

Zikaron V'Tikvah: The Butterfly Project

The Butterfly Project has been the buzz word around the Jewish Community these past few months. What is this project about and why are there so many butterflies being painted? Zikaron V'Tikvah (Remembrance and Hope) is an artistic, educational project that began at the San Diego Jewish Academy which serves as a powerful visual representation to remember the 1.5 million children who died in the Holocaust, and to honor the survivors.

In San Diego, thousands of hand-made ceramic butterflies



Students at Barringer Elementary School contributed to the Butterfly Project.

adorn the walls of the school in a collaborative project created by students, families, community organizations, and over one hundred Holocaust survivors. A large tree stands as the focal point of this larger-than-life piece of art with the butterflies radiating out in all directions in waves of simulated flight. The butterflies remind the community to remember the past, act responsibly in the present and create a more peaceful future.

The project is inspired by the poem "The Butterfly," written by a child named Pavel Friedmann during the Holocaust. Butterflies are a symbol of hope and freedom. A group of parents, teachers and children in San Diego began this project as a Holocaust remembrance and they are now asking



The Charlotte Jewish Preschool made lots of beautiful butterflies.

people around the world to help create 1.5 million ceramic butterflies. Charlotte is joining in the project and plans to create 2,000 butterflies to be displayed on a wall at Shalom Park, the home of Charlotte's Jewish community.

Both children and adults throughout Charlotte will decorate a bisque-fired, 5-6" butterfly representing a Jewish child's life. In the spring of 2009, participants of the butterfly project will join Holocaust survivors, and other community organizations to come together for a special Yom Hashoah service honoring the survivors and remembering the children who were lost.

Many organizations on the park have already participated-Temple Israel and Temple Beth El Sisterhoods, Spice group at Temple Beth El, JPS, Oasis, BBYO, Hebrew High, LJCC staff, LJCC J Team, pottery classes, as well as a Barringer Elementary 5th grade class. Many more butterfly workshops are scheduled in the upcoming months. Some of these are: St. Peter's Catholic



Oasis members paint butterflies.

School, Sunrise Assisted Living, 4th grade at Elizabeth Traditional Elementary School, Brownie troops, Regency Assisted Living, the LJCC Adult Department and the Mint Museum.

This project needs the help of our whole community. Everyone who wants to participate and paint a butterfly, make a butterfly or lead a workshop can. However, to be able to reach this goal we need the financial help of this community. This project started in Charlotte thanks to a grant from the Lenora Stein foundation and from donations collected at workshops. Please consider becoming a volunteer or making a donation to continue the efforts of this project. For more information call Jodi Valenstein at 704-944-6730. ☆

SAVE THE DATE

JEWISH FEDERATION COMMUNITY YOM HAZIKARON MEMORIAL
YOM HA'ATZMAUT CONCERT
& FEDERATION ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, April 28, 2009
7:00 PM

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**Remember the Past, Act Responsibly in the Present,
and Create a More Peaceful Future**

Holocaust Survivors and their families are invited to a
Bagels and Butterflies Brunch at the LJCC
Sunday, March 22, 10:30 AM.

Paint a butterfly at the brunch and it will be displayed at the Yom HaShoah evening concert on April 19, at Temple Israel.

All 2000 butterflies that are painted will be part of the permanent display on the LJCC Community Wall of Remembrance.

You do not have to be an artist and it is inspiring to all who participate.

Please RSVP by March 19, to Jodi Valenstein
at 704-944-6730 or jodi.valenstein@charlottejcc.org.

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Hebrew Cemetery

By Lorrie Klemons, publicity

The Hebrew Cemetery Association would like to welcome Rosalie Rhodes as our new cemetery director. All change brings with it the opportunity for growth and development. While we excitedly welcome Rosalie, we also sadly bid adieu to Joe Kods, our former director, who recently moved to Chattanooga.

March brings with it the promise of spring. And with spring comes a renewal of nature and life, itself. How beautiful the canvas of Mother Nature as she yet again creates glorious visions for our eyes, mind and heart to behold. Spring always brings with it a sense of renewal. A sense of new beginnings. A sense of rebirth.

Upon our arrival to the Holy Land, Jews were immediately reborn and renewed. With a common sense of purpose and urgency, they cultivated the fields, populated the land and made Torah, prayer and acts of loving kindness the basic values of Jewish life.

Renew yourself this spring. Study a little Torah. Recite a special prayer or just pray once in a while. Do something extraordinar-

ily loving for another individual. And above all, join the Hebrew Cemetery Association. Your \$72 tax deductible membership dues helps us sustain the holiness, dignity and beauty of the cemetery for those precious departed souls who preceded us in eternal life. What better way to renew yourself and elevate your own soul.

If you would like to make a donation to memorialize a loved one, send your check payable to the Hebrew Cemetery to 4229 Peggy Lane, Charlotte, NC 28227. For more information about membership benefits, graves, prepaid funeral costs, endowments, and/or including the cemetery in your estate planning, contact Association President, Kevin Levine at 704-333-5155 or Cemetery Director, Rosalie Rhodes at 704-443-7200 or 704-576-1859. Visit the website at www.hebrewcemetery.org.

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, the cemetery entrance will be on your left. ☆

Hebrew Cemetery Association