

THE CHARLOTTE JEWISH NEWS

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The appearance of advertising in The News does not constitute a kashruth endorsement.

Editorial

Happy Birthday CJN

This issue of the "CJN" marks the beginning of our 6th year of publication. That's 5 years of challenge, growth and new experiences. That's 55 issues to achieve what we hope is the instrument to keep our community aware of what is happening in the Jewish community not only in Charlotte, but around the world. We think this has been a successful attempt in that respect.

Glancing back to our first issue, all 8 pages of it, one can readily see the improvement in format, information, quality of photographs, etc. Subsidized by the Federation, Jewish Community Center, Hebrew Academy, and later The Foundation, the paper now has increased its advertising and it is hoped that eventually the revenue from them will cover all expenses as long as there remains a volunteer staff.

We have also been most fortunate to have been recognized by the GAF as an "outstanding small city" newspaper by having received 4 public relations awards. Our paper has indeed grown in recognition. It has also grown in size - in September it was 24 pages.

During the past 5 years we have reported both good and bad news. Locally we wrote about the beginnings of the Foundation; the many planning sessions, the votes of the various institutions, the architectural plans, the groundbreaking. We will continue to keep you posted on the monthly building developments. We painfully reported about the burning of the Jewish Community Center, along with everything else the "CJN" lost all its files, countless photos, equipment, etc. We have published class schedules for the JCC, made announcements of musical, dramatic, educational and other events. We have featured guest columnists, holiday information for young and old, and even given space for book reviews and recipes. As they say "something for everybody."

This paper has been "our baby." We have nurtured it and seen it grow. Now that it celebrates its 5th birthday it is no longer a "baby," but a "young child." And it will continue to grow, as long as you, our readers, want it to and as long as we get the continued support of our gracious advertisers, our contributing writers, and hopefully, more volunteers to serve on our staff.

Unsung Heroes

Generosity - fulfillment of the mitzvah of Tzedakah is a relative concept. It is not the amount of the gift, but the honest expression of sharing in proportion to one's means that define a donor's generosity.

That large segment of our community has come forward to make "dreams come true" in so many ways during the past months. The positives that have been derived are the exhilarating groundbreaking for our new campus...the success of Super Sunday...the continued support of the JCC...a successful Israel Bonds Drive...the outstanding Academy Gala...the support of our synagogues...and the daily mitzvahs in our community that remain unsung (for the greatest form of Tzedakah is the one that is anonymous).

It is you, the generous members of our community, who truly give from your hearts to whom we are all forever indebted. To all of you who have given, and all who are yet to give...THANK YOU.

CANDLELIGHTING

Jan. 6 - 5:08 p.m.
 Jan. 13 - 5:14 p.m.
 Jan. 20 - 5:21 p.m.
 Jan. 27 - 5:28 p.m.



From The Desk of Marty Schneer - Executive Director

You will find in this issue's centerfold, a complete listing of JCC winter classes and programs. The schedule reflects an outgrowth of ideas and discussions held between staff and our program committees. Responding to the expressed needs of our lay leadership we have tried to initiate new programs that will serve as a springboard for future expansion. Dance and drama should be singled out in this regard, as well as Jewish family Life Education which will commence in February.

The key to the success of "J" programming is really quite simple. Firstly, we need your support in terms of participation, enabling us to slowly develop full-fledged departments. For instance, in our dance program our goal is to offer various levels of instruction so that a youngster or adult can progress through our program. This support will facilitate our attracting and retaining qualified parttime staff, who can be confident in our ability to fill classes. Secondly, I want to reiterate the importance of committee involvement in this process. As our prime constituency,

you the JCC member must provide the staff with ongoing feedback. Our committee structure encourages this dialogue, and involves members in the decision-making and planning process.

We have felt for some time now that the "J" should begin



Marty Schneer

to program activities for young teens. Therefore, our new Youth Director Dana Klein, is forming a teen/tween committee which will meet in the next few weeks. We are happy to report that Mike Van Glish has agreed to chair our new expanded Physical Education Committee, which is responsible for a myriad of present and projected recrea-

tional activities.

Again this month, I find myself the purveyor of sad news. Mary Hogan, longtime Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper at the JCC retired on December 15. In the short time we have worked together, it's become apparent how much Mary has meant to the "J" over the years. Her loyalty and dedication to the Center stands as an example worthy of our admiration, respect and sincere appreciation. Speaking on behalf of the Board and staff, I would like to wish Mary all the very best in the years to come.

Many of you who read the Charlotte Jewish News are not members of the JCC. In the next few weeks some of you will be contacted by JCC volunteers asking that you consider joining the Center. We hope that you recognize the role the "J" plays in strengthening Jewish identity, supporting Jewish family life, and providing a full range of community services. In these ways the "Center" builds the Jewish community. Here in Charlotte we are in the midst of that building process, isn't it time you joined us?

Between You and Me

By Boris Smolar
 (Editor-in-chief emeritus, J.T.A.)
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 (Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.)

ELECTION RESTRICTIONS: Jewish non-profit organizations which, like all non-profit organizations, have tax exempt status, are forbidden by Internal Revenue regulations to influence election campaigns of candidates for Presidency or any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. An organized group participating or intervening, directly or indirectly, in a political campaign in behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate is liable to lose its tax exempt status.

Jewish Federations, community councils, and organizations in the tax exempt category scrupulously avoid any activity in behalf of or in

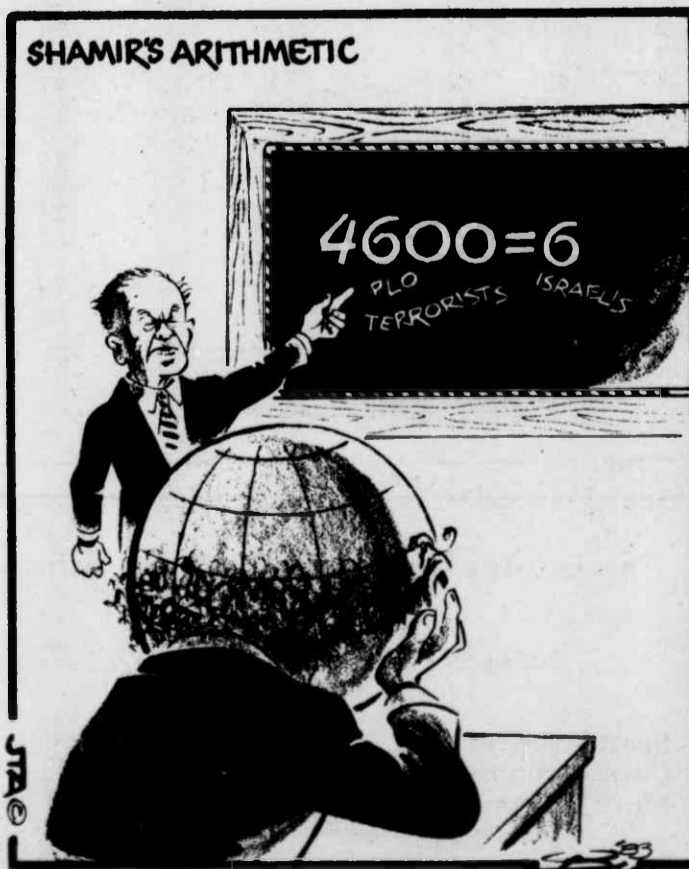
opposition to any candidates seeking nominations for the Presidency. The prohibited activity includes, among other things, the naming of awards or giving citations to political candidates during or immediately prior to a campaign for public office. They also proscribe the holding of public functions in honor of such candidates; the use of the organization's mailing list in behalf of a political candidate, or loan of such lists; and the use of the organization's letterhead, facilities, or fund-raising machinery.

Jewish leaders, acting in their organizational capacity, past or present, usually refrain from activity regarding any candidate seeking public office. They wish to avoid giving any impression that the organization with which they

are affiliated is committed to a political party or candidate. However, neither they nor their organizations are restricted by Internal Revenue Service from speaking or acting on public issues of concern to the Jewish community, even when such conduct may be interpreted as approval or criticism of positions of candidates for political office.

JEWISH POLICY: As in the past, major Jewish organizations will continue in the Presidential elections this year their policy of abstaining from taking a position with regard to candidates running for the White House. This will apply also to the candidacy of Jesse Jackson who has a record of espousing positions and making statements on issues of vital interest to the Jewish community that many observers consider insensitive and troubling, particularly his reported statements on the Middle East and on Black-Jewish relations in the United States.

Jackson did not hesitate to meet with a group of Jewish leaders soon after announcing his candidacy last month as a Democratic Party Presidential hopeful. There was nothing new about his pro-Arab stand. It was displayed publicly in a press photograph showing him embracing PLO chief Yasir Arafat during a visit to the Middle East, when Arafat was still the uncontested leader of the PLO. Jackson had been hammering for U.S. recognition of the PLO against the policy of President Reagan and the State Department. He is remembered also for his reported remark that he is sick and tired of hearing about the Holocaust.



JTA