

## This 'n That

A "Woman of the Year" award was presented to **Dr. Susan Cernyak** at a UNCC luncheon celebrating the school's "Women's Week." The award is given to those who are "dedicated to women's issues, serve as role models for other women and who assist women students." **Dr. Cernyak**, a German and French language professor, is a frequent lecturer on the Holocaust, having been a survivor of a concentration camp during World War II. She also has made appearances in many theater productions in town; her most recent has been in "The Shadow Box."

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**Barbara Guller**, a University of S.C. theater graduate student, has presented and directed "The Shadow Box" for her masters' thesis. The discussion of this thesis with her two friends, **Alexis Jay Stein**, a counselor at the Drug Education Center, and **Howard Robin Winokuer**, a former counselor at the center, led the three of them into a conference on dying. These workshops, "Living Till We Die," were most successfully attended by over 100 people.

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Three of our own young beauties appeared in the Charlotte Regional Ballet's presentation of "Sleeping Beauty." These talented ballerinas are **Susan Levin**, **Caryn Kaplan**, and **Jodi Mond**.

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**Rabbi Richard Rocklin** of Temple Israel has just returned from leading a group on a trip to Israel. Among those on the tour were: **Mary Ann and Ellis Levinson**, **Jack and Sylvia Birke**, **Walter and Jean Finkelstein**, **Mrs. Dorothy Poliakoff**, **Ed and Gail Green** and their children, **Hyman and Peppy Polk**, **Bernice and Nat Roberts**, **Marcia Roff**, **Michael and Jan Price**, and **Rabbi Rocklin's daughter, Tamar Rocklin**. **Tamar and David Green** celebrated their Bar Mitzvah on the trip. Mazel Tov to both!

## Jewish Community Featured In Media

The past few months have seen many Jewish faces on Charlotte TV and many Jewish voices have been heard on the radio. Here is just a partial listing:

On April 8, WSOC's *Sunday in Carolina* featured the JCC. It filmed four groups in action, the BBW's Alive class, CHAI painting class and children's classes in puppetry and clay sculpture. **Rabbi Krantzler** was featured explaining Passover.

All through the month of April you heard **Harry Lerner**, **Charlotte Jewish Federation** President, doing a public service announcement about the 1979 campaign on WBT.

**Dr. Mark Perlin** and his three children appeared on *Good Morning Carolina*. They reenacted for the cameras the four questions and their father's answer from their seder.

**Rabbi Richard Rocklin** was featured on WSOC radio the day on which the Peace Treaty was signed between Israel and Egypt. His counterpart from the Arab community was a very vocal, excitable and oppositional Arab. **Rabbi Rocklin's** astute handling of the situation and emphasis on the joy of peace clarified the positive Israel-Jewish-Egyptian position.

## Russian Olam Return to the Land

By **Matti Nes-Ziona**  
Jewish intellectuals leave Russia for the Land of Israel, burn their bridges and their academic credentials behind them, learn how to farm and set about making the desert bloom. This is one of the most buoyant chapters in the history of Zionism. It happened more than a half century ago — and it's happening all over again today.

Sixteen families form the nucleus of **Moshav Pri-El** ("God's Fruit"), the first Russian immigrant agricultural settlement in modern Israel. Upon arrival in Israel, they had all found jobs in their professions and could have settled into city life. But they wanted something more challenging — they wanted to build something...

Although the land they are cultivating is in the politically controversial area around **Yamit**, in northern Sinai, the new group is more dedicated to farming than to politics.

"The future of this area may

children — are learning agriculture right now."

The group began to form last year when a number of families, mostly from the Beer Sheva area, discovered they shared a common interest in wanting to build a farm community. The **Immigrant Absorption Ministry** acquired the land for them, the **Jewish National Fund** is preparing it, and the **Housing Ministry** is constructing their homes. Should the settlement be moved within the pre-1967 borders, the **Pri-El** group would fall under the aegis of the **Settlement Department** of the **Jewish Agency**, which receives most of the funds allocated to the **United Jewish Appeal** by community campaigns.

While they are in training, the future settlers receive a modest government stipend of \$190 per month for a family of four. **Haim Fraimovitch**, a short, energetic mechanic from Moscow, speaks for the whole group when he says, "We can't wait to get onto our land and start producing to



**Michael Kravitz** picking giant tomatoes grown at **Moshav Pri-El** ("God's Fruit") near **Yamit**, the first Russian immigrant agricultural settlement in Israel.

be in the hands of the politician," says **Pri-El's** secretary, **Eli Navo**, an engineer formerly of Estonia. "But we are too busy working to worry about things like that."

"God's Fruit" is a stretch of pure white sand. Common sense suggests that nothing can grow here, much less provide a livelihood for the 40 or 50 families the group hopes to encompass within the next two years. Those bulldozers flattening and packing down the sand must be driven by dreamers.

Or so you'd think until you travel a few miles down the road to where the Russian settlers are learning their new profession. We find **Benjamin Gurevitch**, a former mechanical engineer from Leningrad, on a pair of stilt-shoes he designed to help him to the upper reaches of his tomato crop. His eyes are shining. "I never knew making things grow could be so rewarding," he says.

**Miriam Schwartzman**, a physician from the Ukraine, agrees. She has always loved gardening, and she wants to pass that passion on to her children. That is no idle dream, for at **Moshav** farming becomes a family affair.

"We are not hiring any Arab laborers to do the job for us," **Miriam** maintains stoutly. "Our desire is to work the land, and all of us — men, women and

pay back everything that's been advanced to us."

His five-year old daughter runs up at this point and offers me a freshly washed example of the product which is to provide most of the **Moshav's** income: a perfectly red tomato that must weigh close to a pound.

"I think we're into something very exciting," **Haim** says, urging me to bite in. "We're working on computerized irrigation, and strains of fruit that won't spoil even after months of storage. We really have plans. And more important — some sabra families are interested in joining us. We also hope to offer this kind of life to more immigrant families as they arrive from the Soviet Union."

"If politics dictate a move from here to the Negev," he concludes, "well, okay. We're so much committed to a place as to a way of life. We just want to get on with it."

**BINGO**  
at the  
**JCC**  
Tuesdays  
7:30 p.m.

## Children of God

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represents all of the negative stereotypes of a cult leader. He is constantly feeding his "Children" messages involving dreams and revelations, Biblical misquotations, gossip, sex, predictions of earthly doom, and during and since the 1973 Yom Kippur war, he has emphasized anti-Israel, pro-Arab propaganda with overt and crude anti-Semitism.

The **Children of God** in recent years found a "new home away from home" in Libya where **Berg** and **Qaddafi** developed a close relationship. **Berg** compares **Qaddafi** to **Mohammed** and **Jesus**.

In 1974, the **New York State Attorney General's** office reported after a ten-month investigation that the group conducts brainwashing, forced membership, and practices leading to personality distortion. The report went on to describe the **Children of God's** doctrines as including the dis-

paraging of parents, education, and the churches, the encouragement of premarital sex, and the appropriation of members' personal property. Despite statements in their literature that all contributions are tax deductible, the **Children of God** was denied tax exemption as a religious institution by the **IRS** in October 1972. They were expelled from **Lebanon**, **Madagascar**, and fled the **Canary Islands** when the police began an investigation to determine if they were running a bawdy house there.

They have also been known to denigrate Catholics and are active in Europe and Latin America. Their headquarters have been in London.

Anyone having contact or picking up literature from the **Children of God** or **Family of Love** cult is requested to contact the **ADL** regional office at 3311 West Broad Street, **Richmond, Virginia 23230** or phone: (804) 355-2884.

## Yom Hashoa

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courage to call it by name—to identify hate whatever form it takes — that silence is consent — teach value of a single man — me!"

During the service songs of the Holocaust were sung by soloist, **George Eison**, accompanied by organist, **Elizabeth Banks**. Moving prayers and poetry of the ghetto and the concentration camps were read. **Kitty Huffman** read **Yuri Suhl's** "The Land of Skeleton" which summarized the service beautifully: "My name is Jew... I am the spasm of a body convulsed in flames, the crumbling of a skeleton, the boiling blood, shriveling of flesh, smouldering ash of 11 million - ashes of body, of brain, of vision, of work - ashes of genius and dreams, ashes of God's master stroke - MAN. I am a delegate, my credentials signed by 11 million from the land of skeleton and you will never get rid of me until the world is Hitler-free."

After the service the fellowship hall was open for an exhibit of pictures which told in graphic terms what the memorial service was about. These pictures have been donated to the **Mecklenburg Chapter of the NCCJ** by **WRET**, Channel 36. This exhibit is available at the **NCCJ** office for use by the community to help develop a broader awareness of the horrors of the Holocaust.

Those lighting the lamps were: **Dr. Susan Cernyak**, **Fred Stern**, **Marian Lieberman**, **Rev. Martin Baumgaertner**, **Skeet Estridge**, **Cantor Frank Birnbaum**, **Boris and Bertha Wojnowich**, **Solomon Baithovitz**, **Rev. Eugene Daniel**, **Rev. Warner Hall**, and **Marta Garlik**.

Yes! You can hear radio broadcasts direct from Israel. In English.



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5:30-6:00 P.M., EST  
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11.6 MHz  
ON YOUR SHORTWAVE DIAL

For more details write: **Israel Radio**, Box 204, Cheltenham, Pa. 19012 or **Israel Radio**, Box 1082, Jerusalem, Israel

## Sherlock Holmeski Day at the "J"



### Scavenger Hunt

Sunday, May 27, 3 p.m.  
Prizes: 1st, 2nd, 3rd  
Refreshments

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