

# Congregation Celebrates Installation

## Link Staff Report

On the weekend of Friday, Jan. 28 and Saturday, Jan. 29, Congregation Albert will celebrate the installation of Barbara R. Finn as cantor. She is only the fourth ordained cantor in the 107-year history of Albuquerque's Reform congregation.

"The installation is like a life-cycle event," said Finn. "It gives us an opportunity to celebrate together and to formalize Congregation Albert's and my commitment to one another in the presence of God."

Finn joined Congregation Albert in August 2004. In addition to her regular cantorial duties, she is also responsible for many educational aspects of synagogue life including writing and implementing music curriculum, teaching courses to students of all ages, and guiding the adult and youth choirs.

Before coming to Albuquerque, Finn served as music coordinator of Congregation Beth Torah in Overland Park, Kan.

While carrying out her duties there, she commuted to New York to attend the Hebrew Union College Jewish Institute of Religion's School of Sacred Music. After studying liturgy, music history, Jewish history, and cantillation and trope, she received her cantorial certification in 2002.

"I'm blessed to be here and to work with our congregation, rabbi, staff, and Jewish community," Finn said.

Rabbi Daniel Freeland, vice president of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) will officiate at the Installation Service on Friday evening at 8 p.m.

Freeland coordinates Jewish education for URJ, and his position makes him one of the most influential figures in Reform Judaism today.

For 20 years, he has also composed, recorded and performed popular Jewish music as part of the Jewish folk/rock duo "Kol B'Seder."

Congregation Albert's Rabbi Joseph Black, a prominent musician himself, praises Freeland's gentle teaching manner and his warm sense of humor.

"He's one of the pioneers of popular Jewish music. He has a love for Jewish life, and that inspiration has guided him in writing some of our most beloved melodies," Black said.

Many of Kol B'Seder's songs are a regular part of synagogue services around the world and are standards in Jewish schools and camps.

Julie Silver, another well-known Jewish performer, will cap the weekend's events with a concert and dessert celebration at Congregation Albert on Saturday night at 7 p.m.

A cantorial soloist in Santa Monica, Calif, Silver performed in Albuquerque in 2001. Since then, she has recorded her fifth CD, which features the contributions of well-known musicians Troy Dexter and Jenny Hersch.

Black, Freeland and Finn will join Silver in some of her songs. Following the concert, there will be a "Symphony of Sweets" dessert re-



Cantor  
Barbara Finn



Rabbi Daniel  
Freeland



Performer  
Julie Silver

ception.

Tickets for the concert and dessert reception are \$18 per person and can be purchased at Congregation Albert's office or at the door on the night of the concert.

Rabbi Freeland will lead a special Torah study session on Saturday morning at 9 a.m. prior to the regular Shabbat service.

For more information on any of the weekend's events, call the office at 883-1818.

## WHAT'S UP

**WHAT:** Special weekend in honor of the installation of Cantor Barbara Finn

**WHEN:** Friday, Jan. 28

Installation of Cantor Finn by Rabbi Daniel Freedlander, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 29

Concert by Julie Silver, 7 p.m. "Symphony of Desserts" following concert.

**WHERE:** Congregation Albert  
3800 Louisiana Blvd. NE

**COST:** \$18

## Special Portraits of Holocaust Survivors to be Displayed

By Susan Abonyi  
The New Mexico Jewish Link

Nationally renowned local artist, Leo Neufeld, will have an exhibit at the Ronald Gardenswartz Jewish Community Center, 5520 Wyoming Blvd. NE, of some very special portraits he has just recently completed.

This past summer, Neufeld returned to his hometown of Milwaukee, Wisc. to work on a project that was very special to him.

The 55 year-old artist painted the portraits of 11 Holocaust survivors whom he had known since he was a child.

They were all friends of his late parents, Franka and William Neufeld, who were also Holocaust survivors from Poland.

"These are people I was raised with. I've spent my whole life coming to this moment," said Neufeld.

He also stated that there is an "urgency to document the remaining survivors, as each year there are fewer."

Neufeld said his goal was not to "glamorize or flatter" the survivors. Instead, he wanted "them to be the way they are, as if we are having a conversation."

As such, the portraits have a style looser and more intimate than his usual brand of pinpoint realism.

After the exhibit in Albuquerque,

## WHAT'S UP

**WHAT:** Exhibit of Holocaust survivor portraits by Leo Neufeld

**WHEN:** Jan. 15 through Feb. 15

Reception & talk, Jan. 20, 7 p.m.

**WHERE:** JCC

5520 Wyoming Blvd. NE

**COST:** Free

on June 29, the portraits will have their premiere unveiling at the Milwaukee Art Museum in conjunction with a ceremony marking the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the concentration camps.

The portraits will remain in the community. They will become the property of The Holocaust Education and Resource Center in Milwaukee, who sponsored this project. The center is a project of The Milwaukee Jewish Federation.

Neufeld made it clear that these portraits are "not available for purchase. That is my intention and that makes this project even more special."

The Albuquerque show will run from Jan. 15 through Feb. 15 with a reception and talk by the artist on Thursday, Jan. 20 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. It is free to the public and light refreshments will be served. For information, call the JCC at 332-0565.



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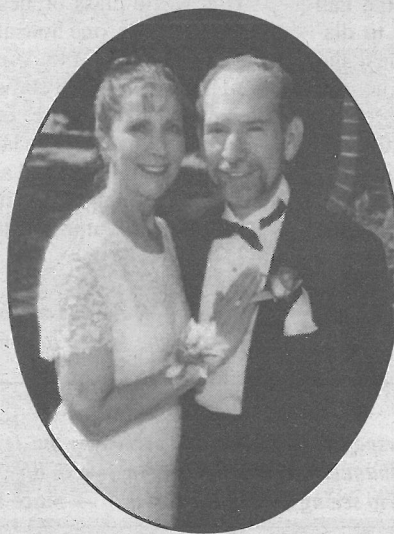
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*The Jewish Federation of Greater Albuquerque cordially invites you to join in giving*

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**Saturday, January 22, 2005**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Jewish Community Center  
5520 Wyoming Boulevard NE  
Albuquerque, New Mexico  
Couvert: \$25.00 per person**

**An array of fine desserts will be catered by "Savory Fare"**

**Honorary Co-chairs are  
Diane and Alan Chodorow**

*Mina Jo and Michael Linver have been committed and dedicated members of Albuquerque's Jewish community since the 1980s. The Linvers care deeply about Israel and the American Jewish community and their long and comprehensive service demonstrates their involvement.*



For further information or reservations, contact:

**Jewish Federation of Greater Albuquerque**

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