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OLDIES BUT GOODIES: An album by Fanny Brice (top) and a volume of Irving Berlin songs are among recordings being donated to Judaica Sound Archive.

A Cleveland man leaves his Judaic recordings collection to FAU.

GROWING BY LEAPS AND SOUNDS

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BOCA RATON — The Judaica Sound Archive is accustomed to receiving large donations of old recordings. But its latest bequest, 10,000 records, arrived in an 18-wheel trailer truck.

The 7-year-old musical archive, part of Florida Atlantic University's library, has a lot of cataloging to do in the next few months, because another 18-wheeler will arrive as soon as the snow melts. That one will carry at least twice as many recordings, all from the late Jack Saul, a Cleveland furniture store owner whose collection may have amounted to as many as 300,000 recordings at its peak.

The Saul contribution will add about 60,000 recordings, including a few unique examples,



Judaica Sound Archive employee Alethea Perez packs records at the Cleveland furniture store that donor Jack Saul owned.

Courtesy of Florida Atlantic University

to the FAU archive, already one of the largest Judaica sounds collections in the world.

The sound archive is run by Nat Tinanoff and Maxine Schackman, who, aided by tech-

savvy volunteers and students, have made 10,000 of the archive's songs available online to the public. The archive contains religious, folk and children's music.

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■ Listen to recordings from the Judaica Sound Archive at PalmBeachPost.com/schools

Cleveland donor visited archive

▶ JUDAICA from 1B

theater and music-hall performances.

A passionate collector, Saul filled his house, store and warehouse with his collection, Schackman said.

"After his wife read him the riot act, he gave away 200,000 recordings to an organization," Schackman said. "But they ended up selling it and he was infuriated."

A cantor who donated part of his own collection to FAU told Saul about the archive. Saul visited the FAU sound archive in February and assured himself that his records would be in a good home.

The Saul collection contained a few surprises, including a recording of comedian and singer Fanny Brice (the subject of the *Funny Girl* movies) singing to children, and a fantasy cantata about

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MAXINE SCHACKMAN
FAU Judaica Sound Archive

the Brooklyn Dodgers by renowned opera baritone Robert Merrill.

"The Jack Saul collection was a really rich mother lode of new and unique recordings," Schackman said.

Saul, who died in May at age 86, loved Jewish music but also specialized in classical recordings made before 1900. He owned mint copies of every recording made by the Cleveland Orchestra since 1924. He owned complete sets, autographed copies and albums never taken out of their wrappers.

Saul gave first pick

to Tinanoff, who sorted through the records and helped pack 700 boxes, which were delivered to FAU in September.

Other recordings went to the Library of Congress, the Cleveland Orchestra and the Guy Lombardo Society. Saul's daughter kept a few sentimental favorites.

Also in the Saul collection were non-Jewish music that will become a big part of FAU's new collection of 78 rpm recordings, as well as about 500 records that will be added to FAU's jazz collection.

About 4,000 CDs will be made available for student use.

Tinanoff estimates it will take five years to inventory the Saul collection and welcomes volunteers with computer skills.

To listen to musical selections, visit www.fau.edu/jsa.

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