

Hebrew Cemetery Association

By *Corrie Klemons, Publicity*

As an RN with decades of nursing experience, I have witnessed death first hand and have provided post-mortem care to many patients during my nursing career. I have also sat at the bedside of cherished individuals, reciting Tehillim (Psalms), as loved ones and friends passed on from this life to the next. As a member of Temple Israel's Chevra Kadisha Committee, I have participated in the holy act of Teharah, the ritual washing of the dead.

"How can you deal with death?" I have been asked on numerous occasions. Over the course of my 35-year career, I have cared for patients who were comatose, being kept alive completely by life-support technology. Although these individuals had lost their ability to communicate with or to even respond to their external environment, they were still alive, still human beings. At the risk of sounding cold and crude, once the person died, the body just became a piece of meat, a corpse.

After much reflection, I have come to my own conclusion based on my experiences with the dying

process and on my personal relationship with God, that whatever it is that makes us human leaves the body when we die. Our soul, departed from the body, bound for



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eternal slumber with God, is that integral part of our humanity and humanness. I have seen the slight smiles on the faces of many persons who died after having suffered long, arduous and painful deaths. They are smiling because they are happy... they have gone to a better place. Their souls rejoice at being with God, while those left behind to mourn weep at the loss.

Do not shy away from the dying...or the dead. The dying need you more than ever. Their

souls call out for your intervention. And the dead deserve a dignified and sanctified final resting place for their physical bodies. Reach out to touch someone's soul today. Make plans for your own eventual death so your loved ones won't have to deal with that trauma while they are grieving your loss. Make a commitment to join the Hebrew Cemetery Association if you have not already done so. Your commitment today will have tremendous payoffs for your future, your family's future and for those who precede you in eternal life.

After being a dues-paying member for 24 months, the membership benefits include: \$550-\$675 discount on plots; \$500 discount for perpetual care; \$1000 discount for burial services. Please note that these cited discounts are based on 2007 prices.

We invite you to visit the cemetery to see the beautification that is currently taking place. The cemetery is not merely of a place of sadness and mourning. It can also be a place to rejoice and celebrate life.

Directions to the cemetery: Providence Rd. North into and through uptown; right onto Graham St; follow Graham for about two miles; left at fork in road onto Statesville Ave.; travel about 1/2 mile, cemetery will be on your left.

For more information about membership benefits, graves, interfaith or cremation areas, prepaid funeral costs, or endowment donations, call Cemetery Director Joe Kodsai at 704-364-4112 or 704-576-1859. Visit the website of the Hebrew Cemetery Association of Charlotte at www.hebrewcemetery.org.

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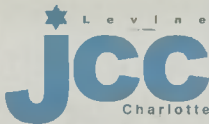
Andrew and Robert Musler Memorial Fund

In honor of Mona Radiloff's Retirement from Paula Musler and Sol Levine.

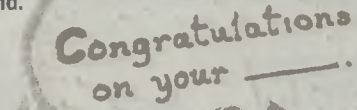
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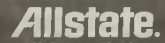


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TEEN YOM HA'ATZMAUT CELEBRATION

Date: **May 5, 2007**

Time: **8:00 pm**

Place: **Poliakoff Pavilion @ Camp Mindy**

Please join us around the bonfire as we roast marshmallows and potatoes (Israel style), enjoy Israeli songs and followed by an outdoor movie screening.



The event is free and open to students in grades 9-12.

For more information, please contact Tair Zaeh at 704.944.6784

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