

Gerry Schapiro Receives Jefferson Award

By Rita Mond

Gerry Schapiro of Rock Hill, SC was one of five recipients of the coveted WBTV's Jefferson Award given in honor of those who unselfishly give their time to their communities. Schapiro was praised for his active involvement in literally dozens of community and public service causes, despite a time-consuming job as finance director and municipal clerk of Rock Hill.



Gerry Schapiro

Jewish family. His mother was formerly a Wolfson; the Wolfson family and Wolfson Foundation have been active in many Jewish charities in Great Britain and Israel. The Wolfson Foundation provided funds for building the Supreme Rabbinical Center in Jerusalem (Hechal Shlomo, named for Gerry's grandfather), 50 synagogues throughout Israel and the Kiryat Wolfson housing projects for new immigrants in Jerusalem and Acre, which includes schools and synagogues. Gerry's uncle, Sir Isaac Wolfson, was knighted in 1962 in recognition of his public service.

Gerry's involvements do not end with his public ser-

vice commitments as his zest for life is to help others. As one nominator wrote: "One interesting story is the assistance he provided the Domino delivery man. A young French student, working his way through college delivered pizza to Gerry's house. Gerry struck up a conversation and found out his life history and goals. He helped this man secure a job as a computer instructor."

Another letter received by WBTV stated: "The City of Rock Hill in 1988 was recognized at the state level with the prestigious Governor's Award for excellence in the arts, 'The Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Award.' Gerry's dedication to the arts played a key role in this state recognition."

Gerry is eligible to win the national Jefferson Award in the category "The Greatest Public Service Performed by Private Individuals Benefiting Local Communities." The five national winners will be named this summer.

Gerry has three children, Allen, 6; Susan, 5 and Bryman Suttle, 15. They and his wife are proud of Gerry as we all are. Congratulations and may he continue his fine work and be an inspiration to all.

Helms and Gramm Introduce Resolution on PLO Terrorism

On April 7, twenty-four Senators led by Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC) and Senator Phil Gramm (R-Tx) introduced a resolution urging the State Department to obtain from the PLO an accounting of a series of reported terrorist or other violent acts undertaken by PLO-affiliated groups since Yasser Arafat's December 14 renunciation of terrorism.



Sen. Helms

Specifically, the resolution expresses the Sense of the Senate that the top priority of the United States in any future talks with the PLO should be a prevention of terrorist and other violent activity by the PLO or its factions.

The resolution also lists nine reported terrorist or violent acts involving PLO-affiliated groups, urges the State Department to obtain from the PLO an accounting of these incidents, and asks the Secretary of State to report to the Senate on the accounting provided by the PLO.

Joining Helms and Gramm as sponsors of the resolution are Senators Bob Dole (R-Ks.), Bond (R-Mos.), Graham (D-Fla.), Grassley (R-Iowa), Mack (R-Fla.), Metzenbaum (D-Ohio), Pressler (R-SD), Wilson (R-Ca.), Lautenberg (D-NJ), Boschwitz (R-Mn.), Nickles (R-Okl.), Packwood (R-Ore.), Domenici (R-NM), Heinz (R-Pa.), McCain (R-Az.), Symms (R-Idaho), D'Amato (R-NY), Kasten (R-Wis.), Hatch (R-Utah), Humphrey (R-NH), Coats (R-Ind), and Burns (R-Mt.)

Some of his activities have been president of the Rock Hill Arts Council, treasurer of the York County Museum, treasurer-executive board of the Rock Hill Chamber of Commerce, treasurer of the York Technical College Foundation board, Winthrop College Visitors board member, past president of the American Red Cross and organizer of local Jewish community programs.

He, along with Mr. and Mrs. George Ackerman and Frances Underwood, has led a Passover Seder for over a hundred non-Jewish people for the Winthrop College Ministry for the last ten years. For the last several years, he and his wife Barbara have had Chanukah parties for Jewish families with young children at their home. He has spoken at numerous churches, colleges and public school classes about the Jewish religion and holidays.

Though residents of Rock Hill, the Schapiro family are members of Temple Israel in Charlotte. They are currently contributing for a tennis court at the JCC.

Gerry Schapiro comes from a strongly committed

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