

JEWISH LIFE

Blind man to detail struggle with Housing Authority

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

"The Man Who Took the City to Court and Won" will be the topic of a talk on Wednesday at Congregation Toras Emes of Staten Island, Bay Terrace.

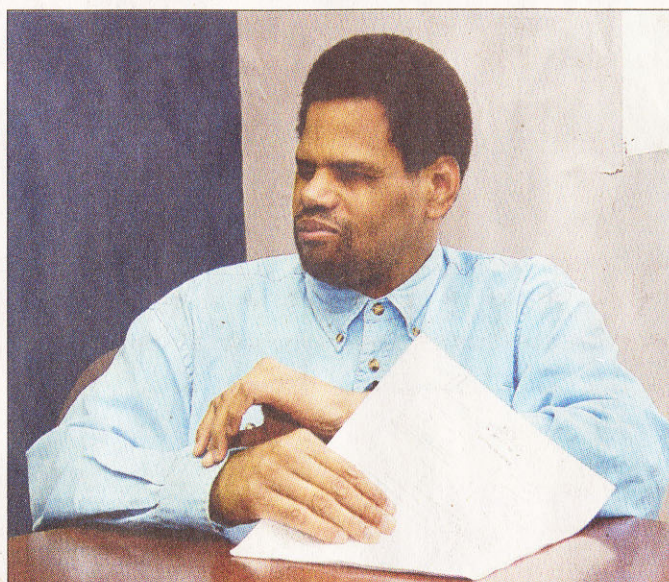
The discussion concerns Justin Williams of Concord, who is legally blind, and who, advocates say, through no fault of his own was unjustly deprived by the New York City Housing Authority of his housing benefits because of his inability to read a series of printed notices that were mailed to his home.

After Williams had exhausted every administrative recourse to restore his benefits, he turned to Staten Island Legal Services, which ultimately filed suit under the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act on his behalf, against the Housing Authority.

"That suit received front-page coverage in the Staten Island Advance, which had the effect of significantly hastening the city's capitulation due to the widespread publicity of its ineptitude and callousness," said one of his attorneys, Nancy Goldhill.

"The case is still pending because Justin and his lawyers seek to compel the Housing Authority to establish a policy for giving proper notice to blind and visually impaired people so that this does not happen again."

A panel discussion will include Williams and Ms. Goldhill, project director, and Shelly Agarwala, supervising attorney, and will run from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Free-will offerings will be donated to the non-profit Staten Island Legal Services. Toras Emes is at 3151 Hylan Blvd. For information, call



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE FILE PHOTO

Justin Williams of Concord will be the topic of a talk on Wednesday at Congregation Toras Emes of Staten Island, Bay Terrace.

718- 667-5125 and ask for Binyamin or e-mail rabbi@torasemesonline.com.

B'NAI ISRAEL 75TH

Congregation B'nai Israel, Bay Terrace, is celebrating its 75th anniversary with a "From Generation to Generation" luncheon on Sunday.

Rabbi Judah Newberger will officiate at the event, chaired by Martin Eisenberg. The honorees are Ilene and Charles Greinsky, Michael and Cheryl Guterman, Jaison and Marcie Guterman, Alvin and Sophia Cohen, Lillian Brosnick, Kevin and Michelle Brosnick, Arthur and Sandy Levy, Mikhail and Aleksandra Faynberg and Ella Ligay.

A hot-and-cold dairy buffet lunch by Exclusive Catering by Kaplan will be served. The cost is \$54 per person. The luncheon will be from 1-4 p.m. in the social hall of the synagogue at 45 Twombly Ave., Bay Terrace. Call 718-948-4231 for information.

NEW RELATIONSHIP

"American Jews and Israel: Outlines of a New Relationship" will be the topic of a free talk by Rabbi Dr. Abraham Unger on Tuesday at Wagner College, Grymes Hill.



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE FILE PHOTO

Rabbi Dr. Abraham Unger will give a free talk on Tuesday at Wagner College on the topic of "American Jews and Israel: Outlines of a New Relationship."



Panel members will include attorneys Nancy Goldhill, left, and Shelly Agarwala.



tion, call 718-442-5966.

An overnight bus trip to the National Yiddish Book Center in Amherst, Mass., is planned for June 15-16 by the Adult Education Committee of Temple Israel Reform Congregation, Randall Manor, and the Jewish Historical Society of Staten Island. The group also will visit the Eric Carle Children's Picture Book Museum, the Emily Dickinson Homestead and the Smith College Art Museum in Northampton, Mass. The estimated cost is \$80 per person for the hotel room and about \$60 for the bus. A \$100 deposit is required. For information, call Lenore Miller at 718-761-3509 or e-mail her at lmiller296@aol.com.

An Adult Confirmation Class is forming at Temple Israel led by Rabbi Michael Howald. Reserve to 718-727-2231. The temple will hold an early Family Shabbat tonight at 7:30 led by Rabbi Howald and Student Cantor Steven Long with the Youth Choir performing. The Oneg Shabbat is sponsored by all those congregants celebrating their anniversaries or birthdays in April. Tomorrow, Torah study led by Rabbi Howald will be followed by Shabbat services at 11. Temple Israel is at 315 Forest Ave.

ITALIAN JEWS

Author Elizabeth Bettina and Holocaust survivor Ursula Korn-Selig will discuss the rescue of Italian Jews during the Holocaust at an event on Wednesday at Casa

Belvedere, The Italian Cultural Foundation Inc., Grymes Hill.

A presentation and a book reading of "It Happened in Italy" will be held at 7 p.m. at Casa Belvedere, located at 79 Howard Ave. For information, call 718-273-7660, e-mail info@casa-belvedere.org or consult Casa-belvedere.org.

"Jews in Italy: An Ancient and Proud Community" will be the topic of a talk on Sunday at Congregation B'nai Jeshurun, West Brighton.

The speaker at 9:45 a.m. will be B'nai Jeshurun member Carla Beeber, who was born in Italy. Her maternal grandmother was a Finzi-Contini, the Italian Jewish family depicted in the 1971 Oscar-nominated film "The Garden of the Finzi-Continis." The cost is \$3. For information, call Dave Friedman at 917-913-8008. Mitzvah Day will begin at 10 a.m. on April 11. B'nai Jeshurun is located at 275 Martling Ave.

LADIES' NIGHT OUT

"Sushi, Wine & Song — Feel the Freedom!" will be held for women on Wednesday in Meiers Corners, sponsored by the Dar Educational Initiative/ Jewish Foundation School.

Rachel Leah Rothman, a licensed clinical social worker, will express Torah wisdom through music and song. The 7:30 p.m. event at 311 Buchanan Ave. will be in conjunction with a special Passover 101 workshop held for men. RSVP to Chana Uzhansky at chanauz@g-mail.com.