

Hebrew Cemetery Association

December, the month of Kislev, the start of winter, the month we celebrate the victory of the Maccabees over our enemy. While winter brings with it the gloom of wintery darkness, Chanukah brings with it the miracle of light. And that light has continued to illuminate God's creation in miraculous ways for thousands of years gone by.

During the month of Kislev, commit to spreading the light of the season. Making a commitment to do a mitzvah is the best way to disseminate the light and do God's work here on earth. Visit a sick friend. Mow the lawn for an ailing neighbor. Donate a used coat to a local community drive. Read to a blind person. Babysit for a friend with an autistic child. Make a meal for a needy family. Give tzedakah. Each time you do a mitzvah, you become one with God. Each time you do a mitzvah you keep the light going by being God's partner here on earth. The key to a significant life is to do something meaningful and finding a purpose that is greater than yourself.



Being Jewish brings with it much joy but also great responsibility. As the people chosen to receive the Torah, we assumed a very important role in God's plan for humanity. It is a role that makes each one of us a key player in the past, present and future. With that being said, each one of us needs to assume that role with compassion, caring, sensitivity and commitment. This year, you be the one to stand up for the underdog. You be the one to take care of the needy, to feed the poor, to clothe the naked, to support the final resting place of fellow Jews as you become a member of the Charlotte Hebrew Cemetery Association. You be the one to make HaShem realize that his cre-

ation is in very good hands.

By joining the cemetery, you support the work of the significant and meaningful Charlotte Jewish community. When you visit the cemetery you will be pleasantly inspired by the holiness and yes, beauty and serenity, that you will encounter. Call or email Cemetery Director Sandra Goldman at 704-

576-1859 or director@hebrew-cemetery.org to arrange for a private tour of the cemetery or for more information about donations, membership benefits, graves, pre-paid funeral costs, endowments, and/or including the cemetery in your estate planning. In the meantime, visit the cemetery website at <http://www.hebrewcemetery.org>.

If you have already decided to leave money for the cemetery in your will, we would like to thank

you in advance for your generous legacy. We invite you to call Phil Warshauer, Executive Director of the Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community at 704-973-4544 or email him at pwarshauer@charlottejewishfoundation.org to find out how you can maximize that donation and become a member of the Book of Life. If you have not yet considered such a gift, let Phil explain the process to you. ✡

Jewish Agency for Israel Comes to Shalom Park

We welcome Dusty Heist to Charlotte as the new Jewish Agency for Israel representative. The Jewish Agency is one of the overseas partners of the Jewish Federation. Dusty will work with the Federation to help promote and educate the community on our work in Israel and around the world. Dusty will be joined by his fiancée Rachael Levine, a native of Elkin, NC. Dusty and Rachael come to Charlotte from the Los Angeles Jewish Federation where Dusty directed the financial professionals division and young country clubs divisions and Rachael was the Young Leadership Director. Dusty is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill and very excited to return to North



Dusty Heist and Rachael Levine

Carolina and to become part of the Charlotte community. ✡



2011 JCC Maccabi Games Informational Meeting Set

There will be an informational meeting for those families interested in learning about the 2011 JCC Maccabi Games on Thursday, December 9 at 7 PM in Gorelick Hall at the Levine JCC.

Our delegation from Charlotte will be attending the JCC Maccabi Games in Philadelphia, PA next summer with 30 nationally allotted spots. The dates are August 14-19, 2011. Approximately 1300 Jewish teens from 40+ different United States /Canadian cities and foreign countries (Australia, Israel, Mexico, etc.) are expected to attend the Philly Games.

The JCC Maccabi Games are for Jewish teens between the ages of 13-16 years (birthdates of July 31 as deadline dates), with priority registration given to current Levine JCC members. The Games comprise the largest gathering of

Jewish teens worldwide when combined with the numerous Host Cities.

Various sports being offered in Philly include: baseball, basketball, 7 v. 7 soccer, bowling, dance, swimming and tennis. Depending on interest levels, tryouts may need to occur to fill the designated team sport allotments.

For further information about the JCC Maccabi Games, please contact Barry Schumer, Levine JCC Assistant Executive Director, at 704-944-6744. ✡



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