



May 1, 1981

FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE, Friday, May 1, 1981, 7:30 p.m.  
**RABBI STUART G. WEINBLATT**  
 "DESIGNER JEANS AND OTHER SUCH THINGS"  
 SINGLES SHABBATH SERVICE, Friday, May 1, 1981, 9:30 p.m.  
**RABBI MORTON HOFFMAN**  
 In Chapel of Teenage Building  
 TORAH SERVICE, Saturday, May 2nd, 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

# Beth Am Commentator

5950 North Kendall Drive, Miami, Florida 33156 • Telephone: 667-6667

## Beth Am and Israel Bonds to Honor George and Hannah Malin



A "Salute to Israel" and Champagne Breakfast will be held on May 3, 9:45 a.m., in the Temple Beth Am Social Hall to honor George and Hannah Malin. The Malins are slated to receive Israel's City of Peace Award.

According to Al Leibert, Chairman of the event, the Salute to Israel is being held in cooperation with the State of Israel Bonds Organization.

Leibert noted that the Malins have long been active in Jewish communal affairs. Malin is a former Temple Beth Am President, a member of the American Jewish Committee and has been a dedicated worker for Israel Bonds and the Greater Miami Jewish Federation. He has served on the G.M.J.F., Big Gifts Committee.

Mrs. Malin was President of the Temple Beth Am Sisterhood and has been active with Hadassah and Technion. She is a life member of the Lorber Chapter, Jewish Hospital.

The Malins have visited Israel several times and are well aware of what the true needs are in that country. They have dedicated themselves to boosting Israel's economy through the Israel Bonds Program.

Chairman Leibert stressed the importance of the cooperation between Temple Beth Am and the Israel Bonds Organization, noting that "our Temple has always come forward to support Israel Bonds at maximum levels. We know that this year will be no different."

You are cordially invited to be our guests at a

### SALUTE TO ISRAEL CHAMPAGNE BREAKFAST

Sunday, May 3, 1981 at 9:45 a.m.

in the  
 Social Hall  
 when we honor

### GEORGE and HANNAH MALIN

Recipients of the Israel City of Peace Award

## May 17th is Blood Bank Sunday at Beth Am

This is an invitation to join the most prestigious group in the world. You are being invited to become a lifesaver.

The John Elliott Bloodmobile will be at our Social Hall on Sunday, May 17th, between 8:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Please pledge a pint of blood! Call Diana Elson 665-1958 or Doreen Marx 667-6667 or give your pledge to others who may contact you.

Every four minutes a pint of blood is needed in regional hospitals for transfusion which may be the difference between life and death. Someone like yourself must furnish it. *There is no such thing as a substitute for blood!* Please join this select group - see you on May 17th!

## Singles Service on May 1st at 9:30 P.M.

The monthly Shabbat Service for Singles of all ages will be held in the Chapel on Friday evening May 1st at 9:30 p.m.

Rabbi Morton Hoffman will lead the worship and the singing of Shabbat and Israeli songs. Rabbi Hoffman will also lead a discussion on "Jewish Resistance" with a focus on the recent television series "Masada" and on the Holocaust. Holocaust Memorial Day in the Jewish Calendar falls on May 1st this year.

Following the service there is a social hour with refreshments in the Social Hall. All singles, their friends and relatives are invited to attend.

## Register Now For Summer Program

### Shabbat Dinner at Temple Friday, May 15th Honoring Outgoing Officers & Board Members

#### Officers and Board Members of Temple, Brotherhood and Mitzvah Corps to be Installed

Sam Steen, Chairman of the Installation Committee, is happy to announce that on Friday, May 15th, at 6:15 p.m., Temple Beth Am will hold a sit-down Shabbat dinner in the Youth Lounge. At this time, we will honor our outgoing Officers and the Board Members who have served on the Board during the past years. This will be a catered affair, and it will provide us with an opportunity to honor our retiring President, Dr. William E. Silver, and other members of the Board of Directors who will be leaving the Board at this time.

In addition to honoring the outgoing Officers and Board Members, we will install the new slate of Officers for the Temple and the Brotherhood, and a special installation will be held for committee chairmen of the Mitzvah Corps.

Evelyn Goodman is handling the details of the dinner and says that this can be handled at the low price of \$7.50 per person. Please send in your reservation now so that we can make plans for May 15th. Space is limited.

Installation Dinner Reservation

Temple Beth Am  
 5950 N. Kendall Drive  
 Miami, Florida 33156

Enclosed in my check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ dinners.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (please print)

Adults: \$7.50

Children: \$4.50



## More About Masada (and Jewish Survival)

The mass suicide at Masada disturbed many viewers of the Hollywood description of an ancient Jewish legend. While there is indeed such a legend, the remains of the 900 said to have committed suicide have never been found. Only a few skeletons were uncovered there by archaeologists. The legend may very well not be true, although it is rather certain that the Zealots held out heroically there for a seemingly impossible time.

We do know, however, that suicide has never been the Jewish way. Even in the concentration camps, suicide was rare. The Pharisees who represented mainstream Jewish thought taught, "He who takes one human life is as if he had destroyed the world." Amongst Orthodox Jews, a suicide cannot be buried in the regular section of the cemetery, for his death is considered to be a violation of all that Orthodoxy holds to be holy. In modern times, we understand the psychological factors that can contribute to suicide so we don't hold it to be a crime, as it is labelled in traditional Judaism. Nonetheless, we would say that Jews certainly do not regard suicide as one of the viable alternatives.

It is a fact that through all the long European period when the Jews were persecuted from pillar to post, suicide was rare amongst Jews. The Midrash tells us that when you go to heaven you only have to answer one question in the right way. The question is, "Did you give up hope?"

\* \* \*

How important do you think it is that Judaism survives? We are in a real crisis in modern times, because we are running out of good teachers. Beth Amites seem inclined to give of their money to the Temple. They don't seem as inclined to give of themselves. "Don't bother me personally," they seem to say; "Just take my money and check off my responsibility." If you are a capable teacher (we can provide the Judaic background), we are sorry, but we can't check you off just for the gift of money. You have another responsibility. If you don't offer yourself, who will?

What kind of people are we looking for? Bright, enthusiastic people who can present an idea in a simple manner and who can illustrate that idea by getting the young people to participate in different kinds of activity. We need adults who love young people, and who have the basic skill of communicating. It isn't necessary that you have a teaching degree, although that helps. Some teachers are made. Others are born. Interviewing is going on now. Call 666-2536 and say, I would like to interview. It might be that Judaism will survive only because of you. Teaching is the greatest gift of all. (Incidentally, we pay professional wages.)

## "A New Beginning"

Welcome to "A New Beginning." We have fulfilled a need for the single, aged 34½ to 54½, that has been sorely needed.

Our first two social events were a huge success. About 300 super singles attended, made friends, and had a fantastic time. Please watch the Commentator and for a flyer about our social on May 17th.

I would like to thank a truly great steering committee, who helped plan, put together, and worked hard to make "A New Beginning" for all of us: Norman Scheinin, Helen Wagner, Herb Kriedman, Elynn Elkin, Gilbert Roston, Carole Weiss, Marti Singer, Dotti Ridge, Sandy Marshall, Bernice Anapol, Patti Sacks, Al Shere, Esther Kessler, Lee Leshaw, Barbara Coleman, Bruce Alexander, Shirley Teller, Ruth Firestein, Harold Simon, Eileen Mussary, June Rosengarden, Ruth Silk, Bill Nunberg, Beverly Pearson, Flo Atfield, Rhona Guberman. It is so wonderful working with people who care about people.

Thank all of you again.

Sydell (call me Syd) Efronson 251-3183

## YOUTH NEWS

### BAFTY PLANS BIG MONTH!

On Saturday, May 2nd, members of our Senior High will meet at the Temple and go to Tropical Park for a Havdalah service and beach party. Come and join the fun on this terrific evening. We will meet at the Temple at 4:00 p.m., and return at 7:30 p.m. We will cook dinner on an open grill and have a beautiful outdoor Havdalah service.

On Monday evening May 4th, BAFTY will hold its regular general monthly meeting.

On Saturday evening, May 9th, BAFTY will be sponsoring Sally Fox, a well known Jewish improvisational artist. She performs a unique type of participatory theater which involves the audience in the actual production. Come and be a part of this fabulous evening.

On Saturday morning, May 10th, BAFTY will hold a fundraiser. Order your bagel brunch and have it delivered to your home for Mother's Day!

Still to come...boat day on May 17th, elections, banquet, and more. Don't forget to order your BAFTY jerseys while the supply lasts. Cost is only \$7.50.

Applications are now available for the SEFTY Institute at Camp Coleman. On August 16th to August 23rd, Senior High School students from the Southeast region of the country will meet at Camp Coleman for a week of fun and exciting programs. A limited number of applications are available from Rabbi Weinblatt.

## JOAN'S GEMS . . . . . By Joan Schwartzman

We are pleased to announce the engagement of Hildy, daughter of Raisa Edelman, to Bruce Dinkins. The young couple plan a summer wedding at Beth Am..... Kudos to the Persly family for telling Dade Countians on the front page of the Miami Herald how to bake Hamantaschen and a special "wow"! to Nancy, director of planning at Mt. Sinai for running a superb international conference on aging. We are proud of you all! Did you know that Sylvan Holtzman has served as president of the United Family and Children's Services, which enjoyed a momentous and progressive year under his leadership.....

## B'Nai Mitzvah

Saturday, May 2

9:15 a.m.



Todd, son of  
Dr. and Mrs. Henry Gelband



Jacqueline, daughter of  
Drs. Melvin and Nancy  
Greenfield

11:15 a.m.



Scott, son of  
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Bonilla



Michael, son of  
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Feldman