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The Charlotte JEWISH news

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CHARLOTTE JEWISH COMMUNITY PILGRIMAGE TO ISRAEL

The Shalom Park partners - Temple Beth El, Temple Israel, The Jewish Community Center and The Jewish Federation Of Greater Charlotte, are pleased to announce their joint sponsorship of a Charlotte Jewish Community Pilgrimage To Israel. This precedent setting venture marks the first time all the Shalom Park partners have come together to jointly promote an Israel trip. It indicates their commitment to, and understanding of Israel as both a central and vital Jewish experience.

The Pilgrimage will be led by Rabbi James Bennett (Temple Beth El), Rabbi Murray Ezring (Temple Israel) and Alan Feldman (JCC Executive Director) and is scheduled to leave Charlotte on Sunday, June 9 and return on Thursday, June 20. Trip arrangements are being managed by Charlotte's own Mann Travels, with Israel coordination provided by Da'at Travel Services (Jerusalem).

The trip is designed to reveal Israel as a vibrant center for the development of Jewish religion and culture and to provide opportunities for families and individuals to personally touch the Land and the People of Israel. The itinerary provides "connections" for both the first time visitor and for the those who have previously enjoyed the Israel experience. Some trips "highlights" include:

- Shabbat at the Western Wall
- Family roots seminar at Beit Hat'futot -
- The Museum of the Diaspora at Tel Aviv University
- Celebrations of Jerusalem 3000
- Encounter the mystical city of Safed
- Study sessions with your own Rabbi
- Archaeological seminar in the Old City of Jerusalem



- Special programs with leaders of the Reform & Conservative religious movements
- Dialogues with representatives of various political streams in Israeli society
- Ascend Masada - understand its historical significance and its role as a modern day symbol of Jewish defense.
- Travel the Golan Heights by jeep to gain first hand understanding of the critical issues in peace talks between Israel and Syria
- Visit the ancient Roman amphitheater at Caesarea
- Special Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremonies at the Western Wall
- Visit Mount Scopus and Hebrew University campus
- Dig and uncover pottery from the Greek period, over 2300 years ago at Beit Guvrin Caves
- Travel to Haifa, Tiberias, the Dead Sea and more!
- Visit the ancient port city of Jaffa
- Experience the culture and night life of Tel Aviv, from the Mediterranean beaches to Dizengoff Street
- Walk through the Banias Nature Reserve, one of the tributaries of the Jordan River
- Visit Yemin Orde - a Youth Aliya Village
- A commemorative visit to Yad Vashem - the Museum and Memorial of the Holocaust

Please watch your mailbox for your full-color brochure about the Charlotte Jewish Community Pilgrimage to Israel. For more information please contact either Alan Feldman at the JCC, 355-5007, or Shelly Mendel or Maxine Silverstein at Mann Travels, 556-8311. Rabbis Bennett and Ezring also invite you to speak with them.

1996 Federation Campaign Goal Set At \$1.45 Million

The goal of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte's 1996 campaign has been set at \$1.45 million, the highest ever in the history of the local community.

"It is an ambitious goal, more than we've ever aimed for. But the needs of Jews locally and throughout the world are greater than they have ever been," said Bill Gorelick, campaign chair. "It is our responsibility to meet this challenge."

The campaign's theme -- "For Ourselves, For Our Children, For Israel, Forever..." embodies our hopes, goals, and dreams for Charlotte, Israel and the worldwide Jewish community said Jill Newman, campaign co-chair.

"Consistent with the Federation mission, the money raised in 1996 will be allocated to a wide range of services and programs which are essential to support the continued growth and demands of the Jewish community here and abroad," she said.

Among the more than 30 organizations and programs that received Federation funds last year were the Jewish Community Center, The Blumenthal Jewish Home, Jewish Family Services, and The

Anti-Defamation League.

"Campaign funds touch the youngest to the oldest members of our community and have a lasting and positive impact on our lives as Jews," Gorelick said. "I hope that everyone will take part in this all important effort."

The campaign calendar is be-

divisions almost completed the telepledge divisions for the men will begin their work in mid-December. Women's division activity will begin with the Lions Luncheon (\$5,000 +) which is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, January 4th. The Women's Pacesetter (\$1,250 - \$3,999) and \$365 event



Bill Gorelick, Campaign Chair and Jill Newman, Campaign Co-Chair

ginning to take shape with several key events scheduled for the upcoming months. With solicitations in the Men's Major Gifts (\$10,000 +) and Chazak (\$3,600 - \$9,999)

is planned for January 23rd.

The campaign will culminate with Super Sunday which is scheduled for Sunday, February 25th.

Temple Israel Celebrates Centennial

Temple Israel, the oldest and largest Conservative congregation in the Carolinas, concluded the year-long celebration of its 100th anniversary in November. The month's celebrations were highlighted by the Centennial Luski Family Concert featuring TAMID, Israeli Army performers. The concert, attended by hundreds of Charlotteans, presented musical selections representing the best of Jewish folk music, hazanut (cantorial music), modern Israeli music and Yiddish melodies. The concert was greatly enjoyed by all who attended.

Temple Israel's Shabbat Gala Weekend took place November 17

and 15. The Temple Israel family was joined by dignitaries who represent the major arms of the Conservative Movement. Speakers for the weekend included Mr. Justin Weininger, President of the Southeast Region of the United Synagogue, Rabbi Jerome Epstein, the Executive Vice-President and spokesperson for the United Synagogue of America; and Rabbi Morton Leifman, Vice-Chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, the central institution of the Conservative Movement.

Shabbat services were attended by local dignitaries and officials including Lloyd Scher, County Commissioner, and Al Rousso, the newly elected City Councilman. During the course of services, proclamations were read from Representative Sue Myrick, Governor James Hunt and President of the United States, Bill Clinton, honoring Temple Israel on this very special Shabbat.

The weekend's festivities began with a beautiful Shabbat dinner attended by more than 200 members of the Temple Israel fam-

See Temple Israel page 14

Royal Insurance To Sponsor "Celebrate The Children"

Tom Chapin- In Concert



The Jewish Community Center of Charlotte is proud to announce that Royal Insurance will sponsor the "Celebrate the Children" inaugural event - Tom Chapin in Concert - January 7, at Spirit Square.

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