



**Sunday, April 17, 2016**  
**www.JewishCharlotte.org**

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**ISRAEL AWAITS!**

AND THE JEWISH FEDERATION IS EAGER TO HELP GET YOU THERE!

**ISRAEL EXPERIENCE SUBSIDIES**

A strong connection to Israel is at the very core of building a strong Jewish identity, which is why the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte is committed to making Israel accessible to all Charlotte-area teens and young adults. The Jewish Federation is pleased to offer subsidies to local Jewish teens and young adults to enable life-changing Israel adventures - we encourage you to experience all Israel has to offer!

**Gorelick Teens to Israel Fund:** Subsidies are available to local Jewish teens ages 13 - 19 traveling to Israel on a Federation approved program

**Gloria & Harry Lerner Family Fund:** Subsidies are available to local Jewish young adults between the ages of 21-30 traveling to Israel on a Federation approved program

*Special thanks to Bill and Patty Gorelick and Harry and Gloria Lerner for their ongoing support and generosity.*

For more information, please contact Tal Stein, Director of Israel Affairs and Community Relations, 704.944.6751 | tal.stein@jewishcharlotte.org



**Jewish Federation**  
 OF GREATER CHARLOTTE

THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE.  
 THE POWER OF COMMUNITY.

**Making the Right Choice**

*By Brian Yesowitch, president, Hebrew Cemetery Association*

This year, 2016, all of us of voting age will make a choice. We'll make a choice that we hope will provide better outcomes for our country, our economy, and our family. For some of us that choice will be an easy one. With primary season gearing up, we have been inundated on television, in the newspaper, even on our social media sites with news or opinion about our 2016 Presidential Candidates. For those of us in the Charlotte Jewish community, when it comes to choosing our final resting place, the members of the Hebrew Cemetery Association Board of Trustees has been working very hard to make your choice an easy one.

'80s can actually meet Jack Adler, one of the Holocaust Survivors who was there in Holocaust era Poland as well as in Skokie during the neo-Nazi rally. Jack's son Eli Adler, the filmmaker, will join his father onstage for a question and answer session following the film.

At present time, nearly 20% of our city's Jewish community belongs to the Cemetery. Our over \$150,000 annual budget receives allocations from our partner Temples (Temple Israel, Temple Beth-El, Congregation Or HaTorah, and Temple Kol Tikvah) as well as an allocation from the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte. This budget maintains the Cemetery grounds, pays our staff salaries, and keeps the Cemetery looking dignified and beautiful. Dues have



tate planning? Our Director, Sandra Goldman, can walk you through the process of turning an existing financial vehicle into a bequest to support the long-term maintenance and upkeep of our community's oldest institution, one that continues to serve the Jewish people of this region. My wife, Martha, and I have made our Create Your Jewish Legacy commitments along with nearly 40 other individuals and families. I hope you will join us.



Hebrew Cemetery Association Board of Directors

In December, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte's Main Event featured author Abigail Pogrebin. She spoke about the complex problems that notable Jewish figures like Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Mike Wallace, and Natalie Portman have that are similar to ours. Jewish life in the 21st century can be awkward or difficult, but, like the "Stars of David" featured in Ms. Pogrebin's book, many of us still hold out the hope that we can continue to identify and practice as Jews and therefore pass that tradition and heritage down to our children and families.

One way to connect and identify here is through our Hebrew Cemetery Association. Although our mission is to provide a dignified burial for all Charlotte Jews, we have created other opportunities for Jewish people to associate and affiliate with our Cemetery even if they have no desire to be buried in Charlotte. In January, we held our 2nd annual Tu B'Shvat tree planting event in collaboration with TreesCharlotte. Through that project we are practicing "Tikkun Olam" - healing the world, through our efforts to support our city's goal of 50% tree canopy coverage by 2050. Please see our Facebook page for photos and more information regarding this wonderful event. On February 24, at 7:15 PM at Temple Israel, we will host that evening's Charlotte Jewish Film Festival showing of "Surviving Skokie." When the made-for-TV movie "Skokie" premiered in 1981, it was required watching for all of the kids in my Hebrew School in Kentucky, and in congregations around the country. I am proud that 35 years later, those of us who came of age in the

been kept to a minimal \$72 per year. When you pay dues to the Hebrew Cemetery Association, you receive a funeral discount of 1/3 off all plot and burial fees. We encourage all Jewish members of our community to belong to the Cemetery. This fundamental obligation has been a part of Charlotte Jewish tradition since 1867. Pre-planning your funeral is a gift, which reduces not only costs, but also stress. You can have peace of mind, knowing that your end of life wishes will be carried out. Contact our Director, Sandra Goldman, 704-576-1859 or director@hebrewcemetery.org to receive information on plot availability and pricing.

Have you considered adding the Hebrew Cemetery to your es-

Additionally, our community supports needy individuals with reduced cemetery fees during their time of loss. You can make a contribution of any amount to the Steinberger Funeral Assistance Fund on our website, www.hebrewcemetery.org, or by contacting our Director Sandra Goldman. Don't forget to "like" our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/HebrewCemetery. Our #ThrowbackThursday posts are renewing in 2016. They have been highlighted in "Charlotte Magazine" and are a popular feature of our social media program. What choice will you make in 2016? I hope you will choose to make our Cemetery Association membership part of your family's Jewish philanthropic giving. ✨

**JELF Application for Interest-Free Educational Loan Available March 1**

Applications for interest-free loans for higher education (college, graduate school, and vocational programs) will be available to Jewish students in the Charlotte area for the 2016-2017 school year from JELF (Jewish Educational Loan Fund), in partnership with Charlotte Jewish Family Services, from March 1 - April 30. Please visit JELF's website at www.jelf.org to learn more.

JELF loans are need-based and offer "last-dollar" financing, meaning that JELF provides the final dollars that bridge the gap between a student's total financial

resources and the cost of attending school. Applicants must be enrolled full-time in a program leading to a degree or certificate at an accredited institution that is located in the United States, be a U.S. citizen or have lawful immigration status in the U.S., and be able to demonstrate financial need (FAFSA application required).

In 2015, JELF granted \$800,000 in interest-free last-dollar loans to 219 students across its five-state region.

For more information, contact application@jelf.org or call 770-396-3080. ✨