

The Charlotte JEWISH NEWS

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"Dedication Weekend" of Shalom Park

Foundation, JCC, Temples Sponsor Various Functions

Temples Cosponsor Special Services



Danny Siegel

Mr. Danny Siegel, noted Jewish poet, author and lecturer, will be the scholar-in-residence for the Dedication Weekend, September 19-21. Mr. Siegel has published more than a dozen books, and his articles have appeared in Moment Magazine, Present Tense, National Jewish Monthly, the Jewish Spectator and Israel Digest. He has been very active as a proponent of personalized Tzedakah and is the originator of the Tzedakah Project for the collection and distribution of funds to little-known individuals and projects. He has achieved international recognition for his efforts in this area.

Mr. Siegel will deliver the sermon on Friday evening at the joint Shabbat Service of
(cont'd on page 14)

Dedication Weekend is a weekend of celebration of a dream fulfilled, the dedication of Shalom Park's momentous reality. This historic weekend of events recognizes the culmination of the tireless efforts of many dedicated workers, the blending of their talents, the flow of inspired ideas and exemplary generosity of the Charlotte community. Shalom Park has set new standards as a recognized role model for the development of future all-inclusive Jewish Centers throughout the world.

Family Carnival Sponsored by JCC Is Sunday Activity

On Sunday, September 21, the JCC will give their "thanks" to the community during Dedication Weekend. From 1-4 p.m., the "J" is sponsoring a "Gala Family Carnival." There will be free admission to attend the carnival, but there will be a small charge for participation at the many games. A fun time will be had at the various activities: pony rides, dunking booth, space walk, ball buggy booth, speedball, basketball free throw, golf hole-in-one, tic tac toss, horse shoes, milk can toss, duck pick-up, cat throw and ring toss. Prizes will be awarded to all the lucky winners.

Since most of the activities will take place in the gym, it is requested that sneakers be worn. Phil Levine has announced that the snack bar will be open with food at special "Dedication Day" prices.

Chairing the event is Marshall Rosenfeld, assisted by Stu Epstein, Director of Health and Physical Education. They promise that the entire family will have a day of fun and enjoyment.

Black Tie Gala Held For Donors

On Saturday September 20, the Donor Black Tie Gala, will commence at 7 p.m. at Shalom Park. It will eloquently express the joyous spirit of the Jewish community's grand accomplishment. The evening's festivities will be part of the eventful "Dedication Weekend" of Shalom Park: an exciting dinner-dance, outstanding personalities and talented performers and musicians in a beautiful atmosphere.

Emceed by Foundation President Mark Bernstein, the Gala will feature a gourmet dinner by Atlanta's "Affairs to Remember" caterers; dancing to the music of Ziggy Hurwitz and his orchestra; and the unique entertainment ensemble "Cabaret Company."

Tobi Colbert, the producer-director of the Cabaret Company, has said that "sometimes we feel we're the phantom singing group of Charlotte." The company started four years ago and they have entertained at resort hotels, country clubs and convention
(cont'd on page 14)



Sandra Levine



Anita Blumenthal



Bobbi Bernstein



Jill Newman

"Outreach" and "Newcomers" Programs Studied

Two of Federation's most successful undertakings have been the "Shalom Y'all" program for newcomers and the "Outreach" to the unaffiliated.

The Outreach study, conducted in the Fall of 1984, led to the establishment of the Joint Adult Institute for Jewish Studies and to successful efforts to make newcomers feel "wanted and personally welcome" in the Temples and the JCC.

In January of this year, free six-month memberships were offered to every unaffiliated Jewish household in the temple of their choice. Eighty-five households accepted and became part of temple communities.

The Outreach Committee, chaired by Ruth Goldberg, is anxious to know how these trial memberships worked out. Were they mutually satisfying to both the new members and to the temples? What could have been done to make the experiment even more successful?

To get the answers, the

Outreach Committee will be conducting a follow-up study. The results will be brought to the temple boards and the Federation board for evaluation and recommendations for action.

"In this constantly growing Jewish community we have to be aware of changing styles and needs and be able to respond to them," says Mrs. Goldberg. "We need to have the facts in order to plan for our futures as institutions and as individuals."

Shalom Y'all, the newcomers service of the Women's Division of the Federation, is also undergoing study and considering expansion. Sandra Weinstein, chair of Shalom Y'all has been involved in discussions about the formation of a Newcomers Club. The purpose of such a club would be to offer newcomers an opportunity to meet each other on a regular basis, to learn about Charlotte and to have a resource for getting those hundreds of crucial answers people need when adjusting to a new area.

Currently, Shalom Y'all sponsors a series of social evenings 3-4 times a year. These events each attract 70-80 newcomers and representatives of local institutions/organizations. They are considered by many to be their key point of entry into Jewish communal life. Introductory biographies gathered from newcomers at these socials are printed, along with photos, in the CJNews. These result in numerous phone calls from established community members who share a common interest with the newcomers and want to "get in touch".

The continued rapid growth of the Jewish community has prompted Shalom Y'all to rethink the rapidity with which newcomers are greeted and the frequency they have for meeting each other. Hence, the Newcomers Club idea.

While still in its beginning stage, the concept has gained major support from the JCC which has assigned Jackie Fishman, its Director of Adult Activities, to work as "loaned staff" for the project.

Hebrew High School Is Formed

On Sunday, September 14, history will be made in Charlotte. For the first time, students from Temple Israel and Temple Beth El V'Shalom will join together in a Consolidated High School of Jewish Studies. It has long been the dream of the Jewish community to enable our young people to interact and interrelate with each other. In response to the initiative that created Shalom Park, the two congregations have taken a major step to create this program based on the principle of K'lal Yisrael (Jews working together). The students, in grades 8-12, will study such subjects as Siddur (Prayer-book), History, Bible with Rabbinic commentary, Philosophy and Pirkei Avot. In addition, elective courses will be offered in Hebrew, Literature, Holocaust studies, the arts, among others.

The High School concept grew out of a series of

meetings held last year with the professional and lay leadership of the entire Jewish community. During the discussions, sub-committees were formed to review community high schools in other communities, develop curriculum, propose a structure for the program and consider other details needed to create the school. During the winter months, the congregations were approached for approval
(cont'd on page 17)

In The News

Calendar.....	20
Classified.....	20
Editorials.....	2
JCC.....	9-13
Lubavitcher Rebbe.....	5
Organizations.....	18
Recipes.....	20
Social Services.....	3
Temples.....	16
This 'n That.....	6
World Beat.....	4
Yiddish Institute.....	19