

# Sinai Temple

## BULLETIN



*Celebrating Israel @ 60*

## For Your Consideration

Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro

People are both anxious and optimistic these days. The optimism for most has to do with the excitement about Barack Obama. The president elect represents the possibility of change in remarkable ways. And yet so many of us are anxious. We worry about the economy, about jobs, prices, real estate values, and retirement funds. The future is much less secure than we expected.

And no one really has answers or sure solutions. At best, there are responses. If we can't fix all that is broken, we can at least reconsider our own needs and priorities. We can walk a bit more slowly. Sadly humbled by tough circumstances, we can perhaps turn to some first principles. Think more about what really matters. Do more of those things that really matter to us as human beings.

I suspect there may be no better time than now to belong to a synagogue and to join our Temple community as we try something very simple: Rediscover Shabbat.

Remember my message on Yom Kippur morning? I imagined so many of us sitting in front of a computer screen for hours every day, bodies scrunched up, shoulders hunched over, eyes locked on the screen. You can learn a lot roaming the Internet. You can read more than you ever wanted on our economic woes. But you can't have a life at the computer. You can't breathe when you're wound tight as a drum.

That is why I believe it really is time to take back your time. For the sake of your sanity, humanity, and your health, you need to stand up and stretch.

Or in other words, relax, renew yourself, recharge your batteries. That's what Shabbat is about. That's what Sinai offers too.

As Chanukah approaches, take time to breathe. Revisit our website for ideas on Shabbat. I wish you Happy Chanukah, but more than that I invite you into Shabbat. It's the perfect antidote for these times of anxiety, and it's just around the corner every seven days.

### Saturday Mornings

Services at 10:30 a.m.  
Mazal Tov to our Bnai Mitzvah

December 6 - Eric Gibson  
Son of Bonnie and Patrick

### Chanukah at Sinai

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

A fabulous morning (including a student/teacher basketball game). Totally full of learning and excitement.

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26 at 7 p.m.

Bring your chanukiah with candles from home. Latkes will be provided by Men of Sinai

### Saturday Torah Study

Every Shabbat morning at 9 a.m.

### FRIDAY EVENING SERVICES - NOTE THE TIMES - 76-88

#### FAMILY SERVICE at 7:00 p.m.

December 5

Check out our new youth choir, Sheer Fun!

#### KABBALAT SHABBAT at 6:00 p.m.

December 12

Veggies and snacks at 5:30 p.m.

#### FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE at 8:00 p.m.

December 19

Extra music and spirit as we anticipate Chanukah.

#### FRIDAY NIGHT CHANUKAH!!! at 7:00 p.m.

December 26

Bring your Chanukah menorah & seven candles. We'll light the menorahs together to celebrate the SIXTH night of Chanukah.

**Take Back Your Time: Rediscover Shabbat**

## Blessings for Chanukah

ברוך אתה. יי אלהינו. מלך העולם.  
אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו להדליק נר של חנוכה

**Blessed are You, Adonai our God, who has sanctified us with commandments and commanded us to light the Chanukah candles.**

Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha-olam asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik neir shel Chanukah.

ברוך אתה. יי אלהינו. מלך העולם.  
שעשה נסים לאבותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה.

**Blessed are You, Adonai our God, who performed great wonders for our ancestors in those days at this season.**

Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha-olam, sheh-ah-sah nee-seem la-vo-tay-nu ba-ya-meem ha-haim baz-man ha-zeh.

ברוך אתה. יי אלהינו.  
מלך העולם. שהחיינו וקימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה.

**Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this moment.**

Ba-ruch a-ta A-do-Nai e-lo-hei-nu me-lech ha-o-lam, she-he-che-ya-nu ve-ki-ye-ma-nu ve-hi-gi-a-nu laz-man ha-zeh.

## Welcome to Sinai!

We're so glad you decided to join Sinai Temple in the past month.

Susan Goldberg-Percy and David Percy and their children Austin, Brenna and Griffin.

The Sinai Temple Bulletin is published monthly by Sinai Temple, Springfield, Massachusetts. This is Issue Number 4 for the year 2008-2009.

Mark Dov Shapiro ..... Rabbi  
Martin Levson..... Cantor  
Sheila Shear..... Director of Education  
Andy Chaet..... SPFTY Advisor

### Officers

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Visit our website: [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

## Chanukah Questions and Answers

### When is Chanukah?

Chanukah begins Sunday, December 21. The last candle is lit Sunday, December 28.

### How do we observe Chanukah today?

Chanukah is almost entirely a time for celebration, although it can be more than that. This year, for example, how about implementing the new "tradition" of Ner Shel Tzedakah, which means dedicating one "ner/candle/night" to tzedakah. Make Tuesday, December 23 different by giving gifts of tzedakah.

### How do we prepare the candles when Chanukah arrives?

Place the candles in the chanukiah (Chanukah menorah) from right to left.

### How many candles are used?

On the first night of Chanukah one light is kindled. On the following night, two lights and so on until on the eighth night, eight lights are kindled. This does not, of course, include the shammas which is the candle used every night to light the other candles of the day.

### Where does the chanukiah go?

If possible the chanukiah should go near or at a window. In this way passersby can see the burning candles, which means according to Jewish tradition, that we have helped in the process of Pirusum Ha-nais—the Publicizing of the Chanukah Miracle and Story.

### How do we light the candles?

Just after nightfall, say the blessings. The first two are said every night. The third is only said on the first night. After the blessings light the candles by going from left to right so that the additional light of each night is kindled first.

### Do we do anything different on Shabbat (Friday evening, December 26)?

Yes. On that night we light the chanukiah first and after that Shabbat candles. For a really good time, don't do your candles at home. Bring yourself and your candles to Temple for a service, good food, and fun.

## Mission Statement

Sinai Temple is a welcoming and inclusive Reform Congregation where our members pursue a continuing journey of Jewish growth. We are guided by the history and traditions of the Jewish people as we encounter the challenges of the modern world. We encourage participation in prayer, life-long Jewish learning, and social justice within a joyful, creative, and compassionate community.

## **The Green Menorah: A Commitment to “green” Chanukah**

When the Maccabees rededicated the Jerusalem Temple in 165 B.C.E., legend tells us that one days' worth of oil kept the Temple menorah going for eight days! What if the “miracle” of Chanukah led us to use less oil in our day? Can we help today's world conserve energy? Perhaps we can rethink all those bags in which we will carry Chanukah gifts and food?



Photograph by Michael Gordon

## **Paper and Plastic Bags Contribute to Global Warming**

Paper bags have the highest global warming impact per bag compared to other types of bags. 70% more global warming gasses are emitted making a paper bag than a plastic bag, and 50 times more water pollution. In 1999, Americans used 10 billion paper shopping bags, consuming 14 million trees.

Plastic bags are made from petroleum that could be used in other ways. The 300 billion plastic bags that American throw away each year are made from millions of barrels of petroleum.

## **How about reusable bags?**

Reusable bags reduce all these costs by a factor of hundreds. So...before you “bag” it this Chanukah, please THINK GREEN.

## **Chanukah Tzedakah: Ner Shel Tzedakah, Tuesday, December 23**

The latkes are wonderful. The candles look beautiful. Chanukah is a joyous time of the year for us Jews. THIS YEAR our Social Action Committee suggests something NEW. On the THIRD night of Chanukah, December 23, we encourage families to donate the value of the gifts they would ordinarily exchange (or the gifts themselves) to local or national organizations assisting the poor. Let this be an evening for NER SHEL TZEDAKAH - THE LIGHT OF TZEDAKAH

## **Chanukah Service: Friday, December 26 at 8 p.m.**

It's the sixth night of Chanukah. Bring your chanukiah (menorah) and candles. There will be a service with candle lighting for everyone. Songs. Latkes. And games for Chanukah.

## **Get On Our Case: Through to December 21!**

Have you got any children's books at home that your children no longer use? The books are still in good shape and you're wondering what to do with them?

Bring your children's books (pre-school up to young adult) to the Temple. We are going to collect as many books as possible on the bookshelves in the Temple entrance. We will then donate the books so that our old books can be brand new material for other children.

Please get your books on our case! There are plenty of young readers in Springfield waiting for your books.

## Message from Sheila Shear Director of Education

*Shalom Chaverim,*

So, what is it like to be learning at Sinai Temple during the 5769 school year? On a usual Sunday morning with no extra special programming here are some of the options. If you are in kindergarten, first, or second grade, you attend for several hours on Sunday morning and learn beginning Hebrew, about the Synagogue, about Holidays, about Israel and what it means to be part of a Jewish family. You also get to learn through stories and art and music. If you are in third, fourth, fifth or sixth grade you come to learn for several hours on Sunday and 90 minutes during the week. On Sunday you get to work on Hebrew skills, and you also might learn about history, the prophets, life cycle, tikun olam, and Torah. During the final hour you will have an opportunity to extend your Jewish learning in music with the Cantor, cooking, sports, time for Hebrew mastery, or planning a tzedakah(charity) fair. During each weekday class for 3rd to 6th graders there is time to learn about prayer, individualized Hebrew reading and language instruction, and t'filah(praying). In 7th grade students continue with in depth study of Torah, Pirke Avot, on Tuesday evenings and Ethics and Holocaust studies as well as time to learn about the Israeli National Sports Teams and other Israeli sports on Sunday mornings. But learning for our students does not stop in the 7th grade.

Learning in 8th grade continues beginning with service learning in the SPARK program for 8th graders and mature adults from our own Sinai community, a trimester on our local Jewish community and another trimester on peer relationships and ethical social behavior. In 9th grade we begin the year with some straight talk about sexual ethics from a Reform Jewish perspective, and continue the year with Judaism in politics and social action. During the 9th grade students have an opportunity to travel to the Religious Action Center in Washington D.C. for an in depth experience with the politics of social action. Students in grades 11 and 12 are also invited to join the 9th graders on this trip. Check it out <http://rac.org/confprog/ltaken>. Of course the end to formal educational programming for students at Sinai is the incredible year students spend learning with the Rabbi. Sorry, no info-you have to experience it to be in the know!

So, just in case you were wondering what our kids are doing here this has been your introduction. Want to know more...come by and see us some time.

## News About SPFTY Andy Chaet, SPFTY Advisor

*Shalom SPFTYites,*

Well,

December is here and the days are shorter and colder. (no news there).

The news is SPFTY has some great stuff planned for this month.

Sunday Dec.7 -Meeting at 5:00

Weekend of Dec.11-14th - 11th &12th graders will go to New Orleans on a Tikkun Olam project with Rabbi Shapiro and Mrs. Shear. HAVE FUN!!

Sunday Dec.21-SPFTY will be having a Bake Sale during the Religious School's Chanukah Program.

Thursday Dec.25-Honorable Menschen Day at Jewish Geriatric Services.

I would like to commend the Teens that attended the Freshman Kidnapping on Nov.1 Everyone had a fantastic time and truly represented our community well at Elm Knoll farm and Denny's THANKS!! You have all become well versed in the game of waterpong!!

January promises to be a busy month! Please join us for some Jewishly creative and fun times.

Shalom

Andy Chaet

[achaet@sinai-temple.org](mailto:achaet@sinai-temple.org)

## Sofas!! We Need You for the Youth Lounge!!! Donations are Welcome

Our Youth Lounge has been renovated through the hard work of Mason D...It's a beautiful, functional room right now. It's just EMPTY. Have you got a sofa or two or three to donate? Please call the Temple office. Leave a message for Andy Chaet, Youth Director, or the Rabbi. Thank you!!!

## Bnai Tzedek Is Terrific

Congratulations to Sinai kids who participated in the recent Bnai Tzedek retreat:

Taylor Gordenstein, Talya Chait, Atlee Chait, Mason Dunn-McDonough, Meghan Hurley, and April Solon. Bnai Tzedek is open to all teenagers in our area. Speak to the Rabbi to learn more!

## **Jewish Summer Camping Can Make All the Difference in Preparing a Jewish Child for the Future**

Our Reform movement runs two remarkable summer camps in the Berkshires. One is called Eisner; the other is called Crane Lake. Last year several Sinai students attended each of the camps. Your child would love either camp. Scholarships are available for sessions in July or August. Please speak to Rabbi Shapiro as soon as possible.

## **Scholarships for Free**

If your son or daughter is planning to attend any kind of Jewish program this summer, please take advantage of the Temple scholarship program. Thanks to the Joseph Emanuel, Rabbi Herman Eliot and Adele Biederman Snyder Memorial Fund, scholarships are available in small and larger amounts. We are also thankful to the family of Edna Simon and Judy and Michael Cohen who support summer scholarships as well.

Your confidential request should go to Rabbi Shapiro no later than March 1.

## **The Susan Broh Tikkun Olam Scholarship: An opportunity for young people to build a better world**

The family and friends of the late Susan Broh are so very pleased to report on the success of this past summer's award in memory of Susan.

In the summer of 2008, Sinai Temple was able to offer THREE students generous stipends that enabled each of them to pursue a summer of volunteer work in an area that made the world a better place.

Donations to the Susan Broh Tikkun Olam Scholarship are welcome so that we can plan for 2009. Your donations are used to allow us to "pay" a young person for summer volunteer work. Young people apply for the stipend during the winter. Awards are made in Spring for the coming summer. Thank you for supporting the Broh Scholarship.

## **Sinai Temple Architect (and Member) Celebrates 100th Birthday**

Donald Gilman, Sinai member and the architect who designed Sinai's building, recently celebrated his 100th birthday. Mazel Tov to Don who now resides in Tucson, Arizona."

## **Congratulations to Sinai Teens 2008 JCC Maccabi Games in San Diego!**

The following Sinai teenagers competed in the 2008 JCC Maccabi Games in San Diego!

Athletes: Jillian Bertuzzi, Atlee Chait, Danielle Dickstein, Sarah Greenberg, Max Haberman, Harry Kalodner, Sarah Klein, Ben Levenson, Zoe Maniaci, Alex Novak, Liza Schepps, Elliot Scher, Jake Webber, Lauren Webber, Cydney Weiner, Ben Zeller.

Coaches: Betsy Bertuzzi, Matt Bertuzzi

In San Diego, Team Springfield competed in Soccer, Flag Football, Swimming, Tennis and Bowling. Medals were won, friendships were made and memories will last forever. The 2009 JCC Maccabi Games will be held in Westchester County, NY on August 16 - 21. If you are a teen who will be between 13 and 16 as of July 31, 2009, contact the JCC immediately to learn about next year's Games. The 2009 Kick-off took place on Sunday, November 2nd at the JCC. Call now to get involved.

## **Time for Television: Check out Channel 57**

On Tuesday, December 9, WGBY will be airing two important programs. The first is entitled - The Jewish People: A Story of Survival. This is the story of Jewish survival. From slavery to the loss of homeland; from exile to anti-Semitism; from pogroms to near annihilation in the Holocaust. The program asks how the Jews endured when so many other communities have vanished? It will be hosted by Martha Teichner, senior correspondent for "CBS News Sunday Morning."

The second program is called - Lights: Celebrate Hanukkah Live In Concert. It will feature an eclectic group of performers, many of them well-known in the Jewish music scene along with artists not normally associated with the genre or the holiday.

## **Are You Interested in Joining a Committee?**

Our busy Temple is looking for some busy, creative people who might want to become involved in a Temple committee. "I'm too busy for a committee," you reply. "Do not fear." Committees can take up lots of time or take up little time. Try one out and see how it feels. No commitments required. You could consider the Fundraising Committee or the Adult Education Committee. Think about Social Action, Ritual, or the Religious School Committee. Call the Temple office if you are interested or have questions..



Come ride with us!  
Abby Leshine, Shelby Leshine, and David Ehrlich.

## You're Invited to Israel July 5 – 17, 2009

Dear Friends -

Let's go to Israel! We are going to see old sites as well as very new sites. There will be museums as well as active days of kayaking on the Jordan River and exploring the Golan Heights by jeep.

Financial details, including travel subsidy information, will soon be available. A detailed itinerary is on our website. [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

Subsidies and scholarships will be available for both adults and children.

Shalom,  
Rabbi Mark Shapiro

### *Our Tour will include:*

- Roundtrip airfare from New York to Tel Aviv
- 2 nights in Tel Aviv, 2 nights in the Galilee
- 6 nights at the Inbal Hotel in Jerusalem
- Breakfast daily & five dinners
- Transfers, entrance fees, and portage



## You're also Invited To an Information Session On the Israel Trip Tuesday, December 9 7:30 p.m.

Everything you wanted to know about going to Israel with Sinai Temple this summer.

A slide presentation, an overview of our trip scheduled for July 2009.

What we're planning to see. Hotels, sites, packing tips. Scholarship details.

For further questions, please call the Rabbi at 736-3619.

## Reading Gates of Shabbat

Rabbi Shapiro has written an invitation to Shabbat in the form of a book. If you would like to learn more about the book, please contact the Rabbi. [markdov@sinai-temple.org](mailto:markdov@sinai-temple.org)

## Saturday morning services??

Sinai does not currently offer a Shabbat morning service unless there is a Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Should we change? Should we offer a service for the congregation every Saturday morning? A task force will soon begin to consider this possibility. If you would like to join the group or offer suggestions, please contact the Temple office.

## Website

Go to [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org). Find the link Take Back Your Time: Rediscover Shabbat. You'll see the blessings for Friday night plus other sources. Also an opportunity to share your own responses to the Shabbat initiative.

## Jewish and Decent: How to Become a Better Person Saturday mornings at 9 a.m.

Our Saturday morning conversations about living life with less anger and worry continue. Finding patience, simplicity, balance, happiness, and zest for living itself.

Rabbi Shapiro leads the journey as we turn to Judaism's hidden treasure - Mussar literature - the practice of goodness.

### Showcase Cinema: Movie and Dinner!

- Your tickets: \$10.25 per adult & \$7.50 per child
- Your soda & popcorn: \$15.00?
- Pizza dinner: \$15.00? \$25.00?

**Your total:** For two adults, upwards of \$40.00.  
For adults and kids, upwards of \$50.00.

***HINT: Read about Sinai's January 9 "movie & dinner" night. With your Sinai membership, it's FREE!***

### Dinner and Movie at Sinai: Some "Reel" Fun Friday, January 9 Starting at 6 p.m.

For fun, for you and your friends, and for your soul, come to Sinai on January 9. The evening will begin with our Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by PIZZA & SALAD dinner followed by two movies. One film for kids and another for adults. This is for free! Reel fun.

The movie for adults (and for children in Middle School and up) is entitled MECHINA.

The film has been shown across the country to rave reviews. Israel, military service is mandatory for all teenagers after high school graduation. Living with her cousin Amitai and his five friends as they prepare for their army service, film director Mital Guttman uncovers the complexity of being young and idealistic in a time of war. Mechina means preparation. This film tells the story of these young people "preparing" for service to their country.

### Introducing Our New Prayer Book, Mishkan T'filah December and Onward!

As part of the Cantor's installation, our new prayer book was introduced. We are now using the book on a regular basis. Come see how it feels! If you wish to purchase your own copy of the book, you can do so through the Gift Shop. A single volume copy including prayers for **Weekdays/Shabbat/Festivals costs approximately \$36.00. The book can also be purchased in two volumes. The Shabbat volume costs approximately \$34.00. The Weekdays & Festivals volume costs approximately \$22.00.**

### Don't Forget Your "Food of the Month" Beans for December!

Hunger presents an ongoing crisis in the Pioneer Valley. More people are turning to community pantries for more food every single month. Our Social Action committee is proposing that we at Sinai double or even triple our food collections this year. This year we invite every congregant to bring a "food of the month" to the Open Pantry box outside the lobby.

#### ***We are collecting the following foods:***

December - Please bring beans of all kinds.

January Soup/Canned vegetables

February Peanut Butter

March Baby formula

April Watch for a special food

drive on Sunday, April 5

May Cereal

They're hungry - very hungry. Please bring the "food of the month" to the Temple.

### Monthly Morning Service Wednesday, December 3 at 7:30 a.m.

A chance to start your day with a different focus. We meet on the bimah for a service of 20 minutes. Breakfast follows. The feeling of togetherness is wonderful. The spirit is unique. Those who need to leave for the rest of the day are free no later than 8:15 a.m.

Future "morning minyan" services will take place on Wednesdays, January 7, February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, and June 3.

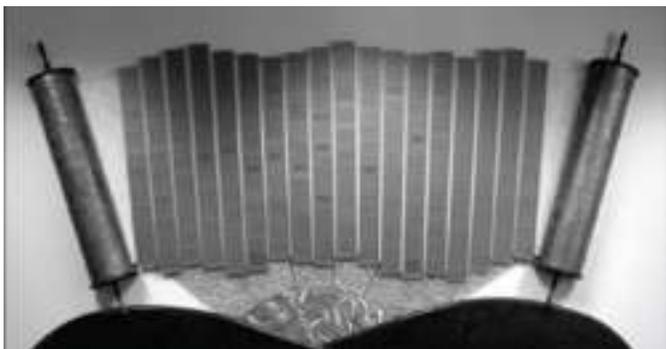
### First Thursdays (mostly): Lunch and Learn Thursday, December 4 12:00 - 1:15 p.m.

Bring your lunch to the Oneg Shabbat room for a discussion of contemporary Jewish concern with Rabbi Shapiro. Future discussions are January 8, February 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, and June 4.

### Fragrance Free Please

Please refrain from excessive use of perfume and colognes when attending services and events at Temple. Those with allergies can be adversely affected and become uncomfortable when exposed to strong scents. When purchasing bimah flowers for special occasions, please be considerate too and order only non-scented arrangements. Thank you!

## Scroll of Life



The Scroll of Life is a work of art in the Oneg Shabbat Room. It was created by Presentations Gallery of New York. The Isaiah quote at the bottom of the Scroll was taken from the Yom Kippur Haftarah as an expression of hope.

The Scroll has space on it so that Sinai members can commemorate either joyous events or memorialize loved ones. Each contribution of a plaque on the Scroll will be used to enrich the life and strength of Sinai. The cost of each plaque is \$200. The inscription may be 3-4 lines with a maximum of 27 spaces per line.

### Recent Scroll of Life Plaques

- In memory of Neal Webber beloved son, husband, and father from Marcia Schimmel and Ruth Weiss.
- In honor of our daughters on their B'not Mitzvah Atlee Chait Sept. 10, 2005 and Talya Chait Jan. 9, 2008.
- In honor of the marriage of our children Arielle & Steven Sept. 13, 2008. With love, Dr. Marc and Susan Goldman.
- In memory of my beloved husband, Samuel Laffer who was always, loving, kind & gentle. Evelyn Laffer.
- In Loving Memory of Our Dear Niece, Merrilee Posner by Renee Gold & Nesi Schulman.
- In memory of Franny Hochman from Ruth Webber.

## SUPER TZEDAKAH SUNDAY DECEMBER 7, 2008

Super Tzedakah Sunday is the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts' annual phone-a-thon, and the impact is enormous. With only our voices and a vision we all share, we will reach out to thousands of donors and raise more than \$150,000 to support the programs and services that are making a difference in the lives of Jews locally, nationally, in Israel and around the world. It's not just work (although there's plenty for you to do, and no experience is necessary). It's also a celebration of our Jewish community.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Debbie Peskin at the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts, 737-4313 x121.

If you are unable to volunteer, you can still make a difference. When a volunteer phones to ask you for a contribution, please answer the call and give generously.

## Mak'hela: The Jewish Chorus of Western Massachusetts Kayla Werlin, Conductor and The South Hadley Children's Chorus Catharine Melhorn, Conductor present A Combined Concert

### *In Celebration of Music and Friendship*

Sunday, December 14, 2008

4:00 p.m.

Buckley Recital Hall

Amherst College

Amherst, Massachusetts

No Admission Fee - Donations Welcome at the Door

Supported in part by a grant from the Jewish Arts & Culture Initiative of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation

## Remembering our Veterans.....

The Temple office would like to make sure that all veterans buried at Sinai Memorial Park have flags placed for Memorial Day. We want to make sure that the service and sacrifice of veterans is properly remembered and respected. Please contact Karen Sprenkle so she may update our veterans list.

### Judaica Gift Shop

**Chanukah is almost here. Do come in to see all the wonderful items available.**

**Enclosed is our flyer and list of expanded hours for the season.**

**Children's shopping days are December 7 and 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

**For a special Chanukah savings, use the coupon below.**

**Thais Fischel 786-9577**

**Bobbi Cossin 565-9970**

### Judaica Gift Shop Chanukah Special

**This coupon is good for  
a discount of 10%  
on any purchase of \$30.00  
or more  
During December 2008.**

## Message from Men of Sinai

**Reminder:** Please continue to send in the registration forms with or without your donation to our operating expenses. Please send in your name (including middle initial), address, phone, cell phone and email to me at president@menofsinai.org. We want to make sure our emails and snail mails get to the right place. If you wish to make a contribution to our efforts this year, please send a check made out to Men of Sinai to the Sinai Temple office. Thank you!

We had a wonderful Evening with Cantor Levson at the end of October. We had a nice turnout of a cross section of our membership. The cantor led us in a discussion of the place for men in today's Jewish world. It was very interesting and we look forward to working with Cantor Levson.

Special: Can you help me recall some of the men who led our organization in the early days? I have done research with our old bulletins, but could not find the names of our leaders for several of our early years. As we are approaching our 70th Anniversary in 2010, I thought I would ask you for some help. **UPDATE: A hard disk crash wiped out this research.** **Help:** Any emails with years of any men who led our organization is appreciated.

Email to president@menofsinai.org. Thanks!

### Calendar:

#### December 2008

*December 2:* Board Meeting 7:00 p.m. Food, 7:30 p.m. Meeting

*December 14:* Breakfast 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Latke/Hamentashen/Matzah Ball Debate - This should be a very enjoyable event. Please come, bring your friends, and RSVP to the temple office or thevideoguy@cox.net.

Charge: \$5 per person.

*December 26:* Men of Sinai will serve latkes at the Erev Shabbat Oneg

#### January 2009

*January 2:* Start accepting applications for the Snyder Award

*January 6:* Board Meeting 7:00 p.m. Food, 7:30 p.m. Meeting

*January 11:* Breakfast 9:00 a.m. — 11:00 a.m. **Speaker:** John Sheirer, Professor of English and Communications; Chair, Department of Arts, Theater, and Communication; at Asnuntuck Community College, Enfield CT. Professor Sheirer will speak on his books: Growing Up Mostly Normal in the Middle of Nowhere, (about the unlikely connections between his youth growing up on a small farm and his adulthood as a writer and college professor) and Loop Year: 365 Days on the Trail, a memoir of his experience hiking the same two-mile nature trail every day for a year. This should be an interesting session. Charge: \$5 per person.

As always, you have an open invitation to please come join us and have fun, perhaps work a little, and get to network with other men of the congregation.

Scott M. Sherman, President

MEN OF SINAI

### REMINDERS

Big Y Gift Cards are available in the Temple office.

Sinai gets a % return for each dollar spent.

SCRIP orders are due December 12th. Look in this bulletin for order forms.

The Recycle Program will continue in December. A box is available outside the office.

Thank you for your donations and your help in making this program work.

### RECYCLE AT TEMPLE:

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ONLY THE FOLLOWING ITEMS CAN BE ACCEPTED:**

CELL PHONES

LASER AND INKJET CARTRIDGES

LAPTOPS

PDA'S

IPODS

DVD'S

GPS SYSTEMS

VIDEO GAMES AND CONSOLES

DIGITAL CAMERAS

WE CANNOT ACCEPT ANYTHING ELSE. Sinai Temple will be charged for disposal of any items NOT on this list.

## The Memory of the Righteous is a Blessing

All of us at Sinai Temple extend condolences as we remember the following.

Their memories are precious to their relatives, their friends and to each of us who form the community of Sinai Temple.

We remember those who have passed away from October 6 to November 5, 2008:

Neal Webber, husband of Wendy Webber, son of Ruth Webber and father of Allison, Jamie, Lauren, and Jacob.

Sumner Cohen, brother of Phyllis Winer.

Sheila Reh, Aunt of Marilyn Amster.

## Sinai Dog Show Highlights our Canine Friends

Sixteen dogs brought their families to Sinai during Sukkot this year. Two of the families in attendance are pictured here.

(From left to right)  
Jenna, Richard, and  
Diane Friedberg.



(From left to right)  
Bonnie and Celia  
Gibson.



# Sinai Temple

BULLETIN



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## The Second Annual Bar/Bat Mitzvah Tzedakah Bike Ride

On Sunday, September 21, eight Bar/Bat Mitzvah students along with several parents, Rabbi Shapiro and Sheila Shear participated in a 13-mile bike ride for tzedakah. The ride went through Forest Park and parts of Longmeadow. The riders decided to donate the money they had raised to the American Red Cross in honor of its emergency work around the country. Pictured here (from left to right) are: Andy Moskovitz, Janine Idelson, Sheila Shear, Eric Pers, Gary Gootzit, Jodie Foster, and Rabbi Shapiro. Andrew Cowan, Andrew Stone, Jacob Freedman, Shaina Gootzit, Olivia Foster, Eliana Moskovitz, and Rachel Sherman.

