Speizman Jewish Library

The Charlotte Jewish News - October 2001 - Page 7

From the Librarian's Desk By Amalia Warshenbrot, Librarian, Speizman Jewish Library

Today a Reader — Tomorrow a Leader

co-librarian Cynthia brought me two gifts from her vacation in Pennsylvania. One was a slate refrigerator magnet

Set in the set of the

Tomorow a Leader" and a tzedakah box which she found at a garage sale. It is a real collector's item because it is the original Jewish National Fund box that was designed before the State of Israel was established

These two gifts symbolize the feelings that Cynthia and I share with regard to our work in the Speizman Jewish Library

The magnet was bought in Pennsylvania which is where I started my work and study in Jewish education for the Diaspora. It summarizes my belief in the important role the library has in your child's life as well as in your own personal growth. How Does Reading Develop Leadership Skills?

The future leader learns to

- choose and evaluate. * The future leader learns to pro-
- tect public property. * The future leader learns respect
- for others and sharing. * The future leader learns to meet deadlines
- The future leader learns to pay taxes (or overdue fines).
- The future leader expands his/her horizons
- * The future leader learns from the
- past. * The future leader learns to follow rules.
- * The future leader learns that you cannot learn on the internet alone
- The future leader's mind and body will be strong as the book will enrich his knowledge and the body will relax while he/she reads
- * The future leader learns about teaching.

The second gift, the JNF bimah with a book basket (instead tzedakah box is kept as a of flowers which are treasure in my house. The newly designed box is in the library. It resembles the box that was used in my kindergarten class in Israel. The box was placed under a poster

describing the importance of giv-ing. The money in the box was designated towards the purchase of trees to cover the barren hills of Israel in its early years. Now as one drives to Jerusalem, he will see beautiful forests on these hills. This was made possible by dona-tions of nickels and dimes. The slogan of the poster was אנורה לאנורה מצמרפת למאה

which translates: "Add a dime to a

dime and it will sum up to a hun-dred (cents or dollars, if you can)." Rav Judah Ibn Tibbon, a twelfth century Spanish Jewish philosopher wrote in his living

philosopher wrote in his living will for his son, "Make your books your companions, let your book-

cases and shelves be your pleasure orchards." Our book collection is

like this orchard, it grows and expands thanks to donations to the

library. This past year in addition

to the expansion of the collection of new books, we were able to

record them on line with a special

library automation system and

with the tireless efforts of Cynthia to create a data base of the entire

collection. Research and library services will be much more effi-

cient in the future. This project was made possible thanks to the

many donations to the Friends of

the Library Fund. The expansion

of the collection was made possi-

ble thanks to donations to the book funds to the Speizman Jewish Library Fund which received most of the funding from

bar/bat mitzvah events in which parents chose to decorate the

book collection.

in third grade a list of questions that a non-Jew would ask when he reads a Jewish book. Now those same students have the answers personal growth, let us say Amen. 🌣

of flowers which are good for the same day only). The Speizman Fund also provides funds for other needs of the library. The Tulman Fund donations are used to pur-chase books from Israel

or books about Israel. The Cheryl Katz Memorial Fund is used to purchase books of self help and inspiration. The Becky Shulimson Children's Library Fund is dedicated to develop the children's

This year as the children settle into their school curriculum, it is the parent's role to add leadership skills to their children's abilities. So between Harry Potter and *The Baby Sitter Club* books, add a Jewish book. It is no coincidence that the Jewish children magazine named its essay contest Readers Are Leaders. It is my pleasure to see the winners of the contest helping as assistant teachers in the Religious Schools. The winners stressed the Jewish lesson that they learned from historical fic-tion, Bible stories, biographies and adventures. It is inspiring to see these young adults who wrote same students have the answers and they are leaders in our com-munity. I see them as Presidents of the Temples' Youth groups and in BBYO and I know that they will continue to thrive, and if the library had a small part in their percendic growth let us accur-

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Gifts to the Speizman Jewish Library

We wish Corine Bockenek Mazel Tov on her becoming a Jew. The following donations to the

Friends of the Library Campaign were made in Corine's honor: from Virena and Leo Glanzman, Sheri and Mark Jessell Marcia Lampert, Sheila and Adam Spitz, Elizabeth Thomas and Michael Weinberg.

We also thank Allan Gordon for his generous gift to the Friend's Campaign.

Danny Siegel

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tzedakah stories for children ages 7-12, and The Humongous Pushka in the Sky, a story book for little children.

Ziv Tzedakah Fund, the non-profit Mitzvah organization he

NEW LIBRARY HOURS Sunday: 8:15 AM-1:00 PM Monday & Tuesday: 9:00 AM-1:15 PM; 2:30 PM-3:45 PM Wednesday: 6:30 PM-9:00 PM • Thursday: 1:15 PM-5:00 PM Friday & Saturday: Closed

LIBRARY FUND Speedy recovery to Ellie Katz from Toby and Lewis Spitzer In memory of Syd Gerber from Ellie and Ron Katz

We acknowledge with gratitude

the following donations: CHERYL KATZ MEMORIAL

THE SPEIZMAN LIBRARY FUND

In loving memory of Sonia Hoffman from Rosalie and Alan Blumenthal ♀

founded in 1981, has distributed more than \$4,500,000 to worthy

individuals and projects. Danny provides the blueprints for all of us to follow in our personal quest for Tikkun Olam. Whether you are a teacher, parent, student or just someone who wants to change the world, Danny Siegel will guide you in your quest. Please join us. ♥



