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OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA

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NEWS OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA

# THE SHOEFAR



A Publication of the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga

Volume 29 Number 9 May 2014

## Israeli Happy Hour

Thursday, May 1 @ Flying Squirrel  
(55 Johnson Street)  
5:30 p.m. drinks and food  
6:30 p.m. live music  
featuring  
Israeli a capella singer Galit Mor  
&  
Guitarist Eitan Akman



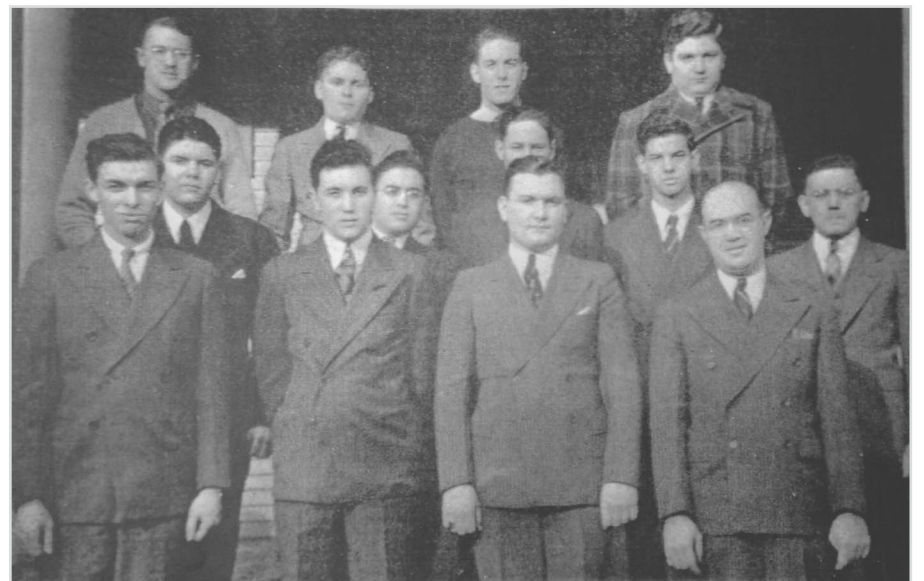
**NO COVER!**



## Come Celebrate!

Yom HaZikaron and Yom Ha'Atzmaut

see page 4 for details



***Kitchen Tables: Memories of Growing Up Jewish in Chattanooga***  
Community reception May 15 @ 5:30 p.m.  
(exhibit dates May 15-July 18)

## Aleph Bet Graduation

May 29

4 p.m



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**Jewish Federation  
of Greater Chattanooga**

[www.jewishchattanooga.com](http://www.jewishchattanooga.com)

# FEDERATION NEWS



## What It Means to be ONE

by Warren Dropkin  
Federation Board Chair  
boardchair@jewishchattanooga.com

This month I want to highlight a couple of programs that truly exemplify the “We Are One” theme that I’ve talked about so much: the Yom HaShoah commemoration and our Israel Day celebration.

On Sunday, April 27, the community came together for our annual Yom HaShoah commemoration. There was a reading of names, candle lighting, and music. Dr. John Steinberg, Holocaust Educator and Chair of the Department of History and Philosophy at Austin Peay State University, spoke. The event was well-attended and the sense of community was deep and palpable.

Coming up May 4<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate Yom HaZikaron (the Israeli version of our Memorial Day) and Yom Ha’Atzmaut (Israeli Independence Day). As a part of our annual celebration of Israel, we will have an afternoon with a 4:00 p.m. Commemoration and Torch Lighting and then transition into our Yom Ha’Atzmaut program – an Israeli style celebration game of “Jewpardy,” all in honor of Israel’s 66<sup>th</sup> birthday.

What makes these events unique is the input, cooperation and collaboration that goes into them. Our rabbis play a large role in helping create—and participating in—a meaningful Yom HaShoah program.



## Best Practices for Worst Case Scenarios

by Michael Dzik  
Federation Executive Director  
mdzik@jewishchattanooga.com

Although not the most glamorous of committees, the Federation’s Community Relations Committee (CRC) is one of the more important ones. Many of you may not have even heard of it. Let me explain.

The CRC has a multitude of responsibilities. It works to ensure the separation of Church and State, usually here within our public schools. It provides our local school administrations (public and private) with yearly Jewish calendars and informs schools of when Jewish students may be missing classes for holidays. The CRC also meets with the Hamilton County Superintendent several times a year to keep the lines of communication open and to head off any possible problems. Although I always encourage parents to work with their child’s teacher and school administrators, sometimes it is necessary.

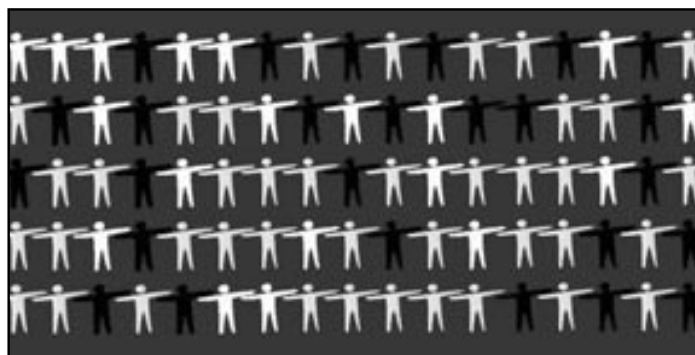
Another job of the CRC is to monitor (and sometimes respond to) articles in the newspaper. On rare occasions it might also be called on to respond to other forms of news media. We evaluate these on an article by article basis, taking into consideration both the subject matter and the author. In general the CRC has chosen not to respond to extremist rants or views. On occasion we have taken a proactive approach to what we believe is an impending extremist threat, by writing letters or op-ed articles to



Similarly, community leaders at each of the congregations and organizations have taken an active role in assisting the Federation with this year’s Israel Day celebration. It’s a show of perfect “We Are Oneness”: community leaders and volunteers coming together to plan and implement, followed by the community at large coming together to celebrate.

Chattanooga is home to an amazing Jewish community—one that works together as one to ensure we remain strong and united.

This month I want to feature another outstanding volunteer. Sanford Winer has chaired the Jewish Film Series in Chattanooga since its inception seven years ago. He puts untold hours into selecting the best food, and, this year, the best quality chairs! That’s right: new, comfortable chairs were recently purchased for the Jewish Cultural Center thanks in no small part to Sanford. Thank you, Sanford, for your incredible work with the Film Series, and for your overall dedication to the Federation.



the newspaper. Choosing whether—and how—to respond requires a great deal of thought and consideration; often the CRC calls on the national Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA). Depending on the issue, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) is also another great CRC resource.

With the announcement of the National Socialist Movement (NSM) marching in Chattanooga to coincide with Yom HaShoah, the leadership of the CRC, along with our local rabbis, convened to discuss how to best respond, from both a security perspective (there were two Bat Mitzvot in the community that weekend) and from a community relations perspective. After consultation with the ADL and our local leadership, it was decided that we should have no formal response or comment.

Why? First, we believe that the NSM’s primary mission is to create a stir and garner the attention of the news media. By not doing this was not just a Jewish issue, but a humankind issue. The NSM is a hate group, simple as that. We won’t dignify them with a response. Instead of focusing on the hate, however, what we’ve done is to reach out to our friends in the community, churches and clergy included, and ask for them to support our Jewish community and our stance on the NSM. Which they have done. Ironic, isn’t it, that a hate group has helped us grow closer to other faiths and community groups?

Want to get involved? The CRC is always looking for community minded people to serve on this committee. The issues we tackle are of all sizes. Your perspective is important. If you’d like to consider joining this committee, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me. We’d love your engagement!

# FEDERATION PROGRAMS



## An Invitation, and a Challenge

by Ann Treadwell  
 Program Director  
 atreadwell@jewishchattanooga.com

People to People, Living Bridge, Get Connected!, Youth Leadership: these are just a few of the programs the Federation helps support through the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) Partnership 2GETHER (P2G). The purpose of P2G is to promote, encourage, and develop cohesion among Jewish communities in Israel and overseas by creating revitalized, ongoing and meaningful engagement between members of these communities--an engagement based on mutual endeavor and shared Jewish identity.

Ok, I know what you're thinking: Lots of words. So let's talk people.

Dorit Zini was like a big sister to me when I was in Israel for the Partnership's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary two years ago. Forgiving my almost non-existent Hebrew, Dorit shepherded me throughout Jerusalem, helped me purchase food,

But Dorit has a bigger role than sistering me: because Israel doesn't

product sales. It was a huge challenge, one she plans to replicate this coming year.

Aviad Sella is the Southeast Regional Co-Chair of P2G. He opens his amazing home (designed by his architect wife) to Partnership visitors. He is passionate about music, and supported the creation of a music CD by musicians from the Southeast and Israel, to culminate during the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our partnership. He is adamant that there should be at least one program each year that is proposed and implemented by volunteers.

I sat next to our new regional director, Hana Sirkis-Katz during dinner one night in Charlotte just as we were beginning the steering committee meeting. Hana has been involved with our Consortium for just three months, but has been with JAFI for many years. We talked about our children, the diversity of the southern United States, and our hopes for the Partnership.

I admit – I sometimes struggle with my support of Israel. I don't always agree with the politicians, or the religious leaders, or the military, or the media. But I love the tenacity, the chutzpah and courage of the Israeli people.

personal connection with the people of Israel. Sign-up to be one of the three teachers from Chattanooga to go to Israel on the Teacher's Exchange this winter. Encourage your 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> grader to participate in the summer exchange program, or ask our shlichah over for a meal. You have two opportunities to celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) this year. On Thursday, May 1 at the Flying Squirrel, Galit Mor, an Israeli singer travelling through the U.S., will sing during Happy Hour (think pomegranate martinis!). And on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> come to the Jewish Cultural Center where we will honor the fallen soldiers and victims of terrorism, and then celebrate, Israeli-style, with cotton candy, face painting, pita making, Jewpardy (that's Jeopardy with a Jewish twist), family pictures in Israel (using a green screen) and an Israeli dinner complete with brand new menu items. What are you waiting for?

## Ori Naftaly Concert March 29, JCC Produced by Young Leadership



# FEDERATION PROGRAMS

## Community Events

Film Series Screenings: Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

### Aftermath

A gothic tale of intrigue in which two brothers uncover a dark secret which forces them to confront the history of their family and hometown.

April 30 at 7:00

### Quality Balls: The David Steinberg Story

Film features priceless archival footage of his performances, including *The Tonight Show* with Johnny Carson.

May 7 at 7:00p.m.

### Bethlehem

V j k u " L n o " v g m u " v j g " u v q t { " q h " v j g " e q o r n g z " t g n c v k p p u j k r " d g v y g g p " c p " k u t c g n k " U g e t g v " U g t x k e g " q h L e g t " c p f " j k u " v g g p c i g " R c n g u v k p c p " k p h q t o c p v 0 "

May 14 at 7:00

### Kidon

Imagines the cloak and dagger puzzle behind the real-life assassination of a Hamas leader.

May 21 @ 7p.m.

### Pour Le Femme: May 28 at 7:00 pm

The unexpected arrival of a brother who supposedly perished during WWII upsets the lives of a Jewish tailor and his pretty bride

May 28 @ 7p.m.



**Kitchen Tables:**

**Memories of Growing Up Jewish in Chattanooga**

**Community Reception May 15 @ 5:30**

**Exhibit dates May 15-July 18**

## Well-Being

### Middle Eastern (Belly) Dancing

Jillanna Babb-Cheshul of Merry Bellies teaches this drop-in, one-hour, very fun class, Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Pay as you go. \$5/class. For information, contact 493-0270, ext. 10; federation@jewishchattanooga.com.

## Expand Your Mind

### Foreign Policy Supper Club

*No Foreign Policy Supper Club in May*

### Noon Nosh with Hadas Peled

Tuesday, May 20 at 12p.m.

TOPIC TBA

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please remember to RSVP for Jewish Federation programs

Your RSVP helps us to prepare the right amount of food so that no one is left out and nothing goes to waste.

There are three easy ways to respond:

1. use the RSVP form at [www.jewishchattanooga.com](http://www.jewishchattanooga.com)
2. call 493-0270, ext. 10
3. email [rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com).

Prefer a vegetarian meal? Just let us know in advance.

*Thanks for helping us serve you better!*



## Happenings with Hadas (Israeli Shlichah)

Celebrate Yom HaZikaron and Yom Ha'Atzmaut at the Jewish Cultural Center

We remember & honor Israel's fallen soldiers and victims of terrorism

*By their death, they have given us life*

Sunday, May 4

4-6:00 p.m. JCC

Fun for all ages!

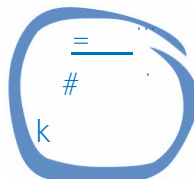


4:30 Israeli dinner & entertainment

8i b\_]b[ '6cch Arts & Crafts: Ua ]'mD]M fYg]b'gfUY Popoofb

5:15 Israel

JEW PARDY



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4:00 PM Commemoration

4:30 PM Torch Lighting & I-FEST

Join us to celebrate Israel's 66th Independence Day!

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No cost to attend the Yom HaZikaron Commemoration

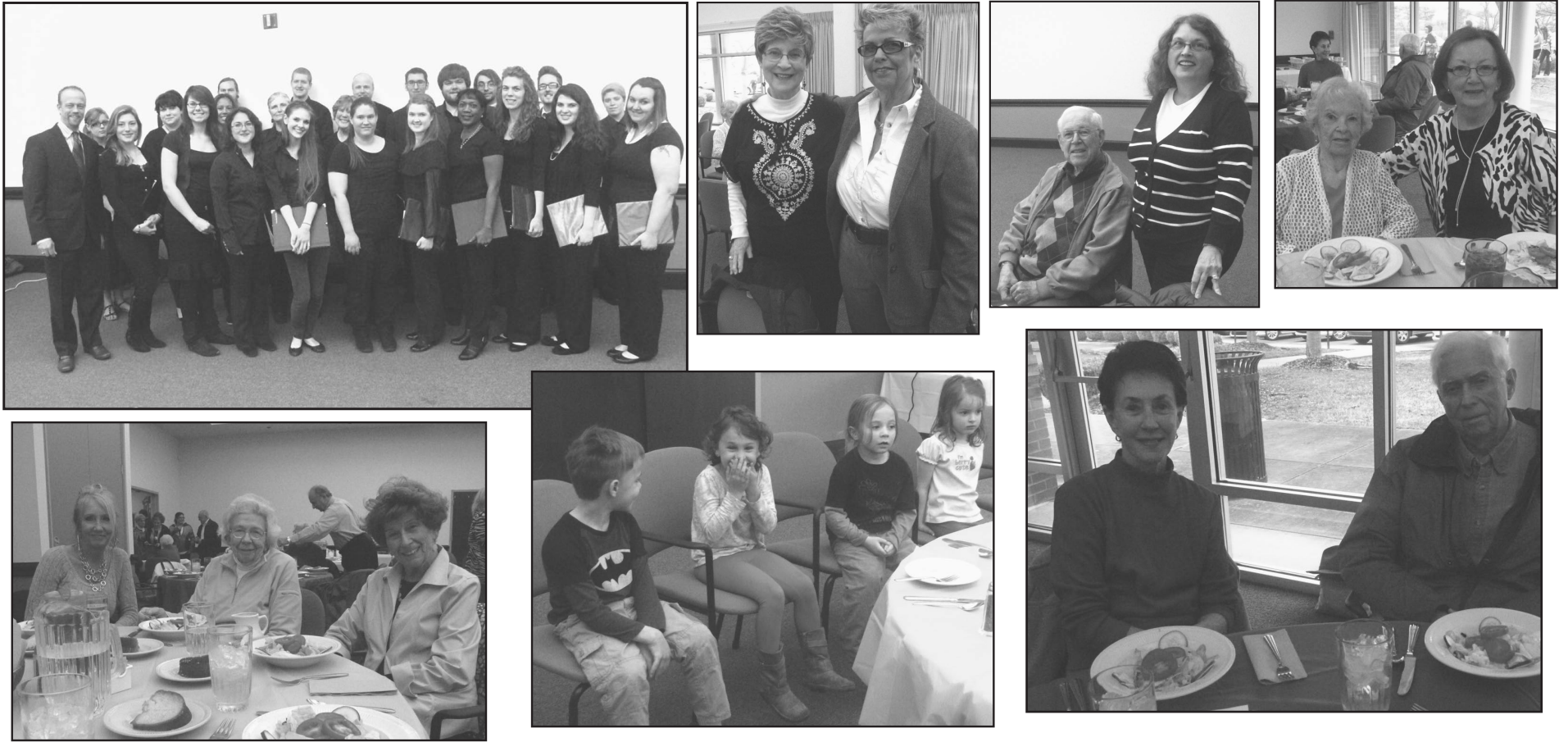
Cost for Israeli dinner: \$25 per family, \$8 per person, children age 7 and under are free. Serving : bourekas, falafel, Israeli salad, hummus, sandwiches.

rsvp@jewishchattanooga.com or 493-0270, ext. 10.

# FEDERATION PROGRAMS

## Chattanooga State Choir at Noon Nosh

March 18, JCC



## Community Dinner and Music Program in Memory of Justine Jacobs

March 31, JCC



Above, l-r: Harvey Jacobs, Margaret Ann Randolph, Ann Ryland, and Jay Craven

## Preparing for *Kitchen Tables* Exhibit



Above: Ann Treadwell, Federation Program Director, and Karen Diamond, Program Committee Chair, collaborate on materials for *Kitchen Tables: Memories of Growing Up Jewish in Chattanooga*, which opens May 15 at the JCC.

22

Number of trips the chair salesman made to the JCC with chairs for us to try



121

Number of new chairs at the Jewish Cultural Center.

Holy Sit!

# FEDERATION SOCIAL SERVICES



## Flying Monkeys and the Scary Landscape of Aging

by Amy Boulware  
Social Services Director  
aboulware@jewishchattanooga.com

- Senior Programming
- Intergenerational Programming
- Family Support
- Community Partnering
- Friendly Visits
- Excursions
- Advocacy

What I've learned, however, is that the things that seem scary and incomprehensible can be faced if we are well prepared. Many of my friends are at the age where they are facing life with aging parents. They aren't prepared and they don't know what to expect, and like me so long ago, they feel the hot tears welling up in their eyes and wish they could run away. They are afraid.

As a geriatric social worker one of the best services I can provide to our community is availability. I can help guide you through the maze of changing dynamics you and your family will face as your parents age. And I can help you take a proactive approach, so that crises are averted. The comfort that comes from talking to someone who knows the ropes is immeasurable. Just think of me as the good witch, together we will face the unknown with courage, heart, and brains.



I remember the day vividly. I was seven years old and my best friend Lynn had invited me to go see *The Wizard of Oz*. Her grandfather was treating us to a big girl afternoon out. At lunch we sat on the high stools in a tiny burger joint and spent more time spinning around in circles than actually eating. We could hardly contain our excitement about the movie. I didn't really know anything about it; I just knew that, according to Lynn, who had seen it before, it was going to be great.

At the theater Lynn's grandfather bought us popcorn and cokes, arrived I came unglued. They scared me to death. I could feel the hot tears welling up in my eyes. I didn't want to cry, but I couldn't stop myself.

Lynn's "Are you ok?" Eyes squeezed took my hand and And though he tried into the movie, there while Lynn stayed inside.




grandfather patted my shoulder. he whispered. shut, I shook my head no. He escorted me out to the lobby. more than once to take me back we sat for the rest of the time,

V jku"ycu"pqv"vjg"Łtuv"vk o g"N{pp"jcf"rtqxf"jgtugh"oqtg" i tqyp"wr"vjcp"K"ycu"Ujg"ycu"vjg"Łtuv"vq"tkfg"cdkmg"ykvjqwv"vtckpki" yjggnu."vjg"Łtuv"vq"urgpf"vjg"pki"jv"cv"chtkgpf"j"qwg"ht"vjg"y"jqng" night (without having to call her mom to pick her up gctn{+."cpf"vjg"Łtuv"vq"dcmg"eqqmkgu"ykvj"qpn{"nk o kvgf" supervision. In my seven year old mind she was the essence of cool and I was not. But she wasn't the sort of girl to rub it in my face. About our differences too, she was very mature.



K"co"eqpŁfgpv"vjcv"gej"qh"wu"ecp"rqkp"qvw"vjcv"rgtuqp"kp"qwt" life who we thought was more worldly than we were or possessed the secret to life. The person who somehow knew how to face the frightening and not show the fear.



Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped make cards for the social services team. Hannah Beker, Sandy & Ben Tabakin, Janet & George Sivils Rosenfeld for coordinating.






**Learn and play with us!**  
**Now enrolling for summer**

*We welcome children of all faiths, nationalities, and cultures.*

5461 N. Terrace Road · Chattanooga, TN 37411  
alephbet@jewishchattanooga.com  
www.aleph-bet.com  
423-893-5486


Ask about our current enrollment specials!

A program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga

### Take Home Chef Alice Goss-Morgan's "Bowls of Love"

Purchase matzo ball soup or chili for just \$4 for a one-bowl container or \$8 for a two-bowl size.

**Call ahead to reserve; we do run out.** Contact Ann Treadwell (do *not* call the kitchen directly), 493-0270, ext. 13; atreadwell@jewishchattanooga.com to get your order packaged and ready to go!



# ALEPH BET CHILDREN'S CENTER



by Vicki Cathcart  
Aleph Bet Children's Center Director/  
PJ Library Coordinator  
alephbet@jewishchattanooga.com



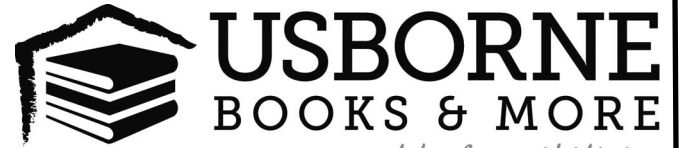
## Spring Fling Fun Delivers

Spring Fling was a huge success thanks to the children's performances, dedicated teachers, wonderful volunteers and families, generous supporters, and Jewish Federation board and staff.



You're invited!

Shabbat Visitor Appreciation Day Friday, May 16  
Please join us as for this special program when we  
thank our Shabbat Visitors  
Jewish Cultural Center Lobby  
9:30 a.m.



Open a world of possibilities  
Usborne Book Fair and Origami Owl Sale  
Thursday, May 15, 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
Book Fair continues:  
Friday, May 16, 8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.



Aleph Bet thanks the following individuals, organizations, and businesses for donating over \$10,000 to the Spring Fling and live auction.

- 4 am Marketing and Connect Marketing  
Adam James
- Aleph Bet Children's Center
- Alice Goss-Morgan and the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga
- Ankar's Hoagies (Hwy 58)
- Audrey Eves and Studio 59
- Balance
- B'nai Zion Gift Shop
- Bob and Rita Brook
- Caroline Kaplan
- Charlotte's Web
- Community Pie
- Creative Discovery Museum.
- David Foreman Project
- East Hamilton Dentistry-Dr. Benjamin C. Perry
- EPOC Fitness
- Four Bridges Massage and Bodywork
- Get Built
- Goodhew
- Hadas Peled
- Hamilton Family Dentistry-Dr. Bradley Brewer, D.D.S.
- Irv Ginsburg
- Jason and Vicki Cathcart
- Massage Envy @Hamilton Place
- Mellow Mushroom
- Meryl Stark
- Milk & Honey
- Penny Murray and Mitch Au
- Rabbi Susan Tendler and Hannah Sadoff
- Rachel Privett
- Ralph and Virginia Murray
- Rhiannon Nelson, Origami Owl Designer
- Rib & Loin
- Shallowford Family Dentistry-Dr. Charles Ankar, D.D.S.
- Taco Mamacita
- Tangerinas
- Tennessee Aquarium
- The Kugel Kitchen (Amy Snetman)
- The Lowe Family
- Urban Stack Burger Lounge
- Whitney Blankenbaker

### Thank you to the following families for their donations to Aleph Bet:

The Dacoregio Family: stickers, highlighters, pencils  
The Parker Family: stickers and pipe cleaners

**Wish List:** Cotton balls, wireless keyboards (3-4), stickers, Bingo markers, IPAD, gift cards to Aldi, School Box, Target, Wal-Mart, Home Depot, or Lowe's.

Aleph Bet Children's Center, a program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Chattanooga, aims to provide an educational, interactive and developmentally appropriate preschool program that is enriched by Jewish traditions and values and implemented by a trained, dedicated, and nurturing staff.



Aleph Bet is recognized by the State of Tennessee for its commitment to good health

At the Jewish Cultural Center  
5461 North Terrace Road 37411  
(423) 893-5486  
Director: (423) 493-0270, ext. 18  
alephbet@jewishchattanooga.com  
www.aleph-bet.com

# CHATTANOOGA JEWISH CONGREGATIONAL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL



## Have a "Field Day" With Respect and Love

by *Ronni Charyn, Director*  
*ronni.charyn@gmail.com*  
 892-6175

What is Lag B'Omer? Lag B'Omer is the thirty-third day of the Omer, or the counting of the forty-nine days between Pesach and Shavout. It is a holiday which celebrates Jewish education. Rabbi Akiva

and his students practiced "Torah L'Shema," learning Torah for the love of learning, by celebrating texts, stories, legends and lore, and expanding and challenging existing thought.

It is traditional on Lag B'Omer to spend time outside, enjoying a  $\text{öLgnf"fc}\{\text{ö"ykvj"dqplgtu"cpf"cte jgt}\{\text{0"Y j}\{A"Qpg"gzrncpcvkqp"ku"vcv"vjg"}$  students of Rabbi Akiva suffered a plague because they did not treat each other morally, and the plague stopped on Lag B'Omer. This holiday is a reminder to treat each other with respect and to "ohev zeh et zeh" : to love one another.

The last day of CJCRS this year will be May 4<sup>th</sup>. Our ISJL fellow, Adam Wassell from Jackson, Mississippi will be with us for the morning. He has a wonderful program for teachers and students alike. There will be an all

school program at 11:30 celebrating the students, madrichim and teachers.

I would like to take this opportunity to say "kol ha kavod" to the four madrichim, our teacher assistants at CJCRS who will be graduating from high school later this month. First to Jessie Fine, who graduated in December and has been a college freshman since January. I am pleased to announce that Jessie will be returning to CJCRS. Ryan Whited, Danielle Simms and Avery Schulman, all graduating seniors, have spent four years as madrichim at the CJCRS; they leave with a plethora of skills to take with them on their next educational journey.

"Todah Rabah" to our rabbis and teachers for a wonderful educational year. I want to especially thank the following teachers who will not be returning in the fall: Joanna Nash, our mishpachot and preK teacher, Jason Hillner, our second grade teacher, and Alex Rose, our madrichim advisor. These three wonderful people were exemplars of Jewish teaching and mentorship for all of our children.

Our CJCRS learning will continue **Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>.**  $\text{"qwt"Łtuv"fc}\{\text{"back, when we will meet at B'nai Zion Synagogue. Please check calendar below for dates when student and adult education classes will begin.$

CJCRS CALENDAR  
 2014/2015 at B'nai Zion  
 Congregation  
 (August 3<sup>rd</sup> & January  
 4<sup>th</sup> : in-service days)

## Fun and Learning at CJCRS



Aug. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Jan. 11 <sup>th</sup>
Aug. 17 <sup>th</sup>	Jan. 18 <sup>th</sup>
Aug. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Jan. 25 <sup>th</sup>
Sept. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Feb. 1 <sup>st</sup>
Sept. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Feb. 8 <sup>th</sup>
Sept. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Feb. 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Sept. 28 <sup>th</sup>	Mar. 1 <sup>st</sup>
Oct. 19 <sup>th</sup>	Mar. 8 <sup>th</sup>
Oct. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Mar. 15 <sup>th</sup>
Nov. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mar. 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Nov. 9 <sup>th</sup>	April 12 <sup>th</sup>
Nov. 16 <sup>th</sup>	April 19 <sup>th</sup>
Nov. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	April 26 <sup>th</sup>
Dec. 7 <sup>th</sup>	May 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Dec. 14 <sup>th</sup>	

## A Day of Remembrance

by *Adam Wassell, Education Fellow*  
*Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of*  
*Southern Jewish Life*  
*awassell@isjl.org, (601) 362-6357*



What is remembrance?

According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, it is something that is done or made to honor the memory of a person, thing, or event. Each year, Jewish communities all across the world gather together to honor the memory of the six million Jews lost in the Holocaust. We light candles, sing songs, and congregate in large numbers to show support for people we have never met – simply because our spiritual bonds and religious upbringings connect us.

In the years leading up to the Holocaust, the world was in a fragile state. It was recovering from a hard-fought world war that left many countries  $\text{y gcm"cpf"vjgkt"ekvk|gpu"xnwpgtcdng}\{\text{"kp"qwt"vge jpnqikecn"ci g."y g"Łpf"kv"}$   $\text{fkhŁewn"vq"wpfgtuvcpf"j qy" Pc|k" I gt o cp}\{\text{"mgrv"kvu"xkekqu"cev"swkgy"hqt"uq"}$  long. However, with the populace starving for a leader and/or scared for their lives, it's understandable how Adolf Hitler's manipulation catapulted him to the top of the political tower.

In Jewish tradition we are taught that God created a world of imperfection and that it is up to us to complete His work. Likewise, it is our responsibility to make the world a better place so that the next generation can  $\text{dpggŁv}\{\text{"kp"egngdtcvkp i" J qnqecwuv" Tg o g o dtcpeg" Fc}\{\text{"y g"ctg"fqkpi"lwuv"vjcv}\}$  We not only pay tribute to the millions who lost their lives, but we gather to send a message to the world that this great tragedy will never happen again. As a response to the Holocaust and creation of the state of Israel, Jewish civic and political groups became wide-spread entities that advocate for change throughout the world. These groups help create a better world not only for Jewish people, but for all of humanity.

A few weeks ago we celebrated Passover where we were asked to place ourselves in the story in order to experience the pain, suffering, and joy of the Israelites. On Holocaust Remembrance Day we do the same: we mourn the loss of family members and friends, while celebrating our continued existence and impact in the world. It is the responsibility of each and every one of us to learn about the Holocaust and to teach others. This year on Holocaust Remembrance Day, let's pledge not to just celebrate with our hearts, but with our words and our actions as well. Let's do our part to educate  $\text{vjg"y qtnf"cdqvw"vjku"j qttkŁe"kp ekfgpv"kp" j kuvqt}\{\text{"uq"vjcv"gxgpvu"nkmg"vjku"ecp"pq"}$  longer happen.



Jewish Federation®  
 OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA

Your gift to the Annual Campaign enables the Federation to fund almost half of the operating costs of the CJCRS. Thank you!

# FEDERATION SHLICHA



**Ayn Lee Eretz Acheret**  
**(I Have No Other Country)**

by *Hadas Peled*  
*Israeli Shlicha (Emissary)*  
*israel@jewishchattanooga.com*

On May 6th, Israel will celebrate its 66th Independence Day. Our country has had situations, and disputes over legitimacy. But despite it all, our national pride doesn't die.

When I look at Israel in an objective way, it all makes sense. My time here has helped me put into words my feelings about my country, and I believe it's a feeling I share with many other Israelis: it's a love/hate relationship!

It's not easy to live in Israel. It's tempting to think of moving elsewhere. But in the end, we can't, because Israel is our home. Israelis might complain, criticize and talk about what's wrong, but we are proud to be part of this country. We are patriots. We choose to stay, to stick together, in good and bad times. That's what we know to do.

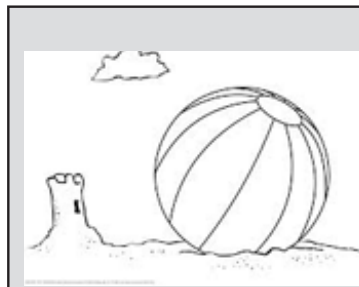
Israel was created from nothing. Without economic potential, natural energy resources, or broad international support it emerged and thrived. It is the only Jewish state in the world and the only democratic state in the Middle East. On Yom Ha'atzmaut we leave the problems aside and look at what's working. We celebrate a country that reaches education system. A country that carefully protects democracy, the function of the legal system, human rights, and freedom of the press, despite security risks and threats from terrorism. A country in which most people feel secure, even as chaos surrounds us. A country where there are many young people who continue to believe in it. People like me.

It will be very strange not to be with my family on Yom Ha'atzmaut eve, This year the ceremony, which includes the lighting of twelve torches (one for each of the Tribes of Israel) will be dedicated to the "Era of Women." participating in the traditional torch-lighting ceremony will be women. It will mark women's contributions to science, culture, economics, security, education, society, the environment, public service, and more.

After the ceremony is over, many cities all over Israel will hold outdoor performances in city squares featuring leading Israeli singers and displays. But the most awesome celebration takes place the day after, when every single person in Israel is having dinner with his family (barbeque) is a time to enjoy delicious Israeli food and family. (We call Yom Ha'atzmaut national "On The Fire" day.)

get home, we feel this extraordinary feeling, which is the shared desire for what's best for our country: to see it prosper. We remember that, in spite of the challenges, there is much to celebrate about Israel, and most importantly, *ayn lano eretz acheret*: we have no other country.

Hadas Peled is available for public speaking for civic groups, schools, churches, and other community organizations. Please contact Hadas at [Israel@jewishchattanooga.com](mailto:Israel@jewishchattanooga.com) or 385-0098



**Save The Date**  
**Young Leadership Beach Party**  
**Sunday, June 8**

# YOUNG LEADERSHIP

## Tribefest in New Orleans

**March 16-18**

Hadas Peled, Alison Lebovitz, Rachel Privett, Austin Center, Niki Goff, Jason Shuman, Rebecca Parker, and Jordan Parker had the opportunity to network with other young Jewish adults and to enhance their leadership skills.



## Upcoming Events

**Thursday, May 1**

5:30pm

YL Israeli happy hour

**Sunday, May 4**

4:00pm

YL \ Hadas event - Israel Memorial Day

**Sunday, May 18**

All day

YL Event- Aleph Bet playground clean-up

Saturday, May 31

All day

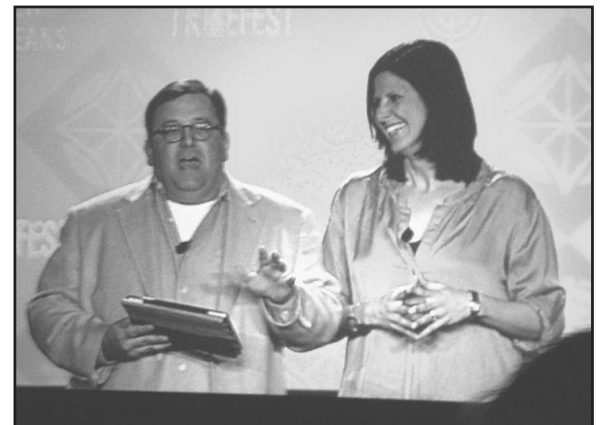
YL Event - Karaoke

**Sunday, June 8**

11:00am

YL Israeli beach party

See page 3 for photographs from Ori Naftaly Band



Above, Alison Lebovitz Young Leadership Cabinet co-Chair and Rob Lippit were two of the presenters

