

Beth Am COMMENTATOR

MIAMI, FLORIDA

JANUARY 5, 1973

The Jewish Scene In South Florida

The Brotherhood of Temple Beth Am is honored to present as its speaker at our Congregational Breakfast on January 21, 1973 the editor and publisher of "The Jewish Floridian," one of the finest publications of its kind in our country. The time, as usual, will be 9:30 a.m., and the place will be our Social Hall.

Fred Shocket has been a resident of Miami for 50 years, and began learning his profession when the "Jewish Floridian" was founded by his father in 1928. In 1939, he took over the full direction of this important weekly, and has served as editor and publisher since that time. Under his guidance, the paper received international recognition, and Mr. Shocket was one of five publishers in the United States invited by the President of Israel to visit that country.

Our speaker has many other facets. He is active in general community work, and is a past president of the Lions Club. He received "The Man of Achievement" award from B'nai B'rith; the Dade County Honorary Citizen's Award; is a member of Sigma Delta Chi, an internationally recognized professional journalism fraternity, and was selected for outstanding community service by Alpha Epsilon Pi at its national convention. Recently, he received the annual American Jewish Congress Community Service Award for communications media.

Brotherhood members are admitted free of charge.

Come to Sisterhood's Fabulous Fun-Raising *Las Vegas Night*

Saturday, January 20, 1973
Crooked Creek Country Club 8:00 p. m.

\$6.00 per person includes chips and refreshments
Ticket Chairman: Arlene Root, 665-3233 Tickets also in Temple office
Las Vegas Chairman: Marlene Housman, 665-4052

Join us for an evening of fun and games--all kinds of prizes!
VIVA LAS VEGAS!

Calendar Of Events

BROTHERHOOD MEETING	Wednesday, January 3, 7:30 p.m.
FAMILY RELIGIOUS SERVICE	Friday, January 5, 7:30 p.m.
BAFTY MEETING	Sunday, January 7, 6:00 p.m.
DINNER FOR TENTH GRADERS	Friday, January 12, 6:00 p.m.
RELIGIOUS SERVICES	Friday, January 12, 8:30 p.m.
YOUNG MARRIEDS BREAKFAST	Sunday, January 14, 10:00 a.m.
TEMPLE BOARD MEETING	Monday, January 15, 7:30 p.m.
SISTERHOOD LUNCHEON	Wednesday, January 17, 11:00 a.m.
RELIGIOUS SERVICES	Friday, January 19, 8:30 p.m.
TENTH GRADE ONEG SHABBAT	Friday, January 19, 9:30 p.m.
BROTHERHOOD BREAKFAST	Sunday, January 21, 9:30 a.m.
BAFTY MEETING	Sunday, January 21, 6:00 p.m.
DINNER FOR TENTH GRADERS	Friday, January 26, 5:30 p.m.
RELIGIOUS SERVICES	Friday, January 26, 8:30 p.m.
BETH AM SINGLES GENERAL MEETING	Sunday, January 28, 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 7:30 p.m.

Rabbi Altman

'The Princess And The Curse'

Kiddush to be performed by
Jonathan Serbin, Stewart Liebling
Donald Baker

RELIGIOUS SERVICES



Class 2A of the Hebrew School
will participate in the service

The Beth Americans, The Troubadours
and The Young Adult Boys Choir
will sing

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 11:15 a.m.

TORAH SERVICE



Individualism or Mob Psychology?

(An excerpt from his sermon, "Where Is the Truth")

None of us, for example, would attempt to buy an expensive ring advertised as a diamond, just for the sake of gaining some experience in buying diamonds. We would, of course, involve a teacher, an expert in diamonds, and have him evaluate the ring. Few of us would pay a large amount of money for a work of art, unless we first had the picture evaluated by one educated in art. The analogy becomes more precise when we talk about medical knowledge or about something as technical as flying an airplane. None of us can possibly develop within himself an expertise in more than a few areas of life, because there is so much to know, and the possibilities for knowledge are so vast. Nonetheless, an increasing number of Americans are saying things like, "I don't really care what the expert thinks about this diamond or this picture or about the problem of pre-marital sex. I like it--that's the only thing that counts." For large numbers of young people, this seemingly individualistic position is only an artificial pose. Actually, most young people prefer to do what other young people do, what the mob does, and there is very little individualistic choice involved in most of the things they do.

The practical result of the new youth mob psychology is that many of our young people stop their learning process too soon, and they settle down with the mob to do whatever is popular at the time. This is why anyone who can play a guitar can sell a million records of his song, whether it is musical or not, but the Boston Symphony Orchestra goes begging. It would seem that, for too many of our youngsters, the heroic search for the new reality is really the old search for acceptance among one's peers, and the search gets bogged down at the lowest common denominator.

Adults Have Much to Learn

Now, there is a danger for us adults as we study what is happening to our young. The danger is that we will think that our children are a great deal different from ourselves. The fact is that most of us have settled down in another bog, and what we present to our children as the truth is hardly more profound than what they are saying to us. When one talks about truth, the only intelligent mood is one of humility. The very word our fathers used for truth, "emet," is instructive in this regard. Emet is made up of three Hebrew letters. "Aleph" is the first letter in the alphabet, "mem" is the middle letter in the alphabet, and "tov" is the last letter in the alphabet. The truth, then, is the beginning, the end, and all that comes in between. The truth, our fathers knew, contains the old, the new, and the yet to be discovered. Since we in Reform Judaism believe that the past is important but not inviolable, we certainly do not wish to discourage the searchers for the new reality, but we do think they should proceed with a little humility, and that must include some reverence for the past.

Jews, almost by definition, have challenged the sacred cows or the sacred elephants of society in many lands, so we certainly know the value of healthy dissent. Our society in America has huge problems, and we are in need of brave critics, but we need critics who can give valid comments precisely because they have become expertise in the subject matter and know more about the subject than others.

Joan's Gems

By JOAN SCHWARTZMAN

Get well wishes to Carol Lubow, Bob Garvette, Carol Clein, and Ethel Spiegel. . . . Did you read the wonderful article in the Miami Herald on December 11 about the Tapestry that is being created by a team of Beth Amites and their talented friends? The needlepoint work develops the theme of the story of David. The tapestry is being made in sections so that various women could take it home and work on it. These sections, depicting the various stories of David and the prophet, Nathan, will be placed together shortly and will be displayed in our Temple lobby.

Congratulations to Paul, son of Millard and Betty Suid, who was selected as a member of National Honor Society at Southwest Senior High. . . . The second regional meeting of the National Association of Jewish Libraries recently met in Miami under the chairmanship of our own Mrs. Margot Berman, librarian of Temple Beth Am, and organizer of this national association. The librarians devoted the major portion of these meetings to the topic of systems of library classification and examined the relationship of the Dewey system and the Library of Congress system to Jewish holdings.

Congratulations to Harold Malin, who was recently elected to serve on the executive board of the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods at its recent convention in Kansas City. . . . Your reporter has been told of a very worthwhile organization called the Park West Cancer Aides. The ladies of this group collect old sheets and cases and use them for much needed home patients. They use every useable piece of cloth for their worthwhile project and all mail and telephone calls will be cheerfully received by Mildred Brams at 238-5979, Fan Parmit at 233-1134.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30
11:15 a.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5
7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6
11:15 a.m.

B'nai Mitzvah



Paul, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Ellins



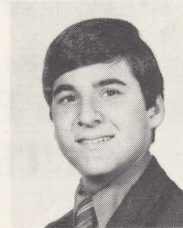
Steven, son of
Dr. and Mrs. Bernard Silverstein



Sherri, daughter of
Mr. and Mrs.
Murray Birchansky



Robert, son of
Mr. and Mrs. David Block



Geoffrey, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Julian Pearson