

Sinai Temple

BULLETIN



For Your Consideration

Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro

This June marks the 40th anniversary of the Six Day War.

As our country slogs its way through the war in Iraq, it is difficult to imagine “celebrating” another war. Yet that is what I feel we need to do this month. We need to recognize that something momentous (and mostly positive) took place in Jewish history between June 5 and 10, 1967.

During the weeks leading up to the war, Israel’s situation was perilous. Arab armies massed on Israel’s borders. The streets of Cairo rang with promises of throwing the Jews into the sea. The UN withdrew its peace keeping force. Israel sought American security assurances but received only vague responses from Washington. Israel stood very, very much alone.

And then came the surprise.

In six days Israel defeated the Egyptian, Syrian, and Jordanian forces, and in those same six days Israel managed to reclaim Jerusalem as its capitol city!

The full story is more complicated, but the essential experience in 1967 created nothing less than astonishment, wonder, and pride throughout the Jewish world. Jewish identity in the United States was transformed. The 3 million Jews of the Soviet Union were galvanized into action for freedom.

In many ways, the Six Day War of 1967 set the stage for the Jewish world we know today.

Throughout this month at our Friday evening services we will make time to talk about the war and its significance. We will listen to Israeli music from the war. We will explore how the 1967 war came to be a defining moment for Jews in our time.

Sustaining Membership Program – As the new fiscal year begins, there is still time for you to join the Sustaining Membership Program. See page 5.

Saturday Services

MAZAL TOV TO BNAI MITZVAH

Saturday services at 10:30 a.m.

June 2 - Zoe Maniaci
Daughter of Sarah and Vince Maniaci
June 9 - Alexa Engelman
Daughter of Bonnie and Dan Engelman
June 16 - Melanie Feen
Daughter of Sharon and Paul Feen
June 23 - Samuel Torff
Son of Deidra and Mitch Torff

Picnic and Pray

Friday, July 6 and July 13

6:00
Candles and Kiddush
Outdoor picnic
6:45
Outdoor Shabbat service
7:30
Dessert

Saturday Torah Study

TORAH STUDY
KEEPS GOING —
JUNE, JULY, AUGUST
EVERY SATURDAY
THIS SUMMER
AT 9:00 A.M.

SHABBAT SERVICES ... PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN TIMES

FAMILY SERVICE at 7:00 p.m.

June 1

Songs, prayers, and a terrific story.

CONFIRMATION at 8:00 p.m.

June 8

Please honor our finest High Schoolers. Terrific Tenth Graders on the bimah.

INSTALLATION at 8:00 p.m.

June 15

We will honor our incoming Temple leadership with a special focus on music from the Six Day War.

FRIDAY NIGHT CLASSIC at 8:00 p.m.

June 22 & 29

Welcome Shabbat with prayer and further commentary on the Six Day War.

Message from President Steve Weiss

It's a bit hard for me to believe, but this is my last message in the Bulletin, as this article will be coming out at about the same time as our annual meeting, when Dave Roberts will be elected as our next President. I can't help but reflect a bit over the last two years. Obviously, there have not been any momentous changes at Sinai during the last two years. Rabbi Shapiro and Cantor Mekler are, of course, still with us, and there have not been any dramatic changes to the synagogue itself. That's a good thing, because we have a strong, vital congregation. But there have been changes; some are obvious, while some are more subtle.

When I began my tenure, we had no active membership, personnel or fundraising committees. Now we do; I'm grateful to Jeff Cossin, Rina Miller, and Diane Friedberg, respectively, in agreeing to chair these committees, which are now all functioning wonderfully. We sold some excess land at the Cemetery; the proceeds were used to enhance the Cemetery's Perpetual Care Fund. Through the efforts of Sheila Shear and the Religious School Committee, in the fall the religious school will transition to single session Sundays. And one of the things I'm proudest of is that I think we've changed the "culture" of board meetings; they're now much more participatory, productive, and exciting (relatively speaking).

On a more personal level, I feel both lucky and blessed to have been Sinai's President for the last two years. Lucky, because I happened to be President during our 75th anniversary. We had all sorts of special events and projects: the service honoring all our past presidents; the scholar in residence weekend; the project to build a playground at the Washington Street School; and the Big Splash (which resulted in a photo of me that will take a while to live down!). And I've been blessed to be President at a good time in Sinai's story. The Reform Jewish world is worried generally about congregations in which members are mostly "consumers"; that is, they view a synagogue most in terms of what it provides. I don't think that fairly describes Sinai. If I were to try to list all the many ways that individual members contribute to and enrich Sinai life, I'd quickly run out of space. Sinai is far more than simply a collection of congregants; it's a vibrant community. During my two years, I've developed a deep appreciation and gratitude for all the people—our Rabbi and Cantor, our Religious School professionals and staff, office staff, board members, committee members, and countless "other" volunteers—who make Sinai unique.

While I'll admit that I will enjoy having a bit more time to spend with Carol and with Matthew during his last year of high school, I will miss my regular breakfasts

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.

Message from Cantor Emily Sleeper Mekler

This year, during the month of June, marks the 40th Anniversary of the 6-Day War in Israel. There are many songs that became famous from that time period. One is "Y'rushalayim Shel Zahav" (Jerusalem of Gold). You're probably humming it as you read this. I usually sing it during our Yom Kippur afternoon service. The song was actually written in the month preceding the war by Naomi Shemer (1930-2004), who was one of Israel's most prolific song writers. She has probably made more lasting contributions to Israeli song than any other single songwriter. She was considered by some to be "the First Lady of Israeli Song". The song was originally performed by Shuli Natan. The melody and lyrics were not written as a military song yet it was sung by the soldiers who fought for the liberation of the city. It is a wonderful song which romanticizes the beauty of Jerusalem. It became known as the "Anthem of the Six Day War".

Another song called "Machar" (Tomorrow) was also written by Naomi Shemer. The words say "Tomorrow will bring a new dawn of peace, and if not tomorrow then surely the following day". It is a perfect example of the optimism and hopefulness of the Jewish people.

A well-known Israeli singer, Ron Eliran sang a song called "Sharm-a-Sheich" It was dedicated to that place which is situated on the Southern tip of the Sinai Peninsula with the Red Sea on one side and the mountains of Mount Sinai on the other. This song, too, was on the lips of Israeli soldiers on their way to pass through the Tiran Straits.

At each Shabbat eve service this month we will be including a song that came out of this remarkable time in Israel's history. Please join us in celebrating this milestone anniversary for Israel and the Jewish people and join us in raising your voice in song.

Emily Sleeper Mekler

with Rabbi Shapiro, my meetings with the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. Thank you for the privilege of being able to serve as President.

Steve Weiss

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
CONFIRMATION 2007/5767
FRIDAY, JUNE 8, AT 8:00 P.M.
AT SINAI TEMPLE

WE WOULD LOVE TO SHARE OUR LEARNING WITH YOU!

Julia Brenker daughter of Kevin and Diane Brenker
 Matthew Breslau son of Gregory and Sharyn Breslau
 Sarah Chaet daughter of Andy and Kathy Chaet
 Abigail Katz daughter of Matthew Katz and Barbara Fitzgerald

Theodore Katz son of Steven and Phyllis Katz
 Mason Dunn-McDonagh son of Robin Dunn-McDonagh
 Ariel Miller daughter of Joseph Hershon and Rina Miller

Tyler Morissette son of Steven and Andrea Morissette
 Hayden Ziebel-Lipitz son of Kenneth Lipitz and Shelley Ziebel

Congratulations To Our Incoming Temple Leadership

Officers

President	Dave Roberts	860-763-3902
Vice President	Rina Miller	413-567-0398
Vice President	Jeff Cossin	413-567-7230
Vice President	Roberta Gang	413-567-6126
Treasurer	Joel Bertuzzi	413-567-3524
Financial Secretary	Bobi Steingart	413-567-6327
Recording Secretary	Ann Jacobs	413-732-4407

Board of Directors

2005-2008

Nick Ciciretti	413-567-0196
Diane Friedberg	413-567-7653
Susan Goldman	413-567-7474
Peter Greenberg	413-567-6877
Howard Kalodner	413-736-6220
Andy Moskovitz	413-533-9209
Sandy Suib-Dutcher	413-567-3283

2006-2009

Andy Chaet	413-747-7107
George Dickstein	413-567-8758
David Frank	413-567-6649
Laura Klein	413-567-9618
Rickie Leiter	413-567-5574
Elaine Nathan	413-788-6793
Jackie Neiman	413-567-7978

2007-2010

Mel Chafetz	860-668-0494
Marlene Gordon	413-567-6298
Steve Katz	413-525-2998
Belle Rita Novak	413-737-1724
Joel Solomon	413-567-0073
Mark Stone	413-567-0392
Laurie Weinberg	413-599-1978



nccj The National Conference for Community and Justice

The National Conference for Community and Justice of Connecticut and Western Massachusetts, Inc.

invites you to join us for the

Human Relations Award Banquet

A Celebration of Diversity

Honoring



Rabbi
Mark Dov Shapiro
 Sinai Temple

NCCJ's Annual Human Relations Award Banquet
 June 6, 2007
 Chez Josef Agrvan, MA

Reception 6:00 PM * Dinner Program at 7:00PM

Individual Tickets - \$125

Contact the NCCJ at 860-683-1819 for more details.

**Monthly Morning Service
Wednesday, June 6
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. Those who need to leave for the rest of the day are free no later than 8:15 a.m.

**First Thursdays:
Lunch and Learn
Thursday, June 7
12:00 – 1:15 p.m.**

Bring your lunch to the Oneg Shabbat room for a discussion of contemporary Jewish concern with Rabbi Shapiro.

**Got Soup – Or a Stew?
Cooks Needed!**

Dear Friends – Every Fall Sinai Temple cooks dinner on several occasions for the soup kitchen called Loaves and Fishes. We have a standard casserole with a fixed recipe that is easy to make and freeze ahead of time. If you've got one hour to make one casserole next Fall, could you please let us know now? We can give you exact dates and the recipe when September arrives, but, meanwhile, it would be great to know that YOU can help. Thank you.

Bobi Steingart 567-6327
drblood50@comcast.net

**Torah Study:
A Perfect Way to Start the Weekend
June, July, and August
Saturdays at 9 a.m.**

We will continue our conversations about King David through June. When July & August arrive, we will return to studying the Torah Portion of the week. Everyone at any level of knowledge is welcome in the Oneg Shabbat Room from 9 to 10 a.m. Bagels and coffee are part of the deal!

**Summer Services
Every Friday in July and August**

Please join us throughout the summer for services that are brief, spirited, and full of joy.

On July 6 & 13, services will take place outdoors after a picnic dinner starting at 6:00 p.m. On all other July and August Friday evenings, services take place at 7:30 p.m.

**Are You a Parent of a College Age Son
or Daughter?**

Is your son or daughter moving to a different dorm or apartment? Will he or she graduate this month? Please help us to keep our alumni records up to date. Call Stacey Osowski at Sinai at 736-3619 ext. 13 to let her know of any address changes.

Our Ninth Graders visiting
the Religious Action Center in
Washington DC.



Brandeis in the Berkshires

Join Brandeis for a 2-day exploration of film, demography and music

Jewish Workshop Series
July 22-23, 2007

Can Cultural Activism Bridge the Jewish Generational Gap?
Interactive plenaries and workshops

Tuition: \$250
*Includes daily breakfast, lunch and keynote lecture held at Cranwell Resort, Spa and Golf Club, Lenox, MA

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The Sustaining Membership Program Returns — 2007-2008

The past three years' Sustaining Membership Program has been a wonderful success. We are truly grateful to the many households who stepped forward to renew their involvement or to become sustaining members for the first time.

As we enter a new fiscal year, we are thankful for every one of our sustaining members who chooses to continue with the program. By the time you read these words, we hope to have concluded an outreach campaign to involve more congregants in the program. Letters and phone calls have been made to invite congregants paying full dues at their category to join the Sustaining Membership Program. There are several levels of participation. Each involves committing a certain amount of money over the full dues category that suits you. If you want more information, please call SMP Chair, Martin Lesser (567-5952) or Karen Sprengle, Office Manager, at 736-3619.

Sinai Reaches out to the Community — Spring 2007

The Gurland Human Relations Award

The 2007 Human Relations Award Established in Honor of Rabbi Jerome S. Gurland has been awarded to a project called Gardening the Community. Kristin Brennan is the Program Coordinator for this social justice project in the heart of Springfield.

Gardening the Community employs 15 young people every summer to care for vegetable and fruit gardens in low-income neighborhoods of Springfield. These mini-farms are cultivated without chemical pesticides and fertilizers. The goal of the project is to keep young people active and engaged with their community.

The Gurland Award from Sinai Temple will allow the Garden program to become a vendor at the farmer's market which is scheduled to open this summer in Mason Square.

The Susan Broh Tikkun Olam Award

Three young people have won the Susan M. Broh award for the summer of 2007.

The first winner is Adam Levy, a student at Tufts University, who will be dividing his summer experience between working with immigrants in Tucson, Arizona and working with immigrants (many of them actually exiles) in Nepal. Adam will work with both populations of displaced people and develop a presentation that he will use for teaching purposes on immigration after the summer. Adam's project will involve seven weeks of volunteer work.

Casey Markenson, who will be a High School senior this Fall, will be doing her project in the Dominican Republic. She will be involved there in a program known as "Working Toward Healthy Mothers and Babies." Founded in 2003 by two midwives from the University of Puerto Rico, this group seeks to improve health care services for vulnerable populations.

Finally, Matthew Berg, who will be a freshman in college next Fall, will spend part of his summer volunteering to assist residents at the Jewish Nursing Home.

The goals and projects of these three outstanding young people fulfill the spirit of Tikkun Olam as personified by the life and accomplishments of Susan Broh.

OUR ENVIRONMENT ----- WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

View these and other easy-to-do steps you can take at <http://www.climatecrisis.net/takeaction/>

Turn off electronic devices you're not using

Simply turning off your television, DVD player, stereo, and computer when you're not using them will save you thousands of pounds of carbon dioxide a year.

Unplug electronics from the wall when you're not using them

Even when turned off, things like hairdryers, cell phone chargers and televisions use energy. In fact, the energy used to keep display clocks lit and memory chips working accounts for 5 percent of total domestic energy consumption and spews 18 million tons of carbon into the atmosphere every year!

Only run your dishwasher when there's a full load and use the energy-saving setting

You can save 100 pounds of carbon dioxide per year.

Insulate and weatherize your home

Properly insulating your walls and ceilings can save 25% of your home heating bill and 2,000 pounds of carbon dioxide a year. Caulking and weather-stripping can save another 1,700 pounds per year. The Consumer Federation of America has more information on how to better insulate your home.

Recycle at home

You can save 2,400 pounds of carbon dioxide a year by recycling half of the waste your household generates. Earth 911 can help you find recycling resources in your area.

Buy recycled paper products

It takes less 70 to 90% less energy to make recycled paper and it prevents the loss of forests worldwide.

Buy locally grown and produced foods

The average meal in the United States travels 1,200 miles from the farm to your plate. Buying locally will save fuel and keep money in your community.

Buy fresh foods instead of frozen

Frozen food uses 10 times more energy to produce.

Seek out and support the farmers market at the X!!!

Farmers markets reduce the amount of energy required to grow and transport food by one fifth. The market in Springfield at the X runs all summer!

Eat less meat

Methane is the second most significant greenhouse gas and cows are one of the greatest methane emitters. Their grassy diet and multiple stomachs cause them to produce methane, which they exhale with every breath.

Message from Brotherhood

As our year winds down, I would like to reminisce on what the year that was. This past year we served over 3000 hot dogs, 1000 eggs, a couple of hundred Hamentashen, 30 pounds of lox, 350 bagels, 30 pounds of cream cheese, 30 pounds of potatoes, 15 gallons of orange juice, over 50 chickens, not to mention cold cuts, rye bread, salads, and countless condiments. If nothing else, the Brotherhood has made sure everyone was well fed!

We've had breakfast and dinner together, gone to services together, and discussed important, timely matters together. We've had a raffle, presented awards, and generally tried to have a good and informative time.

Brotherhood has done what it can to add to the family feel of the Temple. One of our goals has always been to be the friends in the Friendly Temple.

We're always looking for more to do. If you have any ideas that you think Brotherhood would be able to bring to fruition, please let us know. Our meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM, usually in the library. Feel free to drop by!

Have a great summer! Maybe next year we'll be able to get that golf tournament going...

Dan Cohn

Sinai Brotherhood President

dcohn@sinaibrotherhood.org



STATE OF
ISRAEL BONDS
Development Corporation for Israel
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SAVE THE DATE!!!!
as the
Western MA State of Israel Bonds
pays tribute to our own
Judy & Michael Cohen
at a
Cocktail Buffet
with guest speaker Dr. Kenneth Stein
Tuesday, June 5, 2007 6 p.m.
at Chez Josef in Agawam

Invitation to follow
For information call the Israel Bonds office at 800-916-1918

From the Director of Education Sheila Shear

Shalom Chaverim,

Here we are, once again looking at the year that has just passed and looking forward to the new year ahead of us. Looking back, I once again want to thank the staff, the madrkhim (student aides) and the religious school committee for their hard work this past year. I am looking forward to working with you all in the coming year.

Thank you also to all of you who supported our Religious School fundraisers. The Passover wine sales made an additional \$175.00, and the final tally on the cookie dough/cheesecake fundraiser is still out. We hope you will continue to support our programs with your purchases.

Registration for next year is going very well. If you have not yet returned your registration please do so by June 8th. Remember Hebrew School day placement is on a first come first serve basis. 8th, 9th, and 10th grade students must also register to attend classes.

All of you who have students going into 8th, 9th, or 10th grade should have by now received a letter inviting you to participate in our exciting middle and high school programming for which both the content and the calendar have been adjusted to reflect the needs and interests of our current students. This being the case, it has been decided that beginning in the fall of 07, students who intend on attending Confirmation Class (not to be missed) must attend both 8th and 9th grade. This will be the final year that students who did not attend 8th grade will be able to attend 9th grade and those who did not attend 9th grade are invited to attend Confirmation Class. I hope that all of Sinai's eligible students will attend these wonderful classes. It is learning like they have not experienced in the past.

I look forward to seeing you in September. Please do not hesitate to call with any questions. Have a wonderful and safe Summer.

Sheila Shear



Happy 4th Graders
learning at a Parent/
Child program

Has Your Family Been Blessed By Adoption?

Has your family been blessed by Adoption? Have you ever wanted to "give back" to the Adoption community but weren't sure how? Well, here's your chance!

The Good Morning Fund is a local 501c3 non-profit organization that works in partnership with Adoption-Link (the adoption program of Jewish Family Service of Western Massachusetts) and raises funds to help qualified prospective adoptive parent(s) afford the cost of adoption.

I recently joined the Board of Directors of this organization and I am chairing a campaign called "Families Helping Families". I know what joy our daughter, Shaina, has brought to our lives and I know other adoptive families feel equally blessed. Our temple's adoptive families (and non-adoptive families who are touched by adoption) could help deserving prospective parent(s) so much by participating in this program.

If you would like to hear more about how the Families Helping Families campaign works and how you can help this worthy cause, please call me at 562-1123 or email me at gagpar@comcast.net. If we get enough interest, I could set up an informational meeting at the temple. Let me know if you would like to attend an informational meeting or just chat informally about the program.

Judaica Shop Corner

Thank you to all who have helped make the Shop have a good year! We thank our volunteers, too, who have been able to keep us open longer hours at holiday times.

For the summer months there will not be regular hours, but we will be available for all your needs. Just call us.

Have a wonderful summer and we'll see you in September with new and always special Judaica.

Thais Fischel 786-9577

Bobbie Cossin 565-9970

Why I want to convert to Judaism

(The following are excerpts from a wonderful statement of commitment written by Joe Dow as he chose to become a Jew.)

Having lived for many years as a non-practicing interfaith couple, it wasn't until our two boys came along that we truly began to respect and celebrate both Christian and Jewish traditions and their accompanying holidays. Since my wife is from Azerbaijan, she never grew up attending a synagogue or celebrating Jewish holidays since for her and her parents, it was not encouraged to practice Judaism. I believe much of her interest in Judaism came from her love and respect for her grandmothers, whom she remembers having a Passover Seder, and speaking Yiddish at home.

So, it was with this desire within me to unify my family that brought me one Shabbat to approach the Rabbi and express my interest in conversion. At my first meeting with the Rabbi, we began to plan what my first Passover would look like. We started with the basics: preparing haroset, finding a family Haggadah, and having a Seder plate along with many activities for my young children. I am pleased to say that my second Seder improved greatly upon the first, and I am looking forward to many years of experiencing the growth of this process with my family as we add to our Haggadah from year to year.

Meetings with the Rabbi were quite frequent and required a time commitment for the many readings given to me. However, as time passed, and I began to learn about Jewish holidays and traditions, I found that my journey towards Judaism became more of a personal one although I knew there would be great benefits for my family as well.

In thinking about why I am choosing this path of conversion to Judaism, my mind keeps returning to words in the Sinai bulletin several months ago written by Cantor Mekler, and I am paraphrasing here: 'Judaism does it right. It just makes sense.' In other words, many of life's dilemmas, from birth to death as well as the great questions about the meaning and purpose for our lives, which all religions try to address, are answered most completely for me by Judaism. Judaism does not offer simplistic answers to these complex questions, but rather addresses the complexity of the questions with profound answers as debated by Rabbis through the centuries and expressed in the Mishnah and the Talmud as well as by many modern Jewish writers. One of these writers, Richard Levy, in his essay *The God Puzzle*, states:

"I believe that the world—the interconnections between space and time, which Hebrew translates as *Olam*—is like a huge jigsaw puzzle."

For me, understanding all of these connections between seemingly random events, such as overwhelming family crises and the potential meaning we can draw from them, and the purpose, although not caused by God, they may have in our personal growth and development helps me to weather these storms.

When witnessing a beautiful early morning sunrise, Levy describes reciting the prayer, *Baruch atta Adonai Eloheynu melech-ha-olam, oseh ma-asei v'reisheet*, Praised are you, Adonai our God, ruler of the *Olam*, who does the deed of creation? For me also, saying a prayer of acknowledgement and thanks to God for the beauty of nature gives greater meaning to the origins of this beauty but also momentarily connects me to the spiritual and holy in everyday events.

This learning process is just beginning for me, and I would be entirely remiss in this essay thus far describing my process of Jewish learning if I did not mention the many members of the weekly Torah Study group, and the impact they have had upon my Jewish learning. For at least the first six months, as many of them will attest, I never uttered a single word during the Torah Study, but I have learned so much from them, not just in their interpretations of Torah, but sometimes in just the ways they view life as a result of their experiences. Listening to George Dickstein describe in one session what it was like growing up Jewish in a working class town in Connecticut many years ago was a very important experience for me to understand what it means to be Jewish and how that experience has changed in America in the 21st century. And, I have continued my studies with weekly Hebrew classes at Sinai, and so I want to thank my teachers, Gloria Wald and Loren Hutner, and fellow students in this process as well, especially the inimitable Belle Rita Novak, who still refers to me as the "new Jew," which is truly a compliment.

As you can see, my learning process as a new member of the Jewish community is just beginning, and I look forward to continuing to experience it with all of you at Sinai Temple.

The Law and the Land; An Israel Affinity Trip for Attorneys November 1-10, 2007

ARZA is pleased to announce an unprecedented Israel experience for attorneys!

Itinerary Highlights:

- Two days of Continuing Legal Education courses at Tel Aviv University Law School*
 - Meetings with Israel judges and private- and public-sector attorneys
 - Workshops with the legal staff of the Israel Religious Action Center
 - Briefings by high-level officials on contemporary legal issues in Israel
 - Tour of Israel's Supreme Court, Knesset, and other government institutions
 - Visits to significant Israeli sites such as Har Herzl, Yad Vashem and Independence Hall
 - Opportunities for networking with Israeli and American attorneys
 - Parallel programming for spouses and partners
- Interested? Contact Marla Schuchman to be placed on the mailing list for this trip.

Phone: 212 650-4096

Email: mschuchman@arza.org

*We anticipate that the program will (or can) be certified for 12-14 CLE credit hours in states with mandatory CLE requirements.

Somalia is Here: Your Tzedakah Support Would Be Helpful

For several years, members of our Social Action committee have worked very hard and with great, great love to help our Somalia adopted family adjust to life in Springfield. The family is progressing, but summer always presents a challenge for the children. What to do? For a few summers, the JCC has graciously extended significant scholarships to the children for Day Camp. But we are short of funds.

Please - If you are looking for a tzedakah project of your own, help get the children to Day Camp. Contributions of any size will make a huge difference. Send your tzedakah to the Temple and mark it for the Somalian Fund. Thank you.

SINAI TEMPLE LEGACY SOCIETY

In partnership with the Jewish Endowment
Foundation of Western Massachusetts

OVERVIEW:

Over the years, many Sinai members have supported the congregation with generous gifts and contributions through the endowment and capital campaign initiatives. During the last three years, many congregants have also joined our Sustaining Membership program. Their "extra" dues have helped provide needed income for the Temple and also allowed us to welcome members at all income levels.

AN ADDITIONAL POSSIBILITY:

This year our Temple wants to create another way in which congregants can help Sinai develop financial stability for the future. We are calling this new possibility -The Legacy Society. We are inviting you to consider "planned giving," which means combining your personal financial interests with your charitable interests. Everyone, including those whose current income may be limited, can consider a "planned" gift that can be quite substantial. A "legacy" gift could mean a Charitable Bequests through your will, the creative use of Life Insurance, or the gift of a Qualified Retirement Plan or IRA, or a Charitable Gift Annuity.

WE WILL HELP:

The first step is to discuss opportunities with Rabbi Shapiro and our planned giving chairman, Geoff Berman or with Lynn Dashevsky, Executive Director of the Jewish Endowment Foundation of Western Massachusetts. Our Legacy Sinai program will also be able to call upon the advice of professionals from our membership.

WHAT TO DO NEXT?

Please contact Rabbi Shapiro or Geoff Berman. We will be happy to discuss your interests and find an appropriate way in which the Legacy Society can work with you for the benefit of you, your family, and Sinai Temple.

Mazal Tov to:

Rachel Kuhn Daviau on the return engagement of her play, Leah Enters Late. The play was presented at the National Yiddish Book Center from May 12 to May 20.

Shelby Leshine on becoming host of Teen Style, an interview show on WGBY 57.

Belle Rita Novak on the rabbinic ordination of her son, David, at Hebrew Union College in Los Angeles. David will become the rabbi of Israel Congregation in Manchester, Vermont.

The Sinai Temple Bulletin is published monthly by Sinai Temple, Springfield, Massachusetts. This is Issue Number 10 for the year 2006-2007.

Mark Dov Shapiro Rabbi

Emily Sleeper Mekler Cantor, Music Director

Officers

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Roberta Hillenberg-Gang Vice President

Elliot Greenberg Vice President

Rina Miller Vice President

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Mike Bader Membership Chair

Ron Weiss Cemetery Chair

Dan Cohn Brotherhood

Visit our website: www.sinai-temple.org

Sinai Temple BULLETIN

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Sinai Temple carries beautiful and unique invitations, announcements, and stationary. All orders discounted 25%. Easy to order and a great way to raise money for our temple!

Please call Linda Berger at 860-698-6159