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## Roni Fishkin, New JCC Board President

Roni Fishkin and her husband Glenn came to Charlotte in 1992 with two small children, one on the way, and no intention of staying. They were from New York and the South was a very unlikely place for their family to settle. "We'll just be here for a year or so and then move back home," they decided. On October 10, 2005, thirteen years later, Roni Fishkin was

elected as the Levine Jewish Community Center's first woman Board President.

When Roni Fishkin arrived in Charlotte, she became a volunteer member of the day camp committee right away. Alan Feldman, former Executive Director of the JCC, saw the high caliber of work she was doing for the day camp and persuaded her to accept a position as the new Membership Director in 1994. Alan Feldman remembers, "Roni really understood the Jewish Community Center as one of the primary places for people to 'connect' to their community. Coupled with her dynamic drive, engaging personality and relentless energy she had all the right attributes to be successful as a member of the Center's professional staff team.' Roni is a graduate of Cornell University with a degree in Pyschology.

Over the next decade, Roni has held many positions within the Charlotte Jewish Community. She held Board positions at Temple Beth El, the Federation and the Jewish Community Center at the same time. Shortly thereafter, she was elected to the JCC Executive



Roni Fishkin

Board and then Vice became President. Roni has said. 'The JCC gave so much to our family as newcomers that we wanted to give something back. One of the many reasons we stayed in Charlotte was the sense of that community Shalom Park offers. Now I want to help insure the Levine

JCC's future for other families."

Philip Berman, outgoing President to the Levine JCC, stated, "Roni has a vast and accomplished history of leadership and dedication to our entire community in both volunteer and staff roles. Her unique background will serve her well over the next two years and bode well for continued success. Her past involvement on campus provides her with a community perspective that few other presidents have experienced."

Roni Fishkin has a clear vision of her goals for the next two years as President. "The Levine Jewish Community Center is a partnership between lay people and staff who direct vision and set and implement policy to enrich our community," explains Roni. "The President's role is to be an ambassador for these efforts. I have been entrusted to be the caretaker for the next two years to ensure financial stability and the integrity of the center. One of my missions is to re-engage members and create

leadership opportunities and programming for generations to come."

On Roni's first day as President, she was able to usher in a new, exciting era for the Levine JCC with the opening of the long awaited Main Street. "As a result of the extreme generosity of the Charlotte Jewish Community, we now have a tremendous facility that we can call home," states Roni. "Because the Levine JCC is not a stand alone agency, all of Shalom Park will achieve great success by building stronger connections and relationships among its organizations and the community at large within these walls."

Roni Fishkin, her husband, Glenn and her three boys, Eric, 18, Jason, 15 and Andrew, 13, live in an incredibly active, sports-driven household. Glenn Fishkin is presently the President of the Consolidated High School of Jewish Studies (Hebrew High) and operates his own video production company. Roni also works part-time at Mann Travel and Cruises in Special Event Planning. Their favorite recent family vacations include a bike trip through Italy, snow skiing and spending time with their large extended family. Roni and Glenn just celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary. Roni concluded, "What drives me personally is forging relationships and I am grateful to have landed in such a vibrant community where I can now hope to contribute in a meaningful way as the Levine JCC Board President," \$



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## Oasis Annual Thanks-in-Deed Luncheon

On November 18, we hope you will join the Oasis Senior Enrichment program for our annual Thanks-In-Deed Luncheon. This is a wonderful opportunity for friends, families and Charlotte newcomers to socialize and enjoy a feast of traditional Thanksgiving cuisine. Chef Tommy will prepare our kosher fare and as in years past, there will be live entertainment. Please feel free to extend this invitation to friends, family and newcomers. Show the world

your "thanks" by bringing nonperishable food items or blankets to be donated to charity. Or, make a contribution to Oasis and sponsor another senior to be a guest of this fine event.

# Senior Raffle is a Huge Success

On behalf of all the participants of Oasis Senior Enrichment Programs and the Senior Adult staff, thank you for making the 2005 Senior Raffle a great success. Our heartfelt thanks goes out to the local businesses that so graciously donated a wide selection of fabulous prizes, and to the community at large for their support of senior programming. The proceeds, which exceeded \$2,700.00, will go directly into senior adult programming. Listed below are

the businesses that helped to make this raffle possible. Thank you.

Contributors to the Senior Raffle - 2005

Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream (Arboretum), Charlotte Symphony, Consolidated Theaters, Cotswold Florist Crystal Shoppe, Elizabeth House Flowers, Levine Jewish Community Center of Charlotte, Le Peep, Manhattan Bagel (Arboretum), Kosher Mart, Opera Carolina, Pasta and Provisions. ❖