



Spotlights

✿ Graduation Bells

Hearty congratulations are out to the recent graduates of the Jewish Institute of the Blind who said their final goodbyes in an impressive ceremony attended by their families, educators and government representatives.

✿ Summertime

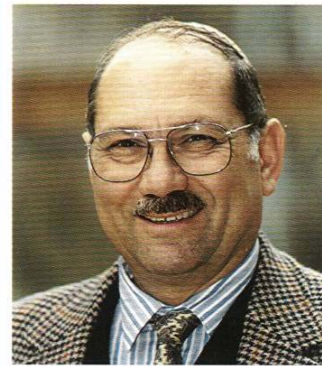
Blind adults and their families from all over Israel attended summer retreats at the Institute, helping them to become acquainted with Jerusalem and all of the facilities of the JIB. Institute students also were invited back to the Institute for summer camp — two weeks of fun, arts and crafts, sports, touring, and camping in and around Jerusalem.

✿ Jerusalem of Gold

As Jerusalem enters into its 3,000 year since King David conquered the city, it is a good time to stop and take stock of the history of the JIB. The Institute has been a Jerusalem landmark for almost 100 years, and it is one of the first special education facilities in the Middle East.



Summer activities included rafting on tributaries of the Jordan River and hiking through the Galilee and Golan Heights



Director's Corner

Shalom! In addition to the financial help the Institute receives from all over the world, thousands of Israeli households are notified about our activities, and their response is encouraging. This year we sent out a letter in Israel from Michael Peretz, a former Institute graduate who leads an exemplary personal and professional life. We hope you will enjoy the excerpt on the first page. In addition to Peretz' success in the field of computers, he was chairman of the Jerusalem Association for the Blind, and today he serves as a member of the Institute's Board of Directors.

Peretz fondly recalls the early days when a perforated card preceded the computer, and he credits the Jewish Institute for the Blind with giving him his first taste of the possibilities of the computer age. We are sure you are in agreement about the endless possibilities available in this era of computers. Even more important, from our point of view, is the fact that given the proper equipment, blind and handicapped graduates can still compete equally in this field. We would love to show you the excitement of our students as they explore new vistas in our computer wing.

May this be a healthy and happy new year for you and your family as well as the entire family of Israel.

Chaim Reshelbach,
Director