

Good-bye and Thanks for All the Good Wishes

By Hagar Shahak, Community Shlichah 2008-2009

I have spent nine months here in Charlotte. It became my home and my community. I have had good days, such as holidays and community events; and I have had a bad days when I see what it means to have a strong and united community: you stood with me when my country needed help and support during last December's Gaza operation.

Just before I leave I would like to say thank you for the countless opportunities to bring my beloved Israel to your community. Thank you for letting me teach your children and allowing me to present Israel as I know it. Thank you for asking questions. Charlotte's Jewish and non-Jewish community want to know and learn about Israel and that is exciting.

Thank you to all of you who support Israel.

I'm sure that your support helps and strengthens many Israelis. I was so happy to see so many of you at Yom Hazikaron, a day of remembrance for those who fell in the struggle for the establishment of the State of Israel and the next day to celebrate Yom Ha'Atzmaut - Israel Independence day.

I can only hope that I have taught my students and audiences some valuable things, but I know for a fact that I have learned so much from working here in the Charlotte. I have learned about American society, specifically American Jewry about Judaism, and about "The South." But most of all, I value the effort you make to give Jewish education to your children.

Special thanks to the Jewish

Federation of Greater Charlotte and its incredible staff and lay leaders. Thank you for deciding to take on the Shlichah program, for choosing me for this position and for taking care of my professional and personal needs throughout the year. None of this could have happened without you.

Special thanks to my host families - to Janet Abel and Michael Martin, of blessed memory, to Eugene and Elena Zilber, and to Wendy and Adam Petricoff - who are now my American family who, even after a day of work, was there to support, to listen and to give me a true sense of home and family. I could not have gone through this year, so far away from home, without all of you.

I have also made some dear and true friends here in Charlotte. I would like to thank

them all. It is truly a special gift to have the opportunity to have friends in a different country.

The time has come for me to go back to Israel. That is my home, that's where I belong. I plan to go back to an academic career, where I will study for my master's degree at Haifa University.

Shalom! I hope to see you all again someday. Maybe when you visit Israel! ☆



Hagar Shahak

Lunch at the Park

The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) promotes the interests of the Charlotte Jewish community by creating working relationships with our neighbors and serving as the collective voice of the Jewish community. The JCRC's Lunch at the Park invites members of the greater Charlotte community - including elected officials, civic leaders, not-for-profit organizations, and interfaith leaders - to come to Shalom Park and engage in dialogue with the Charlotte Jewish community. The group spends time over lunch learning what the Jewish community has to offer and how relations can be strengthened with these individuals. Lunch at the Park for April and May welcomed local community builders and Union County School leaders. ☆



LAMP April (Community Builders) -- Top Row (L to R): Greg Jackson, Park Operations and Athletic Services, Parks and Recreation; Jim Garges, Department Director, Parks and Recreation; Butch Rosen, JCRC; Willie Ratchford, Director of Charlotte Community Relations Committee; Adam Bernstein, JCRC. Bottom Row (L to R): Sarah Kaplan, Community Relations and Israel Affairs Coordinator; Sue Worrel, Executive Director, JFGC; Elizabeth McKee, Director of Leadership Charlotte; Moira Quinn, JCRC; Maria Hanlin, Director of Mecklenburg Ministries; Jeff Epstein, Chair JCRC; Ken Orenbach, JCRC.



LAMP May (union county) -- Top Row (L to R): Moira Quinn, JCRC; Ken Orenbach, JCRC; Superintendent Ed Davis, Union County Public Schools; Sarah Kaplan, Community Relations and Israel Affairs Coordinator; Rabbi Micah Streiffer, Temple Beth El; Jeff Epstein, JCRC Chair. Bottom Row (L to R): Luan Ingram, Chief Communications Officer, Union County Public Schools; Rabbi Judy Schindler, Temple Beth El.

Charlotte's Exclusive Dealer
CHASE-DURER **GUCCI** **TISSOT** **FENDI**
BEVERLY HILLS-GENEVE SWISS WATCHES SINCE 1853
 AND MORE

Estate Jewelry
Buy, Sell & Appraise

Custom Designs, Engagements, Anniversaries, Birthdays, Bridal, Baby Gifts, and Bar & Bat Mitzvahs

Certified Loose Diamonds Directly Imported from Israel
 All Sizes, Cuts, and Clarity Available
 Best Value Guaranteed

Malak Jewelers
 The Arboretum ☆ 8042 Providence Rd. #800 ☆ 704-341-1188
www.malakjewelers.com

POTERACK
 Capital Advisory, Inc.

It's about Relationships, not Transactions

- Unique values-based client process
- Comprehensive, fee-based financial planning
- Efficient IRA exit strategies
- World-class client service

As CEO of Poterack Capital Advisory, Inc., I believe financial planning is a process where the client-advisor relationship is a partnership.

Our core values guide me as I develop a unique relationship with clients. I seek to make my clients money through strategic thinking and facts as opposed to opinion.

I provide counsel so that my clients have the peace of mind knowing their strategies are consistent with their values and objectives. I encourage you to contact us to schedule a complimentary visit!

Warmest Regards,

Ryan Poterack, CFP®
 2115 Rexford Rd. Suite 215 Charlotte, NC 28211
 (704) 366-5776 · (866) 486-4947
ryan@pca-inc.org · www.pca-inc.org

Applications are now being accepted for the 2010 Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte Allocations process.

Application Deadline is August 25.
 For more information or to receive an application, please contact the Federation office at 704.944.6757.

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER CHARLOTTE