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1992 Federation Campaign Tops \$1.2 Million Gold and Sheffer Receive Special Recognition

Bobbi Bernstein, Emily Zimmern and Harry Lerner, cochair of the 1992 Federation Campaign, announce that the campaign stands at \$1,203,840 as of July 10, 1992, representing a 10% card for card increase. However, there are still outstanding gifts that are expected and needed to reach our goal of \$1,250,000. Shelton Gorelick, president of Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, urges us to keep up the momentum to "Answer the Challenge Together."

Much hard work and dedication was put into our ability to reach the 1.2 million plateau, expresses Harry Lerner. Special thanks were given to the Quadrant Chairs, Don Bernstein, Alan Kronovet, Rich Osborne, Phyllis Schiffman, Steve Menaker, Julius Goldstein, Susan Jacobs, Bernice Roberts, Shel Goldstein, Todd Gorelick, Mark Lerner and Cary Bernstein and all their workers at the campaign closing event held on July 12 at Shalom Park.

Mickey Gold and Lynne Sheffer were awarded the first annual Ben Gurion and Golda Meir award for campaigning above and beyond the call of duty. Master of Ceremonies, Steve Menaker, presented awards to all the workers who have made this campaign so successful. Daniel Z. Lepow, executive director, applauded those in attendance and also the workers who could not attend for their efforts. "While many talk about the needs of the Jewish

community in Charlotte, Israel and around the world, it is this group who put the time and effort into raising the funds that provide the services."



Sheffer



Gold

The Allocation's Committee, chaired by Mattye Silverman and Jared Schwartz, now must meet to recommend how these funds are to be used. However, there are still many people who have not yet made their commitment. Call the Federation office, 366-5007, ext.

206 today, so that we can end our drive by reaching our \$1,250,000 goal. A pledge made today can be paid anytime before the end of the year. Let's reach our goal by "answering the challenge together!"

Meet Our New Professionals



Kramer

As told to Rita Mond

Arthur Kramer is the new educational director at Temple Beth El. When he came to Charlotte in 1987, becoming a Jewish educator was the furthest thing in his mind. He was a partner in a start-up real estate development company and his energies were devoted to developing a piece of property on Independence Blvd.

Arthur says, "Life has a funny way of taking you full circle, however, and now, I find myself back at Hebrew School, reading textbooks, arguing with rabbis and giving teachers a hard time—just like I did when I was a kid."

Jewish education has always been close to Arthur's heart. He grew up in a strong Jewish family in Union, N.J., where synagogue attendance, Jewish rituals and celebrations and a thorough Jewish education was a "given," not a choice. He remembers going to Florida on vacation with his grandparents and studying Hebrew two hours a day before he was allowed to hit the pool. Shabbat was always celebrated at his Grandma Sadie's with matzoh ball soup, gefilte fish and brisket. Arthur was president of his temple youth group, taught in the religious school of Temple Beth Israel and tutored individuals who were becoming Jews by choice. In

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Leder

By Vicki Derderian

Esther Ackerman Leder has been named Director of the Charlotte Jewish Preschool. Mrs. Leder has moved here from Whiteville, N.C. and is actively at work.

Mrs. Leder describes the role of Preschool Director as "facilitator, coordinator and cheerleader." Her impressive credentials include more than 25 years as a teacher, director and counselor in Whiteville. In addition, she developed and implemented early childhood programs used by day care and Headstart centers in Columbus County.

She attended Simmons College in Boston and received her B.A. in elementary education from UNC-Chapel Hill, her M.A. from Appalachian State, and is currently a PhD candidate in Counseling at the University of South Carolina.

The Charlotte Jewish Preschool, sponsored by Temple Beth El and Temple Israel, uses a developmental philosophy, "looking at the whole child," as opposed to an academic approach. The Preschool was attracted to Mrs. Leder's theoretical mastery of developmental issues, including her expertise in the Gesell Development Assessment Test used by many kindergartens and schools

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JCC Camps Have Best Summer Highest Enrollment Ever

By Evan Bernstein
Asst. Camp Director

The 1992 JCC day camps hit record highs in attendance, quality and results. From the pavilion on the hill to the lanes of the pool, camp was in session and for eight exciting weeks Shalom Park served as its site. With camps as diverse as the campers themselves, parents and their children from pre-school to high school were able to choose from a variable smorgasbord of summer programs.

Katan campers flipped over weekly gymnastics as the Gifted and Talented campers created, performed and explored. Computers hummed as campers mastered the keyboards. Our traveling crews hit the road to explore Charlotte and beyond. At Davidson, campers sailed the days away on the waters of Lake Norman while the athletes of our sports camps braved the heat to train on horseback, in basketball and soccer clinics and on the tennis court. Once again the Maccabee camper's day was filled with everything from gym, nature and Judaica to art and drama.

Our Special Needs kids, better known as "Hot Wheels and Company," joined in all the excitement while benefiting from a program specifically designed for their individual needs. With a total enrollment of more than 1,000, this year's camps exceeded all expectations. A talented and dedicated staff, headed by Carolyn Gitlin, director, completed the picture of an outstanding summer camp season at the JCC.

Camp highlights included special guests and programs. Each



Kids, kids and more kids!



Special Needs campers and other campers enjoy another terrific day of camaraderie.

Friday we came together in a Shabbat celebration which served as a prelude to our weekly special event. The Scavenger hunt, carnival, 1960's style protest and Olympic ceremony were just a few of the Friday activities. Visitors ranging from Batman to sequined rock stars frequented the roof and the stage of Shalom Park. Overnights and late nights provided additional hours for the kids to perform, compete and have fun with their counselors and friends.

Many of the most special mo-

ments of camp arose during the hours of our daily routine. Groups came together creating cheers and names for themselves and an undeniable spirit was apparent throughout the summer. There was singing in the halls and on the field. The juice was good and we ate lunch in the shade of the trees at the pavilion. There were creative cooking and cookouts and the pool was again the coolest place at camp. Swimming skills strengthened in daily lessons and more and more campers advanced into deeper waters at free swim as their confidence developed in the pool.

One need only look at the expressions of the campers in the photos to see the real highlights of the summer. The numbers may have soared and the statistics may be impressive but each smiling face serves as proof that camp at the J is better than ever.

Ed. Note: More camp stories/photos on page 9.

Charlotte Hosts UJA Cluster Conference

The Charlotte Jewish community has the honor of hosting the UJA's Southeast Region Cluster Conference on August 30-31 at Shalom Park. Cosponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte and UJA, this is a historic moment for Charlotte to be recognized for its accomplishments.

On Aug. 30, the Conference will

feature exciting sessions on critical issues facing Israel, the programs and services of the Jewish Agency and the Joint Distribution Committee, solicitations skills, missions to Israel, and the response to media coverage in Israel.

You will also have the unique opportunity to hear outstanding speakers such as Dr. Ellen Cannon, professor of Political Science.

There will be the opportunity to socialize in the evening at a barbeque. The hospitality suite will also enable Charlotteans and attendees from all over the Southeast Region to get acquainted in a relaxed atmosphere.

The Conference will continue on Monday, Aug. 31 with a special Women's Division program. Cluster Conference cochair

Meg Goldstein says, "This is definitely a coup for the Charlotte Jewish community." She promises that you will have an enlightening experience!

Excitement is building up from Jewish leadership in Charlotte and across the Southeast Region. You will receive an invitation soon. For further information, please call the Federation office at 366-5007.