

The Charlotte JEWISH news

Vol. 22 No. 4

Adar II-Nisan 5760

April 2000

Federation Women's Division Brings Anita Diamant to Charlotte

**"The Red Tent" Author to Speak to Community April 12
at 7:30 PM at Temple Israel**

By Amy Krakovitz

Do you remember how you felt when you were reading *The Red Tent*? The connectedness to your past, the warmth for Jewish women everywhere and everywhen, the love and respect for our matriarchs, the wonder and awe at the power of their stories - all these emotions and more flooding over you as lived the story of Dinah, the only daughter of Jacob.

If *The Red Tent* swept you away as it did thousands of other women, you now have the opportunity to meet and hear its author, Anita Diamant, on the evening of April 12 at Temple Israel. The Women's Division of the Federation is presenting Ms. Diamant as their Spring lecturer this year in an exciting event for the Charlotte Jewish community.

Diamant's early childhood was spent in Newark, New Jersey, but her family moved to Denver when she was 12 years old. She says she had very little exposure to

Judaism as a child and considers herself an adult Jewish learner.

She attended the University of Colorado for two years and then



Anita Diamant

transferred to Washington University in St. Louis where she completed her Bachelor's degree in Comparative Literature. She then earned her Master's degree in English from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and then moved to the Boston area, where she has lived ever since.

She currently resides in Newton, Massachusetts, with her husband Jim and daughter Emilia. They are active members of Congregation Beth El of the Sudbury River Valley.

Diamant first became well-known as a Jewish author of hand-

(Continued on page 4)



A vital part of L'Chaim Charlotte!, the city's popular bi-annual Jewish festival scheduled for May 21, are volunteers.

The L'Chaim Charlotte! 2000 steering committee hopes to recruit 100 volunteers to each work two-hour shifts during the event, which runs noon to 6 PM. Jobs include setting up and breaking down tents, tables and chairs for exhibitors, selling drinks, tickets and raffle entries, staffing the information booth and kid's play area, helping direct parking, handing out programs, collecting admission, and more.

Many Jewish organizations are also looking for volunteers for their L'Chaim Charlotte! exhibits. All told, more than 300 volunteers are expected to be involved in producing this year's festival.

"We need a lot of helping hands

to make sure the event runs smoothly," said Alan Gottheim, festival

(Continued on page 4)

**WE'RE GETTING
NEARER TO OUR
GOAL!**



**Campaign 2000
has reached
\$1.797 million**

— Jewish Federation of
Greater Charlotte. See pages
32 and 33 for details.

\$2,000 in 2000!
**Temple Beth El Endowment Fund
Campaign Kickoff at Gala Honoring
Norm Levin**



Norm Levin

May 6, 2000 will be a very special night in Charlotte. That is the date that Temple Beth El will honor one of its hardest working and most popular members, Norm Levin. The evening will also serve as a promotion of the Temple Beth El endowment fund. The occasion will be held at the new Renaissance Hotel. In addition to honoring Norm the evening will be fun filled including a fabulous dinner and lots of dancing to the music of The Entertainers.

Rabbi Alexander Schindler will be the keynote speaker. Rabbi



Rabbi Alexander Schindler

Schindler served as President of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations for over twenty years. As a vibrant leader of the Reform movement he helped to shape its philosophy, creating the vision for many of its outstanding programs, including Outreach. He has met with all of the United States Presidents since Jimmy Carter and is often called upon by them and other world leaders for advice. He currently serves as President of the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture and

(Continued on page 14)

Judith Hauptman is the Rabbi Philip R. Alstat Professor of Talmud at the Jewish Theological Seminary. Known in particular for her reinterpretation of Talmudic sources along feminist lines, she has spent her professional life engaged not only in the study of women's roles in Judaic thought, but also in an evaluation of the social and ethical norms of the rabbinic period that served to shape the outlines of a traditional faith passed down through the ages. Dr. Hauptman has become acclaimed as well for her synoptic studies - a specialized area of Talmudic research in which related texts are examined for their implications about the history of Jewish law.

The Charlotte community is fortunate to have Dr. Hauptman visit as a Scholar-in-Residence at Temple Israel on the weekend of May 5-7, 2000.

Dr. Hauptman applies her insights to understanding the relevance of ancient sources to mod-



Dr. Judith Hauptman

ern Judaism and to precipitating societal changes she believes necessary. Over the years, her activist orientation has led her, for example, to call for the ordination of women by the Conservative movement and for eliminating discrimination against women in divorce law, both Jewish and secular.

Her weekend at Temple Israel will begin Shabbat evening, May

5, after a Shabbat service and family Shabbat dinner, with a lecture at 8:00 PM titled, "Unresolved Tension: Women in Jewish Law." There will be a separate program planned for the children of the congregation. Reservations are required for the Shabbat dinner; contact Terry Cathcart at the Temple Israel office (362-2796).

Dr. Hauptman will deliver the sermon at Saturday morning services on May 6. Her subject is "Parents' Mitzvot to Children and Children's Mitzvot to Parents: Blueprints for Family Life." After a Kiddush luncheon, there will be open study and discussion with Dr. Hauptman in the Chapel.

On Sunday morning, May 7, following the 9:00 AM morning minyan and a bagel breakfast, Dr. Hauptman will deliver a final lecture, "Acknowledging the Legitimacy of the Views of Others: A Talmudic Perspective."

A popular lecturer and prolific writer, Dr. Hauptman has published

(Continued on page 12)

Inside this issue

Why a Negotiating Process and Not a Peace Process?

By Dr. Jay Byler

Federation Page	page	4
CAJE	page	10
Women's Events	page	11
Temple Israel	page	12
Temple Beth El	page	14
Youth Visions	page	15
Jewish Family Services	pages	16
Speizman Jewish Library	page	17
Mazel Tov	page	26
Lubavitch of North Carolina	page	27
Charlotte Jewish Day School	page	28
The Jewish Traveler	page	29
Jewish Community Center	pages	30-31
Dining Out	pages	33-35



**Campaign Surpasses
\$24 Million Mark!**
See Pages 6 & 7
**MAKE YOUR
PLEDGE TODAY!**