



# **beth am commentator**

February 16, 1979

Miami, Florida

Dr. Helen Fagin  
 "SPIRITUAL RESISTANCE TO THE NAZIS"  
 Friday, February 16th, 8:30 p.m., RELIGIOUS SERVICE  
 Saturday, February 17th, 11:15 a.m., TORAH SERVICE

## **Nominations for Officers and Directors**

The Nominating Committee of the Temple will meet on Wednesday, February 28th, to consider candidates for our Officers and the Board of Directors for the 1979/80 Fiscal Year. Temple members are invited to submit recommendations to the Nominating Committee prior to the above meeting date. Submit your recommendations in writing to the Chairman of the Committee through the Temple office. The Chairman of the Nominating Committee is Bernard Goodman, our immediate Past President. Other members of the Committee are William Sanes and Barton Udell, both Past Presidents, our current President, Sam Steen and Executive Vice-President, Dr. William Silver. In addition, the Presidents of Sisterhood and Brotherhood, Sandi Simon and Bob Fried, also serve on the Nominating Committee.

## **PASSOVER CANDY SALE SPONSORED BY RELIGIOUS SCHOOL**

The Religious School is running the annual Passover Candy Sale during the month of February. The students will be selling Barton's, the top of the line. All profits from the Sale will go to the Combined Jewish Appeal of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation.

Please support this great Tzedakah project of the Religious School by purchasing Barton's Passover Candy from one of our students. The sale will officially end on Sunday, Feb. 25, and the candy will be delivered to our customers after March 25—about two weeks before Passover. When purchasing, make checks payable to Temple Beth Am - Keren Ami.

## **Brotherhood - Sisterhood An Evening at Miami Jai-Alai Wednesday, March 21 6:00 p.m. Sharp**

Donation—\$31.00 per couple, COMPLETE

Includes sumptuous roast prime rib dinner, \$3.00 reserved seat, program and lots of fun. Bus transportation provided from Temple parking lot. Busses will leave promptly at 5:15 P.M. Available solely to members of Brotherhood and Sisterhood. Members of both, deduct \$1.00.

**ACT NOW! STRICTLY LIMITED TO 200!**

Fully paid reservations must be received by Monday, March 12. For information call Bob Fried, 595-5050, 253-1687.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER: BROTHERHOOD  SISTERHOOD  BOTH   
 BUS TRANSPORTATION YES  NO

Check Payable To: Temple Beth Am Brotherhood and Mail to Robert Fried, 9000 S.W. 87 Court, Suite 210, Miami, Florida 33176



## **Dr. Helen Fagin, Speaks At Friday Night Service February 16th, 8:30 PM**

More and more evidence is reaching us of the way in which Jews tried to resist Hitler's murderers. Dr. Helen Fagin, Director of the Department of Jewish Studies, University of Miami, was a holocaust victim herself, and has become one of the nation's authorities on the subject. She will speak at Beth Am on Friday nite, February 16th, at 8:30 P.M. on the subject, "Spiritual Resistance to the Nazis." She will tell us some of the things the Jews did in their effort to oppose their pursuers.

## **HAVURAH RETREAT, SATURDAY, FEB. 17 PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN**

Last year it was the Havurah Bowl, this year the Havurah Retreat! Our annual get-together for all Beth Amites involved in or interested in Havurah will be held Saturday, February 17th, at the Temple Israel Retreat Center, 25001 SW 167 Ave. in Homestead.

The two track program will begin with a picnic lunch and then continue with study and discussion groups on one hand, and athletic contests and games on the other. There will be an afternoon Torah service for everybody, a Bar-B-Q dinner and campfire. There will be something for all ages, from infant on up.

Havurah members should already have registered. If you are late, call the office and let us know you are coming. If you are not yet a member of a Havurah, but would like to attend, speak with Rabbi Chefitz, Evelyn Goodman or Marcia Reisman. All are welcome! There will be a modest fee to cover expenses.

## **"BETH AM SINGLES GROUP" MEETS AT BETH AM FEB. 18TH**

Beth Am Singles, the Temple group for singles over forty, will meet at the Temple Youth Lounge on Sunday, Feb. 18th, at 8:00 p.m. Rabbi Baumgard will be the guest speaker, and dancing and refreshments will follow. Members are invited free, and there will be a nominal charge of \$1 for guests. For further information, call 944-5324 or 274-9069.

**Purim Carnival  
Sunday, March 11th  
11 AM to 3:00 PM  
At The Temple  
Rides, Games, Food,  
Costumes, Relay Races  
Volunteers Needed:  
Call Cathy Revitz 233-6442**



Israel



From the Rabbi's Study

### BACKLASH CONCERNING ISRAEL AND THE JEWS

My mother always taught me, "Don't wait until the problem strikes. Prepare for it." The history of the Jew teaches him, "Anticipate the flow of events or be its' victim." From the various positions in which I stand in community life, I sense a very real change in the attitude of the local and world community concerning Israel in particular and the Jewish people in general. We are in for some bad times.

The alarmists among us will say, "Prepare for a pogrom." I am not thinking pogrom for American Jews (for the Iranian Jews, that is a distinct possibility). I am thinking about growing anti-Semitism at home, enough to make us uncomfortable, and a growing abandonment of Israel by the world community, especially by the United States. I do not expect these things to explode in a rush. They are coming gradually.

Why do I feel this way? On the international scene, the reason is obvious. Iran, which has been a sort of neutral in the mid-east situation, seems on its way to becoming the spark plug in a new wave of anti-Israel, anti-Jewish feeling. The Jews have been in Iran much longer than the Arabs. They were taken into exile in large numbers by the Babylonians in 586 BCE, and since then, have had a vital community there (Iraq). The official Talmud, used by Jews, for two thousand years, is a product of the Jewish community of Babylonia. Many of these Jews of the Babylonian exile settled in what is now Iran, and with the Persian conquest of Babylonia, still more Jews settled a thousand years later. For Arabs to speak of ousting Jews in Iran is a perversion of history. Nonetheless, there is talk circulating in Iran which reminds us of Nazi propaganda. Do you know who, the story goes, is the real villain forcing the Iranian soldiers to shoot at the mob? It is the Israeli soldiers who have captured the leadership of the Iranian army and who are compelling the poor Iranian soldiers to kill their own citizens! In this way is the minority made the scapegoat for the problems of the larger community. More and more Iranians today are blaming the Jews for their problems, and Khomeini speaks of cutting the hands off the Americans and making holy war on Israel. (You see the combination is American-Jew). It is my fear that Iranian hatred, newly aroused, will intensify feeling amongst Arab nations which have come to some kind of acceptance of Israel. It is even possible that Israel-Egypt moves towards peace will be completely sabotaged. There is a slight hope that Khomeini will be held off and a more moderate regime will hold power in Iran. The victory of the moderates will be a great boon to the Jews and to Israel.

What's happening here at home? In America the dependency on foreign oil is increasing. Stand at any intersection, count the cars, and then try to see how Israel's plight can possibly affect American foreign policy over the long run. Since America is doing nothing about its energy problem, it must, perforce, become more and more dependent on Arab nations, and progressively our foreign policy will reflect the desires of the Arabs. As American foreign policy turns and as American Jews and Israel buck this policy, the status of the Jew in America will change. There are only two ways for us to go. We can try to hide, as some Jews have tried to do down through human history, thus winning the contempt of our enemies, or we can try to become strongly Jewish, deepening our understanding of what it means to be a Jew, and living out our faith more strongly than ever. History demonstrates that only the Jew who understands and lives out his faith bucks the waves of events with dignity and effectiveness. It is only this kind of Jew who, in the end, survives. All lukewarm Jews, all ignorant Jews, all disassociated Jews will be swept away with the waves when they come.

*Continued in column alongside*

## CULTS AND MISSIONARY MOVEMENTS COURSE BEGINS WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21

We did not need the horrors of Jonestown to make us aware of the extraordinary danger to our families and especially to our children represented by various cults and missionary movements, many of which have active organizations here in Miami. But now after Jonestown, it would be utterly irresponsible not to make ourselves more aware of the danger, and to take appropriate measures to be certain that our own families are not affected.

For this reason we have asked Gary Eisenberg to teach his course on cults and missionary movements as a part of our Adult Jewish Studies program at Beth Am. Mr. Eisenberg, in his counseling practice, has worked with families of cult members and cult members themselves.

The course is offered on four Wednesday evenings beginning February 21, 8:00-10:00 in Room 25. There is no fee. Call the Temple office to register.

## SUMMER PROGRAM STARTS JUNE 18

### Beth Americans Sing at Science Fair

On February 2, 1979, at 3:00 p.m., the Beth Americans from Temple Beth Am in South Miami, sang in concert at the Museum of Science Fair at Tropical Park. This was the tenth year of concerts for the group made up of sixty elementary school students from the religious and day schools of Temple Beth Am. Musical director of the group is Harriet Potlock.

The Beth Americans, in their blue and white uniforms sang "Rise and Shine," "Blowing in the Wind," "Ma Yafeh Hayom" and other contemporary songs of Israel and America. Soloists for this performance were Jeff Bonilla, Jeffrey Hellinger, Alison Ayres, Mitchell Weiner, Ann Cohen, Jill Kaufman, Debra Kline, Wendy Segal, Andy Reisman, David Smith and Andrew Chakoff. Michael Hellinger is guitarist for the group and Michael Goodman is the announcer.

The Beth Americans have already sung this year at two Temple functions. They rehearse weekly during the school year. Admission to the group is by audition. Only a small percentage of those who try out are chosen.

### B'Nai Mitzvah

Saturday, February 17  
11:15 a.m.



Cindy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Stein



Robin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Wildstein

It is time to move closer to your Jewish community. It is time to move closer to your Jewish institutions, to open your Jewish books, to attend services more regularly, to bring your children in closer, to instruct them more clearly about the destiny of being Jewish, to increase your determination that our cause is worth a few sacrifices and some clear planning.

To be casually Jewish in the times that are looming in front of us will be an impossibility.