

ASTRIK COUTURE
GIVE A SYMBOL OF YOUR LOVE FOR THE SHINING STAR IN YOUR LIFE

Mulak Jewelers
Arboretum Shopping Center
1042 Providence Road, Suite 300 • Charlotte, NC 28227
704-341-1188
www.mulakjewelers.com

Direct Importer of Diamonds, Fine Jewelry & Watches
Estate Jewelry Buy-Sale & Appraisal • Custom Design, Repair & Engraving

Barbara and Jerry Levin Establish Scholarship Endowment

Barbara and Jerry Levin, who are long-time supporters of Jewish education in Charlotte, have assumed a leadership role in supporting the growing awareness of the importance of Jewish day school education. They have established the first \$100,000 scholarship endowment, which will make funds available for annual scholarships at Charlotte Jewish Day School, while preserving the principal for the future.

The Levins hope that their generous deed will inspire other community philanthropists to follow suit and establish \$100,000 endowment units.

Over the years the Levins have been deeply involved in Jewish affairs. Jerry has served as president of Temple Israel; as campaign chair of the Federation; and as an active fundraiser for Israel Bonds. The middle school

(grades 5-8) of Charlotte Jewish Day School bears the Levin's name because of their generous donation that helped establish the program.



Barbara and Jerry Levin

George Hanus, a leader in the Jewish community who began a SuperFund to help Jewish families who find it financially difficult to send their children to Jewish day

schools, expressed this very well, "The only glue that has connected four millennia of Jewish continuity has been intergenerational Jewish education. Without young children in every generation learning their heritage, we have no Jewish people. Throughout history, Jewish communities have somehow figured out vehicles to educate their children."

Barbara and Jerry Levin are leaders held in high esteem for their contributions to Charlotte area Jewish children. Their spirit of charity will be cherished for years to come.

Former president John F. Kennedy expressed this sentiment best when he said, "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." ☆

Giving Charlotte something to smile about for over 22 years.

Drs. Wanda Rodney & Scott Menaker

A member of the Charlotte Jewish Community for 39 years, Dr. Scott Menaker has become an active volunteer and leader in our community.

- Past President- Charlotte Jewish Preschool
- Past President-Levine JCC. Current board member for over 15 years
- Board member of Federation and Foundation of Shalom Park
- National JCC Association Board member
- Active charitable supporter of all Jewish and many community organizations
- Fellow Academy of General Dentistry

General dental care for all ages • Personalized treatment
Invisalign Orthodontics Certified • Tooth colored fillings
7:00 AM appointments every day • Custom financing options
Caring, compassionate, and friendly doctors and staff
CEREC single-visit crowns Certified

New Patients are always welcome!
Call today and join your friends who already experience dental care at its finest.

SmileCharlotte.com
Drs. Menaker & Rodney, DDS
2711 Randolph Rd., Suite 205
704.377.2503

Rosh HaShanah at Charlotte Jewish Preschool

Rosh Hashanah, which translates into "head of the year," begins the Jewish New Year. It is the birthday of the universe and a time we set aside to think, pray and thank God for making our world. Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, closes the High Holidays ten days after Rosh Hashanah. On these holidays, we measure ourselves on the inside. We think about how we acted during the year that is ending so we can behave better in the next. The Hebrew word for blessings is *brachot*. They are like stop signs. They tell us to stop, to think about the goodness in our world and to thank God for it. On these holidays, we stop to say *brachot* as a thank-you for the New Year before lighting the candles, drinking the wine, eating our meal and eating apples and honey. Our CJP teachers show the children the value of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur by examining important holiday customs through educational activities.

To announce the beginning of the New Year, a shofar (ram's horn) is blown. It is only fitting that the classes do the same. They listened to and imitated the sounds of the shofar and each child created and decorated their own shofar with colorful tissue paper. It is typical to wish people well for the upcoming year and send cards to friends and relatives. The three, four and pre-K classes designed new year greeting cards for their families and emphasized the importance of friendship by creating a friendship quilt, friendship rainbow and friendship banner.

"Out with the old and in with the new," is a popular adage typi-

cally said at beginning of a new year, but we must atone for our wrongdoings and ask for forgiveness. "Tashlikh," a ceremony in which bread crumbs, symbolizing sins, are cast into the moving water was taught to our youngsters through class lessons. The three and four-year-old classes pretended to empty their pockets of all the



Ms. Cynthia's 2s with a giant apple mural

"bad stuff" in the water table to make themselves clean for the start of the next year, and all the classes learned to say "I'm sorry" to family and friends for unkind



Ms. Robbie's 4s decorate a shofar wall hanging for their class.

plastic whale and encouraged the students to reenact the story with plastic fish, sharks, whales and people in a tub of blue-colored water. For an art activity, these little ones glued a big whale and edible goldfish on blue construction paper. However, most of the goldfish were missing. Guess where they went?

This holiday would not be complete without apples and honey to symbolize the sweetness of the upcoming year. All of our classes dipped different kinds of apples into honey and then discussed and charted their similarities and differences. Our youngest students got to make applesauce by smashing the apples with little toy hammers and sprinkling them with a dash of brown sugar. They created "You Are the Apple of My Eye" pictures by gluing a photo of themselves on an apple-shaped construction paper and decorated them with more glittery apples. Our older students used visual discrimination skills by arranging apples from smallest to largest; playing Rosh Hashanah "Memory"; and measuring one another with apples so they could see how tall they were. They were also introduced to patterns as they hung red, yellow and green apples on the calendar and counted and matched dotted apples stems to their numerical representation on apples.

The New Year is a sweet time to begin building wonderful relationships, learning new things and practicing many important mitzvot. We wish all of our families a very happy, healthy and sweet New Year. La Shanah Tovah! ☆

words and actions. The famous story of Jonah and the Whale was told throughout the school, even to the youngest classes. The teachers acted it out with a toy figure and a