

Perspectives

My name is Harvey Cohen and this column is a first for me. It's not the first column I've ever written, but it's the first I've written as editor of *The Charlotte Jewish News*, a position I was named to last month. If you read Rita Mond's story about me in last month's issue of the CJN you already know something about me, that is, if you remember (a month is a long time). You know I'm originally from Milwaukee, you know about my family and you know about my education. In time, I hope you will get to know me better through this column. For now, it's important that you know I am totally dedicated to maintaining a standard of excellence for the CJN that is firmly in place. I know that as editor I will not please everyone, but isn't that true for all of us in some of the many roles we try fill in life?

After "trying on" a few titles for this column, I decided "Perspectives" best conveys the concept of what I want to present each month. Ask ten people how to run a newspaper, or what's the most practical solution to health care reform, chances are you'll get at least ten different opinions. From time to time I will reprint material from other publications that will present a perspective, a voice if you will, of a writer whose view you might not otherwise have had an opportunity to read. I do not intend to offer only political issues in Perspectives, I hope to present the arts, science, health and an occasional piece on show business or humor. After all, if you're taking the time to read this column, a laugh once in a while couldn't hurt.

Some people have asked me what my "vision" for the paper is. I'm always conscious of advertising having been in the business for a number of years. So, when the vision question comes up, I invariably think about the US Army recruiting commercial and its very effective signature line. With all due respect to the military, I want this newspaper to "be, all that it can be." I'm not sure if anyone, including myself, knows what that is with any certainty. I do know that the newspaper cannot be on automatic pilot left to fly by itself. It requires nurturing and a steady hand to give it direction based on changing needs of the community and the readers it serves.

If you have some thoughts about how this newspaper can serve you better, how it can be of more use, please call me or write to me at the JCC.

Richard M. Nixon, 1913-1994



Reprint Courtesy The Charlotte Observer

Upon the death of former President Richard M. Nixon, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin expressed regrets with the following statement:

"The Prime Minister and the Ministers of the Governments, as well as the citizens of Israel, share in the mourning of the Nixon family, and of the American people on the passing of former President Richard M.

Nixon.

"Israel has lost one of its greatest friends. From our point of view, his supreme test came at a time of tribulation, and he proved himself with honor. During the 1973 Yom Kippur War, Richard Nixon was the driving force in mobilizing the airlift to assist us with weaponry at the most difficult of moments. His contribution to reinforcing

the security of the State of Israel merits the highest appreciation.

"The world has lost a distinguished statesman who forged new political paths for his nation. My personal condolences, and those of all of us, are extended to the Nixon family and the American people."

(Editor's note: a look back at Nixon will appear in a future issue of the CJN.)

Federation Connection



By Harry Lerner
President JFGC

As your Greater Charlotte Jewish Federation seeks more dollars for its constituent agencies from this community, it assumes greater responsibilities for the proper allocation and distribution of these funds. Our Allocations Committee recommends to the Board, the amount of funding that should be provided to the various agencies only after a stringent allocations review process. The process provides for careful study of the merit of the agen-

cy's request based on a thorough analysis of its budget. There may be times some recipients feel that members of the Allocations Committee are being overly zealous in their cautious examination of their agency's finances. Those who serve on the Allocations Committee are well aware that it is your valuable and hard earned contribution they are entrusted to apportion as wisely and judiciously as possible. It is a responsibility not taken lightly.

Our Allocations Committee must make difficult choices about funding the many deserving agencies that request our financial assistance. All too often agencies are granted smaller allocations than most of us would like because our campaign has failed to provide funding at a level that matches the requests.

The Federation's goal in the coming year is to develop a long range plan utilizing a broad base of community input. That process is already underway. What we learn will help to create an allocations blueprint for the community's priorities that deserve our support. Using this as a guide-

line, the allocation of your Federation resources will be even more responsive than it already is, to the goals we all have established as our long range plan.

Despite the Federation being responsible for the disbursement of almost one-and-a-half million dollars of the community's funds, it is probably one of the least understood agencies. As President of the Federation, it is important to me you understand that the role of the Federation is much more than simply conducting our annual campaign. The purpose of my column is to encourage more dialogue with our readers concerning what they want to know about the Federation and its vision for the future.

Please send your letters or comments to me at the Federation office in Shalom Park. The address is: Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, Shalom Park, 5007 Providence Road, Charlotte, NC 28226. If your need to communicate is more urgent, please call me at my office, 536-2900. I sincerely do look forward to hearing from you and learning from one another.

Hebrew Cemetery Begins Capital Campaign

Do you know which Jewish organization is the oldest in the city? It's the Hebrew Cemetery Association. The Hebrew Cemetery, located on McCall Street off of Statesville Avenue, was started in 1867. Three civil war veterans are buried there along with approximately 1,000 others, some from as far away as Asheville. It is a part of the Charlotte Jewish community's history that must be maintained and it now calls on the entire community for its help.

The Association has begun a

\$100,000 capital campaign fund to help pay for the following: (1) construct a new entrance from Statesville Ave. (2) extend the current storage building (3) beautify the Memorial Park area within the cemetery with trees, fountains, shrubs, etc. (4) connect drainage, including the restroom, to the city sewer system (5) install additional lighting (6) reconstruct the chapel in front of the cemetery (7) acquire property on the corner of Statesville Avenue (8) repair and repaint the cemetery fence.

For almost a quarter century the Charlotte Hebrew Cemetery has served our community. Now it's our turn to recognize that

valuable service by supporting it in a most meaningful manner. Please send a generous contribution to: Hebrew Cemetery Association Rebuilding Fund, 4229 Peggy Lane, Charlotte, NC 28105. If you want more information about the cemetery or the Building Fund, contact any of the following: Shel Goldstein, president; Nat Roberts, vice president; Joe Sklut, treasurer; Irving Mond, Cemetery Manager. The following Board members may also be contacted: Herman Blumenthal, Hilbert Fuerstman, Phil Guller, Susan Jacobs, Alan Kronovet, Harry Lerner, Phyllis Schiffman or Ben Sinkoe.

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