

Spotlight

on entertainment

Laughing away the winter blues

*Comedy shows
abound in area*



Judy Gold

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New Jersey Herald

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Laughing away the winter blues

Judy strikes Gold at Buck Hill Brewery

BLAIRSTOWN — Buck Hill Brewery and Restaurant presents a comedy night, featuring Judy Gold, on Thursday, Jan. 25, at 9 p.m. Doors open for dinner at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$35, plus a \$25 food/drink minimum.

Buck Hill Brewery is located at 45 State Route 94, Blairstown. Call 908-854-5300 or visit buckhill-brewery.com.

Gold has had stand-up specials on HBO, Comedy Central and LOGO. She has also written and starred in two critically acclaimed, Off-Broadway hit shows, “The Judy Show — My Life as a Sitcom” (Outer Critics Circle Nomination) and “25 Questions for a Jewish Mother” (GLAAD Media Award — Outstanding N.Y. Theater, Drama Desk Nomination — Actor).

She received rave reviews portraying Gremio in The Public Theater’s all-female production of “The Taming of The Shrew” for Shakespeare in the

Park. She also co-starred in Off-Broadway’s “Clinton! The Musical” and “Disasater! The Musical.”

Gold recently appeared on “The Late Show with Stephen Colbert.” She can be seen on the new Showtime series “I’m Dying Up Here” and Netflix’s “Friends From College.” She has recurring roles on Pop TV’s “NightCap!” and TBS’s “Search Party.”

She was featured in Woody Allen’s series “Crisis In Six Scenes” on Amazon, and also appears on the hit web-series “The Other F Word,” which is featured on Amazon Prime. Gold’s other most recent TV appearances

include guest-starring roles on “Louie,” “Broad City,” “Friends From College,” “The Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt,” “The Jim Gaffigan Show,” “Inside Amy Schumer,” “Difficult People,” “30 Rock,” “2 Broke Girls,” “Melissa & Joey” and “The Big C?”

Gold also won two Emmy awards for writing and producing “The Rosie O’Donnell Show.” She was the host of HBO’s “At The Multiplex with Judy Gold” and was an original cast member of Tru TV’s “World’s Dumbest.”



JUDY GOLD

Steve Solomon brings hit one-man show to Newton

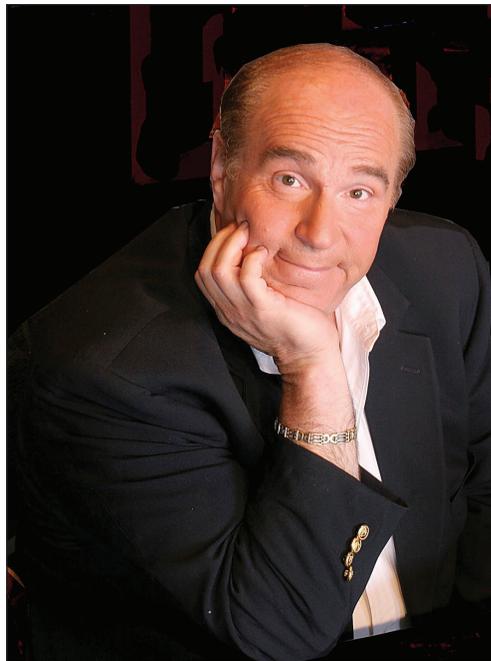
NEWTON — The hit comedy, “My Mother’s Italian, My Father’s Jewish & I’m in Therapy!” stars the author and Broadway star of the show, Steve Solomon. This show has become one of the longest running one-man comedies in history, having just celebrated its 4,000th performance.

Solomon brings the show to The Newton Theatre on Sunday, Jan. 21, at 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$29-\$44. Call 973-940-NEWT or visit www.thenewtontheatre.com. The Newton Theatre is located at 234 Spring St., Newton.

Using dialects, accents and sound effect, Solomon brings to the stage dozens of wild characters we all relate to, all brought to life by his comedy magic. His four shows have had audiences in three countries guffawing since 2003. Almost one million people have seen his shows. The audience follows along on this wonderfully funny journey about growing up, mixed marriages, ex-wives, dogs, cats, dieting and dozens of other side-splitting situations we can all relate to.

Described as “One part lasagna, one part kreplach, and two parts Prozac,” you don’t have to be Jewish or Italian to love this show. All you need is to know what it feels like to leave a family dinner with heartburn and a headache.

For Steve Solomon, the road to a career in comedy began during his childhood in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, where he picked up the many accents and dialects he heard on the streets of his multi-ethnic neighborhood. This self-professed “class clown” grew up to become a physics teacher and an assistant superintendent of schools. He used humor, dialects, and sound effects to inspire his students and tick off his fellow administrators. Eventually, however, Solomon felt



STEVE SOLOMON

the irresistible urge to follow his heart and write comedy.

He left his academic career behind and turned his attention to his latent love of making people laugh. As Solomon puts it, “I decided to follow my heart and become an impoverished comedy writer and performer.” He returned to his roots to write the autobiographical one-man show: the three-time award winning “My Mother’s Italian, My Father’s Jewish & I’m In Therapy!” has

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Jim Breuer up close at Bernie’s Hillside

CHESTER — Not long after Jim Breuer did his first official standup gig in Clearwater, Fla., in 1989, industry folks began asking him, “What’s your point of view?”

“I don’t know...” He searched for a meaningful response to a ridiculous question. “To make people laugh?”

The freewheeling, New York-bred comic storyteller — who made the list of Comedy Central’s “100 Greatest Standups of All Time” — is hotter than ever, a global touring sensation and regular presence on radio and television whose rabid audience, he’s thrilled to note, is filled with “lifetimers.” Once folks see him live, they’re hooked.

On Wednesday, fans in and around his hometown of Chester will have a chance to see him in an intimate show at Bernie’s Hillside, 125 Hillside Road, Chester, at 8 p.m. Breuer is a regular at Bernie’s, often stopping by on Wednesday evenings. Call 908-879-7120 for more information.

Breuer estimates that 78 percent of his fans have seen him “five, six, seven” times. It’s becoming a family thing, with parents even bringing



JIM BREUER

young teens to see the family man and father of three daughters, all providing genius “dad” material for his sets. Having evolved both personally and professionally since the beginning, Breuer’s pleased to say he’s been F-word free for 10 years and counting.

Breuer came to national attention during his seasons on “Saturday Night Live” (1995-98), a rebuilding era whose cast featured Will Ferrell, David Spade and Norm McDonald. But don’t

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