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Partnership 2000 Delegation Visit to Charlotte

Karen Eini, Dr. Jacob Haspel, and David Shilo visited Charlotte on Thursday, August 24, 2000. Up until that day, they were names on a piece of paper, but when they left our community after spending only five hours with us they were like old friends. Karen, Jacob and David came to Charlotte as the visiting delegation from the Hadera-Eiron region of Israel, a region which lies between Tel Aviv and Haifa.



Federation President Sara Schreiberman accepts a gift from David Shilo.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte has entered into a project called Partnership 2000. Partnership 2000, or P2K as it is known, is a people to people exchange of the Southeast Region of United Jewish Communities and the Hadera-Eiron region of Israel. Partnership 2000 seeks to create a two-way link between Israelis and Diaspora Jews who work together as peers toward a mutually beneficial relationship. Development initiatives include job creation, education, absorption of immigrants, social and cultural growth, and health, all with sensitivity to the physical environment and the preservation of natural resources. Five percent of the dol-

lars sent to Israel from our community will be diverted to our Partnership 2000 community.

As a first step, three representatives from the Hadera-Eiron region visited Charlotte. Dr. Jacob Haspel was born in Jerusalem and resides in Hertzlya. He is the Deputy to the Director General at the Hillel-Yaffe Medical Center in Hadera. Dr. Haspel is the chairman of the national committee for policy and preparedness of hospitals towards chemical warfare; and is also chairman of the national disciplinary committee for physicians, appointed by the Minister of Health. A career

officer in the IDF Medical Corps, Dr. Haspel has an impressive military record. He served in the Six Day War and the Yom Kippur war, was a field surgeon for the rescue of hostages raid on Entebbe in 1976, and was chief medical officer of an armored corps in the Lebanon War of 1982. He was also a field surgeon on a humanitarian mission to Armenia following the earthquake of 1988.

Karen Eini was born in Montreal, Canada and immigrated to Israel in 1989. Presently residing in Katzir, she is employed at the Katzir School as an English

Coordinator and teacher for grades four through nine. She created, designed and coordinated the international collaborative, multicultural learning project "Friends and Flags." The program has been used in ninety classrooms in twenty-five countries throughout the world. Karen is also a textbook and materials writer, having published two English-as-a-Foreign-Language textbooks, and an internet guidebook for teachers. In addition, Karen built an internationally award winning school website, and is an educational counselor for Israel educational television. To learn more about Karen's program "Friends and Flags" go to <http://www.schoolife.net/schools/flags>.

David Shilo is the Director of the Division of Social Affairs and Cultural Activities for the Hadera-Eiron Region. He is in charge of establishing policies and planning activities for the diverse groups of immigrants at absorption centers



New committee chairs, Penny Lipsitz and Mark Rabinovitz at the Partnership 2000 luncheon.

and kibbutzim in the region. As the Urban Renewal Project Director, he is responsible for the planning for twenty-five neighborhoods in the region. In addition, he is in charge of all public buildings built throughout the

(Continued on page 5)



(L-R): David Shilo, Dr. Jacob Haspel, Karen Eini, and Federation Executive Director Marvin Goldberg.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte has raised **\$2,100,000** so far in Campaign 2000

2nd Annual Jewish Community Cultural Arts Festival Unites all in "Celebration Of The Senses"

Festival to Feature Best-Selling Author Stephen Dubner



"Jewish culture is alive and well and thriving in Charlotte, North Carolina" is the theme of this year's 2nd Annual Jewish Community Cultural Arts Festival (November 5th through November 19th.) Based on the stunning success of last year's premier celebration, festival organizers have planned an exciting series of events where festival goers will have the opportunity to touch, see, taste, feel and immerse themselves in the vibrancy of Judaism.

With nearly 20 scheduled events, the Festival aims to join area Jews together in a "celebration of the senses" involving Jewish music, art, literature, food, theatre, film and dance while

inviting Charlotteans of all faiths "to share in the wonderful ways that we are truly connected," according to Alan Feldman, Executive Director of the Jewish Community Center at Shalom Park.

Dubner: A Miracle of Faith?

One of the most dramatic events will be keynote speaker Stephen Dubner's lecture, sponsored by the Gorelick family. On Wednesday November 15 at 7:30 PM at the Great Aunt Stella Center, the author will share his riveting story. Stephen Dubner has traveled a path that most people discovering their Jewish roots don't experience. Raised by devout Roman Catholics, Dubner learns in his 20s that his parents were in fact Jews, who had converted to Catholicism as young adults during the tumultuous pre-war 1940s in Brooklyn, N.Y. Thus begins Dubner's own search for his spiritual identity, a journey chronicled in his 1998 best selling book, *Turbulent Souls: A Catholic Son's Return to His Jewish Family*. A musician and a journalist in New York before writing his best-seller, Dubner had been dis-



Stephen Dubner, Festival Keynote speaker at the Gorelick Family Lecture, November 15.

couraged from his early inquiries about Judaism. Now a practicing Jew, Dubner drew international attention by his book, which addresses the mystery of faith and its profound influences on our lives. The Cultural Arts Festival is pleased to acknowledge a generous gift from the Gorelick family that has allowed Dubner to keynote the festival. "This is community working together at its best," says Lee Bierer, Festival Marketing Director.

Festival Kicks Off on Sunday November 5 with Israel Family Fun Day, Taste of Israel Food

Festival and Dance Performance

Enjoy a little bit of Israel without leaving Charlotte! The Israel Family Fun Day, to be held at the Jewish Community Center on Sunday, November 5, from noon to 3:00 PM, kicks off the 2nd Annual Jewish

Community Cultural Arts Festival with games, crafts, and more. The Israeli Family Fun Day is made possible in part by a generous grant from the Consulate General of Israel in Atlanta. This year the Festival features "A Taste of Israel" Food Festival as well as an Israeli Folk Dance production. The Israel Family Fun Day offers sights, sounds, touches, tastes and aromas sure to tickle each of your senses. Mark your calendars now!

The Israel Family Fun Day program will offer a range of activities for the whole family, complete with a kibbutz, a mock bar/bat mitzvah in "Jerusalem," a "Dead Sea" Therapy Center with beauty treatments, an archaeological "dig" at "Masada," a "climb"



The whole family can celebrate Israel on Family Fun Day.

(rock-climbing wall) of "Mt. Sinai," a petting zoo, tree plantings, kipah-creations and Israeli flag-making, as well as Maccabi Games with relay races and athletic activities throughout the afternoon.

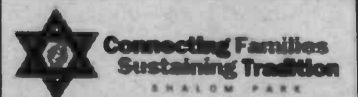
In addition, families will be encouraged to write messages on a giant mock "Western Wall" that has been erected. According to Rabbi Jim Bennett, a group from Temple Beth El will actually travel to Israel this December, and will take the messages Charlotteans have written to place on the real Western Wall in Jerusalem. The Israel Family Fun Day offers festival-goers an afternoon "tour" of Israel that is both entertaining and

(Continued on page 24)

Inside this issue . . .

Partnership 2000 (P2K).....	p. 1
<i>Federation Joins with Israel for Mutual Benefit</i>	
Cultural Arts Festival.....	p. 1
<i>Second Annual Festival Features Food, Fun, Music and Stephen Dubner</i>	
Sukkot and Simchat Torah.....	p. 20-24
<i>Happy Autumn Holidays</i>	
Maccabi Games 2000.....	p. 26
<i>Pictures and Results from the trip to Boca Raton</i>	

Federation Page	page 4
CAJE	page 8
Women's Events	page 9
Temple Israel	page 10
Temple Beth El	page 12
Lubavitch of North Carolina	page 13
Jewish Family Services	page 14
Jewish Traveler	page 15
Mazel Tov	page 16
Speizman Jewish Library	page 17
Youth Visions	page 18
Charlotte Jewish Day School	page 19
Jewish Community Center	pages 23-29
Dining Out page	pages 30-31



Campaign Surpasses
\$25 Million Mark!

See Pages 6 & 7

**MAKE YOUR
PLEDGE TODAY!**