



# Mazel Tov & Congratulations



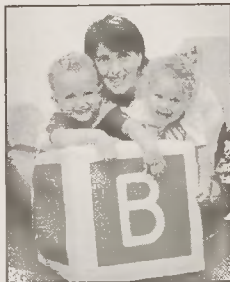
## Meet the Charlotte Jewish Women of Strength

So many people have asked for more information on the women who were chosen as Charlotte Jewish Women of Strength that the CJN will be running profiles of three women each month through June 2002. This project was developed and photographed by Andrea Mellen for the Jewish Community Center's Cultural Arts Festival, and was sponsored by Gentry Mills, Resources for Senior Living, and

Metropolitan Bakery. The exhibit is located at the Jewish Community Center, on the brick wall opposite the boardroom.

### Sonia Peltzer

Sonia Peltzer was a practicing physician before she gave birth to her son Sammy, who was born with a rare Jewish genetic disorder called Familial Dysautonomia (FD). FD is a chronic and progres-



Sonia Peltzer with two of her children.

sive disease, and Sonia quit her practice to take care of Sammy, his two older siblings, and his little sister Sarah, who was also born with FD. Sonia diagnosed both of the children, when specialists could not.

Sonia established a website, [www.fdvillage.org](http://www.fdvillage.org), and is a founding member and the President of Familial Dysautonomia Hope (FD Hope), a non-profit organization to help find a cure for this silent killer and to improve the lives of those challenged by the disease. She has gotten several researchers from the National Institutes of Health and throughout the world interested in the project, and is committed to continuing to make others aware of this rare disorder and to immerse herself in expanding medical research on the subject.

### Sally Schrader

Sally Schrader has made numerous contributions to the Charlotte

Jewish community over the years. As the first woman president of Temple Beth El (and the first woman president of any temple in Charlotte) she not only broke ground for the future leadership of women in the Jewish community, she also merged the two existing Reform congregations at the time (Temple Beth El and Congregation



Sally Schrader

Beth Shalom) into one cohesive congregation. She was also instrumental in helping settle Soviet Jewish immigrants through the Charlotte Joint Russian Immigration Program beginning in early 1974. During her thousands of hours devoted to this organization, Sally became a friend, mother, advocate and nursemaid to dozens of families settling in a new country. In many cases, these personal ties have remained close for over 25 years.

While raising three children of her own, Sally continued to volunteer her time to numerous organizations both in the Jewish community and outside of it. Now, as a grandmother, she and her husband are raising two of their grandchildren.



Tammy Seigel

### Tammy Seigel

Tammy Seigel is well known to students of Temple Beth El's religious school as one of the teachers they see every week. What they might not know is her involvement in other areas of the Jewish community and beyond. Tammy helped initiate the Temple Beth El R.A.I.N. team and has served as its leader. Through her active involvement in R.A.I.N., Tammy has helped to care for a number of AIDS patients in great need.

In addition to teaching, and R.A.I.N., Tammy is on the Worship committee, the Religious School Board, and is a member of Sisterhood. ☆

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## Community Simchas

### TOV M'OD

Congratulations to **Damon Rose**, Executive Director of Partnership 2000, who will officially be receiving his Masters of Public Administration (with honors) on May 6.

**Karen Eini**, creator of Friends and Flags, and the administrator of

Friends and Kin, has recently received a prestigious teaching honor: She is the first recipient of The Global Schoolnet Online Shared Learning Award. This was a very competitive process and there was overwhelming support of her candidacy. Karen's Friends and Kin program is being utilized in the Religious Schools in Charlotte in order to familiarize our children with life in Israel. Guy Pearlman's class in Hebrew High is especially involved in the classroom exchange with Israeli children and will be joining some of them in Charleston on May 12.

Congratulations to **Brett Weisberg** who was recently elected President of the Executive Board of Providence High School for the academic year 2002-2003 (his Senior year). Brett currently serves as Treasurer of the Executive Board of Student Council. He served as Class President in both his Freshman and Sophomore years at Providence. He is a representative of Providence High School as Second Vice President of Student Council for the state of North Carolina. This summer he will represent Providence High at the National Student Council Convention in Virginia Beach. In

addition to Student Government, Brett is a three-year member of the Varsity Tennis team. Brett has been selected for membership in the National Honor Society and was inducted on April 18th. He is the son of **Jane** and **Mark Rabinovitz**.

### BIRTHS

**Betsy** and **Marc Joseph** are new parents of **Annie Danya**, born January 28. Annie's brother is **Michael**. The Josephs live in Bethesda, MD. Annie's grand parents, **Ollie** and **Sam Polk**, and her great-grandmother, **Jeanette Sacks**, all reside in Charlotte. ☆

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## GRADUATES

Graduating seniors who would like an announcement in the Charlotte Jewish News, please send your email to [amontoni@shalomcharlotte.org](mailto:amontoni@shalomcharlotte.org) or fax to 704-365-4507 or letter to 5007 Providence Rd., Charlotte, 28226 by May 8, 2002. Include student's name, school graduated from, parents' names, and the students' future plans.

## Shavuot at Ohr HaTorah

(Continued from page 19)

Judaism is dependent on how it is transmitted to the children. It is a tradition at Ohr HaTorah, based on the worldwide appeal by the Lubavitcher Rebbe in 1979, to make the children the main stars at this Torah reading.

Adults are welcome to participate in this celebration as well, as there will be study sessions, holiday prayers, and a dairy gourmet meal at the conclusion of the service. ☆

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