

# NEW YEAR GREETINGS

## Will You Hear The Call?

It is that time of the year again! Time to begin readying our children for the forthcoming school year. Time to begin packing away our summer things in anticipation of the coming fall and winter.

But we, as the "Chosen People", have something else to be looking forward to at this time of year, our High Holidays. This is our time to reflect on the past year; to become introspective of our past deeds. It is also a time of remembrance for our loved ones.

Yet, the High Holidays are also a time to begin looking ahead. It is the time we celebrate our New Year and begin making plans for the coming year. We should begin thinking about what we are planning to do "Jewishly" for ourselves and our family in the coming year. To reaffirm our commitment to Judaism and the Charlotte Jewish Community.

Beginning with the Hebrew month of Elul, the Shofar is traditionally sounded after the Shachrit service. It is sounded to "call for the people to awake and prepare." But how many of us ever hear the Shofar sounded during this time? How many of us will hear the call?

We are entering another exciting phase for our Community Project. Last year at this time many questions were being asked about whether or not we could "get together" to build this project. Now, one year later, we have already surpassed the \$3 million mark in the campaign. This is due to many dedicated men and women who have given of themselves to see this Project materialize. But they can not do it alone! We must help. We must get involved in the Project, in the major local Jewish institutions, in the local organizations. As the Foundation states, "Together We Will!" Let me add, "Together we must!"

Kathy and I wish all a happy and healthy New Year and an easy fast.

**Harold Cohen**  
Executive Director  
Jewish Community Center

### JCC Closings

**ROSH HASHANAH**  
Closes 5 pm Sept. 17  
Reopens 9 am Sept. 20

**YOM KIPPUR**  
Closes 5 pm Sept. 26  
Reopens 7 pm Sept. 27

**SUCCOTH**  
Closes 5 pm Oct. 8  
Reopens 7 pm Oct. 10

**SHEMINI ATZERET  
SIMCHAT TORAH**  
Closes 5 pm Oct. 1  
Reopens 9 am Oct. 4

## Miracles for The New Year

What a fantastic Jewish community Charlotte is! In the past year we have accomplished miracles in every aspect of our lives. Our organizations, always strong and essential have grown even more so. Our Temples are filled with learning children and involved adults. The JCC and the Academy continue to prosper. The Federation campaign increased and the dream of the Project became reality.

Most important of all, we have no intention of resting on our laurels. The true miracle of our community is that we are motivated by what needs to be done rather than by recognition for what we have accomplished. And much needs to be done.

The Project campaign, so ably chaired by Harry Swimmer, is on its way to complete success, but it needs everyone's support. The Federation Campaign for '83 needs to grow if we are to sustain the quality of the local institutions we support as well as maintain our commitment to the State of Israel.

Our institutions and organizations themselves need something from us. The best present we can give is ourselves as participants and leaders. But we, you and I, need something also. We need to understand ourselves better as Jews, and the community has to help us achieve that understanding in ways which make us feel good about ourselves.

For most of us, our early Jewish education was a less than successful and possible unpleasant experience. Now, as adults, we are left with unconnected bits and pieces of Jewish information which, all too often, leads to discomfort around participating in Jewish life. Worst of all, it prevents us from being able to give our children and even our grandchildren the positive reservoir of memories and feelings we know they deserve and need to be comfortable as Jews. Jews.

Well, the miracles for the new year of 5743 are starting on October 21. All the Jewish organizations and institutions have joined hands to offer the Joint Jewish Studies Institute described on page 18 of this paper. Now you and I can connect what we know and fill in the gaps with teachers who make no assumptions about our knowledge. We don't have to be embarrassed about what we don't know; we can just be delighted by what we learn. Now that's the way to start the New Year - see you in class!

**Marvin Bienstock**  
Director  
Federation & Foundation



LA SHONA TOVA ...

The Editors & Staff

## L'Shanah Tovah

It is a pleasure to be back in Charlotte after spending a good part of the summer studying at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, soaking up the atmosphere of a totally Judaic environment. This was a wonderful opportunity to learn from and to share ideas with other day school principals in an intensive program about Judaica and education.

I found out that we are not isolated in our attempts to create a rich all-day Jewish environment for our children; there are many schools that are progressing as we are in the pursuit of Jewish knowledge and identity. It is good to report that the objectives and methodology of the N.C. Hebrew Academy at Charlotte compare well with those of other schools in the country.

I look forward to continuing this program next summer, but I am now very happy to be back home in Charlotte with my family and eager to be working again with the wonderful families of the Hebrew Academy and the Jewish community of Charlotte.

As we prepare for the High Holidays, on behalf of my family, the staff and the Board of the Hebrew

Academy, I wish you a healthy and happy year in which we all dedicate ourselves to our positive Judaic values.

L'shanah Tovah Tikatevu,  
**Eleanor Weinglass**  
Director  
Hebrew Academy

**FOCUS ON ISRAEL** is not appearing this month as **Kenny Gross** is on vacation. We look forward to his return and his column next month.

Greeting you with very best wishes for a **Happy New Year**

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**Jewish Community Center**  
*Harold Cohen, Director*  
**Charlotte Jewish Federation**  
**Foundation of Charlotte Jewish Community**  
*Marvin Bienstock, Director*  
**Charlotte Hebrew Academy**  
*Eleanor Weinglass, Director*

Editors..... **Ann Langman & Rita Mond**  
Staff..... **Monroe Katz & Lissa Millman**

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