



A PUBLICATION OF THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA



#ShabbatofLove

January 19th, 2024



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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Our Duty and Obligation to Stand Up

A few weeks ago, my wife Paula and I were flying home from vacation. Like many Chattanooga flyers, we were in the Atlanta airport awaiting our flight back home. We were tired and ready to be back in our own bed!

It was about an hour before our flight. There were already a dozen or so people in the gate seating area. Paula and I were each playing on our phones, killing time before we boarded. There was a woman sitting behind us talking on the phone – loudly! But not just talking on the phone. she was also using Facetime, so we could hear both sides of the conversation. I nudged Paula a few times over the next 15 minutes, even mumbled under my breath. I was frustrated to hear this conversation in a public space. It felt rude and unnecessary. But I never said anything. No one said anything. The gate area was quiet other than this very loud back and forth phone conversation from the row of seats behind me. I'm sure we've all experienced similar situations at the grocery store or a restaurant.

After a few more minutes of hearing the noise of this conversation, the dialog turned. I began hearing curse words being spoken – again, quite loudly. And then it happened; I clearly heard the “N” word being used. That was it; I had had enough.

As I stood up I felt both angry and scared. What was I going to say? How would others in the gate area see me? Would I become the aggressor by confronting this woman? As I walked around

the benches to face this woman, I didn't think I saw anyone else. I didn't hear or see anything else. My surroundings were blurred and I was hyper-focused on this one woman.

From a distance, I leaned towards this lady and with a stern voice and said something like “Excuse me. No one appreciates the conversation you're having and especially not the racist term you are using. Please hang up the phone or leave this area. No one wants to hear you.” Mission accomplished? Actually, the woman turned her body away from me and continued her personal yet very public conversation. So I moved a little closer and directed my comments a little more forcefully. “Miss – No one wants to hear the racist and hateful language that you are using. We've had enough.” Before I finished my statement, she picked up all of her belongings, got up, and walked down the concourse. My heart was racing.

As I walked back around the bench to my seat, a few people in the gate area began clapping. I was honestly caught a little off guard. I sat down and took a very big breath. Paula gave me a hug - and then I felt a tap on my shoulder. It was the gentlemen sitting directly behind me; he was two seats down from the woman. He was a younger African-American man. He said “Thank you for saying something. Most African-Americans don't feel comfortable calling out this hate when we hear or see it. People judge us for stepping up and think that we're being aggressive or intimidating. I really appreciate you coming forward and saying something.”

Paula and I talked about this in

the moment and for several days following. We were both surprised that it was not the norm that people don't speak out against racism even when it happens in front of the person/people. As Jews we are taught to always speak up for yourself and others and to stand up for the marginalized community. Together we are stronger. I was stunned to hear this isn't always the case.

I've been speaking at schools, churches, and civic groups for the past year about antisemitism and how to stand up and “call it out.” I tell people that it's hard, that you think that someone else is going to step up and say something. I encourage people not to be a bystander. It is our duty and obligation to stand up. Doing the right thing isn't always easy. And I can honestly say that, at that moment, I was truly scared. I knew it was the right thing to do, but it wasn't easy.

I've told this story numerous times since it happened a few weeks ago. People are stunned; people are proud. On one occasion I was even hugged before I finished the story! Did I make a difference to this woman? I'd like to think she was embarrassed and will rethink her outlook on people. Words matter. Will someone stand up the next time they hear something hateful? Will they recognize the hate and have the courage to call it out? I know the bystanders that witnessed this incident in the airport will absolutely stand up if/when a similar event happens. And I hope all of you reading this will equally recognize that “someone” needs to be you. If we don't, we're just as much of the problem.

Continued Page 7



FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Rob Lowe roblowe1770@gmail.com

Last Article as Board Chair

As I was preparing to write my last article as Board Chair, I went back and scanned through my previous submissions over the last two years. And I reflected on what themes I found were most relevant to me at the time.

I wrote about the positive impact the Jewish Federation has had on my personal development, social and leadership opportunities, engagement with the Jewish community, and a sense of belonging. I developed a stronger connection to and understanding of the history and culture of Israel through our programs and the close relationships built with our amazing Shlichim. I've had exciting opportunities to take mission trips to Israel and Argentina, seeing first hand the tremendous impact our gifts make to improve and save lives. I discussed the impact the Jewish Federation has had on my children and their pride in being Jewish and part of this community, since we headed south to Chattanooga from Illinois over twelve years ago; through many programs including Philanthropy Camp and Jew Crew; by the many holidays we've celebrated as a community; and through grants provided by the Federation which allowed them to spend their summers with other Jewish children and counselors at Camp Ramah Darom and in Israel on Ramah Seminar. My daughter Rachel loved her summers and made such strong connections, she has continued to go back to Camp Ramah as a counselor the last two summers.

Another common theme in my columns was how inspired I've been, throughout my affiliation with Jewish Federation, by our community, by the time you all give to serve your community as volunteers, and through your generosity to ensure that the Jewish community here in Chattanooga and communities in Israel and around the world remain strong and vibrant. Even as a small community, we have raised nearly \$1.9 million through our annual campaign over the last two years. We've also contributed to two special campaigns, raising \$200,000 to support Jewish people in Ukraine and Israel devastated by horrific attacks on their countries to help rebuild their communities.

However, the unfortunate theme that has come up most often is the pervasive and increasing role that antisemitism plays in our society. One of the first articles I wrote was about the banning of the book, "Maus" by Art Spiegelman, by the McMinn County

school board from use in its middle school curriculum. The book told the story of the author's family during the Holocaust through the use of animals in cartoons. We had the opportunity to participate on a webcast in Spring 2022 with Mr Spiegelman, who noted "Maus" is not just about Jews, but about the 'othering' and dehumanization of those unlike ourselves and that we are seeing an increase in this behavior. It is necessary to make people uncomfortable through the re-telling of history, whether the subject is slavery, Japanese internment camps, KKK, or the Holocaust."

For the Jewish people, the world has changed a lot in the past few years. We've seen a substantial rise in antisemitic speech, harassment, and violence against Jewish people in the United States and Europe. Since the atrocities committed against Israel on Oct. 7, leading to the war against Hamas, antisemitism has reached new levels I never thought I would see. It is frightening how hatred unknowingly simmering under the surface has suddenly exploded. I'm grateful that our Jewish Federation has and will continue to raise awareness to combat antisemitism in our community. This has included sponsorship of the 'Americans & The Holocaust' exhibit last February at the Chattanooga Public Library; partnering with JewBelong to put up nine large billboards with thought-provoking messages around the city; and hosting the entire community to show our solidarity and unity with Israel following the horrific attack on civilians.

A few thank yous as my term as Board Chair comes to an end: to our esteemed leader Michael Dzik for his friendship and all the support he has given me during my term; to all the board and committee members who give so generously of their time and energy and show their love for our Jewish community; to our amazing Federation staff, who work tirelessly to care for our community through outstanding social services and programming; and to Beth, Rachel & Hannah, for their full support and understanding of my time commitments to help support the community. I also want to wish my successor, Ken Goldsmith, the best of luck as he begins his term. I know he will do a tremendous job.

To our Jewish community, I hope you take as much pride as I do in how special our Jewish Federation in Chattanooga is. I look forward to continuing to support our amazing organization and community in any way I can.



FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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

"The Sound of Silence"

*"Hello darkness, my old friend
I've come to talk with you again
Because a vision softly creeping
Left its seeds while I was sleeping
And the vision that was planted in my brain
Still remains
Within the sound of silence"*

I was in the kitchen, sitting and waiting for dinner to bake when "The Sound of Silence" by Simon & Garfunkel came on the radio. I remember initially hearing it when it came out in 1965. It was a bleak time in my childhood, and the song gave me some comfort. The comfort was recognizing the silence as healing and creating a vision of the future. The first stanza of the song had the most meaning for me. It made it okay for me to dream; okay for me to create a vision of art and life.

There in the kitchen, I began thinking about other silences. My grandparents, German-American citizens, would tell me how they silently lived through persecution during World War II in their tiny Ohio farm town. Dead animals were dumped on their front porch. They were shunned in stores. Silently they had visions of a good life once the war ended.

In the late 50s and early 60s, my home life was pretty silent. My parents were living the Mad Man lifestyle with my father working on Park Avenue and my mother playing the role of a good corporate wife and raising children. My father kept moving up the corporate ladder of Union Carbide which came with all sorts of country club and Junior League perks. My parents had "dress-up" cocktail parties. Life seemed quiet, calm, stable, and silent especially when it came to social issues.

And then there was no more silence. The tone of dinner conversations escalated every evening. The civil rights movement, the feminist movement, and the anti-war movement all became loud in the media, in the streets, between my parents, and with me. The silence ended in my parents' social circle. And I'm sure that my getting arrested during an anti-war demonstration and my mother marching in Harlem didn't help.

Speaking up. Letting the silence go was the only way to change what was becoming status quo and not acceptable. Speaking up and taking action can be messy.

So what does this have to do with the Federation? The war in Israel reminds us that standing up for Israel, with all of her imperfections, may be the only way to change the terrorist trajectory towards the state and the people we care about. The Federation has free yard signs available for you to speak up in support of Israel.

The pink digital billboards placed around Chattanooga saying "A quick guide to calling out antisemitism. Call out antisemitism." is a way to break the silence. And although they were only up for two weeks, yard signs and T-shirts with the same statement are available for free at the Jewish Cultural Center.

But, the best way to dispel antisemitism is with your feet. Show your support by coming and bringing friends to the Chattanooga Jewish Documentary Film Series in-person on Sunday afternoons. Attend the exhibit reception for Vessels and Coffeehouse on Jan. 13. Attend both of Ofer Musan's (shaliach) programs on Israeli culture, on Thursdays Jan. 11 and 18. Attend the Annual Meeting on Jan. 28 to celebrate our community's volunteers and support leadership. Show up so that in breaking silence you and others can see the importance, diversity and quality of Jewish culture.

Silence is great for healing, dreaming, and visioning. But these times demand calling out and action. See you at the Federation.

FOREIGN POLICY SUPPER CLUB

Iran at a Crossroads
Monday, January 22
at 6pm
\$15 for dinner



RSVP by Jan 18 - RSVP@Jewishchattanooga.com



FROM THE SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

Lorri Lipski llipski@jewishchattanooga.com • 893-9241

"If music be the food for love, play on" Shakespeare

Music has always been a part of my life. My first semester in college, I declared Music Therapy as my major. I dropped out because while I enjoyed the concept, I wasn't nearly as adept at playing instruments as my cohorts, so I dropped the music part and focused on the psychology aspect. It didn't stop me from recognizing how important music is. Music can energize and it can calm. Music can transport you across time and to far-off places. A song can create a memory that will become part of the soundtrack of your life.

Music can heal! According to a 2022 study on the effects of music on the cardiovascular system *Trends in Cardiovascular medicine, Volume 32 Issue 6*, in the 6th century, Pythagoras was thought to be the first person to prescribe music as medicine. Around 400 B.C. Hippocrates was known to play music for his patients with mental illness, and as far back as the Paleolithic ages, music was recognized as therapeutic due to the belief that music would have positive effects on body systems. The early 20th century advocated for the consideration of music for therapeutic purposes using the same methodological rigor as any other clinical practices in modern medicine. In 1914, the American Medical Association acknowledged the benefits of music in hospital treatments through Dr. Evan O'Neill Kane's letter in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, documenting successful phonograph use in the operating room to calm patients before anesthesia. It is thought that music may exert cardiovascular benefits through complex interactions between respiratory activity and autonomic cardiovascular control.

Fun Fact: In a study published in the journal *Deutsches Aerzteblatt International* in 2016, researchers compared the effect of the music of Mozart and Strauss with that of ABBA on issues related to heart health. The result: those who listened to Mozart and Strauss had markedly lower systolic and diastolic blood pressure, as well as lower heart rates. ABBA's tunes, on the other hand, didn't produce the same effects. Sorry, Dancing Queen.

Music can be a tool for our mental health. According to the study, *History of Music Therapy and Its Contemporary applications in Cardiovascular Diseases*, "Studies have shown that music can powerfully evoke and modulate emotions and moods, along with changes in heart activity, blood pressure, and breathing. These

findings arise from the literature: heart and respiratory rates are higher in response to exciting music than in the case of tranquilizing music. In addition, music produces activity changes in brain structures (amygdala, hypothalamus, insular, and orbitofrontal cortex) known to modulate heart function."

Music can also aid us in memory & recall Pay attention students! According to a November 2014 article from University of Southern California *Studying for Finals? Let Classical Music Help*, a study done by University Research in France, found that *students who listened to a one-hour lecture where classical music was played in the background scored significantly higher on a quiz about the lecture when compared to a similar group of students who heard the lecture with no music.*

Music can assist with sleep issues. A team of researchers at the University of Toronto found that *listening to classical music prior to bedtime helped people fall asleep faster and stay asleep longer. Works by Brahms, Handel, Mozart, Strauss and Bach were effective sleep aids because they use rhythms and tonal patterns that create a meditative mood and slow brainwaves, the study found.* In college, I would play "Deep Forest" for a nap between classes as it was very relaxing- until song # 6, a fast tone tribal beat came on- it never failed to wake me up with my heart racing. This was in the days of CD's, so making a playlist that eliminated that song wasn't an option, unfortunately.

In the same way we pair wine with our meal, pair music to your desired emotional outcome. If you are feeling stressed, find music that relaxes you. If you need motivation to tackle a project or to exercise, turn on something that invigorates you! If you are sad, find some upbeat songs that evoke happy memories. Choose your music wisely!

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JANUARY 11TH | 5:30 PM

OFER MUSAN, SAHLAICH
PRESENTS:

**ON THE
WORLD'S
STAGE:
ISRAELI
MUSIC**

JANUARY 18TH | 5:30 PM



Mitzvah Meals Delivered

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.

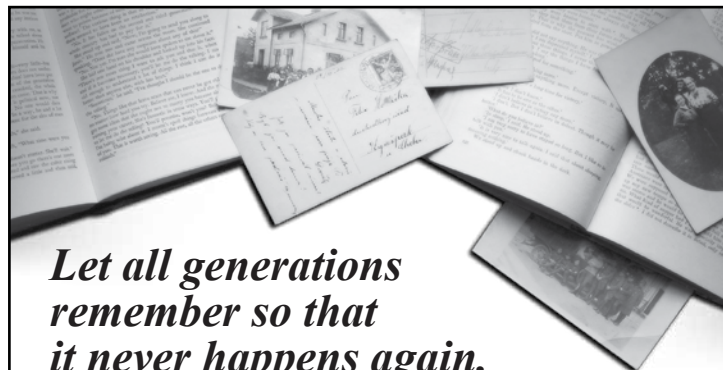
TRANSPORTATION

The number to call to schedule a ride is: **423-321-4236**



Jon: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
Dwight: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
Amber: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
Jonathan: Food Pantry & Mitzvah Meal Deliveries;
As Needed

Please call Lorri Lipski, Social Services Director, at 423-893-9241 if you have any additional questions about transportation services.



*Let all generations
remember so that
it never happens again.*

The Tennessee Holocaust Commission (THC) provides education and promotes remembrance of the Holocaust to the state of Tennessee. THC provides teachers, students and individuals with seminars, resources, workshops, traveling exhibits and commemorations to create awareness of the Holocaust; to fight prejudice and to encourage tolerance and understanding among all people.

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



Ethel Berger

Tennessee Holocaust Commission

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

Michael Dzik (Duty and Obligation) Cont. from Page 1

A huge 'thank you' to our outgoing Board Chair Rob Lowe for his nearly decade of service to the Federation. Over the past two years especially, my respect for your leadership has only grown. You are the epitome of the word "mensch", always thoughtful, always caring, and always acting in ways that benefit our Jewish community. You are present with presence. And I know we've grown closer as friends at the same time. Thank you for your dedication, commitment, and investment.

I invite the entire Jewish community to the Federation annual meeting on Sunday, Jan. 28th at 12:15 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center to celebrate Rob and his leadership. We will also celebrate our incoming Board Chair, Ken Goldsmith, along with our incoming Campaign Co-Chairs, Amy and Gene Boulware. We will thank our entire 2023 board and recognize all of our Jewish community Volunteers-of-the-Year. And as a way of saying "thank you" to all of our leadership and to the entire Jewish community, come and enjoy delicious soups and chili (at no cost) as we move into the 2024 year.

Michael Dzik

Michael Dzik

mdzik@jewishchattanooga.com

893-5443

COFFEE HOUSE AND VESSEL EXHIBIT RECEPTION



January 13, 2024
7:00pm - 9:00pm
Jewish Cultural Center

1960s - 1970s Throwback

Suggested donation \$10/person.
Live entertainment - Adult content

If you are interested in being part of the entertainment or want to help set up the venue, please contact Marilyn Goler at mgoler5@gmail.com.



Coffee House at the Jewish Cultural Center

Coffee, beer, wine, appetizers and sweets

RSVP@Jewishchattanooga.com

Transportation available by request before Wednesday, January 10



ALEPH BET CHIDRENS CENTER

Kathryn Wilhoite alephbet@jewishchattanooga.com • 893-5486



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

I was so excited for my first December with Aleph Bet. Although I have long known about the Hanukkah story and had some ideas about the traditions associated with it, actually getting to celebrate with these precious children was an absolute delight! We have spun dreidels, told stories, made (and ate) lots of treats, exchanged gifts, sung, and danced our way through eight great days and nights. Excitement, gratitude, and joy were shining as brightly in their faces as the lights from the candles. Thank you all for allowing me to join in this happy and holy time of year!





Ofer Musan *Federation*

israel@jewishchattanooga.com • (423) 385-0098

Israel Has Changed

Ever since Oct. 7, Israel has changed. As my best friend told me “although the land did not change, you left one place and you will come back to a totally different place.” I’ve felt restless ever since he spoke these words.

On Oct. 7, the Hamas terrorist organization launched an attack on Israel that is unprecedented. I have lived through some hard times back home, but nothing like this has happened since 1973. Even then, it was not as hard as the Oct. 7 attack. We, the entire Israeli society, became traumatized that day.

The last few weeks were hard, especially because of how the world reacted. Some people became ignorant, just like the war in Ukraine. Ukraine’s war continues, but unless something really big happens, nobody is talking about that war with Russia.

Sadly, some people started hating Israelis to the point of physically attacking them and other Jews around the world. These people started ripping hostages’ photos off of poles and boards while saying “it is not true, there are no hostages in Gaza.” Then, after Hamas released the hostages they used social media to imply “Look, they are waving. They are smiling. We did not harm them.” Yes, the hostages followed the directions because terrorists from Hamas were armed. But now, social media continues this stance even when the hostages, now home, say they were treated badly. Some people are continuing to listen and believe social media, not the hostages. I don’t understand it.

I’ve had some happy days lately. Israel struck a deal with Hamas, with the help of the United States, Egypt, and Qatar, to release around 100 hostages, mostly elderly women, mothers and children. Yet, once Hamas started releasing hostages, they broke the deal as they started shooting rockets back in Israel. The restart of

war made me really scared for my family and friends’ safety.

Many of my family members and friends were called back into the IDF reserve to serve again after the ceasefire. A lot of them are having a hard time in this war. I feel bad for them and I really hope they will be safely home soon.

I have lost some friends since this war began. Some of my family members lost their homes, and maybe they will never go back to where they lived. I have friends and family members on all the different fronts of this war. I feel really sad about what is happening in my homeland.

I am also glad I am here. This way I can tell you personally what is going on. I can explain and give details that you may not hear from the media. I can tell my friends and family’s stories and I can tell them how the Jewish community in Chattanooga supports Israel.

SAVE THE DATE

Women in the IDF

February 15th 7:00 pm



SHABBAT OF LOVE – SIGN UP NOW



The Jewish Federation is sponsoring Shabbat dinners around the community. We are looking for host families for the Friday, January 19 Shabbat. The Federation is paying up to \$250 per home to help with the costs for each Shabbat dinner.

If you would like to host, please email federation@jewishchattanooga.com.

Also, sign up to attend one of the Shabbat dinners around town by emailing federation@jewishchattanooga.com. This is open to the entire Jewish community, whether or not you belong to a congregation. We hope everyone signs up! We know many connections will be made at these Shabbat dinners around town.

CAMP AND ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIPS FROM YOUR JEWISH FEDERATION!

Applications open NOW; Up to \$1,750 per camper

The Chattanooga Jewish Federation is partnering with One Happy Camper (OHC) and PJ Goes to Camp for first time campers. Been to camp more than once? More than twice? Three times? Your Chattanooga Federation offers camp scholarships for ALL! ALL Chattanooga applications go through OHC: jewishcamp.org. NOTE – If this is not your first time, the application may “deny” your grant. Not to worry, OHC collects that data for Chattanooga and you WILL get a grant! Grants range from \$500-\$1,750 per child, per summer, from the Federation. Requirements • Must be approved Jewish summer camp (through movements, Hadassah, etc) • Family must live in the Chattanooga metro area • Family must make annual campaign gift (and in good standing) to Federation – at any level.



The Federation recognizes the life-long benefits of Jewish summer camp, building Jewish identity, friendships and independence.





5461 North Terrace Road
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Sunday, January 28th
10:00 am - 2:00 pm



BLOOD DRIVE

One donation can save 3 lives



**SIGN UP
HERE!**

Remember:

- Eat a good meal
- Avoid energy drinks
- Bring your ID
- Drink extra water

bloodassurance.org/jewish

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Local2Global (L2G)

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P2G Hadera-Eiron invites you to connect with other Jewish people from Israel to explore your Jewish identity through in-depth discussions and meaningful initiatives.



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- Deepen your connection with other Jews across the Southeast & the Czech Republic



Open to ages 35+



The program begins in Mid-January 2024 and will run for five months through May 2024

"My friendship with my Israeli counterpart is the best part! I feel connected to her and significantly more connected to Israel."
Program Alumni 2022

Mazal Tov to...

...Eliot Berz for being named the new executive director of the Tennessee River Gorge Trust (TRGT).

...to Max Cowan for becoming an Eagle Scout.



Thank You!

Thank you Roger Baringer for donating your Ford Flex to the Jewish Federation for our social services transportation team.



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Vessel Exhibit

January 8 – February 23, 2024

Reception in conjunction with
the Coffee House
Saturday, January 13, 2024
7:00pm - 9:00pm
Jewish Cultural Center



Miriam's Well by Sandra Babb



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COMMUNITY CHANUKAH CELEBRATION AND CANDLE LIGHTING AT THE JCC



Chattanooga Jewish

2024

DOCS
Documentary Film Series

In person at the
Jewish Cultural Center
5461 North Terrace Road
Virtual screenings available

Generation 1.5 In person January 7 / Virtual January 7-12

The massive Aliyah from the former USSR in the 1990s left an indelible mark on Israeli society. The film documents those who were born in the USSR and immigrated to Israel as children or teenagers. Now adults, they grapple with their identity and sense of belonging in their adopted homeland.
80 minutes, Russian, Hebrew, English subtitles



Broken Dolls In person January 14/ Virtual January 14-19

1939: a 7 year old girl flees Nazi Germany on a ship bound for Shanghai. Eighty years later in America, her daughter fights to reinstate her mother's lost German citizenship, and plans a trip to the country that tried to eliminate her. One last journey revealing not only resilience and strength- but deeply buried family secrets. 81 minutes, English

Spinoza, Six Reasons for the Excommunication of the Philosopher In person January 21/ Virtual January 21 - 26

The excommunication of Baruch Spinoza, the Dutch Jewish philosopher who revolutionized modern thought, is a formative, mysterious event in the understanding of his work. Director David Ofek takes us on an intercontinental journey tracing six reasons for Spinoza's excommunication. He makes some surprising discoveries. 55 minutes, Hebrew, English, subtitles



J'Accuse! In person January 28/ Virtual January 28 - February 2

The Lithuanian Jewish community was decimated in the Holocaust: over 220,000 Jews, more than 95% of the population, were murdered. Grant Gochin, whose family was murdered and Silvia Foti, a Lithuanian woman fighting for those who died, push against Lithuania's systemic Holocaust denial. 87 minutes, English

Viewing *J'Accuse!* is a good way to commemorate International Holocaust Day

All films will screen in person on the day listed and virtually beginning at noon the day listed and ending at noon the day listed. Popcorn and a drink will be available at each in-person screening. Virtual screenings must be pre-paid in advance by visiting www.jewishchattanooga.com; you will receive the login code the morning of the listed screening.

Subscription for all 4 films is \$36. \$12 one film at a time.

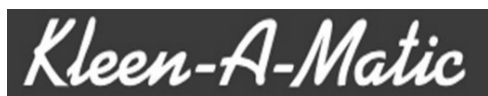
3pm Screenings

There is no additional charge for pre-paid corporate sponsors, patrons and fall film sponsors.

CHATTANOOGA JEWISH FILM AND DOCUMENTARY SERIES

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 Shire Facial Plastic Surgery
 Shelley and Martin Simms
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 Fuz Spector
 Shelia St. Aubin and John Reis
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 David and Betsy Temple
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 Richard Zachary &
 Ruth Longway

SHABBAT OF LOVE

Shabbat of Love was created to embrace the Jewish people, spreading love for who we are.

Join us as we set the table for the largest Shabbat dinner celebration in North American history on January 19th, 2024. We welcome Jews of all ages, backgrounds, and identities to come together with your family, friends, and supportive neighbors, to experience the sacred joy of Shabbat - a celebration of Jewish light and love.

Our Federation plans to invite six host leaders of different ages from each of the congregations and Chabad. The staff will work with each of the hosts to encourage them to invite eight people they do not know (Shabbat and dinner for 10), representing, different ages, backgrounds and as well as congregational and non-congregational affiliations. Shabbat will take place at each of the six host households. Each household will be supplied with wine and challah from the Federation in addition to materials from Shabbat of Love, ice breakers and conversation topics. Additionally, each host household will be provided with a stipend for food and supply expenses. Host will be instructed to ask participants to help make the meal prior to Shabbat, or create something (maybe Shabbat candles, etc.) during their time together in addition to participating in conversation.

As we wrap up the semester at UTC, I would like to thank you again for supporting my Honors seminar students through their visits to the Vocabulary exhibit. They all enjoyed the experience and wrote thoughtful reflections on many of the pieces and their connections to our study of topics in linguistics. As you suggested, I allowed the students to reflect in any format, so I thought you might enjoy seeing the attached artwork and accompanying story that Sarah Ong submitted. I think you will certainly see inspiration from some of the exhibit pieces along with her own unique perspective. I will look forward to collaborating again in future semesters!

Best regards,
Ashleigh Pipes, Ph.D.
Public Speaking Lecturer
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga



Sarah Ong
Language and Life in Our World
20 November 2023

Though the official title of the exhibit was "Vocabulary," I found many of the pieces focused on ideas of community and family through the lens of language rather than the actual verbiage of language. The pieces that interested me the most were the ones that focused on the idea of connections through this communication, oftentimes expressed through language yet occasionally expressed through other measures.

Growing up in Middle Tennessee, I always felt a disconnect between the culture my Grandparents have and mine. I remember an instance when my grandfather tried to teach me Indonesian. He drafted out a few simple words onto an index card with their translations into Indonesian and read them to me. I was too young to understand how important this was and I now wholeheartedly regret not trying harder to share that part of my grandparent's culture while they were still able to teach me. While most of the words are lost to me I remember that "water" and its translation were written on the note card. I have thought about trying to teach myself Indonesian in order to communicate with my father's side of the family

better but trying to research proper translations is exceedingly difficult. The single word "water" in English has over 20 Indonesian translations when searched in google translate-which though not one of the most accurate tools for translating, is extremely accessible. In short, the expanse of language can be extremely intimidating and while it can be connecting, it can also be isolating. In this artwork, I drew my grandparents based on a picture from 2015. Within that 8 year time period between then and the present they have aged greatly and currently both of my grandparents are receiving hospice care. The only word I do remember from the notecard is the word "makan" which means "eat." Though my grandparents spoke broken English they found other ways to communicate with my siblings and I, often showing their affection through food. I have many memories of coming home from school to a house filled with the smell of freshly cooked meals and my grandparents calling us, saying "makan."

Proposed Jewish Federation Board of Directors

Terms expiring January 2027

Fern Shire Cara Weiner Rachel Pohl

Terms expiring January 2026

Steff Altman Cori Cohen Jen Lincove Richard Zachary

Terms expiring January 2025

Adam Gerson Marilyn Goler Andy Hodes Art Lewis

One Year Board Chair Appointment

Lynn Howard

Board Members Rolling Off

Owen Allen
Ross Cohn
Steve Cohn
Lindsey Dodson

Valerie Epstein
David Israel
Jed Mescon
Erica Newman

Kevin Rose
Roy Rosenfeld
Marissa Street
Mike Spector

Joel Susman
Edie Weiss

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ken Goldsmith
Amy Boulware/Gene Boulware
Tal Cohen

Board Chair
Vice Board Co-Chairs
Vice Chair/Programming

Al Jarman Treasurer
Alison Lebovitz Member-at-Large
Rob Lowe Immediate Past Board Chair

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rob Lowe, Ken Goldsmith, Erica Newman, Fern Shire



the **JEW CREW**

What is Jew Crew?

Jew Crew is a high school teen group sponsored by the Jewish Federation. It's a great way for all Jewish teens to meet, connect, and have fun while strengthening their Jewish Identity and making friends regardless of the school they attend or their affiliation.

Advisor:

Questions? Please contact me
Ofer Musan (*Federation's shaliach*)
email: Israel@JewishChattanooga.com

Jew Crew Dates for 2024

All events are 12:15PM-2PM
unless otherwise noted

February – (TBD)
Sunday, March 10
Sunday, April 14
Sunday, May 5 (Tentative)

YJL

2024 SCHEDULE

2024 Shabbat Calendar
(6pm start time):

January 26

March 29

May 17

July 12

September 20

November 8

ANTISEMITISM AWARENESS

We have yard signs with the message on them, as well as t-shirts.

Stop by the Federation if you would like to pick one or more up (no cost).

This is intended to continue the much-needed awareness and foster meaningful discussion about antisemitism across the community.



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.



WHOSE TEMPLE IS IT ANYWAY?

IMPROV WORKSHOPS @ MIZPAH

- No experience required!
- No limit to the fun!
- No cost!
- No more saying "No!"
- Learn the art of "Yes and..."

Improv is more than comedy. It builds confidence and assertiveness. It helps you think on your feet. It helps improve non-verbal communication. And it helps to work in teams. As a bonus, it frequently is funny.

Our instructor Bethany Morgan is a graduate of Second City, Improv Olympic, and the Annoyance Theatre training centers. She has learned from the major players in Chicago's improv scene. She "pushes herself and students to play authentically, intelligently, and fueled with emotional commitment."

WHO? MIZPAH MEMBERS AGE 11 TO 111
 WHEN? 2ND AND 4TH SATURDAYS FROM JANUARY THROUGH APRIL
 TIME? 1-3 PM
 WHERE? MIZPAH

SPACE IS LIMITED! SIGN UP TODAY!

SHIREI SHALOM

3rd Friday every month:
 Music and song led by Amy Cohen, Mizpah Feinstein Hall / chapel
 Chardonnay Shabbat
 Oneg to follow



MIZPAH TORAH STUDY

Shabbat morning
 9:15 a.m.
 Bagels and lox prior
 Mizpah Feinstein Hall



1ST FRIDAY FAMILY SERVICE AND DINNER

January 5, 2024

Family Service: 6:00 pm

Family Service featuring Susan Caminez

Dinner to follow: 7:00 pm

"The journey of friendship between Jews and Catholics in Chattanooga"

LET'S TALK!



Speaker:

Brendan Murphy

Date: January 24, 2024
 Time: 6PM - 8PM

Location: Mizpah Congregation

ENTER ON OAK STREET
 923 MCCALLIE AVENUE
 CHATTANOOGA TN

Sponsored by Mizpah and Holy Spirit Catholic Church

"In the words of our presenter, Brendan Murphy:" I am a history teacher at Marist School in Atlanta who is about to start his 30th year at the school! Crazy. The class I'm hoping to bring to Chattanooga is one I developed as part of my position on the Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Dialogue for the Archdiocese of Atlanta and has been endorsed by Archbishop Hartmayer. The class covers the history and Christian anti-Judaism, the watershed proclamation of Nostra Aetate, and current and future Jewish-Christian relations.

Mizpah Hanukkah

Friday, December 8, 2023



Mizpah's Warren "The Latke King" Dropkin Latke team:
 Left to right: David Israel, David Solovey, Andy Hodes, Warren Dropkin, John Steinberg, Art Lewis, Tom Bledsoe

INTRODUCTION TO KABBALA

SEEDS OF JEWISH MYSTICISM
 What it is, and what it isn't.

Perhaps the most popular and the most misunderstood stream of Jewish study, Kabbala is a search for the hidden secrets of the Universe through profound Torah study. Rabbi Lewis will present background on the Zohar as well as some of its most famous teachings. We will also examine some of the various threads of Kabbala study and belief.



Jan 10, 17, 31 6-7 PM in Feinstein Social Hall

RSVP to office@mizpahcongregation.org - This class will be in-person only

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

Shabbat Muffins

Shabbat Morning Kids' Programs
 with Rabbi Keilah Lebell
 Saturday, January 6
 9:45am - Mini Muffins! Baby & Me Shabbat
 10:30am - Shabbat Muffins (K-4)
 2nd Floor Playroom

B'nai Zion Calendar

Morning Shabbat Services:
 9:45 am at Ochs Memorial Temple & via Zoom

Kabbalat Shabbat Friday services:
 6:00 pm in person & via Zoom

January	6	Mini Muffins & Shabbat Muffins
	7	Jews & Brews
	13	Lunch & Learn
	15	Tu B'Shevat Family Adventure
	19	Jammies & Jeans
	20	Lunch & Learn
	26	Homestyle Shabbat

BSI: January 17, 24, & 31
 Minyan & Foundations:
 Wednesdays @ 6:00 & 6:30 pm via Zoom

Tu B'Shevat Family Adventure

MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 2024
 REFLECTION RIDING ARBORETUM
 AND NATURE CENTER

10:00AM-11:30AM: Family nature walk with a Reflection Riding naturalist to explore the benefits of trees and a native animal tour.

11:30AM: Lunch in the treehouse!

TORAH | BEER | STUDY

JEWES AND BREWS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7
 2:30 PM

AT ODDSTORY
 1604 CENTRAL AVENUE



Thanks for a beautiful Hanukkah!

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 MENORAH PARADE



WINTER 2024 - 6 TUESDAYS
 STARTING JANUARY 30

ADVICE 'N' LIFE

The Lubavitcher Rebbe's
 Guidance for Leading a
More Purposeful Life

A new six-session course WWW.MYJLI.COM

Torah & Tea

PRAYERS FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN ISRAEL

“Your monthly dose of friendship and inspiration.”

MONDAY MORNING
 JANUARY 8 ~ 10:00 AM
 AT CHABAD ~ 950 VINE ST.

UPCOMING DATES

MONDAY, JANUARY 8
 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8
 MONDAY, MARCH 11

NEW!! MINI GAN

CHABAD OF CHATTANOOGA HEBREW SCHOOL
Where Judaism comes Alive!

ALEPH CHAMP HEBREW READING PROGRAM | BAR/BAT MITZVAH PREP

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS | JEWISH HISTORY & CULTURE

SUNDAY MORNINGS
 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
 AGES 6-12

MINI-GAN MONDAYS
 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM / AGES 3-5
 950 VINE ST. CHATTANOOGA TN

To enroll your child or for more info:
 Visit www.JewishChatt.com/CHS 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

Millie Lander,
Treasurer

FIRST NIGHT OF CHANUKAH

Hadassah helped the Federation celebrate the first night of Chanukah, lighting the first candle together. Thank you to all contributors to the Brainerd Food Pantry and Room in the Inn. And thank you to Aleph Bet for decorating the donation boxes.



TRIREGION CONFERENCE

The Supersouth has just announced the TriRegion Conference will be held in Nashville Nov. 8-10, 2024. Save the date for an amazing experience that is so accessible to Chattanoogaans.

HADASSAH HOSPITAL IN ISRAEL

To clear up a misconception about Hadassah Hospital in Israel, the level one trauma center has been treating severely wounded IDF soldiers and civilians. Hamas wounded have been sent to prison hospitals. As part of Hadassah's campaign VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, the League of Jewish Leaders has introduced a resolution condemning Hamas' violence targeting women, supported by the United Nations Women's Council.

COFFEE WITH OFER

Coffee with the new shaliach, Ofer Musan, will be scheduled on Jan. 23 when participants can hear about how he and his family celebrate Tu B'Shevat and other holidays in Israel. This is a drop by event at the Parkway Pourhouse at 801 Riverside Dr at 4:00 p.m., in time for "Taco Tuesday." This will be an opportunity for Hadassah members to welcome Ofer to Chattanooga in an informal setting and for members to donate to Jewish National Fund (JNF) by planting trees in Israel and receiving a seed packet to plant at home.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to the Hadassah Volunteer of the Year, Beth Thomas, who has stepped up to be co-President next year. Her award will be recognized at the Federation Annual Meeting Jan. 28. Beth has been active in a number of programs over the last few years, and it is an honor to recognize her dedication.

TOURS OF ISRAEL

Tours of Israel, sponsored by Hadassah, have been put on hold for the time being. When Israel reopens for tourism, it will need us visitors! May we spend next year in Jerusalem in 5784.

WOMAN OF VALOR DONOR EVENT

In the planning stage is an in-person Donor event celebrating Women of Valor and breast cancer survivors at a Sunday brunch. Ronni Charyn has graciously volunteered to help form the Donor Committee. Others interested in helping should contact Judy Sachsman.

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 dwxler@hadassah.org.

By connecting and empowering women to effect change, we are the women who do. Be proud of who you are, Hadassah women. Barbie's Jewish mother started with Hadassah!





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

*** Deceased**

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

**Thank you
for insuring
our future.**

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**

CONTACT LIST

- | | |
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| Jake Balser | Federation@JewishChattanooga.com |
| Dawn Hildebrand, RN, BSN | Nurse@JewishChattanooga.com |



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA

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

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Greater Chattanooga**

Rob Lowe, Board Chair
Michael Dzik, Executive Director

The Shofar is mailed at no charge to
local members of the Jewish community.
Cost for out-of-town subscribers is \$30/year.

Find us online at
JewishChattanooga.com



Blue and White
Chai Nite

Saturday, February 10th
7:30 PM

\$54 per person
Dinner. Dancing. Drinks.

5461 North Terrace
RSVP | Jewishchattanooga.com

