

# Cemetery Expansion to Include Memorial Building

2012 will be a momentous year for the Hebrew Cemetery Association. What is in store? In the year ahead, the cemetery will embark on an impressive expansion that nearly doubles the number of existing plots and will create a lovely new building to grace the site.



Rendering of the future Hebrew Cemetery Memorial Building.

The project includes surveying, grading a new building, laying out new grave areas, landscaping and other grounds improvements for the remaining six acres of the 11-acre property. The land, which is located near the heart of Center City, was purchased by the cemetery's founders in 1867.

A vital part of the expansion is the construction of a beautiful Memorial Building. Bill Gorelick and Marc Silverman, co-chairs of the Building and Capital Campaign Committee, say that the need for the building became apparent when the Hebrew Cemetery Board listened to requests from the Jewish community.

The Memorial Building, designed by the architectural firm, LS3P, will provide space for smaller funerals, memorials and unveilings. The new building also will include bathrooms, a base for the caretakers, maintenance equipment storage and a protected area in case of inclement weather.

A large portion of the funds required for the expansion have already been raised. Marc Silverman notes, "The board continues to be so appreciative of the community's generous commitment to the Hebrew Cemetery."

Late this spring the cemetery board will launch the public phase of the capital campaign. "Participation in and care of the Hebrew Cemetery demonstrate a deep faith in the future of the Jewish community. It's just the right thing to do," shares Bill Gorelick.

Kevin Levine, Hebrew Cemetery Board President, adds, "The completion of the site and new offerings make it more inviting for more Jewish families to become Hebrew Cemetery Association members and is part of a well thought-out Master Plan that will carry the cemetery

through the next decades."

One thing that may not be commonly understood is that the Hebrew Cemetery of Greater Charlotte is a community cemetery, not dedicated or governed by any single synagogue. As a community cemetery, it is available to all Jews, affiliated or unaffiliated. Membership in and support of the cemetery is separate from support of one's own congregation.

The Hebrew Cemetery Association was the first Jewish organization established in Charlotte. Today the Hebrew Cemetery serves the Greater Charlotte area, including parts of North and South Carolina, and remains a vital player in the life of our Jewish community.

The cemetery provides care for families at the moment of their greatest need and of their greatest loss. One cannot imagine a Jewish community that did not have such a cemetery at work, fulfilling its sacred mission.

But one doesn't have to wait for a loss to contact the cemetery. Every week the cemetery advises families on pre-planning their ceremonies and helps families understand their end-of-life options. Through the pre-planning process, these important decisions, made years in advance of any need, can reflect the individual's wishes and

create peace of mind.

In a similar vein, the Hebrew Cemetery is currently doing its part to help our Jewish community plan for its own longevity. This year's cemetery expansion and building construction celebrate the growth of Charlotte's vibrant Jewish community.

These efforts and the community's generous contributions will help create a Jewish resting place for future generations. In the months ahead, the Hebrew Cemetery Association board looks forward to sharing with you the progress of this expansion.

To learn more about pre-planning or to arrange a personal tour of the cemetery, please contact the



Hebrew Cemetery Director, Sandra Goldman, by phone at 704-576-1859 or by email at [director@hebrewcemetery.org](mailto:director@hebrewcemetery.org).

Meetings can be arranged either onsite at 1801 Statesville Avenue or in the office at 5007 Providence Road, Suite 105. Information about the history of the cemetery and updates about the cemetery's expansion and construction are available online at [www.hebrewcemetery.org](http://www.hebrewcemetery.org). ☆

## Drumstrong Annual All Night Drum Circle Schedule for May 19-20

*Fund Raiser Includes Drum Circle, Live Music, Vendors, and More*

R•H•Y•T•H•M is a sneaky thing ... it's been known to find its way across borders, influence cultures and infiltrate our psyche.

It's time to DRUMSTRONG! Come out and BANG on something to BEAT cancer MAY 19 AND 20 with Keller Williams (WMDS!), George Porter, Jr. (Runnin Partners!), Hannah Ford, Jeff Sipe, Kevin Spears, Inner Visions roots reggae, Eyes of the Elders, The Brubakers, Jordon Klemons Trio, and more.

DRUMSTRONG events raise awareness and funds for important cancer programs globally through rhythm, funding cancer education, research, and survivorship support.

Our Family Friendly events share important cancer resources, with full stage featuring world-class performances and fun interactive Drum Circles that have been known to rock all night long.

This year we will drum for 30 non-stop hours (celeb artists will join in the Drum Circle) and bust world records.

At DRUMSTRONG, individuals and teams raise per hour drumming Sponsorship Pledges.

All cancers and all populations are represented.

Misty Meadows Farm, 455 Providence

Rd. S., Weddington, NC. 28173

\$30 per person; \$50 per family for the entire weekend. Proceeds benefit local and national cancer organizations.

Health Expo - Full Stage - Vendors - KidZone - YogaThon - BellyDancers - Parades - Camping - Drum Circle!

Pre-register and see the exciting musical line-up at [www.drumstrong.org](http://www.drumstrong.org).

Created and produced by the Swimmer family, the annual Drumstrong event was formulated in the aftermath of Mason



Swimmer's diagnosis and cure of an osteosarcoma when he was a teenager. Now the Swimmers reach out and help cancer victims everywhere, with a particular emphasis on the younger victims.

Join a team and collect pledges; make a pledge; or just come out and listen to the drums. ☆



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