

Local Writer Pens Second Murder Mystery

By Mark Arnold from the Jewish Journal Staff

He always wanted to be a writer, but it was not until he retired in the late nineties that Peabody native Don E. Finegold found the time to do so. His new novel, *The Pact*, is a tale of bigotry, murder and coverup that takes place on the North Shore. Finegold will lead a discussion and book signing on Wednesday, May 12, at the Peabody Institute Library on Main Street in Peabody, at 7 p.m.

The book, which follows an earlier murder mystery, *Interlude*, published in 2002, describes a secret pact three boys from working-class homes made to kill blacks and Jews when they got older and how they sought to make good on it, explains the writer, who sprinkles his work with mentions of local landmarks from the 40s and 50s. The book is an easy read, with large type and short sentences to enhance its appeal.

“I show places and attitudes as they were then,” says Finegold, himself the target of discrimination as a youth. “I want people who grew up when I did to remember what it was like,” he told the *Journal* recently. So I talk about places like Stanley’s Cafeteria, Ordman’s Pharmacy, Moe’s Skeller, and Valle’s in Lynn.”

Explains the 74-year-old Finegold, who spent his life in the leather industry before his retirement: “Some people retire and don’t do much; I write books. I’ve got 10 more of them in me.

The Pact is published by 1stbooks.com and is available there, at Amazon.com and Barnesandnoble.com.

http://www.jewishjournal.org/archives/archiveApril23_04.htm