

## Changes At the JCC Lovely to Look At

For a while there was a sign on the front door of the JCC which said, "Your Building Fund Contributions Make These Improvements Possible." The often asked question was, "What improvements?" Nobody is asking that question these days.

Thanks to the dedicated work of Harold Josephson, Brenda Meltsner, Norman Maxwell and Paula Musler the JCC has a proud and pleasant new look — inside and out.

Here is just a partial list of what those Building Fund dollars have accomplished: new carpets, drapes, upholstered furniture, wall-paper, lighting, heating and electrical systems, a non-leaking roof and a complete paint job!

The sign was taken down during the decorative work. It will be going back up as the JCC's way of saying thank you to the donors who made it all possible.

More than the physical facilities have changed at the JCC. There have been some exciting changes among the staff assignments with more still to come.

After two and a half outstandingly successful years as Children's Worker, Sara Schreibman is moving up the ladder. She will supervise the new Children's Worker as well as the new Mother's Morning Out Worker. In addition, Sara will develop two new areas of programming, cultural activities and programs for those people with more leisure time as a result of partial or complete retirement. With Sara's record for getting things done the JCC is looking forward to a lot of action and people in these two new areas.

Linda Kaplan has accepted a half-time position as Children's Worker. She will be organizing and coordinating the classes, holiday and vacation programs and working with all aspects of the Day Camp.

Lila Josephson will continue as the Program Director for the Day Camp for kindergarten age children and up. If there were any doubt about the success of the 1979 Day Camp it was dispelled when calls for 1980 registrations began coming in as of January 2. That explains why this issue of the News has the Day Camp Registration information — a full two months earlier than in 1979.

Mother's Morning Out is the latest addition to the JCC program line-up. Directing this exciting new activity is Vicki Hopkins. Vicki will also direct the pre-school portion of the Day Camp.

Bobbi Bernstein began her JCC duties a little over a year ago by focusing on families. Now her focus is exclusively on adult classes and programs. In the past few years the efforts of volunteer chairpersons like Florence Jaffa, Baila Pransky and Gail Fein have created an outstanding adult program. It grew and grew until everyone decided it needed a professional worker to give the necessary guidance and backup to the volunteers. Bobbi was chosen; it became her complete and only assignment. She has done and continues to do a superlative job.

There is one more staff addition in the offing. Through an agreement with BBYO a staff person will work half time as State Director of BBYO and half time as Tween and Family Programming Director for the JCC.

In reference to last month's story on Kiryat Shmona, four days after Mr. Bienstock visited Kiryat Shmona, two katyusha rockets blew apart the top floor of an apartment house.

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## Aerobic Exercise Good For You

Before participating in winter sports, join the aerobic dancing and exercise class now being offered at the JCC. The class is designed to condition your muscles by trimming, firming, and shaping. The exercise and dance routines will help develop a highly efficient muscle structure and strong cardiovascular system. Participation in this class should ready you for the slopes as well as the ice.

The women taking the class now have found aerobic dancing offers help with weight reduction and muscle toning, as well as mental challenges and a great deal of fun. You exercise at your own level of endurance. You control the amount of energy you expend as you jog, exercise, stretch, and dance.

Treat yourself to a program of physical fitness designed just for you and Have Fun!

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## Human Relations Award BBW Charlotte Chapter

B'nai B'rith Women Charlotte Chapter is pleased to announce that the recipient of the 1979-1980 Human Relations Award will be Mr. Gilbert Brauch. The award will be presented to him at a luncheon at Raintree Country Club on Wednesday, February 6th, at 11:45 a.m.

Mr. Brauch is the guiding force of the Charlotte Exchange Student Program. The following excerpts from letters received recommending him for this award indicate how justly he is deserving of this honor.

"We recognize the valuable contributions which Mr. Brauch has made to the school system and the community as Executive Director and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Charlotte Exchange Student Program. He has built bridges around the world between other nations and Charlotte. He has gone far beyond the call of duty."

Mr. Chris Folk  
Assoc. Superintendent  
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

"He has worked tirelessly in this program to make opportunities for growth available. The brunt of the paperwork and the leg work, the planning and the administration of this far reaching educational project is borne by Mr. Brauch. We are all in the debt of this dedicated and

public-spirited community leader and world citizen."

Mr. Leroy Miller  
Principal,  
East Mecklenburg H.S.

"He is a past president of the Charlotte-North Rotary Club (1964-65) and has remained active. He has been a member of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce. In Cub Scouting, he has been a den dad and a pack master."

Mr. Donald Mackay  
Charlotte-North  
Rotary Club

"He has made himself available day and night to assure the success of this program. It would take hours to give his total involvement. Due to his hard work and meritorious efforts, many have benefited by a cultural enrichment."

Mrs. Elizabeth Klein  
Presentee and BBW member

Reservations are required for the luncheon by February 1st. Checks are to be made payable to Charlotte Chapter BBW in the amount of \$6.50 per person, and are to be mailed together with the names of those attending to Bernice Russo, 6501 Newhall Rd., Charlotte, N.C. 28211. For further information please call 365-3489, 364-7996, or 847-4342.

## Purim at JCC

In anticipation of the Megilla readings and Purim parties to come the following week at the Temples, the JCC is offering a FAMILY PURIM FUN FACTORY Sunday, Feb. 24th from 2-4 p.m. featuring an opportunity for individuals to make groggers (noisemakers), masks and homentashen.

Patterned after the very successful Chanukah Dreidle Factory in which over 60 families participated, the Purim Fun Factory is structured to permit families to work together to create each project. The steps for making the groggers and the masks have been simplified to permit even the youngest child the satisfaction of accomplishment.

Ben Jaffa Jr., President of the JCC, one of the planners of the day, said, "It is wonderful to watch even the pre-schoolers begin with a piece or two of wood going through the various steps. When their groggers finally make just the right kind of loud noises the smiles that light up their faces are worth everything."

Pre-registration is not required. There is a nominal charge for materials.

## Yiddish Institute

A unique happening will take place May 8-11, 1980 at Wild-aces, a picturesque retreat in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina, when the second annual Yiddish Institute sponsored by the JCC will present guest lecturers, workshops in language, poetry, music and literature, musicals and folk-singing.

The lecturers are Abraham Shulman and Ruth Rubin. Mr. Shulman is associate editor of *The Jewish Daily Forward*, writes for many Yiddish and English periodicals, a novelist, lecturer, playwright and world traveller. Ruth Rubin is a folk-singer, recording artist, lecturer, author and a leading authority on Jewish folksong. She is a guest instructor at major universities and colleges and has performed for audiences in the U.S., Canada, Europe and Israel.

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## Academy Class Activities



Photo by Mike Shapiro

by Ruth Goldberg

The first, second and third graders of the Hebrew Academy visited the Hezekiah Alexander House at the Mint Museum of History. In addition to a guided tour of the home, the curator presented a program, "Whistles and Whimmy-diddles," which introduced the children to the toys and games of the Colonial Period.

In preparation for Tu B'Shvat, the kindergarten and first graders have had many experiences with plants and seedlings. Right after Sukkot, the esrogs were opened and tasted. Then each child planted a few esrog seeds in paper cups. The seeds took several months to germinate. About a month ago, children who had been watering, watching and waiting for something to happen finally saw little green shoots start to grow through the soil. When the seedlings were about an inch tall, the children transplanted their baby trees into flower pots and took them home for a Tu B'Shvat treat. They know that these plants will not bear fruit, but they do make lovely green houseplants.

During the month of January, the children saw several films about plants, bulbs, and how to grow them. They planted a dish garden of daffodil bulbs and will be able to watch these grow into flowers. They have planted orange, grapefruit and avocado seeds and will care for them on their windowsill garden. They are forcing forsythia and apple twigs to see what happens to them. The children are becoming conscious of the importance of trees for protection of the soil, for food and for beauty. The study culminated with the celebration of "the birthday of the trees" in Israel, the holiday of Tu B'Shvat. The entire school planted fruit trees on the Academy grounds for Tu B'Shvat.

## Hebrew Cemetery Association

Wherever Jews have settled, one of the first things they did was to purchase some small plot of land as a sacred resting place for their dead. Over 100 years ago, the few Jewish families who were then living in Charlotte purchased about 20 acres of land which has since been used as the Jewish Cemetery of this area. The Cemetery is available to all of us, regardless of our station in life. It dramatizes the roots which many of our families have established and which, as time goes on, will become even more sacred in the hearts of our Jewish community.

The Institute is open to women and men interested in increasing their knowledge of Yiddish and enriching their cultural ties with a language that carries within it the spirit of human individuality.

The next issue of the *Charlotte Jewish News* will carry further information and reservation applications.