



A PUBLICATION OF THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA

Yossi Bloch

Co-Director of Supernova
documentary film
visits Chattanooga February 19



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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Forever Changed

I have so many feelings and emotions about visiting Israel last week, but so far, the only word I can come up with is numb. One might define this as the lack of feeling, but rather it was more of feeling shocked, dazed, and disoriented. I had previewed the itinerary and was fully prepared for what our small Partnership 2Gether (P2G) group was going to experience and see. But I realized very quickly that no preparation would have been enough. It was our responsibility and duty to bear witness to the events of Oct. 7 and be a voice for Israelis.

The mood in Israel was palpable. This was apparent from the moment we boarded our flight in New York as each seat's entertainment screen shared a message of "100 days without you," a message that our hostages have been gone for 100 days and counting. And the first thing we saw as we arrived at Ben Gurion airport? Signs and pictures of each hostage still being held by Hamas line the corridor leading to passport control. The message was clear, this is not the same Israel as Oct. 6. Over the next days and weeks, our Chattanooga delegation of Randi Weiss, Austin Center, and Tal Cohen will be joining me in telling many of the stories we heard throughout our four-day journey.

Kibbutz Be'eri is one of the Gaza envelope communities that was directly targeted by Hamas. Many of the signs from the Oct. 7 massacre were still visible – destroyed and burned homes,

bullet holes, and personal effects strewn about. We were guided through the Kibbutz by one of its residents and survivors. Seeing the spray painted numbers and letters on house after house reminded me of Hurricane Katrina. These messages were left by the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and ZAKA NGO (non-governmental organization volunteer group for rescue and recovery), identifying how many were killed in each house and to confirm no booby traps were left behind (which we learned happened very often.) Every minute or two we heard the earth-shattering "booms" of Israeli artillery firing at Gaza and supporting our IDF troops on the ground. These booms were a painful reminder that Israel is at war.

As we were driving to Re'im, the site of the Nova Music Festival, I could recognize the area through the months worth of photos and videos from TV; the trees, the forest, the rows of plowed dirt fields, and the burn marks where cars had parked on the road. The site was now turned into a makeshift memorial, pictures with yearzeit candles seemed to go on and on. A little further down the road was where Israel was keeping all of the vehicles from that fateful day, now lined up and piled up in an open field.

One of the more powerful moments for me personally was a visit to Shaarei Tzedek hospital in Jerusalem. We first met with an Israeli soldier who had been injured just a week before we arrived. He told us of his fighting in Gaza and how the K-9 with his platoon saved everyone's lives. Several were

injured by Hamas' ambush; the K-9, Ziggy, was killed in action. All of the Hamas terrorists were killed.

We also met with a brave civilian who was in the hospital for follow-up surgery from the Oct. 7 attack. He had just left his home for work when the sirens blared, signaling rockets being fired from Gaza. Before he could turn back to his home to be with his wife, pickup trucks with terrorists shot at his vehicle where he was hit and he eventually crashed his car. In a series of very fortunate events, including a brave Israeli policeman, he was rescued and brought to a hospital. Thankfully his kibbutz was spared by Hamas and his wife also survived. We learned that only a few days after the attack his wife gave birth to their first child, a healthy baby boy. Before we left his hospital room our group sang the MiSheberach prayer. It was a powerful moment.

After meeting with one of the hostage families, our group adjourned outside to begin walking to a group dinner. While waiting for everyone in the group to arrive, I remember wiping my eyes of tears. The moment became so powerful that I made no audible sound; just tears. It was a most striking moment for me as I began to comprehend and absorb the magnitude of Oct. 7.

We met with hostage families and another survivor family. We visited "hostage plaza" in Tel Aviv. We participated in a ceremony for one of the Golani Brigades who had just finished three months of service in Gaza (thousands of soldiers!) We visited with evacuated community

Continued Page 7



FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Kenneth Goldsmith kenneth.goldsmith@gmail.com

First Article as Board Chair

I want to begin my monthly message by thanking Rob Lowe for his service and kind words. I greatly value his knowledge, perspective, and advice.

In thinking about what I wanted to write in my first message, I reflected on how my engagement with the Jewish Federation started. I would sit by myself in the last row watching the Chattanooga Jewish Film Series movies and was dubbed by Michael Dzik as Mr. Last Row. I soon realized that was no longer the story I wanted to talk about. Today, I want to talk about how I got to Chattanooga, my father's fear of racism and antisemitism in my move to Chattanooga, and how present antisemitic events have rekindled his fears in me.

I came to Chattanooga from South Florida 15 years ago. I did a web search of Chattanooga and found that it had enough culture for me to survive. My father, however, was more specific in his evaluation of my move. He said, "Are you sure you want to move to the Deep South"? He worried about living in the Bible Belt and antisemitism, and he also worried about racism, since Jan and I are an interracial couple. Let me be clear, my father had never been to Chattanooga or anywhere in the Deep South when he let me know he was worried about racism and antisemitism in Chattanooga.

Well, over the years I can report that I experienced no overt acts of racism directed to Jan or myself, or to us as a married couple. In fact, I was amazed at how easily accepted being an interracial couple is in Chattanooga. But while I am happy to report that the racism side of my father's fears did not materialize, I cannot say the same about antisemitism. At first, it was unusual comments and questions from colleagues and staff at Chattanooga State Community College about what Jews thought about the Bible. I was impressed by their knowledge of the Old Testament but curious as to why I was being asked for my perspective on their knowledge. Then came the time the President of the College invited all the rabbis to lunch, and I was invited at the last minute (I assumed he thought it would be helpful to have the only Jewish faculty member present.) I also remember when two Jewish students asked me, as Faculty Senate President, to speak with a faculty member who scheduled an

exam during the Jewish High Holidays and refused to permit the students to take the exam at another time (this also aligned with the fact that no holidays except Christian holidays were ever included on the academic calendar.) The capstone antisemitic event was during a city sponsored diversity bus tour, (we visited a synagogue, a mosque, and a Hindu temple) when I was asked by a Vice President at the College who was sitting next to me, "if Jews still do blood sacrifices?" I was so stunned by the question, that after a long pause, I simply said no.

Why do I mention the above Chattanooga events? These antisemitic events in Chattanooga made me think of the larger antisemitic events in Charlottesville, Pittsburgh, and now in Israel. When Charlottesville happened my first thought was that while it mattered greatly, it was just white nationalists who would soon fade back into the dark. When Pittsburgh happened, it awakened in me how antisemitic words can turn into deadly antisemitic actions even in the United States. And now in Israel, I have seen how antisemitic words and actions can be used to support a terrorist attack and global Anti-Zionist campaign.

My father's fears of antisemitism in Chattanooga have come to light on a larger scale. As Board Chair, I plan to stay informed and vigilant and to do my best to lessen my father's fears.

TURN YOUR COMPASSION INTO ACTION

Choose your six-week volunteer initiative & be part of Israel's story of resilience.

Choose Your Volunteering

Volunteer 2-3x a week in Tel Aviv at the initiative of your choosing.

Uplift High-Risk Communities

Group volunteer 1-2x a week working with high risk communities, including aiding displaced families, mentoring displaced children, supporting agriculture, and other meaningful initiatives.

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Check out all of our offerings on our website







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FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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

Vessel

My father loved words and the diversity of their meanings. As a child we played word games regularly, mixing up words and content. Often my father would give us word puzzles to solve in order to receive a gift or treat. Taking that concept to heart, I asked artists from Chattanooga and around the country to send me images relating to vessels. I selected work from 27 artists for the current *Vessel* exhibit at the Jewish Cultural Center.

The world is full of many kinds of vessels. There are ships, bowls/pots, blood vessels, buildings, books, and much more. To my joy, all sorts of vessels are present in this exhibit. Please, read the labels and learn about the artists and their thoughts about the piece of art they submitted. The labels themselves are a kind of vessel holding interesting content for you to discover.

In some cases, I was able to pair artwork by two artists so that you could see the connection between them. Some of these connections are in composition, texture, and other by content. Examples of this include the human body as a vessel paired with a vase as a vessel that has human bodies. Another is an urban man-made vessel paired with a common rural vessel (which you will discover isn't all that common.) Many of the pieces share Jewish content for you to discover.

In January when the Jewish Federation hosted A Shabbat of Love, I was reminded of several other kinds of vessels. A home can be a vessel of sorts, holding Shabbat, and sharing traditions with others. Regarding Shabbat of Love, the concept of pairing care for each other to defend against the emotions of difficult times really came into focus. I'd like to thank the hosts of Shabbat of Love: Rachel and Henry Schulson, Vicki and Art Lewis, Arona DeSure and Adam Gerson, Rita and Bob Brook, Jackie and Roy Rosenfeld, and Ariel and Marc Pollack for sharing their homes during Shabbat.

In February the Jewish Federation, as a vessel for our community, will pair programming designed to both comfort and educate you. We will sponsor a Coping

Breakfast at Mizpah as a way to work through our feelings of despair with the situation in Israel and local antisemitism. We will have fun at Chai Nite, with a 10 piece live band. Have you RSVP'd? Also, Southern Adventist University's Steel Drum Band will be at the Jewish Cultural Center for a Caribbean afternoon. The Chattanooga Symphony and Opera will bring Rainbow Fish alive for children.

And, we will continue to hold discussions and programs about Israel. Ofer Musan, Shaliach, will be bringing a shlichah friend in to talk about Women in the IDF. Michael Dzik and the three community members who traveled with him last month to Israel, will continue to tell us about their trip, as well as hearing from other sources.

The Jewish Federation continues to be a vessel for you and our community.

SUPPORTIVE SIT DOWN

Sunday, February 4 – The Jewish Federation invites the community to "A supportive sit down: antisemitism and Israel". It will be a guided conversation, almost like a therapy session. Lots of community members have angst, anxiety and lots of feelings and emotions on higher alert these past three months. Mizpah Library – 10AM-11:30AM.

Led by Marki Kaim. No cost to attend. Please register. rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com





JEWISH FEDERATION NURSE

Dawn Hildebrand, RN, BSN nurse@jewishchattanooga.com

Body Systems

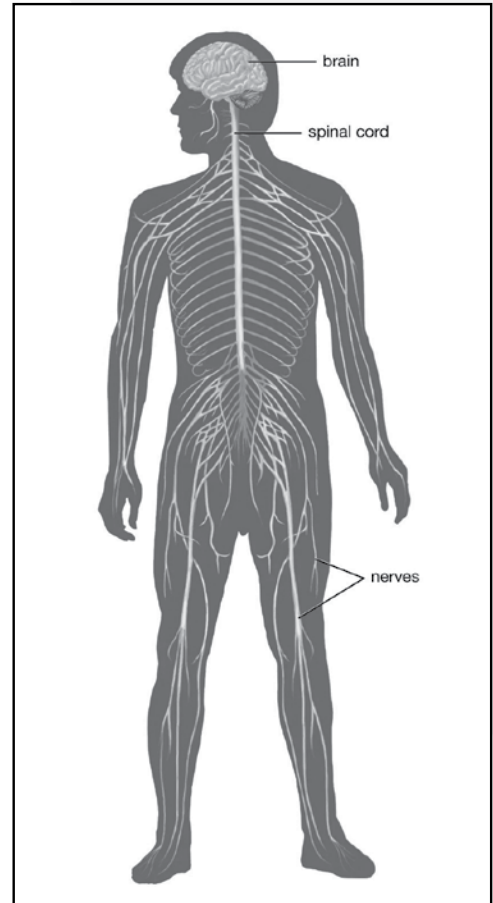
The human body is composed of different systems that work together harmoniously and allow us to function miraculously. Throughout the next months we plan to take a look at these systems, how they work, and discover some things we can do to make them operate more efficiently.

These systems are the Nervous, Respiratory, Cardiovascular, Digestive, Musculoskeletal, Integumentary, Endocrine, Urinary, Lymphatic, and Reproductive systems. We'll discuss these in a head-to-toe-order every other month.

We will begin this week with the Nervous System which consists of two areas: the central and the peripheral. The central is comprised of the brain with more than 100 billion nerve cells and the spinal cord containing 13.5 million nerve cells protected by the spine. The peripheral system is made up of the nerves outside the central nervous system which are operating tasks for the somatic and autonomic functions. Our brains control every part of our body. The somatic system allows us to be in control of moving our hands, feet, head, or body parts that we can control. The autonomic system controls involuntary operations that are essential, but not self-controlled, like heart function, breathing, lung function, smooth muscle, and gland activity within the body. Nerves are estimated to make up more than 46 miles in length running back and forth from the peripheral receptors through the central spinal cord to the brain, relaying messages for sensation, movement, and action.

These nerves are all encased within a myelin sheath composed of proteins and fatty substances that insulate and affect the speed of the signals. Multiple Sclerosis is a disease in which the immune system attacks and damages or destroys the myelin sheath causing disruption of the signals between the brain and the body. The left side of the brain provides function for the right side of our bodies and for more logical task such as speaking, number function, scientific skills, written language, and reasoning. The right side of our brain controls the function of the left side of our bodies allowing creativity, music, spatial perception, artistic tasks, art recognition, and insight. Both sides are equally important even though they perform different functions overall.

A major injury that can occur to the brain is a stroke. It occurs when blood with oxygen supply is interrupted or cut off due to a blocked brain artery or a brain hemorrhage. The signs to look for in a stroke can be found in the acronym "B.E. F.A.S.T": Balance-having trouble standing or walking. Eyes-Loss of vision in one or both eyes or blurred vision. Face-Facial drooping or loss of symmetry. Arms-arm or leg or one-sided weakness. Speech-slurred or difficult. Time-Call 9-1-1 for immediate help. Try to memorize these signs in case you would ever need to use them. How can we help keep our Nervous System healthy? We may see a repeated plan of action for all of our body systems, but we will continue to emphasize them. Eat a diet rich in whole foods. Exercise will improve the nervous system conductivity. Rest and reducing stress is important. Control alcohol consumption and stop smoking. Begin including Vitamin B1, B6, and B12 in your routine because it builds up the myelin sheaths. Try to keep your cholesterol, blood sugar, and blood pressure under control with the help of your doctor. Exercise your brain with puzzles, games, Sudoku, reading, listening to or playing music. Last, but not least, go barefoot. The soles of our feet have over 200,000 nerve endings that need to be stimulated.



Thank you to all those who have pledged to the 2024 Annual Campaign.

We have raised \$941,170

Chattanooga also raised \$140,281 for the Israel Emergency Campaign



Condolences...

... the family and friends of Judith Barshak, who died on Jan. 10, 2024. She is survived by Alan and Susan Waxenberg.

... the family and friends of Joseph Harold Shalett, who died on Jan. 13, 2024. He is survived by sibling, Teddi Mendel; daughter, Sally Delashmitt; grandchildren, Christopher Delashmitt and Anna Delashmitt; great-grandchildren, Landon Hammonds, Amari Hammonds, and Imani Allen; nieces, Lauren Orabona and Karen Herbst

Mazel Tov to...

...David Fishman for taking 1st place at the Booth Gallery 2024 Winter-Spring Exhibition with his painting "Shoemakers Forms"

Western Art Show

NORTH RIVER CIVIC CENTER
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Sat 12-4

A Selection of Paintings by Award Winning Western Artist David Fishman



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

members from Kibbutz Yad Mordechai. We volunteered at a farm. We met with the grassroots organization Brothers and Sisters in Israel who have been coordinating volunteer opportunities. We met with ALL of Chattanooga's former Shlichim, many who were called up to the reserves over the past three months. And so much more.

There are plenty of more stories, and I promise to share them all. I'm still processing it all myself and it will take time for the full magnitude of this visit to be clear. Each moment is too important not to share. All of us on this trip made a promise to tell these stories as often as possible. Their voices must be heard; the world must understand what happened and learn about the special individuals who were lost. There is no doubt that the events of Oct. 7 have forever changed the lives of Israelis and Israel. And it has changed the lives of Jews around the world as well.

Michael Dzik

Michael Dzik

mdzik@jewishchattanooga.com

893-5443

COFFEE HOUSE AND VESSEL EXHIBIT RECEPTION

at the Jewish Federation on January 13.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Coffee House and Exhibit Reception.

Coffee House: Director/Producer: Marilyn Goler

Coffee House Company: Marianna Allen, Howard Kaplan, Gary Lander, Bill Lefton, Rabbi Craig Lewis, Vicki Lewis, Warren Posternack, Rabbi Sam Rotenberg, Richard Zachary
Decorations: Ruth Longway, Carla Nixon and Phil Potts
Staff: Ofer Musan

Thank You Participating Artists: Robin Atlas, Sandra Babb, Wade Brickhouse, Asherah Cinnamon, Tom and Pat Cory, Lolly Durant Bob Fazio, Harriet Goren, Lupina Haney, Maxine Hess, Mark Issenberg, Faye Ives, Howard Kaplan, Janice Kennedy, Cindy Lutz Kornet, Rena Malone, Ruth McRae, Angel Pellegrino, Richard Rice, Richard Rutner, Steven Samuels, Alex Scoggins, Aleyah Solomon, Dixon Stetler

The exhibit *Vessel* will be temporarily closed from Thursday, February 8 until Monday, February 12. Sorry for the inconvenience.





ALEPH BET CHIDRENS CENTER

Kathryn Wilhoite alephbet@jewishchattanooga.com • 893-5486



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ALEPH BET FRIENDS HARD AT PLAY!

It has been a cold start to our new year, but we have had so much fun learning about the wonderful world G-d has created for us! We have learned about the weather outside, the physical changes it can cause, and the animals that love this kind of weather. I love their curious minds, and getting to see the connections they are making. As adults it is easy to be frustrated by the inconvenience of ice on a car, or worried about safely traversing a slick sidewalk. When encountering these same phenomena, a toddler sees so much more. They see the shiny reflections on the smooth ice, the cracks that make intricate designs, and how much those icicles look like popsicles. We all know we do have to consider these practical concerns, but if you can, take a moment and look at the world through their eyes. It is a lovely world we live in!



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Ofer Musan Federation

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People of Israel Will Remain United No Matter What

We are more than 100 days into the heart-breaking war in Israel. I feel like I'm living a weird double life. I have one leg in the United States and the other leg back home in Israel. I am here, and my life and my job are here. But my friends, family, and everyone I know is still back home.

This war forces me to think a lot about who I am and who I want to be. I am a proud Israeli, but I feel I cannot always show my "Israeliness" because I never know if the person I am talking to might put me in danger. I am proud to be a part of the Jewish people. Scrolling through social media makes me feel bad because of all of the posts that spew hatred towards my people, my culture, my heritage, and my history. What can we do to combat the hatred? What action can we take against it? Maybe it would be better just to sit quietly and let this wave go over our heads, hoping that people will change their minds soon and we will have better days.

Now, I don't have the answers to the above questions. Every single person will have their own way of dealing with them. One way I combat things is to start thinking about all the good stuff I see when it comes to Israelis and the Jewish people. I tell myself that I should be proud. So yes, these are hard days, maybe the hardest days the Jewish people have had since 1945-48. Yet we keep going.

What Hamas did on Oct. 7th is horrifying. It is something I thought I would never see in my life. And I never thought I would see it in Israel. But Hamas had one big miscalculation. The people of Israel may have a lot of disagreements, sometimes even fight, but we also love and care for each other, no matter what.

I have a lot of disagreements with a lot of my family members, and even some of my friends. Sometimes we argue to the point of screaming at each other, but when we say goodbye we hug each other. We know that no matter what, we are all a part of the same people, and we will never let anyone break us apart, not because of agenda or ideology, and not because of a war. To see how the people of Israel support the people from the Gaza envelope, or the people from the north who also left their houses because of

Hizballah, makes me happy.

These days are hard, and it's unclear what will happen in the future. I know that the people of Israel will stay united. I want to introduce you to Stav Gottesgnade, the shlichah from Maryland. On Feb. 15 at 7:00 p.m. she will be at the Jewish Cultural Center to talk about Women in the Israeli Defense Force. She will tell us how they see their roles, and what they are doing to protect and support the people of Israel. I hope you will join us.

SAVE THE DATE

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JCC**

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Vessel Exhibit

January 8 – February 23, 2024
Jewish Federation

Temporary Closure:
Wednesday February 7 - Tuesday February 13



Miriam's Well by Sandra Babb



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ISRAEL SOLIDARITY TRIP: JANUARY 15-18, 2024



Hostage Plaza in Tel Aviv. Friends and family have shared photos and personal exhibits to remind Israelis of the many hostages still in captivity



Kibbutz Be'eri near Gaza. Hamas attacked kibbutz members early on October 7th. You can see bullet and RPG holes from Hamas. Many homes were burned by Hamas so that residents would be forced to come out from their safe rooms. The Hebrew numbers/letters indicate that the IDF searched and cleared the house after the attack.

Tal Cohen lighting a memorial candle near the Kotel in Jerusalem. All 1,200 names of those murdered on October 7th are also listed on a plaque above the memorial.



At Ben Gurion airport, the corridor is lined with photos of hostages still held in Gaza. A powerful welcome to Israel.



Mazal Tov to our Community's Volunteers-of-the-Year.

YOU make our Chattanooga Jewish community a unique, special place to live and grow. We are stronger and more connected because of your selfless acts.

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA: *Adam Gerson*

The Jewish Federation is honored to recognize Adam Gerson as our 2023 Volunteer of the Year. Before joining the Federation board several years ago, Adam was the chair of our Young Leadership group. He helped schedule, coordinate, and plan various monthly programs throughout the year. As a Federation board member, Adam is always prepared and engaged at every meeting. Since joining the board, Adam has given 110% to several of our newly reinvigorated committees including finance, programs, and personnel. Adam has helped simplify our monthly financial reports while ensuring maximum transparency. As an Human Resources expert, Adam is working to update the Federation's personnel handbook. As a member of the program committee, Adam has been working with a team of volunteers on the Feb. 10 Chai Nite event to produce an extraordinary celebration for the community. Thank you, Adam, for your dedication to the Federation and always looking to improve everything we do.

ALEPH BET CHILDREN'S CENTER: *Randi Weiss*

Aleph Bet Children's Center is proud to announce Randi Weiss as our 2023 Volunteer of the Year. Randi has been a staple at Aleph Bet for several years, occasionally working as a substitute teacher. This past year, Randi has developed unique Judaic opportunities for our youngest community members. In the spring, the children – with Randi's help – made Hamantashen and Purim gift bags. Their costume parade through the Jewish Community Center was entertaining and delicious! In April, Randi single-handedly created an age appropriate seder for the school. Randi has also assisted with many Friday Shabbat mornings as well. Thank you, Randi, for always adding a special Jewish flavor to activities for Aleph Bet children and families.

B'NAI ZION CONGREGATION: *Randi Weiss*

Randi is an integral part of B'nai Zion. As a Beit Sefer Ivri teacher and B'nai Mitzvah Tutor, B'nai Zion relies on Randi to bring her gentle and enthusiastic mode of teaching as well as her deep knowledge of and commitment to Judaism to educate our next generation. Randi volunteers her home for Woman's group programming, makes challah each week for services without any solicitation, and is ready to help out in the office when she can, in whatever way possible. She makes chili each year for the Super Bowl fundraiser, as well as for our office parties, and helped pack and deliver our Mishloach Manot boxes. Randi is one of the rare individuals that we can call on for almost any volunteer task, and she will selflessly give of her heart and time just because she loves B'nai Zion, and wants to ensure, and be a part of, its flourishing future.

CHABAD OF CHATTANOOGA: *David Navas*

"All whose heart did and spirit moved, brought their contribution to be used for the tabernacle."

Thank you to David Navas for generously volunteering your time and talent at Chabad to make it a safe, warm, and welcoming place. Your willingness to give your time and service is greatly appreciated. Your welcoming heart to everyone that comes helps make Chabad feel like home! Thank You!

MIZPAH CONGREGATION: *Paula Israel*

Paula has been present at Mizpah for much of the time she has lived in Chattanooga. Whether supervising the childrens' Sunday educational program, or planning for a Passover Seder, she is in 120%. She is presently our membership chair, and is always reaching out to others. She and her husband, David, visit members who are at home, always with a smile and some goodies. Mizpah is so fortunate to have Paula in our congregation.



HADASSAH - *Beth Thomas*

Beth Thomas, a life member of Hadassah, has been active with our local chapter for a number of years. As a nurse, Beth has helped coordinate several medical programs: including working with Bev Coulter on a 2019 event promoting immunizations; and as a speaker at a 2020 event about the role of public health in the unfolding epidemic. Chattanooga recognized her as Hadassah Woman of the Year in 2020 as the pandemic developed. Previously, Beth attended the 2017 Regional meeting in Knoxville and the 2019 Regional meeting in Birmingham. She has contributed to annual Hadassah-sponsored dinners at Room in the Inn, and she personally delivered the donated toiletries to Room in the Inn for the past two years. This coming year, Beth has graciously accepted the position of Co-President of the Chattanooga Chapter, guaranteeing us to have a stellar year.

FORMER CHATTANOOGA SHLICHIM IN ISRAEL



Former Shlich, Einav Cahaner, on the left next to Tal Cohen and former Shlich, Adva Kasay, on the far right.



Former Shlichim Shiran Amir, Inbal Lev, Chen Dahan with Tal Cohen, Austin Center, Randi Weiss and Michael Dzik.



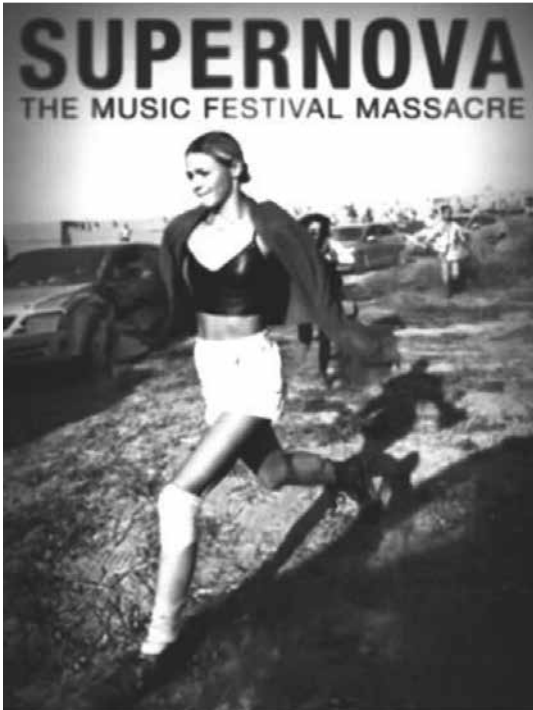
Former Shaliach Amit Matityau.



Michael Dzik, with community member Randi Weiss and former Shlichim, Inbal Lev, Chen Dahan and Chen's dog "Pupu"



Former Shlichim Raoul Molnar and Hadas Goren with their spouses and Chattanooga community members.



SUPERNOVA - The Music Festival Massacre

The first minute-by-minute documentary film chronicling the traumatic events of October 7, 2023, details the attack on Israel's Supernova music fest, including real-time footage and survivor accounts.

February 19, 7:00 p.m.
Jewish Cultural Center
No cost to attend

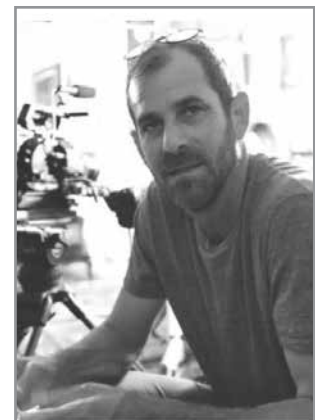
Private screening for the Jewish Community

**This film contains graphic material*

**Post film interview with co-director Yossi Bloch,
moderated by Alison Lebovitz**

Yossi Bloch is a globally renowned artist based in Tel Aviv, with a portfolio spanning international projects as well as local endeavors in Israel.

His works include documentaries, such as Netflix's "The Devil Next Door".



Bassem Eid

Human Rights Expert Political Analyst Commentator Journalist

"Israel, Hamas, and the future in Gaza"

Wednesday, February 14, 5:30 p.m. University Center Auditorium, UTC
No cost to attend

Bassem Eid is a Jerusalem-based political analyst, human rights pioneer and expert commentator in Arab and Palestinian affairs.

In 1996, he founded the Jerusalem-based Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group. In 2016, Eid assumed the role of chairman of the Center for Near East Policy Research.

Co-sponsored by: Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga, Chabad of Chattanooga, UTC's Chair of Excellence in Judaic Studies, the SunTrust Chair in the Humanities, the Adolph S. Ochs Professor of Government (Department of Political Science), and Fillauer



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.

1ST FRIDAY FAMILY SERVICE AND DINNER

February 2, 2024
 Family Service: 6:00 pm
 Family Service featuring Susan Caminez
 Dinner is to follow at 7:00 pm

**First Friday
 Family Shabbat**



FEBRUARY 2, 2024

**SERVICES @ 6:00 PM
 DINNER @ 7:00 PM**

**CORNFLAKE CHICKEN, ROASTED POTATOES,
 GREEN BEANS AND SALAD BAR**



**CHICKEN TENDERS FOR KIDS
 VEGGIE & GLUTEN-FREE OPTION**



**Adult Members: \$10
 Age 13-22: \$7
 Under 12: No Charge**

**Adult Non-Members: \$13
 Age 13-22 Non-Members: \$9
 Under 12: No Charge**

**PLEASE RSVP TO THE OFFICE AT 423-267-9771 OR
 EMAIL: OFFICE@MIZPAHCONGREGATION.ORG**

SHIREI SHALOM

February 16th
 Music and song led by
 Amy Cohen, Mizpah
 Feinstein Hall / chapel
 Chardonnay Shabbat
 Oneg to follow



MIZPAH TORAH STUDY

1st Friday (Feb. 2nd)
 9:15 a.m.
 Bagels and lox prior
 Mizpah Feinstein Hall



Mizpah CONGREGATION **INTRIGUING CONVERSATIONS**

In conjunction with Black History Month

FEBRUARY 21, 2024 7:00 PM
IN FEINSTEIN HALL



Join us as we talk to Chattanooga photographer Stephen Greenfield who discusses his book, "Sticks and Stones and Metal Bones," photographs that focus on some of the lesser-known architectural treasures along Martin Luther King Boulevard.

Also, we will learn all about the extraordinary life and achievements of Horace Brazelton. Historian Stefanie Haire will also join us to discuss Brazelton's pioneering career and inspiring leadership in the Chattanooga black community. Brazelton was the first African American to open a professional photography studio in Chattanooga. His camera lens captured countless portraits of middle-class black communities during the first half of the 20th century.



INTRODUCTION TO KABBALAH

Rabbi Lewis presented a 3 part overview of Kabbalah



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.



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office@bzcongregation.com

BZ'S ANNUAL SUPER BOWL PARTY AND FUNDRAISER IS ON!

February 11, 2024
 Feinstein Hall
 923 McCallie Ave

5:30 pm: Cookout
 6:30 pm: Game Time

\$12 entry, or free with purchase of a square



Call the office or scan the QR code to purchase a square, and support BZ!
 423.894.8900



\$50 square = \$500 per quarter

\$100 squares are SOLD OUT!



Jammies and Jeans

Friday, February 16
 5:30 Pm



During the winter months, our family Shabbat services move indoors!
 Join us for a musical & fun family Shabbat experience and dairy potluck oneg.
 All ages welcome, and kids are invited to wear their pajamas!

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

February	2-4	Southern Schmooze Retreat
	10	Lunch & Learn
	11	Super Bowl Party
	16	Jammies & Jeans
	23	Homestyle Shabbat
	26	Lunch & Learn

BSI: February 7, 14, 21 & 28
 Minyan & Foundations:
 Wednesdays @ 6:00 & 6:30 pm via Zoom

950 Vine Street
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 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.

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HEBREW SCHOOL
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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



WINTER 2024 - 6 TUESDAYS
 STARTING JANUARY 30

ADVICE FOR LIFE

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

A new six-session course WWW.MYJLI.COM

The Rebbe's spiritual leadership is the force behind the modern Chabad movement. Join us for a multimedia journey through the Rebbe's practical wisdom on work, family, health, and well-being.

Discover how the Rebbe applied Jewish values to serve as a guide for finding deeper meaning in everyday life.

CAMP GAN ISRAEL
 Chattanooga, Tennessee

SUMMER 2024

NOW OFFERING 3 WEEKS!
JUNE 24 - JULY 12
9:00AM - 3:30PM

AT CHABAD'S CITY & RIVERFRONT CAMPGROUNDS

WARM & CARING STAFF
 SNACKS & HOT LUNCHES
 TRIPS & OVERNIGHTS
 SPECIALTY CLUBS
 WATER SPORTS
 SWIMMING

Agas 4-13

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Torah & Tea

PRAYERS FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN ISRAEL

Your monthly dose of friendship and inspiration.

THURSDAY MORNING
 FEBRUARY 8 ~ 10:00 AM
 AT CHABAD ~ 950 VINE ST.

UPCOMING DATES

MONDAY, MARCH 11
 TUESDAY, APRIL 9

MAJONG

An evening of camaraderie, friendship and fun. Learn to play from the pros and join the mahjong circle.

Weekly, Wednesday evening 6:00 - 8:00 PM

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

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to the Hadassah Volunteer of the Year, Beth Thomas, who was recognized at the Jewish Federation’s Annual Meeting. Beth has stepped up to be Co-President of the Chattanooga Chapter. It was an honor to recognize her dedication in this setting.



REGION BOARD MEETING

The first in-person Region Board Meeting in a long time will take place in Birmingham on Feb. 23-25. Any Hadassah member who would like to accompany Chattanooga members is welcome to attend and learn more about Hadassah. Dana Waxler will be one of the featured speakers on leadership training.

COFFEE WITH OFER

Coffee with the new shaliach, Ofer Musan, is scheduled for Jan. 23 when participants can hear about how he and his family celebrate Tu B’Shevot 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 the Jewish National Fund by planting trees in Israel and receiving a seed packet to plant in their own location.

SUPER SOUTH

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

WOMAN OF VALOR DONOR EVENT

In the planning stage is an in-person Donor brunch celebrating Woman of Valor and breast cancer survivors at a Sunday brunch. A Donor Committee will meet on Monday, Jan. 29, at Mizpah at 3:00 p.m. Interested members are encouraged to join Ronni Charyn, Leta Berger, Kathy Kessler, Rachel Weir, and 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.

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 VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN campaign, the League of Jewish Leaders has introduced a resolution condemning Hamas’ violence targeting women, which is supported by the United Nations Women’s Council.

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.

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.

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 | * Deceased |
| Brouner, Betsy | Hanan, Jan | Lebovitz, Charles | Rosenfeld, Roy | |
| Brouner, Lee | Hanan, Michael | Lebovitz, Lauren | Siskin, Pris | |
| Center, Austin | Hanan, Rachel | Lebovitz, Michael | Sivils, Janet | |

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

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Michael Dzik | Mdzik@JewishChattanooga.com |
| Annette McJunkin | Amcjunkin@JewishChattanooga.com |
| Ann Treadwell | Atreadwell@JewishChattanooga.com |
| Ofer Musan | Israel@JewishChattanooga.com |
| Lorri Lipski | Llipski@JewishChattanooga.com |
| Kathryn Wilhoite | Alephbet@JewishChattanooga.com |
| Jake Balser | Federation@JewishChattanooga.com |
| Dawn Hildebrand, RN, BSN | Nurse@JewishChattanooga.com |



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Published ten times a year by the
**Jewish Federation of
Greater Chattanooga**

Ken Goldsmith, Board Chair
Michael Dzik, Executive Director

The Shofar is mailed at no charge to
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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.

Malemen Show Band. Photo Booth. Silent Auction.

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