

# The Charlotte JEWISH news

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## January Kicks Off 1997 Federation/UJA Campaign

### '97 Campaign Goal Set at \$1.6 Million

The goal of the Jewish Federation of Charlotte's 1997 campaign has been set at \$1.6 million, the highest ever in the history of the local community.

"It is an ambitious goal, much higher than we have ever aimed for. But the needs of the community in Charlotte and abroad grow each year and it is our responsibility to meet these needs," said Bill Gorelick, 1997 Campaign Chair. "We must meet this challenge."

"Each year we face the task of raising enough funds to answer the call of the agencies here in our community and throughout the world," said Jill Newman, Campaign Co-Chair. I have every confidence that we will achieve our goal with the support of the community."

"During the campaign we also want to help our supporters better understand how their donation supports the wide range of agencies and services that are essential to continued growth of Jewish life," continued Newman. "We believe that each solicitation is an opportunity for us to educate and to hear from our donors what is of importance to them."

Among the more than 30 organizations, agencies and programs that received funds last year were the Jewish Community Center, the Blumenthal Jewish Home, Jewish Family Services and area preschool programs.

"Each dollar that we raise has a lasting impact on our lives as Jews. Although we recognize that we have set an ambitious goal, I

believe that it is an achievable one," said Mr. Gorelick. "We have assembled a terrific group of campaign leaders and I am certain that together with the community we can grow our campaign to \$1.6 million."

**Malcolm Hoenlein, Executive Director of Conference of Presidents Speaks to Major Givers**

With the lighting of the fourth Chanukah candle, the 1997 Annual Campaign "kicked off" on Sunday, December 8 with the Major Gifts dessert reception. Again this year the Major Gifts effort is being headed by Bob Speizman and the reception was held at the beautiful home of Isaac and Sonya Luski.

The evening featured guest speaker Malcolm Hoenlein, the Executive Director of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations. As the director of that agency, Mr. Hoenlein coordinates policy formation and presentation of issues of international and national Jewish concern. Mr. Hoenlein is also a renown speaker who has traveled and met with heads of state, governmental leaders and Jewish communities throughout the world.

"It was an incredible evening. Mr. Hoenlein's presentation was informative and very moving," commented Marvin Goldberg, the Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte.

"We were fortunate to have a speaker of Mr. Hoenlein's stature speak for Major Gifts," said Ruth Goldberg, Women's Campaign Chair. "He was able to share a different perspective on the state of the Jewish world and inspired us to take on an active role in supporting Jewish life."

Federation President Rich



Jill Newman, Ruth Goldberg, speaker Malcolm Hoenlein, and Marvin Goldberg at Major Gifts event.

Osborne announced that as of December 8, the campaign had raised \$634,000 which puts the community well on the way to achieving the \$1.6 million dollar goal. "We are off to a great start. The Major Givers are fully behind the campaign and have demonstrated their support with their donations this year. This is a great beginning to what I believe will be the highest total ever raised in Charlotte."

#### Give Us Six Weeks

Twenty-four men and women volunteers will lead the 1997 campaign effort, assisted by Bill Gorelick, Campaign Chair; Jill Newman, Campaign Co-Chair; Phyllis Schiffman, Women's Division President; and Ruth Goldberg, Women's Campaign Chair.

This dedicated campaign team has committed itself to face soliciting for the upcoming fund raising drive. "Face to face soliciting means going out to meet personally with our donors. This enables us to better explain the

needs of the community and listen to their concerns," said Bill Gorelick.

"This year we are asking our campaign volunteers to give us only six weeks of their time. We will begin on January 13 and end with Super Sunday on February 23. Our goal is to complete the campaign within this time period. This makes it easier for both the solicitors and the donors," said Jill Newman.

Solicitor Training this year will be led by Karen Marcus, Chair of the UJA Young Leadership Cabinet. "Karen will bring a whole new dimension to solicitor training," said Mrs. Newman. "She brings a wealth of experience as a solicitor and key UJA leader. I know that all our solicitors will benefit from hearing her speak."

"We are thrilled to be working with such a dynamic group of individuals," continued Mr. Gorelick. The Major Gifts Division is being chaired by Bob Speizman. Ed Newman chairs the

*continued on page 3*

### Federation Announces Allocations

The Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte approved allocations for 1997 at its November board meeting. Rich Osborne, JFGC President, was pleased to report, "Allocations this year went very well. The process was extremely efficient, and the Federation allocated a record \$1,394,300." Osborne further stated that "Mike Van Glish, in his first year as the Allocations Chair, did an excellent job and he and his committee are to be complimented for their service to our community."

Nancy Kipnis, Marcia Simon and Daniel Levine chaired the three panels that had the responsibility for allocating funds.

Osborne stated, "One new program, Teen Israel, was allocated funds this year. This program will provide funds to assist teens going to Israel for a summer experience. We are very excited because this program is another first for the community. Information regarding the program will be available soon." As a final comment, Mike Van Glish stated, "There are many needs both locally and overseas, but we can only fund them to the best of our ability. Clearly, we need to raise more dollars in our annual campaign, and we are optimistic that we can."

*See Federation on page 2*

## Update on the Israeli Sports Center Athletes

We are very proud to announce to the Charlotte Jewish Community that at the World Games held in Miami Beach, Florida on December 6, 7, and 8, our athletes were superb! In fact, participants came in second to the United States in gold medals. In all, 15 gold medals were won by: Ilan Lusky, Boaz Kremer, and Amir Neufeld. We are extremely proud of our athletes and on behalf of our community, we wish them a hearty MAZEL TOV! What an amazing success story this is for the tiny country of Eretz Israel to win so many gold medals.

We thank Abraham and Rose Luski for hosting the athletes from Israel's Sports Center for the Disabled here in our city on December 4, 1996. Over 400 people from our community came to share this awareness evening and special sports exhibition which was held in the gym at the JCC. We thank all the participants, and everyone who helped to make this wheelchair exhibition a true success. Thanks to the staff at the JCC,



From left to right: Boaz Kremer, Amir Neufeld and Ilan Lusky and coach of the Israeli team, Reuven Heller (standing).

Alan Feldman, Marvin Goldberg, Rabbi Ezring, Rabbi Bennett, and Sue Brodsky. A special thanks to Carl Scher for providing his services with the monitors for the video show; to Jeff McClelland with the City of Charlotte Special Transportation Services, for taking our participants to and from the airport and events; and also to Carolinas Medical Center for assisting in transporting our athletes throughout their stay in our city. This program was a team effort, and the Luski's were delighted to bring this "Mitzvah" event to our Jewish community.

Our gratitude also goes to Lloyd Scher for proclaiming December 4, 1996 as Israel's Sports Center for the Disabled Day in Charlotte, and to Dave Kiley, National Commissioner of the Wheelchair Basketball Association, both here in the United States and Canada, for his most uplifting words. We will miss our new friends from Israel and we want to wish them "Hatzlachah" (success) always in life.

### Israel Takes Home 15 Medals in Miami

By Heather Chait

Israel's disabled sports team took second place overall at the world youth disabled championships held last weekend in Miami.

The three athletes from Ilan, the Israel Sports Center for the Disabled, collected 15 medals, finishing behind America with 23 medals.

The competition was held on an all-round basis with the athletes competing in swimming, wheelchair races and shotput events.

Chosen as outstanding athlete of the tournament was Ilan Lusky, 17 years old,

who won three gold medals and two silver medals.

Boaz Kremer, 18, and competing in the class of intermediate disabled athletes, was also awarded three gold medals and two silver medals, while Amir Neufeld, 17, competing in the most seriously disabled class, won two gold medals, two silver medals and a bronze.

Accompanying the team was their coach Reuven Heller. Over 300 athletes participated in the event.

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