

## Jewish-themed romantic comedy arriving in area

"Play the Game," a Jewish-themed romantic comedy starring Paul Campbell, Andy Griffith and Doris Roberts, is coming to area theaters beginning Friday, Aug. 28. Written and directed by Marc Fienberg, the movie is the tale of a ladies' man who teaches his dating tricks to his lonely grandfather. The film won the Audience Award at the Ft. Lauderdale International Film Festival.

According to the movie's producers: "Ladies' man David teaches his dating tricks to his lonely, widowed grandfather Joe, while using those same tricks to meet Julie, the woman of his dreams. But as David's foolproof techniques prove to be anything but, the same techniques quickly transform Grandpa Joe into the Don Juan of the retirement community. But soon it's up to Grandpa Joe to teach David that the best way to win the game of love is not to play games at all."

For information on theaters showing the PG-13 movie and to watch the trailer, go to [playthegamemovie.com](http://playthegamemovie.com) ▲

## Lewis

(From page 19)

Rabbi Julie Schonfeld, executive director of the Rabbinical Association, the

professional body of Conservative rabbis, said Lewis' lawsuit is "part and parcel" of the Conservative rabbinate's ongoing engagement in kashrut.

Many Conservative rabbis give kosher supervision and certification nationwide, she said, and the movement holds periodic courses to teach Conservative rabbis how to perform this function. The next one is scheduled for May.

"His proactive stance is consistent with the activist stance towards kashrut in our movement," she said, noting in particular the Conservative movement's year-old commission on Hekhsher Tzedek, or certificate of social justice, a forthcoming initiative to rate kosher-certified food products according to standards of health, safety and working conditions.

"We very much have an eye on the larger society, how we live as Jews in America," she said. "Hekhsher Tzedek is a clear example of that, and this case is another very fine one."

Conservative Judaism holds that the laws of kashrut are binding, and in general follows the same kosher laws as Orthodoxy. The movement differs only in the practical application of certain laws, notably the Orthodox restrictions on non-Jews making cheese and wine and lighting cooking fires, which

Conservative authorities do not follow. Conservative authorities also permit certain fishes, such as sturgeon and swordfish, forbidden by the Orthodox.

In July 1992, New Jersey's Supreme Court overturned state kosher regulations that defined kosher in terms of "orthodox Hebrew religious requirements," ruling that it violated the constitutional prohibition on the establishment of religion.

New Jersey now operates under a "full disclosure scheme," whereby manufacturers or purveyors of kosher food must fill out forms indicating what they sell and under whose authority. The forms are filed with the state

and posted for public view, so consumers can decide for themselves whether to patronize the establishment.

The disclosure form is careful not to make religious judgments. Purveyors must state, for example, whether they sell pork or shellfish, or mix milk and meat, but they can still call themselves kosher, as long as they don't conceal these facts.

"You can put down absolutely anything in the world you want," said Rabbi Yakov Dombroff, who has headed New Jersey's Bureau of Kosher Enforcement since 1986. "Literally, pork could be kosher. The state has no interest in what you call kosher, as long as you're in compliance

with the disclosure."

In 1995, the Baltimore City Code's kosher ordinance was overturned as being in violation of the Establishment Clause after a hot dog vendor was fined for putting non-kosher hot dogs too close to kosher ones on his rotisserie.

Nearly a decade later, in 2004, New York State changed its kosher laws, which also defined kosher as "according to orthodox Hebrew religious requirements," following a lawsuit brought by butchers in Commack. In their original 1996 case, the butchers claimed state kosher supervisions were engaged in a regular pattern of fining them because their store was supervised by a Conservative rabbi. ▲

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