

THE CHARLOTTE JEWISH NEWS

Published monthly by:
Charlotte Jewish Federation
Foundation of Charlotte Jewish Community
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Jewish Community Center
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Copy deadline the 10th of each month
P.O. Box 13369, Charlotte, N.C. 28211

The appearance of advertising in The News does not constitute a kashruth endorsement.

Editorial

Happy Birthday Israel

On the 5th day of Adar 5708 (May 14, 1948), the Tel Aviv Museum was crowded with people listening to David Ben Gurion reading the Declaration of Independence for the newly established State of Israel.

He stated, "Eretz Israel was the birthplace of the Jewish people," and he recalled the Jewish heritage and history from ancient forced dispersion to the United Nations partition.

Ben Gurion spoke on: "We appeal to the Jewish people throughout the diaspora to rally round the Jews of Eretz Israel in the tasks of immigration and upbuilding and to stand by them in the great struggle for the realization of the age-old dream ... the redemption of Israel."

This we did! The American Jews have through the UJA/Federation Campaigns and various organizations helped with Israel's needs, whether it be the absorption of immigrants, education, irrigation, helping the old, the children or the needy.

April 26 marked the 37th anniversary of Israel's birth and a history of a struggle for survival. Israel is a remarkable nation ... a democracy and America's staunchest ally. We salute the people of Israel: a people who have fought five terrible wars, a cold peace, but have instilled pride in all Jews throughout the world.

It is hoped that more American Jews will take time to see Israel and learn more about their Jewish heritage. These visits may be taken through individual planning, with organizations or UJA Missions. This issue of the "CJN" begins a series of stories written by individuals in our community who have recently gone to Israel and wish to share their experiences with you. We hope you will enjoy this special series.

"Next year in Jerusalem....."

The Jewish Calendar

Candlelighting

- May 3 - 7:53 p.m.
- May 10 - 7:59 p.m.
- May 17 - 8:04 p.m.
- May 24 - 8:09 p.m.
- May 25 - 9:18 p.m. (First eve of Shavuot)
- May 26 - 9:11 p.m. (Second eve of Shavuot)
- May 31 - 8:14 p.m.
- June 7 - 8:18 p.m.



**From the Desk of Marty Schneer
-JCC Executive Director**

These remarks were taken from the speech prepared for the "Imagination Tour" and the "Installation of the JCC Officers and Board," both of which have been rescheduled for a later date.

In developing today's tour and holding our Annual Meeting out here, our goal has been to excite your imagination. We would like you to be excited not only about the physical structure but about the unlimited program and service possibilities. This is truly a unique period in the history of Charlotte's Jewish community where one can get involved in the program development pro-

cess and make a significant impact in shaping our JCC.

In a very broad sense, let me take a moment to articulate my vision of the new Center.

- I imagine a Center where children and adults feel comfortable and secure. A place where staff and volunteers care about people and their individual needs.

- I imagine a Center where



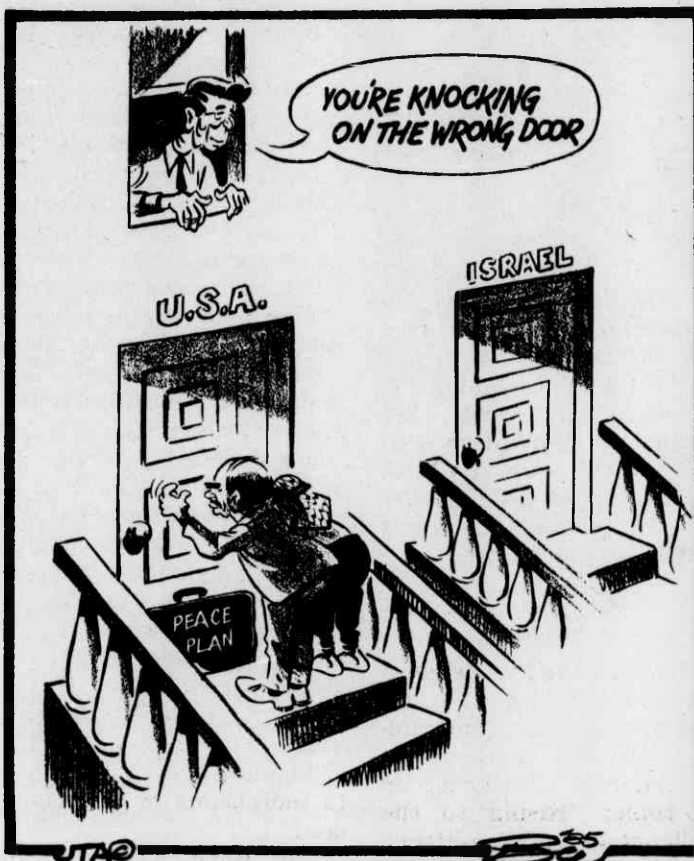
people are challenged, stimulated and encouraged to develop to their fullest potential.

- I imagine a Center where positive Jewish experiences take place, strengthening our individual and collective sense of Jewish identity.

We Jews are keenly aware that our faith teaches and demands high moral standards and values. We also know, as in Israel's case, that the world often judges us on these higher standards and expects us to act differently from everyone else. In this facility and project we are also making a moral statement. In a country and city that still maintains vestiges of discrimination and exclusion, we will open our doors and programs to our neighbors and non-Jewish friends. I imagine that we will become a shining example of interfaith cooperation and an asset to the city of Charlotte as a whole.

In more specific or mundane terms, I imagine the Center will enable parents to partake in only one carpool instead of two or three. I imagine families swimming together in December, following their participation in a community Chanukah program, and I imagine a full-fledged afterschool program that provides relief and a vital service to working parents who have had to deal with the uncertainties of child care around the city.

The future of our JCC is very bright. However, a lot of hard work and sustained commitment remain if we are to make our dreams a reality. Our Phase-In process has reached a critical stage where input from the various committees will be analyzed and consolidated into specific policy and program recommendations. The staff will begin to develop program concepts and ideas that reflect the expressed needs and interests of the membership. The success of the Center, once the novelty of a new building fades, will depend to a great extent on the quality of service we provide. This relates both to the sophistication and marketing of our programs and facilities. In the near future a comprehensive membership campaign will be developed to bring our message and "product" to the forefront of people's imagination. Those of us working closely with the project are filled with enthusiasm and optimism that we will meet our membership and program goals. If today's event is any indication, I am confident that with your help, and the support of the new board, we will succeed. Thank you.



Letters to the Editor

Newspaper Coverage Helps New Venture

Thank you so much for the beautiful picture and article in the March issue of the "CJN" regarding the opening of "Sweaters by Patty" in conjunction with Yours Truly Needlepoint. The response to the knitting shop has been wonderful. In fact, we have had so many women during our Thursday afternoon hours, that I have decided to volunteer my morning hours as well. Knitting customers may avail themselves of my services on Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 3802 Columbine Circle; private appointments may be arranged from 9:30 to 11 a.m. This is being called "the

decade of the sweater" by Needlecraft Magazine and we can see why. Our yarns and patterns are absolutely magnificent. We look forward to a year filled with delighted customers and super special sweaters.

-Patty Gorelick

THE CHARLOTTE JEWISH NEWS encourages its readers to submit articles and letters expressing their opinions on matters of interest to the Jewish community. Such submissions should be typed and double-spaced. They may be edited in order to fit the available space. Mail to CJN - P.O. Box 13369, Charlotte, N.C. 28211.

GRADUATES...GRADUATES...GRADUATES

In our June/July issue it has been our policy to list all high school and college graduates in our Jewish community. This needs a great deal of cooperation from you, the parents. Kindly submit in writing your child's name, school graduating from, where she/he will be attending school next year. If she/he is a college graduate, please include what degree has been received and if education is being continued and where.

This information must be mailed c/o the Editor, "CJN", P.O. Box 13369, Charlotte, N. C. 28211, and received no later than May 1st, 1985.

Thank you for your cooperation.

**Next Issue Will Be
June/July
Deadline is May 10
There will be no July issue**