

## YOM HASHOAH TO BE COMMEMORATED AT CBI

On Sunday, April 19, at 3:00 p.m., Professor Robert H. Abzug of the University of Texas at Austin will speak at Congregation Beth Israel in commemoration of Yom HaShoah.

Dr. Abzug is the Oliver H. Radkey Regents Professor of History and the Director of the Schusterman Center for Jewish Studies. Dr. Abzug will explore with us the topic WHY DO WE REMEMBER? Now that we are seventy-six years past the onset of the Nazi regime in Germany, it is relevant to ask ourselves what is the purpose of remembering the Holocaust. Is it simply that the act of remembering itself has value, or are there other reasons why a continuing memorial has power and importance?

Among his published works are *America Views the Holocaust: a Brief Documentary History* and *Inside the Vicious Heart: Americans and the Liberation of the Nazi Concentration Camps*.

We invite all members of the Jewish community and guests from the general community of Corpus Christi to join us for this talk, which is sponsored without charge by the Adult Education Committee of CBI. Light refreshments will be served after Dr. Abzug's talk so that we may greet each other.

Please also note that a brief memorial service will be held on the actual day of Yom HaShoah, Tuesday, April 21 at 6:30 PM at CBI. You are very cordially invited to attend.

### A MESSAGE FROM THE FAMILY CORNER

I hope that you have all been enjoying the Family Shabbat Dinners, I know that I have enjoyed putting them together. I hope that you will all continue to come and partake in the festive evening. If you have any future main course ideas, I am always open to them. A special thank you to Leslie Green and Natalie Honigbaum for helping me to cook for March's Shabbat Dinner. I have come to learn that these dinners give the congregants the opportunity to reunite with friends and spend some time just relaxing while enjoying good food and friends. For those of

you who have missed out on these fun-filled nights, please consider coming to our next dinner. If you are interested in helping me cook for any of these dinners, please feel free to call me.

There will be no Family Dinner for the month of April.

Shalom  
Meredith Ryan

## **DR. RAYMOND LEWANDOWSKI TO SPEAK AT CBI**

On Wednesday, April 1 at 7:00 PM, Dr. Raymond Lewandowski, Corpus Christi's leading physician specializing in genetics, will speak on the topic CRACKING THE DNA CODE. Dr. Lewandowski will address promising breakthroughs in this relatively new branch of medicine, including ways that genetic medicine may be applicable to prenatal treatments and such diseases as Parkinson's and mental retardation. There is even talk of a "healing gene," that will enhance recuperation from a wide variety of wounds and illnesses.

Dr. Lewandowski's interests range beyond the strictly scientific dimensions of his medical specialty. He recently published a book entitled *The Imprint of God: Secrets of Our Genetic Code*. Among the challenging topics in this volume are discussions of evil, God and war, conscience and death.

If you are interested in the cutting-edge of modern medicine and how it may affect your life, this is a talk that will appeal to you. We invite you to attend this talk that is co-sponsored by Brandeis Women, Hadassah, the JCC and Congregation Beth Israel. There is no charge, and dessert and beverages will be served after the session is over.

## **Pre-Passover Food Drive**

Donate your Chometz Now through April 5th (after April 5, please DO NOT bring Chometz to CBI !!) Unopened boxes/bags of pasta, bread, chips, cereals, cookies, crackers, flour, baking goods, and depending on how strict you are: legumes, peanut products and corn products; and any other non-perishables you would like to donate as you Spring clean and make your house Pesahdik. We'll collect it in the foyer of CBI, and deliver it to the Food Bank.

Congregation Beth Israel Social Action Committee - March/April 2009

## **CONGREGANTS TO BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE**

A representative of the Ritual Committee will begin making personal calls in the next week to ask members of the congregation if they would be willing to help light the Shabbat candles, lead the kiddush and recite the Torah blessings during Friday night services. The first calls will go to members who have Yahrzeits on a particular Shabbat, in the hope that they will be attending anyway and would gladly accept the honor of this kind of participation. A full sheet of instructions will be provided to all who are willing to help in this way, and you don't have to sing!

We hope everyone who is contacted will be willing to accept this "aliyah" on one Friday night during the year. And if you have children at home it's an honor they can share with parents or grandparents and derive a great sense of meaning and importance for their Jewish lives.