

JEWISH FEDERATION NEWS

13th Annual Spring Lecture: *The Secrets of a Jewish Mother*

The 13th Annual Spring Lecture sponsored by the Women's Division of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte was held on Thursday, April 28 and featured Jill Zarin and Lisa Wexler, co-authors of *Secrets of a Jewish Mother*.

The event was co-chaired by Jill Halverstam and Aviva Stein who led a very talented and dedicated team of volunteers which included Amy Augustine, Jill Dinerman, Fern Ingber Epley, Debbie Freedman, Donna Greenspon, Randi Lan, Roz Snyder, Liz Winer and Robin Zimmerman. The committee not only worked on the overall planning of the event, but also engaged corporate and individual sponsors.

Many thanks go to our Corporate and Individual Sponsors.

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Jill Halverstam and Aviva

Stein welcomed over 320 women attending a dinner held in the Sandra and Leon Levine Social Hall at Temple Israel. The room was beautifully decorated in pink and zebra print by Creative Events, and the delicious dinner was catered by Melanie Rowe Catering. Lowes Foods generously donated all wine for the event. The audience was filled with women of all ages and in all stages of their lives. Many thanks go to the 35 table captains for all of their efforts.

After dinner, the guests moved into the Sanctuary for the program. Aviva Stein and Jill Halverstam creatively introduced the program by playing off the themes of glamour and fashion associated with the TV Show "The Real Housewives of New York City" which stars Jill Zarin. Fern Ingber Epley spoke on behalf of the Federation Annual Campaign by inspiring women to achieve not only outer beauty but the inner beau-

ty that can be achieved by helping the less fortunate through philanthropy.

Lisa Wexler and Jill Zarin read selected portions of their book, gave the audience a quiz to determine if they were real Jewish mothers and talked about growing up in a warm caring family in New York. Unfortunately, Gloria Kamen, their mother and co-author, was unable to come to Charlotte due to a sudden illness; however, the love and adoration Lisa and Jill felt for their own Jewish mother was clearly conveyed during their talk.

The evening concluded with a dessert reception featuring a spectacular candy bar, and a book signing with the authors who warmly chatted with each woman who purchased a book.

As guests exited the Temple, they picked up goody bags filled with promotional items provided by each of our sponsors. We also thank Belk SouthPark, a sponsor of the

Federation's Women's Professional Network, for filling our goody bags with purse accessories and cosmetics.

If you would like to get involved or share ideas for the 14th Annual Spring Lecture, please contact Sue Littauer, Development Director at the Jewish Federation, by calling her at 704-944-6758 or emailing sue.littauer@jewishcharlotte.org.

The mission of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte is to raise and distribute funds to support and enrich the lives of Jews locally, nationally, in Israel and worldwide. Through education, planning and community building, the Federation's mission ensures that Jewish values, goals, traditions and connections are preserved for current and future generations. ✪



Erica Coblenz, Gabi Gorelick, Jill Zarin, and Dana Meiselman



Event co-chairs, Aviva Stein and Jill Halverstam



Back row, left to right: Jill Halverstam, Fern Ingber Epley, Aviva Stein, Randi Lan; front row, left to right: Jill Zarin, Lisa Wexler.



Jen Schwartz, Jill Zarin, Beverly Perkins



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