

March 2, 1984  
Volume 19, Issue No. 9

FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE, Friday, March 2, 1984, 7:30 p.m.  
RABBI HERBERT M. BAUMGARD  
"WHO GETS TO RIDE ON THE WHITE HORSE?"  
CONGREGATIONAL TORAH SERVICE, Sat. March 3, 11:15 a.m.

## Beth Am Commentator

5950 North Kendall Drive, Miami, Florida 33156 • Telephone: 667-6667  
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### "An Afternoon of Music Sunday, Mar. 11, 4 p.m. With Frank Cooper



On Sunday, March 11th, at 4 p.m., the Temple Beth Am Concert Series will present Frank Cooper in the Temple Sanctuary. Mr. Cooper is known both as a harpsichordist and a pianist. His personal collection of early keyboard instruments, now totaling fourteen, includes clavichords, virginals, fortepianos, harpsichords, a clavicytherium and a modern pianoforte. We are indeed fortunate to have Mr. Cooper return to the Temple Beth Am Concert Series.

The program will include an exciting tribute to Polish harpsichordist Wanda Landowska (1879-1959), pioneer in the revival of Baroque music, plus an exhibit of rare photographs, manuscripts and other Landowska memorabilia. Featured in the performance will be the great lady's 18th Century German clavichord, a Flemish virginal, and a French harpsichord.

Mr. Cooper has appeared with such distinguished artists as Aaron Rosand, Jascha Silverstein and Raymond Lewenthal, as well as with fellow harpsichordists Igor Kipnis and Joshua Rifkin. Frank Cooper's program is one that can be enjoyed by the entire family.

General admission to the concert is \$8, students and senior citizens \$4. Tickets are on sale in the Judaica Shop and will be available the day of the concert.

### Birthday Blessings at Family Services Mar. 2nd

Parents are urged to call in the names of their children to the Temple Office if they celebrate their birthdays during the month of March. Bring your child to the Family Service this Friday night, March 2nd, at 7:30 p.m. for their special blessing.

### Trip to Bass Museum Saturday, March 10th 1 p.m.

Edie Spiegel, Temple Vice President, announces that there will be 40 seats available on a chartered bus which will go to see the "Precious Legacy" exhibit at the Bass Museum. The bus will leave at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 10th, and will return at 4:30 p.m. The cost will be \$7 for adults and \$6 for children. If you are interested, please call the Temple and send or bring in your check. (Your check will be your reservation.)

### Al Vorspan Speaks March 1st on "Jews and the '84 Election"

Al Vorspan, Vice President of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, will speak at Beth Am on Thursday, March 1st, 8 p.m. His topic will be, "Jews and the '84 Election." Mr. Vorspan has been a champion of social action in American Reform Judaism and has published many books. He is a nationally renowned author, speaker and observer of the American Jewish scene. He is a humorist and an astute analyst of the current political climate in the United States.

His appearance at Beth Am is co-sponsored by the South Dade Midrasha and other local synagogues. No admission fee to Temple members.

### "Adolescence - When to Seek Help" Theme of Mental Health Evening March 5th at 7:30 pm

The Mental Health Association of Dade County will be presenting an important evening of discussion on Adolescence at Beth Am on Monday, March 5th, from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Authorities in the field will be on hand to discuss these turbulent years and to advise parents as to how they might handle the many problems that adolescents manifest in today's difficult society. Joining in the panel discussion will be Anthony Knowles, M.D., Richard Toister, Ph.D., and James J. Mooney, ACSW.

The admission fee is three dollars per person and five dollars for an entire family. For further information call the Mental Health Association at 379-2673.

### Prof. Yehudah Shamir Teaches Adults On "Mystics Vs. Rationalists" Starting Mar. 7th

Professor Yehudah Shamir begins his series on behalf of the Beth Am Adult Education Institute on Wednesday evening, March 7th, at 8 p.m. in Room 103. The series is entitled, "Mystics Versus Rationalists." Professor Shamir, who has taught Jewish Mysticism and other Judaic subjects at the University of Miami for many years, will begin his five week course discussing Abraham Heschel and Martin Buber. He will also present the rationalists Mordecai Kaplan and Ahad Ha-Am. Franz Kafka will also be included. Registration is requested but not required.

The course is open to all Beth Am members and their friends without fee. Members of the Temple may count this course towards their Adult Confirmation or Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah graduation.



## The Committee of 100

The following new member family has volunteered to join the "Committee of 100" for the current year:

George and Jean Levine

The following member family has volunteered to join the "Committee of 100" for the new fiscal year which begins July 1st:

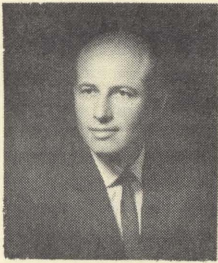
An Anonymous Family

### Purim Celebration

Sunday, March 18th  
10:30 a.m. - Purim Service  
11:00 a.m. - Costume Contest

### Purim Carnival

11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Rides, Games, Food  
Fun For ALL Ages



## FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

### The Middle-Class Dream

*The following is an excerpt from the High Holiday sermon. The complete sermon is available in the Rabbi's office.*

Narcissistic children can be the more lonely, as they get older. If you haven't been taught to share and to live with others, you can become more desparate as you discover that self-gratification is unfulfilling. A fore-shadowing of this problem is manifest amongst the teenagers of Dallas and other American cities, but the problem doesn't reach its peak in the lives of these youngsters until years later when they discover that academic success by itself is no assurance of enduring happiness.

Of course, not all of our children become narcissistic. Some of them, because of a positive family chemistry, will turn out to be warm and caring people. Still another segment of our children are early victims of the dynamics of the American middle-class family. I am speaking now of the children who for one reason or another cannot get the good grades and are not destined to be great accomplisners. Some of our families are embarrassed by these children, because we don't know how they fit into our highly competitive society. Some parents consider these children to be failures, a blot on the family pride.

The most important thing I have to say tonight is this - it is precisely in how we treat these children who are not the greatest accomplishers that we reflect our true humanity and our true Judaism. Very often these children are the most sensitive, the most capable of love, the most capable of family loyalty, the most loveable, if we give them half a chance. In our society, the greatest joy of a child is to know that he/she is loved, even if the child doesn't make "A's" or "B's". In no generation has it been true or required that all children in the family be academically motivated. In the American middle-class, the child who is only an average student lives in the shadow of the child who happens to find studying easy. The less academically oriented child may have other talents which are completely ignored or depreciated.

The teen-agers in the suburbs of Dallas, like the teen-agers of South Dade, have an extra load to carry. That load is the extreme success of their parents, vocationally and economically. Most of us do not realize that our earnings are in the upper 10% of incomes in the United States, the richest country on earth. Most of our parents did not earn that kind of money (and they were pretty good people), and some of our children won't. That is not a crime, and it is not a failure! Some of our children look at all their parents have done, education-wise and money-wise and are overwhelmed by it. "How can I ever hope to accomplish all that?", they ask; and if they have a poor year in school, the goal seems all the more overwhelming. It becomes very easy for such a child to become down on himself, to think that he's failed his parents, to think that he's unworthy.

Many of the Jewish youngsters who find their way into cults are those who don't achieve the best grades and who were made to feel that they are a failure. When a child experiences this kind of negative vibes from his parents, he can react in any one of several ways. He can become sullen and isolate himself; he can become violent and strike out in anger or desperation; or he can find another kind of family which will give him the approval he so desperately needs. That is what the cult family provides. The cult missionaries can spot an unhappy child a mile away. They walk up to him at school, in Dade-land, or in the college cafeteria, and they say, "Hey, you're a nice guy, how about coming to a party of friends." At the party everybody tells him what a wonderful person he is, and he is invited to a weekend vacation with them. The vacation turns out to be a 48 hour binge of propaganda work-shops and study in behalf of the "cause", a cause in which the young person can become an essential cog, a meaningful contributor. In a short time, the youngster is at the airport or standing on a street corner trying to raise money for his new found family and "charity".

A child wants to belong, wants to be needed, wants to be loved for what he is. This is true also of an adult. We need to be a little less demanding of one another, a little less goal oriented, a little more accepting of human differences and imperfections.

## JOAN'S JEMS by Joan Schwartzman

Mazel to Wendy Segal, daughter of Norton and Teddi Segal who will perform a "one woman show" at Stoneleigh Burnham School in Greenfield, Massachusetts. Wendy who is 17 years old wrote eight original songs which she will present. She has been educated at Beth Am and was very active in our Beth Am Beth Americans and Troubadours... Our grandparent club is proud to announce the newest edition. Born to their children Franci and Austin Kasinetz is a daughter Carlie. Proud grandparents for the third time are Sandra and David Shore... Kudos to Prof. Robert Sandler whose article "Jewish Life in the Ghettoes and Jewish Life Today" appeared in a recent issue of the Jewish Post and Opinion. Bob is one of our most popular adult education instructors... Mazel to Jackie and Al Rose upon the engagement of their daughter Diana to John Fleeman. The young couple plan a Temple wedding. Mazel to Leonard and Selma Rappaport upon the recent marriage of their son Dr. Eric to Dr. Maureen Dollinger. The couple will live in Virginia where they will continue their studies in medicine. He is a resident in the field of obstetrics and she in family medicine. Their second son Andrew just qualified in every state to practice veterinarian medicine by passing the National Board with flying colors. He is now a member of the National Honor Society of Veterinary medicine... Not to be outdone is daughter Linda who has been admitted to the Dean's list for academics at Boston University where she is studying in the field of computer science.

Mazel to Leta and Bob Garvett who are grandparents once again. Born to their children Donna and Richard Hiler is a daughter Lindsley Alicia... For those who want information regarding the possibility of living in Israel can attend the second annual south Florida conference on Sunday, April 8th. For further information call Israel Aliyah Center at 573-2556. The conference will be held at Temple Israel in downtown Miami... We are so proud of our young people. Jeffrey, son of Sandi and Al Kramer has been admitted to the President's honor roll for academics at the University of Florida where he is studying for his degree in accounting. Their daughter Marcia has just passed her CPA exam and presently is employed at Deloit, Haskins, and Sells...

We offer our warm mazel to Michael, son of Dr. Bill and Marcia Silver who has been admitted to Harvard to continue his studies toward a Ph.D. in the field of Bio Chemistry. All of our young people deserve our applause. By the way, they were all educated at Beth Am!

### Community-Wide Rally to Free Soviet Jews

On Sunday, March 11, at 2 p.m., the South Florida Conference on Soviet Jewry will sponsor a community-wide rally to free Soviet Jews, which will take place at Peacock Park in Coconut Grove. This rally is part of a nation-wide series of rallies which are being held to put pressure on the Soviet Union to release those Jews who wish to emigrate to Israel and the United States.

Admission is free, and the rally will be highlighted by the appearance of folksinger/songwriter Mary Travers, of Peter, Paul and Mary fame. Mary Travers is deeply committed to the cause of Soviet Jewry, having traveled to the Soviet Union last year to visit with Refuseniks. There will also be live music, food, and Israeli dancing.

B'Nai Mitzvah

Saturday, March 3

11:15 a.m.



Mark, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jon Cedar



David, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Eckstein