

# The Charlotte JEWISH NEWS

Vol. 12 No. 9

Charlotte, North Carolina

October 1990

## Gala "Kicks Off" 1991 Federation Campaign: Theodore Bikel to be Guest Entertainer on Nov. 3

As the Soviet exodus continues in Charlotte and Israel, local services must continue to be funded. The 1991 Campaign presents a unique challenge to the Charlotte community. As we prepare to meet the call of the regular campaign effort conducted by the Charlotte Jewish Federation to meet local, national and international needs, we are faced with the privilege of joining hundreds of other Federations throughout the United States to raise money for Operation Exodus.

The Federation campaign effort will officially kick off on Saturday evening, November 3 at a Gala event in the Lobby of the One First Union Center Building. Theodore Bikel will be the guest entertainer. We are delighted that he is returning to

Charlotte. Quite a few years ago he entertained a captive audience at the Charlotte Hebrew Academy's annual Gala.

Campaign solicitors will begin contacting members of the community, making both face-to-face and phone appointments, to prepare for the special two-line campaign. At this time the community will be asked to give to the regular campaign and to make a special contribution to Operation Exodus, the resettlement of Soviet Jews in Israel and Charlotte.

On Dec. 6, 1987 in the Mall of Washington, D.C., many of us from Charlotte yelled "Let my people go!" We are now witnessing what we asked for then — a modern day exodus of Soviet Jews to freedom. It is a miracle that we in Charlotte helped to



Theodore Bikel

start and we must continue to make that dream a reality.

The entire community is invited to celebrate the campaign kick off. Invitations will be

mailed soon; for further information, please call the Federation office, 366-5007.

### Theodore Bikel

Mr. Bikel was born in Vienna and left for Israel (then Palestine) at the age of 13. He joined the Habimah Theatre at 19, and one year later became a cofounder of the Israel Chamber Theatre. He is a graduate of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London. He appeared in several West End plays including "A Streetcar Named Desire," under the direction of Sir Laurence Olivier, and "The Love of Four Colonels," with Peter Ustinov. He has made some 41 films including "The Defiant Ones," for which he received an Academy Award nomination; "The African Queen;" "The Enemy Below;" "My Fair Lady;" and "The Russians are Coming, the Russians are Coming." He has appeared on stage in "The

Sound of Music" and more recently in "Fiddler on the Roof," "Zorba," "The Inspector General," and "The Threepenny Opera." Mr. Bikel makes over 60 concert appearances each year and is highly regarded as both musician and raconteur. His television appearances this year include guest roles on "Murder She Wrote," "Falcon Crest," "Dynasty," "Beauty and the Beast," and "The Equalizer."

Mr. Bikel has been active for many years in Actors Equity Association, serving as first vice president and from 1973 to 1982 as president. He is currently a vice president of the International Federation of Actors and a senior vice president of The American Jewish Congress. Mr. Bikel has been on the board of Amnesty International and was appointed by President Carter in 1977 to serve a five-year term on the National Council for the Arts. On March 1, 1989 he assumed the presidency of the Associated Actors and Artists of America.

## Resettlement of More Soviet Families Planned in Charlotte

By now the 29 Soviet emigres the Charlotte Jewish community helped to resettle are on their way to becoming new Jewish Americans. The question in the community is what happens next in terms of resettlement? How many more people will we be resettling over the next three years?

Charlotte is planning to continue to resettle other families as soon as the immigration process and paperwork can be finalized. Although we may get one or two families with no family members already in the United States, those we are planning to resettle will be relatives of Soviet Jews already living in Charlotte. At present there are 13 previous emigres who are awaiting their relatives' arrival in Charlotte. Some others will be settled by relatives themselves financially but will still need some assistance from the community in terms of household goods and services.

If all members of these families who are awaiting relatives were to be given visas, 52 persons would be resettled by the Char-

lotte Jewish community. Currently, it is not known when any of them will come because they are in various stages of the cumbersome process known as immigration. Sally Schrader, Refugee Coordinator, is working with the Hebrew Immigration Agency Services, the 13 families here, and with Senator Jesse Helms' office to make these reunions happen. Possibly, we will resettle eight more before the end of this year, 17 to 20 in 1991, and the remainder in 1992. This time frame is a mere approximation, but we are trying to increase the pace of this very slow process.

However, it does not matter when these families arrive. What is significant is that Charlotte will be involved in the planning of these arrivals and will be a part of resettlement at least until 1992.

*Editor's note:* Jobs are still needed for our "new Americans." If you know of any positions available, especially in engineering, technical or mechanical work, please call Jewish Family Services, 364-6594.

## Luski Family Lectureship was SRO

By Cynthia Chapman

The Luski family has a real problem. How can they top this year's exciting program of music and Yiddishkeit? But who wouldn't like to have a problem like theirs?

The Second Annual Luski Family Lectureship in Jewish Art and Folk Culture held on Sept. 9 was an even greater success than last year's program. So what if Gorelick Hall at Shalom Park was about to burst at the seams with people enjoying wonderful music and fellowship? That's a problem? Well, then, it's a problem we welcome.

The community gave a warm, clapping, singing welcome to the performers of VIVA KLEZMER! who performed to a crowd of 400 (it was standing room only). The composition, "Traditions" by Dr. Howard Buss, giving a world-premiere performance, was a beautifully evocative blend of classical and klezmer motifs.

Gene Kavadlo's running commentary on the multi-media displays which focused on the



Dr. Howard Buss

history of klezmer music, its unique features, and its recent revival, kept the audience connected to the performers.

It was a night to remember and the entire community is grateful to the Luski families, Temple Israel, WDAV, and Davidson College and the others who created an event that brought so many people together for such fun and such music.

## Stein to Speak on Israel and Mideast

Temple Israel will host a very special event on Tuesday, October 30, at 8 p.m. Dr. Kenneth W. Stein, an expert on the Middle East and Israel, will speak about Israel and its future role in the Middle East.

Dr. Stein is a Middle East Fellow and Director of Middle East Programs of the Carter Center of Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. He is also Associate Professor of Near Eastern History and Political Science. He has written and lectured extensively on Israel and the Middle East.

Temple Israel is pleased to invite the entire community to hear Dr. Stein. His lecture comes at a particularly pertinent time and should prove very informative.

Call Temple Israel, 376-2796, for more information.

— Cynthia Chapman

### Blumenthal Jewish Home Celebrates Its 25th Anniversary 1965-1990

Please Join Us for Cocktails and Dinner  
Saturday, October 27, 7:30 p.m.  
Bermuda Run Country Club

and for the

25th Annual Meeting and Brunch  
Sunday, October 28, 11 a.m.  
Fair Oaks Commons  
Blumenthal Jewish Home

## In The News

CAJE .....	24-25	Lubavitch .....	18-19
Classifieds .....	31	Organizations .....	28-29
Editorials .....	2	Recipes .....	31
Eng./Marriages .....	27	Teens .....	14-15
Entertainment/Dining .....	22-24	Temples .....	26
Family Services .....	5	This 'n That .....	21
Federation .....	6-7	World Beat .....	4
JCC .....	8-12	Yiddish Institute .....	12

CAMPAIGN '91 ..... 16-17