

The Charlotte JEWISH news

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"Kids on Broadway" Coming to Hyatt Hotel on May 2

The third annual "Kids in Vogue" Children's Fashion Show and luncheon sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte is scheduled for Sunday, May 2 at the Hyatt Hotel. The annual fashion show is one of many social and educational events enabling the Federation to reach its \$2 million goal for the 1999 Annual Campaign.

Tracy Brown and Dana Ditesheim who chair this year's event are excited about the upcoming program. "Our goal is to build on the success of the past two years," said Brown. "This is an event geared toward new givers; we are asking that each of our table captains recruit at least one new person to sit with them at the show. It is a great afternoon — guests can socialize with their friends, learn about the work of the Federation and watch our adorable children walk down the runway in wonderful spring fashions."

Amy Marx and Ellen Framm will chair the recruitment effort assisted by Dana Gorelick, Shelley Bear and Lisa Goldberg.

The cost to attend the event is \$25 which pays for the cost of the luncheon. In addition, guests will be asked to make a \$75 minimum contribution the Federation's 1999 Annual Campaign. (if you have already made a pledge of \$75 or more to the campaign, you are not required to make any additional

donation.) Monies raised from the event will have a lasting impact on the lives of Jewish children worldwide.



The theme for the show is "Kids on Broadway." Decorations Chairs, Lisa Meyerson and Stefanie Reiner, are busy working on table and room decor that will reflect this theme.

Fashion for this year's event will be provided by Fitigues, Sunday's Child and Lions & Tigers & Bears Children's Boutique. Fifty models ages 4 - 10 will be recruited to walk down the runway. Marni Abramowitz and

Roberta Rodgers are in charge of the fashion and will work with the stores to select the clothing that will be used on the 2nd.

Jennifer Newman and Linda Wasser will be working behind the scenes to make sure that the models are having as much fun backstage as the adults are having during the luncheon. Models will be given lunch and a variety of entertainment will be presented to keep them busy before their time in the spotlight.

Gail Baron is working on the educational presentation and Roni Fishkin will serve as "master of ceremonies" for a second year. Andrea Bimbaum is coordinating all event publicity.

Again, this year the show will feature "Gracious Grandmas." Any grandmother of a child who is modeling may make a contribution to defray the costs of the show. "Gracious Grandmas" will be listed in the event program and each will receive a picture of her grandchild as he or she walks down the runway.

If you are interested in attending, or having your child model, call Cary Bernstein at the Federation office 944-6762. ☆

**JEWISH
FEDERATION
OF GREATER CHARLOTTE**

Campaign Racing Towards Goal

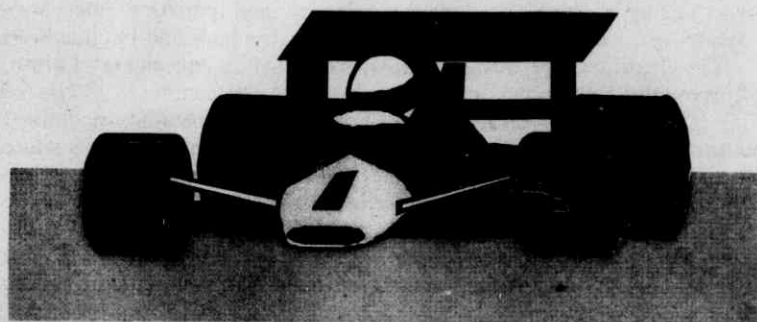
The campaign barometers at Shalom Park keep heading towards \$2,000,000, the goal for the 1999 Federation Annual Campaign.

"We are one of the nine federations in the country to have surpassed their 1998 campaign to date," stated Meg D. Goldstein, Campaign Chair. "With more than

Distribution Committee to prepare and fly immigrants to Israel and to assist them in resettling.

The local economy continues to be bullish, yet Jewish Family Services (JFS) case load has increased. In addition, the Community Tzedakah Fund, an emergency loan fund administered by JFS, receives daily requests. So

1999 Federation Campaign



\$1,934,000 pledged to date, I'm optimistic about reaching our goal." This year the federation decided to run its campaign for only two months in an effort to increase the pace and excitement.

The current campaign continues to break all records for Charlotte; and there will be many places and areas where the increased funds may go.

The economic crisis in the Former Soviet Union continues to overheat and Jews are being blamed for the problems. The Israeli Embassy in Moscow predicts an unusual number of immigration requests for the rest of the year. In addition, thousands of Jews will be exiting the Ukraine. Funds will be needed by the Joint

in the midst of plenty, there is a sector of our community that does not share in the boom. "We are grateful to the Federation to have increased the funds allocated to the Tzedakah Fund," stated Penny Wagner-Schuster, JFS Executive Director. "Without the increase, we would have to refuse assistance; something we do not want to do. Thank goodness for an increased campaign."

"We are in the final push," stated Goldstein. "Our campaign solicitors are doing a great job, and we just need a little more to ensure our goal." A final total and report will be announced to the community at the Federation's Annual Meeting on April 26. ☆

Yom Ha'Shoah Feature

Charlotte's Holocaust Survivors Share Their Experiences

By Jo Minchew

One word describes them more than male or female, father or mother, Republican or Democrat, professor or businessman. One word defines and unites them more, even, than Jew.

Survivor

These are people who've been to Hell and back. People who not only experienced the horrors of the Holocaust but who lived to tell the tale.

And tell it, they must.

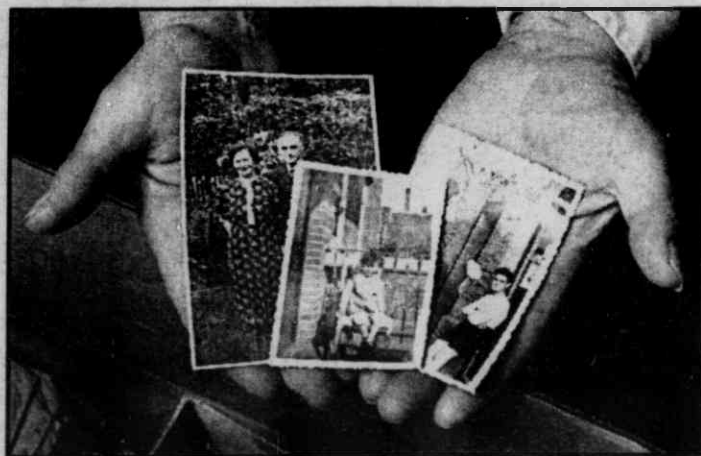
"What I've been through has to have the result of making sure that it's not forgotten and that it's remembered by as many youngsters as possible since they'll be here after we're gone," said Susan

Cernyak-Spatz who survived two years in Auschwitz before she was liberated in April 1945.

"Once the few of us are gone, it won't be living history any more," noted Henry Hirschmann, survivor of five months in Buchenwald at age 18. "A lot of books have been written by hearsay but personal experience is so important, don't you think?"

Spatz, Hirschmann and Irving Mond, all of Charlotte, have made it their mission to keep the memory alive, lecturing in schools and churches and telling their stories again and again.

Spatz, professor emeritus in the UNCC foreign language depart-



Henry Hirschmann's hand holding a picture of his parents (left) his little brother (center), and his younger brother (right).

ment, taught language and Holocaust literature prior to her retirement six years ago and still teaches a course there. But Hirschmann and Mond act as educators too, often opening listeners' minds to a terrible world they never knew existed. The level of feedback they've received from children has surprised all three.

"I find most kids very interested," said Spatz. "Oh, you get questions like, 'What did you eat?' and 'Where did you sleep?' but, for the most part, the questions are quite thoughtful."

Hirschmann agrees. "At first, I didn't want to speak to kids in fifth or sixth grade but I found out I was wrong. Some ask good questions!" Like both Spatz and Mond, he collects letters from school children moved, for instance, by his account of what happened on the night of November 8, 1938 — Kristallnacht.

"I was working as an apprentice (in Buchenwald) when I received a call from my mother. She told me to catch the train and go visit relatives," he said, "but I didn't listen." Instead, he went home to

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