



beth am **commentator**

May 25, 1979

Miami, Florida

Rabbi Mitchell Chefitz
 "THE NUMBERS GAME"

Friday, May 25, 1979, 8:30 p.m., RELIGIOUS SERVICE
 Saturday, May 26, 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m., TORAH SERVICE

Register Now For Summer Camp

Registration for the summer program at Beth Am is moving along very nicely in all age groups. We have more children registered at this time than we had at the same time last year.

Summer program runs for eight weeks, starting on Monday, June 18. There will be full day activities for four to 14 year olds. For three year olds, we have a half-day program. You can send your child for a four week session or for the full eight weeks.

GROUPS FILLING RAPIDLY

The various groups in the program are filling up rapidly. Temple members receive first preference in registration and fees. In an effort to fight inflation, the fees for this year were kept to a minimum. Registration will be open to non-Temple members, on an unrestricted basis, starting June 4. If you want to reserve a space for your child, register now. Call Rhoda Bernheimer in the Temple office, 667-5587, for more information.

Abe Eisenman Elected New Brotherhood President



Abe Eisenman, newly elected President of Beth Am Brotherhood, was born in Wilmington and graduated from the University of Delaware. Abe has served the Brotherhood as both Vice-President and Treasurer and is currently a member of the Temple Board of Directors. He is extremely active in the Jewish War Veterans and is presently Vice-Commander of Dade County. He is also very active in the Dadeland Lions Club and has held many offices in that organization. Abe and his wife, Leah, have been Temple members for over twenty years, and their two sons, Morrie and David were Bar Mitzvah and Confirmed at Beth Am.

Selma Rappaport Elected New Sisterhood President



Selma (Mrs. Leonard) Rappaport, newly elected President of Beth Am Sisterhood, comes from New York City. She is a graduate of Teacher's College, Columbia University, with a degree in Early Childhood Education. She has been a very active member of Sisterhood, chairing many committees, and has served on the Temple Board of Directors. She has been equally active as a volunteer in the community, as a Pink Lady at Baptist Hospital, at the Sunrise School for the Retarded, and as a member of many other charitable organizations. Selma and Leonard have been members of Beth Am for almost fifteen years, and their three children, Eric, Andrew and Linda, have gone through the Beth Am schools.

Linda Finkelstein Elected President of BAFTY

BAFTY held elections on May 7th for the 1979-80 school year. I am pleased to announce the following newly-elected officers:

President - Linda Finkelstein
Vice-President - Ondine Schulemson
Treasurer - Matthew Silverstein
Secretary - Aviva Kurash
Religious Vice-President - Karen Cohen
Program Vice-President - Susan Bolotin
Service Vice-President - Sherry Serbin
Fund Raising Chairperson - Jay Freedman
Senior Advisor - Michael Levinson

I wish to thank those young people who contributed their efforts during the past year in the various BAFTY activities and to congratulate the officers that have just been elected.

Noel King, Youth Advisor

Religious and Hebrew Schools Teacher Openings

Teachers for the weekend Religious School and the midweek Hebrew School are being sought for positions beginning in September 1979. Call Rabbi Davidow at the Temple (666-2536) to obtain an application and to arrange an appointment for an interview.



The Committee of 100

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REJOIN FOR '79-'80

In a show of support, the following member families have rejoined The Committee of 100 for the new fiscal year which starts July 1, 1979. It is only through the generosity of members like these that Beth Am can continue its many programs for congregants of all ages and economic strata. They deserve our thanks.

Irwin and Helene Adler

Dr. Morton and Evelyn Axler

Jerome and Gwen Berlin

Harold and June Brown

Seymour and Elaine Cohen

Dr. Harold and Nanci Deutsch

Leonard and Rita Deutsch

Elliot and Jeanne Dinnerstein

Howard and Dolores Engel

Dr. Sidney and Florence Fox

Harold and Jill Gaffin

Charles and Daliah Gans

Stanley and Roberta Gilbert

Joseph and Ruth Gittleman

Sam and Anne Gold

Dr. Karl and Madelon Green

Dr. Gerald and Paula Greenwald

Monroe and Muriel Hattenbach

Dr. Charles and Kathryn Kram

Dr. Stephen and Dale Kulvin

Marshall and Barbara Langer

Alfred and Jean Liebert

Jay and Ruth Leshaw

Mrs. George Light

Norman and Nancy Lipoff

Laurans and Arlene Mendelson

Peter and Yiska Moser

Steven and Bonnie Opler

Drs. Kenneth and Judith Ratzan

Dr. Sigmund and Elaine Rosen

Jerold and Helen Schwarz

Norton and Teddi Segal

Martin and Elaine Shane

Dr. William and Marcia Silver

Charles and Sandra Simon

Dr. Gilbert and Natalie Snyder

Sanford and Betty Susman

Dr. Wayne and Linda Tobin

Edward and Beryl Waronker

Michael and Judith Wexler



FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

THOUGHTS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF PRAYER

In my father's traditional shul there was always plenty of noise, not when the service was in process, of course, but in the frequent brief interludes when the direction of the service would change. Nonetheless, I have never been able to accept calmly the noise that is found in most synagogues before a service begins. I have always felt that one prays best to God in an atmosphere in which casual thoughts and pursuits have been filtered out. The Talmudic Rabbis make it clear to us that before one begins to pray, one should prepare himself for the praying; that is, one should fix his thoughts on God and separate out thoughts of the mundane. Many of the great spiritual geniuses have taught that real prayer is not possible without the all important preparation for prayer.

It seems logical to assume that in the minutes and moments when one prepares himself for the possibility of prayer, he has to extricate himself from his self-oriented concerns and try to think of what it is God wants him to do. Most people find it impossible to pray because they think of prayer in precisely the opposite way. For most of us, praying is requesting of God the satisfaction of our immediate needs. The deeper prayer seems to be asking God, "What do You want me to do?"

The late Rabbi Abraham Heschel has given us a beautiful insight into the meaning of prayer and specifically the function of prayer in the Temple. Dr. Heschel wrote: "What does a person expect to attain when entering a Temple? In the pursuit of learning one goes to a library. For esthetic enrichment one goes to the art museum; for pure music, to the concert hall. What then the purpose of going to the Temple?"

"Many are the facilities which help us to acquire the important world virtues, skills and techniques. But where should one learn about the insights of the spirit? Many are the opportunities for public speech; where are the occasions for inner silence? It is easy to find people who will teach us how to be eloquent; but who will teach us how to be still? It is surely important to develop a sense of humor; but is it now also important to have a sense of reverence?"

"Where should one learn the eternal wisdom of compassion? The fear of being cruel? The danger of being callous? Where should one learn that the greatest truth is found in contribution? Important and precious as the development of our intellectual faculties is, the cultivation of a sensitive conscience is indispensable. We are all in danger of sinking into the darkness of vanity; we are all involved in worshipping our own egos. Where should we become sensitive to the pitfalls of cleverness, or to the realization that expedience is not the acme of wisdom?"

"We are constantly in need of experiencing moments in which the spiritual is as relevant and as concrete, for example, as the esthetic. Everyone has a sense of beauty; everyone is capable of distinguishing between the beautiful and the ugly. But we must learn to be sensitive to the spirit. It is in the Temple where we must try to acquire such inwardness, such sensitivity."

(To Be Continued)

Summer Program Starts In Four Weeks



Sisterhood Helps Reform Kibbutz in Israel

The Beth Am Sisterhood has presented a gift for this year of \$1,000 to the Reform Kibbutz in Israel known as Kibbutz Yahel. Started several years ago with young people dedicated to the development of liberal Judaism in Israel, the kibbutz is located deep in the negev in very warm climate. It grows vegetables at those times of the year when they cannot be grown in cooler sections of Israel.

In spite of the fact that temperatures soar well over 100 degrees in the daytime, the young people have done so well that they are starting a second section of the kibbutz.

Reform congregational sisterhoods around the country have dedicated part of their fund-raising to the kibbutz. Sisterhood also helps the school for deprived children at Bet Shemen. Join Sisterhood and help in these and other wonderful projects.

Joan's Gems By Joan Schwartzman

Much good news from Jack and Miriam Schenkman. Daughter-in-law Randy will graduate from the University of Miami School of Medicine in June and will do her residency in radiology at Mt. Sinai Hospital. Her husband Joel is an orthopedic surgeon at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Son Michael will graduate from the school of dentistry at Emory University in June and will begin his practice in Miami. Mazel to all..... Congrats to Dick Fishman who has just been appointed Vice President at Oppenheimer and Co. in Coconut Grove..... Mazel to Mindi, daughter of Bob and Joanne Bender who has received her Masters in Special Education - Learning Disabilities at Florida State University. Mindi graduated cum laude.....

Advertisement for B'Nai Mitzvah featuring three Stars of David at the top, a portrait of Susan, and the text: B'Nai Mitzvah Friday, May 25 8:30 p.m. Susan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Baer

Advertisement for Saturday, May 26 featuring four portraits of children and their names: Ronald, son of Mrs. Dorothy Olster and Mr. Evan Olster; Karen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Walker; Brett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Denny Cohen; Cory, son of Mrs. Marlane Shore and Mr. Martin Shore.

We Give Thanks.....

RABBI'S FUND

Anna Aibel in memory of Peter Cartaun
Helen & Lou Gill in memory of Bertha Wisotsky
Helen & Lou Gill in memory of Albert Wayne
Jack & Ruth Kassewitz in memory of Alice Agid
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Sol & Helene Lanster in memory of the mother of Dr. Irwin Ennis
Sol & Helene Lanster in memory of the mother of Helaine Kipinsky
Sol & Helene Lanster in memory of Janet Miller
Irving & Ida Lax in memory of Esther Lewis
Herman & Shirley Marks in memory of Ray Goldberg
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Shlossman in memory of Albert Zuckman
Jeanne Stapleton in memory of her dear brother Joseph Blumenthal
Edith Suchman in appreciation to Rabbi Chefitz & Diana Elson during her hospitalization
Monroe & Edith Zipp in memory of Herbert Lachower

YAHREZEIT FUND

Mrs. Zulema Bocles in memory of a dear friend, Mrs. Rose Kamerling
Ruth Kraft in memory of Sarah Levy
Pearl Noble in memory of father, Saul Schekman
Dorothy Olster in memory of aunt, Rose Bernstein

LIBRARY FUND

Dr. & Mrs. Alfred Feinglass in memory of Goldie Wasserman
Temple Beth Am Sisterhood in honor of Dorothy Herman's 20 years of service

TEENAGE BUILDING FUND

Sandra & Stanley Levitt in honor of Lori's Bat-Mitzvah

TROUBADORS FUND

Terry & Marcia Reisman in honor of Harriet Potlock

LEARNING CENTER FUND

Dr. Jonathan & Wendy Baumgard in memory of Sam Greenstein
Jean & Lew Gillis in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Stephanie Malin
Sandy & Sammy Goldstein in grateful appreciation to the Rabbis, office staff and staffs of the Day School & Religious School
Evelyn & Roberta Gottlieb in honor of the recent marriage of Mr. & Mrs. Jack Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Roth in honor of the naming of their daughter Shaina Michelle

Jewish Family Service Opens Office on Kendall

Responding to the rapidly growing Jewish population in South Dade, the Jewish Family and Children's Service is opening an office in the Lennar Center, 8905 SW 87th Ave.

Three social workers will be assigned there to provide counseling for families, the aged, children and teenagers.

Last year, the agency, which is part of the Miami Jewish Federation, served 6,188 families in Dade County.

Summer Program Starts Monday, June 18 Priority Registration For Temple Members Until Monday, June 4th

Priority for registration in the Summer Program will end for Temple members June 4th. Many of our groups are practically filled. If you are thinking of registering your child do it now. Call the Temple office 667-5587 and ask for Rhoda. She can give you all the information and can mail you an application. Do it now. Camp starts in less than four weeks.

Fully Supervised Activities

The Beth Am Summer Program provides large athletic fields for baseball, football, soccer and volleyball; an air-conditioned gym for basketball; opportunities for creativity in arts and crafts, dramatics, music and dance; watersports and Red Cross swimming instruction in our fully supervised pool; field trips of all sorts and a Sabbath observance every week. All under a competent and experienced staff specially trained to work with pre-teen youngsters. This is done for 8 weeks, in our full day program from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily.

Half-Day Program for Three Year Olds (Our Half-Day Program May be Used for 4 Year Olds)

This year we are continuing our special half-day program for 3 year olds. Geared and structured for young children who are toilet trained and will be 3 years old by December of 1979.

These groups will be limited to 15 children and will be supervised by a mature, trained counselor from Beth Am Pre-School with the help of an Aide.

The program is designed for the special needs of the pre-school child. Activities will be geared to the developmental level of the child in this age group.

Swimming will be handled on the Temple grounds with periodic sessions at our instructional pool under the supervision of our Water Safety Instructors.

This younger group will meet from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with the time after noon devoted to lunch and light play.

Each child will bring his own lunch with the Temple providing refreshments and snacks.

Troubadour Fund Raising a Success

The first annual roller skating party to help the Troubadours with their expense to Disney World was a huge success. Their goal was \$700.00 and they almost reached their goal. This huge success would not have occurred without the tremendous backing of the Beth Americans and their friends. This will be the fifth year the Troubadours have been invited back to perform over Memorial weekend. Thank you Temple for your support. The Troubadours are the only Jewish group to perform.

“Who has made us Jews different from all other people? Who has allowed us to suffer so terribly till now? It is God that has made us as we are, but it will be God, too, who will raise us up again. If we bear all this suffering now, and if there are still Jews left when it is over, then Jews, instead of being doomed, will be held up as an example. Who knows, it might even be our religion from which the world and all peoples learn good, and for that reason and that reason alone do we suffer now.

From The Diary of Anne Frank”

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Opening Thursday, May 24th, 8:00 p.m.—Refreshments
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GALLERY HOURS

Friday, May 25 Following Services
Saturday, May 26 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Monday, May 28 7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 29 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 30 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 31 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Friday, June 1 Following Services
Saturday, June 2 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Sunday, June 3rd (closing day) 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Single? Widowed? Divorced?

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FRIENDS UNLIMITED (AGE 30 to 55)

Friday, May 25, 1979 (Youth Lounge)

Dr. Susan Scholz, Director of the Womens' Resource and Counselling Center, will be with us to explore the subject: **"Coping With Divorce."** All you men, as well as women, are invited to come and air your views. Refreshments and music afterwards. \$1.00 donation.

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Vahrzeit

MAY 25, 1979

28 IYAR

James Abramson, J. William Baros Sr., Sadie Berger, Sydney Block, Anne Bluestein, Ray Brauston, Dorothy Buccheri, Ida Kamen Ellison, Alexander Elson, Gertrude Feldman, Daniel G. Furman, J. Louis Geller, William Gorsetman, Ben Gross, Olga Gurs, William Harris, Ida Hollub, Ethel Kanov, Sam Katz, Jacob Kowalsky, George Light, Robert Lustgarten, Samuel Margulies, Abraham Menchel, Ruth Meyers, Harry Miller, Jack Lessmann, Morris Parker, Barbara Pinchot, Joseph and Ray Pomerantz, Gertrude Sanders, Sharon Schulman, Bess Janet Schultz, Irene Sommers, Sima Leah Stone, Lillian Tall, Edward Wechsberg, Barry Alan Weisberg, Louis Wilck, Rachel Rebecca Winokur.

In Memoriam

Samuel Walzer
father of
Joseph Walzer

"May his memory be for a blessing"

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