Menachem & Fred. (Doc., 2008, 90 mins.) Fred Raymes, who died in 2013, had been a longtime dedicated CHJ member. He was a Holocaust survivor, and co-author of a memoir written with his brother, Are the Trees in Bloom Over There? The book’s title came from a line his mother had written to her sons while she was in a concentration camp. The book was the springboard for the documentary Menachem & Fred that won the Cinema for Peace award. The film accompanies the brothers on an emotionally charged journey through which an unexpected relationship develops with the son of the Nazi who deported their family.

Make your reservation for MENACHEM AND FRED through the CHJ office: phone 941-929-7771 or e-mail chjsarasota@hotmail.com. Register at least one week before the film.

For members and non-members:
By e-mail or phone leave: movie name, your name, phone number, and the number of people who will attend
Free to members. $5:00 for non-members

MLK and our Search for Heroes Service with the Humanaires, and Neil Phillips speaking on Making a Positive Difference

After our 7:30 p.m. Service with the voices of the Humanaires, Neil Phillips will speak on Making a Positive Difference. Phillips is the Founder of Visible Men Academy - a tuition-free public charter school in Bradenton which educates Sarasota and Manatee students in grades K-5. Neil is regarded as a national thought leader and renowned speaker on black male achievement, minority education, character development, and youth empowerment.

After receiving his B.A. in English and American Literature from Harvard University, Phillips went on to play professional basketball in Australia. He has been an educational administrator for the last 11 years serving as the Assistant Headmaster at the Landon School for Boys in Bethesda, Maryland; as Interim Head of Upper School at the Out-of-Door Academy in Sarasota; and, is now serving as Principal of Visible Men Academy.

Phillips is an Aspen Institute Educational Entrepreneurship Fellow. He is a member of the inaugural Echoing Green/Open Society Foundations Black Male Achievement Fellowship. He is also a Nantucket Project Senior Fellow and was recently awarded the Nantucket Project Audience Award for his talk, Race to Truth.

The Program is Sponsored by Addie and Len Rosen
The Oneg is Sponsored by Priscilla and Paul Molnar
Happy, Happy New Year to one and all! We are so fortunate to live in a city by the sea where the weather is wonderful and the sunsets delight us in the evening. Many of us are from northern climes and from our warm southern perspective can now comfortably watch the news of distant snowfalls.

Our snowbirds are mostly all back, and glad to be out of the ice and snow and into our wonderful winter. I live in Florida for this special time of the year. The days begin to move at super speed. We have so much on our calendars - theatre, concerts, ballet, opera, dining out, short interesting trips around Florida and, oh yes, CHJ activities. Don’t lose sight of all we have going on. We have tried to plan so as not to interfere with community activities. If you’ve mislaid your copy of The Connection, please check our web site chj-Sarasota.org for Special Interest Groups. All the winter films and Education Series programs are listed — everything is right there.

As a reminder, when we have a Board meeting, an e-blast will be sent out letting you know when the meeting is. All members are welcome; we are not a private club. We’ll be looking for new Board Members in the spring, and you could be one of them. Come and see what we do, and then maybe you’ll want to become involved and think of joining the club.

We continue to reach out for someone to replace Jo Arora who does the work for The Connection. She wants to retire as soon as possible. Jo will train any interested person and is easy to work with.

Our services, programs and onegs have been wonderful due to a whole lot of very dedicated members. The visitors’ table is run by Bill Lakin and Lois Altman; the name tag ladies are Stephanie Louis and Fredy Jacobson; those who set up and take down preparations for services (our tent) are Steve Cooper and Peter Koral; the onegs are organized by Edie Kaplan and her team — which fluctuates, so I can’t name them, but they know who they are; and our chorus – the Humanaires, is made up of our members. It literally takes a village to care for our Congregation and it’s all done with love. The above-mentioned are only what we see and enjoy, but so much more goes on behind the scenes.

Always remember the secret words: “If you are happy with what we are doing tell all. If you are unhappy, tell me.” We will work on whatever the issue may be.

Shalom and Shanti,

Alice

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December Board Action

- Approved the new CHJ logo
- Agreed members may bring a guest to the CHJ 20th Anniversary Luncheon to be held on March 8
CONGREGATION FOR HUMANISTIC JUDAISM

20th ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON

Wednesday, March 8, 2017: 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
University Park Country Club; 7671 The Park Boulevard, Bradenton

The Congregation for Humanistic Judaism (CHJ) warmly invites you and your guests to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of our Congregation.

MENU

Choice of Entrée:

Breast of Chicken a l’Orange:
Sautéed breast of Chicken with Mandarin Oranges, Mango Chutney, Orange Liqueur, Oregon Wild Rice & Farm Fresh Asparagus

Hoisin Glazed Salmon
with Stir-fry Vegetables, Ginger, Garlic drizzle & Jasmine Rice

Penne Pasta Primavera
With Parmesan Cheese & Fresh Garden Vegetables

Dessert:
Brownie a la mode with Vanilla Ice Cream

Included: Basket of warmed Rolls & Brewed Coffee/Hot or Iced Tea

Reservation for CHJ 20th Anniversary Luncheon

Wednesday, March 8th at 11:30 a.m.

Reservation deadline - March 1

Members and their guests - $25.00 per person.

To secure your reservation, a check made payable to CHJ must accompany this form.

Indicate 20th Anniversary Lunch on your check.

Mail to: CHJ, 3023 Proctor Rd., Sarasota, FL 34231

Name
Choice of Entrée

____________________________  ___________________________________________________________________
____________________________  ___________________________________________________________________
____________________________  ___________________________________________________________________

Contact Phone: ____________  Total Enclosed: _______

*If you have food allergies or dietary restrictions, please contact Susan Friedman*
Coming Events

Saturday, February 4 at 10:30 a.m.
Tu B’Shevat & Darwin Day Service and Jeff Rodgers Speaking on Evolution, Aliens, and the Fate of the Human Species

Following our **10:30 a.m. Tu B’Shevat and Darwin Day Service**, we will welcome back **Jeff Rodgers**, Director of the Bishop Planetarium and Director of Education at the South Florida Museum, who will speak on **Evolution, Aliens, and the Fate of the Human Species**.

Rogers joined the Museum in November 2004 after nine years at the American Museum of Natural History and Hayden Planetarium in New York City. As a science communicator, he spends the bulk of his time trying to de-mystify the universe and our place in it.

Those of us who hold Darwin’s ideas about evolution by natural selection dear would expect that, if it is true on Earth, it should be true everywhere. And if life is not a creation special to Earth, but is instead a natural condition of the universe, it follows that our galaxy should be teeming with intelligent life. So we look out into our cosmic community to find our neighbors and we find...nothing.

Join Jeff Rodgers for a rollicking talk that tackles the origins of life, celebrates Darwin, looks at how Earth’s tool-using primates changed the natural selection game, wonders why we haven’t met any alien neighbors, and ponders whether there’s hope for humans to someday get off the rock we call Earth before it’s too late.

*The Program and Oneg are Sponsored by Edith and Barney Sack & Susan and Marty Friedman*

Friday, February 17 at 7:30 p.m.
Black History Service and Vickie Oldham speaking on The History of Newtown

After our **7:30 p.m. Black History Service**, **Vickie Oldham** will be speaking on **The History of Newtown**.

Oldham is spearheading the Newtown Conservation Historic District project for the City of Sarasota. A 350-page report about the African American community was produced for Phase I of the project. It traces the community’s 100-year history and includes oral history interviews, photographs, documents and architectural research.

Her curiosity and propensity for asking questions are the impetus that led to the 2004 development of the **Looking for Angola** (LFA) project. LFA connects residents, teachers and students to scholars engaged in archaeological and historical research on an 1800s Black Seminole settlement in the Tampa Bay area.

Oldham made her mark as a reporter and TV host at ABC 7 after receiving a Bachelor’s degree in telecommunications at the University of Florida and a Master of fine arts at Florida State University’s Conservatory of Motion Picture, Television and Recording Arts. Oldham has produced and written documentary films entitled: **Reflections: A History of Sarasota County; Triumphant Struggle;** and **"Looking for Angola**, all of which are available at Sarasota and Manatee County libraries, New College of Florida, and the Ringling College of Art and Design.

*This Program is Sponsored by Susan Robinson*

A tribute is a wonderful way to recognize any occasion and benefit CHJ. Please circle the fund in which your donation should be placed:

**BERMAN MUSIC**          **CONGREGANT EMERGENCY**          **EDUCATION**          **GENERAL**          **PROGRAM**

Person/s to be recognized
Occasion
Donor

A lovely card will be sent to the honoree and a notice will be placed in the next newsletter. Checks should be made out to CHJ noting the specific funds to which they are donated. Send all tributes to the **Congregation for Humanistic Judaism, 3023 Proctor Road, Sarasota, FL 34231.**
January Yahrzeit

Rabbi Bruce Abrams, nephew of
Lorynne & Robert Cahn
Minnie Farber, mother of Bernard Farber
Betty Holland, mother of Sandra Siegel
Irving Kast, father of Harriet Lane
Isaac Levy, father of Henry Levy
Addie Myers, sister of Ruth Weinberg
Jack Orkin, husband of Ann Orkin
Jerry Paskovitz, husband of Janet Leon
Fred Rickard, husband of Carol Rickard
Morris Rosen, father of Len Rosen
Ray Rosen, mother of Len Rosen
Donald Shapiro, brother of Gerry Shapiro
Sam Siegel, father of Sandra Siegel
Louis Vendeland, father of Jack Vendeland
Harold Winer, father of Sandi Cooper
Fabian Yelin, brother-in-law of Sora Yelin

January Birthdays

Frederika Jacobson January 5
Norman Freeman January 6
Joe Newman January 13
Bill Lakin January 14
Barry Wolfe January 16
Jim Gardner January 17
Carol Harris January 18
Jerry Moore January 19
Ruth Weinberg January 19
Pamela Gordon January 24
Barry Shapiro January 24
Stanford Weiss January 28

January Anniversaries

Toni & John Gartner Jan. 3 52nd
Pauline & Martin Kabcenell Jan. 7 36th
Naomi & Bernie Gerbarg Jan. 30 38th

“O say can you see”, this country belongs to you and me!
By Al Koral

As we all await for our President-Elect to be anointed
I can’t hide being a wee bit disappointed.
For his complete rout of his Republican opponents
And his garnering the necessary electoral votes in the final moments.

He articulated enthusiasm and bragged about his dough
But he wouldn’t give specifics, lest his opponents then know
But he has his helpers Giuliani, Gingrich and Christie,
Just the thought of them all, makes my eyes misty.

We seem to be seeing a softer side to Trump, the man
Since he has seen the culmination of his plan
He had nice things to say about Obama and Hillary
And provided jobs to those he pilloried.

But as we look forward to the next four years of “Making America Great”
Just how will that translate into each citizen’s fate?
I certainly want our country to be in the forefront in leading the world
And joining with others to keep this Earth viable and unsullied. (The air too!)

Domestically there is much to be done to make sure our Constitution is still viable
To protect our rights and freedom, can we count on our new President to be reliable?
It takes a “village to raise a child” and a country to provide a job and a home.
It is time to unite, for the issues that are right, for nobody can do it alone.

SUSTAINING & FRIEND MEMBERS

We are happy to announce that we have received additional donations from:

Ellie and Lou Altman for the Sustaining Member Fund

Ellen Batko for the Friend Donor Fund

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Cheryl Berman
Doris Hasson
Lynne Koral
Shelly Zelizer
Humanistic Judaism embraces a human-centered philosophy that combines rational thinking with a celebration of Jewish culture and identity. It affirms that human beings possess the power and responsibility to shape their own lives, and that ethics and morality are not divine in origin but are human responsibilities. Our mission is to meet the needs of humanist, secular Jews as well as their non-Jewish family members/partners and friends in the greater Sarasota and Manatee area.

CHJ Winter Movie Series
Saturdays, 4:00—7:00 p.m., January 21, February 18 and March 18 at Unity

Bring your own favorite Brown-bag meal.
After the movies we will enjoy our meals and conversation with friends.
Bottled water will be provided. Feel free to bring something stronger, if desired.

JANUARY 21: *HESTER STREET*. (1975. 90 min. No subtitles for the hearing impaired.)
The film was part of a wave of films released in the 1960s and 1970s that began to deal with the complexities of American Jewish identity. Noted for its detailed reconstruction of Jewish immigrant life in New York at the turn of the century, *Hester Street* tells the story of Jewish immigrants who come from Europe to the lower east side of New York City in 1896. Yankel, who comes first, quickly assimilates into American culture and becomes Jake. He begins an affair with an American dancer, Mamie, whom he continues seeing after his wife, Gitl, arrives with their son Yossele. Gitl has trouble assimilating, and Jake berates and abuses her, despite her efforts to assimilate. When Gitl finally learns about Jake’s affair, they divorce. Gitl marries Bernstein, a faithful traditionalist. By the end of the film, she is fully assimilated, showing her hair, speaking English and walking down the street with Bernstein and Yossele, who has become Joey.

FEBRUARY 18: *BONJOUR MONSIEUR SHLOMI*. (2003, 95 min.)
Sixteen-year-old Shlomi, who cares for everyone in his life except himself, lives with his jealous and pretentious mother, his soldier brother, and his elderly grandfather. Not doing well in school because of dyslexia, but a gifted cook, Shlomi takes care of most of the household chores, while all the grownups around him are busy with their childish affairs, neglecting him and ignoring his learning problems. He tries to make himself invisible, especially at school, until results on a routine math test catch the attention of his teacher, who suspects that there is a unique gift hidden behind the boy’s attempts to remain unnoticed. When the school’s headmaster takes the boy under his wing, Shlomi blossoms.

MARCH 18: *GOODBYE, COLUMBUS*. (1969, 102 min.)
Based on the National-Book-Award-winning novella of the same name written by Philip Roth, this romantic comedy—a scathing satire of a nouveau riche Jewish family—is about Neil Klugman (Richard Benjamin), an intelligent, working class army veteran and graduate of Rutgers University, who works as a library clerk. He falls for Brenda Patimkin (Ali MacGraw), a wealthy student at Radcliffe College, who is home for the summer. Due to differences in class and assimilation into the American mainstream, they face obstacles from Brenda’s family, particularly her mother. Other conflicts include propriety and issues related to premarital sex and the possibility of pregnancy, and Mrs. Patimkin’s envy of her daughter’s youth. The film is funny and perceptive, and is a real and unusual pleasure.

Make your reservation through the CHJ office:
phone 941-929-7771 or e-mail chjsarasota@hotmail.com
REGISTER AT LEAST ONE WEEK BEFORE EACH FILM
For members and non-members:
By e-mail or phone leave: the name of the movie, your name, phone number and the number of people who plan to attend
Free to members. $5.00 for non-members

Humanistic Judaism embraces a human-centered philosophy that combines rational thinking with a celebration of Jewish culture and identity. It affirms that human beings possess the power and responsibility to shape their own lives, and that ethics and morality are not divine in origin but are human responsibilities. Our mission is to meet the needs of humanist, secular Jews as well as their non-Jewish family members/partners and friends in the greater Sarasota and Manatee area.
As Humanistic Jews, we condemn the misguided legislative efforts – both state and federal-- to defund Planned Parenthood under the guise of not funding abortions. These legislative initiatives are efforts to impose religious values and undermine the reproductive health of disadvantaged women. Our belief in personal dignity and choice, our desire to enhance individual autonomy regardless of financial means, and our Humanistic Jewish commitment to the separation of religion and government all motivate us to condemn efforts to defund Planned Parenthood.

Federal funding of abortions is already restricted. Pursuant to the Hyde Amendment, no federal funds can be used for abortions unless the pregnancy threatens the woman’s life or was caused by rape or incest. Planned Parenthood provides essential services to economically disadvantaged populations, such as birth control, cancer screenings, support for mothers throughout pregnancy, and education of teens and women about domestic violence. More than 90 percent of the services the organization provides include Pap smears, birth control prescriptions, breast exams, sexual health education, and treatment and testing for sexually transmitted infections, including HIV.

Specifically, Planned Parenthood’s affiliates provide about 10 million services a year: 4.4 million tests and treatments related to sexually transmitted diseases, 3.5 million birth-control services, 1 million pregnancy tests, 500,000 breast exams, 378,000 pap tests, and 327,000 abortions. Just about 3 percent of Planned Parenthood’s work involved abortions, none of which are funded by the federal government.

Experts from the Texas Policy Evaluation Project, a project tracking reproductive health outcomes in Texas, examined data from women who rely on Medicaid after legislators defunded Planned Parenthood in 2013. The Results were startling: among women in the public health program, there was a 35 percent decline in claims for IUDs and implants — and a 27 percent increase in births — after the defunding of Planned Parenthood, suggesting that disadvantaged women are struggling to get the contraceptive services they need and are instead giving birth in unintended pregnancies.

In fact, Guttmacher Institute, the well-respected research authority on the subject of reproductive rights, estimates that publicly funded family planning serviced some 2 million unplanned pregnancies in 2013, 693,000 of which would have ended in abortion. Therefore, the most effective way to lower the unplanned pregnancy rate, and consequently the abortion rate, is to fund contraception and the other services Planned Parenthood provides.

As Humanistic Jews, we will not remain silent as legislators try to defund Planned Parenthood under the pretext of reducing or ending government funding for abortions. The evidence and facts clearly show that the federal government is not funding abortions, but is funding a host of services critical to the reproductive health of low income populations. Such services are essential for reducing the need for abortions.

Therefore, efforts to defund Planned Parenthood – based on arguments against abortion – are based on religious beliefs that have no place guiding public policy decisions. Efforts to defund Planned Parenthood are not based on saving the lives of babies, but instead are a clear assault against economically disadvantaged women and men.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Society for Humanistic Judaism condemns the efforts at defunding of Planned Parenthood, which disproportionately disadvantages low income women who have less access to affordable contraception and healthcare. Public policy decisions should be based on facts and reason and not fabrications and manipulations of facts to support a religiously-derived agenda.

**Society for Humanistic Judaism**
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**EDITOR NEEDED for The Connection**

*Training provided   *Familiarity with MS Publisher would be helpful

To apply - contact Jo Arora or leave a message with the CHJ Office:
chjsarasota@hotmail.com or 941-929-7771

**Sanctuary Set-up Committee Forming**

Stephen Cooper would like to form a committee to help set up and take down the sanctuary for services. Please contact him if you would like to participate, or leave a message with the CHJ office.
The Social Action Committee is fully underway with the hope and belief that this year will be one in which every member of CHJ will participate. Thank you to those who donated items to be put in boxes and/or crates for Jewish Family Services, particularly seniors and veterans, Mothers Helping Mothers and Family Promise.

Our first meeting of the season was held on Thursday, December 8. A huge thank you to the two attendees, Judy Auderieth and Edie Kaplan. We sorted the items for the donations, decorated boxes, and talked about various ways CHJ can actively help the Sarasota-Manatee communities. We also had a great time getting to know one another, creating attractive vessels and exchanging ideas.

Please continue to bring to services these items that have been requested by the above charities:

- Small hotel/size toiletries, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap
- Items for babies such as diapers, wiping cloths, new toddler briefs and panties, new children's books
- Cleaning items in regular size bottles (no huge ones), such as detergent, sponges, dish soap, etc.
- Paper goods: Toilet paper, tissues, paper towels, etc.
- For the Seniors: Clean empty shoe boxes (which we will gift wrap to hold the items) new slippers, small toiletries, stamps, greeting cards (for them to send), note pads, etc.

Please join us and get involved. And, as an added bonus, you will be doing good, having fun and getting to know others in CHJ. Your input, ideas, and help are appreciated. We also need help in delivering the boxes. There will be someone on the receiving end to help with the lifting.

Together we will have a successful year in helping others less fortunate in our community.

Annette Wolfe, Chair, Social Action

David Houle is a futurist, thinker and speaker. He spent more than 20 years in media and entertainment, including being part of the senior executive team that created MTV, Nickelodeon, VHI, and CNN Headline News. For the last eight years Houle has been speaking and writing about forecasting and analyzing the future. In 2013 he launched his site futurewow.com which is his curated visual look into the future.

Houle’s acclaimed presentation on climate change, This Spaceship Earth, and the need for humanity to develop “Crew Consciousness” as the only real way to move as rapidly as possible to collectively face the single biggest threat facing us, was triggered by his seventh book of the same name.

Houle is Futurist in Residence and Guest lecturer at the Ringling College of Art and Design.

DAVID HOULE, FUTURIST: This Spaceship Earth
Sunday, January 15, 2017 at 3:00 – 5.30 p.m. at Unity

CHJ members free. Nonmembers - $5.00.

REGISTER FOR THIS SPACESHIP EARTH

Mail to: CHJ, 3023 Proctor Road, Sarasota, FL 34231
CHJ members may e-mail Name(s), Home Phone, and Address, to chjsarasota@hotmail.com, or phone the CHJ office at 929-7771. Register by January 9.

No. of people __________

Name(s) ____________________________  Home Phone ____________  Address ____________________________

CHJ member ( ) ( )
Yes No
For contact information for the members on this page, please refer to your new 2016-2017 member CHJ Directory, or leave a message with at the CHJ office: chjsarasota@hotmail.com or 941-929-7771

DIGITAL IMAGING GROUP (DIG)  We meet at 3:30 p.m. on the 4th Tuesday of every month at The Fountains Cinema, Parking Lot #4. An assignment is made and members e-mail their required pictures, along with the best picture taken during the past 30 days. Photos are projected onto a large screen and editing software is applied to demonstrate possible enhancements. In addition, tutorials are presented with some guidance for the next month’s assignment. Camera functions and general photography tips are addressed. New members are welcome. For further information contact Jules Altenberg.

SUNSETTERS  Ours is always an open group that can accommodate an infinite number of people. We meet on the 3rd Sunday every month on Lido Beach - in front of the pavilion. Our only agenda is the sunset. It is very informal and casual. We arrive about 1 1/2 hours prior to sunset. At this time of year (no daylight savings time) we go out to dinner afterwards at a casual restaurant. Bring chairs, of course. If you’d like to join us please contact Barb Shapiro.

EVERY LIFE IS A BOOK. We meet to learn about the fascinating lives of the members of our group. We all have stories to tell, and this group will hear them. We held our first meeting in December. If you are interested, please contact Alla Rabinovich.

HUMANAIRES  Our Snow Birds are beginning to return in flocks and it’s great to have you back with us as we fill out our sound even more. If you haven’t lately considered joining The Humanaires but you get pleasure from blending your voice with others, please do give us a try. Our members and conductor Robert Lischetti welcome new folks to the chorus. We are a warm and friendly group and we would love to have you sing with us. There are no auditions. We meet from 2:30 to 4:00 P.M. every Wednesday in the sanctuary at Unity. When you plan on joining us for one of our rehearsals, please let us know in advance so that we can have music ready for you to use. For more information please contact Sandy Cadman. Any other member of the chorus also will be happy to tell you about us.

CHAVURAH  Being part of a Chavurah is warm, engaging, stimulating, and fun! You have a chance to really get to know and understand fellow CHJ members as you meet monthly and shape your group. Think of contacting some of your friends to start a new Chavurah. Then contact me and I will be pleased to help you organize your beginning. You will be so happy you did. Please contact Renee Crames.

WINE GROUPS  There are openings in our Wine Tasting Groups which resumed in October. If anyone wishes to become a CHJ Wino, please contact Joan Fox.

REEL LOVERS  The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 15, 2017 at 2:00 p.m., movie to be announced. See you soon. For information call Norine and John Zimmer.
BIKERS  We will be riding in Myakka Park on Saturday, January 14, and will go to lunch afterward or brown-bag it. For more information, please contact Sandy Siegel.

Left to right: Doug Reeves, Linda Purves, Sandy Siegel, Bernie Gerbarg, Craig Harris, Peter Woodall, Diane Schulman, Susan Juda, Dan Juda and Marty Hollander

JEWISH HISTORY SEMINAR  The largest and most influential Jewish communities are today located in America and in Israel. Each has its own history, culture and way of life. With a view to better understanding their similarities and differences, the CHJ Seminars in November and December focused on the nature of Judaism as it has developed in America and in Israel. Both sessions were ably chaired by Professor Emeritus Bill Lakin, and both elicited wide-ranging and interesting comments from attendees.

The next Seminar will be on Wednesday, January 11, 2017, at Unity, Classroom B at 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.  The session will focus on the origins and early signs of the approaching Holocaust in which six million Jews would be murdered. The Seminar will be chaired by Stan Katz. The relevant sections and pages of Barnavi are: Prelude to the Holocaust, 1933-1939, pp. 226-27; The Holocaust: First Act 1939-1941, pp. 228-29; The Final Solution, 1941-1945, pp. 232-33; and Why Was Auschwitz Not Bombed?, pp. 234-35.

HIGHLIGHTING A VERY IMPORTANT PERSON by Alice D’Souza

Sometimes in the rush to get things done, important people are not mentioned. We all know who those people are but we need at times to be really sure everyone knows who they are. If, as you read this, you think this mystery person is very special you would be right.

As we enjoy the programs at the services, the speakers, guests and related programs, we have to remember there is a person who has been a Committee-of-one this year, not by choice but rather due to unforeseen circumstances.

That person has been responsible for doing all the calling to acquire the person or persons for the programs, setting up dates and times, redoing dates and times because life often gets in the way and things change.

That person also has to be sure we have the equipment needed in the sanctuary for the speaker to be heard or to show a presentation. This is not always an easy task.

That person also has to write up the advertisement that goes out and often is not printed, who knows why? That person then has to find other ways to get the information out to the community at large, very often in creative ways.

The programs have been excellent, presenters well prepared and every program has been well received and enjoyed by our Congregation and many guests. When we leave each program, we know our time has not been wasted.

The mystery person has been a member of CHJ for many years, served on the Board as well as being President. She has always worn many hats and looks good in all of them. She is not shy to say when something is just not working, she makes sure we are represented at many of the various functions around town and is always looking for new members.

Drum Roll... the one and only:  Arlene Pearlman!  Thank you.  Thank you Arlene for all you do for all of us.
When an individual is protesting society’s refusal to acknowledge his dignity as a human being, his very act of protest confers dignity on him. Bayard Rustin, civil rights activist (1912-1987)