

The Charlotte JEWISH NEWS

Vol. 12 No. 5

Charlotte, North Carolina

May 1990

Lubavitch to Celebrate Lag B'Omer Special Concert and Picnic to be Held

On Sunday, May 13, Lubavitch of North Carolina will present the Charlotte Jewish community with a major Jewish "Country Western Concert" and barbecue picnic at the grounds of the Chabad House adjacent to Shalom Park.

Moshe Yess, the famed Jewish folk singer and guitarist, will lead the concert as part of the exciting program for Lag B'Omer and Mother's Day. Moshe Yess has published over 12 albums of his music and was cofounder of the successful Magama Duo.

Mr. Yess gained fame as a lead singer and composer with songs like "My Zaide" and "I Have The What Page Are We In The Prayer Book Blues."

The event will begin with a grand picnic at 12:30 p.m. "It is geared as a family event, with good wholesome Jewish fun for children and adults," said Rabbi



Moshe Yess

Yossi Groner, director of Lubavitch of North Carolina.

The Lag B'Omer event will feature delicious Kosher BBQ and New York Chicken Wings. Famed Canadian hot dogs will be the order of the day. Vegetarian dishes will also be available.

For more information call the Lubavitch office, 366-3984.

East Germany Donates Shoah Artifacts

(JTA) — East Germany donated hundreds of artifacts to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum ranging from Nazi euthanasia instruments to an IBM machine used by Nazis to register Jews.

Gerhard Herder, the East German ambassador to the United States, made the presentation at the museum's office. He said the presentation "underlines that my government is serious in stating that the entire German people has a responsibility for the past. That is why the negotiations with Jewish organizations to provide material support to those who became victims of the Holocaust in the years from 1933 to 1945 will be continued."

The one other East European country that has contributed artifacts to the museum is Poland, which contributed barracks from the Auschwitz and

Birkenau concentration camps as well as a railway car used to transport Jews.

In addition, the museum has received archival material from Eastern Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and the Soviet Union.

The Nazi euthanasia program killed roughly 500,000 Germans and set a precedent for the mass killings of the Holocaust.

The registration machine, an IBM Hollerith punch card tabulating and sorting machine, was originally developed in the United States for the census of 1890.

In 1933, 1935 and 1939, the Third Reich used the machine to conduct national censuses, which provided a vital link in the chain of identifying Jews, Gypsies and other ethnic groups.

East Germany also presented V-2 rocket parts made by slave laborers. More than 10,000 of the 60,000 slave laborers died in

the Holocaust, some killed by the SS, others dying from grim working and living conditions in the underground tunnels.

In addition, the museum received portions of tree trunks inscribed with messages from prisoners of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp.

The messages were carved by Jews, political prisoners and Soviet prisoners of war in a forest as British and Soviet forces closed in on the camp in 1945. Thousands of prisoners had been marching from the camp when the convoy halted for some days in a forest, where they ate tree bark to stay alive.

The Holocaust museum, which is under construction in Washington, D.C. on a federal site near the Washington Monument, is scheduled to open in the spring of 1993.

Update: Operation Exodus

By the time you read this, Charlotte may have welcomed our first Soviet Jewish family for resettlement by the Federation since April, 1983. On April 2, 1990, HIAS was notified that we would like to receive the families of Igor Vakhovsky and Lev Tsirlin. Both families are originally from Kiev.

Igor, 29, is a radio technician and his wife, Liliya, 30, is an elementary school teacher. They have two sons, Yevghny, 6, and Konstantin, 2.

Lev Tsirlin, 39, is an electronic engineer and his wife, Inni, 33, is a computer programmer. They have one son, Igor, 10.

Helping these families become financially independent and emotionally secure must be a top priority of our Jewish community. Their acculturation into both the Jewish and general communities is the responsibility of all of us collectively and individually.

We need to resettle as many families as we can as quickly as



IT WAS SHALOM AND WELCOME HOME, as Marvin Lender, UJA Operation Exodus Chairman, warmly greeted a newly arrived immigrant from the USSR — one of 7,300 Soviet Jews to set foot on Israeli soil during March — at Ben Gurion Airport during recent UJA Operation Exodus Mission to Moscow and Israel.

Photo/Robert Cumins

possible to help meet the U.S. quota for 1990. We are fortunate in Charlotte that we have the financial resources and low unemployment which will help facilitate the resettlement process. Also, we have over 150 volunteers, including professionals, who are willing to share their time and expertise.

Although the general campaign for Operation Exodus (resettlement in Israel) and long-range funding for local resettlement will not officially begin until fall, the fundraising committee, chaired by Meg Goldstein, Bill Gorelick and Jared Schwartz, has already raised over \$150,000. New gifts are coming from people who have not given to Federation campaigns in the past as well as from past contributors.

People of all ages and financial means must realize the importance of this project. Pushkas have been given to the children in religious schools to encourage their support. Many have already made financial contributions and volunteered to help. The Chai Group has made a significant financial contribution and has volunteered their help also.

Events are moving quickly in the Soviet Union. Today we are talking urgency. Tomorrow it could be emergency. Right now we are dealing with resettlement. In the future it could be rescue.

We have the opportunity and obligation to save lives. We must act now. Call Sally Schrader, Soviet Resettlement Coordinator, for further information at 364-6594.

Were You in Latvia in 1941?

The United States Department of Justice, Office of Special Investigations asks for assistance in locating Holocaust survivors who can describe the treatment of Jews or of other targeted groups in the town of Valmiera (Wolmar), Latvia, or in the Valmiera district. The period involved is early July to the end of October 1941, especially the early summer.

All responses should be sent

either to Elliot Welles, Director, ADL Task Force on Nazi War Criminals, 823 U.N. Plaza, New York, NY 10017 or to Betty Shave, Senior Trial Attorney, Office of Special Investigations, Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice, 1400 New York Avenue N.W., Bond Building, Washington, D.C. 20530, telephone (202) 786-5033. OSI is seeking both English-speaking and non-English-speaking witnesses.

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— Special Feature —

A Pictorial Review of
Operation Exodus Mission
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Jewish Community Center invites you to Celebrate With Us

Sunday, May 13
Noon-7 p.m.

All mothers will receive a present
Tennis Clinic and Tournament
Barbecue Dinner

Fee: \$5 per person / \$3 children 5 and under

RSVP to 366-5007 by May 6

