

## JCCs Deal With Jewish Family Life Education

NEW YORK, N.Y. — "Today, when family cohesiveness is threatened as never before in a mobile civilization, when divorce is up and the one-parent family has become commonplace, family members of all ages have a real need to discover the Jewish values that have sustained us as a people."

So states an excerpt from the introduction to JWB Circle's special theme section, "At the Jewish Community Center: Family Life Education," in the Winter, 1983 edition just off the press.

The theme section poses three vital questions:

1) How does the Jewish Community Center today help the education of the Jewish family?

2) What role does it (the JCC and YM-YWHA) play in strengthening Jewish consciousness among family members?

3) What programs have proved effective in deepening Jewish awareness and bolstering Jewish family life?

What follows are answers—answers provided in six pithy reports from Centers—two from New York and Columbus, Ohio, and one each from Tenafly, N.J., and Boston.

The 92nd Street Y in Manhattan contributes its experience with a special pilot project dealing with the many and complex aspects of being a Jewish parent — "A Parenting Center."

From the YM-YWHA of Mid-Westchester in Scarsdale, N.Y., there is a lively description of a whole range of programs—classes, lectures, workshops, Jewish cultural activities dealing with family life and development ranging from the problems mothers share in relating to their newborn to programs dealing with youth, maturity and old age— "Meeting New Life-Styles."

And, speaking of old age, the Leo Yassenoff Jewish Center in Columbus (Ohio), presents two short but thought-provoking accounts of life's traumatic



Cover photo from the Winter Issue, 1983, of JWB CIRCLE just off the press speaks volumes. The smile on the face of this baby at the parenting center of the 92nd Street Y sets the tone for the edition's theme section: "At The Jewish Community Center: Family Life Education."

crossroads—"Dealing With Death and Divorce" and "Aging—Two Sides of the Coin."

From the JCC on the Palisades (Tenafly, N.J.), JWB Circle readers learn that workshops—"Exercises in Jewish Awareness"—have served as a catalyst to bring Jewish residents of all ages together to discuss common problems and concerns.

From the South Area branch of the JCC in Greater Boston comes a narrative of Yiddishkeit, a report on Jewish family life as enriched by children through the "Let's Celebrate" program.

South Area's "Let's Celebrate" creates a real understanding of the Jewish holidays and the part they play in developing warm family feelings and a sense of seasonal joys and memories.

"The simple act of learning how to make jelly doughnuts (sufganiot) for Hanukkah and the more complex one of assembling a Haggadah that has special meanings for a specific family," JWB Circle's theme states, "are among the ways parents...are learning how to

inspire a life of Judaism in their families through our 'Let's Celebrate' program."

JWB Circle is a bimonthly magazine which serves both as the voice of JWB, the central address and service agency for the Jewish Community movement of North America, and as the publication reporting upon the ways Centers today strive to meet the needs of the Jewish community contributing to the preservation of perpetuation of Jewish tradition, heritage and continuity.

JWB is the network of and central service agency for JCCs, YM & YWHAs, and camps in the U.S. and Canada, serving one million Jews. At the same time, JWB is the agency accredited by the U.S. government to serve the religious, Jewish educational and moral needs of Jewish military personnel, their families, and hospitalized VA patients.

JWB is supported by Jewish Federations, the UJA-Federation Campaign of Greater New York, Jewish Community Centers and YM & YWHAs, and JWB Associates.

## Israeli Students To Visit Charlotte

Each year Charlotte is one of the host cities for Israeli students. This year from April 10 to April 17 Yael Fuchs and Eedo Lifshitz will get acquainted with our city and also tell others about Israel. Their biographies follow:

My name is Yael Fuchs. I was born in 1966 in Haifa, Israel. I'm a real "Sabres" according to the fact that my parents were born in Israel too. I grew up in a very nice neighborhood on the Carmel mountain, called Nave-Shaanan. When I was six years old I started to go to the elementary school, and later at twelve I started to learn at the high school. These two schools are in my neighborhood. My main subjects at school are - Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics.

Now we come to my hobbies and social activities.

Usually I'm very busy in the afternoon but I try also to find time to be at home with my family. I'm a member of a youth-movement since I was 11 years old. Now it's my second year in being a group-leader of a group of young teenagers (13-14 years old). My best friends are in the youth-movement and we spend a lot of time together. I'm also a member in a band of teenagers from the neighborhood. We sing, dance and play - I am playing the flute. (Till two years ago I was a member of the "Haifa youth band" - it's like an orchestra of children). I like reading books, going to a cinema or theatre, listening to records and touring the country usually by walking.

I think a lot about trying to live in a Kibutz, and I can do it in a special way at the army, which is called "Nachal," but I still have one and a half years to learn at school and to make the "finishing examination," and only then I'll go to the army. So, I still have a lot of

time to think and decide what I am going to do with my life.

My name is Eedo Lifshitz and I was born July 26, 1966 in Haifa, Israel. My education is: 1972-78 Elementary School - "Reali," Haifa, 1978-79 Seventh Grade, Jordan Junior High School in Palo Alto, California. 1979-83 High School - "Reali," Haifa (cum laude).

My hobbies are wind surfing, skiing, swimming, tennis, and stamp collecting.

I am the second child in a family of four sons. My father works at the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology as a faculty member in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and my mother is a part-time teacher of English in a junior high school in Haifa.

At the age of five I went with my parents for one year to Chicago, where my father spent his sabbatical leave at the Illinois Institute of Technology. Upon our return, at the age of six, I entered the first grade of the "Reali" School in Haifa, where I am still a student.

At the age of twelve we went for another sabbatical leave and this time we lived in Palo Alto, Ca., where I attended the local Jordan Junior High School. I am now taking the Mathematics-Science option and am due to graduate next year, 1984.

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### The Jewish Calendar



#### CANDLELIGHTING

April 1 - 6:45 p.m.  
April 3 - 6:47 p.m.  
April 4 - 6:47 p.m.  
April 8 - 6:51 p.m.  
April 15 - 6:56 p.m.  
April 22 - 7:02 p.m.  
April 29 - 7:08 p.m.

Add one hour for Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

## WTV42

CHARLOTTE

April 4 - "Holocaust — Artists and Images" - 10:30 p.m.  
April 9 - Same as above  
April 13 - "GETO" - 10 p.m. (See article on page 8)



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