

Letters to the Editor



To the Editor:

I thought your readers might be interested in Jewish programming found on VISN, the Faith and Values Channel:

- Beyond the Headlines*, Tuesday, 3:30 p.m., Thursday, 7:00 a.m.
- A Conversation with Robert Clary*, Monday 3:30 p.m., Thursday, 7:30 a.m.
- God Squad*, Tuesday, 2:30 p.m., Monday, 2:30 a.m.
- Jewish Chronicles*, Sunday, 3:00 p.m., Saturday, Midnight
- L'Chayim*, Monday 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, 2:30 a.m.
- Max Glick*, Wednesday, 9:00 p.m., Thursday, 1:00 a.m., Saturday, 6:00 p.m.

Sincerely,
Helene Nathanson

Dear Harvey,

This letter is in regard to our telephone conversation about the caption that appeared under a photograph on page 21 of the March issue of *The Charlotte Jewish News*.

The older man is indeed Charles Strauss, a former mayor of Tucson. The name of the young boy according to *Pioneer Jews*, by Harriet and Fred Rochlin, is unknown. He is, however, definitely not the famous jeans maker Levi Strauss. The following is a brief biography of Levi Strauss (and why he could not be the boy in the picture).

Born in the Bavarian Alps, Levi Strauss lost both his parents in 1848. At the age of 17 he moved to New York City where he joined his brothers to peddle goods. Shortly thereafter, he sailed off to San Francisco where his sister and brother-in-law lived. They encouraged him to bring much needed merchandise that could be sold to area merchants. Levi brought with him a ship load of items so desirable that everything was purchased off the boat even before it had a chance to dock on shore. He continued to sell goods to merchants and eventually ventured into the small mining towns of California by way of pack trains. It was in the gold camps that he sold canvas for tents and eventually the same canvas for work overalls. The reason for the origin of the first pair of jeans is unclear, nonetheless, Levi is credited with successfully marketing the remarkable "riveted" pant that is still popular today. Strauss died in 1904, a well respected man. His estate, valued at six millions dollars, was passed on to his nephews.

Sincerely,
Phyllis L. Berlin

Women's Business and Professionals Meets May 17

Please join the Women's Business and Professionals Group at our next meeting on Wednesday, May 17 at 11:30 a.m. at Champps Americana, 1601 East Woodlawn Road in the Park Road Shopping Center. A \$10 covert will include lunch, beverage, tax and tip.

The Women's B&P has been growing in popularity. Over the past seven months, women have been gathering on a monthly basis to network, socialize and learn about the Jewish community in



Charlotte, Israel and around the world.

Nancy Kipnis and Shannon Crystal, co-chairs, along with committee members: Sherrie Kantor, Donna Lerner, Aislinn Levinson, Stacy Levinson, Rebecca Olshan, Dawn Serge, Tricia Sinoway, Julie Tache, Lisa Wohl and Traci Taylor invite all women to participate and enjoy this new restaurant in town.

Please make your reservation for lunch on May 17 to the Federation Office, 366-5007, ext. 209 by Monday, May 15.

Make A Hole-In-One And Win A Lexus Ls 400

Bring your golf clubs, skill, and your lucky charm on Sunday, May 7th, to the Charlotte Golf Links, 11500 Providence Road. Between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. you can give it your "best shot" and maybe drive home in a new 1995 LEXUS!

This exciting golf event lets you try your skill at making a hole-in-one. The distance to the hole is 130-140 yards. For \$100 you get three shots. If your shot is the lucky one to make it in the hole, you'll have won a new car! Other prizes will be awarded for the closest shot to the hole and the best combined three shots.

Dana Gorelick, Tanya Musler and Marci Goldberg are chairing this event. All proceeds benefit The Jewish Day School of Charlotte and The Jewish Preschool on Sardis. For more information, please call Dana Gorelick at 365-5432.

Happy Purim Everyone



The study and celebration of Purim brought lots of fun to this two-year-old class. (L-R) Matthew Sarett, Rachel Shulga, Malya Levin, Sam Ehrlich, Jenna Sarett and Tom Blitz wished everyone a Happy Purim.

Lubavitch — of North Carolina

Book Review

RIBCAGE Israeli Women's Fiction.

By Carol Diamant and Lily Rattock.

Reviewed by Lynne Cojac

A new arrival to the Speizman Jewish Library at Shalom Park is *RIBCAGE Israeli Women's Fiction*. This collection of fifteen short stories, edited and with foreword and introduction by Carol Diamant and Lily Rattock, is a Hadassah Anthology. The cover features a surrealist work of art by Jeffrey Schrier that is initially puzzling and intriguing. Each story was originally written in Hebrew.

The stories were selected by Hadassah on the basis of their religious, ethical or cultural Jewish content as well as for what is distinctly female or feminist about them.

Each was to be representative of contemporary "Israeli women authors who express themselves in many varied voices" reflecting "a mosaic of cultural backgrounds and political and social attitudes of great depth and scope." The reader might expect to find an overall characteristic of styles and subject matters. Instead, each is totally distinctive.

The stories portray flawed heroes- not the idealized ones we Americans would expect. Harsh

and jarring situations are depicted. There is a great deal of symbolism and social commentary; much isolation and alienation. "Throughout history, women have been barred from the role of public representative in the Synagogue. The private realm is assigned to the Jewish woman, while the Jewish man occupies the public realm." RIBCAGE is the Israeli Women Writer's desire to make the woman's story known.

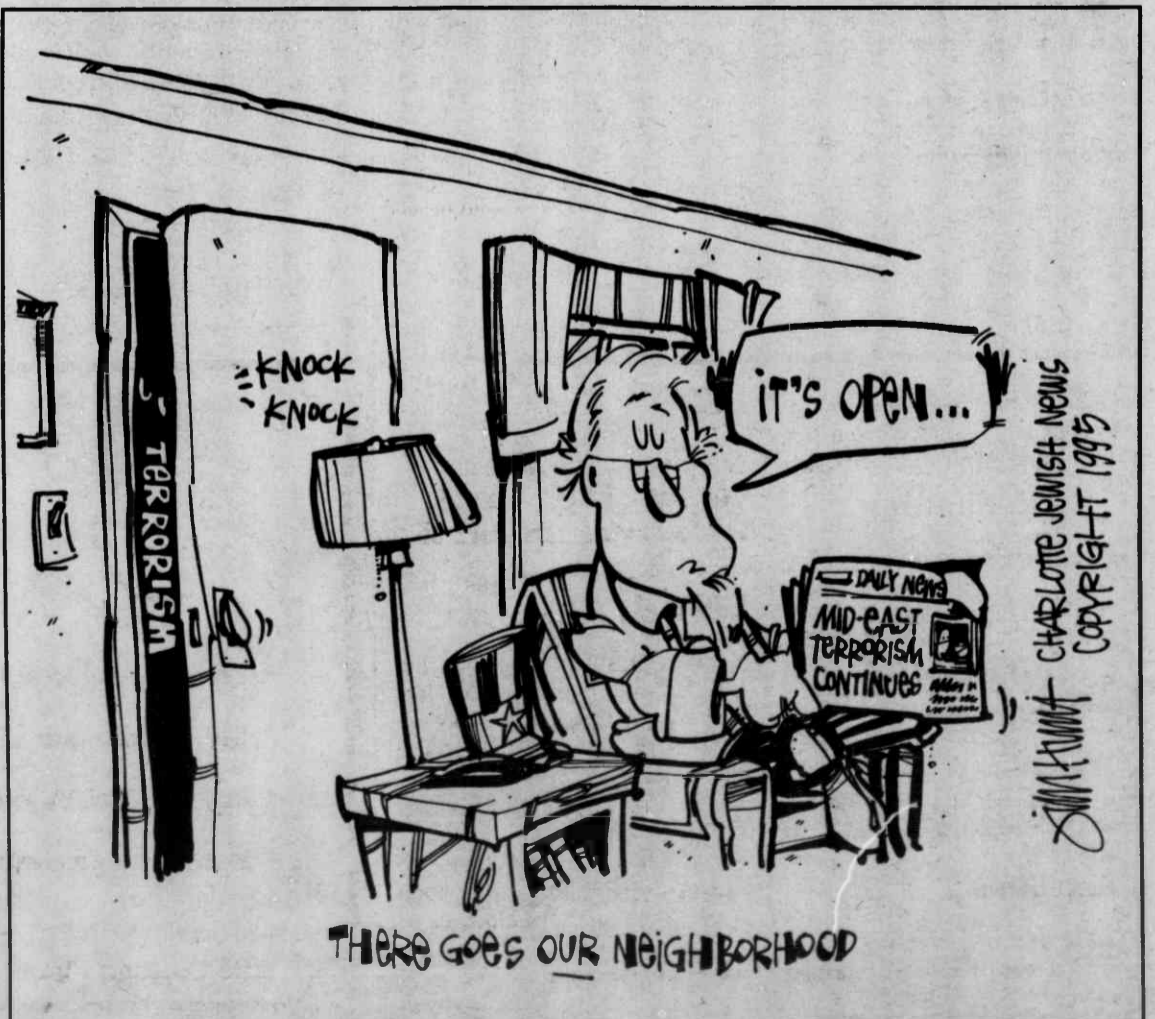
I would recommend this anthology to males and females alike. There is the opportunity for men to see inside the Israeli woman's experience; the chance for American Jewish readers to catch a glimmer of what is distinctly different about being Jewish in Israel; enough Israeli culture and biblical reference to be of interest to everyone.

My favorite stories were both by Savyon Liebrecht. *Apples From the Desert* examines the theme of religious life versus secular as well as the mother/daughter relationship. *A Room on the Roof* explores a young mother's foray into a male dominated environment as well as her feelings with regard to Israeli/Arab interaction. Other issues such as homelessness, terrorism, bereavement, and the Holocaust are the focus of some of the other stories.

The introduction and foreword are worthy of attention for background material and perspective. Questions for discussion and program suggestions following each story are extremely helpful. I read these in advance of and again after each of the stories. Carol Diamant's claim that "stories in this collection can be enjoyed as casual reading but also merit careful study" was not true for me, my knowledge of both modern and ancient Israel only being in its infancy. I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to increase my knowledge, understanding and awareness. I particularly enjoyed relating my own female experience as an American Jewish woman to those of the Israeli women depicted in this book. RIBCAGE is particularly appropriate for group discussion. I welcome the chance to share reactions with anyone who chooses to explore RIBCAGE.



Sam Ehrlich (l) and David Glibberman, students at The Jewish Preschool on Sardis, enjoyed making, baking and especially eating Hamantaschen!



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