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did become more active in the Jewish community in Albuquerque as he grew older, both with the local chapter of B'nai Brith and the Reform congregation Temple Albert (in whose cemetery he was buried). But he played a crucial role in one of the most famous Jewish-American events of the 20th Century.

In December 1930, Albert Einstein left Germany to spend the winter lecturing at Cal Tech just as Hitler's Nazi Party was making its first significant election showing. He first sailed to New York, where he celebrated Hanukah with a huge throng at Madison Square Garden, and then spent time on the west coast. In March, 1931, he decided to make what had become the quintessential American pilgrimage—to see the Grand Canyon.

He was met there by a contingent of Hopi Indians—who Einstein assumed were local natives, not realizing that most of them worked for Fred Harvey. (He had recently told a class at Cal Tech, “there lies deep meaning in the fact that children of all civilized countries are so fond of playing Indians.”) Herman Schweizer was also there, both to meet the renowned scientist and to act as translator, since Einstein was still more comfortable speaking German.

As with all visiting dignitaries, the Hopi planned to present Einstein with a headdress and make him an honorary chief of the tribe. But they had no idea who he was.

So they pulled Schweizer, their boss, aside.

“What’s his business?” one of the Harvey Indians asked.

“He invented the Theory of Relativity,” Schweizer replied.

“Okay, then we’ll call him ‘Great Relative’.”

Stephen Fried’s book, Appetite for America: Fred Harvey and the Business of Civilizing the Wild West—One Meal at a Time (Bantam 2011), was just published in paperback. Recent events for the book have featured bubbles dressed as Harvey Girls, and kosher Fred Harvey food.

Fried is an adjunct professor at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism and the author of four other books, including The New Rabbi. www.stephenfried.com This article first appeared in “Text/Context: Fresh Encounters with Jewish Tradition,” a supplement to The Jewish Week, published by The Jewish Week in partnership with Nextbook.org.

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consult with national health leaders on the establishment of tuberculosis treatment facilities there. Dr. Hurst was an innovator who associated with hospitals and programs involved in pioneering efforts. “Allan was always ahead of his time ... a remarkable man who left his mark wherever he went,” recalled his wife.

Dr. Hurst and his wife Leona moved to Santa Fe in 1981 after retirement in Florida proved fatiguing to both of them. Leona joked that the most exciting conversation of the day would be “where are we going to eat dinner tonight?” When they moved to Santa Fe, there was no New Mexico Jewish Historical Society. Allan had been active in founding the Colorado Jewish Historical Society, and was fascinated by what little New Mexico Jewish history he had been able to pick up. Because of that, he felt that there should be a society [in New Mexico] because of the many erudite people here who would be interested in the subject, and because he sensed a need for it.

Allan saw that the growth of the Society proved the need, and he was very proud of the Society’s accomplishments. He continued to contribute to the Society into the last year of his life. Those who knew Dr. Allan Hurst remember him as someone who was fun, interesting, bright, very kind and very giving. Dr. Hurst passed away in 1989. In 1998, Leona Hurst honored her husband’s memory by presenting the first annual Dr. Allan Hurst award to Stanley M. Hordes. Leona Hurst continued the couple’s commitment to the Society, working on behalf of the organization until her death in 2007. The award, presented at the annual Membership Meeting, has been renamed the Dr. Allan and Leona Hurst Award.

This article was researched from the Archives and first appeared in a 1989 issue of Legacy. It was uncovered and edited by Patricia Carlton, member of the Board and archivist for the NMJHS. Patricia came to Santa Fe in 2007 from Washington, D.C., and a career in Art Cataloging for the Library of Congress. She is most proud of her adult Bat Mitzvah in May 2010.