



1st Place – American Jewish Press Association  
1997 Rappoport Awards for Excellence in Editorial and Commentary

♦ **PROF. LEO LIEBERMAN, Jewish Times Staff Writer**

## Some Thoughts, Remembering Judge Marvin Rimm

As I was sitting in front of the apartment house with the awnings, I began to remember. And one remembrance came back so vividly. It was Mama telling us that she didn't need another piece of furniture. She already had so many chairs. And even clothing! Where should she put another dress? Or another pocketbook. She needed nothing. All right, maybe a little more money, but she quickly rescinded that comment. After all, money doesn't buy good health. And more tchotchkes meant more to dust. And then with a philosophic tone to her voice she commented, "And you know, when all is said and done, only the good memories stay with you after a hundred

and twenty years."

And as I was thinking back I saw a few of the friends come by. There was Sadie With the Nails and Gertie With the Hair, Fat Rosie from Apartment 3C, and Phyllis With the Shoes. Also Dr. Ed with the Jewish Man from Upstairs and leading the group was our own Tanta Pesha. "He's gone and we're going to the funeral." I knew that they were referring to Judge Marvin Rimm who was such a distinguished member of the group. And to offer a bit of consolation, I told them of Mama's philosophy. And I thought back and conjured up memories of my own. Whenever I went to the minyan Judge Marvin sat on

the side pew and beckoned me to sit next to him, offering me a prayer book. And I looked up and saw the words above the bimah inscribed in Hebrew, "Know before whom you stand," I thought too that perhaps it was also important to know before whom you sit. For didn't the sages tell us that we should not separate ourselves from the community.

And I remember how whenever this Chalkdust column appeared on a Friday, sure enough there would be a phone call from Judge Marvin and even before he wished me a Good Sabbath he began to tell me how the words of the column caused him to think back on his "growing up" experiences. We talked about how expensive it was back in those days to stay at a motel.

Almost ten dollars a night and even more on weekends. Cigarettes were a quarter a pack and milk was twenty

cents for a bottle. Of course there was no low fat cheese and no low fat milk? It was all pasteurized and homogenized. And you could skim the cream from the top for your coffee if you were so inclined. And no artificial anything. Butter

was butter and cream was cream and sugar was . . . you know the rest. And once he called and said, "I thought I would never see the day all our kitchen

appliances would be electric. And then they came out with electric typewriters!"

And then Judge Marvin, an avid sports fan, reminded me how amazed he was when he heard that there was a baseball player who had signed a contract for \$75,000 a year just to play ball and he had thought that who knew that one day there would be baseball players who would be making more than the President! And then he told me that those were the days

when it cost almost fifteen dollars to buy a week's groceries and stamps cost three cents to mail a letter first class, and it was a nickel to make a phone call. But the minimum wage was under a dollar and they hadn't yet put a man on the moon.

And even before he hung up and wished me well, he would say, "Just one more story!" And another happy memory would come forth, and not to be out done I would add one of my own. But I have to admit, he was always at least one step ahead of me and I didn't resent that one bit. Not at all. So today the column appears and I must admit that as I think of Judge Marvin, I am almost waiting for the telephone to ring and the familiar voice at the other end to tell me that the column made him remember and did I have a minute so that he could share the memory with me.

But I am afraid that the phone is quiet and that there is a silence like the sound of angel voices. So maybe he is sharing a story and a memory with those on high. Well, it's a thought.

## Jewish Community Calendar

### June 7 — Sun.

**Cancer Survivors Day** — Shore Memorial Cancer Center, DiOrio Hall. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free. Brunch, chair massages, line dancing and giveaways. Call 653-3585.

**Olney Class of 1953** — 56th Reunion. Call Lampert at 610-449-9391 or e-mail dene4olney@msn.com.

### June 8 — Mon.

**Sisterhood Meeting** — First Sisterhood Meeting of the season for Rodef Shalom. 11:00 a.m. Includes mini-bruch. A chance to socialize and help plan events for the summer. Call 345-4580.

### June 9 — Tues.

**Why Good Cooks Go Bad** — A special refresher course for anyone who cooks will be held at Beth El Synagogue in Margate. 7:30 p.m. Free. Call 823-2725.

### June 10 — Wed.

**Donor Luncheon & Fashion Show** — The Golda Meir Hadassah Donor Luncheon will be held at the Harbor Pines Golf Club. 11:30 a.m. Fashion show and installation of new officers.

### June 12 — Fri.

**Wine Tasting for Downbeach Film Festival** — Second annual wine tasting at Lucy the Elephant to help raise funds for the Downbeach Film Festival. \$25. 6 to 8 p.m. Door prizes and silent auction. Tickets will be available at the door. Or you can send a check for \$25 made payable to the Margate Education Foundation to: The Downbeach Film

Festival, Margate Performing Arts Center, 7804 Amherst Ave., Margate, NJ 08402.

### June 15 — Mon.

**The Israeli String Orchestra of Arad** — JCC. 7:30 p.m. Free and open to the public. The orchestra is comprised of 13 musicians playing piano, violin, viola, cello and vocals. Call 822-4404.

### June 17 — Wed.

**JCC Mahjong Brunch** — Play Mahjong with other players in the community. 10:30 a.m. Bagel spread. All players and skill levels are welcome. Spaces are limited. Registration before June 10 is: \$8 JCC mem. & \$12 for non-mem. After June 10, the cost is \$10 mem. & \$15 non-mem. Call Josh Cutler 609-822-1167 x 138 or email JCutler@jccatlantic.org.

**Shaloma Hadassah Installation and Donor Dinner** — Members and guests are invited to Harbor Pines Golf Club. 6:30 p.m. Buffet dinner, then a musical tribute to the 60's by the group Hourglass. Call Joann at 407-9222.

### June 30 — Tues.

**Surflight Theatre Trip** — Bus leaves from Temple Emeth Shalom. Lunch at Pinzimonio Restaurant. \$65 pp includes lunch, transportation and ticket to show. 8501 Ventnor Avenue, Margate. Bus leaves at 9:30 a.m. Call Carol Myerowitz, 822-3940.

### July 11 — Sat.

**29th Annual Avalon Five Miler** — CONTACT Cape-Atlantic will hold the 29th

Annual Avalon 5 Miler. 8:00 a.m., Registration beginning at 7:00 a.m. Avalon Community Hall, 10th and Avalon Avenue, Avalon, NJ. Pre-registration is \$15 and same day registration is \$18. T-shirts to the first 125 registered. Call CONTACT Cape-Atlantic at (609) 823-1850 or (609) 463-4564.

### July 17 — Fri.

**Wellness Fair and Blood Drive** — Seashore Gardens Living Center. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Free health screenings including blood pressure, glucose and Wii Fit assessments. Call 609-748-4615.

### Aug. 6 — Thurs.

**One Book, One Jewish Community at the Shore** — participants will discuss best selling author Dara Horn's book, *All Other Nights*. The Book discussion will also include a live 'chat' with the author during part of the class. Sponsored by the Board of Jewish Education and being held at the Katz JCC from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Coffee and bagels, too. Discounted books at \$14.00 each on sale by calling the BJE at 822-1854.

### Aug. 13 — Thurs.

**Hester Street Klezmer Troupe** — Annual Stanley Goldstein Memorial Concert.

### Sept. 2 — Wed.

**Seashore Gardens Annual Gala** — Save the Date! Seashore Gardens Foundation Annual Gala will be held on September 2nd at 6:30 p.m. For more information or to learn about sponsorship opportunities, please call 609-748-4614.

## ▲ Engelhard

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in mind, the Saudi Plan or any other "plan" that seeks to sweet-talk Israel out of existence. The latest trick — yes, one trick after another — was the demand that Israel fly the United Nations flag over Jerusalem. Nice try.

The Israelis did not fall for that one. Not yet.

While North Korea threatens to nuke South Korea, Hillary is obsessed with Israel. Maybe it's the climate and besides, it's so much easier to push the Jews around.

So, indeed, we're back to those lyrics from the movie "Casablanca" — that "the

fundamental things apply, as time goes by."

Rather this, though, from Deuteronomy, as a blessing for Israel against her adversaries:

"You shall not fear them, for the Lord your God, He it is that fights for you."

Novelist Jack Engelhard wrote the international bestselling novel "Indecent Proposal" that was turned into a Paramount motion picture starring Robert Redford and Demi Moore. His latest novels are "The Bathsheba Deadline" and "The Girls of Cincinnati." Engelhard can be reached at [www.jackengelhard.com](http://www.jackengelhard.com)

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