

# Sinai Temple

## BULLETIN



## For Your Consideration

Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro

Have you ever been to Montgomery, Alabama? How about Selma or Birmingham?

Several weeks ago the Confirmation Class and I visited these three cities plus Atlanta on "a civil rights journey."

We walked on the Edmund Pettus Bridge where the 1965 march from Selma to Montgomery began. We stood on the exact spot where Rosa Parks boarded that famous bus and refused to give up her seat. We sat in the front row of the Ebenezer Baptist Church where Martin Luther King Jr. gave so many of his sermons.

We met a woman who marched with Dr. King when she was only a child. (When we asked what she remembered most about King, she told us she recalls his kindness toward children and the fact that he had the softest hands (!) of any man she had ever met. "After all," she said, "He was a preacher man.")

It was a brilliant, moving weekend with a hundred highlights that inspired me and every one of the Confirmation students. We learned a great deal about the African American struggle for freedom, but the truth of the matter is that we made the journey for an additional purpose.

As Jews, we went south in order to ask the greatest questions of all: Where would we have stood in circumstances like those? Had we been African Americans, would we have dared to march? Had we been Jews living in that time and place, would we have dared to speak out? For that matter, today, how do we respond to the ongoing moral dilemmas that surround us? Are we silent and comfortable or do we dare to speak the truth to power?

We actually discovered the theme for our weekend as we toured the Southern Poverty Law Center. There, on the wall, Elie Wiesel was quoted. I'd like to think someone put the text there for our class and perhaps also for all of us as we prepare for Passover 5767. Wiesel wrote, "We must take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor. Never the victim."

That's what Passover is all about! My very best wishes for a season of honesty and courage!

### Saturday Services

*Saturday Services at 10:30 a.m.  
Mazal Tov To Bnai Mitzvah:*

**April 8 – Erika Schwartz**  
Daughter of Daryl & Lynn

**April 22 – Alex Moskovitz**  
Son of Andy & Heidi

**April 29 – Sean Meunier**  
Son of Erik & Suzanne

### Passover

**PASSOVER BEGINS MONDAY  
EVENING, APRIL 2.**

**PASSOVER ENDS AT SUNDOWN  
MONDAY, APRIL 9.**

Passover Morning Service  
Tuesday, April 3 at 10:30 a.m.  
Yizkor and Concluding Service  
Monday, April 9 at 10:30 a.m.

### Saturday Torah Study

Torah Study  
Every Saturday Morning  
At 9 a.m.

### FRIDAY EVENING SERVICES - 76-88

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

**April 6**

The Andy Berger Art Contest PLUS the dedication of our 75th anniversary children's art project.

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

**April 13**

Veggies and snacks at 5:30 p.m.

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

**April 20**

Music with a special style.

**FRIDAY NIGHT CLASSIC at 8:00 p.m.**

**April 27**

An evening for your soul.

## Interested in Joining a Sinai Temple Committee?

### **Adult Education (Chair: Laurie Weinberg)**

This committee plans and coordinates educational programs of interest to congregants and the larger Jewish community.

### **Bar/Bat Mitzvah (Chairs: Ellen Smith/Barbara Winer)**

This committee coordinates and assigns the Bar/Bat Mitzvah dates of Sinai Temple's children.

### **Brotherhood (Chair: Dan Cohn)**

The Brotherhood offers programming for the men in the congregation. It also provides meals at various Temple functions (Purim, Chanukah etc)

### **Caring Community (Chairs: Pam Kalman/Lynn Solomon)**

Our congregation hopes to enhance the feeling of belonging for all of our members. This committee helps people feel part of our community.

### **Cemetery (Chair: Ron Weiss )**

The cemetery committee manages the funds and grounds of Sinai Cemetery.

### **Finance (Chair: Steve Weiss)**

This committee reviews the budget, endowment funds and other financial matters of the temple.

### **House (Chair: Irwin Pers)**

This committee is responsible for overseeing the maintenance and repair of the building and grounds.

### **Library (Chair: Tina DeMeza)**

This committee maintains and expands the temple's library.

### **Membership (Chair: Mike Bader)**

This committee contacts and recruits prospective members for the temple.

### **Membership and Retention (Chair: Jeffrey Cossin)**

This committee will carry out the new Mission statement of Sinai Temple by transforming the recruitment, integration and retention activities so that all members will feel the joy and passion of belonging to Sinai.

### **Religious School (Chair: Robin Dunn-McDonagh)**

This committee meets monthly and works with the Director of Education to oversee and develop programs for the religious school.

### **Ritual (Chair: Rickie Leiter)**

This committee works with the Rabbi and the Cantor to refine and enhance services plus holiday celebrations from Rosh Hashanah to Purim!

## Message from the President Steve Weiss

At various times during my almost two years as President, I've commented on how much I've come to appreciate how essential the work of volunteers is to our Sinai Community. There's no question that without the help of our volunteers Sinai would be a far less active and inviting congregation.

The Board of Directors has agreed that it's time to honor all those who selflessly provide their time and energies, often without any recognition. For a number of years, our annual meeting was a rather perfunctory affair. Last year, for a change of pace, we used the occasion to honor families who had been Sinai members for 50 years or more, and the meeting became not just a necessary piece of business but a celebration of families who have long been essential to the Sinai community. This year we've decided to continue the same tradition (if something done two years in a row can be called a tradition). Our annual meeting this year is on June 14<sup>th</sup>, and we're dedicating the meeting to ALL SINAI VOLUNTEERS. There will be a family picnic at 6:00 p.m., followed by the meeting, at which we hope to honor and recognize the countless congregants who make Sinai an exciting and vibrant place. The event is being planned by Roberta Hillenberg-Gang, Carol Roberts, Belle Rita Novak, and Susan Goldman. If you're a Temple member who has volunteered, they invite you to share your experiences by sending a note describing your activities, why you decided to volunteer, what it meant to you, and what you learned and gained from their involvement. We hope to be able to share these during the festivities. I hope that you'll join us!

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### **Shalom (Chairs: Jeffrey Cossin /Karen Mendelsohn)**

The Shalom Committee welcomes and integrates new members into the congregation.

### **Social Action ( Chair: Ronnie Leavitt)**

This committee develops and implements opportunities for congregants to participate in "Tikkum Olam" (repairing the world).

### **Youth (Chair: Bonnie Thomas)**

This committee oversees the Temple's youth group programming.

# PASSOVER 2007

**PASSOVER BEGINS MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 2  
PASSOVER ENDS AT SUNDOWN, MONDAY, APRIL 9**

**COME PRAY...COME FILL  
THE SANCTUARY PASSOVER MORNING  
Tuesday, April 3 at 10:30 a.m.  
(Luncheon to follow.)**

This grand service will include special holiday music and an extra opportunity to explore the appeal of our great spring festival.

**YIZKOR AND CONCLUDING SERVICE  
Monday, April 9 at 10:30 a.m.**

We dedicate new plaques on our yahrzeit board and bid farewell to Passover.  
A luncheon follows the service.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE KNOWN AS  
SOMEONE WHO ENJOYED A GOOD  
MEAL, OR AS SOMEONE WHO HELPED  
PROVIDE OTHERS WITH SOMETHING  
TO EAT?**

As the Passover Seder approaches with all of its food, food, food, would you consider sharing some of your good fortune with others? Your Passover contribution to the Temple's Isaiah Hunger Fund will be forwarded to people in Springfield who do not have enough money to eat at all. The Hunger Fund is our way of responding to local hunger. You can feel better over your matzah balls by remembering tzedakah. All funds donated to the Isaiah Hunger Fund go directly to the hungry in our community.

The Sinai Temple Bulletin is published monthly by Sinai Temple, Springfield, Massachusetts. This is Issue Number 6 for the year 2006-2007.

Mark Dov Shapiro Rabbi  
Emily Sleeper Mekler Cantor, Music Director

**Officers**

Steve Weiss President  
Roberta Hillenberg-Gang Vice President  
Elliot Greenberg Vice President  
Rina Miller Vice President  
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Bobi Steingart Financial Secretary  
Ann Jacobs Recording Secretary  
Mike Bader Membership Chair  
Ron Weiss Cemetery Chair  
Dan Cohn Brotherhood

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

**SHOULD MY CHILD MISS SCHOOL ON  
THE FIRST MORNING OF PASSOVER?**

Dear Parents: I know that attending the Passover Morning Service on Tuesday, April 3 means having your child miss school, but having your child miss school for the sake of this positive Jewish experience can make a difference in his/her life. I offer you the following letter for expressing your commitments to your child's teacher. Rabbi Shapiro.

Dear Teacher:

Please excuse my child from school for tomorrow morning, Tuesday, April 3. He/She will be attending services at Sinai Temple.

As you know, tomorrow marks the first full day of Passover, and it is customary for the Jewish community to assemble together. Passover's morning service is not unlike the Rosh Hashanah morning service for which my child was also absent. I hope there will be no extra work assigned on April 3. Since my child enjoys our Temple services so much, I know he/she anticipates a wonderful learning experience on Passover morning.

Yours truly,  
A concerned parent

## 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.

## Showcase Shabbat

Over 200 Sinai congregants made the evening of Friday, March 2 a great success.

From drumming to yoga to Shabbat blessings and tzedakah activities, the evening shone magnificently. Thank you to all those who organized the Friday evening plus the very funny and relaxed evening of Jewish humor that followed on Saturday.



Very happy kids make sandwiches for Open Pantry.



Ben Black enjoys the drumming as part of the Showcase Shabbat service.



The family of the late Arthur and Arline Rogers. (Thank you to the family for underwriting our Showcase.)



Some of the Not-Ready-for-Prime-Time-Purim-Players:  
Jeff Leiter, Belle Rita Novak, Sheila Shear, Jackie Neiman



Mara and Lori Chasen making sandwiches  
for Open Pantry

**The God Delusion by Richard Dawkins -  
Is God a fiction? Would our world be  
better of without religion?  
Two evenings of conversation  
Wednesdays, May 9 & 16 at 8 p.m.**

Dear Friends -

I've now read several chapters of Richard Dawkins' book, *The God Delusion*. It is a very good book. It is provocative, disturbing, and worth much consideration.

So...If you've ever wondered about God, this is the book for you.

Buy it and read Chapter Four. After that, you will almost certainly want to read the rest! You'll also want to join the conversation about the book on May 9 and 16.

**Monthly Morning Service  
Wednesday, April 4  
at 7:30 a.m.**

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.

Future "morning minyan" services will take place on Wednesdays, May 2 and June 6.

## 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.

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

**Women of Sinai presents  
A Surprise Offering:  
MAH JONGG AFTERNOON  
& TEA  
Wednesday, April 25  
1:30 - 3:00 p.m.**

Movie & Instruction  
Players & Beginners Welcome  
(Sinai members bring your friends.  
Men are also invited!)

RSVP by April 9

Claire Cohen-Stelzer, 747-6162 Cecs12@comcast.net.  
Laura Blake, 567-5269 Ablake01@aol.com.  
Kim Black, 567-6665 Kimb162@comcast.net

**Mah-Jongg: The Tiles That Bind  
Is a Real Movie!!!**

Bam! Dot! Crack! The ancient game of Mah-Jongg has been played by the Chinese since the time of Confucius, yet is beloved by thousands of Jewish-American women. How did this happen?

*MAH-JONGG: THE TILES THAT BIND* is a light-hearted yet deeply moving portrait of the Asian- and Jewish-American women who play this centuries-old game. It explores the shared experiences of the players and their families, and chronicles the very social aspect of the game- food, camaraderie, gossip, and most importantly, the life-long bonds that form among its players.

*MAH-JONGG: THE TILES THAT BIND* won Second Prize, Documentary Short at the 1999 FilmFest New Haven, Second Place in the 1998 AFI Visions of U.S. Video Competition, and a Juror's Choice Award in the 1998 Berkeley Video Competition, and has played at festivals around the world.

**You're Invited to Israel  
July 1 - 13, 2007**

The daily itinerary with details on registration is available on the Sinai Website ([www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)). You can register with Ayelet Tours, 19 Aviation Rd. Albany, NY 12205 or call (800) 237-1517 \* (518) 783-6001 \* FAX (518) 783-6003 \* E-mail: [ayelet@ayelet.com](mailto:ayelet@ayelet.com)

**THE SINAI TEMPLE COOKBOOK  
Is a great gift idea for Passover  
Includes recipes for the holiday.  
Buy one at Temple today.**

## **For High School and College students A Summer Program Making Money; The Susan M. Broh Tikkun Olam Award**

This summer Sinai Temple invites students to get involved with tikkun olam – repairing the world. We would like to underwrite students who choose to spend their summer in a project that enriches the world. Interested students can get involved by thinking of a project or an area of interest. Those who are selected will be paid a salary of approximately \$7.50 an hour. (College students living outside the Pioneer Valley are welcome to find a project wherever they'll be spending the summer.)

Why is the Temple offering this program? We began this program several years ago to honor the memory of Susan M. Broh, a Temple member who died in September 2001. Susan began her career of “tikkun olam” by dedicating two years of her life to the Peace Corps. After that, Susan devoted her professional and volunteer life to making this world a better place. She believed passionately in the Jewish obligation of pursuing justice. Susan's friends and family have created this program to honor her memory and to encourage other Jews to strive for holiness as Jews must always do.

A full application is available by calling the Temple office.

## **Our Children are Shining! Children's Art Project For our 75th Anniversary Dedication Evening Friday, April 6 7 p.m.**

This past Fall every student in our Religious School created a tile with the first Hebrew letter of his or her name. After that, every student had the opportunity to brain storm about the most important Hebrew words in our Jewish lives. Words such as: Torah, mitzvah, tikkun olam, and tzedakah were chosen.

Now all of the letters have been used to create a work of art that spells out all of the significant Hebrew terms.

We call this work of art – **The Alphabet of our Jewish Lives.**

It hangs in the Oneg Shabbat Room.

It will be dedicated at the Family Service of April 6.

At that time we will give thanks to the family of the late AMY REINER. Amy loved art and her family has chosen to honor her memory with this lasting memorial by our school's children.

## **From the Director of Education**

*Shalom Chaverim,*

It is spring once again in New England and here at Sinai that means that we are thinking ahead to next year. We are very excited that the proposal for Single Session Sunday passed both the Religious School Committee and the Board of Trustees, and are beginning in earnest to fill in the details of what next year has in store for us all. It also means that in just a few weeks you will be receiving registration information. Please read your forms carefully and return them as soon as possible.

So what is going on for the rest of this year? Well, 9<sup>th</sup> grade students have just returned from a wonderful trip to the Religious Action Center in Washington, D.C., and the 6<sup>th</sup> graders are preparing for their annual retreat at Eisner Camp at the end of the month. Our 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be celebrating with their new found SPARK friends and 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades will be celebrating Yom Haatzmaut together. That leaves us with just a few weeks in May. Please look for Religious School/Hebrew School Registration coming soon.

## **Pursuit of Justice as Summer Vacation with NFTY Mitzvah Corps**

As the summer arrives and school lets out, millions of American teens will head to the beach, hang out with friends and take in the summer blockbusters. But there are those teens out there looking for a more meaningful and productive way to spend their summer vacation. NFTY Mitzvah Corps has many opportunities to address this need. With programs across North America, participants will engage in meaningful work with low income students, young people with autism and continuing to rebuild the Gulf Coast.

**Where will you be Tuesday morning, April 3?  
How about trying the Passover morning service at  
Temple?**

## A HOME CEREMONY FOR REMEMBERING THE HOLOCAUST FROM RABBI SHAPIRO

Dear Friends:

When Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Memorial Day) starts on the 27th of Nisan, the **evening of Saturday, April 14, 2007**, there is something simple and beautiful which you can do to commemorate the Holocaust. You can purchase and light a Yahrzeit/Memorial Candle in your home.

At that time, you might want to have a moment of silence, use the prayer that follows, or create something of your own. My family and I have used a yahrzeit candle for this purpose and found it to be a very moving experience. I hope you will allow the yahrzeit candle to become a new tradition for your household as well

A limited number of candles will be available at the Temple office if you wish to pick one up there. You can also purchase a candle at a grocery store.

### A Prayer for Lighting the "Holocaust Candle"

I/we light this memorial candle in order not to forget the lives of the Jewish men, women, and children who are symbolized by its flame. They were brutalized for no reason; their lives were taken in cruelty. May we be inspired to learn about our six million brothers and sisters as individuals and as communities; and may we recall not only the terror of their deaths, but the splendor of so many of their lives. May the memory of their lives inspire us to hallow our own lives, and to live meaningful Jewish lives so that we may help to ensure that part of who they were always endures.

## Prospective New Members for Sinai Temple: You Can Help Build the Congregation

Every year people relocate to the greater Springfield area, or people who have lived in the area consider joining a Temple. Often these people, friends, colleagues, neighbors or relatives ask current members about Sinai Temple. You can help the Temple recruit these interested people by referring them to Mike Bader, Chairman of the Membership Committee. Mike has been helping new members for over thirty years. He has the information they need and can answer their questions. He can be reached weekday mornings at 737-3139 OR nights and weekends at 786-0319.

**The first 200 congregants to read  
this box are invited to fill the  
sanctuary on the first morning of  
Passover – Tuesday, April 3.**



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*

## Hatikvah to Sponsor Yom HaShoah Community Holocaust Remembrance Day – April 15, 2007

The annual Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration, sponsored by the Hatikvah Holocaust Education Center, will take place on Sunday, April 15, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. at Sinai Temple, 1100 Dickinson Street, Springfield, MA.

This event is free and open to the public.

The theme of this year's program is "Life Reborn: Remembering the Displaced Persons' Camps." Among the participants will be two survivors from the Displaced Persons' Camps, children from the 7th grade class at Sinai Temple, Cantor Emily Sleeper Mekler, Rabbi Mark Shapiro, the Sinai Temple Choir and Mak'hela, the Pioneer Valley's Regional Jewish Chorus. There will be traditional candle lighting and the traditional memorial prayers

There will also be a Call to Action for the United States to assist in ending the genocide in Darfur.

## Annual Meeting and Barbecue — Honor our Volunteers on Wednesday June 14

**Barbecue Picnic: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.**  
**Meeting: 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

We'll celebrate together as a community. No Cost for the event! No work required on your part. Please RSVP to the Temple by May 30, 2007. (Leadership is doing all the work this night—you only need to let us know that you will attend.)

Please drop us a note and tell with us what you have done as a volunteer. What compelled you to volunteer? What did it mean to you? What have you gained from your experiences? How has it connected you to the Sinai community? Share anecdotes, wit and wisdom with us. Email Roberta Gang at: [Hillenberg-GangDesign@comcast.net](mailto:Hillenberg-GangDesign@comcast.net) or send to Sinai Temple c/o Annual Meeting Celebration.

Please see the insert in this Bulletin and fill out and return the form by May 30, 2007. Instead you may fill out the form on the Sinai Temple web site at [www.sinaitemple.org/june14/annualmeeting.html](http://www.sinaitemple.org/june14/annualmeeting.html).

Come celebrate Sinai volunteers at the Annual Meeting and join us to say . . .

# Thank you!

### We'll Celebrate All Sinai Volunteers at Our Congregation-wide Barbecue and Annual Meeting on June 14, 2007.

Please write and share with us what you have done as a volunteer (adults, teens and children). What compelled you to volunteer? What did it mean to you? What have you gained from your experiences? How has it connected you to the Sinai community? Share anecdotes, wit and wisdom with us.

Email your response to Roberta Hillenberg-Gang (Word attachments preferred):  
[Hillenberg-GangDesign@comcast.net](mailto:Hillenberg-GangDesign@comcast.net)

Or send to Sinai Temple, Annual Meeting Celebration,  
1100 Dickinson Street, Springfield, MA 01108



## Our Purim Play Cast

(top row left to right)

Andy Moskovitz,

Mitch Torff, Rob Leavitt.

(bottom row left to right)

Reva Kleppel,

Jackie Neiman, Sheila Shear,

Cantor Emily Sleeper Mekler,

Rabbi Mark Shapiro



## From the Cantor Emily Sleeper Mekler

Thank you for the exuberant greeting you gave me for my “guest” appearance on Purim! It was a fun, pie-in-the-face morning! Kudos to those who participated and to all of you who took the time to teach and learn the words to my Purim parodies while I was away.

So, here’s the sabbatical news. The time FLEW by SO fast! I had a fascinating and fulfilling time working on a fabulous project called Judaica Sound Archives (JSA) at Florida Atlantic University (FAU). The Judaica Sound Archives is “an internationally recognized major center for the collection and preservation of Judaica sound recordings.” Since its inception in 2002 JSA has matured from a small collection of 78 rpm records to over 60,000 titles in its inventory” which include, for example, Jewish popular music, Yiddish Theater, comedy, children’s music, classical music, Israeli folk, Cantorial, and Sephardic music recorded as early as 1901. A passionate team of volunteers and a few professional individuals organize, categorize and digitize old LP’s and 78’s of Jewish content, Jewish artists, or Jewish composers.

A great deal of the music in the JSA collection at FAU can be heard on the website at [www.fau.edu/jsa](http://www.fau.edu/jsa), which continues to grow rapidly as more music is digitized. However, much of the collection is not copy written so it is not available over the internet. So here is the newest addition.

JSA is planning to increase FAU’s visibility and strengthen its image among Jewish communities around the country and the world. The plan is to create off-site access to the digital resources of the Judaica Sound Archives at FAU through a dedicated computer

terminal to be used specifically and ONLY for research and listening. Here’s where my volunteer efforts were utilized. One of my responsibilities was, and still is, to contact Jewish Music Libraries, for example, at Hebrew Union College, Jewish Theological Seminary and other Jewish music libraries across the country and in Europe to try to encourage each to house a dedicated research computer from JSA as an off-site extension of the FAU Libraries. I arranged and was present for a tour of JSA with Cantor Bruce Rubin, who is the Director of the School of Sacred Music at Hebrew Union College, and another colleague. HUC is definitely convinced of the value of the research station for cantors and rabbis and are in the process of making it a reality. And there will be more such opportunities as I continue to work on their behalf.

While I was assisting at JSA I had the joy of listening to hundreds of selections. Another one of my responsibilities was to choose a snippet from various recordings that is heard when the listener “clicks on” to search the website, as an example of the various artists and genres that are available. My ears were treated to voices and music that touched my heart and my soul. My dear father (z”l) would have LOVED the experience.

Now you, too, can enjoy some of this experience. Try it!! Click onto [www.fau.edu/jsa](http://www.fau.edu/jsa). Then, go through your own private collection in your attic, den or basement and pack up and donate those old LP’s and 78’s to the following address: Judaica Sound Archives, Florida Atlantic University Libraries, 777 Glades Rd., Boca Raton, FL 33431-0992. In fact, take it a step further and make a tax-deductible monetary contribution to JSA. The information is on the website.

## Mazal Tov to:

Fran Ochs on being honored at the forthcoming Heritage Academy Scholarship Dinner for her 18 years of service at the school

Jack and Robin Henrie on the birth of their granddaughter, Maya Elena. Proud parents from Wisconsin are Sharon and Ohad. Proud uncle is Jonathan!

## Greening Your World: A Message from the Social Action Committee

Sometimes when many people make small changes—the change can be significant.

Website: [www.nrdc.org](http://www.nrdc.org) (Natural Resources Defense Council) has many suggestions for ways you can make small and /or large changes to help save the Earth. Save energy on the road by looking for fuel-efficient, less polluting cars. Did you know that a car that gets 20 miles to the gallon emits 50 tons of carbon dioxide over its lifetime.

Save energy at home by recycling materials you use. This saves resources, decreases the use of toxic chemicals, cuts energy use, helps curb global warming, stems the flow of water and air pollution and reduces the need for landfills and incinerators.

### Celebrate Earth Day - April 22

On April 22, 1970, 20 million people across America celebrated the first Earth Day. It was a time when cities were buried under their own smog and polluted rivers caught fire. Now Earth Day is celebrated annually around the globe. Through the combined efforts of the U.S. government, grassroots organizations, and citizens like you, what started as a day of national environmental recognition has evolved into a world-wide campaign to protect our global environment.

Websites: [www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/earthday/?trnstl=1](http://www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/earthday/?trnstl=1) and [www.earth911.org](http://www.earth911.org) have many suggestions for ways you and your family can celebrate Earth Day.

***You are not obliged to finish the task,  
nor are you free to neglect it.***

Pirkei Avot

## Sinai's Named Funds

There are many named funds that one can contribute to at Sinai. Many of us know/knew the people for whom they are named, but none of us knows/knew everyone. I thought that it would be interesting to learn about the people whose names are on a fund, and why that specific fund was established.

*Belle Rita Novak*

The Bernerd S. Dunn Beautification Fund was set up by his family in 1994 shortly after Mr. Dunn's death to honor his memory. The Dunn Family have been members of Sinai Temple since 1951 and actively participated in Sinai's growth and development.

The Dunns chose beautification of the Temple and its grounds because it was something Bernerd would have appreciated and enjoyed. He particularly liked seeing the Temple looking gracious and attractive during the High Holidays when so many in the congregation come together as a community.

Anyone may contribute to any of the Sinai funds.

# Sinai Temple

BULLETIN

1100 Dickinson Street  
Springfield, MA 01108  
(413) 736-3619  
<http://www.sinai-temple.org>

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# Crane Lake & Eisner Camp

 **URJ** UNITED RABBINIC JEWISH CONFERENCE

- Quality, mature staff
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- Immersive Jewish living
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Camper acquire lifelong Jewish memories and friends, increased independence, and a strong Jewish identity

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[www.URJnecamps.org](http://www.URJnecamps.org)

 **URJ** CRANE LAKE CAMP

 **EISNER**