



Beth Am Commentator

February 10, 1978

Miami, Florida

Rabbi Mitchell Chefitz

"ON BECOMING A REFORM HASID"

Friday, February 10, 8:30 p.m., RELIGIOUS SERVICE

Saturday, February 11, 9:15, 11:15 a.m., TORAH SERVICE

Commissioner Shack Discusses Dade February 15 At Sisterhood Brunch

Controversial County Commissioner Ruth Shack will be feature speaker at the upcoming Sisterhood brunch, to be held Wednesday, February 15, at 9:30 a.m., in the Social Hall. Elected a county commissioner in 1976, Ms. Shack brings to her first term on the commission expertise in urban government, tax problems and planning gained through many years of civic activity and graduate training. Her topic on Wednesday will be "Dade County At The Crossroads."

Ms. Shack acquired active knowledge of how to coordinate federal, state and local government activity through her work as administrative assistant to Dade County School Board member Phyllis Miller and a chairperson of the education committee of Third Century U.S.A., the Greater Miami Bicentennial planning organization. She is past president and has been active in several parent-teacher-student associations and was a member of the county's youth planning council.

Ms. Shack is well known for her efforts on behalf of minorities and women, including her recent forthright stand on gay rights, and through her work for FIU, Girl Scouts and the YWCA. Active in human and women's rights for many years, Ms. Shack is a member of the American Association of University Women and FIU's Institute For Women. She was chairperson and convener of Dade County's women's political caucus, and is a veteran member of the League of Women Voters.

Everyone is invited to hear Ms. Shack speak on "Dade County At The Crossroads." Please call in reservations to Rhoda Bernheimer at the Temple office, 667-5587, or Sandy Cook at 595-5980.

Mitzvah Luncheon Benefits Children Of Religious, Day, Hebrew Schools

Sisterhood has planned an elegant Mitzvah Luncheon, Wednesday, March 1, 11:30 a.m., at the Kings Bay Country Club, to honor our children in the Beth Am schools, Religious, Day, and Hebrew.

Called the Mitzvah Luncheon because it is a blessing to attend on behalf of the children, proceeds from the luncheon will provide equipment to be used by all the schools.

Michele Levin Katz, concert pianist and winner of the Bach International Piano Competition, will be the guest artist. A widely acclaimed virtuoso, Michele has played with such orchestras as the Philadelphia Symphony, the Boston Pops and the Miami Philharmonic. We are not only delighted to have Michele play for the luncheon, but are proud to say she and her family are Temple members.

Chairman Esther Kessler and her co-chairman Selma Rappaport have selected a most delectable menu of many courses. The decorations and invitations are cued to the theme of the concert and the children.

The arrangements committee is composed of women representing all three schools. Benefit our children and enjoy the concert by attending the Mitzvah Luncheon as a Patron, \$15, an Angel, \$25, or a Philanthropist, \$50. Guests are most welcome. Reserve now by returning the card in your invitation.

Havurah Bowl--1978

Sunday afternoon, January 22, the Sunday after the Super Bowl, a happening took place on the playing fields of Beth Am!

Eight Havurot descended with banners held high, picnic lunches in hand. There were the myriad children of Havurot Mishpahat Ahavah, Simcha, Hemda and Shalom Bayit, the unfurled sheet of B'raishet, the furrowed brows and cramped muscles of Ahat, Atz Haim and Rambam.

After all paid their due to the Colonel, King Burger and other notable edibles, there was a parade, an unusual parade. Everybody marched, except David Stuart, who stood in the middle and watched Stan Mintz sound the bugle to begin the tour of the crisp blue T-shirts of Shalom Bayit, the yellow tie-died shirts of Hemda and Mishpahat Ahavah's banner that stretched 15 children long.

And then, contests of might. Havurah against Havurah with moments of great personal achievement. Ira Pozen was the unmovable anchor in the tug-of-war. Wally Chefitz punted the football an olympic distance. Rear ends that shall go nameless collided with balloons. Soccer balls and volley balls whistled through the air. All afternoon, these contests continued, until all that was left was exhaustion, satisfaction, the awarding of trophies, and a resolution to do something similar soon.



Israel



FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

The Buffer Zones

The following is an excerpt from the High Holiday sermon entitled "The Coming Squeeze on Israel." In spite of Sadat's peace overture, the remarks seem to be as pertinent as ever.

Last, but not least, there is always the question, "If Israel will not take back the refugees, why doesn't Israel, at the very least, give back the conquered lands?" The question includes a reference to those buffer zones which Israel has established between itself and Syria, Jordan and Egypt, those peace-seeking nations that have three times in the last 30 years tried to push Israel into the sea. To this question--why doesn't Israel give back the conquered lands--we might counter with a question like this, "Why doesn't America give Texas back to Mexico?" We Americans took that territory, you know, by force of arms, not because Mexico invaded America, but because the Americans who settled in Mexican Texas did not want to leave when the Mexicans asked them to. Since Mexico was not the aggressor in that war, Mexico is in a much better position to demand Texas than the Arabs are to demand the buffer zones, created by Israel to hold off Arab attacks.

Or consider, for example, the 13 American colonies themselves. The colonies were the property of Great Britain, having been purchased and settled by that nation, but the people who settled in these British colonies were not averse, for cause, to stealing those colonies for themselves. Now, if Britain were to demand her 13 states back, do you think America would return them for the sake of peace or anything else?

The Soviet Union has spoken louder than anyone else in demanding that "Nazi-like" Israel return the buffer zones to the Arabs. We might well ask the Soviet Union, "Are you prepared to give Poland back to the Poles? Are you prepared to give Czechoslovakia back to its own people? Are you prepared to return Hungary and Romania?" Why does tiny Israel have to be the only nation in the world that is forced to return a few miles of land which enables it to defend itself against a number of nations dedicated to its destruction?

It should be easy for any objective person to see that none of these questions put to Israel and to Jews around the world are really just questions. They are actually accusations based on judgments that circumvent the facts. We can depend on the Arabs to increase the pressure of their propaganda in this direction as America becomes the more dependent on Arab oil. We can depend upon American politicians and diplomats to increase the pressure on Israel and on American Jews to give in to the Arabs so that America can receive all the oil it needs. Already, I have had Jews come up to me and say, "Rabbi, can't you influence Israel to do what Carter wants, so that Americans won't be angry at the Jews?" I answer this question with a question. I ask, "Are you, Mr. Comfortable American, prepared to go to Israel to fight when the PLO crosses the few miles from the West Bank to the Mediterranean Sea?" Anyone who has been to Israel knows that Israel, including the West Bank, the buffer zone between Israel and Jordan, is just a few miles wide and can be crossed by car in an hour or so. Only recently, the PLO bombed the city of Safed from Lebanon to well within the Israeli border. We, sitting here in our arm chairs, can hardly imagine what we are asking the Israelis to do in considering the return of the West Bank. I, for one, would not return the West Bank if I were the Israelis, not if I wanted my children to sleep peacefully at night.

We Jews in America are going to endure some discomfiture in the years ahead because of the problem between Israel and the Arabs, but our problems are as nothing compared to theirs. We don't have to face the realith of Arab bombs, tanks, and terrorists.

Notify Your College Student

Rabbi Baumgard Will Be In

GAINESVILLE

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

For Sunday Brunch, February 12, at Noon

The New Holiday Inn (formerly Flagler Inn)

1250 W. University Ave. and 13th Street

AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE CONFERENCES BEFORE AND AFTER BRUNCH-RAP SESSION

HELP NEEDED: CAKE SERVERS, TEA POURERS

A committee of hosts and hostesses is being formed to help at the Friday night Oneg Shabbats. If you would like to be on this committee and help out either on a regular basis or even on a very occasional basis (once or twice a year), please call in and join the newly forming Oneg committee. A meeting will be held for the new Oneg committee and dates will be assigned and tasks allocated. Needed are people to serve cake, coffee, tea, welcome guests, etc., etc. Serving at the Oneg, you have a chance to renew old friendships and meet lots of new people. Call in your name to Rhoda Bernheimer in the Temple office, 667-5587.

JOAN'S GEMS

By JOAN SCHWARTZMAN

Good news from the Phil Kaplan household! Phil and Mickey are happy to share the news that their daughter, Dale Kaplan Stein, has entered veterinary school at the University of Florida. . . . Did you know that our fine artists, Ronnie Greenstein and Nancy Greenberg, had their works on display at the Round the World Fair Fine Art Show from January 18 through 25 at the Museum of Science? . . . Mazel tov to Joanne and Bob Bender upon the recent marriage of their daughter, Stefanie, to James Hartin. . . . Mazel tov to Col. Arthur and Frances Conn who have become grandparents for the first time. Byron Mark was born to their son and daughter-in-law, David and Susan Conn.

B'nai Mitzvah

Saturday, February 11

9:15 a.m.

11:15 a.m.



Bennett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Golburgh



Hope, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Tieman



Robert, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Ruwitch



Andrew, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Young