched on the Walnut Street Bridge in 1906. His case went to the Supreme Court where he was exonerated. But before he could be released, a mob took him from the Hamilton County jail and hanged and shot him. The somber sculptural memorial to Johnson and his two African American attorneys can be seen on the City side of the Walnut Street Bridge.

Dr. White's album was recorded in 2019 at the Baton Rouge, LA studio of internationally famous blues artist Kenny Neal. Background musicians include Neal and other members of his family of Blues musicians. A portion of CD sales will be donated to the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga and the Bessie Smith Cultural Center.

Growing up in Columbus, Indiana, Tom Farnam spent his early years in the 1950's and 60's observing and drawing from nature. Farnam studied printmaking at Indiana University and East Texas State University, where he received his BFA and MFA respectively. His natural inclination towards process, discipline, and technique made printmaking a natural medium for Farnam to develop his visual vocabulary. Nevertheless, his exploration of printmaking not only encouraged, but required him to leave things to chance and explore "mistakes". This experimental methodology remains critical to Farnam's aesthetic throughout his work.

Transitioning into painting was an organic choice as Farnam left the academic environment and printing presses essential to printmaking. For the past four decades, he has continued to build on the basic influences that fueled his passion for making

art. The process of painting remains the constant rhythm of his life. Farnum listens to music while he creates these large works.

His intense devotion to the craft blends years of mastery with a profound understanding of his physical surroundings, art history, and modern culture. This synthesis is ultimately revealed in the captivating relationship of color and markings that one experiences while viewing his paintings.



#### deaconbluz



Pencil in June 11, Sunday afternoon, at 3:00p.m. for the release party for Clark White's new CD. It's been finished for awhile but it was sitting in a box in the closet!

#### THE JEWS AND THE BLUES



Written and Directed by Drew Stone and Evan B. Stone Documentary | English | 67 Minutes

**The Jews and The Blues** film will screen at Bessie Smith (200 E M L King Blvd) on Sunday, July 9, at 4 pm.

There is no cost to attend.

"The Jews and the Blues is a musical journey that along the way becomes something much more. My name is Drew Stone, I'm a documentary filmmaker, musician and talk show host born and raised in New York City. Join me as I follow my passion for music and adventure as I travel to Israel and discover how the blues ties into this incredible mix of cultures. Arab, Ethiopian, Moroccan, all Jewish, all Israeli, united through the universal tie that binds us together.... Music. Experience the sights, sounds and the unexpected on this expedition into uncharted territory. The Jews and The Blues: A musical AND spiritual Journey"

## **JEWS, BLUES AND ALL THAT JAZZ**

## SUMMER ART EXHIBIT | SMALL WORKS JEWISH CULTURAL CENTER





"Herbie Mann" Artist: Maxine Hess



"Generational Joy" Artist: Cindy Lutz Kornet



"All That Jazz" Artist: Faye Ives



"Play It Again Blues" Artist: Lupina Poi Haney



#### 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.

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## 2023 Graduates



#### Callie Czarnecki

Callie Czarnecki graduated from Baylor School, where she was a member of the National Honors Society. Callie will attend the University of Tampa, majoring in accounting. Callie is a daughter of Dr. Michael Czarnecki and Dr. Tracy Schultz.

#### Gabby Czarnecki

Gabby Czarnecki graduated from Baylor School, where she was a member of the National Honors Society. This fall Gabby will attend Reichman University, majoring in business administration and entrepreneurship. Gabby is a daughter of Dr. Michael Czarnecki and Dr. Tracy Schultz.





#### Dorian Furr

Dorian Furr graduated from McCallie School. This fall he will attend the University of Tampa as part of the Honors College. Dorian plans to run track in college and to study international business and finance. Dorian's parents are Drs. Scott and Helen Furr.

#### Joshua Hillner

Joshua Hillner graduated from Ringgold High School where he was a member of the performing arts program and completed the audio-visual pathway. This fall Josh will attend Dalton State University in the General Film Academy. Josh is the son of Matthew and Shannon Pickett, and the grandson of Dr. Bill and Susan Hillner, Andy and Jean Smith, and Melinda Pickett.





Jonah Hodes

Jonah Hodes graduated from East Hamilton High School where he was President of the National Honor Society. He will attend the University of Tennessee, Knoxville College of Nursing this fall. Jonah is the son of Andy Hodes and Melody Hodes.



Zachary Israel graduated from McCallie School where he participated in the McCallie/GPS Coordinate Crew, the yearbook staff, and he was selected as a Day Student Advisor. This fall, Zach will attend Auburn University, majoring in engineering and computer science. Zach is the son of Scott and Laura Israel.





Eva Waxenberg

Eva Waxenberg graduated from Baylor School. This fall she will attend Arizona State University. Her parents are Jennifer and Danny Waxenberg.



# Israeli Cooking Class With Liron Bahar - durham NC Shlicha!



- Thursday June 8th at 5:30
- Jewish Cultural Center
  | 5461 North Terrace

\$10

RSVP is limited! israel@jewishchattanooga.com

### Goodbye Adva

Join Adva, Federation Shlicha, for a few of her favorite Israeli foods

### Yummy Buffet

- \*Chicken Shnitzel
- \*Roasted Potatoes
  - \*Meatballs
  - \*Steamed Rice



\*Hummus and
Pita Chips

\*Fresh Green Beans
\*Heavenly
Chocolate Cake

Monday, July 31 - 5pm

No cost to attend, but RSVP required

RSVP@jewishchattanooga.com

#### Michael Dzik Cont. from Page 2

we interacted with our shlichim. One evening, five past Chattanooga shlichim joined us for dinner! Five! Yes, it was a proud "papa" moment for me. We also saw spouses (four are married) as well as children (Raoul and Einav both have two boys). Do you know that feeling when you haven 't seen a favorite cousinor friend in along time? And then you have upcoming travels that allow you to reconnect and see them? Remember the firm hugs, smiles, and laughs during that visit? Now picture yourself in Israel doing this very thing.

I know hundreds of you have connected with our shlichim over the years. You have an emotional and personal friendship with one or more of the shlichim. I hear stories of our youngest kids becoming "best friends" with a shaliach. The shlichim add a special flavor to our community. They share a personal side to Israel – culture, politics, food, music, family, their daily lives, their challenges and successes. It's never too late to be part of this special program. Adva is in Chattanooga for a couple more months; Ofer joins us in August. Invite them for lunch, dinner, or coffee. Have them over to your home, go to a local event, or just take a walk. I promise the investment is worthwhile. And just think, when a shaliach eventually heads back to Israel, you won't say goodbye – rather, you'll say "see you soon." And on your next trip to Israel you'll have Chattanooga family to make you feel right at home.



Michael Dzik

Mdzik@JewishChattanooga.com | 893-5443

#### Rob Lowe Cont. from Page 3

in Jerusalem with Einav; plus concerts and dinners in Tel Aviv and Hadera with a group of shlichim together. It filled my heart to be together in Israel with friends, all connected by their bond to Chattanooga, catching up on their lives. I am so grateful they all made time for me, and we could reconnect during my unforgettable trip in a spectacular setting.



Opening P2G anniversary event in Hadera. (L-R) Noa Hadad (Shaliach #4), Ann Treadwell, Program Director, Chen Dahan (Shaliach #6), Hadas Peled Goren (Shaliach #3), Michael Dzik, Executive Director, Raoul Molnar (Shaliach #1) and Inbal Lev (Shaliach #8).



Rob Lowe and Michael Dzik celebrating Israel's 75th anniversary on Yom HaAtzmaut in Tel Aviv



Rob Lowe in Neot Kedumim nature park planting a tree in honor of Israel's 75th anniversary



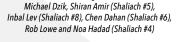
Farewell dinner in Tel Aviv (L-R) - Inbal Lev (Shaliach #8), Alison Lebovitz, Michael Dzik, Shiran Amir (Shaliach #5), Chen Dahan (Shaliach #6), Ann Treadwell, and Noa Hadad (Shaliach #4)



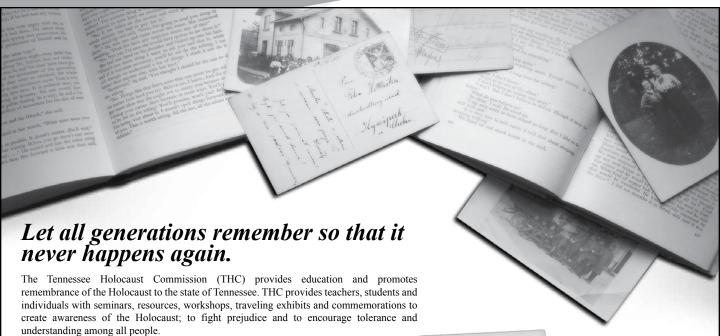




Alison Lebovitz visiting her son Levi in Jerusalem. With Alison and Levi are Einav Cahaner Amichai (Shaliach #2) with husband Asaf and two kids along with Noa Hadad (Shaliach #4) and husband Nati



A toast to Chattanooga's Shlichim (L-R),



#### **Tennessee Holocaust Commission Programs:**

- Annual Educator Outreach Programs
- Living On exhibition and newly published book featuring portraits of Tennessee Holocaust survivors and liberators
- · Customized Teacher Resources
- Belz-Lipman Holocaust Educator of the Year
- Teacher Workshops & Fellowships
- · Annual Day of Remembrance Commemoration
- Mira Kimmelman Essay Contest
- Law Enforcement Training
- · Workforce Diversity Workshops
- Ethics in Leadership Program
- Understanding and Treating Trauma through study of Holocaust Survivor Resilience
- · Yom Hashoah



Tennessee Holocaust Commission

P.O. Box 59252 Nashville, TN 37205 Phone: 615-527-8114 E-mail: tnholcom@tnholcom.org Web: www.tnholcom.org

Chattanooga Allergy Clinic



423-899-0431 • chattanoogaallergyclinic.com

#### 923 McCallie Avenue Chattanooga, TN 37403 423-267-9771

www.mizpahcongregation.org 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.

### MIZPAH **HHD SCHEDULE**

Aug. 16: Intriguing Conversation: The Innocence Project. 7:00 p.m.

Sept. 9: Selichot celebration 6:30 p.m.

Erev Rosh Hashanah and Board-sponsored Oneg 7:30 p.m. Sept. 14:

Sept. 15: Rosh Hashanah services 10:00 a.m. Tashlich on the River (Hubert Frye Center) 5:00 p.m.

potluck picnic

Sept. 24: Erev Yom Kippur 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 25: Yom Kippur services 10:00 a.m.

> Discussion group 12:45 p.m. Afternoon services 2:00 p.m.

Yizkor Memorial Service 4:00 p.m.

Closing Service 5:00 p.m. Break-the-Fast meal to follow

Sept. 27: Garden of Life Sukkah build 9:00 a.m.

**Sept. 29:** Sushi in the Sukkah and Shabbat 6:00 p.m.

#### OTHER UPCOMING EVENS

Family Service and 1st Friday meal 6:00 p.m. June 2: **June 16:** Shirei Shalom Sabbath of Song 6:00 p.m.

Nosh Around the Clock5:00 p.m. (time pending) June 24:

Shabbatery Lottery: Shabbat in the Homes 6:00 p.m. **July 14:** 

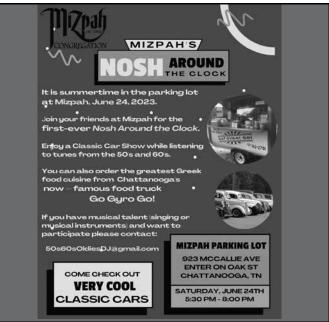
#### Shelton Goldblatt Bench Dedication

The Mizpah Cemetery Board placed a memorial bench in the cemetery to honor the life work of Shelton Goldblatt.









#### 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 Bar / Bat Mitzvah training

Zoom, Temple Livestreaming and Facebook Live

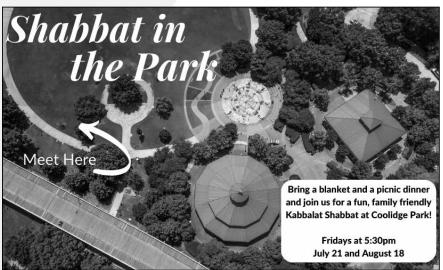
Please check with Temple Administrator Angela Rickert for details and read our Weekly Email Announcements

#### 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.



923 McCallie Ave. Chattanooga, TN 37403 423-894-8900 www.bnaizioncongregation.com office@bzcongregation.com





#### THANKS FOR A GREAT YEAR AT BSI! See our website for next year's dates and registration.

The fast day of **Tisha B'av** 

is July 27.
Join us in
making
a difference
9:00 am-12:00 pm
that morning by
volunteering at our

Contact the office to RSVP.



2nd Floor Playroom





#### FOUNDATIONS OF JUDAISM

Foundations of Judaism with Rabbi Rotenberg

Wednesday Evenings 6:30-7:30 pm on Zoom

#### Foundations of Judaism

continues via Zoom through the summer on Wednesdays at 6:30pm after minyan.

Note: June 7 - 28, Foundations will on hiatus due to Rabbi Rotenberg being at Camp Ramah Darom

Meeting ID: 845 0521 2418

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.





## WEEKLY, WEDNESDAY EVENING MAHJONG 6:00 - 8:00 PM

An evening of camaraderie, friendship and fun. Learn and join the Mahjong circle or bring the game you like. You are sure to find a friend to join!



Awesome Lag Bomer filled with Jewish Unity, Joy and Celebration.

Thank you Pamela Dwyer and jay goldstein for hosting and smoking to perfection









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

#### Hadassah Celebrates Israel's 75th Birthday

On Israel's 75th birthday, Hadassah is proud to support ongoing projects of medical care and research through Hadassah Hospitals and the youth care villages in Israel. Tzedakah makes up the core of the Jewish people. Take advantage of one of Hadassah's Israel tours in our 75th year. Dana Waxler will be assisting with the Keeper's Tour in December. (Use flyer/poster of tour) This Israel tour will highlight many of Hadassah's projects in Israel: both Hadassah Hospital campuses, Hadassah's Meir Shfeyah Youth Aliyah Village, the Western Wall Tunnel in Jerusalem, world renowned museums such as the Agam and Tel Aviv Museum, and sites for Israeli chocolate, wine and sufganiyot.

#### **Traveling Henrietta**

The Hadassah Tri-Region is sponsoring a special contest for "Traveling Henrietta," similar to the Flat Stanley concept. Henrietta Szold, the founder of Hadassah, was famous for visiting Palestine 1909. in Discovering improper sanitation, starvation, and disease among the Jewish settlers, she returned to and founded America Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America. She devoted the rest of her life to the health



and well-being of the people in the future homeland of the Jews, Israel. Today Hadassah is responsible for two world-class hospitals in Jerusalem and the youth villages Henrietta founded to save children fleeing their homelands as the Nazis invaded Eastern Europe.



Our paper Henrietta is traveling the SuperSouth and the world as our beacon, helping women find their voices to advance health equity, fighting hate and antisemitism in the U.S., and spreading her passion for and commitment to the land, the people, and the

future of Israel. Use the website to access the paper cut out of Henrietta and help her travel with you throughout May and mid-June. Send your photos with her to post on Facebook and Instagram (and the Shofar!)

#### Hadassah Volunteers

Hadassah member volunteers who helped with the Carolyn Dorfman Dance Company residency, sponsored by the Jewish Federation, or who attended one of the two public dance performances met to discuss their experiences as volunteers. Carolyn Dorfman, the child of Holocaust survivors, teaches carefully designed educational programs to help people connect dance to life, learn new skills, explore their potential, and understand our world and each other.



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 Judaea 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.

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.

## **LEGACY SOCIETY**



#### 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) Allen, Amelia\* Allen, Owen Alper, Maxine\* Balser, Jeff Balser, Robin Barukh, Rebecca Berz, Bob Binder, Claire Black, Bonnie Black, Stephen Bogo, Jerry Bogo, Rosalee Bohn, Jerry\* Brooks, Ellyn Brooks, John Brouner, Betsy Brouner, Lee

Center, Austin Center, Marilyn Cohen, Tal Cohn, Herb Cohn, Sue\* Cowan, Rob Diamond, Karen DiStefano, David DiStefano, Susan Dittus, Sandy Dropkin, Warren Dzik, Michael Dzik, Paula Fairchild, David Frank, Estelle\* Gelburd, Sheldon Hanan, Jan Hanan, Michael

Hanan, Rachel Hanan, Victor\* Hill, J.R. Hochman, Colman\* Hochman, Lynn Hodes, Alvin\* Hodes, Andy Hodes, Melody Howard, Lynn Israel, David Israel, Scott Jaffe, Dot\* Jaffe, Sam\* Lakow, Harry\* Lebovitz, Alison Lebovitz, Alan Lebovitz, Betty Lebovitz, Charles

Lebovitz, Lauren Lebovitz, Michael Levine, Lawrence\* Lowe, Beth Lowe, Rob Malsh, Rebecca\* Nash, Ike\* Oxenhandler, Barbara Parker, Jordan Pregulman, Helen Richelson, Alan Richelson, Miriam\* Rose, Cassie Rose, Kevin Rosenfeld, Jackie Rosenfeld, Roy Siskin, Pris Sivils, Janet

Spector, Linda Spector, Mark\* Spector, Mike Susman, Gail Susman, Joel Weiner, Cara White-Dropkin, Donna Winer, David Winer, Elaine Winer, Finette Winer, Sanford Zachary, Richard

\* 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, 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

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

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Rob Lowe, Board Chair Michael Dzik, Executive Director

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Find us online at **JewishChattanooga.com** 





Next Shofar will be in September 2023. Have a great summer.

## July 4 Celebration at the Federation

11:30 a.m.

\$15 per person \$28 for two \$36 for a family of four Free for those six and younger

BBQ chicken, potato salad, cole slaw, watermelon, apple bars and a drink.

Vegetarian option available

jewishchattanooga.com (look for the RSVP tab)



#### **Triple L Trio**

The musical stylings of the Triple L Trio are sure to keep your feet moving and your face smiling, effortlessly blending the sounds of swing, blues, and Western swing into an unforgettable experience. The trio features Lon Eldridge (guitar/lap steel/vocals), Lou Wamp (lap steel), and Lynn Wamp (string bass/vocals).