

# The Charlotte JEWISH news

Vol. 16 No. 11

December 1994

## For Ourselves, For Our Children, For Israel, Forever... Federation/UJA Shabbat



Dr. Michael Bar-Zohar

**O**n December 9-10, 1994, the annual Federation/UJA Shabbat will be held with guest Dr. Michael Bar-Zohar. Temple Beth El will host Shabbat services Friday, December 9 at 8:00 p.m. and Temple Israel will host Shabbat services Saturday, December 10 at 9:00 a.m..

Born in Sofia, Bulgaria, Dr. Michael Bar-Zohar immigrated to Israel in 1948. He served in the Air Force Intelligence and Paratrooper units. Dr. Bar-Zohar has a B.A. in Political Science from the Hebrew University and M.A. and Ph.D. in Political Science and International Relations from the University of Paris, France. A past journalist for several Israeli newspapers, Dr. Bar-Zohar has written several books, including the *Suez Top Secret Brothers* and is the official biographer of David Ben-Gurion.

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## The History of the United Jewish Appeal and Jewish Federations

Beginning over fifty years ago, the UJA joined with world Jewry to support Jewish needs in Palestine and around the world. Following the Holocaust, Jews realized desperate social service needs were not being met. With the establishment of the State of Israel and the subsequent "in-gathering of the exiles," the needs became even more intense.

At the same time, the American Jewish community evolved with its own social service agencies and the need for funds. Its institutions labored under the task of educating a new generation of American Jews. In order to more efficiently raise and allocate funds both here and abroad, Jewish agencies began "federating" to conduct one annual fund drive. There are now more than two hundred Federations conducting appeals in cities throughout North America.

## The Development of the Jewish Community in Charlotte

In Charlotte, the need for social services and education are tremendous. The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte supports services through our local agencies that provide services such as Jewish education for all ages, community development, senior services, outreach to newcomers, community relations, vocational counseling and services to the needy.

The Charlotte Jewish community can be proud of its members who have taken leadership roles in the current and past campaigns.

*continued on page 4*

## Book and Author Evening

December 11, 1994

by Amalia Warshenbrot - Librarian  
Speizman Jewish Library

The community-at-large is invited to the eighth annual Book and Author Evening with noted author and essayist Julius Lester.

In the past eight years, the Charlotte Chapter of Hadassah, Speizman Jewish Library and the Jewish Community Center offered the community an opportunity to meet unique authors such as Sarah Blacker Cohen, Stephen Birmingham, Dennis Prager, Penina Schram, Judith Magyar Isaacson, Eli Evans and Susan Weidman Schneider. The topics varied from interfaith marriage to Southern and American Jewry and from humor to storytelling. We also had an evening with a Holocaust survivor and another one with a radio show host who left us with food for thought.

The attendance grows each year. Last year, additional chairs were needed in the Gorelick Hall. The Charlotte Chapter of Hadassah concentrates on fundraising for the

event. The Jewish Community Center helps with the administrative work and Speizman Jewish Library makes the arrangement with the author.

Chairperson of the event Rosalind Taranto created a wonderful committee who will take care of the speaker from the time he arrives at the airport until he leaves. All of those on the committee are Hadassah members. Hadassah will host the Patrons reception, sell tickets and serve meals to our guest speaker.

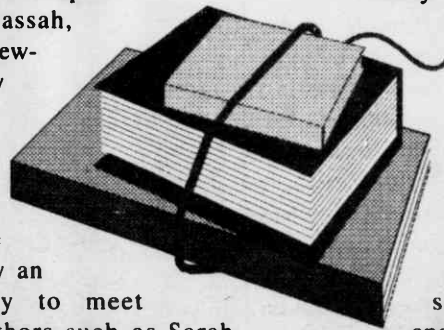
This year's lecture by Dr. Julius Lester promises to be a most interesting and informative. When we called previous areas where Dr.

Lester had appeared, we were told that he was charming insightful and thought provoking. We found his autobiographical account titled "Lovesong" fascinating. "It's certainly one of the most wonderful things I've done for myself - becoming a Jew." reflects Julius Lester the celebrated novelist, poet, singer, folklorist and since the death of Sammy Davis Jr. arguably the nations most famous African American Jew by choice.

Dr. Lester is a professor at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. He has been awarded all three of the Universities most prestigious faculty awards. The distinguished teacher's award 1983/84, The Faculty Fellowship for Distinguished Research and Scholarship (1985), Distinguished Faculty Lecturer and recipient 4 of the Chancellors Medal, The University's highest honor (1986-87).



Julius Lester



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In 1986 the council for advancement and support of education selected him as the Massachusetts state professor of the year. Dr. Lester's biography has appeared in *Who's Who in America* and *Who's Who in the East* since 1970.

The lecture will take place in Gorelick Hall Sunday, December 11th at 7:30 P.M. Tickets are available at the JCC Front Desk; \$5.00 Adults, \$3.00 Seniors and Students.

The book "Lovesong - Becoming a Jew" is available for \$18.00 at the Speizman Jewish Library and will be for sale on the evening of the event. Dr. Lester will autograph the book that evening. Patron's reception will follow. We thank all our patrons and the Hadassah Committee for making it possible to offer the community this educational and inspiring program.

For more information, please call Amalia Warshenbrot at 366-5007 Ext.: 258. It is not too late to become a patron.

## The Female A-Gender Is Just For You!

The Third Annual Charlotte Jewish Women's Retreat

Ladies, what you've been waiting for is here! And then, God created women... because he couldn't be everywhere! That's right! Women of B'nai B'rith, Hadassah, Sisterhood, synagogue and ORT have been working extremely long and hard to fulfill the legacy bequeathed us by the Almighty. It's time to be rewarded for our blood, sweat and tears. It's time for us to take a break!

Leave the men, kids, stresses,



Heidi Rotberg(r) and Lorri Klemons

chores and cares behind and come to the 3rd annual Charlotte Jewish Women's Retreat on January 21-22 at the fantastic Southpark Suites Hotel.

The focus of this Female A-Gender will be on you! There is an extraordinary experience for everyone who attends— plan on being one of the lucky participants!

The program begins Saturday, January 21 with a "picnic" dinner, a Women's Havdalah service, and

**"Ladies, what you've been waiting for is here! And then, God created women... because he couldn't be everywhere!"**

an Image Update Workshop with Tessa Dunn.

Sunday, January 22 starts off with a buffet breakfast followed by a full day of fun, educational and *continued on page 9*

**Who Is This Man?**  
*See Page 4 - History*

**Inside the CJN**

- International News ..... 2
- The Temples ..... 8
- Teen News ..... 10
- Federation ..... 12
- JCC ..... 16

