

Mazel Tov & Congratulations



Under the Chuppah

Sue Brodsky and Michael Littauer were united in marriage on Saturday, February 21, 1998 at Temple Beth El. Rabbi James Bennett officiated. Rabbi Adam Morris and Cantor Linda Shepherd assisted.

Mrs. Littauer is the Director of the Consolidated High School of Jewish Studies of Charlotte, a religious school teacher of grades five through seven at Temple Israel, and is Principal of Temple Beth El Religious School. Mr. Littauer is a Regional Manager for the ONEAC Corporation.

Engagements

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hinman of Asheville, NC announce the engagement of their daughter, Brooke D'Lee Hinman of Winston-Salem, NC, to Michael William Goldman of Charlotte, NC, son of Dr. and Mrs. Henry Goldman of Charlotte, NC.

Miss Hinman graduated from the University of Richmond and

completed a Masters degree at Wake Forest University. She is a Family Intervention Therapist with Family Services of Winston-Salem, NC.

Mr. Goldman is a graduate of the University of Richmond and is a Financial Consultant with Wheat First Butcher Singer in Charlotte, NC.

The wedding is planned for June of 1998 in Asheville, NC.

Tov Meod

Leah Wilson, daughter of Sharon and Tom Wilson of Charlotte, has been named by the Superintendent of Schools to attend Governors School this summer to study English. She is the Mecklenburg County winner of the Charlotte Hornets Black History Essay contest and the

recipient of a \$500.00 scholarship. Leah is an eleventh grade honor student at Northwest School of the Arts and has also been chosen to play the role of Golde in the NWSA production of "Fiddler On the Roof" to be performed at the Blumenthal Performing Arts Center — Booth Theater, March 19-22. ☆

Getting Married?

Get everything you need at



PAPERTOWN!

4420 Monroe Rd. • 342-5815
Across from Oakhurst School

The Hit of the Party! CAP'N SAM'S D.J. SERVICE

- WEDDING • BIRTHDAYS • SOCIALS
- BAR/BAT MITZVAHS



VOTED BEST MOBILE D.J.
BY CREATIVE LOAFING MAGAZINE

- VIDEOS
- GAMES
- PRIZES

543-1005

- LINE DANCING
- KARAOKE
- LIGHT SHOW

The Best Wedding Plans Begin with Carolina Bride

- Planning Articles
 - Feature Stories
 - Area Businesses
- Local Brides — Newlywed Couples

New issue available quarterly at:
Area Bridal Salons & the Bridal Registry
at Dillard's & Hecht's

334 0847 • 1819 Lyndhurst Ave. • Charlotte, NC 28203



Sculpting Metal Into Fine Art is What We Do Best...



Blown Blue Glass Vase with Fine Silver
designed and handcrafted by
Ana Esther Soused

If it's jewelry or a
Judaica craft object,
just tell us what you
want and we will
handcraft a unique
piece just for you.

L'Argento

Gallery: 1419 East Blvd., Deworth, Phone 372-5610
Hours: Mon-Fri: 10-6, Sat: 11-6
Studio: 315 Main Street, Pineville, Phone: 889-7066
Hours: Tue-Fri: 10-3 or by appointment
website: www.charlottemerchants.com/largento

Volunteer of the month

By Linda Levy

Each issue, this column features a volunteer from one or more of the many groups, agencies or organizations that add to the quality of life of the Charlotte Jewish community. This month's volunteer was chosen because of his leadership of Shalom Park's "Room at the Inn" project.

Herm Ziegler

With April's warming spring weather Charlotte's unique "Room at the Inn" project draws to a close. This remarkable undertaking, which takes place through the combined efforts of the Jewish Community Center, Temple Israel and Temple Beth El, is under the expert volunteer leadership of Herm Ziegler, Chairman of Temple Beth El's Social Action Committee.

Under the auspices of the Urban Ministries, The Room at the Inn Project operates from the beginning of November to the end of March, housing homeless men, women, children and families in over fifty Charlotte congregations. Herm explained that each night during these cold months, groups of twelve homeless people, called "neighbors," are picked up at Urban Ministries downtown and brought to the host congregations. Shalom Park hosted the neighbors for twelve evenings during the '97-'98 season at the JCC, Temple Israel or Temple Beth El. The program at each facility includes serving dinner and breakfast and "lunch to go", video or other entertainment and providing sleeping facilities. While Herm is the over-all Shalom Park volunteer, he emphasized the "real credit" goes to the more than 100 volunteers who served this season greeting the guests, preparing and serving meals and staying overnight with the neighbors. He especially praised the food coordinators Holly Levinson (for Temple Beth El and the JCC) and Jenny Stern and Marcy Mehlman (Temple Israel) and the coordinators for each Shalom Park Institution: Ivy Saul, JCC staff; Linda Hindel, JCC volunteer coordinator; Eric Placock, Temple Israel's Social Action Committee chairman; and Debbie Avise, Temple Beth El.

Herm noted that the Jewish community's involvement with Room at the Inn began in the winter of '96-'97 with three nights and was so successful that this year Shalom Park signed up for twelve nights. "Next year we'll try for more,"

Herm said enthusiastically.

Herm commented on the outstanding efforts of the volunteers and how they expressed their satisfaction. "Many have told me after volunteering at Room at the Inn what a great feeling they have. Some have said they never dreamed that it would be so rewarding. Seeing first hand the plight of the homeless is a real learning experience. These neighbors that we serve are good people in bad circumstances," Herm explained.

When asked what was the most challenging aspect of the Shalom Park Room at the Inn project, Herm replied, "The bedding." The three entities shared the expense of renting twelve beds for each of the twelve nights, at a cost of \$2,000. "Next year we hope to raise enough money to purchase beds rather than rent them, enabling us to provide more nights." What was the most enjoyable evening? Herm quickly responded, "Christmas Eve, when Daryl Ryce entertained neighbors and volunteers with a fantastic concert!"

Herm proudly outlined a list of the many other projects run by Temple Beth El's Social Action Committee. Each project is under the auspices of a subcommittee, with its own chair. These include constructing homes for Habitat for Humanity; Mitzvah Day — where hundreds of volunteers sign up for dozens of projects (chaired this year by Bob Lidz and Ellen Block); and the Grier Heights Partnership — where Temple Beth El volunteers worked shoulder to shoulder with members of the Grier Heights community, refurbished the old Rosenwald School and made it into a community center. Herm noted that this was a true community effort, with the City of Charlotte providing the materials and the Grier Heights and Jewish communities providing the labor. Herm went on to name a nearly a dozen more projects. One of the most interesting is the gleaning project, chaired by Sam and Ilse Weiss, where a team of volunteers gather a "second harvest" offered by local farmers and turn it over to numerous food agencies for distribution to the needy. "Even though we have so many activities, the leadership of the project coordinators makes my job easy," Herm commented.

Why does Herm help? "I guess I first got involved with the first Habitat for Humanity



Herm Ziegler and wife, Barbara.

project four years ago," Herm, reflected. "Under Rabbi Bennett's encouragement and the initial leadership of Sue Schneider, the Social Action Committee evolved, and built a house for the Habitat for Humanity project. When I saw the expression of the new Habitat home owners, I was hooked on volunteerism," Herm laughed.

Herm is supported in his volunteer activities by wife Barbara, Executive Director of Teen Health Connection. Barbara is an active member of the Social Action Committee and assists with her leadership skills. The Ziegler family, including sons Eric and David, came to Charlotte in 1979 when Herm was with IBM. Both sons celebrated their Bar Mitzvahs here and are now pursuing graduate degrees. In 1982 Herm was a founder of Network Controls International, Inc., and when he took early retirement about four years ago, this left more time to pursue volunteer activities.

"None of these activities would take place without the numerous volunteers. Many people come up to me and ask what they can do. Social action is growing. We're making an impact. The Jewish community is becoming recognized as 'People Who Can,'" Herm proudly noted. "There's always something to do. I have visions of all organizations and entities in Shalom Park joining together in a massive social action program. Social action is not just helping people, it also includes being an advocate for social justice. When things happen in our community and our nation that are unjust, it is important that Jews work together to do what needs to be done," Herm stated emphatically.

With the Herm Ziegler style of volunteerism, the path goes from helping others to becoming an advocate for social justice — surely a benefit to all humankind! ☆