

# The Charlotte JEWISH news

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Dr. David Citron, Maimonides Society (l.) with guest speaker Dr. Michael Davidson (r.)

## Local Medical Director Addresses Maimonides Society

Louis Wernick, JFGC

Michael J. Davidson, M.D., spoke at a meeting of the Maimonides Society of Greater Charlotte on June 26, 1996. Dr. Davidson's topic "Surfing the Managed Care Tidal Wave—One Hospital's Response" addressed the critical issues confronting physicians and patients dealing with HMO (health management organization) systems. Doctors are trapped between the ideals of their medical ethics and the pressure of the bottom line. Ann M. Hirshorn, M.D., recently stated, "The moral basis of medicine is besieged by the morality of the marketplace. We now serve two masters. The pressures are subtle but unrelenting to abandon 'patient's best interest' and the quest for excellence in favor of the most 'cost effective.'"

Dr. Davidson, Medical Director of Carolinas Health Care Systems (the new name for Carolinas Medical Center) explained a plan CHCS is eager to implement. The plan is both ethical and economically feasible.

Dr. David Citron, Chairman of the Maimonides Society of Greater Charlotte, said, "Dr. Davidson's most informative presentation and

approach towards a practical solution to the problems confronting the medical, dental and general communities were very well received." Sara Schreibman, Vice-President of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, acknowledged Dr. Citron's efforts to perpetuate the ideals of the Maimonides Society.

The general goals of the Maimonides Society are to foster and maintain: Jewish physician/dentist fellowship; provide community leadership in bioethical and related moral issues; support and strengthen Jewish life in Charlotte through active involvement with the Jewish Federation; and focus on the Jewish perspective in matters relating to the general Charlotte medical community.

Dr. Citron announced that two Maimonides Missions are planned for 1997. There will be a mission to the former Soviet Union from March 16-20, 1997 and there will be a mission to Israel March 20-30, 1997.

For additional information about the Maimonides Society and forthcoming events, please call Lou Wernick, Director of Special Projects, at 366-5007.

## Hail to the Chief! 1996 JCC Gala Celebrates 10 Years at Shalom Park

Innovative! Different! Patriotic! Casually elegant! These are the adjectives being used by the Gala co-chairs Florence and Ben Jaffa and Tammy and Scott Menaker to describe the JCC's celebration marking its 10th anniversary at Shalom Park, Saturday evening, October 19, 1996, at the Atrium at First Union.

"This is a big departure from what we've done in the past," says Tammy Menaker. "It's not your typical dinner-dance. Actually, there's something for everybody - fantastic food, special recognition of the JCC's Past Presidents, a gala auction, great entertainment and more!" The committee has rallied and come up with a very creative and innovative program. "This is a great opportunity to couple the 10th anniversary celebration with raising the funds necessary to support the vast array of social service and recreation programs the Center offers to the community," adds Scott Menaker.

The "Center" piece of the celebration will commend the contributions of the first 10 presidents of the Jewish Community Center. These men have provided the Center with a legacy so rich that it

continues to reverberate throughout the Jewish community:

Sol Shapiro  
Miles Levine  
Mark Bernstein  
Larry Gerber  
Ben Jaffa  
Mike Van Glish  
Bob Abel  
Hal Levinson  
Harold Josephson  
Gene Daumit

"The foresight and generosity of these community-minded leaders, we have evolved into the Jewish Community Center of Charlotte at Shalom Park. For ten years now, children, seniors, families and a broad cross-section of the Charlotte community have benefited from their participation in Center activities. Cultural enrichment, recreation, celebration of Jewish heritage, education and socialization have all flourished. These ten men have laid the groundwork that allows us to envision a bright and promising future.

The committee has lured a nationally-acclaimed musical group of political satirists, **The Capitol Steps**, to Charlotte for an exclusive engagement at our gala event. The Washington-based group performs throughout the

United States and are regular, featured artists on National Public Radio. Florence Jaffa reminds us, "We're fortunate to have this group perform for us just a few weeks before the national presidential election. This should give us a chance to laugh at some of the material that the political season provides." Ben Jaffa adds, "The **Capitol Steps** alone are a great reason to attend."

The evening will begin with cocktails, a sumptuous international buffet and a chance to win some fabulous prizes in our special presidential auction. The Atrium at First Union will be turned into a grand "red, white and blue" theater to house the salute to our past presidents and the special brand of entertainment of **The Capital Steps**. The evening will culminate with a spectacular dessert reception.

Center President Eric Sklut puts it all together by pointing out, "In one night, you can honor the past, celebrate the present and contribute to the future of the Jewish Community Center." Make your reservations early! Limited seating is available. For ticket information, please call Roni Fishkin at the JCC at 366-5007.

— The JCC

## Education is the Focus in August

— Cynthia Chapman

Education is traditionally the focus of the August issue of this newspaper. Rabbi Bennett of Temple Beth El shared an article by Dr. Jonathan Woocher, Executive Vice President of the Jewish Education Service of North America (JESNA). Woocher asks a question important to parents, teachers, students and Jewish communities. How can Jewish education be improved? He believes systematic changes must take place.

Woocher says that we must "recognize the importance of and invest sufficiently in the infra-

structure needed to support ongoing, continuous, systematic improvement."

"Simply putting more money in the hands of schools, synagogues, and other educating institutions will not do the trick, even if these institutions have the best intentions in mind. Successful education and especially educational change requires a partnership in which front-line institutions receive incentives, information, hands-on assistance, feedback on performance, and help in linking up with external resources from support structures set up and ade-

quately funded for these purposes."

"The reality is that we live in, and Jewish education is, a world of interdependent systems. There is no systematic linkage between recruiting, training, placement, continuing development toward standards of performance, career ladders, and rewards for Jewish educators."

His are thought-provoking comments. As our Charlotte Jewish community faces the new challenges of another school year and recognizes the successes of the past year, we would do well to consider his points.



Rabbi Robert Kasman

## Temple Israel Welcomes Rabbi Robert Kasman

Temple Israel is pleased to announce the hiring of Rabbi Robert Kasman as the Education Director of the Religious School, as well as Associate Rabbi of the synagogue. Rabbi Kasman began his official responsibilities at Temple Israel on August 1, 1996.

Rabbi Kasman comes to the Charlotte community from Temple Beth El in Dalton,

Georgia. He served that congregation as their spiritual leader, serving as Rabbi, Cantor, Educator and much more. The Temple Israel family looks forward to getting to know him, his wife Sharon and their two children, Emily and Jason. Please join Temple Israel in welcoming the Kazmans to our community.

— Temple Israel