



## Academy Students Have Own Wishday

by Doris Bernstein

If wishing could make it so then the new Hebrew Academy would have an elaborate gymnasium, school zoo, indoor/outdoor eating area, student lounge and history museum room. These were some suggestions proposed by Hebrew Academy students to Gene Warren and John Watkins of the architectural firm Wilbur, Kendrick, Workman and Warren, commissioned to draw up a master plan for the Jewish Community Project. On Feb. 27, all of the kindergartners through sixth graders offered their dreams of an ideal school. This culminated an exciting week during which they were given an opportunity to participate, as their parents would the following Sunday, in the ongoing planning process for the new Jewish facilities.

With the encouragement of their teacher, Carol Pollack, the school's youngest children had designed a mural depicting their particular needs, including a greenhouse and a tree house with desks. They participated with great enthusiasm as they and the others watched a slide presentation by the architects showing various schools and possible arrangements of learning facilities. Following the

slide show, the older students met with the architects to explain drawings, blueprints and models of aspects of their dream schools which they had prepared under the guidance of math teacher Lani Levine.

The architects took notes and seemed quite impressed by the amount of thought, effort and ingenuity the children had put into their projects. The architects took note, too, of the strong feelings expressed by the students for such features as solar energy, science laboratories, a computer room, a "temple place" (possibly accessed by tunnel), lockers and private, relaxing areas such as lofts for reading. The desire to include religious symbolism in their school was expressed by requests for features such as a Star of David door, a chimney painted with a Torah, and stained glass windows. Mr. Warren was quite delighted by a suggestion offered by the Academy's newest student, Alon Schwarzman, for a "ballroom," meaning a room to contain all sorts of balls.

To judge by the positive reaction of the architects, anyone in the community seeking unique approaches to architecture should arrange to visit and consult with students at the Hebrew Academy.

## Tu B'Shvat at Hebrew Academy



Children having fun planting seedlings in keeping with tradition of the Tu B'Shvat holiday. (photos/Mike Shapiro)



## Older Adult Luncheons

The **FIRST** Older Adult Luncheon will be held on April 7 with Hadassah as the host organization. This luncheon will be held at the Jewish Community Center at 12 noon for all older adults in our community. The cost will be \$1 per person.

The Older Adult Luncheon program, coordinated by Charlotte Chapter B'nai B'rith Women and the Jewish Community Center, will be sponsored by several of our organizations and institutions.

Transportation will be provided for those needing it. You are asked to RSVP by April 3 by calling the JCC (366-0357) and at this time please let us know if you need transportation or if you drive and can assist in transporting others.

Our thanks to Hadassah for beginning this very meaningful program in our community and for what we are sure will be a lovely luncheon.

If you or any of your friends did not receive a card notifying you of this luncheon, please let us know at the JCC.

## Masada

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tion that for most people it is unlikely to be thought of in the context suggested by the reviewer. One would have to have a predisposition to that view to draw that conclusion.

The other aspect which might raise a question could be attempts to draw parallels between Masada and Jonestown. Here there is little likelihood for such a comparison except for those who may be predisposed to such odious comparisons. The film clearly demonstrates that on the last day before the Romans breach the walls of Masada the decision by those trapped on Masada to take their own lives is one which was made collectively to die as free persons rather than live as slaves under the Romans.

The film is technically excellent and the audience should be enraptured. General Flavius Silva presents a more enlightened view of the pacifying process of Palestine of that day than do the Romans generally; he is depicted as tough but sensitive and the Romans are barbaric and pagan.

Omitting the question of historical inaccuracy, the general viewer will become enmeshed in the larger story, that is, life on Masada and the issue of survival, which the Jews attempt to do with dignity, integrity and determination.

## This 'n That

**Jonas Rolett**, son of Karin and Dr. Ronald Rolett, has won a prestigious Morehead Scholarship. Jonas, a senior at South Mecklenburg High School this year, recently moved from Anderson, S.C. with his family to our Queen City.

**Melanie Berson**, daughter of Mildred Berson, is graduating as a veterinarian from the University of Queensland in Toowong, Queensland, Australia and will be working for a year in Charlotte.

The Better Business Bureau of Greater Mecklenburg has appointed **Elsa (Mrs. Martin) Multer** to the bureau's No. 2 position under President Ted Law, Jr. She is the director of operations of the BBB and will be working with an 11-member staff.

Congratulations to **Leslie Gordan** on passing his CPA examination. His wife, **Mary**, is club news co-editor of this paper.

**Todd Gorelick**, son of Patty and Bill Gorelick, has been inducted into the National Honor Society at Country Day School.

**Scott Cohen**, son of Jane Nelson, was chosen for a year's study in Rome; he is a junior at the Rhode Island School of Design.

**Rabbi Harold Krantzler** has been appointed to the Adult Education Committee of the Central Conference on American Rabbis.

The new head of Globus Laboratories' processing equipment division is **Edwin Rimsky**.

Recently appointed as chairman of Public Relations for the Mecklenburg Chapter of The National Conference of Christians and Jews is **Rita (Mrs. Irving) Mond**.

**Cary Bernstein** has taken on an additional job, that of the Youth Group leader of Temple Beth El.

**Melvyn W. Labovitz** has been appointed by Mayor Eddie Knox as the Coordinator for the Private Industry Council (PIC) and will be responsible for all coordination activities related to the recently announced Youth Employment Campaign.

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