South African "Olim" living in Israel's forests

by Sissy Block

(WZPS) For many years, goats were considered the "public enemy number the south, the goats cat the one" of Israeli forests and its caretakers, the Jewish an essential part of the National Fund (JNF). The ecosystem, promoting the animals grazed their way development of the natural through the woods, eating vegetation. What's more, everything in sight, in ef- also helps create "fuel fect destroying the local breaks" in the forest, which vegetation. So much so that in the event of fire results in 1956 the Black Goat in a significant reduction in Law was passed, banning biological fuel and prevents local goats from their reguthe the fire from sweeping lar feeding grounds. But, as across the area. things often turn out in the The JNF and the goats Middle East, he who was seemed to have found a once your enemy, may perfect solution with the

the goats and the JNF to- a nominal grazing fee that gether was the under- shepherds traditionally growth that fills the floors pay.) of mature forests. These But, in recent years, small bushes, fallen leaves, their numbers have steadily tinder-dry grass, climbers decreased and raising the and low lying leaf branch- Black Alwassi goat has es, make the forest ex- proved problematic: they rapidly spreading forest are hard to control, they fires. It is also precisely the must be milked daily, nutritional sustenance goats—which involves long hours need to survive, which in of manual labor, and they turn allows their mostly reproduce seasonally, all Druze, Israeli Arab and getting pregnant at the Bedouin breeders to make same time, and have only a living from their milk and one kid at a time.

in was a very natural solu- the population like a wave tion." says Dr. Menachem of new immigrants, in this Sachs, JNF's Head of Af- case, a herd of South forestation, who originally suggested using goats to maintain the forests (to the was initiated by Eran ridicule of his superiors). In Evron, a Jewish goat breeda special program of "con- er from Mitzpe Mattat, sittrolled grazing", the JNF, uated on Israel's northern local Black Alwassi goats border. After 15 years of and their shepherds, have—raising local goats, with all enjoyed a mutually benefith the struggles that entails, he Gaza, early in the new originally earmarked for cial relationship for was looking for an easier decades. Through a period breed to raise.

of intense grazing of specific strips of land from the Carmel range near Haifa to planted desert savannahs in undergrowth which acts as

someday become your goats happily eating the undergrowth and the JNF pro-The issue that brought viding the grazing land (for

tremely vulnerable to tend to eat and run and so

As Israeli history re-"Letting the goats back flects, nothing energizes African Boer goats.

Their May 1996 "aliya"

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Add Talmud Torah to Your Will

by Bonnie Rochman

tery, Z for Zionism." reads Blum for her weekly column in The Jerusalem Post, Israel's English language

Blum, who came to Is-

University in Jerusalem. fered in return to the letters tress, who had just given on graduation took jobs ity. children. "I stayed home New York - became editor and enlist in the army.

the Jewish journal Com- tanyahu's media advisor) provide solutions to probmentary for 35 years, and until he agreed to give it a lems," explains Blum. "I her mother has written try. about social issues and done editing work for a

publishing company.

(WZPS) "A for Adul-

idea of an advice column. the less-than-positive response she received.

Nearly 20 years later, Blum has a slim, published volume of the best letters mostly by native English

"Dear Ruthie," the col- narios that could ensue deumn, was an immediate hit. In the introduction, she pre-Blum remembers when sents her credentials: "I am Jerusalem Post with the degree in literature and a

Gaza industrial park to operate in new year

tinian industrial park is to try and Trade Minister begin operating at the Natan Sharansky said Israel Karni junction, on the bor- is prepared to contribute der between Israel and more than the \$14 million year. The park, one of nine—the park, even if it does not planned for the autonomous areas that will be financed by western countries, will be provided with water and electricity by Is-

Benyamin

(WZPS) The first Pales- Israel and Gaza, but Indusstraddle the border.

Sharansky, who says 1sracl is considering funding a rail link to the area, said, "We on the Israeli side are organizing to do everything Minister we can in Karni, but we Netanyahu still have to look at the imwants the Karni park to portant issues of security

straddle the border between and legislation." Sunday, January 19, 1997 Need Volunteers . for the Annual Tu Bi'Shevat Telethon If you can spare two hours Please call the JNF office 481-7881

is more of an actual advice giver, and I'm more of an empathy provider. "I see people as a big

degree of fascination with novel," says Blum. "I draw "It is totally out of the other people's lives which realm of possibility," was might be deemed excessive in certain circles." Not in Israel, however.

Letters poured in from all over the country, penned she has received during her speakers or Europeans and, motherhood and a fair rael in 1997 for her junior four-year tenure as The surprisingly, by equal num-share of malaise have conyear of college and fell in Jerusalem Post's Israeli bers of men and women. A tributed further to my penlove with the country, de-version of "Dear Abby." Holocaust survivor wrote chant for problem contemcided to transfer from the The compilation, billed as about his double life and plation." Not one to keep University of Chicago to "A to Z answers to life's the problems he encoun-secrets, Blum says she is finish her degree in English nagging problems," in- tered dividing his time be- now in the process of get-Literature at the Hebrew cludes the advice she of tween his wife and his misting divorced. She wrote sporadically for that testify to the popularity birth to their baby. A young with a less-than-perfect do-The Jerusalem Post and up- of her agony aunt personal- Israeli woman whose par- mestic life? No contradic-

Norman Podhoretz, edited Minister Benyamin Ne- question, because I don't at it!" try to present possible see-

they would make." The closest think Blum she first approached The an old-style yenta with a has to competition in the sumer gripes and tackles advice market is "Daniella Yakirati" (Dear Daniella), the outspoken advice nies. columnist for Yediot Aharanot, Israel's largest Hebrow daily newspaper. Their styles, however are worlds apart, says Blum. "She is much more direct, which is characteristic of

the Israeli personality. She

pending on various choices

upon the way people interact and the human condition. People have always told me their problems." Prefacing her collection

of letters earlier this year, Blum wrote: "Marriage, An advice columnist

ents moved to California tion there, says Blum. working with the Jewish In 1989, when Blum's when she was a baby, "There is no such thing as Agency and foreign press twins were born, David asked how to deal with her someone without problems. in Israel, taking time out to Bar-Illan – who had been parents' anger over her de- I don't preach things. It's get married and have four her next-door neighbor in cision to return to Israel not as if I ever said I'm against divorce. I don't with them for what seems of The Jerusalem Post, and In offering advice, Blum make judgments. I try to like a million years," the time was ripe to make a steers away from giving di-make people think of the laughs Blum, a spunky 38-second go of things. Strike rect answers, preferring to consequences. I get satisyear-old with a mop of cop- two. "That's not really ap- offer the writer several op- faction from giving advice propriate for our paper," he tions. She is never at a loss to others. It's something Writing is in Blum's told her. Not one to give up for what to say, either. "I I've always done. I like doblood - both her parents—easily, Blum kept pressur—have never felt that I don't—ing it because I'm interestwere writers: her father, ing Bar-Ilan (now Prime know how to answer a ed in people and I'm good

> such is Blum's success that she has just been given a consumer complaints corner titled "Caveat Emptor," in which she addresses congovernment bureaucracy and leading Israeli compa-

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January 1997 🕸 Shevat 5757

Volume 6 \$\times \text{Number 1}

Shabbat Candle Lighting Times

Jan. 17 - 4:17 p.m. Jan. 24 - 4:28 p.m. Jan. 31 - 5:05 p.m.



Edmonton Jewish Life is proud to announce that it has been chosen by the Jewish Federation of Edmonton to print and distribute Centre Piece, a monthly section with updates on Federation activities, and schedules for Jewish Community Centre Activities

See Pages 5 - 8

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CJC's future role on agenda of CJF Canada

Proposals a starting point for discussions

Congress (CJC) to Ottawa, Vineberg wrote a second

sial proposals to CJC lead-views on the full gamut of memo include: ership in a November 21 CJC activities, nor are Canada, Canadian-Jewish federations' umbrella body and CJC's funder.

The proposals sparked tantamount to eviscerating en over by the federations.

But Vineberg, in an interview with The CJN. stressed that the "proposals" contained in the memo should be seen as nothing other than a starting point tween equal partners.

nization."

of goodwill.

But there was no arguing that the wording of the November 21 memo set off shock waves within Con-

Moving the national of-gress. As a result, about 10 and the [CJC] regional office of Canadian Jewish days later, on December 2, fices are the same." selling its Montreal head- memo to president Goldie Vineberg was reticent

quarters and absorbing CJC Hershon saying the original about discussing what the regional offices in Montre- memo was "misconstrucd" perception in the province al, Toronto and Vancouver and regretting the "misin-would be were the CJC-nainto the federation struc- terpretation of our intent by tional office to move to Ottures will be among the im- certain people within you tawa to become the "naportant issues to be dis- organization to inhibit the tional advocacy office" for cussed between CJC and close working relationship CJC,CIC and possibly the Council of Jewish Fed- we are building..." erations Canada (CJF In the second memo he such a consideration would Canada) leaders when they wrote, the proposals were be secondary to the overall meet January 18 to 20 in intended to aid CJC in its priority of CJC "fulfilling

own "strategic planning its mandate."

assuage concern over the community in Canada." proposals. Vineberg did not concern among CJC lead- rule any of them out. All CJC's political, CRC (comers, who fear that imple- the options have to be dis- munity relations commitmenting them would be cussed out of the "collective)-related responsibilities congress and having it tak- tive as possible" in terms of munities to the "proposed,

cial resources. for vital discussions be- to the respective federation possible duplication of ef- the independent status of

zations we have to be talk- ten regions, the federations nizations' initiatives. ing to one another," he

that nothing has been decided "in any way, shape, or form" despite the recommendation that a joint FEDERATION CJA-CJC committee be "immediately appointed to arrange the sale or transfer of responsiheadquarters] to another promised the Israelis. Jewish or non-Jewish orga-

"I'm not saying [moving Congress] is necessarily the right thing to do," he said. "We are constantly holding CJC] as responsible Jewish community leaders. There is a constant dialogue going on, But it's healthy to question each other about it."

told The CJN he was prepared to give Vineberg the benefit of the doubt, hoping CJC and CJF Canada could work things out in a spirit

Similarly, as a Quebecer, JIAS. But he suggested that

These subjects were process; they neither repre- Other proposals in the among several controver- sent our [CJF Canada's] original November 21

 Introducing 'joint planmemo sent by Richard [they] intended to be the ning initiatives" between Vineberg, president of CJF only possible option you CJF Canada and its "memhave to address the issues." ber partners... in order to Still, while seeking to serve the whole Jewish Transferring all but

tive concern to be as effec- in small, unfederated comthe use of human and finan- merged entity of UIA and CJF Canada" Vineberg could not say • Reviewing the need for

whether it was necessary to CJC's Youth Services portmerge the three CJC re-folio in light of CJF Canagional offices in Montreal, da's national campus ser-Toronto and Vancouver in-vices committee and the CJF Canada "recognize(s) structure. He did not how-forts with and competition CJC, we must ensure that appeared in The Canadian "As responsible organi- ever, that, "in seven out of between other Jewish orga-

Debut diva: Nancy Weisler's first CD,

live by letting go, will be hitting the

shelves this month. See page 2

• Ensuring the "optimal reflect out mutually agreed use" of federation funding upon priorities." to prevent "duplication" or "overlap" in terms of the prepare a "draft discussion Israel-related advocacy ac- paper" in response to the tivities of CJC's Israel af- memo, as the starting point fairs committee, the Cana- for a six-month review da-Israel Committee and

UIA Canada. • Discussing the "scope fiscal year begins. and function" of CJC's in-Vineberg says that while would have to be finalized.

He also asked CJC to process to be completed by July 1, 1997, when the next

By that time, any budternational affairs activities. geting changes related to In the first memo, organizational restructuring

This article originally communal resources are Jewish News and is reprintapplied to initiatives that ed with permission.

Vineberg emphasized CIFTA passes Senate

by Richard Cleroux

finally passed through Par- er. liament in time to go into bility for this site [CJC 1, 1997 - just as we had

> Netanyahu, and by extenan awful verbal bashing. Friends of Israel on Par-

changing against Israel.

Israeli government.

commentary

There was a hardening of attitudes, a certain suspicion of anything coming the Middle East in his life. Israel had changed.

from the Netanyahu gov- was sent on a 17-day whirlernment that did not exist wind trip to Israel, Muscat, clear that Netanyahu may The Canada-Israel Free when the previous Israeli Oman, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, not have been Canada's Trade agreement (CIFTA) administration was in pow- Jordan, and to the cities of first choice, but he was, af-

effect officially on January all government rushed the and Tel Aviv. agreement through Parliagovernment of Benjamin teriorated any further.

It wasn't about to risk sion the state of Israel, took losing the agreement alto-There was a feeling

selves repeatedly on the de- and some senators that open mind. fensive trying to defend the even though the free trade deal might be highly ad- Senate last week that after put the peace process back In the Commons earlier vantageous to Canadian talking to a number of Arab on track." this fall, and again in the business, it might be time and Palestinian leaders, he Frank Schlesinger, Senate in December during to send a message to Israel believes there is no way ment decided delaying im-CJC's national secretary, the committee debates on that Canada did not ap- that any good can come plementation of the trade the free trade deal, you prove of its approach to the from holding up the trade pact might not have the decould almost feel the mood peace process, and was agreement. even prepared to sacrifice a He admitted that when wouldn't help Canadian business advantage to make the point.

Amman, Ramallah, Gaza ter all, Israel's choice. That was why the Liber- City, Hebron, Kuwait City

ment this fall, before the find out what the Arabs and that democracy is the way But in the process, the goodwill towards Israel de- Palestinians thought about to go," he told the Senate CIFTA. He was picked in Foreign Affairs committee. part because he held no Surprisingly, he admitpreconceived view for or ted that there had been against anybody in the "considerable debate" with-Middle East, and could ap- in the Liberal cabinet about

He reported back to the to "lever" Netanyahu "to

Yitzhak Rabin first pro- business, he said. posed the deal, "it was a fact that Ronald MacDon-peace," but by the time an ishing anyone. ald, a Nova Scotia Liberal agreement was reached last MP who had never been to summer, the government in

MacDonald made it

"Even though sometimes we do not like the results of MacDonald was sent to democracy, we must accept

internal discussions [with liament Hill found them- among a number of MPs proach the issue with an whether Canada should "hoist" the trade deal so as

> In the end, the governsired effect, and it certainly

There would be no ques-Enter into the picture the time of great hope for tion of rewarding or pun-

MacDonald spent three

Continued on page 2

Never letting go

Nancy Weisler's first CD is a musical inner voyage

by Roberta Staley

When Nancy Weisler was young, mom Donna jazz drummer Louie Nelson the CD is scheduled to hit would croon along to a Neil Diamond eight track while music scene only a few driving the family station wagon.

beat the skins as a teenage drummer with his own and other Edmonton bands.

Great-uncle Charlie Nel-

By Alan J. Borsuk

was glad he did.

smiled in two weeks."

cle Moishy concerts.

noon. The visit was

piness. "He smiled," Emie the next day.

Milwaukee Journal

Octogenarian uncle and Pierce of Maximum Music, retired from the Vancouver music stores (including years ago. But it took until the ripe

prodigious skills.

This singer/songwriter son ran Vancouver's now and guitarist is now carving "Ha,ha,ha. A living?" the defunct Mandarin night out her own niche with the delicate 27-year-old asks club, bringing in such mu-release of her first CD, liv-rhetorically.

Command performance

Uncle Moishy shines for 3-year-old boy in hospital

sical legends as The Mills ing by letting go. Produced by Vancouver's Shawn HMV at West Edmonton Mall) this month.

During an interview at Her surgeon dad, Marvin old age of 14 for Ms. her Vancouver apartment, Weisler to start wowing Ms. Weisler raises a dark music teachers with her eyebrow when asked when she first decided to try to make a living in music.

one else's bed ... skin and bones and a ravaged heart are all that's left of our eyed about her future in Ms. Weisler, tossing back

the heroin-addled angst of

Nirvana nor the gritty rock

fused with a whiff of coun-

of Melissa Etheridge. In-

try, the album's ten songs

the-road. Ms. Weisler has

don't think I'm a light per-

son," she says. "The music

is coming from a very deep

are musically middle-of-

written all the songs. "I

rocky start." But she also has fun on the album, especially with the song *Clear*, written to give her vibrant vocals free

former, who had no prior "This lifted his spirits, most preachy. I think we man-tract. If no one bites, she's very sensitive to people and One performer, one relationship with the child, definitely," said Coby's fa- aged to create an album determined to distribute it that all sorts of people can herself. The Levi family is from relate to and enjoy within a

days in Gaza, where he met year, it has slowed down to cheeks who are sitting in Mahel Masri, the Palestin- one or two percent and last camps in Gaza could not ian minister of economy month actually went back- care less about what we are

> MacDonald said only prosperity will bring peace.

This article originally "The poor people and Jewish News and is reprint-

who had heard that Coby teaches in songs. "A child, a very ill child,

was an Uncle Moishy fan. Samuels said he had wanted me to come, and if WAUWATOSA, Wis., arranged things to cheer up I could bring some cheer to January 1, 1997 - Uncle sick children in the past, this child, why shouldn't I Moishy played the smallest and sometimes it wasn't come?" he asked. show you can play in Mil-easy. In this case, he called Uncle Moishy gave Co-

organization in Milwaukee, life, as Uncle Moishy

waukee recently, and he Tanenbaum, and the per- by a video — and a boost. child, and a little bit of hap- was in Milwaukee by noon ther.

Levi said, describing the "We had a lovely party Teaneck, N.J., but has tem-pop market place. reaction of his 3-year- old for him," Tanenbaum said porarily relocated to Milson, Coby, who has been a after the private visit. He waukee while Coby is a pa-stayed 100 percent true to tough slogging. Although and is reprinted with perpatient at Children's Hospi-played guitar and sang tient at Children's. The me," she says, adding being her Grade 8 music teacher mission. tal of Wisconsin after un- songs with Coby and his hospital is a leading center dergoing a bone marrow kindergarten-age brother, for pediatric bone marrow transplant. "He hasn't Arych. They sang a song transplants." about learning Torah and Ernie Levi declined to

Moishy has been to many specific commandments of tion, other than to say, "It's Jewish children what Big Jewish life. They had a along road." Bird and Barney have been snack, and said blessings to kids in general. There over the food.

For two decades, Uncle songs about some of the talk about his son's situa-

are Uncle Moishy tapes, "We learned a lot today along the road. Uncle Moishy videos, Un- and we had some laughs, too," Tanenbaum said.

Moishy — in real life, Moshe Tanenbaum, a pho-visits hospitals frequently Journal Sentinel) tographer who lives in around Jewish holidays or Brooklyn — flew to Mil- when he hears about sick at the hospital, and returned the farthest he had gone to Sunday, February 2. to New York in the aftervisit one child.

Cheering up those who arranged by Rabbi Yoseph are sick is a big mitzvah, or ets and information Samuels of the Lubavitch commandment, in Jewish

At least on December 31, there were a few smiles

(Reprinted by permis-Tanenbaum, 42, said he sion of the Milwaukee

Uncle Moishy will be waukee on the morning of children in cities where he appearing in Edmonton December 31, visited Coby is performing. But this was at the Fantasyland Hotel,

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Palestinians are not op-

posed at all to CIFTA, because they hope it will allow them to trade with the outside world, something they said Israel prevents them from doing by closing borders, blocking their produce from entering Israel, or even going to other parts of the occupied territories.

Israel is paying a heavy price for the stalled peace talks, he said. When the free trade talks began, the Israeli economy was growing at five and six percent. It was the fastest growing economy outside Asia. This

The library is located in by Canadian and American Shalom Synagogue, 11916 Jewish Writers." It will Jasper Ave. The communi-10 discussion is still to be 12 noon Sundays and durannounced but on April 14, ing office hours throughout

CDMONTON TEWISH TIFE

An independent community newspaper serving the Jewish Population of Edmonton and Northern Alberta.

Publisher & Managing Editor Neil R. Loomer

Edmonton Jewish Life is published monthly by N.R.L. Publishing Ltd. Pre-Press Production by Innovative Design Services Printed by Central Web, Edmonton, Alta.

Vol. 6 No. 1 January 1997 Canadian Publications Mail Product Sales Agreement #476552

Contents: Edmonton Jewish Life assumes no responsibility for the content of, or opinions expressed in news, advertising, articles by contributing writers or letters to the editor. In democratic free expression, this newspaper's columns are open to different views as well as to rebut or rectify inaccuracies, perceived or otherwise. EJL also reserves the right in its sole discretion to reject news, articles, letters or advertising. Reproduction or transmission of all or any part of this publication by any means whatsoever is forbidden without prior permission of the publisher.

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Ms. Weisler is taking on the cut-throat world of pop music. But only time will one another. It has shown tell if *live by letting go* can appeal to this fickle audime commitment. ence. The album is neither

"I couldn't be happier caf, coffee while a cold way instead of being so in Vancouver winter rain sloshes down.

waitress and in retail to and Garfunkel hits. In one cut, Everything save enough money to pro-Burns, Ms Weisler writes duce an album. She won't ning her own songs after of infidelity and heartbreak: reveal the cost. "It wasn't el high school, something she "Cause all you have is an cheapo." She admits the says was a tremendous reimage left of me in some- Bank of Mom and Dad lease valve for her emo-

music, admitting that she the long dark hair draping sometimes has qualms her shoulders. about ignoring parental advice to study for a more tra-that's happening in ditional career. She plans to send the CD to all the ma-Ms. Weisler says she jor and independent record tried to avoid "being labels to try to clinch a con- was always very emotional,

That's typical. Ms.

Jewish has influenced her in Israel encouraged Ms. music. "It's sense of com- Weisler's parents to send munity. People are there for her to a prestigious New York music school, she bowed out. "I had the presence of mind to know I just with the way things turned wanted to continue on my out," she says, sipping de- own path, find my own

Her heros were Aretha Although rehearsal for Franklin and Patsy Cline. the CD started in May and And during high school. production wrapped in Oc- she worked with a profestober, the lyrics have ges-sional musician, refining tated for years, she says. her harmonies singing Bea Ms. Weisler worked as a tles cover tunes and Simon

Ms. Weisler started pentions. "I always felt a little And she's not starry bit alone and isolated," says

"I can freak out over Bosnia," she explains. "Everything touches my emotions. Even as a kid, I energies and things that go on around me."

-This article originally Weisler has never been appeared in the Vancouver "On the other hand, we daunted by the prospect of Jewish Western Bulletin

CIFTA clears Senate continued from page 1

and trade, and Dr. Nabeel Shath, minister of planning and international cooperation. He also met several senior economic and busi- the children with hollow ed with permission. ness advisors to Yasser

wards one percent.

doing." he said.

appeared in The Canadian

He discovered that the Library Series topics announced

brary discussion series feathe University of Alberta lutionary Russia." English Department. His topic will be "New Poems take place Monday, February 10 at 7:30 p.m.

The topic for the March

The next presentation in of Moscow State Universithe Beth Shalom Yedlin Li-ty will speak on the topic "The Orthodox Church and tures Dr. Bob Solomon of Anti-Semitism in Pre-Revo-

the lower level of Beth ty is invited to visit the library to do research or borrow books from 10 a.m. to Professor M. V. Dimitriev the week.

Jewish Family Services Board

Mr. Barry Goldberg, President of Jewish Family Services, has announced that the 41st Annual Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 12, 1997. According to the By-Laws, the Members of the Agency may submit nominations for the Board of Directors that will be elected at this meeting. This notice is hereby given in accordance with Article V, Section 4 of the By-Laws of Jewish Family Services:

"Notice of nominations shall be made to the Members of the Agency not less than one month prior to the Annual Meeting. Nominations shall be accepted from the Members of the Agency if submitted in writing with acceptance by the nomines prior to the Annual Meeting. If an election is necessary, it shall be held at the Annual Meeting by closed ballot."

Anyone wishing to nominate a Board Member may do so by submitting the name of the nominee in writing to the office, #606 McLeod Building, 10136-100 Street, Edmonton, T5J 0P1, one month prior to March 12, 1997.

Ancient holiday takes on a new meaning

INTRODUCTION

January 1997 • Shevat 5757

Year for the trees, was des- ing history.

the trees, and all of God's the first of all trees in Israel creation. The evolution of to blossom. Carob or St

ignated, following debate After the exile of the could survive the long trip inthe Talmud, as the time Jews from Israel, Tu B'Sh-from Israel to Jewish comof renewal of budding in vat became a day on which munities in Europe and the trees. The early winter to commemorate our conrains were mostly over, the nection to Eretz Israel. Dursap in the trees had risen, ing much of Jewish history, Kabbalists carried Tu and the period of budding—the only observance of this—B'Shvat a step further. For was just beginning. The day was the practice of eat-them, trees were a symbol origin of Tu Bishvat in the ing fruit associated with the of humans, as it says: "For Torah was a time for re- land of Israel. A tradition—a human is like a tree of the newal of our commitment—based on Deuteronomy 8:8—field" (Deut. 20:19). In line to God and to share the holds that there are five with their general concern yield of the land with the fruits and two grains asso- with Tikun Olam -spiritualpoor. "Every year, you ciated with it as a "land of ly repairing the world - the shall set aside a tenth part—wheat and barley, of vines,—Kabbalists regarded eating of the yield, so that you figs and pomegranates, a a variety of fruits on Tu may learn to revere your—land of olive trees and—B'Shvat as a way of im-God forever." (Deuterono- [date] honey." Almonds proving our spiritual selves. my 14.22-23) Today we were also given a promicelebrate Tu B'Shvat also nent place in Tu B'Shvat ritual consumption of the for renewal of our commit- meals since the almond ment to serve and protect trees were believed to be

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Hillel

and the

Tu Bishvat, the New this holiday has an interest- John's bread - was the most popular fruit to use, since it

The medieval mystical They believed that the

fruits and the nuts, if done with the proper intention (kavanah), would cause the sparks of holy light hidden in the fruit to be liberated from their shells and rise up the heavenly ladder to return to their divine source, thereby contributing to the renewal of life for the coming year.

enly tree, or ladder.

flow and effect Tikun tree planting in Israel. It is the poor suffer dispropor-Ts'fat (16th century) creat-money for Ma'ot Peirot - tal degradation. Rabbi gadah for a Tu B'Shvat ed a Tu Bishvat seder tz'daka for those in need. Pesach seder.

January 29, 1997

17404-53 Ave.

7:30 p.m.

If I am not for myself, who will be for me? The ecological crisis threatens our health, our children's future,

If I am only for myself, what am I?

The well-being of all of God's children, the survival of multitudes of species, the very integrity of Creation.

If not now, WHEN?

-- Rabbi Hillel, Pirkei Avot/Ethics of the Fathers

God led Adam around the Garden of Eden and said, "Look at My works. See how beautiful they are, how excellent! For your sake I created them all. See to it that you do not spoil or destroy My world -for if you do, there will be no one to repair it after you."

(Ecclesiastes Rabbah 7.13)

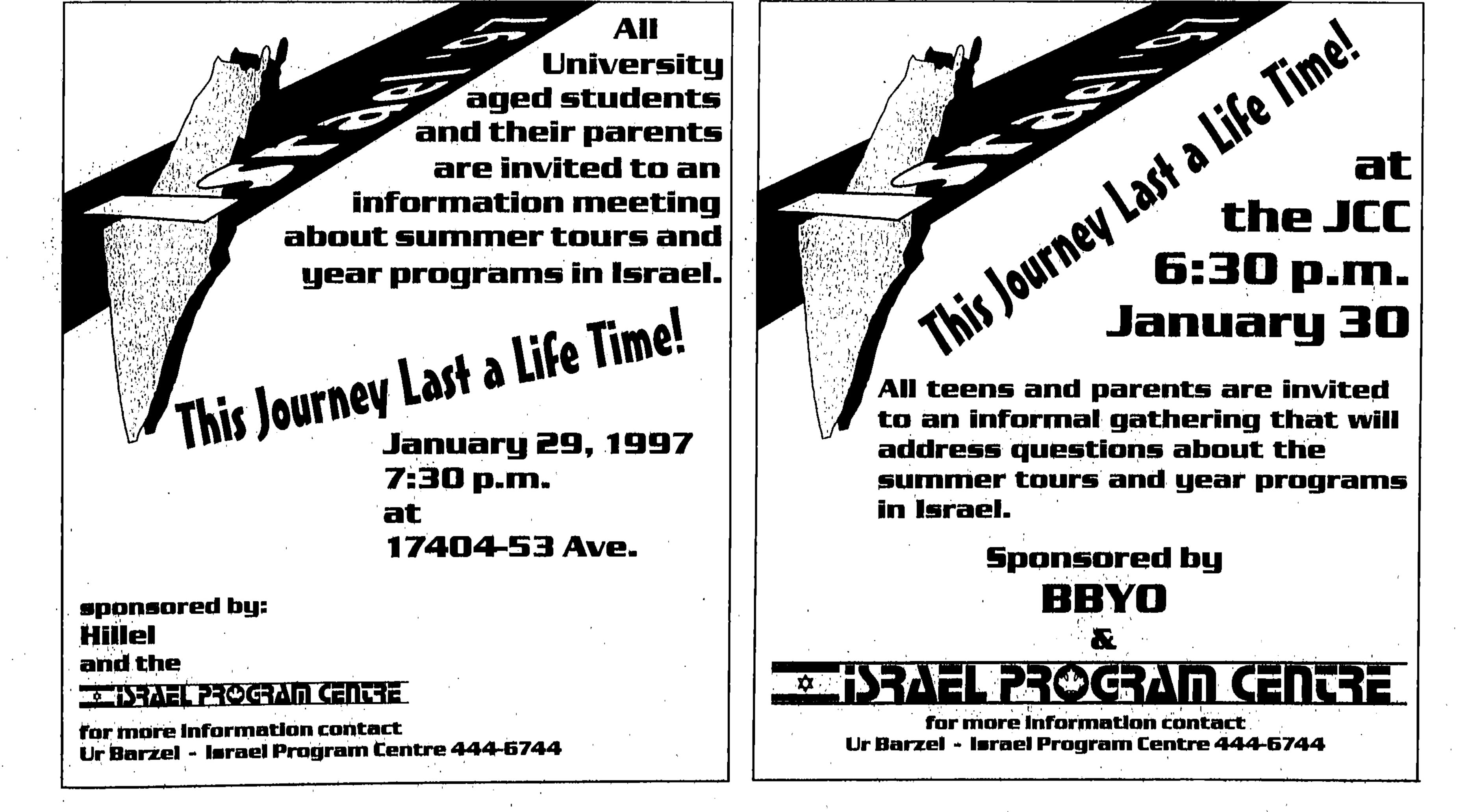
stakes have become much—deed become primarily—http://www.jcn18.com

as a "tree of life to them with the growth of Zionism on us to cry out against the the world is now a gigantic that hold fast to it." The and the founding of the enormity of destruction and tool box for the satisfaction Kabbalists pictured their State of Israel, the associa-degradation being inflicted of their needs..." philosophical construct of tion of Tu B'Shvat with the upon God's world. This Rabbi Heschel continues the Sephirot - the ten mysti- land of Israel has gained degradation includes deple- "It is when nature is sensed cal emanations of the divin- even more significance. In tion of our protective ozone as mystery and grandeur ity - in the form of a heav- Israel, thousands of chil- layer, global warming, that it calls upon us to look dren plant trees. They play massive deforestation, the beyond it." On this night For the Kabbalists, trees—a vital role in the ecological—extinction of species, poi-we express our joy and were symbolic also of the healing of the land that was sonous deposits of toxic thankfulness for the mystree - the Tree of Life, degraded after centuries of chemicals and nuclear tery and grandeur of nature, which carries divine good- Ottoman rule. In the Dias- wastes, and exponential and renew our commitment ness and blessing into the pora, we give money to the population growth. We are to be responsible custodiworld. To encourage this Jewish National Fund for also deeply concerned that ans of God's world. Olam, the Kabbalists of also customary to collect—tionately from environmen-

loosely modeled after the In recent decades, the "Human beings have in-world wide web at

The Torah is referred to In the twentieth century, higher. Tu Bishvat calls up- tool-making animals, and

A Tu B'Shevat Hag-Abraham Heschel wrote: Seder can be found on the



Viewpoint

By Hirsh Goodman

Somehow, I have the ership develfeeling that reports of our opment demise are grossly overstat- groups, or so, Jewish demographers philanhave had us in a tizzy.

being lost every 40 minutes past. in Britain - all of which is, perhaps, statistically true. Spiritually, however, I am feeling came together in the beginning to believe it does last week of December in not reflect the truth.

I feel it all over - in the younger faces in audiences who have come to listen to lectures about Israel; in the was holding its annual growth in size and profes- meeting. I had been invited sionalism of the plethora of organizations to promote From what I understood at grass-roots Jewish learning, the time I accepted the invibringing out the positive tation, Limmud started off and the beautiful in our re- as a forum for British Jewligion to people denied the ish educators, but expanded privilege of knowing. I feel when university graduates it with the youngsters I who had been active in speak to when they come to their Jewish student unions Israel on one of a host of wanted a framework for programs reaching them in continued interaction. the Diaspora. I feel it when visiting Jewish book fairs,

by Debby Remis

After many years experience as a social worker, I coming these obstacles. accepted my first position within the Jewish community. November 18, 1996 to learn English. I've been was my first day in the ca-able to help with some pacity of Employment Counselor with Jewish Family Services. I was recruited to help new Canadians find work. There is no doubt that I have gained organization, I would apmany new insights and positive relationships. One preciate an opportunity to cannot help but have great fill them for you. You admiration for those who would save the time it takes have the courage to start to screen applicants, have anew. My desire is that the benefit of a well qualithose who are not new to fied, hard working individ-Canada have similar con-ual, and know that you it easier for the new Cana- All of our families were dians. One can only benefit immigrants at one time, from such new relation- and all received an oppor-

Since November, I have seen more than thirteen individuals who are unemployed and looking for following people? work. Their ages range from late teens (students who are seeking part-time jobs) to ment fifties, and their work history is just as varied. A connecting thread, apart gin and 'new-to-Canada' status, is their desire to be

It is a difficult task for strong in estimating. many of those born in Canada to find a job. It is even more difficult when you are new to Canada. Some of the problems they encounter are related to their lack of knowledge regarding resources, job seeking skills, Canadian work history, difficulties in phone communication and isolation from those fluent in English.

tending lead-

thropists who are thinking Our people are disap- Jewishly, not emotionally, pearing, inter-marriage who are investing in the furates are a disaster, a Jew is ture, not paying for the

> Though with me for some months now, this the small Midlands city of Worcester, England.

For the 16th year, an organization called Limmud to come speak on Israel.

Limmud was a meeting of some 1,000 British Jews, speaking to Jewish profes- mostly young. Over 200

I have referred many to

school applications, meet-

ing a Carcer Development

Counselor and applying to

the Student Finance Board

cancies in your business or

have performed a *mitzvah*.

migrants in the same way.

University of Alberta

istration Program, NAIT

kitchen or sales.

Registered nurse

Mining engineer

Services - 424-6346

Should you have any va-

community resources that might be of help in overday 1:15- 2:30 p.m.: One individual has chosen to return to school in order

> Concepts of God in Different Faiths";

"Religious Diversity and

Impact on Jews";

others had been turned away due to lack of accommodation. They had come for six days of intensive perience";

Jewish learning and paid over \$200 for the privilege. unteers in the mid-20s to and Israeli Women";

early-30s, had thought of almost everything. There parents with young children could attend and enjoy.

There was Young Limmud for the older children. The food was vegetarian so Law"; that all could feel comfortable with kashrut, and there were three minyanim if you wanted to attend. Religion

"What Does it Mean to was your business. This meeting was about the totality of being Jewish. Two hundred educators

had been brought in from ty"; eight countries. The program tracks ranged from ploring the Torah's Story midrash to family education to spirituality, storytelling to medical ethics. At any given point of the day till after midnight you had a

I open the program book beside me randomly. Mon-

Law and Narrative in Ruth. Jonah Deuteronomy"; "

"Sephardi Israel and

"Everyday Spirituality: Our Bodies";

"Reassessing Jewish Identity in Europe";

"God and the Holo-

"A Different Israel Ex-

"'Pushing Through' Discussion about a Play The organizers, all vol- Performed by Palestinian

> "Rejection and Tolerance:Jewish Immunology" "Hasidic Dances, Songs and Stories";

"Contemporary Jewish

"Introduction to Oral "We All Stand Together:

The Blessing of Joseph"; "Is Teaching Hebrew a Waste of Time?";

Be a Jewish Leader?"; "Midrash: Joseph, the Technicolored Personali-

"In God's Image: ExofCreation as a Corner-

stone of Judaism.

These were the options for just one of the 12 timeslots on Monday. If you were still up at midnight you could always go to "Hey Sigmund! What Is It with These Jews," one of five choices, and go to bed

contemplating the question. The fantastic thing about Limmud is that it is so unexpected. The British Jewish community, to put it mildly, has not been dominated by liberals or plural-

For years the conference was shunned by the traditional Orthodox structures, even banned by the Beth Din because non-Orthodox educators were among those teaching.

YESTERDAY'S THINKING 🖺

In a community where the chief rabbi only recently did not attend the funeral all streams, other than the ultra-Orthodox.

Civil, deep, meaningful, mutually respectful - almost the antithesis of the good. current formal dialogue between the various Jewish

Why be Jewish is a question that perplexes us with permission.

h e all. Because it was not taboo was something that necessarily broken perplexed our fathers - they three years either took it for granted or by did not care - the answer R a b b i has been lost on many of Michael us. There should be a Lim-Harris, then the rabbi at mud in every country Southend, now of Hamp- where there are Jews. If a stead, and the son of the particular community is too chief rabbi of South Africa; small, the meeting should and this year there were be held regionally. There is yarmulkes all over the not much thinking to be done here.

The British model is close to brilliant, including that it is held over the of the leader of British Re- Christmas vacation. The form Jewry, Rabbi Hugo clarion call of the doom-Gryn, here we had wonder- and-gloom demographers ful, natural, genuine inter- was the right one at the action between Jews from time, but to continue to cite negative statistics is yesterday's thinking. There is something happening out there - and for once, it is

> This column originally appeared in The Jerusalem Report and is reprinted

Learning from the trees

As we approach the holiday of Tu B'Shvat, it is appropriate to derive a lesson from the trees especially since the Torah compares mankind to a tree.

The beauty of a tree is not just the fact that it produces fruit which can be enjoyed by all but as well that the fruit contains seeds with which to further maintain its species. In a similar vein, a Jew

cannot satisfy him/herself by performing mitzvos and leaving it at that. Rather be "seeds" to the mitzyos, fluence on others to grow in Yiddishkeit. Furthermore, just like someone planting a tree, periodically checks up on the tree to en-



sure that it is growing propone must ensure that there erly so one must maintain constant watch over our be it ones own commitment own growth as Jews and only then will we be ensured that we will produce "high quality fruit."

> Rabbi Ari Chabad 4-TORAH-4

PARTICIPATION PORTOR TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTICIPATION OF THE PARTICI Camp B'nai B'rith tunity to work. You can VOffice: 7200-156 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5R 1X3 Phone (403)444-4282 help our current Jewish im-Fax (403) 481-5783 Toll Free 1-800-267-2267 ' Summer: Pine Lake, Alberta, T0M 1S0 Phone (403)886-4812 Fax (403)886-4824 Do you have jobs for the Web Site: www.camp.ca/bnaibrlth High School students seeking part-time employ-Check out Camp BB on the Internet !!! Recent graduate from Dental Hygiene Program, • Recent graduate from Computer Network Admin- Civil engineer who is • ESL student who is seeking part-time work as Former physics teacher who is seeking position in www.camp.ca/bnaibrith If so, please call Debby Remis at Jewish Family

Federation Centre Piece

A New Voice for the New Year

Since last spring when the Federation Reporter was discontinued as a cost cutting measure, the Jewish Federation of Edmonton has been without its own means of communicating with the community. This Federation Centre Piece will from now on provide a regular update on the activities of the Federation and of the Jewish Community Centre. Our thanks go to Neil Loomer, Editor of the Edmonton Jewish Life, for offering us this opportunity to speak with our own voice.

WHO ARE WE?

January 1997 • Shevat 5757

The Jewish Federation of Edmonton is dedicated to community building, which is accomplished by leadership in collaboration with our members and other Jewish organizations to ensure the continuity and enrichment of Jewish life and Jewish values. We are committed to the support of the State of Israel and Klal Israel, and to acting responsibly as the voice of Edmonton's Jewish Community within the larger community and region.

The JCC, in its programs, its purpose and direction is committed to the strengthening and enriching of Jewish life as its primary goal, while providing a. wide range of services and activities to the Jewish and general communities.



Shalom Playschool

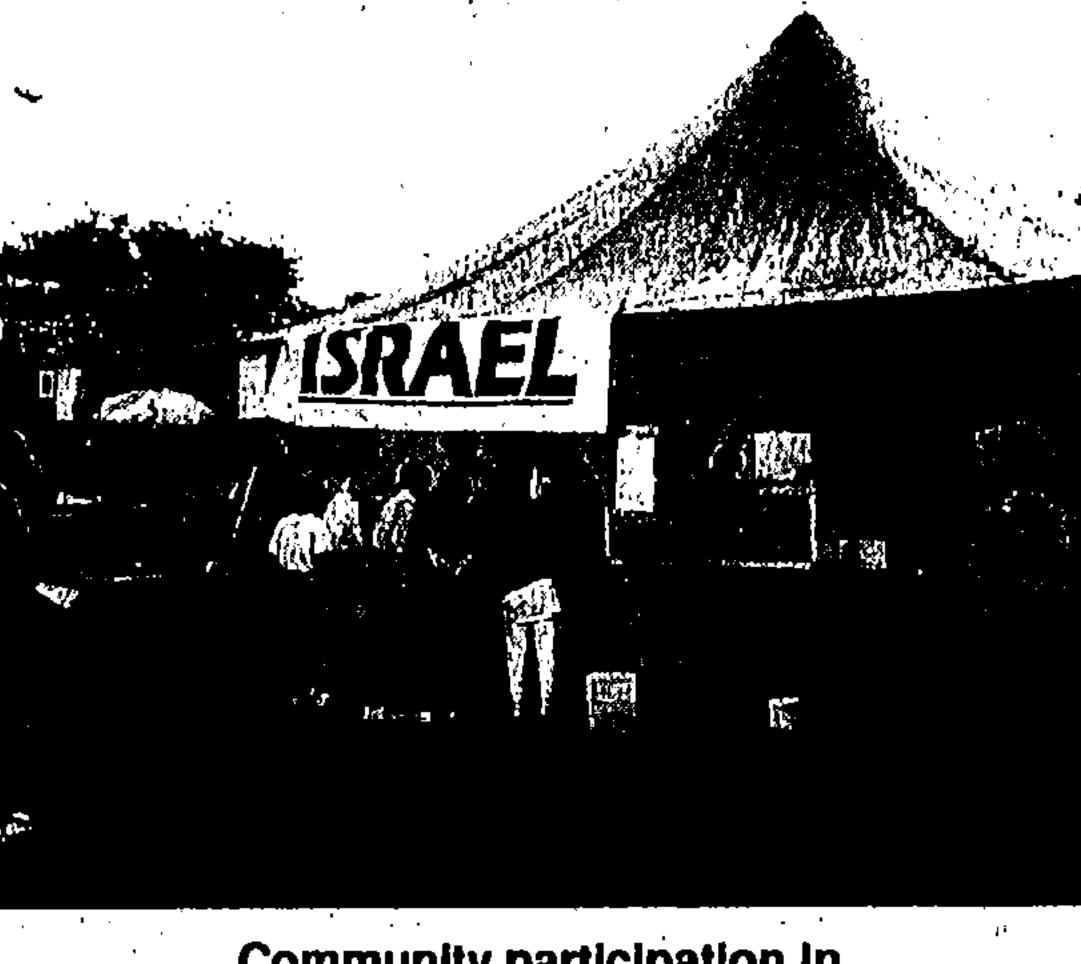
WHAT DOES FEDERATION DO?

We conduct the annual United Jewish Appeal in order to help fund and promote the programs and activities of local, national, international and Israel agencies such as:

B'nai B'rith Youth Organization Camp B'nai B'rith Canada-Israel Committee Canadian Jewish Congress Canadian Zionist Federation Jewish Agency for Israel Jewish Community Centre Jewish Family Services Jewish Immigrant Aid Services Jewish Students Association/Hillel March-of-the Living **Talmud Torah** United Israel Appeal of Canada, Inc. World Zionist Organization

- · We provide a forum where every Jewish agency, institution and organization in Edmonton can come together to discuss and deal with issues of common interest, such as:
- a) Jewish education in all its facets
 - preschool
 - -dayschool - Adult - Hebrew classes
- Judaic study
- English as a second language

- b) Jewish continuity study sessions
- speakers forums
- guest lectures
- c) Jewish/Israeli Culture
- arts & literature - Israel Pavilion at Heritage Days
- d) Kashrut e) Community Security
- f) Jewish response to poverty and despair



Community participation in **Edmonton's Heritage Days**

· We manage the JCC, and through it provide services to the Jewish and general communities, such

- a) A "home" to Jewish community organizations: - Temple Beth Ora
- Edmonton Chapter of Canadian Zionist Federation & Young Judea - Camp B'nai B'rith
- Edmonton Hadassah-WIZO
- Edmonton Jewish Scouts
- Jewish National Fund
- Na'amat
- Shalom Playschool - The future Jewish Seniors Residence. Beit Horim
- b) Rental space to non-Jewish groups such as:
- Political parties
- Sports groups - Alberta College of Music
- Montessori Bilingual School
- Rio Terrace Community
- c) Provide a home and staff for youth and afternoon programs from pre-school, through BBYO up to and including campus activities for JSA/Hillel
- d) Shalom day-camp, to respond to the summer needs of families, and provide an internship for youth leaders.
- e) Staff and space for Jewish/Israeli programs, observances and cultural events that mark our calendar, including Purim,
- Chanukah, Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut. f) Staff and facilities for physical, recreational, social and organization activities.
- We have developed and provide Holocaust Education and educational experiences to the Jewish and general communities through the annual High School Holocaust Symposium, Kristallnacht and Yom Hashoa programs, Remembrance Day representation, and leadership and participation in the International Mach-of-the-Living.



The late Keith Rutherford with Federation's Holocaust Symposium volunteers Valda Levin (L) and Gilllan Horwitz

source service to the Jewish and general communities. Our library houses the city's largest collection of Holocaust print and visual resources.

We act as a Jewish and Israel Information re-

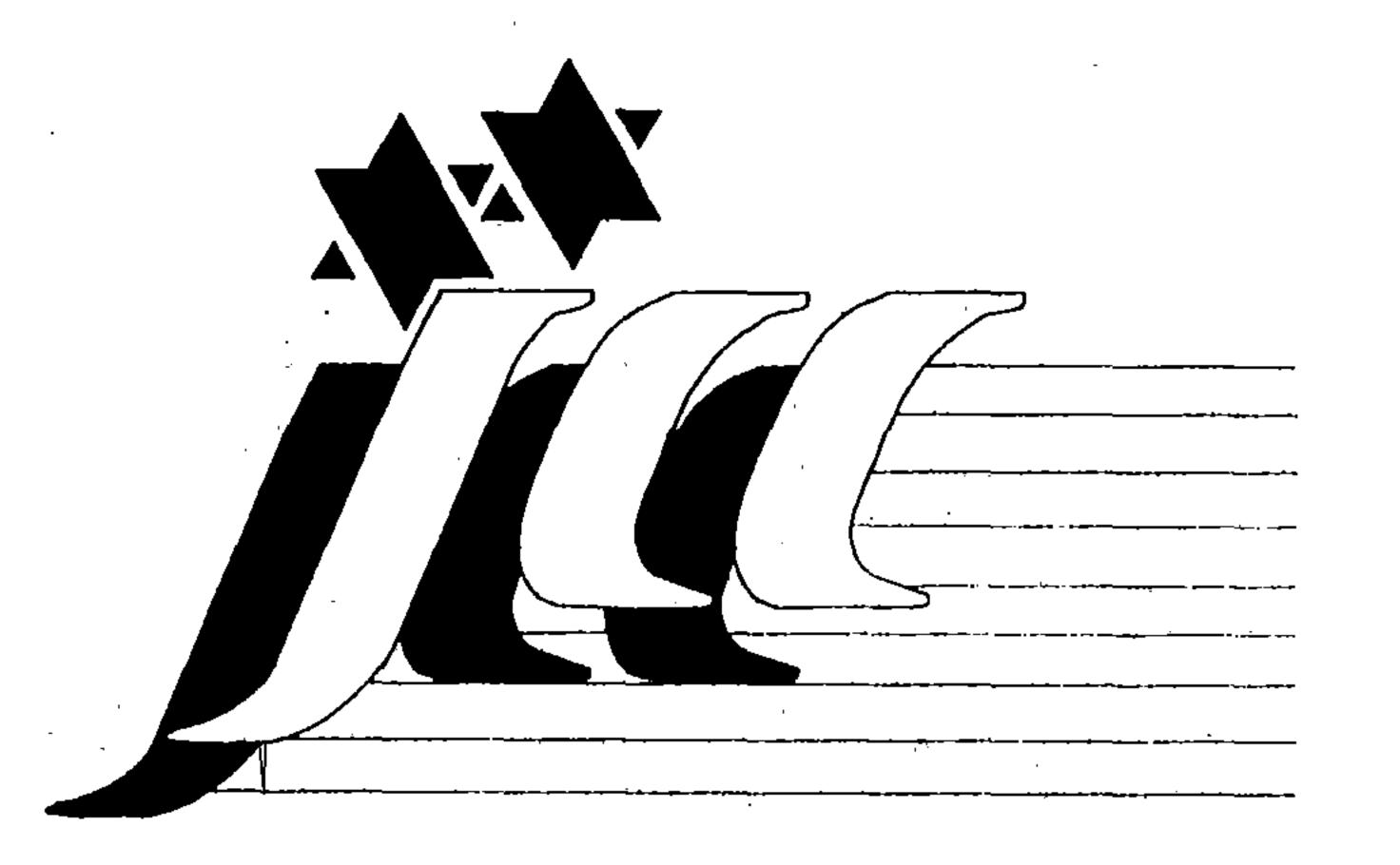
- We represent the Edmonton Jewish community on the national Jewish scene.
- · We speak on behalf of the Canadian Jewish community to local media.
- We liaise with local police services, Canadian Jewish Congress, and the State of Israel to ensure the security and safety of our Jewish population.
- We advocate with local and national organizations, Jewish and non Jewish, to promote equality and acceptance and to fight racism in general and anti-Semitism in particular. We act upon the legitimate concerns of any individual, Jew or non Jew, who approaches us on issues involving racism, anti-Semitism and xenophobia.
- We co-operate and work with local and provincial government, the Israeli Embassy and Consulate, and national organizations to promote cultural, academic and business ties between Alberta and Israel.
- · We promote travel to Israel for all ages, and provide an initial contact with the Israel government for those wishing to make Aliyah.



Remembrance Day observances at the Jewish Cemetery

Jewish Federation of Edmonton • Jewish Community Centre 7200-156 Street Phone 487-0585 Fax: 481-1854 Executive Director: Lesley Jacobson

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The JCC is making moves to serve you better!

As of January 1, 1997, staff changes have been made in order to provide greater service to and develop more comprehensive programs for you, our user. Andy Kaulbach is our full-time Recreation Director. Jennifer Lasychuk is our full-time Aquatics Programmer. Please feel free to approach them with your comments, their doors are always open. The JCC is the place to be, as we head toward the year 2000!

Come out and try Aerobics!

Know

Swimming lessons at the ICC now include:

Eight swimming lessons taught by one of our fantastic instructors also one private lesson

FREE public swimming on the day of your lesson all for \$40.00

Private Swimming Lessons:

Having problems finding a time that suits you, need some extra practice, cannot find a course, then call us! The JCC swimming pool has what you need.

We offer private and semi-private swimming lessons. Our qualified and experienced aquatic instructors will work on the skills of your choice at a time that is convenient for you.

The JCC Aquatics Department is always interested in our patron's needs. If you have a request for a class or a course, please let us know and we will do our best to set it up for you. Call us at 487-0585.

Looking for Girls interested in starting a club:

The JCC would like to start a Synchronized Swimming Club for the fall of 1997. We offer a 12 hour introduction to Synchronized Swimming class. The more interest in the class means the greater the possibility of becoming a seasonal club. If you are interested please register now, or just come and try the synchro experience. Call Jennifer at 487-0585 for course information.

Sunday, January 12 - February 16 1:00 - 3:00 pm Sunday, March 2 - April 6 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Saving someone's life is the greatest gift you can give!

The JCC offers programs in lifeguarding, standard first aid, CPR, Bronze Medallion, Senior Resuscitation, Bronze Cross and many fitness skills. Train to be prepared for an emergency. Call 487-0585 for course information.

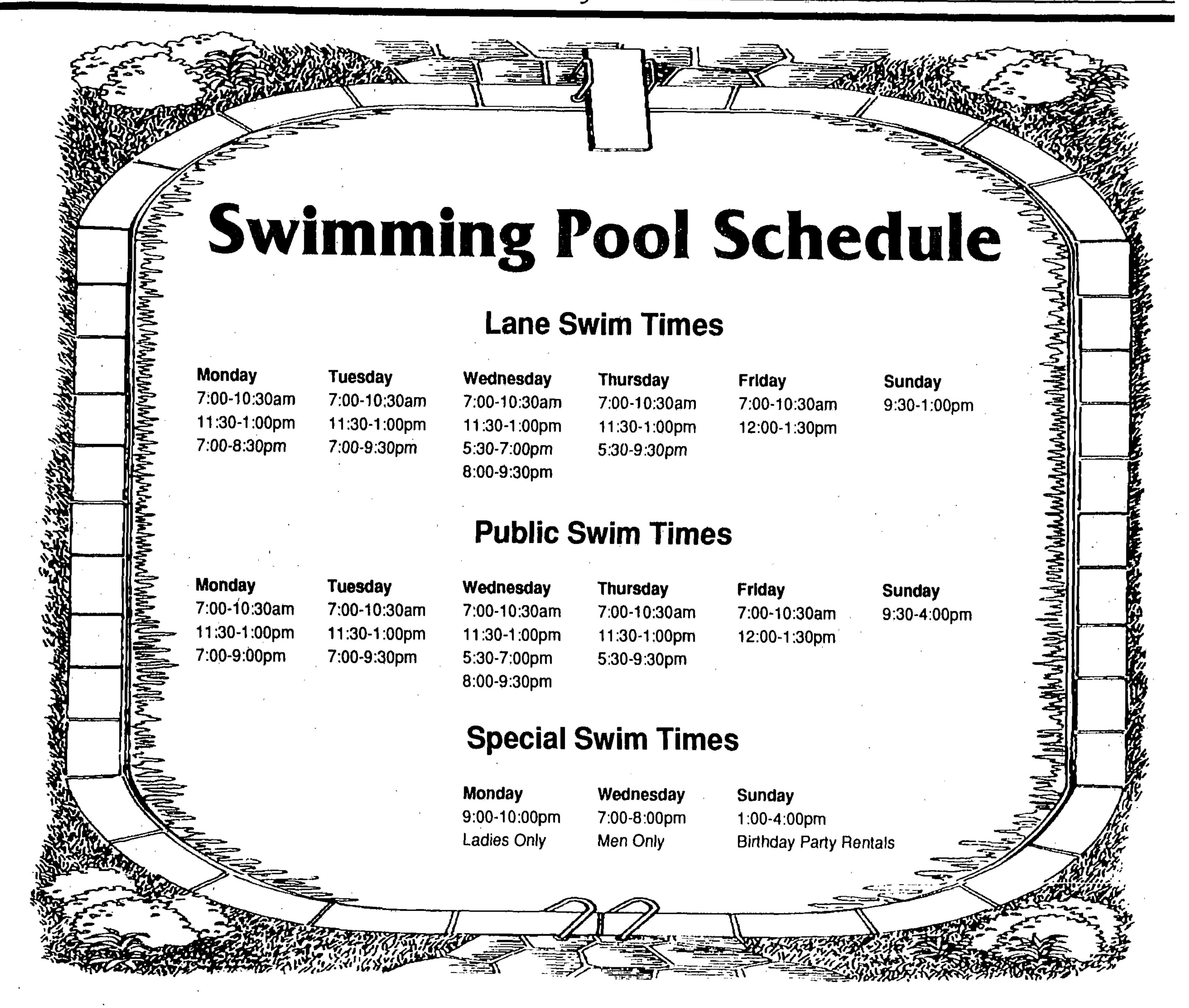
Free visit to JCC Aerobics Good for one FREE aerobics

what

you're

aeropics	11-
class	Swe
expires ebruary 28, 1997	

Aerobics Schedule						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
	9:15-10:15am Step it up		9:15-10:15am Step it up		9:15-10:15am Just pump it	
	10:30-12pm Dee's Dynamos	•	10:30-12pm Dee's Dynamos			
11-12pm Sweatworks		1-2pm Stretch'n'Tone		1-2pm Stretch'n'Tone		
		7-8 pm Step'n'Tone		7-8pm Power Workout		



Preschool and Children's Programmes

Classes run January 13 to February 28

Pisher Pals (ages 18 months to 3yrs)

Cost \$45.00

This programme is designed to provide your child with the opportunity for socialization, creativity, and curiosity with a help from our moms or dads. So come out and make new friend or spend time with an old pal. Snack provided.

Grandparents and nannies welcome. Wednesday 9:30 to 11:00 am

Kids R US - Cost \$120.00

Preschool extravaganza!! For three hours twice a week your child will take part in a variety of exciting activities at the JCC. Upon arrival we will lunch (brought from home) with our pals, read stories, sing songs, make crafts, cook, swim, and if we're not too tired play in the gym.

4 year olds 5 year olds

。"我们是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人 第一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就是一个人,我们就

Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00-1:00 pm Tuesdays & Thursdays 12:15-3:15 pm

Wanted: Used Joys!

The JCC needs toys, dolls, craft supplies, etc.
Your donation will help children's programs.

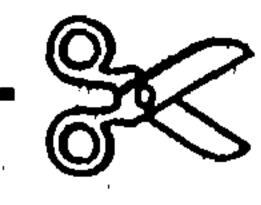
Coupon

Call 487-0585 Andy.

FAMILY SWIMMING PASS

Good for one *FREE* swim Sunday, February 16, 1997 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Try us ... you'll like us!



United Jewish Appeal Update

WHAT IS UNITED JEWISH APPEAL AND WHY SHOULD I GIVE TO IT?

The local United Jewish Appeal Campaign raises monies in the local Jewish community to benefit local, national and international Jewish organizations. It is an umbrella campaign, similar to the United Way campaign a unified, highly -organized effort to raise money to benefit a number of worthy organizations, and to ensure that the money is distributed amongst the beneficiaries.

WHERE DOES YOUR MONEY GO?

Local institutions supported by the UJA campaign include: the Talmud Torah, Jewish Community Centre, the Jewish Federation of Edmonton, Camp B'nai Brith, Jewish Family Services and Hillel Jewish Students' Association.



1996 March of the Living Participants

Nationally, UJA helps to support: Canadian Jewish Congress, Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, Canada-Israel Committee, National Campus Services, Canada-Israel Foundation for Academic Exchange, Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society and Canadian Professors for Peace in the Middle East.

In Israel, United Jewish Appeal, through the efforts of the Jewish Agency, fund five basic programs: Immigration and Absorption, Rural and Urban Development, Youth Aliyah, Joint Authority for Jewish Zionist Education, Allocation and Program Grants.

These are the programs which are supported by your UJA dollars. Please try to make a contribution. Many are counting on you!!

IF YOU HAVEN'T MADE A PLEDGE TO THIS YEARS UNITED JEWISH APPEAL CAMPAIGN, PLEASE CONSIDER HOW FAR YOUR CONTRIBUTION GOES.....AND WHAT A DIFFERENCE IT CAN MAKE!

Thank you for your pledge to the 1996 United Jewish Appeal Campaign

Af you paid your pledge before December 31, 1996 you will receive a 1996 tax receipt

All tax receipts will be mailed at the end of January (unless special arrangements have been made)

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL HAS ALSO MADE IT EASIER TO PAY YOUR PLEDGE

*Send in your post-dated cheques ` This helps us elimate the cost of sending bills

Call Raia at the UJA office with your Visa or Mastercard number 487-0585

credit card payments can also be post-dated

Did We Miss You This Year?

Each year, we try to reach every member of our community in the hopes that they will help support our local United Jewish Appeal Campaign

Unfortunately,we may have missed you! Don't Worry, you can still make your 1996 pledge to the UJA Campaign

Yes, I want to help build Jewish life in Edmonton My 1996 United Jewish Appeal Contribution will be:

> \$120 - \$10 per month \$52 - a dollar a week Other \$_____. \$365 – a dollar a day

every dollar counts Please bill me Payment enclosed

Expiry Date_ Name as it appears on the card Please call me, I would like to arrange payment of my pledge over a period of time.

Name: (please print)

Work Phone Home phone_

community

January 1997 • Shevat 5757

Youth Convention is an adventure

by Jared Shore

weekend...150teenagers... weekend was "Dare to energy in this program 15 staff...luxurious hotel. Live Your Vision" and in-right now is something that Sounds like it could be the cluded a guest speaker, Ju-very few other regions are buster starring Arnold whole lotta good times. Schwarzenegger as the ultimate advisor, trying to keep—vention is just another indi-able four years in this orgahis eye on 150 teens. We'd cation of the strength of nization, because the more call it "Winter Convention Northwest Canada's BBYO you put into BBYO, the - The Adventure Contin- program this year. We're more you get out of it.

Participants came from and there's more to come. Calgary, Edmonton, Regina and Saskatoon for one of tunity to spend a week in

The success of this con-

only in January and we al-Now, realistically, it ready have 40 more memwasn't Hollywood material, bers than we did all of last

I recently had the oppor-

the finest conventions this Wisconsin at BBYO staff region has seen in a long—conference. I can tell you The scene opens... one time. The theme of the without hesitation that the This energy will no doubt translate into an unbeliev-

As fun as it may have been to have had Arnold Schwarzenegger running but a fantastic convention? year. Our last convention in around the Palliser Hotel Absolutely! On December Edmonton broke atten-during the convention, we 13. Northwest Canada Re- dance records by a long don't need him. We're dogion BBYO held it's annu-shot. In addition, chapter ing just fine on our own. al Winter Convention at the programming in all four But in Arnold's famous Palliser Hotel in Calgary. cities has been excellent—words, we can tell the Palliser Hotel "we'll be back!"

What's going on in Na'amat

The year opened with a Beat the Winter Blues din-meeting on financial inlovely dinner and installa- ner, and then in February, tion of the new executive—they start planning for at the Royal Glenora their annual Mother's Day Country Club. Since then, Brunch. the chapters have had inlatest Hollywood block- daic programming and a presently experiencing. I teresting and fun-loving. Chanukah party and meet-

> Aviva had a wonderful Chanukah party where—gather again in the Spring. 7:30 p.m. At the home of they had a gift exchange, hand a New Year's Eve exciting and varied pro- Lindsev bat Joseph will be ness meeting following.

his favourite documentary.

Kanot had a beautiful

hosted by Lynn Milner, members. Constable Noel Women in Judaism. For will be a swim and exer- Deagle from the Edmon- more information call Veise session with the busi-ton Police Service spoke—Brenda at 483-9249. on safety issues for B'not Shalom spent the women at their September Shalom Synagogue puts first meeting selecting its meeting. The October on a service at Canterbury executive and programs meeting featured Ann Mc- Court. For the past few i for the year. In November, Farland who spoke on months, the volunteers of homeopathy. Tikvah chap- Na'amat have been prothe group how he made ter also had a children's viding the pastry and have documentaries and Sukkot party with Rabbi enjoyed serving the resi-Ari and his Sukkahmobile. The speaker for the November meeting was der-Chanukah Bring and Buy matologist Dr. Jerry Katz, cessful Casino on Decemwas held at the home of who provided great tips ber 16 & 17. Thanks to Freda Abugov. It was a for keeping skin youthful. our many volunteers for fun evening with lots to Una Campbell/Fowler their hard work. These | cat and beautifully who is with Sanders & funds are earmarked for wrapped gifts to buy. In Beckingham Securities the Timon Vocational

vestments for women. Tikvah and Aviva,

Chapters co-hosted the Oneg Shabbat on January 10, 1997 for the residents of Canterbury Court. Tiking and the snowbirds are vah will be holding its l off again for the south to January 21st meeting at Tikvah chapter has had Brenda Nahornick, Rabbi Party. Their next program, grams lined up for its speaking on the topic of

> Once a month, the Beth dents of Canterbury Court following services.

Na'amat held a suc-January, B'not Shalom spoke at the December High School in Hadera, Is-

Beth Shalom Synagogue Cash & Travel Draw First Prize\$10,000 ALTERNATION OF THE CANADA OF THE CANADA

Second Prize \$5,000 Third Prize - A Three Night Trip for Two to San Francisco Only 500 Tickets printed - \$100 each

Draw Date - February 15, 1997 Proceeds in support of Beth Shalom Synagogue Arson Restoration Fund, Educational & Community Projects

For Tickets Call 488-6333

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oyota's legendary reputation for quality

is a given. But these days we bring something else to the party.

We call it the Toyota Value Advantage.

Since the majority of cars

TOYOTA COROLLA \$225 per month/48 months
SD PLUS with \$225 FREIGHT AND P.D.E. INCLUDED.

automatic trasnmission lease from with only \$100 down. Toyota sells are now built

right here in North America, we can price our cars to be right in the thick of things. So now you get Toyota's renowned

quality at very competitive prices.

Giving our customers full value for

their money - that's what the Toyota Value Advantage is about.

Toyota Value Advantage

TOYOTA TERCEL CE lease from 195 FREIGHT AND P.D.E. INCLUDED. with only \$100 down.

Leading Plans from Toyota Credit Canada Inc. Q A.C. Offers valid on new 1997 models leased and delivered by February 26, 1997. License, registration, insurance and taxes are extra, includes a maximum of \$700 for freight and P.D.E." based on a 48 month walksway lease on Corolla SD Plus (model BAO) EH-D with automatic transmission) and Tercel CE (model BC51LM-E with manual transmission) with downpayment of \$1000 or equivalent not trade-in. First payment, security deposit of \$275 (Corolla BD Plus) and \$225 (Tercel CE) due on delivery. Total cost of lease \$11,800 (Corolla BD Plus) and \$10,360 (Tercel CE) based on a minimum of 98,000 kms. Additional km. charge of cel CE). Purchase option price of \$7,143.30 (Corolla BD Plus) and \$8,172.65 (Tercel CE) based on a minimum of 98,000 kms. Additional km. charge of \$0.07 per km. if applicable. Dealer may lease for less. See your participating Toyota Dealer for details.

RED DEER TOYOTA

Russ Joseph - General Manager 1-800-662-7166

Free delivery to Edmonton

Hadassah Bazaar drop-off begins This year's Hadassah jewelry, belts, purses, hats, This year, the bazaar

Bazaar will be held on Sun- cookbooks and cooking will also feature a raffle day, March 16, 1997 at the magazines, sports equip-booth called "T42-A Edmonton Convention ment, assorted silk flower. Celebrity for You!" where Centre. Although that arrangements. seems like a long way off, There will be a special chance to have coffee with and Colleen Paull already—for which we need collec-—cluding Rod Connop of the have a drop-off depot. It is tors plates, tea cups and Edmonton Eskimos, Lisa located in the old Hadassah Store at 10720-124 St.

will go out for their annual

and 26th from noon to 3 welcome (eg. baby gift please notify the office at baking is needed as well. If 444-6985 or call Linda Sil-

hard cover, kids clothes, hamentashen, honey cakes and Weatherman John Bartoys, housewares, linens, or gourmet squares.

we would prefer the following best-selling items Items needed for the from last time: Bundt bazaar include the follow- cakes, chiffon, poppyseed

you can enter to win a co-chairs Linda Silverman treasures booth this year, several local celebrities insaucers, china plates and Miller, sports correspontrays, goblets, silver, crys- dent for CFRN, artist Irene Drop off dates for Janu- tal and other collectibles. Klar, theatre impresario ary are Sundays the 19th Stationery leftovers are Dasha Goody, publisher Mel Hurtig, entertainment editor Colin Maclean and any of these drop-offs, ments, etc.) And of course, musician Tommy Banks, Garden Entrepreneur Lois you are bringing baking, Hole, Citadel Theatre Founder Joe Shoctor, Symphony Conductor Gregorz Nowak, University President Rod Fraser, Sun cakes, kamish, kuffles, Columnist Graham Hicks

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Creating Jewish Life: The Jewish Agency in the Former Soviet Union

by Reuven Rosenfelder

It was a once in a lifetime trip, traveling to nine schlichim, the meaning of different cities in the for- the Hebrew word shlichut mer Soviet Snion (FSU) in (going on a mission) be-18 days with photographer—comes a vivid reality. The Vladimir Godnik, a Russ- Israeli presence in these ian Jew who made aliyah to cities makes all the differ-Israel four years ago. To- ence. Decades of suppresgether we covered thou-sion under a totalitarian sands of miles by plane, regime have unfortunately document through photos—tion of their initiative and the activities of the Jewish organizational abilities. The Agency for Israel (JAFI). Our tour, organized by They quickly become the

JAFI's unit for the former—center of attention around Soviet Union and Eastern which activity and move-Europe, included the cities ment are created. of Minsk (Belarus), Kiev But the schlichim don't (Moldova), and Baku most unexpected observa- make aliyah. (Azerbaijan) Tashkent and tion I had in the FSU is the Samarkand (Uzbekistan), importance of local workand Moscow, Yekaterin- ers. The Jewish Agency re-

The Infrastructure

What struck me was the staff. JAFI's offices and opera- emissary Billie Shavit, in bright, and they obviously Hundreds of Hebrew classtions in the FSU. Wherever Novosibirsk, works with 30 constitute the future. Par- es are conducted all over we went - in Kishinev, local ulpan teachers who ents are concerned with the FSU as the most basic lars close to Romania at the run Hebrew classes in giving them the best chance educational activity underwestern end of the FSU, or towns and cities hundreds to learn and grow as Jews. Baku by the Caspian Sea, of miles away from the or historic Samarkand, or JAFI center. Yekaterinburg in the Ural

Agency office. There was a clear sense—for his dedicated work in—feeling about them. Young—about Jewish festivals, Jew-—local workers hundreds of Keren Hayesod. that JAFI's presence and this city, which includes boys and girls, teenagers, ish heritage and Israel. Peo-miles apart, and the closing impact are a strong reality—everything from advising—and university students—ple start talking to each oth—of the Israel emissary post to the field. We saw the people on aliyah, job train-were all happy to be among wisdom of the policy, ing opportunities, helping their own people, eager to launched in the early '90s youth interested in educa-learn and participate, and of establishing offices not tional programs in Israel, were quickly soaking up only in centers such as and running a program on the Israeli atmosphere. Moscow and St. Peters- Jewish heritage for chilburg, but all over the FSU, dren. in various republics and Through people like their impact by working

we felt the impact of the Jewish Agency.

Jewish Agency Emissaries – Schlichim Typically, local JAFI operations are managed by a *olim*.

senior emissary from Israel. dle responsibilities for

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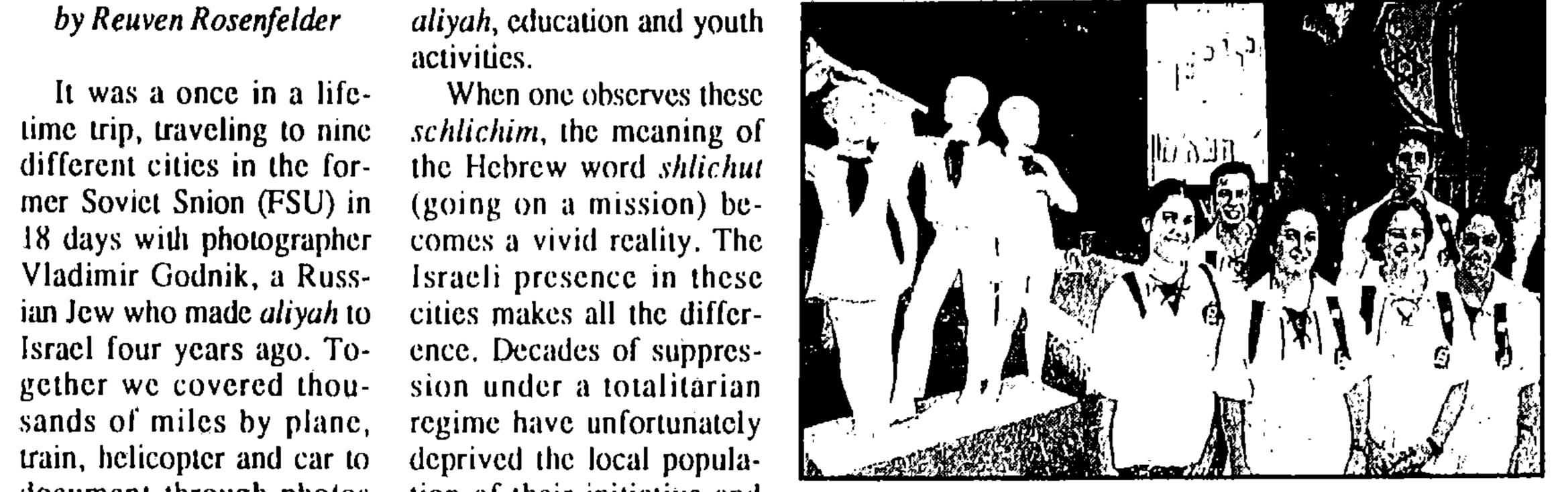
Israeli *schlichim* provide it.

Shavit and Raizman, the with local counselors, to-The results are obvious Jewish Agency's impact is gether creating a camp staff today. Wherever we went, multiplied in ways which and shaping the camp expecould never be achieved by the schlichim alone. By utilizing local workers, JAFI has been able to reach out to huge numbers of Jews including many potential

A side benefit is the very Three other emissaries han-high percentage of local

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When one observes these



UJA Press Service Photo: Vladimir Godnik Yesterday and Today in the FSU - Israeli counselors stand at the entrance to the Jewish Agency summer camp in Samarkand, next to a sculpture symbolizing the Communist youth movement. The Jewish Agency rents the camps which had been used by these "ploneers."

Hebrew Ulpan

Ulpan is not only about

taken by JAFI.

Working With Youth The Jewish Agency has ago?

burg and Novosibirsk (Rus-cruits local people to be-identified the critical imcome aliyah consultants portance of working with and coordinators, ulpan young people. As one teachers and administrative *shaliach* told me, "They are *ulpanim*," said the head prepared to take chances, to JAFI education emissary in For example, educational take risks," They are eager, the FSU, Naomi Halfon.

We visited several sum-

Again, the few young Israeli counselors multiplied

Camp sites are rented by the Jewish Agency at substantial cost (some were previously used by Communist "Pioneer" youth movements, others were recreational facilities of various unions and associations). It is at these sites

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aliyah and what is happen- ities. ing in Israel, and they become familiar with Ju-

JAFI education emissary services we obtain." and by attending Hebrew We often speak about teacher training sessions either in the FSU or in Israel.

Jewish self-expression.

At the *ulpanim*, one can through the employment of local personnel.

Impact of Fewer Dol-

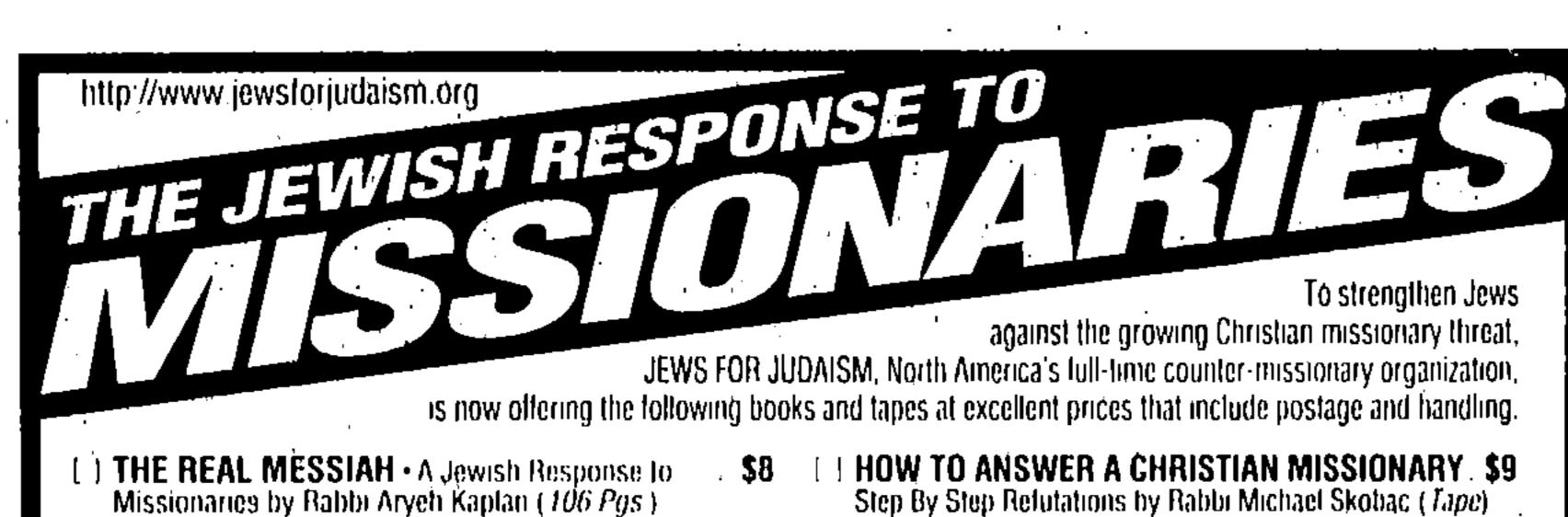
former Soviet Union in-portance. It is the core of creasingly feel the stress of our message, and truly the mer camps where JAFI's teaching Hebrew. It is diminishing funds. This responsibility of Jews Or take Yaakov Raiz- work with youth can best—where Jews of various ages—finds expression in many—everywhere. Mountains, or Novosibirsk man, the local JAFI repre- be seen. Wherever we went meet - in an Israeli atmos- ways, such as a decrease in in Siberia - we found an ef-sentative in Nijni-Tagil, - in an Islamic republic, the phere, with pictures, the number of education ficient and active Jewish about 65 miles from Yeka- Ukraine or Siberia - sum- posters and decorations. emissaries, reduced budget Director, Communications terinburg. He won an award mer camps had the same. The participants also learn for telephones to connect. & Marketing Division of

er. They share information in Samarkand, substantially about the possibilities of reducing the scope of activ-

Yitzhak Bakun, head of the Jewish Agency administration in the Ukraine, The ulpanim operate says, "I'm constantly under year-round, and most of pressure to meet my obligathem are being taught by tions to those who provide local teachers who have re- us with services. Everyceived training from the thing here depends on the

"saving Jewish lives" in the former Soviet Union. This This network of ulpan is perfectly true, but I think classes reaches out to a vast—the phrase "creating Jewish" number of people and starts—life" is just as appropriate. their involvement in a For in fact, the Jewish process leading to *aliyah*. It Agency is bringing back to is bound to change their—life that which seemed to (Ukraine), Kishinev work alone. Perhaps the workers who themselves that the incredible change perception, offering an al- have already been lost. Disin the FSU most strikes a ternative to totally assimi- covering the people, reachvisitor. Who could have lating into the general soci-ing out to them, engaging, imagined this just ten years—ety that, until some time—teaching, generating enthuago, gave no room at all for siasm among young people, and very often bringing about their aliyah — it's all "The olim grow from the best see the outreach of in a day's work for the Jew-Jewish Agency operations ish Agency in the former

I personally came back motivated, impressed and convinced that what the Jewish Agency is doing in The emissaries in the the FSU is of unique im-



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Israel

January 1997 • Shevat 5757

PM won't build any new settlements or widen existing ones

by Leslie Susser

jamin Netanyahu is neither in recent days, but that his gered a major row with Negoing to authorize any new comments had been over-tanyahu's intelligence settlements, nor expand the looked. boundaries of any of the

In remarks clearly in- Palestinians started taking a manner." US and the Palestinians, er comments in the same

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Mr. Bar-Ilan insisted that interview, about the open- "absolutely" an obstacle to rael and a Palestinian entity public record what Harel Netanyahu had been trying ing of the Jerusalem ar-peace. Prime Minister Ben- to signal this policy subtly chaeological tunnel, trig-

For example, the prime existing settlements in the minister said on TV's here," said Bar-Ilan, "is to to build new settlements tanyahu, however, was Report and is reprinted West Bank and Gaza Strip, Channel 2 on December 15 say, 'There are not going to until maps delineating the more evasive, says Harel. with permission. David Bar-Ilan, Ne- that he did not consider it be any new settlements,' future border between Is- Now, Bar-Ilan has put on tanyahu's senior policy ad-appropriate to initiate new without actually saying

boundaries" of existing settlements will not be expanded either. The impression had been created, he said, that Netanyahu wants to "broaden or widen the area" of the settlements by taking more Arab land. "There is absolutely no way that this can be done," said Bar-Ilan. "Nor is there any intention to do it."

While Bar-Ilan's statements are bound to infuriate the settlers and some of their backers within the Netanyahu coalition, they will be welcomed in Washington. US officials attacked Netanyahu's settlemen policy several times in mid-December with President Clinton himself commenting that settlements were

coalition partners, has been would make such a compushing Netanyahu to mitment in a recent one-to-"What he's trying to do promise unequivocally not one meeting with him. Ne- appeared in The Jerusalem

had been agreed upon. was hoping to hear from The Third Way faction, Third Way MK Yehuda the prime minister in prione of the more moderate Harel had hoped Netanyahu vate.

This article originally

viser, has told The settlements until the final-there are not going to be Jerusalem Report. status accord with the any settlements in that flat tended to defuse the current shape – but this remark was tension in relations with the hardly noticed because oth-said, the current "municipal" open on the Sabbath

by Adam Goldman and Ammanja de Vries

Milo says he'll fight to the on Saturdays) have so far 360-shekel fines, dating finish against Labour Min- only issued warnings to back 15 months. Häagen istry efforts to close busi- businesses, but fines are Dazs ice-cream parlours nesses in his city that stay threatened. open on Saturday. But at istration collects fat fines he vows, Tel Aviv's from shops that operate on

the Sabbath. Milo says he is scandaldirector of the Labor Laws Cahalon's inspectors say municipality declined to Division at the Ministry, in that Tel Aviv fines them explain the apparent double sending out "Sabbath com- 360 shekels (about \$108 standards. mandos" to see that exist- US) almost every time they ing laws - forbidding all stay open on a Saturday or appeared in The Jerusalem but the most necessary a Jewish holiday. Tsafrir Report and is reprinted work on Saturdays - are Kochokoro, owner of the with permission.

observed. The ministry in- Kioskastel candy store on spectors (who are Druse, so busy Ibn Gvirol Street, for as not to violate the injunc- example, produces a sheaf Tel Aviv mayor Roni tion against Jews working of municipal receipts for

the same time, The new ministry campaign is a also fined frequently, Jerusalem Report has violation of the Sabbath Bizarrely, however, neither learned, Milo's city admin- status quo in his city. And, branches of Burger Ranch

"active, unique character" will be preserved.

But operators of some of

particularly the one on The mayor says that this trendy Sheinkin Street - are nor Domino's Pizza chain

by the city. ized that Efraim Cahalon, the same shops warned by The Report, the Tel Aviv

Contacted repeatedly by This article originally.

in Tel Aviv has been fined

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AGES 18-26

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Volume 6 A Number 2

Shabbat Candle Lighting Times

Feb. 21 - 5:32 p.m. Feb. 28 - 5:46 p.m. Mar. 7 - 5:59 pm. Mar. 14 - 6:12 p.m.



REMEMBER ISRAEL THROUGH YOUR BLUEBOX

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Canada anti-Israel in UN

At last vear's session of the United Nations General Assembly, Canada lined up with the majority and voted for resolutions generally critical of Israel.

Middle East put before the Nine countries abstained. UN, Canada supported 15 one instance. Canada and Israel backed the same res-

The resolutions, introduced by a coalition of Arab and Muslim countries, the Inalienable Rights of covered the Palestinian the Palestinian People. question, Jerusalem and the

Canada's voting pattern for Middle East Studies. Rodney Moore, a De-

partment of Foreign Affairs disagreed with this assess-

anced" to both sides.

dian diplomat at the UN, their weight behind a De- by Ben Rose who preferred to remain cember 2 resolution exster the current peace and Iran cast negative bal-

the PLO.

Benjamin Netanyahu as voted "no." to more over political resolutions," he said.

process produces concrete results on the Palestinian may well become "less overly anti-Israel," Goldberg noted.

An examination of the

on a recommendation of the drew attention to the plight

deals with economic, social mended the distribution of and cultural matters, adopt-grants and scholarships to ed a resolution on the right Palestinian students. Israel of the Palestinians to self- cast two "no"s and one abdetermination. Canada joined 158 nations in voting "yes". Israel and the United

ing the work of the Com-ries. mittee on the Exercise of

On the same day, two

appeared to reflect an in- General Assembly declared creasing tendency to favor that "all legislative and ad-clusively with Lebanon was a European rather than an ministrative measures and passed in April, during Is-American perspective on actions taken by Israel ... rael's massive bombardthe Arab-Israeli conflict, to alter Jerusalem's charac-ment of Lebanon (Operasaid David Goldberg, directer and status ... were null tor of research of the and void." The measure Toronto-based Foundation was adopted by a 148-1 firing and to withdraw its margin with 13 abstentions.

spokesperson in Ottawa, General Assembly called United States. on Israel to withdraw from the Golan Heights, to the "We're not moving to- June 4, 1967 border. The ward one group or anoth-resolution, opposed by Is-appeared in The Canadian er," he claimed, adding that rael and the United States, Jewish News and is reprintthe thrust of Canadian poli- was supported by 84 states. ed with permision. cy is to be "fair and bal- Canada was among 71

countries which abstained. process in the Middle East. lots.

said the resolutions were for the creation of a nuclear sion in Israel. unfair to Israeli interests, weapon-free zone in the This was the message of when the UN was reflex- der International Atomic communities in North concerns of the North Netanyahu said, "Israel others, voted "yes." There couver sponsored by their there would be no early de- Judea and Samaria." "What we're seeing were eight abstentions. Is- respective federations. now, since the election of rael and the United States Netanyahu's speech was lem".

Natural resources of the territories. Canada, among and Syrian fronts, the UN 112 others, supported the resolution.

Canada backed three resolutions on December 13 sions will not be changed, dealing with the Palestinians. The resolutions recognized the efforts of the set" the question of such tions with Syria, Netanyahu United Nations Relief and conversions taking place in said he welcomed a recent Works Agency (UNRWA) Israel and this may not be statement from the Syrian General Assembly, acting for Palestinian refugees, decided for some time.

by Sheldon Kirshner Third Committee, which of such persons and recom-

Also on December 13, Canada voted "yes" for res-Of 21 resolutions on the States cast "no" ballots, olutions regarding the operations of UNRWA, Pales-On November 27, Canatinian refugees' property, and abstained on five. In da abstained on a resolution the need for a Palestinian supported by 104 members university in Jerusalem and and opposed by Israel and Israeli human practices and the United States, endors- settlements in the territo-

Israeli's 1981 decision to impose its laws and administration on the Golan, capterritories, Israeli settle- similar resolutions were tured in the Six Day War, ments, a nuclear-free zone passed by the General As- was declared null and void in the Middle East and sembly. On these, Canada in a December 13 resoluabstained and voted "yes". tion supported by Canada On November 29, the and 152 other countries.

A resolution dealing extion Grapes of Wrath).

Calling on Israel to cease forces from all Lebanese territory, the resolution was On December 2, the opposed by Israel and the

Canada abstained.

This article originally

to Israel to plant her Tu Bi'Shevat tree. Canada and Israel threw Conversion bill not yet settled: Bibi

anonymous, said that Cana- pressing full support for the Israel will continue to North America are aware da's support for these reso- Middle Eastern peace recognize conversions by that it is the Reform move- said publicly about this, the lutions was intended to bol-process. Syria, Lebanon Conservative and Reform ment that has asked the more possibility there is for rabbis performed outside of courts to rule for the first beginning peace talks." Israel, but the government—time on whether conver-Taking issue with this A December 10, the has not yet decided on the sions carried out in Israel form rabbis are legal.

voiced concern at "the ex- United States, at which the was forming a coalition "looking into" a report that ploitation" by Israel of the prime minister will speak government. "I said on this they have re-opened one next month.

> Vancouver, Netanyahu said that we would not recogthe status quo on converbut that the courts "have thrown back to the Knes-

Netanyahu said he sus- important to Syria than it is pected that few people in to Israel. "I sense is that the less

> He said that within a decade, it is possible that

interpretation, Goldberg General Assembly called question of such conver- by Conservative and Re- the majority of the world's Jews will live in Israel. The post-Hebron agree-This question is now bepoliticized debate on Arab- Middle East and urges all Prime Minister Benjamin ing considered by his gov- ment with the Palestinians Israeli issues and represent—countries there to place—Netanyahu in a satellite TV—ernment and Netanyahu—is more significant than the ed a shift back to the days their nuclear facilities un- broadcast to 55 Jewish promised to listen to the Hebron agreement itself,

ively anti-Israel, prior to Is- Energy Agency safeguards. America, including one in American Jewish commu- alone will designate the exrael's rapprochement with Canada, along with 154 Toronto and one in Van-nity, but he pointed out tent of re deployment in The prime minister said cision on this "vexing prob-Palestinians have agreed arranged by the Conference Netanyahu said he knew they would have no politi-Also on December 10, of Presidents of Major Jew-the contentious subject cal activity in Jerusalem the General Assembly ish Organizations in the would come up when he and that his government is

point I would not change political office. "We expect In reply to several ques- the status quo. There were full compliance with the tions about conversions in one or two demands on me agreement." He said his government

nize conversions in North is planing to deregulate communications, cellular America and I refused." On a question from Balphones, and bus transportation and is hoping to privatimore and Toronto on relatize banks.

This article originally appeared in The Canadian Jewish News and is reprintleader that peace is more ed with permission.



Alexa Steiner was the youngest phoner at the JNF annual Tu Bl'Shevat Tree-a-Thon. Next month, she goes