

June 24, 2009

**BENEFIT PERFORMANCE OF “A JEW GROWS IN BROOKLYN” HONORING
MIKE LEVINE ON AUGUST 16, 2009**

Chester, NY – The nationally acclaimed Broadway hit comedy/musical, Jake Ehrenreich’s “*A Jew Grows In Brooklyn*” comes to Orange County on August 16th for a special Benefit Performance. The long running New York production and hugely successful National Tour sets down for a 2pm performance at the Chester Academy Theater in Chester, NY to honor Mike Levine, former Editor-In-Chief of the Middletown Times Herald Record.

On hand to film the event for an upcoming PBS documentary will be award-winning film maker, Jon Huberth, and television anchorwoman, Rachel Leigh, of FOX TV.

All proceeds from the performance of *A Jew Grows in Brooklyn* will go toward building “Mike’s House,” a Habitat for Humanity home in Newburgh, NY, in memory of Mike Levine. The Jewish Community of Orange County is hosting the event and partnering with HH of Newburgh (<http://habitatnewburgh.org/pp-gen/home.htm>) for the first time, and numerous local businesses are participating as sponsors.

A Jew Grows in Brooklyn broke box office records at the historic Lambs Theater in the heart of Broadway and ran for one and a half years. While on national tour, the show was picked as FOX TV’s “Hot Ticket” along with Brittany Spears’ *National Circus Tour*. In the show, writer/creator Ehrenreich (together with four musician/singers) traces his life as a first generation son of Holocaust survivors growing up in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn in the 1960’s. His search for the American Dream winds through America’s pastime, Baseball, the world of Rock ‘N Roll and his formative summers in the Catskill Mountains.

The New York Times raved...“dazzling, funny, beautiful...like Billy Crystal’s 700 Sundays”. ABC 7 TV said the show “speaks to anyone hoping to live out the American Dream”. The New Yorker called it “a singing valentine” and FOX 5 TV, proclaimed “Lots of laughs, but also very serious. This hit show has taken New York by storm!”

Mike Levine, a perennial fighter for the underdog and the less fortunate through his outspoken editorials, died prematurely on January 14, 2007 at the age of 54. Habitat for Humanity volunteers will help build a safe and affordable house for a family in need. “Mike’s House” will be a fitting and lasting tribute to the man who fought for just such families throughout his life.

Ehrenreich and Levine were close friends and both were members of Temple Beth-El in Monroe where their sons attended class together. Mr. Ehrenreich will be donating his performance, and the Chester School District is donating the new, state-of-the-art Chester Academy Theater.

For more information visit www.JakeEhrenreich.com. Tickets may be purchased by calling (212) 868-4444 or visiting www.SmartTix.com. The Chester Academy Theatre is located at 64 Hambletonian Ave, Chester, NY.

Mr. Ehrenreich will be available for interviews by contacting:
Georgette Valle: 845 783-9769; cell 924 906-1697; H 845 469-2045 or
Marci Gurton: Habitat for Humanity 845 568-6035