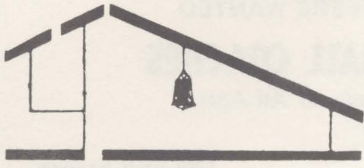


OCTOBER 31, 1975
MIAMI, FLORIDA



Beth Am COMMENTATOR

Night In Israel Features Israeli Program December 6 For Israel Bonds

It will be a night to remember when our 1975 version of "A Night In Israel" highlights our winter calendar of events, Saturday evening, December 6, according to Fred Stone, this year's chairman.

Stone announced that once again the Temple will be turned into a kibbutz featuring a special Israel gourmet supper, wine, cocktails, slide show, and Israeli songfest.

PHILIP AND MURIEL REVITZ HONORED

Rabbi Herbert M. Baumgard said that this year special honors will be paid to two of our most distinguished congregants by the State of Israel, who has designated Philip and Muriel Revitz to receive the highly coveted David Ben-Gurion award for their dedication and devotion on behalf of their brethren in the Middle East.

Stone said, "That this year we hope that the entire congregation will join us for an evening of fun and purpose, a chance to enjoy part of our heritage and to provide life-building, life-giving pledges to advance Israel's progress and welfare through the economic development programs made possible with the aid of State of Israel bonds."

Basketball Registration Closes Nov. 1

The pre-season basketball has had great success participation. Teams for regular season will be organized the first week in November, 1975. Therefore, final registration is Saturday, November 1, in the gym. Fourth and fifth grades register at 1:30 p.m. Sixth and seventh grades register at 2:30 p.m. Eighth grade and up register at 3:30 p.m. There will be no late registration this year.

Confirmation For Adults Planned

If you've never been confirmed, here's your chance! There is a new adult confirmation program designed to get you involved in all areas of Jewish study, a truly exciting program that combines adult courses with private study under rabbinic supervision and leads to a solid understanding of Jewish history, literature, and thought. If you would like to enroll, contact Rabbi Chefitz.

Those who complete the program will have made a significant accomplishment, and this will be recognized in a special confirmation service.

Jewish Book Month Starts October 31

Jewish Book Month begins on October 31. This year's theme is the Jewish Book in America: A Bicentennial Celebration. The library will have a series of book displays during this time period. The exhibits will be a celebration of the contributions of the Jewish people to the history and culture of the United States from colonial times to the present.

The first week's display will deal with books on exploration, immigration, and history beginning with Columbus and ending at the beginning of the 20th century.

Gulf Oil! Finances Arab Propaganda In U. S.

During testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee subcommittee investigating political contributions and bribery by American companies operating overseas, the chairman of Gulf Oil acknowledged a \$50,000 contribution to a Beirut group. The purpose was to launch a "public relations" campaign in American newspapers and T.V. to make the Arab position better understood in the U.S.

The Conference of Presidents of major Jewish organizations is on record approving and endorsing acts of conscience taken by individual members in reaction to Gulf's subsidy of anti-Israel venom. Members who wish to can make "... their views known either by writing to the Gulf Oil Corporation, by ceasing to purchase Gulf products, or by turning in Gulf credit cards."

This is a matter of individual conscience and decision. However, those desirous of joining a group sending in credit cards can mail them--completely cut up--to the Social Action Committee, Temple Beth Am, 5950 N. Kendall Drive, before November 15. Enclosed with the card should be a slip containing the name of the cardholder and the Gulf account number from the card. Please do not send uncut cards through the mail.

A large batch of shredded cards will then be forwarded to Gulf Oil with a note indicating severe disapproval of their Arab propaganda subsidy.

RABBI BAUMGARD

'World Overpopulation Threat To Jewish Survival'



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31
8:30 p.m.

**RELIGIOUS
SERVICES**

Henry LeClair
Cantorial Soloist

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1
11:15 a.m.

TORAH SERVICE

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NOTICE — There will be no Religious School on Saturday and Sunday, November 1 and 2. There will be no Hebrew School on Wednesday, November 5.

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK



Is God "Omnipotent?"

The word "omnipotent" means "all-powerful." In the popular mind, it has come to imply, when applied to God, that He causes everything that happens. Specifically, God is thought by the traditional advocates of this concept to be responsible for deciding which plane shall crash and which baby shall be born healthy or unhealthy. If "omnipotence" implies all this, then, I do not believe that God is omnipotent.

I do believe that God is powerful. I believe that He is more powerful than many traditionalists believe Him to be. I believe that His power is beyond our understanding, for how can we comprehend the power behind the origin of the galaxies? How can we comprehend the Creator of the atom in all of its complexity and precision? God has indescribable power, but He is not omnipotent, in the technical sense.

He is not omnipotent, in my view, because accident is possible within this magnificent universe. A thousand babies are born, and 999 are healthy (with an assist not only from God, but from the practitioners of modern medicine, who are His agents). God is responsible for the process of birth and procreation. It is an unbelievably complex and miraculous process. Nonetheless, things can go wrong, even with this almost sure process. The world is not perfect. God's power is beyond our comprehension, but it is not perfect.

Some people think that if God is not perfect, that He is not God, for, to their mind a god must be perfect. Why? Isn't it enough that God's ability is magnificent beyond our comprehension? Surely, we would prefer that He be perfect (perhaps, that is His aim and hope), but God is not merely the projection of our wishes. He is what He is.

Does God cause some to have cancer and not others? I trust not. The perplexity of the doctor and surgeon before cancer (they are doing better all the time) is just a pale imitation, in my opinion, of God's frustration before this deviation from health. He does not choose suffering for any of us.

What does God do when a good person dies too young? I do not believe that God is beyond suffering Himself. I think He cries with us. The imperfection of this grand universe is His suffering. When sadness visits us, we are not alone. The Maker of the Universe is at our side.

What is left when we lose a loved one? Only the universe and its Creative Spirit. Only the millions of opportunities to grow and to experience happiness. We cannot mourn overmuch for the imperfections. We have to grasp the near perfection that abounds all around us.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED BASKETBALL COACHES

For Teams of All Ages

For Temple
Youth Program

Call Dan Franco
235-2773

Is Florida State The College Of Your Choice?

All students looking at Florida State University in Tallahassee as the college of your choice are invited to write to Ann Lesser, P.O. Box U3481, FSU, Tallahassee, Florida 32313.

The FSU B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation will house your visit to the campus and will provide guides for your tour of the campus.

You can call Ann Lesser (Room 412) or Wendy Breezin (Room 511) at 904-222-5154 for details. Call person to person as this is a switchboard phone. Call Ann first and then Wendy.

NOVEMBER HIGH SCHOOL QUINMESTER IN ISRAEL

High School in Israel announces a new, low price of \$1,040 for November, 1975 Quin only. Through special arrangements with the airlines and a generous subsidy from the Greater Miami Jewish Federation, the successful experience of a quinmester in Israel for high school students is now available at an all time low. The price for January and following quins will be more.

For further information, please contact the High School in Israel office at 576-4000 (ext. 302), or write 4200 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami.

Joan's Gems

By JOAN SCHWARTZMAN

Congratulations upon the marriage of Ronald, son of Phil and Muriel Revitz, to Kathy Young. . . . Congrats to David Saltzman upon his marriage to Ellen Colbert and to Linda Buchbinder to Seth Werneron, and Dr. Sidney and Florence Fox upon the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Sherry, to Harry Speizer.

We urge all members to call the Temple news so that we can publish your good happenings with our congregation. We don't know unless you tell us! . . . We are delighted to hear that Michael Darlow is recovering quite well after recent major surgery. . . . Congratulations to George Mover, who is a vice president of American Society for Technion, and J. Arthur Goldberg, who is the executive vice president of the Council for International Visitors.

B'nai

Mitzvah

Saturday
November 1
11:15 a.m.



Robert, son of
Dr. and Mrs. William Cooper
Alan, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Ira Segal

