

Mazel Tov & Congratulations

American Hebrew Academy Awarded the Tav HaYosher

(New York, NY) - Uri L'Tzedek is thrilled to announce that it has awarded the Tav HaYosher, an ethical seal for kosher food establishments that abide by state labor laws and respect the pay, time, and dignity of its workers, to the dining pavilion at the American Hebrew Academy in Greensboro, NC. The American Hebrew Academy is the only international Jewish college prep boarding school in the world, serving students from 30 countries enrolled in grades 9-12.

Uri L'Tzedek commends their commitment to creating a just environment for their workers. "American Hebrew Academy is a leader in creating just workplaces and we are proud to work with them to continue expanding around North America. We hope additional educational institutions

will follow in their footsteps," says Steven Kraus, Executive Director of Uri L'Tzedek.

Recent studies have revealed widespread abuse and exploitation of workers across North America. Thousands of workers are paid below minimum wage. Even more are denied their legal rights to overtime pay and time off. Workers are often subjected to unsafe and abusive working conditions. The Tav HaYosher program harnesses the consumer power of the Jewish community to make social change in the food service sector.

In a letter of support for the Tav HaYosher New York Mayor, Michael Bloomberg, stated, "Especially during these tough economic times, it is vital that organizations like this one continue to educate people about im-

portant social issues and train the next generation of leaders to address the challenges faced by their communities."

If you would like to volunteer for the Tav HaYosher campaign or want a restaurant to join the Tav HaYosher program, please email tav@utzedek.org today.

Uri L'Tzedek is an Orthodox social justice organization guided by Torah values and dedicated to combating suffering and oppression. Through community based education, leadership development and action, Uri L'Tzedek creates discourse, inspires leaders, and empowers the Jewish community towards creating a more just world. ☆

MAZEL TOV TO MAE AND JULIUS GOLDMAN

Mae and Julius Goldman have their first great-great-granddaughter, Shandee, daughter of Trani and Yacov Pesach, granddaughter of Chana and Yacov Goldman, great-granddaughter of Chana and Shlomo Goldman. ☆

Hadassah Directory for Sale at Purim Carnival

The 2014 Charlotte Area Jewish Community Directory debuts at the Purim Carnival at the Levine JCC. We are grateful to our patrons and advertisers for their continuing support of this major fundraiser for Hadassah. ☆

The Vacant Lot on Providence Road

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shows produced after the stage was built.

The old building was the site of my Bar Mitzvah in 1959 which was filled with friends and relatives that Friday evening in May (no services were held then on Saturdays). It was the last time my grandfather, Arthur Goodman, a founder of the congregation, attended services. He passed away a month later.

The education building was constructed in 1955 and gave the congregation bright new classrooms, the rabbi's study and a library. The library may have been the most utilized room. It was the setting for confirmation classes, board meetings, AZA on Sunday afternoons and dozens of other functions. It was where Rabbi C. Melvyn Helfgott patiently rehearsed me for my Bar Mitzvah week after week, always questioning my reasoning for my brief talk. I'm sure people checked out the many books on the shelves, but I never witnessed that.

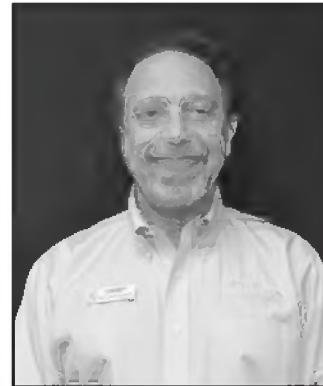
But it's probably the sanctuary I will miss the most. Including the Friday evening I stumbled in late, my shoelace having broken, and — upon entering — hearing Rabbi Helfgott recite from The Union Prayer Book: "Thou shalt

not let my footsteps falter."

Everyone was ready in 1992 for the move to Shalom Park to a beautiful new building to properly accommodate a fast growing congregation. The Jewish Historical Society documented some of the congregants on tape giving their recollections of the old building that served so well for so many years.

It wasn't really Temple Beth El after Dore Academy moved in, and yet I found myself always taking a glance in that direction every time I passed it. All those memories shouting at me as I quickly drove past day after day. And now, just like many who founded the congregation and belonged to it, the building has turned to dust. Our comfort in its demise is the bright future of Greater Charlotte's Jewish community—growing and prospering. A building is but bricks and mortar. The old Temple Beth El was a big step in time for the greater blessing that is the people - the community - of today. ☆

(Richard Klein is a former Vice President of Temple Beth El, former President of Beth Shalom that merged with Temple Beth El, and former Temple Israel board member).



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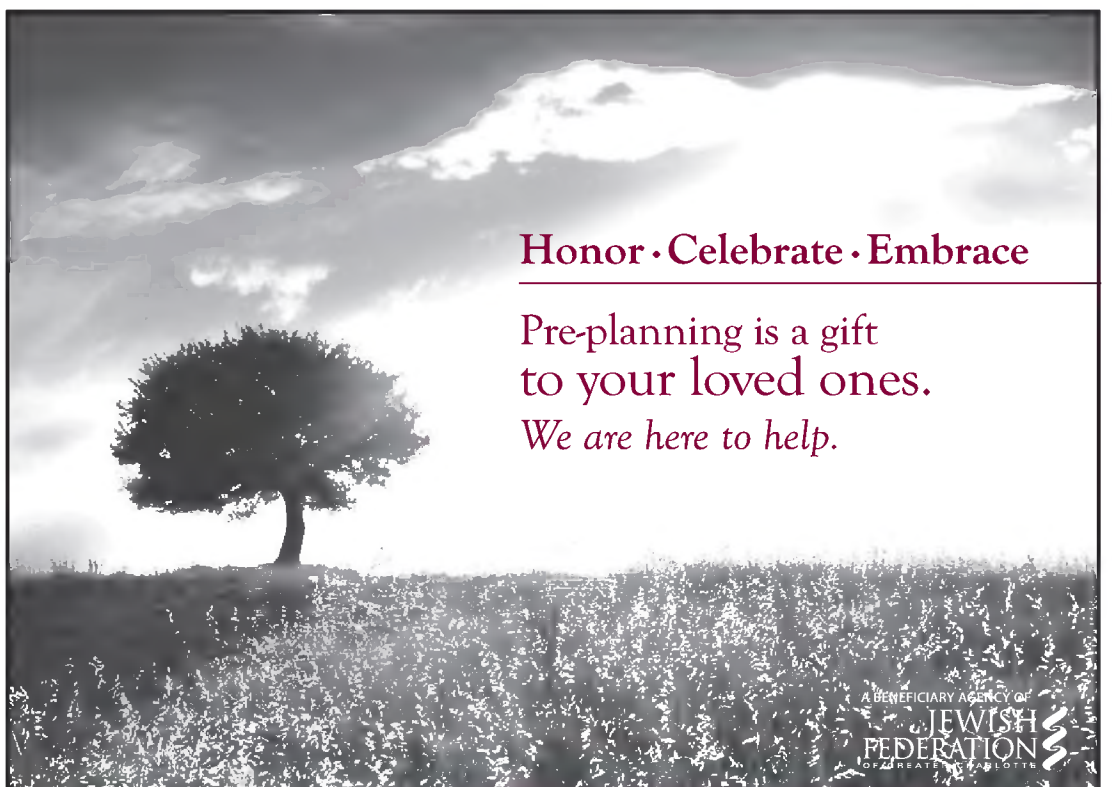
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