

The Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community

Introducing "Our Life Stories," New Perspectives from Members of Our Community

By Phil Warshauer

What does being Jewish mean to you? Who has been instrumental in your Jewish upbringing and education? How have Jewish values impacted your life's journey? We each have a different answer to these questions and a unique perspective about Judaism.

Over the past several months members of our community have been answering these questions and their life stories are being compiled to share with others. Each story is different, yet there

exists a common thread. This thread is a love for Judaism and its traditions, an acknowledgment of how Judaism has enriched their lives, and a commitment to see that future generations are exposed to these similar traditions, experiences, and values.

These stories recognize and thank those individuals who made financial arrangements to provide for the future of our Jewish community. The stories will be available for us all to

read, cherish, and value as part of The Book of Life display located on Main Street in Shalom Park's central facility. It is our hope that the stories inspire you to make a similar commitment and join them in sharing your own unique history.

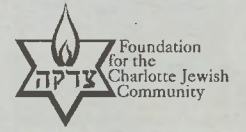
One of these stories is from Linda Seigel, a native of St. Louis and an avid Cardinals fan, who has become a respected leader in Charlotte's Jewish community. She has made a difference and inspires each of us to do

the same.

This is the beginning of an exciting project that has no end. Each of us has the ability to make a difference and give back to the Jewish institutions that have shaped our lives. By participating in The Book of Life, future generations will be able to read your story and thank you for enriching their lives. ✪

Phil Warshauer is the Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community's Director for Planned Giving. He can be con-

tacted at 704-973-4544 or pwarshauer@charlottejewishfoundation.org for more information or questions about how to include your story in the Book of Life.



My Life Story

Living Philanthropically, Honoring Our Past and Our Future

By Linda Seigel

My grandparents, Frank and Frances Chervitz, were my role models. My grandfather was honored throughout St. Louis' Jewish community for his charitable contributions. He took me and my sister, Ellen, on our first trip to Israel, on an Israel Bond mission, and it made a lasting impression on me. It took another 30 years for me to return to Israel but as a result of my last three trips, as an adult living in Charlotte, I have been able to fully understand what my grandparents already understood. We must continue to perpetuate our heritage, helping those less fortunate at home and in our "homeland." My parents, Joel and Connie Seigel, also understood and exemplified the value of philanthropy. My father expressed these values throughout the St. Louis community, and my Mother instilled Jewish values of love, compassion, respect, hard work, and caring within our family.

My journey through adulthood led to the establishment of a successful career and moves throughout the country. It was my last move that brought me to Charlotte, where I encountered the smallest Jewish population of anywhere I have lived. This helped me to realize how important Judaism is to me. As the Jewish community in Charlotte welcomed and embraced me it also became my family. They have nourished my spiritual side, provided caring friends, and allowed me to find my place in the community. I have been truly blessed in life. It is now my time to give back locally and to a Jewish community throughout the world, that has enabled me to live such a fulfilling life.

My Lion of Judah gifts to Federation are particularly important to me. They include me in a family of women throughout the world whose values I share. It is very gratifying that more and more women realize the impor-

tance of directing their own philanthropic activities. The endowing of my Lion of Judah gift allows me to know that after I no longer am a part of the Charlotte Jewish Community, I will still have a part in helping a community that has been such a blessing in my life. The funds used both locally and abroad support projects I have seen and care about deeply. Those of us who are able, have an obligation to give back to our community and to see the wonderful work of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte and United Jewish Communities continue to help Jews in need all over the world. ✪

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The Wiz is Coming

Come see an all ages cast of close to 80 of your favorite friends perform in a community show together as The LJCC Presents: The Wiz. Based on the story "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" by Frank Baum.

Thursday, December 4: 7 PM, Saturday, December 6: 2 PM and 7 PM, and Sunday, December 7: 2 PM in Gorelick Hall at the LJCC.

Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door by contacting the LJCC 704-366-5007. Limited seating is available.

Sponsorships available for individuals, businesses, and just good cheers for your favorite star. Sponsorship options vary. Contact Aree Pearlman, 704-944-6792 for more information.

Come see your friends!

- Aly Lerner as Dorothy
- Iftach Pearlman as the Scarecrow
- Glynis Robbins as the Tinman
- Marc Lewin as the Cowardly Lion
- David Catenazzo as the Wiz ✪



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OPEN HOUSE DATES

Sunday, November 9
2 p.m.

Wednesday, December 3
9:30 a.m.



Providence Day School exists to inspire in its students a passion for learning, a commitment to personal integrity, and a sense of social responsibility.