

# שלום! Shalom!

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Happy New Year  
שנה טובה



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## Message from the President

By *Victor Goldberg*

The past few weeks have been unforgettable for me and no doubt millions of others around the world. As I have been at home recuperating from some minor surgery, my attention and thoughts have been riveted to the media coverage of the death and funerals of **Princess Diana** and **Mother Teresa**. At the same time, I have been devastated by the carnage of the Ben Yehuda triple suicide in Jerusalem and the devastating loss of Jewish life during the botched raid by the IDF elite unit in Lebanon. At once I have mourned the snuffed-out young life of the "people's princess", the passing of a truly remarkable woman dedicated to ameliorating the life of and respect for the poorest of the poor and, most of all, the continued and mounting casualties, both physical and mental, in our beloved State of Israel. While the immense outpouring of emotion for both Princess Diana and Mother Teresa are understandable for different reasons, their lives intersect in the good that they did from different perspectives. But where is the common thread with Israel and her malaise?

A ready answer emerges from the last words of **Earl Spencer's** remarkable eulogy for his sister where he describes her as "unique, complex, extraordinary and irreplaceable...whose beauty, both internal and external, will never be extinguished from our minds". What better way is there to describe the State of Israel and our love and embrace for the land and its people? Israel embodies all of these qualities with beauty, passion and hope combining into a beacon for all Jews. We must be unwavering in our support for Israel in good times and in bad, whether financial, moral or by visiting. We have all in some small part borne witness to and partnered in the remarkable achievement of the creation of the State; the massive immigration and absorption and the building of a world class economy despite trials and tribulations.



In early October we will hear the Shofar blow signifying the beginning of 5758, a New Year and a special year marking Israel's 50th Anniversary. The Atlantic Jewish Council and United Jewish Appeal are planning a major celebration of Israel's 50th birthday and you will be receiving details in the next few months. In the meantime, as

we reflect upon the past year and our own mortality, using the examples of Princess Diana and Mother Teresa and our Jewish teachings and obligations, let us rededicate ourselves to charitable acts in the larger community, our own community and above all for the State of Israel.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a Happy and Healthy New Year. May you be inscribed in the Book of Life!

L'Shana Tova

## Gift of Israel

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Registry

We are pleased to welcome the following new participant in the Gift of Israel program. The Bar/Bat Mitzvah Registry reduce the trip cost to Israel through the combination of gifts from UIA, AJC, synagogues, family and friends as the participants watch their funds grow with interest in a special account opened for the child at the Bank of Montreal.

Gifts made by the family and friends of the enrolled participants to the Gift of Israel will ultimately enable these children to turn their dream of Israel travel into a reality.

You can recognize the Bar/Bat Mitzvah of the following in Atlantic Canada by sending your gift **DIRECTLY** to the participant and noting on your cheque "For Your Gift of Israel Account."

**JESSICA RAPPAPORT (Halifax)**

## FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By Jon Goldberg

The days of 5757 are numbered. Just a few days until Rosh Hashanah, and I can't seem to stop the clock. Always in a battle with time, which I never win. Where has the year gone? Today as I sit in my office overlooking the Public Gardens, the sun is shining, the trees are green and full of leaves, as I reflect on what we've accomplished at the AJC this past year. Do you realize that in Atlantic Canada our organization either sponsored, co-sponsored or initiated over 121 programs in the last twelve months. From Yom Ha'atzmaut, Yom Hashoah, to Chanukah parties, cultural, Zionist and even religious programs for youth, seniors and students. We sent twenty teens and adults to Israel this past year on a myriad of programs.

Our Bi-annual Convention this past November was the best ever with a dedicated Executive elected for the next two years. All of this and more we were able to accomplish, and still through the UJA Campaign, we were among the leaders in Canada in percentage of dollars raised sent to Eretz Yisrael. This is my main task and an unending one. To balance the priorities. To provide for the needs of our community and maintain the overseas commitment. With the senior citizen's initiative, need for chaplaincy, cemetery maintenance, our local needs are growing almost daily and my hope is that the Bequest and Endowment Funds will take some pressure off our operating budgets. Our people want more and need more yet the campaign remains at the same

level as it was four years ago.

During the High Holy Days, we often see the word *Tzedakah* in our prayers. It has been written that

"*Tzedakah* blesses the giver even more than the recipient". I wish for such blessings on all of us here in Atlantic Canada.

As a personal note I look back on 5757 with mixed emotions. While I shared a number of simchas with family and friends and I was able to visit Eretz for a few days this summer, I, like many of you, had to confront illness in the family and witness the passing of so many of our leading Jewish citizens here in the region, many who were long time friends of mine and my family. I can't describe the feeling, except that their passing invokes in me an even greater responsibility to my work here in Atlantic Canada. Every time we lose a member of the community another leaf has fallen from our tree of life, and I want to plant a seed in their memory.

So, my friends, I will spend Rosh Hashanah with my cousin in the US for the twelfth time in the last fourteen years. Although I do miss my family and friends here in Halifax, I get an opportunity to recharge my batteries, organize my priorities and return home ready to make the New Year more



meaningful than the last.

5758 is going to be an exciting one as we will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the State of Israel. There will be much to look forward to here in Atlantic Canada, entertainment, speakers, all leading up to Yom Ha'atzmaut, April 30th, 1998.

The well known writer **Sydney Greenberg** wrote "For the Jew, Israel is a state of mind. It is not only a place of geography. It is history. It is theology. It is memory. It is Jewish tears and Jewish ecstasy. It is childhood legends and Biblical verses. It is the direction that we pray and the subject of our prayers. It is exile and homecoming. It is a burning temple and a flag at the United Nations. It is Tisha B'Av and Yom Ha'atzmaut."

You have all read of our wonderful Mission to Israel, February 23 to March 4, 1998. I trust many of you will attend at this most significant time in the history of our people.

I want to thank all of the lay leaders who have given of their time this past year, also to the many who have written and called with support for activities and for *Shalom*, thank you.

May the coming year bring all our people peace, happiness and good health.

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## YAKOV'S CORNER

By Yakov Feig, Programmer

It's *Shalom* time again! The summer whizzed by and Rosh Hashanah is around the corner. In this article, I have decided to focus on the specific events that are being planned in each vicinity. However, I will first recap my summer as a beginning back-ground to the upcoming year.

The summer began with my attendance as one of three Canadian Campus Profes-

sionals to youth and teens as well. Also many of the skills that I acquired in the Professional Development Seminars, i.e. Time Management, Scheduling, etc. are adaptable to other areas of my field as well. As soon as I returned from Israel, I got to work implementing many of my ideas into the schedule

entire staff of Camp Kadimah for helping make the summer such a success.

Finally, the last few weeks of my summer were spent in preparing for the upcoming programming year with regards

### Tentative Schedule of Events

#### October - "Judaism as a way of life"

- 5 - 1997 March to Jerusalem, 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Zionism
- 6 - Class #4 of Hebrew reading crash course, AJC Office, 7:30
- 11 - APJSF Breaking of the Yom Kippur Fast - Various campuses
- 12 - Moncton, Grades 3-6, Program, Grade 7-12, Program
- 14 - Class 5, Hebrew reading crash course, AJC Office, 7:30
- 19 - Annapolis Valley - Association of Young Jewish Adults - Hike
- 23 - Sydney, AJC services
- 24 - Glace Bay, AJC services
- 25 - Teen Service and Deli Lunch at The Shaar Shalom
- 26 - Grade 3-6 Program in Halifax

#### November - "Peoplehood"

- 1-2 - APJSF Regional Convention, Halifax
- 7 - Program in PEI
- 8 - Program in PEI; Program for university students in PEI (night)
- 9 - Program in Moncton
- TBA - APJSF Jewish Dairy-Only Cooking Night, Halifax
- 21 - APJSF Shabbat Dinner, Halifax
- 22 - Grades 10-12, Deli Lunch at the Shaar Shalom, 10 Commandments of Jewish Leadership
- 23 - Grades 3 to 6 Laser tag
- 29 - Grade 7-12, Chanukah Casino Night, Halifax

#### December

#### "Food-Jewish Memory"

- 6 - Grades 7-9, Pre exam program
- 7 - APJSF Chanukah Bash
- 7 - Grades 3-6, Chanukah Foods Program
- TBA - Various Communities: Yakov assisting with Chanukah celebrations
- 23 - Grades 10-12, Latke Making

sionals who were chosen to attend the Hillel Professional Israel Experience, a three week seminar for Campus Professionals. This seminar served three purposes: 1) to acquaint us better with Israel Programs that are available to college age students; 2) to learn different ways about teaching about Israel and the Holocaust on Campus; and 3) to learn about topics related to Jewish Identity, and Professional Development. While much of the above relate to my activities on campus, much of the Israel and Jewish Identity Programming are also adapt-

for this fall.

As well, a large portion of my summer was spent at Camp Kadimah as a "Judaic Specialist". Aside from my many duties at camp, the summer was also an opportunity to re-acquaint myself with many of our youth and teens from around the region, discuss programming ideas, and receive input from them with regards to their programming needs and expectations. Thanks again to **Sheldon Cohen, Michael Soberman** and the

to youth, teens, university students, young adults and outreach programs for around the region. The programming theme for this year is "Jewish Pride", with emphasis on its various components, on a monthly basis. The following is a tentative schedule of events for the last three months of 1997, with events outside of Halifax highlighted. As well, efforts are still underway to bring down *Shlichim* from Canadian Young Judea to assist with programs outside of Halifax at least 3-4 times during the year. While Newfoundland is not included in the schedule, efforts are underway for another weekend visit to St. John's in the Winter of 1998.

Wishing everybody a Sweet and Happy New Year!!!

### Message from the Consul General of Israel

On the eve of Rosh Hashanah and on behalf of the State and the People of Israel, I extend to every Jewish home the warmest greeting for the New Year.

May the year 5758 be blessed by peace, prosperity and further reinforcement of the strong ties linking the State of Israel and the Jewish Community of Atlantic Canada.

Daniel Gal, Consul General, Montreal



# Greetings from the Prime Minister of the State of Israel

By Benjamin Netanyahu

The coming year is special for us. It marks the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel. A hundred years ago the founder of modern Zionism, **Theodor Herzl**, dreamt an impossible dream. He predicted the establishment of a thriving Jewish State in the Land of Israel.

His sense of history was extraordinary and his vision uncanny. But I think even he would have been pleasantly surprised by the achievements of this state.

Today almost half of the Jews in the world live in Israel. We are a regional power with a strong economy and a proved ability to defend ourselves.

Our standard of living and level of productivity are compared to those of leading European States. In the sciences and the arts we are among the leading nations of the world.

We have made significant strides towards deregulating, demonopolizing, liberalizing and privatizing the Israeli economy.

We are the world's capital in Jewish studies, and we are putting special stress on education programs which aim to preserve our values and the feeling Jewish oneness both in Israel and the Diaspora.

We have signed peace treaties with two of our neighboring states, and we are in the midst of a peace process with the Palestinians.

I have no doubt that in the near future we will achieve peace with security for our country. And I hope that with the help of the democracies we will also be able to remove the dangers to world peace posed by the predatory regimes in the region.

But there is more to our security than the physical safety we must have. Security also means the preservation of Jewish unity, the nurturing of the bond which ties Jews everywhere. Israel's power is not limited to what we have here. It is the power of a people who may live in all the corners of the globe, but whose heart is with us in Israel.

We have good reason to be proud of our achievements. But we must not forget that the realization of the Zionist dream-the ingathering of the Jewish people in the land of Israel-is not yet complete. Our goal for the next decade must be to have a majority of the Jewish people living in Israel.

The challenges we face are still formidable. To meet them, we must be united in purpose, strong in resolve and unbending in faith.

I wish you all a good new year, a year of peace, security, health and happiness.

## Greetings from CZF

Dear Friends,

We, the Canadian Zionist Federation, wish to extend our sincere greetings to the Jewish community of Atlantic Canada.

You are a cherished and loyal outpost of Canada's Jewish community who consistently display devotion to Israel and its citizens and to the continuity of Jewish life in our communities.

The education of our children and the appreciation of our rich heritage and history are the key to our future.

We encourage you to visit your synagogues during the High Holidays, to work diligently for your community and for the education of your children, to visit Israel, to contribute to our local needs and the needs of Israel.

We are celebrating this year the 100th anniversary of Zionism which has brought us great fulfillment in the founding of the State of Israel with its ingathering of exiles from all over the world. We have much pain in recounting the horrors of recent Jewish history, but we have much to be thankful for in the miracle of modern Israel.

May you and your families enjoy a year of health and happiness.

Kurt Rothschild, President,  
Canadian Zionist Federation

## Shana Tova from CJC

The new year 5758 approaches and Jews around the world prepare themselves for the holiest time in the Jewish calendar. This unique period of reflection commands us to examine what we have accomplished and to seek new paths or directions.

The Canadian Jewish community is most fortunate. We live in freedom and are able to participate in the affairs of our nation and make meaningful contributions. We must continue to put as much energy as possible towards bringing suspected Nazi war criminals resident in Canada to justice. Acts of anti-Semitism and racism nationally and abroad cannot be ignored; our community must continue to be active and promote national unity; we must redouble our advocacy efforts on restitution issues and, of course, we look forward to celebrating the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel in an atmosphere of peace.

Rosh Hashanah coincides with the 10th anniversary of the passage of federal legislation, which permitted trials in Canada for suspected Nazi war criminals. We are encouraged by recent developments on this dossier, both from the government perspective and the renewed interest shown by members of our grassroots community. During the past year communities across the country have held high profile rallies and vigils seeking a resolution to this issue. Ten cases are presently in the system.

Meanwhile, anti-Semitism and racism continue to search for new media, the most popular of late being the Internet. CJC will continue to address the matter on a proactive basis.

As we gather in synagogue during the High Holy Days, let us all pray for a year of goodwill and coalition building between communities. May the New Year bring an end to hatred and bigotry, and may it be a year of peace, security and prosperity.

On behalf of the National officers of Canadian Jewish Congress I wish you a very Happy New Year. *L'Shana Tova.*

Goldie Hershon, National President, Canadian Jewish Congress



# Jewish National Fund

is pleased to announce that  
*Senator Erminie Cohen*

of Saint John, New Brunswick  
will be its 1998 Negev Dinner Honouree.



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**October 25, 1998**

when we honour this truly remarkable woman

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## Rosh Hashanah greetings from JWW Atlantic

On behalf of the Jewish War Veterans of Canada, Atlantic Post #4, we wish to extend to all our members and friends a very Healthy, Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Please join in the special Remembrance Day services in your Shuls on Saturday morning, November 8th, 1997.

Gar Meltzer, Commander and I.J. Davis, Adjutant

## Acclaimed documentary series *Being Jewish* to be telecast nationally on Vision TV

*"This is the most comprehensive and provocative analysis of issues so fundamental to Judaism and Jewish life"* - **Moshe Ronen**, Canadian Jewish Congress.

On the evening prior to the Jewish New Year, Vision TV presents one Jew's quest to find meaning in the Jewish tradition. The twenty-something **Jonathan Perlman** travels around the world speaking with renowned Jewish poets, philosophers, theologians, and well-known public figures. He questions them about the truth and relevance of the Jewish religious tradition, and seeks to understand what it means to be a Jew. In the first episode of the eight-part series *Being Jewish*, airing on September 30th at 8:30pm Atlantic, Perlman speaks with a Nobel Prize physicist, a mystic, a secular Israeli writer and others about the meaning of creation and G-d.

Says Perlman, "I thought it would be interesting to produce a program with some of the wisest rabbis and scholars in the

## VIA Rosh Hashanah message

By Harvey Wolfe, President, United Israel Appeal

On any given day, 166 Jews board a plane to new lives in Israel. Food is delivered to the elderly poor in the former Soviet Union. An Israeli emissary in a little known part of the Caucasus is putting a contingency plan together for the rescue of the Jews there- just in case...

And hopefully on that same day, you'll pick up your pen and, in response to the UJA campaign, take your place in a humanitarian family bound by the ideals of *Klal Yisrael*, of collective responsibility, and by *tikkun olam*, where repairing the world is not an abstract notion, but a concept realized every day, and person by person.

The ongoing process of immigration and absorption, after the miraculous opening of the gates in the former Soviet Union, continues. It is truly one of the most poignant and dramatic episodes of "Kibbutz Galuyot", the "ingathering of the exiles", with never-ending variations on the themes of Jewish suffering, perseverance, solidar-

ity and commitment.

The return of Jews from the former Soviet Union, from Ethiopia, Albania, Sarejevo and Chechnya has renewed Israel's sense of its ultimate role- the home of every Jew who needs and wants to come, the ultimate assurance of Jewish safety in a world beset with upheaval.

This Rosh Hashanah let us rededicate ourselves to the unity of the Jewish people. The year 5758 will usher in a year when the whole Jewish people will celebrate Israel's 50th Anniversary. Let us take heart in what has been accomplished. And, in the wonder of that moment let us also realize what still has to be achieved and what can only be achieved as a united people.

On behalf of the Board and the officers of the United Israel Appeal we wish you and your family a "*SHANA TOVA U'MEUSHERET*" - a happy and joyful New Year.

world, discussing what Judaism means to them and why they think it worthwhile for a Jew to remain a Jew and not to assimilate into our free and open society."

Motivated by recent statistics of increasing rates of intermarriage in Canada and the U.S. and by his own spiritual longings, Perlman, then a 20-year old philosophy student at the University of Western Ontario, began his documentary by interviewing Toronto rabbis. More and more prominent figures in Canada, the U.S., the U.K., and Israel began granting interviews which gave the potential to generate much insight into modern-day Judaism.

Some of the more than 80 people interviewed in *A Symposium on Being Jewish* are 1978 Nobel Prize winner **Arno Penzias**; **Professor Emil Fackenheim**, former University of Toronto professor currently liv-

ing in Jerusalem; **Ruth Wisse**, former Yiddish professor at McGill University, currently teaching at Harvard University; **Alan Dershowitz**, U.S. Attorney and Harvard law professor; **Jacob Neusner**, author of over 400 books on Judaism; and **Letty Cottin Pogrebin**, co-developer of *Free to be You and Me*. Perlman also tracked down **Leon Trotsky's** great-grandson, **David Axelrod**, a right-wing Orthodox Jew working in construction in the West Bank.

The series, which consists of eight half-hour programs, airs Tuesdays at 8:30pm on Vision TV beginning September 30th, the evening prior to the Jewish New Year. Each episode focuses on a specific theme, pertinent to the concept of issues fundamental to what it means to be Jewish, and whether Judaism can survive. The schedule is as follows:

September 30 - Part I - *One, Creation, and God*  
October 7 - Part II - *What happened at Mount Sinai?*  
October 14 - Part III - *The Chosen People*  
October 21 - Part IV - *The Meaning of Ritual*

October 28 - Part V - *Intermarriage and Assimilation*  
November 5 - Part VI - *Jewish Existence and Survival*  
November 12 - Part VII - *Perpetuating the Jewish Tradition*  
November 19 - Part VIII - *Education and the Future*

Viewers can order a copy of the series by calling 1-800-310-1116.

For further information or preview tapes, please contact: Ellie Skrow, Media Relations, Vision TV, (416) 368-3194, ext. 332 or Jonathan Perlman, Ayekah Productions (416) 784-0932.

In the spring of 1998, thousands of Jewish youth from all corners of the world will gather together in Poland and Israel for an experience that will last a lifetime.

# March

OF THE LIVING

APRIL 19 - MAY 4, 1998



**In Poland** the group's visit will culminate with the "March of the Living" on Holocaust Remembrance Day, as they march together the 3-kilometre distance separating Auschwitz from Birkenau.

**In Israel** participants will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the creation of the State of Israel on Independence Day along with thousands of other teenagers from Israel and other parts of the world.

**You** could be one of the 350 Canadian high school students privileged to take part in this event.



For more information please contact Jon Goldberg at the Atlantic Jewish Council, 1515 South Park Street, Suite 305, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 2L2, Tel: (902) 422-7491.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO LOCAL SHRINERS

By Raymond Goldman, Glace Bay

**Sam Karrel**, of Glace Bay, has become the Grand Master of Masons for the Province of Nova Scotia, for 1996-97. He is the first Jew, to my knowledge, to achieve this esteemed position. He is only the second Grand Master from our Lodge, which was incorporated in 1867, the same age as our country, Canada. Sam is also a very active Scottish Rite Mason and Past President of the Cape Breton Shrine Club. He is a very good Torah reader (when he has time) and specializes in "davening the *Shacharit*" service.

**Frank Cordon, QC**, of Halifax is the first Jew in the Atlantic Provinces to receive the most prestigious honour of 33° in the Scottish Rite Masons, the highest plateau of any Masonic order. In addition to his 33°, Frank is to become the High Potentate of Shriners of Nova Scotia and PEI, "Philae Temple". Again, he is the first Jew in the Atlantic Provinces to achieve this distinction and honourable title of office.



## CYCLING THE CABOT TRAIL

By Joel Jacobson

**Martin Nadler**, a retired merchant from Montreal, was seeking a unique way to celebrate his 70th birthday. And he chose cycling the rugged Cabot Trail in Cape Breton as the ideal way.

"I've been to Cape Breton before but this trip was specifically to cycle the Trail. It was everything I thought it would be."

Nadler spent some time visiting his sister and brother-in-law, **Ethel & Harvey Webber**, longtime Sydney residents, but spent four days travelling the Trail beginning at Baddeck.

"I knew we'd (son-in-law **Pelle Stenbring** accompanied him) see things we would never see travelling by car. It was everything I thought it would be," said Nadler, who has been a cyclist for more than 20 years and has biked all over the world, including New Zealand, Israel,



In Sydney, (l-r) Pelle Stenbring, Ethel Webber, Harvey Webber and Martin Nadler.

Spain, Italy, the United States and Canada.

He was impressed with the people. The Trail was challenging and the scenery spectacular, but the people we met were so hospitable, gracious and helpful.

Nadler is also a helicopter skier and windsurfer. He says Nova Scotia doesn't do enough to promote the Cabot Trail as a destination, particularly for cyclists. "It's beautiful, rugged country, equal to any other country in the world."

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## A (HALIGONIAN) ISRAELI SOLDIER

By Joel Jacobson

It's taken **Jon Mendleson** 25 years to find himself but the gleam in his eye, the bounce in his step and the lilt of his voice are enough to convince anyone the Halifax man is thrilled the way life is going.



He used to somewhat unkempt, with scraggly long hair, typical of many young men of this era who study and work hard, but have little regard for their own appearance, ignoring the pleas of "older people" who want them to look business-like.

But today, in mid-September 1997, Jon Mendleson has a clipped haircut, wears a neat shirt and slacks and presents himself in the image we of a different generation think he should.

Jon Mendleson is a member of the Israeli Armed Forces. He made aliyah January 2, 1996, went through the ulpan program for 10 months, entered the Army ulpan program December 17, 1996, and today is an army photographer who "can't talk about what I do. It can't be published."

Jon started considering aliyah seven years ago "when I became aware of Israel. I was always in Young Judaea, and went to Camp Kadimah, even though for the first two years it was against my will but then I loved it and went as a camper and staff for 12 years. Camp instilled Israel and Zionism on me and gave me a sense of Jewish identity."

He went on the March of the Living in 1990 which showed him his Jewish responsibility. Landing in Israel for the first time, he fell in love with the country. After participating in Or Yehuda Youth Exchange, and another four-month independent trip two years later, he knew what he wanted.

"I came home, knew I had trade skills (he spent two years at Dalhousie Univer-

sity and later earned two diplomas in photography and digital imaging at Community College) and knew American or Canadian cities were not for me. On Rosh Hashanah 1995, I decided to take the step. I was offered a job in Halifax a few days later but my dream of fulfilling aliyah was more important to me than taking that job."

He struggled to learn Hebrew in the first few months but loved life on Maggan Michael Kibbutz. He says it was tough to learn because most other people in the ulpan program weren't really interested.

"That was difficult for me because I really wanted to be there. Some of the Russian immigrants and those from other places didn't want to be in Israel. They really didn't know what they wanted. It hurt because I helped with UJA programs in Halifax, campaigns that paid for plane loads of Russians to get to Israel. When I was there as a tourist, I greeted Russians at the airport and now they just didn't care."

Being an immediate Israeli citizen, Jon

5a.m., listening to rules and expectations. The first two and a half months were basic training, 18 hours a day, some days of 14 hours in the classroom, others more in the field."

He's faced danger, having left a Jerusalem shopping centre 90 minutes before a bomb exploded. On one occasion, he left a brief case containing photographs, certificates of achievement and other personal effects on a bus. When he recovered it, authorities had blown it up. "In Israel, I learned you never leave your bags behind. And it made me appreciate more the work the army does."

Mendleson is a past president of the Atlantic Provinces Jewish Student Federation, co-chaired the Atlantic region of the Jewish Students Network, Canada, and was the student representative on the Atlantic Jewish Council.

Today, he is about 80 percent fluent in Hebrew, "but I've lots of room for improvement," he laughs.



was required to enter the service. His low level of Hebrew forced his deferment for six months after his first call but he insisted he start immediately because he wanted to be finished by the time he was 26 so he could get on with his life. Army recruiters loved his determination and took him.

"I was scared but it was a real rush for me. I got my gear, needles and the other things I needed and started my first day at

When people ask Jon why he left a peaceful country to move to Israel, he says, "It hasn't come to mind in the last 21 months. The decision is one I'll never regret. It's been important to me as a person. I've found myself."

## SPIRITUAL OBSTACLES TO ELUSIVE JEWISH UNITY

By Rabbi Saul Aranov, Beth Israel Synagogue, Halifax

One of the main themes of the High Holy Days is the achievement of unity as we read in the *machzor* "They shall all make a union in order to perform in accordance with your Divine Will whole-heartedly". Admittedly there were pristine moments in Jewish History which necessitated the unified expression of the people of Israel. For example such as when they received the Torah at Mount Sinai or forty years later when they stood at the plains of Moab before entering the Promised Land of Canaan and all men, women and children even the souls of generations unborn reaffirmed the covenant with the Almighty. They were at best fleeting moments of unity.

Let us examine in the High Holy Days spirit, some of the obstacles to Jewish unity. Jewish unity is predicated upon "acting wholeheartedly in accordance with the Divine Will". We should ask ourselves: How do we define Judaism? Are we self-serving in our understanding of religion because to act as servants of the L-d is foreign to our way of thinking in modern society?

Let us for a moment turn back the clock to last Rosh Hashanah 5757 even as we approach the shofar sounds of 5758. Have the 200 notes of last year's shofar blowing aroused us to any appreciable progress in spiritual improvement? Perhaps it is the din of daily drudgery that has drowned out the echoes of the shofar sounds that should have reverberated in us from last Yom Kippur. The same dilemma confronts us when we pray as our daily preoccupations get in the way of sincere prayer.

The function of the shofar as a clarion call to assemble us as a united people under G-d has, I fear, fallen on deaf ears. Last summer *Commentary* magazine conducted a symposium whose theme was "What do North American Jews believe?" The editors acknowledged, "Whatever else American Jews believe in, it is doubtful that the majority of them believe in Judaism".

Here is the testimony of a Conservative Rabbi at that symposium: "Too many in the liberal community seem determined to adjust Torah to their whims of the moment.

Therefore it is harder to see why their approach should be called Judaism". Add to them the great number of unaffiliated Jews. If we were to define Judaism according to their way of life by democratic vote then Judaism in North America would be consigned to oblivion. Since those groups declare Jewish Traditional law as not binding, those laws would only be practiced when it turns the individual on as a passing fad.

When money instead of being a means becomes an end then religious values become meaningless. Judaism cannot be for sale. One cannot buy indulgences by flaunting Jewish law. Judaism never tried to satisfy the lowest common denominator. The Conservative movement still claims to commit itself to Jewish law. Yet, a Conservative Rabbi stated "If we talk to our congregations of Jewish law or G-d they act uneasy as if we have breached a tacit understanding." To talk about G-d is too controversial and do not tell us about Jewish law as we want religion without a guilty conscience.

Cont. on page 29



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# Human dignity and freedom

By Rabbi Mendel Feldman, Chabad Lubavitch of the Maritimes

From the beginning of creation, countless people have yearned for, striven for, and died for these ideals. Since the dawn of creation until the modern era, wars have been waged, battles fought, and revolutions mounted to win freedom and secure human dignity. Thinking about these two priceless commodities, we realize that they are inexorably linked. When our freedom is curtailed, we lose a corresponding measure of our freedom. The two, then have a synergetic relationship.

From the President to the pauper, we are all responsible and held accountable for how we choose to exercise our freedom. And if we abuse our liberty, G-d forbid, we may forfeit it completely.

On Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, the Supreme Judge takes all of mankind to task. Without exception, we are all held accountable - accountable for our dealings between our fellow human beings, and accountable for our relationship with G-d.

As frail and vulnerable mortals, few of us can stand fearlessly before the "King of Kings" on Rosh Hashanah with a completely clear conscious. Who amongst us has not the smallest failing or character flaw? Who amongst us has not, on account of their thoughts, words or deeds, compromised their G-d given freedom, by following - however reluctantly - the enticing prompting of the baser elements within us?

The key to regaining our freedom lies in restoring our human dignity. By extricating ourselves from the chains of self-deception and self-serving rationalizations, we begin our arduous journey back to freedom. We must judge ourselves with honesty. We must ask ourselves whether we are living up to

the G-dly potential dormant within us.

G-d has implanted in each and every one of us a Divine soul, a soul that comprises the true essence of every Jew. By living our lives in accord with wisdom of the Almighty, we liberate our true selves from the dictates of our own coarser predilections, and from the capricious moral standards of societal norms.

Freedom is not attained by living a life of wild abandonment. Neither is human dignity achieved by pursuing physical pleasures. Chasing these illusory prizes only deepens the darkness from which our souls yearn to escape. The divine soul within us is a veritable part of G-d.

When we succeed in liberating it from restrictive influences that stifle its expression, we also free the Divine Presence from the confining exile that it too endures.

On Rosh Hashanah, we stand humbly before our Father, our King. With hot tears flowing freely, we beseech Him to judge us favourably, and with compassion.

And as the Shofar sounds its piercing cries, cries that soar to the very Heavens, we too, cry out, "Father! Help us! Help us find our human dignity! Help us regain our freedom!" Surely, our merciful King will harken to the heartfelt pleas of His loyal subjects. His loving children. Surely, He will not make us wait a moment longer...Soon, so very soon, we will all surely hear the sound of the Shofar — the piercing call, reverberating around the world, that will herald the long awaited arrival of redemption.

Wishing you and your family a Happy and Healthy New Year.

# AJC is on-line

By Christina MacNeil, Webmaster

The Atlantic Jewish Council is pleased to announce that we are now on the Internet. You can access the site at [www3.ns.sympatico.ca/ajc.halifax/main.html](http://www3.ns.sympatico.ca/ajc.halifax/main.html).

Keep up to date on events happening in the region. Learn the history of some of the Jewish Communities in Atlantic Canada. Find out about national organizations. Visit the links provided to Israeli Educational Institutions.

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Just click on the mail icon or access our e-mail account at [ajc.halifax@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:ajc.halifax@ns.sympatico.ca). Let us know what you want to see.

## Dr. Bernie Vigod Memorial Lecture

**Dr. Elisabeth Maxwell**, an expert on Holocaust Education and Christian-Jewish relations will deliver a presentation entitled *From the Shadow of Ignorance to the Light of Commitment: The Story of a Bystander* on Tuesday, October 7, 1997 at 7:00pm in the Ted Daigle Auditorium at St. Thomas University, Fredericton.

For further information, please contact the Atlantic Human Rights Centre at (506)452-0549.

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# A CHRISTMAS CAROL FOR ROSH HASHANAH?!

By Rabbi David Ellis, Moncton

The month of Elul is the time of preparation before the coming of the New Year. The shofar is blown during weekday morning services. It is worthwhile to study the *machazor*, the prayerbook for the High Holidays, as many of the prayers are unfamiliar and need special acquaintance. And there are classic books on the holidays, such as S.Y. Agnon's *The Days of Awe*, which take us through the entire period with *midrash*, legends, and Jewish lore. Maimonides' *Laws of Repentance* brings together the classic teachings of our Sages on the subject and is available in many editions.

But there is another book you might find it worthwhile to look at - none other than **Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol!**

But, rabbi, it's Rosh Hashanah time, not Christmas. And, rabbi, we're Jewish, and that's a Christian story.

True enough. And yet on a recent reading of the book, with a Jewish ear, I could not but be struck how over and over again Dickens, in his own historical setting of Victorian England, manages to capture some of the same insights of our Sages on repentance. Indeed, I would argue that the story cannot be fully understood without a knowledge of the Jewish sources.

Let me explain how I happened across Dickens. Living in Western society, we are exposed to the wide variety of culture. As Jews, we must, as the *Ethics of the Fathers* says, approach the culture with a sieve, not as a sponge. If we do the latter in a wholesale manner, we assimilate and are no different from anyone else. But if we know how to use the sieve of the Jewish tradition, we can find things of value within the

Western tradition and make them our own.

Children will inevitably be exposed to writers such as Dickens. I believe it is important that I, as a Jewish parent, introduce him to my children, showing what is in line with or contrary to Jewish teaching. So I read *A Christmas Carol* to my daughters this summer. While the setting is obviously not a Jewish one, the underlying message certainly is.

You are familiar with the story. Scrooge (his first name, Ebenezer, is Hebrew—"The Rock of Help"; see I Samuel 7:12) is the grouchy old skinflint and miser and has no interest in the holiday season and no *rachmanus* on his workers and their families. Moreover, Scrooge's wealth was accumulated through the defrauding of his late partner, Jacob Marley. It is Marley's ghost who accompanies Scrooge to a vision of the past, present and future, to bring him a panorama of his life—his deeds, his prospects and possibilities. He is horrified by what he sees.

The terror reaches a climax in the vision of Christmas future. The ghost shows him the full range of degradation and suffering for which he is responsible and accountable. Scrooge poignantly asks the ghost, "Are these things which will be, or things which may or may not be?" The ghost replies, It is in your power. If you use your resources for the good, it need not be. But if you do not, here is what will happen.

One will note that Scrooge's vision is not unlike the one we are familiar with in the classic High Holidays prayer, *Unetanah Tokef*. On Rosh Hashanah, G-d looks into the future and invites us to share his vision. It is horrifying—who shall live and

who shall die; of the latter, who shall do so in peace, who in an untimely manner; who shall prosper, who shall suffer, who shall lose it all. We inevitably ask Scrooge's question—is all of this fated to be?

The prayer gives the answer: *Ut'shuvah, ut'filah, utzedakah maavirin et roa hag'zerah*, repentance, prayer, and righteousness cause the evil to be changed, we can find ways to make the best of unfortunate tidings. We will be put into trying situations, but if we are armed with our Jewish resources, we should be able to draw upon the lessons of our faith.

In the conclusion of the story, Scrooge becomes a changed man. He walks down the street, greeting everyone. He hands out charity to the poor. He fulfills what Maimonides lists as the marks of a "*baal t'shuvah*," a master of repentance: when he is presently with a situation when he formerly sinned through his greed and stinginess, he now is a righteous man, one whom ordinary people cannot match in generosity.

Indeed, the story of Scrooge, as read through the *Unetanah Tokef* prayer, has much we could learn from as we approach our High Holiday season:

—*T'shuvah*, repentance: there are things which both as individuals and communities we have done wrong. The usual course is to sweep things out of the way, reassure one another that all is well, and get on with things. Unfortunately, it does not work this way. Like Marley's ghost, our failures and indiscretions come back to haunt us. They live on, sapping our efforts, making them unproductive. Sometimes we know quite well what is wrong, but nobody

The beauty of our differences begins with our right to belong



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does anything about it. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are times of accountability. Unless someone comes forth in word and vision to give us a true accounting of ourselves, we will continue in the same errant ways.

—*T'filah*, prayer: It must be admitted that the prayer in our synagogues, especially at the High Holidays services, is something far from desirable. People arrive late and spend time *kibbitzing* with those they haven't seen since last year. Everyone's eyes are looking at who has the best fall fashions. We are ready to be entertained by the cantor's lovely voice and are curious about who is going to read *Maftif Yonah*. If this is what the holiday services are for us, we would learn its message better by staying home and pulling out Dickens. If we do not experience these days with the same fear and trembling as Scrooge and make a true reckoning of ourselves and our communities, we have missed the whole point.

—*Tz'dakah*, righteousness: by *tz'dakah*, Jewish tradition understanding those acts which make the world in line with the right way of G-d. We often think of it as giving of money, but it also includes giving of time and effort. In the last issue of the *Shalom* magazine, we saw the appeal for the call for endowments for much needed projects in Atlantic Canada. And this is the time of year for the UJA drive. While there are many persons in our region who have been very generous to these causes, others have played the role of Scrooge, said "Bah, humbug," and have given far less than they are capable to Jewish initiatives. With the need to support programs for Jewish youth and college students, our elderly and our outlying communities in general, it is time to move beyond token giving toward full support for our Jewish projects.

What Scrooge saw from his visions of Christmas past, present and future, the Jewish tradition expresses in its themes of *malchuyot*, *zichronot* and *shofarot* in the Musaf prayer for Rosh Hashanah. *Malchuyot*, G-d as King, is the call for us to get out of our limited visions of life, dominated by its facades, to see the world as G-d sees it, as a place with much work to be done. *Zichronot*, Remembrances, bring us our past, to be judged against the guiding lights of our four-thousand year old tradition. And in *shofarot*, we recall echoes of the past but also to the future, of the time of redemption and a better world. May this be a season of positive vision for our Atlantic region, and honest confessing of the failures of our communities to be what they should be and a support for the already-initiated new directives to make Jewish life in the Maritimes more worth living.

L'shanah Tovah

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## From Around



Mayor Yossi Goldberg of Metulla greets your AJC Director, Canada Centre, Metulla, Israel. July 1997



The Hon. Lt. Gov. John James Kinley dedicating a ship's bell he presented to Camp Kadimah, August 1997.



Two cousins reunited, Mark & Elliot Offman, at Camp Kadimah Men's Weekend, August 1997.



Ivan Levine, cutting his 50th Birthday Cake at a party held in his honour at Camp Kadimah, Men's Weekend, August 1997



Their Hons. Lt. Gov. John James Kinley and Mrs. Grace Kinley, try the new mini-putt course at Camp Kadimah.



Dr. Jayson Greenblatt speaking at UJA campaign cabinet meeting, Halifax.

## The Region



Canada Youth Rally, Beach Party in Israel. Kadimah Israel Summer 1997.



The Ludman Bunch, smiling and happy during their stay in Jerusalem.



AJC Executive Dir. Jon Goldberg shown here at the Center for Seeing Eye Dogs, a UJA sponsored program, in Beit Oved in Israel. He met with the Director and was introduced to a dog and its master. July 1997.



Baruch Gur, newly appointed Director of Keren Hayesod, is introduced by Victor Goldberg at AJC Reception, Summer 1997, Citadel Hill, Halifax.



AJC Executive at Jewish Historical Museum, Saint John, NB during a meeting held September 1997.



Mural of Camp Kadimah, painted by Belarie Hyman Zatzman.



## Reading for the spirit and the tummy

By Rabbi Liebe Hoffman, Shaar Shalom Synagogue, Halifax

What a delicious book I stumbled across at Barnes and Nobles last week. I use the word "delicious" not only as a figure of speech, but quite literally, for it provides not only nourishment for the Jewish spirit, but also for the Jewish tummy. The book is appropriately entitled *Miriam's Kitchen*, a memoir by **Elizabeth Ehrlich**. And if you want to give yourself a New Year's treat, run - don't walk - to your favourite bookstore and ask them to order you a copy without delay.

The world that Elizabeth Ehrlich inherited is familiar to many of us on either side of the border. Immigrant grandparents who tried hard to hold on to the beauty of the "old ways" while confronting a perplexing and difficult culture. Parents who were first generationers on this side of the Atlantic, liberal, educated men and women "who selected from and approximated the traditions they took for granted... while holding few institutional ties to the Faith."

Over the course of time, the author travels a path of forgetfulness: "I forgot the childhood appetites that could only be satisfied in my grandmother's kosher kitchens. I forgot the practical, mystical teachings spiraling back through time, that the grandmothers had once dished out with their soup. I forgot the dignity my immigrants had, that comes with the connection to something larger than everyday life, even when you are doing nothing more than stirring soup. I had the bequest of my grandmothers' details, but I devalued all this for many years as one does."

So what happens? Parenthood - "and the desire to build a floor under my children, something strong and solid... Then I remembered an unwrapped a bundle of family tales, many located in or near the kitchen. In those I found wisdom and innovation

and the fading rituals and habits of an assimilating clan. I had been carrying that bundle all of my life."

In addition to parenthood, there is a goodly amount of *mazel*: Elizabeth has the wonderful fortune of living in close proximity of her mother-in-law, Miriam - a woman who had lived her life in a small village in Poland and had survived the Holocaust. Of her mother-in-law, the author writes: "A keeper of rituals and recipes, and of stories, she cooks to recreate a lost world, and to prove that unimaginable loss is not the end of everything. She is motivated by duty to ancestors and descendants, by memory and obligation and an impossible wish to make the world whole."

Daughter-in-law becomes eager and disciplined student. And so the enchantment begins. The classroom is Miriam's kitchen. And the curriculum ranges from the unrivaled superiority of gefilte fish chopped by hand to the recipe - which is included of course - for *lukshn mit leybern* (chicken livers with noodles). But the true lessons go far deeper. With each session, throughout the course of the year, a veil parts, secrets of the heart and soul become revealed, more questions are asked than could possibly be answered. Elizabeth's journey goes far beyond her mother-in-law's pots and pans, her *milchigs* and *fleishigs*, her sweet and sour cabbage. By the time she is ready to send this collage of memoirs and personal meditations to her publisher, she reflects: "The cadence is evolving for me now, as I seek to bring traditions home. With ambivalence and some sense of irony, I light a candle, recite a prayer, grate a potato, and move toward making my kitchen kosher."

This sense of honest "ambivalence and irony" is so important here. One doesn't need to have "gotten it all together", to be

a True Believer, or undergo a conversionary experience in order to bring the Transcendent into one's life. Listen to Elizabeth's opening meditation for the month of September. I include it here as a gift to each one of you:

Work and house and errands and physical fitness and activities and things. The expediences of everyday. This cannot be all there is.

Something more is calling. It is of the past, it embodies tradition, yet tradition is only the vehicle. It is of the heart, but it is more than diffuse sentiment. Some of it is dimly remembered, yet remembered for a reason.

It is a coherent way of life and the taste of home. It is a way to teach the children right and wrong, consciousness, history and appreciation of all we have...

It is an ancient religion. It beckons, and half the time I am not even sure why. Its rituals tantalize and will not be denied.

What is the lure of ritual when passionate belief is hardly ever to be found, when fulfillment of ritual is a matter of choice? It is more than the preservation of an empty vessel. It is the conviction, deep and unspoken, that ritual, the vessel, contains a precious substance, though I cannot name it. My ignorance is my problem, not that of the vessel.

Why do I, having long ignored the rituals, yearn in their direction? Some of its caretakers have been those I loved best and respected most. I cannot forget them. I start from there.

Oh, what a beautiful passage. What a beautiful prayer. Perhaps you may want to return to it again and again during this High Holyday period.

Perhaps you may want to read the en-

Cont. on page 29



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# A personal account of a bombing in Jerusalem

By Joel Jacobson

**Naava Weiner** has gone through an experience she hopes will never happen again - to her or anyone else.

The granddaughter of **Norman & Shirley Weiner** of Sydney (and Haifa), daughter of **David & Beth Weiner**, formerly of Sydney and now living in Jerusalem, and great-granddaughter of **Sarah Weiner** and the late **Morris Weiner** of Halifax, was slightly injured in a late summer bombing in downtown Jerusalem.

According to a letter sent by David and

Beth to their Aunt **Evelyn Davis** in Sydney, Naava was "slightly injured, emphasis on slightly, but is at home and well now."

The teenager had just come out of a shop on Ben Yehuda with some friends and was walking down the street when the blast occurred. She was thrown to the ground, immediately got up and ran away from the scene with her friends. After calling her father to let him know she was OK, she was told to go to Magen David Adom Hospital for treatment, for she had a nail in the base

of her nose, a small opening on her leg and a small hole in her eardrum.

The letter from her parents indicates Naava had become a "media darling since she handled herself so calmly through all of this. She told them at the hospital she wasn't hysterical so they would have an easy time helping her. She had seen on (the television program) ER that you shouldn't remove something like the nail since it seals the wound, so she waited for the doctors to do it."

While waiting her turn for help, and after helping a friend who was bleeding from a shrapnel wound, Naava started studying for the next week's Torah reading.

"The press ate her up", her parents wrote Ms. Davis. "She was visited by **Ehud Olmert**, the mayor of Jerusalem, as well as president **Ezer Weizman** who signed her picture from the newspaper. She has also done radio and television interviews."

The wound is healing nicely, and she has a slight hearing loss but the eardrum will heal on its own over the next few months, her parents wrote.

## Celebrating Israel Day

By Zena Haberman

"In Basel I founded the Jewish State. If I were to say this aloud I would be met with general laughter. But in another five years and certainly in another fifty years, everyone will be convinced of this..."



Dancing the Hora at Camp Kadimah.

And so Israel Day '97 was ushered in at Camp Kadimah centred around the theme of 100 years of Zionism. The program opened with a camp wide screening of Disney's *An American Tale*. The movie was paused halfway through to give the campers a chance to identify with Fivel Mouskowitz

and the escape from 1880's Russia. After a brief discussion of the underlying message in the film, an outdoor interactive field presentation allowed campers the opportunity to "choose their own adventure", as if they were living under Czarist rule in the 1880's in Russia. Options ranged from remaining in the Shtetl, to moving to America or creating a homeland in the land of Israel either via political or practical Zionism. By the end of the evening program only three possible options remained: moving to America, rallying politically for a homeland, or settling the swamp lands of Israel promised to the Jewish people. The three self-appointed divisions of ideology were to be the basis for the next day's activities. Following an Israeli morning show and a special breakfast, each group was further divided into subgroups to play sports (baseball for those who chose to move to America, and basketball or soccer for those who opted for either stream of Zionism.) and write a song or choreograph a dance that coincided with the group's decision. After each of the sections presented their song and dance a "free vote" was facilitated culminating with a *Shira* (Israeli sing-song) of periodic melodies such as *Tumbalalika* and *Im Tirsu*. From here a transition to modern day Israel was made. An open waterfront Israeli-style beach party helped to set a festive mood for the rest of the day, which included a spy simulation game and brief creative lecture. This concluded with a beautiful bilingual rendition of *Hatikvah* which truly reinforces that "If you will it (Israel) is no dream.



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# Camp Kadimah '97 Our Photo Album



*Jill Chatt  
Tema Conter Spirit Award Winner*



*Adam Conter  
Award Winner*



*Amy Mendleson  
Outstanding Swimmer*



*Sheldon Cohen and The Hon. Lt. Gov. John James Kinley*



*Darah Gaum  
Fine Arts Award Winner*



*Sarah Goldberg  
Outstanding  
Swimmer Machar*



*Shira Tsinman  
Best Camper, Goshrim*

## KADIMAH '97 REPORT

By Sheldon Cohen, Camp Director

The summer of '97 was a most successful one. We had wonderful weather and a fun-filled program. Who can forget Maccabia '97, Hityashvut, Haganah Nite, Yom Hashoah, Carnival Day, Campstock, Beauty and the Beast and other memorable programs?

This summer we had 245 campers including 25 CITs. The CITs had a wonderful trip to Cape Breton and PEI. Their chevra and ruach was outstanding. This was noted in their great production of Little Shop of Horrors.

The spirit at Camp this summer was at an all time high and many new friendships were forged. Camp Kadimah continues to be a special place for all to focus on our Jewish heritage, build our identities and partake in various camp activities.

The mini golf course, water skiing, sailing, sports and waterfront occupied all for six exciting weeks. Oneg Shabbats, Israeli Song & Dance, arts and crafts and special programming blended together to make '97 an excellent season.

To all campers, parents, and staff, a sincere L'Shana Tovah. We hope to see you all back in 1998

## REPORT ON SENIORS

By Kathy Zilbert, Chairman, Committee for Seniors

Fall 1997. I am pleased to report that great progress is being made in the areas of concern AJC has for seniors in Atlantic Canada.

Kosher Meals on Wheels began Shabbat on September 12. We had a slow response initially but it appears to be increasing daily. Dinners for Shabbat and Yom Tov will be delivered by volunteers each Friday afternoon (or in the case of Yom Tov on Wednesday). We have yet to hear if we will receive a government grant which will off set some of the initial cost but we hope to hear an answer in October. The \$12.50 cost of the meal does, however, cover purchase of food, labour, kitchen rental, containers etc. Presently this service only exists in the Halifax area.

Transportation remains an area untouched. Plans for purchase of a van by Northwood Care, which AJC would use on a fee-for-service arrangement, have fallen through. We have not given up but this may take a while.

Chaplaincy, which affects many areas of the Atlantic Provinces is on track. I have met with the home care division of Northwood and have begun an educational program with them. They have designated one supervisor to handle all Jewish clientele so that concerns specific to them can be dealt with efficiently. They are eager to offer help to families and seniors and try to streamline the process. They would, of course, like us to encourage their company

as the preferred provider of homecare services. This, I believe is a very worthwhile



community and Northwood Care administration, was formed in June and has met twice. Each subcommittee has been working on specific areas in the development of a Jewish Home for the Aged, which would consist of a 23 bed unit located in the Northwood complex. The final approval of this venture goes to the board of Northwood Care Inc. next month. Once approved, preliminary plans will move forward quickly. The physical structure, which is now completely gutted, will be built to include a kosher kitchen and areas which can be used for cultural and religious purposes. The chaplain would work closely with this unit. The marketing subcommittee will inform the community by means of private and public meetings, brochures etc., about the unit we are creating and the tremendous opportunity to be in a facility

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thing to do as it gives us continuity and access to caregivers who would be more familiar with a Jewish home.

An advisory committee, consisting of members of the Jewish

that responds to specific Jewish needs while having access to the broader community at the same time.

The financial implications of such an undertaking are in the hands of a very capable committee. AJC will be responsible for the capital cost specific to making the floor a Jewish one i.e.: the kosher kitchen, and the ongoing operating costs above the normal ones incurred in the nursing home. Again these are centred around the kitchen with food costs and preparation costs. Fund raising will commence as soon as details are finalized with Northwood.

There is a tremendous amount of work to be done; however, there is no denying that the quality of life for our seniors will improve with the implementation of these projects. I would be pleased to discuss this with anyone interested and look forward to sharing more details as they become available.

**\*\*\* Kosher Shabbat Meals are \$12.50 per meal. We are also taking orders for Yom Tov meals at this same low price. Please call the Atlantic Jewish Council at 422-7491 to place your order or to have any questions answered.\*\*\***



## Fredericton

by Jennie Brown

Anniversary greetings to the following: **Frank & Daisy Budovitch** - 55 years; **Rabbi David & Edith Spiro** - 52 years; **Harry & Sheila Chippin** - 49 years; **Alfred & Leona Brown** - 33 years; **Allen & Rhona Rubin** - 30 years; **Peter & Sharon Pinsler** - 30 years; **Warren & Miriam Cohen** - 27 years; **Ivan & Lois Levine** - 27 years; **Steven & Rhoda Fransblow** - 17 years; **Byron & Shelley Stevens** - 15 years.

The Israel Affairs Committee of the AJC in co-operation with the United Jewish Appeal of Canada, sponsored guest speaker **Dr. Baruch Gur** on July 15. Dr. Gur spoke to a large audience in the auditorium of the synagogue. He was introduced by **Ivan Levine**. Dr. Gur was born in Gorky, Russia and migrated to Israel in 1948. Between 1989-95 he was head of the Jewish Agency Department responsible for the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

He was in charge of a 100 Jewish Emisaries who were active throughout the Soviet Union and bringing Jews to Israel. This was one of the most exciting activities ever undertaken by Israel. The speaker was thanked by **Marty Payne**. Followed by a question and answer period, refreshments were served and an enjoyable evening was spent by all.

Condolences to the family of the late **Ezra Rose** who passed away peacefully at his home after a lengthy illness. Survived by his wife **Bella**, daughter **Sandra** and two brothers **Fred (Sarah) Rose** of Halifax and **Hymie (Rhoda) Rose** of Woodstock, NB, many nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held at the Tiferes Israel Synagogue, Moncton, conducted by **Rabbi David Spiro**. May the mourners be spared further sorrow.

Condolences to the family of the late **Irwin Rosenzweig** who passed away after a lingering illness at Baycrest Hospital in Toronto. Survived by wife **Betty (Chippin)**, son **Shawn**, daughter-in-law **Beverly** of Toronto, daughter **Simone** and son-in-law **Todd Levine** of Peabody, MA, sister **Bernice** and brother-in-law **Todd Gershon** of Florida. Devoted grandfather of **Hillary** and **Allison Levine** and **Mark** and **Jill Rosenzweig**. The

funeral was held in Toronto. May the mourners be spared further sorrow.

Mazel Tov to the following: **Ben Zion** and **Mindy Cohen** on the birth of their son **Yisroel Dov**. Happy grandparents are **Rabbi & Mrs. S. Cohen** of Pennsylvania and **Marilyn (Spiro) & Louis Newman** of Montreal. Great-grandparents **Murray & Maidie Newman** of Montreal and **Rabbi David & Edith Spiro** of Fredericton... **Eli & Baillie Spiro** on the birth of their son, **Ya-acov**. Happy grandparents are **Michael & Betty Spiro** of Toronto and **Rabbi & Mrs. D. Fine** of New York. Great grandparents **Yisroel & Pearl Handelsman** of Toronto and **Rabbi David & Edith Spiro**... **Amelia Goldman** on the birth of her great-granddaughter **Hoydaya Nechama**, granddaughter of **Dr. Malcolm & Barbara Goldman** of Beersheva, Israel... **Alan & Myra Meyers** of Calgary whose son **Justin Lee** was called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah. Grandson of **Sylvia & Irving Meyers** of Calgary (former residents of the Fredericton community) and **Rose Jacobson** of Toronto. Great-grandson of **Jennie Brown**... **Susan & Larry Mayer**, whose son **Aaron** was called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah. Relatives from far and near were in attendance... **Miriam Cohen** upon her retirement after thirty years from her profession as a teacher in different schools. Enjoy with good health... **Rabbi David & Edith Spiro** and **Murray & Maidie Newman** of Montreal, upon the engagement of their granddaughter **Ahuiva**, daughter of **Marilyn & Louis Newman** of Montreal to **Motti Basch**, son of **David & Debbie Basch** of Toronto... **Allen & Rhona Ruben** upon the marriage of their daughter **Juliann** to **Jordan Rodney**, son of **Sheldon & Laura Rodney** of Toronto. The marriage was held at the Beth Emeth Bais Yehudah Synagogue, Downsview... **Lea Adilman**, daughter of **Anita & Dave Adilman**, has returned to Ottawa to begin studies at Carleton University... **Karen Kaufman** has also returned to Ottawa to being her studies at Carleton. She is the daughter of **Marilyn & Seymour Kaufman**.

**Joan & Weldon Levine** have taken up residence in Toronto. Wishing them happiness in their new environment.

The annual meeting for Medical Services was held at the home of **Faye Medjuck** with President **Marissa Blanchard** presiding. Prayer was read by **Doris Rauch**. **Charlotte Brown** was introduced and welcomed to the meeting. The following executive of the Lillian Freiman Chapter of Hadassah-WIZO was introduced by the President: **Sydelle Grobe** - President; **Shelley Stevens** - Vice-President; **Marissa Blanchard** - Secretary; **Marlene Unger** - Treasurer; **Leona Brown** - Medical Services; **Cheryl Abrams** - Baby Creche; **Daisy Budovitch** - Membership; **Nessa Leckie** - Cards; **Jennie Brown** - Telephone; **Marilyn Kaufman & Marissa Blanchard** - Youth Aliyah.

**Leona Brown**, for Medical Services, introduced the speaker **Loretta Boone**. Loretta, who is a Registered Nursing Assistant, is affiliated with **Dr. Paul Smith** at the Riverside Clinic in Lincoln, NB. She is a certified Nutritional Microscopist with a degree from Mesa, Arizona. She has been certified as a Nutritional Counsellant from the Edison Institute of Nutrition in Brampton, Ontario. A question and answer period followed and **Leona** thanked the speaker on behalf of the Hadassah. Hostesses for the meeting were **Faye Medjuck** and **Marissa Blanchard**.

**Rabbi John Samuels** and his wife from New York, were amongst the influx of visitors to our community during the summer months. Shabbat Services were held at the Sgoollai Israel Synagogue conducted by **Rabbi Samuels**. A delightful Kiddush was held following the Saturday morning services. Following a week later, **Rabbi Emery Engel** and his wife from New York were visitors. **Rabbi Engel** conducted the Shabbat Services and a delightful Kiddush was held following the Saturday services. The convenor of both Kiddushes was **Rhoda Fransblow** assisted by **Roz Brown**, **Leona Brown**, **Cheryl Abrams**, **Linda Payne**, **Edie Besner** and **Marilyn Kaufman**. The women deserve credit in preparing the Kiddushes which were enjoyable.

Speedy recovery to **Sarah Lang**, **Joe Budovitch**, **Harry Brown** and **Bea Sherman**.

Wishing all readers of *Shalom* a Shana Tova.

## The Rock

By Claire Frankel-Salama

Congratulations to the following: **Polina Litvak, David Wolinetz** and **Elliott Noel** on receiving Centenary Scholarships, awarded to the top graduating students by the Government of Newfoundland. Additional congratulations to Polina who was the recipient of a IIAS Scholarship.

Mazel Tov to **Dr. David** and **Jane Mercer** on their conversion on September 15 in Montreal. An Oneg Shabbat was held in their honour on September 26 at the Beth El Synagogue.

Yasher Koach to **Dr. Steven Wolinetz** and **Karen Lippold** for their Herculean efforts in organizing the pro-referendum forces. Steve's eloquence on TV, radio and in newspapers was instrumental in arguing the case for a school system free of church governance (see below).

Events: **Baruch Gur** visited St. John's with his wife as part of a tour of Atlantic Canada.

Welcome to **Yifat Basist** our new Areva from WUJS. Yifat arrived September 15 via Scandinavia.

## School system in Newfoundland

by Ruth Noel


Under the present Newfoundland school system, all schools are religious and are controlled by several designated groups. The churches have the right to control who receives teacher licenses and who can teach in the schools. In reality, the Protestant school board has delegated much of their


powers to the school boards but in some of the other boards the churches maintain tight control over all aspects of education. The Referendum was designed to take the power away from the churches and give it to the province, school boards and school councils. The schools will be 'public' in the

sense that general religious courses can be taught but not a specific doctrine. Certification of teachers will be done by a board not on religion, and the hiring of teachers will no longer be controlled by church leaders. Allocation of school funds for buildings will be done by the province. Children will go to neighbourhood schools instead of those which are designated to their religion. (Jews and other groups usually use the Protestant school board.)


Religious observances will be protected. Parents wishing to celebrate religious holidays in the school for their children will be allowed to do so (within reason). The change here is that all religious groups will have this right.

In the end, children will go to neighbourhood schools; teachers of all faiths and no faith will be have equal access to all schools, and religious doctrine (unless it is done in the context of learning about various faiths) will not be given in the schools. All children will be allowed to celebrate those holidays which are important to them. None of this will take effect until Term 17 of the Constitution is amended by the House of Commons and Senate.





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# Moncton

by Nancy Cohen

My apologies to everyone who searched the last issue of *Shalom* looking for a report from Moncton. Unfortunately, my report missed the deadline last June, as I was devoting all of my time and energy to getting the three children ready for Camp Kadimah (name tags on ninety socks, etc...). My labours, however, seem to have been worth it. The children all had a wonderful summer at Camp, as did the others from Moncton who attended.

On April 17 **Sarah Gorber** was honoured with a 1997 City of Moncton Volunteer Award. The awards were instituted this year to recognize Monctonians who have made an outstanding contribution to their community. Sarah was one of five people to receive this award, which was presented by Mayor **Leopold Belliveau** at a gala ceremony held at the Capital Theatre. Over the years Sarah has devoted a great amount of time to many organizations, such as the Elizabeth Fry Society and MAGMA (The

Multicultural Association of Greater Moncton). For Sarah, however, the Jewish community has always come first, and this is where she has made her greatest contribution. Whatever the occasion Sarah is always ready to help, whether it involves organizing a Chanukah dinner, or baking huge challahs for a Bar Mitzvah. She has served on the board of directors of Tiferes Israel Synagogue for many years, and has been a mainstay of Sisterhood. Many newcomers to Moncton's Jewish community have been welcomed by Sarah's hospitality, and she has become a surrogate grandmother to several children, who affectionately called her Bubby Sarah. Mazel Tov to Sarah - we are all very proud of you.

Mother's Day 1997 was an historic occasion at Tiferes Israel. The male members of the congregation treated the female members and their families to a delicious brunch, which was organized, prepared, served and cleaned up by the men. Presented with a

rose and a glass of champagne as we walked through the door, we all felt like queens for the day. The men proved to be such good cooks that Sisterhood now has some new volunteers it can call on to help in the kitchen.

In June a special Kiddush was held to bid farewell to **Paul Salama** who has moved to Montreal. Paul made Moncton his home for five years and was a devoted member of the synagogue. For several years he has been our Chassan on the High Holy Days, and he has frequently been called upon to lead services. His beautiful voice will be greatly missed, but we wish him much success and happiness in his future endeavours.

Mazel Tov to high school graduates **Riva Coleman**, daughter of **Linda & Harry Coleman**, and **Shawna Rinzler**, daughter of **David & Carol Rinzler**, who both graduated from Riverview High School, and to **Toby Carnat**, son of **Barrie & Evy Carnat**, who graduated from McGill University with a degree in physiotherapy. Toby has been accepted at Dalhousie University Medical School.

A warm welcome to the newest member of Moncton's Jewish community, **Rachel Cohen** who arrived in September. Mazel tov to her proud parents **Carolyn Baer** and **David Cohen**, sister **Arianne**, grandparents **Kay & Nathan Cohen**.

Moncton has another reason to k'vel. **David Attis** has been awarded the Samuel Bronfman Award by the Canadian Jewish Congress. This award goes to an individual for distinguished service to the CJC and to the Jewish community. Mazel tov, David.

Unfortunately not all of our news is good. We were saddened by the death of **Dorothy Mark**, on August 18. Dorothy had been a pillar of the community for many years and was loved and admired by everyone who knew her. Our sincere condolences to her family.

We are still searching for a rabbi for our community. In the meantime several members of the congregation have pitched in to keep services going. We are, however, looking forward to hosting **Aviel & Sarah Zwebner**, who will be coming to Moncton from Israel as part of Project Arevim. They will be arriving after Yom Kippur.

On behalf of the Moncton Jewish community, I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year.

## Glac Bay

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## Anne Lea Israeli, Doctoral Student

**Editor's note:** It's been a very good year for **Anne Lea Israeli**. Not only is the Clinical Psychology student one of the winners of an SSHRC doctoral fellowship, but she has made the list of "Leaders of Tomorrow, 100 Canadians to Watch," in *Maclean's* July 1 edition. The excerpt is reprinted below.

Some might call her a typical overachiever, the only child of disabled parents who pulled herself out of reduced circumstances to stand on the threshold of a bright career. But Israeli, a 25-year-old award-winning Ph.D. candidate in clinical psychology at Halifax's Dalhousie University, does not choose to view matters that way. "I see my background as a definite advantage," she says. "I matured a lot earlier than some of my friends and I learned a lot sooner the value of hard work." Born in Moncton, she was raised in the low-income housing district of Newcastle in the Miramichi River

valley. Both her parents were well-educated but unable to work. A neurological illness incapacitated Israeli's mother, an artist and teacher, while her father, a Romanian-born quantum chemist, was disabled by spinal injuries, the result in part of his experiences as a Holocaust survivor. Still, says Israeli, "I was brought up in an enriched environment." And she has excelled from an early age: graduating from the University of New Brunswick, she took the faculty of arts prize for

highest standing and won several scholarships to finance her doctoral studies at Dalhousie. Eventually, she plans to return to New Brunswick, setting up a practice to treat eating and anxiety disorders. "There are not many practicing psychologists with a Ph.D. back home," she says. "I should do well."

## Dateline Halifax

Mazel Tov to **Betty Arron**, celebrating her 90th Birthday... to **Julius & Sara Silverman** celebrating 65 years of marriage.

Mazal Tov to **Ralph & Shirlee Medjuck** upon the marriage of their daughter, **Beth**, and to **Darrel & Elizabeth Pink** upon the marriage of their daughter, **Kristen**. Both wedding occurred in August.

Mazel Tov to **Dr. Ed & Victoria Rosenberg** for the tremendous accomplishments of their children. Daughter **Sarah** celebrated her Bat Mitzvah in Jerusalem in May. Son **Joseph** is studying at the University of Kings College under full scholarship. And daughter **Tova** is studying at McGill University after receiving a full music scholarship as well as being the NS Talent Trust Recipient. Tova spent the summer travelling across Canada with the National Youth Orchestra of Canada as a principle cellist.

Congratulations to the following: **Joel Jacobson** for receiving a national award from the Easter Seals, March of Dimes-Ability Fund Canada for Outstanding Leadership & Dedication. The honour was bestowed on Joel in recognition of the more than 50 articles he has written about people who have fought the odds to overcome disabilities... to **Sheldon Lipkus**, upon his appointment to the Board of Governors of Northwoodcare Incorporated.

Welcome back to **Yona & David Korn** and we say farewell to **Mitchell Morrison** and daughter **Sara**, who are moving to Boston.



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## What??? You've never heard of dystonia?

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Then you should know more about a movement disorder called Dystonia. Dystonia is a neurological disorder resulting in severe, uncontrollable muscle contractions

and abnormal postures. Its many forms affect different parts of the body, such as the neck and shoulders, vocal cords and limbs. Dystonia affects an estimated 300,000 persons in North America. It is a widespread disorder, but one of the least known. Dystonia can be inherited in Ashkenazic Jewish families. It is among the top ten Jewish genetic diseases. It is passed on in an autosomal dominant manner with variable penetrance. Dominant means that each child of a parent who carries the abnormal gene has a 50/50 chance of inheriting that

gene. When a person has the gene, he or she may show clinical signs of the disease (penetrance) or may show no symptoms at all, even though the gene is present. Penetrance in the affected Jewish population is about 30%.

There is no known cause of, or cure for Dystonia but there are treatments.

For more information call the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation at 1-800-377-39778. If you would be interested in participating in a support group, please call Marty Merovitch at (902) 445-4233

## The Livnot U'lehibanot experience

By Erin Sperling

This summer I had the amazing opportunity of travelling to Israel. In and of itself, it was incredible, but I participated in a program during my stay that was really outstanding. I would like to share this experience with the readers of *Shalom*.

Livnot U'lehibanot, literally translated, means to build and be built. Truly this name is appropriate. The Livnot experience that I had was three weeks of work, study and hiking based in Jerusalem. The program is intended for young Jewish people, 21-30, living in the Diaspora. It is not designed for the observant, religious Jew but rather for someone who is seeking the meaning behind a Jewish identity. Throughout the short but meaningful program I continually felt that I was growing as a person and becoming close to the Homeland of the Jewish people.

Livnot is essentially unaffiliated. Although all of the staff people were some degree of Modern Orthodox or Religious Zionists, all were open-minded, very giving and knowledgeable. The study segment of the program occurred nearly every day. Each day we would discuss as a group, along with a Rabbi or someone otherwise knowledgeable in a certain topic. The top-

ics ranged from the calendar to mikveh to finding a partner to actual parashat study and everything in between. Each class was informative and interesting and equally comfortable enough for each person to be heard if he or she wished. As well, because of the communal nature of the program, kashrut became very familiar while cooking for others. It is true that studying Jewish ethics, law and custom is interesting but the excitement was definitely heightened by being in Jerusalem, surrounded by so much history and tension because of these beliefs in many cases.

An essential part of the Livnot experience is the work component. This involved a variety of things. In one case I was able to paint banisters in the apartments of Machane Yehuda. We also spent an afternoon clearing rubble from an abandoned synagogue in Safed. Probably the highlight of my work experience in Israel was the chance we had to clear debris from the newly established museum tunnels that run the length of the Western Wall. Tour groups would pass by as we were working and ask if we were professional archaeologists! The work component was an amazing way

to get to the people of Israel as well as to make a contribution.

The third aspect of Livnot is the hiking experience. We were able to hike in nearly every corner of Israel and to marvel at so much of its beauty. From the Golan to the Negev and the Judean forest in between, it was all amazing. The hikes were coupled with informative interpretations from guides, who included discussions of the flora and fauna and the history of the area. A great way to get to know the land!

All in all I would have to say that my three week with Livnot U'lehibanot is one of my most positive Jewish experiences. The people that I met through the program, both Israeli and otherwise, opened my eyes to so much that there is simply not space for it here. I would hope that every young Jewish person would have the chance to experience something of this calibre in their lives. It was a real learning experience from which I will only go forward.

For more information about Livnot U'lehibanot, please contact me at (902) 425-0499 or email [esperlin@is2.dal.ca](mailto:esperlin@is2.dal.ca), or contact the AJC

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## Zicharonah Liorachah - In memory of Mrs. Dorothy Mark

(from the eulogy delivered at her funeral, 20 August 1997, at Tiferes Israel Synagogue, Moncton, NB, by Rabbi David Ellis)

In remembering **Dorothy Mark**, I cannot but recall the words of **Judge Irwin Lampert** as he introduced her two years

ago as a recipient of the Atlantic Jewish Council's Community Service Award. Judge Lampert was called by the AJC for suggestions for honourees; someone in the office had suggested perhaps Dorothy should be chosen. Yes, he replied, without the slightest doubt. By unanimous opinion, there is no one else so deeply

beloved and appreciated by all segments of the Moncton community as Dorothy was.

As we recall Dorothy Mark's many long years and good deeds, we must begin in an era altogether different from our own. As everyone knows, Dorothy was raised in the Jewish farming community of Edenbridge, Saskatchewan. Here was a community which provided the whole range of Jewish life in a way we no longer have today. Despite the geographic isolation, Jewish life in Edenbridge was hardly backward or parochial. Beyond working and providing for their immediate needs, the residents there had a full religious life of synagogue services, holiday observances, Yiddish culture and Zionism. Everyone who spoke with Dorothy would hear dozens of fond memories of her life there and the values she brought from there to wherever else she went.

We will observe Dorothy's *yahrzeit* on the fifteenth day of Av, or Tu B'Av. Now a minor holiday, it was in the time of the Talmud a major celebration, when young girls would dress up specially and look for husbands. Dorothy's search brought her to our region. She had come to Saint John to the wedding of a cousin. It was during her visit that she met **Jacob Mark** and moved and settled in Moncton. Her years of work in raising her family, contributing to the community, and being the perfect example of a gracious Jewish hostess are well-known by all.

Indeed, it is in her hospitality that people will probably most remember Dorothy.

As **Mitchell Rubin** noted to me, there was always a plate of cookies ready for him at Dorothy's house.

For this, many might be inclined to look upon Dorothy as a sort of old-fashioned woman of the past, centred around her home and family. Do not today women have far more opportunities than she had, to become lawyers, bankers, CEOs?

We all know that there have been many changes in women's roles in the past years. And I do not think Dorothy would necessarily disapprove of the new directions. She, after all, was somewhat of a businesswoman herself, having to manage Jacob's affairs, after he passed away, leaving her a widow at a relatively young age.

We must finally ask though, what is more important to influence, the state of the world's affairs or the lives of people. While there is a place for the former, Dorothy showed us that how we contribute to the well-being of our families and communities is ultimately how we will finally be most remembered.

So, in raising our girls, we should buy them new computers for their schooling and jobs, but perhaps also we should buy them the beginnings of their china sets, decorations for their homes, and other items which will contribute to the atmosphere of hospitality which is so precious to us and of which Dorothy had no equal in providing.

We should remember Dorothy's work for many years for Israel and Hadassah. Israel was always close to her heart. Besides traveling there several times, she

always kept up to date and informed on events there.

But if I were to choose the one thing of the many marvelous ones we could recall about Dorothy, it might be something you would not think of. When she passed away two days ago, Dorothy was only a few days from her 80th birthday. When people become this age, they often become regarded (unfortunately) by younger people as fuddy-duddies, old geezers who are not "with it" any longer.

Dorothy fully managed to escape this fate. How many times did I hear Dorothy say, "Jessica and Aviva called me last night. Meir's children the night before. Jacob will call tonight. Bena is looking for an excuse to get away from school so she can spend Shabbat with me." While her grandchildren undoubtedly had many friends and activities with which they could occupy themselves, always at the top of their list was keeping in touch with Bubbe. Whatever Dorothy did, it received the utmost appreciation of her grandchildren.

The family members who spoke in trib-



Dorothy Mark

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## SPIRITUAL OBSTACLES

Cont. from page 11

ute to Dorothy repeatedly and independently of one another recalled her as an *eshet chayel*, a "woman of valour," according to the 31st chapter of Proverbs, which we say in honour of the Jewish woman on Shabbat evening. The association is immediate and spontaneous. We read line by line the words of the ancient Biblical text, and they naturally come to life before us as we think of Dorothy Mark.

Tu B'Av, the day when Dorothy passed away, is noted by our Sages as a transitional time. The summer is still here, but the days are getting shorter and the nights longer. It is a time of returning back gradually into our homes, our evening life of study and companionship. We know too that Elul is not far off, announcing the Days of Awe, a time for collective repentance and self-examination, and the Sukkot holidays, of joy and celebration. This year we will not have Dorothy with us to recall these days in her life over the many years from Edenbridge to Moncton. It will be upon us to take responsibility to make our daily and communal Jewish living examples of what Dorothy Mark would regard as a blessing.

*Editor's note: Dorothy Mark was mother to Mrs. Hedda Medjuck, Halifax, Mr. Myron Mark, Denver, Co and Mrs. Elka Pelt, Toronto.*

The synagogue instead of being the repository of holiness has been transformed into a glorified social hall where decision making in religious law has been wrested from Rabbis who spent their lives studying the intricacies of Jewish law and taken over by an uninformed laity in the main who are on a power trip. The Traditional Synagogue looks to the Rabbis to serve as the arbiters of Jewish law and to exercise spiritual leadership. That is the demarcation of the great divide between the Traditionalist camp in Judaism and the Reform camp who decided to radically alter Halakhic definitions in Judaism by declaring children of non-Jewish mothers to be Jews.

How can a non-traditionalist recite the "Al-chet" confessional which consists of long lists of sins which they neither understand nor do they acknowledge to be sins. How can humanists express guilt before G-d for sins perpetrated against the Almighty when they are totally preoccupied only with human experiences and exclude the Almighty.

Jews must discover the meaning of the mystery of the holy in religious faith which transcends egotism. We must challenge them to truly become seekers of the meaning of Judaism as it is not as they would want it to be, a projection of their own self image. The question simply put is "Does G-d matter

enough in our lives to the extent that we can revere Him and come to love Him?"

The process which leads one back to G-d is known as repentance - "*Teshuvah*" in Hebrew. To return means not to feel ashamed of one's religion but to rejoice in it. We have to understand the Divine Will to rediscover its message in our Holy Torah. Understanding requires patience but religious experience is impatient. Part of the problem that exists between those in religious and secular camps is the great abyss of misunderstanding coupled with impatience. The quest for unity must begin and end with G-d. The lesson of patience must be learned from G-d who is even prepared to wait for us to return to Him even during the last hour of one's life. Become a "*Baal Teshuvah*" which means a master of repentance. However one must master oneself first. Then we have a duty to share the gift of G-d's love with others. This is what engenders the great unity on earth which unites with the Great Unity Above.

Some organizations have been established both in Israel and in the Diaspora to promote dialogue between the religiously committed and the uncommitted. The success of these groups depends not only in talking about their differences but in learning about the Torah world and its values. Most important is the way speech is turned into action by experiencing religion through prayer, Shabbat observance, practicing kindness and Torah study as the Psalmist declared "Taste and see that it is good."

A happy New Year to all Maritimers. May we strive for unity below on earth and thereby draw G-d's grace in the coming New Year 5758.

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## *Reading for the spirit and the tummy*

Cont. from page 18

tire book together in a group — a group that also shares traditional recipes and stories and memories of the past. It would be quite my pleasure to facilitate such a group. You need only contact Sheila at the Shaar Shalom at 423-5848 and indicate your interest and we will notify you of the first meeting.;

I wish you a year of nurturing your Jewish head and heart and spirit. And of course, your Jewish tummy!

With blessings of health and peace.

P.S. The book's publisher is Viking. And while you're at it, order a copy for a parent, an in-law, a child or a good friend.

## UPDATE #4 TO 1996/97 AJC DIRECTORY

The following are changes to your AJC Directory since the *Shalom* Summer 1997 Vol. 22, No3. You can order your 1996/97 Directory from the AJC for \$10.00. If you have any other changes to the directory, please contact the AJC at (902) 422-7491, fax (902) 425-3722, or our new e-mail [ajc.halifax@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:ajc.halifax@ns.sympatico.ca)

### FREDERICTON

**Rauch, Steve and Doris** - New phone # 454-5572

### HANWELL, NB

**Mayer, Larry and Susan** - reinstate- 103 Deerwood Drive, Hanwell, NB, E3E 1B9, e-mail [larry@omg.unb.ca](mailto:larry@omg.unb.ca)

### MONCTON

**Mark, Dorothy** - Deceased

### SAINT JOHN

**Hamburg, Philip** - Change 141 Manners Sutton Road, Saint John, NB, E2K 2E2

### MANUELS, NF

**Bennett, Arnold & Nancy** - P.O. Box 4190, Manuels, NF A1W 1H1, 834-3545

### ST. JOHN'S

**Epstein, Sid & Maisie** - Change-L'Anse Aux Meadows Cr, St. John's, NF, A1E 5Z7, 753-7005

**Fainaru, Keren** - Delete, returned to Israel

**Gross, Dr. Zuzana & Robert** - Delete, moved

**Hoekman, Ted & Elena Rozen** - Change- 55 Tupper Street, St. John's, NF, A1A 2T6, 576-2887

**Kipnis, Norman & Pam** - Delete, moved

**Lasky, Jerry** - Delete, moved

**Mercer, Dr. David & June** - Add- 156 Country Path Road, P.O.Box 33, Holyrood NF, A0A 2R0, 229-3526

**Rimsay, Dr. & Mrs. Robert** -23 Raleigh St, St. John's NF A1L 5E2, 753-9866

**Storch, Fran** - Delete, moved

### BERWICK, NS

**Fritz, Mrs. Aida** - Change to c/o Grandview Manor, 110 Commercial Street, Berwick, NS, B0P1E0

### CAMBRIDGE, NS

**Peter Nathanson** - Change- Site 3, Box 5, RR #2, Cambridge NS, B0P 1G0, 678-3448

### HALIFAX

**Bercovici, Dov & Lesley Gaum** - Change - 31 Essex Lane, Halifax, NS, B3S 1E6, 457-1129

**Carlson, Mr. & Mrs. Kevin** - Change to, Debbie Jacobson & Kevin

Carlson, 1546 Barrington Street, #509, Halifax, NS, B3J 3X7

**Cohen, Dr. Annalee** - Delete, moved to Toronto

**David, Mark & Susan** - Change- 45 Chartwell Lane, Halifax, NS B3M 3S7, 445-4735

**Ginsberg, Ray and Carol** - Add e-mail [ag756@chebucto.ns.ca](mailto:ag756@chebucto.ns.ca)

**Gordon, Samuel** -Delete

**Heynold, Valentina** - Add phone 823-1073

**Jacobson, Sadie** - deceased

**Kahmal, Romaena** - 90A Windmill Rd. #2, Dartmouth, NS, B3A 7C7, 463-4667

**Leftisk, Hilary** - Add- 5890 Pinehill Drive, Halifax, NS, B3M 1E5, 422-5716

**Mosher, Lillian** - 6369 Coburg Road #702, Halifax, NS, B3H 4J7, 429-3229

**Offman, Eric** - Delete, moved no forward

**Ruttenberg, Capt. John** - Add- 22 Lakefront Road, Apt #2, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 3C3, 463-4802

**Shapiro, Jeremy** - Delete, moved

**Sherman, Marven** -Delete

**Stein, Michael & Martha Dirks** - Delete moved to Toronto

**Ur, Drs. Ehud & Kim Burke** -Change- 977 Winwick Road, Halifax, NS, B3H 4L5, 492-0216

**Zimmerman, Connie** -Change- 1360 Hollis Street #301, Halifax, NS, B3J 1T9, e-mail [zimmey3@aol.com](mailto:zimmey3@aol.com)

### CHARLOTTETOWN

**Allen, Roselyn** - New address (delete from Halifax) - 14 Corrigan Court, Charlottetown, PEI, C1A 8N5, 566-5355

It is with deep appreciation that I wish to acknowledge and thank the many expressions of sympathy extended to me on the recent tragic loss of my beloved son, **Mark Zwicker**.

**-Helen Zwicker-Canzer, Halifax, NS**



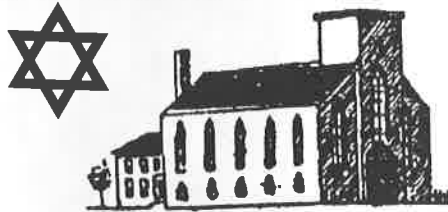
*On behalf of Halifax Regional Council and our citizens,  
I welcome this opportunity to extend best wishes to  
members of our Jewish Community.*

*Shalom.*

*Walter R. Fitzgerald  
Mayor  
Halifax Regional Municipality*



# SAINT JOHN JEWISH HISTORICAL MUSEUM



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## SHARE SOMETHING GOOD!

In order to help preserve and document the cultural heritage of pre-World War II European Jewry, Montreal Second Generation has decided to undertake a novel project, something far removed from the tragedies of the Holocaust which we hope will give a boost in morale to us all. No record of Jewish culture would be complete without reference to its art of food preparation. The tragic loss of so many millions of our people has interrupted the chain of transmission so that many valued family traditions have completely disappeared.

Perhaps nothing arouses a sense of life and nostalgia like the smells and tastes of familiar foods. These are parts of our roots and identity. Unfortunately much stands to be lost with the passing of the survivor generation. In the same way that we are interested in oral histories we can also record old favourite recipes used by parents and grandparents.

We would like to make a collection of such material, with the ultimate aim of publishing a book. All of us can participate by watching a parent cook or asking for recipes directly. This is, by the way, a good and unemotional topic with which to break barriers between the generations. Suggestions for participants:

1. As far as is known, recipes should not have been previously published. Aim for originality and uniqueness. Avoid very long and complex procedures.
2. Recipes should be part of established family tradition and tested on previous occasions.
3. Ingredients should be readily available locally and kosher.
4. Categories can be meat, fish, soups, desserts, cakes, salads, holiday specialties, etc.
5. Be careful that instructions are specific and exact. If you approach a family member about a recipe and are told "a pinch of this and a bit of that" just ask to watch them work. Make some notes as they proceed then judge the amounts and cooking times.
6. Proof-read the recipe to ensure it is legible and in proper sequence.
7. Send copies, not originals of your recipes.
8. Comments can include some helpful hints on preparation or an interesting anecdote about origin.
9. Any submission should be regarded as also granting permission for us to use the material for publication.
10. Anyone interested in helping edit and assemble the material can contact **Dr. J. Friedman**, at 5845 Cote des Neiges, Room 490, Montreal, PQ, H3S 1Z4, tel (514) 342-9208.
11. Use the form below to make a submission. We will accept up to 20 per family.
12. Suggestions for art work and title welcome.

Recipe format for Second Generation Collection

Please print clearly: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Recipe \_\_\_\_\_ Category \_\_\_\_\_

Source \_\_\_\_\_ Dairy \_\_\_\_\_ Meat \_\_\_\_\_ Pareve \_\_\_\_\_

List of ingredients - Quantity (cups, teaspoons, ounces, etc.)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
- etc. \_\_\_\_\_

Cooking Directions (be precise in cooking times, temperature of oven, etc.)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
- etc. \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate time for preparation \_\_\_\_\_ No. of servings \_\_\_\_\_

Best way to store \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

# They say the debate is about religion.



## Of course, they have the luxury to debate.

Going to bed hungry leaves little energy for debate among the 300,000 elderly Jews in the former Soviet Union in desperate need of food, medicine or home services. 14-year-old Gena Goldman delivers food packages to a few of the 70,000 who receive our support. The power to help the others, wherever they worship, is yours. Aid to the elderly is at the heart of the UJA Campaign . . . at the heart of a sacred Jewish trust to build, strengthen and care for our community at home, in Israel and in 60 countries around the world. Keep that trust. Make your increased gift today.



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