

Dear Readers,

No one needs to tell you yet again that times are tough for everyone. Our economy has surprised us and many people are learning new ways of living and coping within a new set of circumstances.

In spite of that, our Jewish community continues to grow and flourish. We have a new parking deck in Shalom Park; Temple Beth El has begun its dramatic facelift; a winterized cover will be in place over one of our outdoor pools.

The Charlotte Jewish News has always tried to keep up with this amazing growth. Our mission is to be the voice of this community and as it increases in size, both the number of agencies as well as the population, so must this newspaper. We have a new website, www.charlottejewishnews.org, under construction right now. At this website we hope to be able to include more of the stories that do not fit in the printed version of the paper, to have an archive of past stories available for readers, and to provide links to many of the agencies in the community, as well as other features unique to an online presence.

But with expanded responsibilities comes higher costs. And so we find ourselves needing to come to you, our loyal readers, for help.

On the bottom of this page is our voluntary subscription form. Please look this over and consider making a donation to *The Charlotte Jewish News*. A return envelope has been inserted into the paper this month for your convenience.

Please remember that there are some agencies in the Jewish community that cannot communicate with you without *The Charlotte Jewish News*. Please help us maintain the high standards of reporting and breadth of communication that you have come to expect from CJN by sending your tax-deductible donation today.

Today rabah.

JEWISH FEDERATION NEWS

Federation Campaign Testimonial

Judy Morganstein - A Trip to Israel Sparks a Lifetime of Giving

When Mel and I married in Maryland in 1966 and established our Jewish home, we followed the traditions that we learned from our parents - support a synagogue, plant trees in Israel, and donate to Federation. We became very involved with our synagogue and we could picture our trees in Israeli forests; but we had no idea of the world scope of Federation.

While living in Maryland, we participated in a Federation Family Mission to Israel, and through that trip, we began to feel the importance of our Federation support and donations. That's when I gave a higher priority to Federation and joined the Women's Division campaign. I wanted to make a difference.

During our Mission we visited a senior citizen center sponsored by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, a recipient of Federation funds. The ladies there were involved in knitting projects, but needed more yarn. I felt an immediate connection to the Center because knitting was my hobby. When I returned home, I filled many cartons with yarn for the Center. I was starting to make a difference.

Later in the trip we physically planted our own trees at the Kiryat Menachem Forest. Digging in the hard and dry soil was not easy. We prayed that these trees would flourish,



Judy Morganstein

Photo by Mel Morganstein

and that many more would be planted. When I celebrated my Bat Mitzvah a few years later, I was very happy that my family and friends planted trees in Israel in my honor. More than enough trees were planted to establish the Judith Morganstein Garden. How great is that? The trees in my garden continue to grow in height and number. I know that I am making a difference.

When Mel and I were newcomers to Charlotte four years ago, we found the Federation and JCC activities to be invaluable. The Sunday morning schmoozes are a great way to meet people. We met families who just moved here and fami-

lies who have lived here for decades. "Welcome to Charlotte; come meet my friends" was a phrase we heard again and again. It didn't take long for us to make friends and feel at home.

And now as a Federation volunteer I smile, extend my hand in friendship and tell the newcomers all about Jewish Charlotte. Looking for a synagogue? Let me introduce you to Flo. Looking for a book club? Come meet Jodi. Want to join Hadassah? Come talk to Penny. Like to do fundraising? Come meet Sue. Do you have an elderly parent in Charlotte? Linda will tell you about the adult day program called Oasis. I love meeting new people and sharing with them all that Charlotte has to offer. I know that I am making a difference.

My personal experience with Federation has only been in the United States and Israel, but there are Jews in over 60 countries who receive help from Federation and their partner organizations. Do you want to make a difference? Federation has a place for you! ☆



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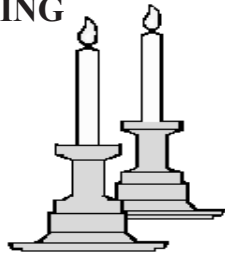
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- Friday, August 7, 8:03 PM
- Friday, August 14, 7:56 PM
- Friday, August 21, 7:47 PM
- Friday, August 28, 7:38 PM



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