

# The Charlotte Jewish NEWS

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## Academy Appoints New Director

Dr. Stephen Fishman, President of the North Carolina Hebrew Academy at Charlotte, has announced the appointment of Dr. Raphael H. Panitz as the new Director of the Academy. The acquisition of Dr. Panitz comes at the end of a six month international search for a replacement for Rabbi Sanford Tucker, the current Director. Dr. Panitz will assume his new responsibilities with the 1980-81 school year.



Dr. Raphael Panitz

Dr. Panitz, 30, holds a Ph.D. in Biblical studies from the University of Pennsylvania. He received his Bachelors degree from New York University and did course work at the Jewish Theological Seminary.

Dr. Panitz brings to the academy an extensive background in Judaica, fluency in the Hebrew language and a

profound love for children. His experience and competency extends to the area of Hebrew, Bible, Jewish History, Midrash

and Prayer Book.

The addition of Dr. Panitz as head of the Hebrew Academy will not only prove beneficial to the academy but will be a positive addition to the Charlotte Jewish community.

### Faculty Increased

The Hebrew Academy board has voted to increase the faculty of the academy for the year 1980-81 in response to a radically enlarged prospective enrollment. In order to fill the new positions created, the Academy board and education committee have been conducting an extensive search for new teaching talent. Two new teachers have been offered contracts and have accepted them. In addition, the Academy has been fortunate enough to retain the services of Nancy Goodman who will com-

plete her first year this month.

Carol Pollock will be the new kindergarten teacher. She has a B.S. in human resources from West Virginia University, Morgantown, W.Va. The past two years she has been working as a kindergarten and first grade teacher in Gaston County. Before that she was a specialized homebound/hospital teacher in Marion County. This year she has also been teaching kindergarten at Temple Beth El, Charlotte. Carol brings an unique perspective and a great deal of valuable experience to the Academy.

Lani Levine has been added to the staff as a secular teacher. She will bring new strength to the Academy in the fields of mathematics and physical sciences. She is a native

Charlottean, has been an active participant in local youth groups and recently an advisor to their groups. She is also familiar with many of the children of the Charlotte Jewish community having worked with them as a camp counselor. Lani is currently doing her student teaching at Irwin Avenue Elementary School and is a graduate of UNCC. She will be a bright, shining new addition to the Academy staff.

The board has voted to add a Hebrew language teacher. A search is currently underway and several potential candidates are now being considered.

The board and officers of the Hebrew Academy are anticipating an exciting new school year with an expanded staff and the largest enrollment in the Academy's history.

## Wildacres Perfect Setting

by Estelle Hoffman

Wildacres opened its 1980 season May 8 with the second annual Yiddish Institute. All its members expressed their gratification with enthusiasm at the close on Sunday, May 11. There was a high level of intellectual stimulation and social warmth throughout the session. Enrollment was filled to capacity with many participants enjoying their attendance for the second time.

Guest lecturers were Abraham Shulman, who was invited to return this season, having whetted the literary appetites of our 1979 Institute's members, and Ruth Rubin. Mr. Shulman is an author of books in Yiddish and English, of musical plays, and is a lecturer. His vast experience results from his residence and travel in dis-

tant lands and his background in Yiddish history and literature is profound. His topics were "A New Approach to Sholom Aleichem," delivered with keen insight into the universal acceptance of this most famous Yiddish story teller, and "The World of a Yiddish Lecturer," dealing with his own experiences, related in his latest book bearing that title.

Ruth Rubin is a folksinger, recording artist, lecturer, educator and author. She is recognized internationally as a leading authority on Jewish folksong, having deeply researched the folklore and history of Jewish people throughout the world. A native of Montreal, she resides in New York, and delighted her audience with explanation and rendition of Yiddish folksong.

The Yiddish Institute was conceived by Baila Pransky, who serves as its coordinator, assisted by Abraham Luski, whose artistic talent and profound knowledge of Yiddish literature and language are a guiding inspiration. The Yiddish Institute is sponsored by the Charlotte Jewish Community Center, whose director Marvin Bienstock is highly supportive of the endeavor, participating in planning and conducting a workshop, "An Experience in Jewish Values." Assisting in plans and activities is a committee from Charlotte, comprised of George and Sarah Ackerman, Julius and Mae Goldman, Leo and Estelle Hoffman, Abraham and Rose Luski, and Baila and John Pransky.

The schedule of the Institute offered workshops in Yiddish literature, conducted by Abraham Luski, Yiddish conversation and writing by George Ackerman and Leo Hoffman. A bookstore was presided over by Rose Luski. This was a treat for members who live in cities without Jewish bookstores. Religious services were conducted in Hebrew and Yiddish, a



## Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Squash, Cauliflower?

Where could you find all of the above mentioned vegetables? At the JCC, of course! On May 4th over 40 campers and their parents met at the JCC and planted a garden. John Carr, our super handy-man at the "J", has been giving it tender loving care and will continue to do so until camp starts. Then our campers will take over and nurture it

until it is time to reap the harvest. It is our hope that every camper will be able to take home something they helped grow. Special thanks go to Gloria Lerner and Bob Abel who really put their hearts and hands into this project. (photo/Gloria Lerner; printed/Michael Phillips)

rewarding experience for all. John Pransky conducted Friday evening services and George Ackerman and Leo Hoffman presided Saturday morning, during which a Memorial Service was held for I.D. Blumenthal and for Nat Kaplan who attended the 1979 Yiddish Institute with his wife Frieda.

Mae and Julius Goldman were in charge of hospitality at evening socials and they obtained and transported kosher foods from Charlotte. Mae was

assisted by Lillian Bienstock in serving refreshments at evening sessions and the Oneg Shabbat.

The unique atmosphere of Wildacres provides a perfect setting for the Yiddish Institute and was enhanced by the presence of Herman and Anita Blumenthal. The Blumenthal Foundation is vital to the existence of the Yiddish Institute, through its co-operation and the facilities of Wildacres and its excellent

staff. Phillip Blumenthal is resident manager, Bernice Goodman its excellent cateress, Dr. Boyd Mattison its resident geologist and naturalist. All members of the Institute are grateful to them and their assistants for the enjoyment of this experience.

The Yiddish Institute is an annual event. Next year more people will be able to attend because the new Lodge at Wildacres will be completed.

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