

Support the Oldest Jewish Institution in the Charlotte Area



Memorial Building under construction, Spring 2014. Photo by Sandra Goldman.

By Brian Yesowitch, President, Hebrew Cemetery Association

As the oldest Jewish institution in Charlotte, the Hebrew Cemetery Association is asking for your help to raise the final \$300,000 of the capital campaign. For the past two years, the Hebrew Cemetery Association has worked diligently to raise over \$1.6 million for the cemetery's expansion and to construct the Memorial Building, which is as beautiful as it is practical.

The Hebrew Cemetery Association requires a final \$300,000 to feel secure that the Cemetery will be cared for in perpetuity. The improvements that are underway are part of a well-thought out Master Plan, more than a decade in the making. Hundreds of Jewish families already have made very generous financial contributions to make this Master Plan a reality, but we need your help. We sincerely hope that you, too, will pledge your support to take us over the finish line.

Your involvement will make it

possible to nearly double the number of graves available. We look forward to the day in the near future when small memorial services will be held in the new



Rabbis Judy Schindler and Jonathan Freirich of Temple Beth El in front of the former Beth El ark. Photo by Silver Stream Creative Group.

building's Mindy Ellen Levine Chapel, home to the ark, formerly housed in Temple Beth El. No family will endure heat, cold, or wet weather during a service. Instead, everyone will congregate inside the air-conditioned building with modern bathrooms. The grieving family can find comfort inside the Berlin Family Room before services and after interment; everyone can meet together in the Gorelick Gathering Room.

Our forefathers had the vision to create a cemetery that has embraced our community without fail from 1867 to this day. As it is subscribed in the Torah, the first Jewish settlers in our region established the Hebrew Cemetery Association before they placed the first stone for a temple or a school.

In the past 100 years, the Cemetery has not once asked for the community's support. Now, as we approach our 150th anniversary, we are asking the community to invest in our future. Please give any amount that you are able. A \$1,000 minimum pledge, payable over five years, will allow you to inscribe a loved one's name, along with your name as the giver, on the Memorial Wall.

A Builder will be recognized for a \$5,000 pledge. Pledges are payable over five years and any donation amount is welcome and



Hebrew Cemetery Association Board Members and Donors pictured at the Memorial Building Ground Breaking. Photo by Silver Stream Creative Group.



appreciated.

Caring for our ancestors is one of the greatest mitzvot one can do. We hope that you will consider a pledge to the Cemetery, where we Honor, Celebrate and Embrace the memory of our loved ones.

For information on how to make a building fund pledge, please contact Sandra Goldman at director@hebrewcemetery.org or 704-576-1859. ☆

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SYNAGOGUES & CONGREGATIONS

Summer Yeshiva to Open in Charlotte

Have you ever been able to study in a Yeshiva? There is an amazing opportunity that awaits you in Charlotte during August. Congregation Ohr Ha-Torah and Lubavitch of North Carolina will offer a mini-Yeshiva for the Jewish community which will be held at the Lubavitch Educational Center at 6619 Sardis Road. The Yeshiva program will begin on August 10 and continue through the end of August.

The Summer Yeshiva will be open to men and women from all backgrounds and will be led by Charlotte home-grown Yeshiva students and their friends. There will be a series of classes with a range of topics available both in the evening and during the daytime. Sessions offered at the mini-Yeshiva will range from beginning Hebrew to prayer book Hebrew comprehension. Classes will include Bible study, Jewish history, in-depth Talmud and Talmudic ethics, Kabbalah, and much more. Some of the sessions will deal with issues such as: "The do-gooder - Do you owe someone who pays your debts



without asking you?" "The Lost Ten Tribes - Do they exist? Where are they? Are they ever coming back?" "The order of creation, from the spiritual worlds to the origin of physical objects."

Participants can attend group sessions, as well as set up private study with a partner, known in the Yeshiva world as Chavrusa study. These Chavrusa sessions will be set up by appointment, or as walk-ins, (schedule permitting). The prime purpose of this project is to provide our local community the opportunity to sense and experience the atmosphere of a Yeshiva, with ongoing study sessions simultaneously throughout the study hall. The mini-Yeshiva will also provide an opportunity to explore some challenging questions that people have not yet

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