

**THE CHARLOTTE JEWISH NEWS**

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**Editorials****Jewish Day School in Charlotte—  
The End or a New Beginning?**

The Charlotte Jewish Day School (formerly known as the Hebrew Academy of NC) would have celebrated its Chai year this new school year. However, that will not happen since it has closed its doors officially this past month due to decreased enrollment.

The school will keep its incorporation and the board will continue to meet on a regular basis with hope that within the next few years it will be able to start once again. There is extreme optimism that with the idea of a Jewish community preschool on the horizon and the initiation of Temple Israel's pre-kindergarten, that children from these classes will become the nucleus of a new Jewish day school.

Good Jewish education is so important to our community and the closing of the school will present a terrible void for those who want it. However, with the new Jewish Education Task Force having been implemented and their concentrated efforts and dedication, we can only look over the horizon for a bright, new beginning. We need to educate our adults as to the importance of Jewish education, our heritage and the continuation of our religion, so that we may impart the Jewish values to our children. When the parents recognize this, then we will be able to have a viable school once again.

—Rita Mond

**Pope John Paul II Rewrites  
Austrian History**

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum

The latest visit of Pope John Paul II was received with deeply mixed feelings in the Jewish community.

According to reliable reports, the pope's meeting in Vienna with Austria's chief rabbi and other Jewish leaders was a generally positive experience.

Austrian Jews welcomed the pope's rejection of anti-Semitism, and his statement that "we must remember the Shoah and make certain that it is never repeated."

Jewish disenchantment — some said shock — was in response to several contradictions. On the first day of his arrival, the pope repeated the widespread mythology that Austria and the Catholics there were the primary "victims...of the cruel Nazi tyranny."

Neither then nor later at the notorious Mauthausen concentration camp did the pope refer to the Jews.

But the historic evidence is overwhelming to the contrary and can not be revised. Austrians were not passive victims. They jubilantly welcomed Hitler and were among the cruelest Nazis.

Cardinal Innitzer and the Austrian bishops helped establish Hitler's regime by pledging to the Fuhrer their total obedience. The Austrian hierarchy did not raise its voice in protest against the persecution of Jews.

Mauthausen was one of the most vicious of the concentration camps, where one-third of its victims were tortured for being Jews.

What young Austrians needed to hear from Pope John Paul II was an unambiguous call to face that nightmarish past, not to evade its evils by rewriting history.

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum is director of international relations for the American Jewish Committee.

**The President Speaks.....**

By Bobbi Bernstein, Pres. CJF

Six months have passed since I assumed the Presidency of the Charlotte Jewish Federation and it's time to give a progress report on the status of the Federation.

The 1988 Campaign is essentially behind us, and through the combined efforts of our wonderful volunteers and staff, we've raised approximately 1.2 million dollars — a 7% increase over last year. Plans are already underway for the 1989 campaign: the chairmen are in place, the committees are forming, and the campaign calendar has been developed. Over the summer, the campaign cabinet (heads of each division) will be meeting with campaign co-chairs, Richard Klein and Paul Putterman, to plan activities, map out strategies and actively recruit new solicitors for the upcoming campaign. Anyone interested in being a part of the 1989 campaign is encouraged to call the Federation office, 366-5007.

In addition to our all-important campaign activities, much time and energy have been devoted to restructuring and revitalizing many of the other Federation committees. Co-chairmen Bill Ashendorf and Moses Luski of

The Community Relations Committee (CRC) have formed a strong committee. CRC already sponsored two important community forums. Plans are in motion for sub-committees to deal with issues of anti-Semitism and other concerns affecting our relationship to the greater Charlotte community.

Leadership Development has a new and dynamic chair in Bobby Damsky and he and his committee have begun planning their 1988-89 year. This 18-month program is tentatively scheduled to begin in October and will be limited in enrollment to 40 participants. Because of the success of our first Leadership Development class, we are anticipating a surge of applications. Please watch *The Charlotte Jewish News* for further information concerning this program.

The Jewish Education Committee, under the leadership of Ruth Goldberg, has already been active in addressing the needs of Jewish education in our community. The committee first met with Rabbi David Schlucker, a representative of JESNA (Jewish Educational Service of North America) who was invited here to help us take a look at ourselves. Rabbi Schlucker met with representatives of all the Jewish in-

stitutions in our community and gave the committee an objective view of what it might accomplish. The committee then formed two task forces to 1) reestablish the Joint Jewish Studies Institute and 2) to investigate the possibility of establishing a Bureau of Jewish Education. We look forward with great anticipation to the results of the work of these two task forces.

The Allocations committee is hard at work preparing the format for its upcoming meetings. A new structure has been formed and is taking shape under the capable leadership of Shelton Gorelick, chair and Emily Zimmern, cochair. Under the new design, many more Federation board members will be actively involved in the allocations process. Meanwhile, all recipients of Federation funds have been notified to begin preparing their budgets and to be ready to meet in early September.

The Cash Collections Chair, Ron Katz, and his committee have met to discuss new guidelines for dealing with cash collection problems. An aggressive, new approach is underway to insure prompt payment of Federation pledges.

The new and enthusiastic Missions chairmen, Phil and Maddy Joffe, are already making plans for the 1989 March mission to Israel. This promises to be "the trip of a lifetime" and all who are interested in going should call the Federation office today.

The Teen Israel Summer Scholarship program (T.I.S.S.), which was also chaired by Phil Joffe, selected Michael Lass as this year's recipient of the T.I.S.S. scholarship. Michael is currently enrolled in six weeks of study in Israel. The T.I.S.S. committee spent many hours revising the criteria for eligibility for this scholarship and the Federation is grateful for their dedication and hard work. Wendy Rosen will be the new chair of this committee.

The By-Laws chairman, Hal Levinson, is currently working on some changes in our by-laws. Our budget committee, headed by Bennett Lyons, is hard at work improving our reporting system and working on the 1989 Federation budget.

Women's Division, under the direction of Meg Goldstein and Emily Zimmern, have put together an outstanding campaign cabinet and are hard at work planning their 1989 campaign calendar. They have re-instituted their education committee, chaired by Lynne Sheffer; the new Shalom Y' chair is Nancy Gugenheim.

Paul Putterman, who chaired the personnel committee, negotiated a new contract for our executive director, Mike Minkin, which was overwhelmingly approved by our board of directors. We are indeed fortunate to have Mike as our executive director as he is a caring, dedicated and hard-working professional. As your president, I am delighted to report to you that our Federation is alive and well. Wishing you a wonderful summer....

**Dukakis Defends Her Marriage**

Oakland, Calif. (JTA) — Kitty Dukakis denies criticism that as a Jewish woman married to a non-Jewish man, she would serve as a bad role model were her husband to be elected president of the United States.

In an interview with the bimonthly magazine *Tikkun*, the wife of Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis said her marriage to the Democratic presidential nominee actually encouraged her to seek a "more formal identification" with her Jewish roots.

"When people write articles, as they have, about the fact that I would be a bad role model because I am married to a Christian, what they don't realize is that there are men and women like myself who are much more closely identified with their Jewish roots because they have married outside the faith," she said in an interview conducted May 20 by Michael Lerner, editor of the magazine.

Dukakis was responding to an editorial that appeared in the Denver-based *Intermountain*

*Jewish News* at the height of the primary campaign, charging that a Dukakis presidency would represent a troubling endorsement of intermarriage.

In the *Tikkun* article, Dukakis spoke at length about her Jewish upbringing in the Boston suburb of Brookline, saying that she has a "very emotional connection with my heritage."

She also indicated that she would play an active role in shaping White House decision-making on Jewish issues should her husband be elected president in November.

Asked by Lerner which Jewish leaders a Dukakis administration would work with, Dukakis replied, "I don't think I can answer that definitely, because it's a policy Michael and I haven't discussed."

We encourage our readers' viewpoints. Letters should be submitted typewritten and double-spaced and signed. Please include your address and phone number. We reserve the right to edit.