



3104 W. Windsor Road ☆ Champaign, IL 61822 ☆ (217) 352-8140 ☆ www.sinaitemplecu.org

Schedule of Services

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20

6:30 PM Shabbat Rocks! / Next Dor

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

Saturday, August 28

7:00 PM Selichot Service

Sunday, August 29

4:00 PM Mt. Hope Cemetery Visit and Memorial Service

The Office will be **CLOSED** on Monday, September 6th in observance of Labor Day.



Sunday, August 29, 9–Noon



We will be cleaning up our grounds. All ages and abilities are welcome to join.

We will have minor physical outdoor tasks such as pruning bushes and trees, planting flowers, etc. (nothing labor intensive). To work outdoors, please bring gloves and other items for yourself or others to use such as rakes, trimmers, etc.

Indoor cleaning will focus on the kitchen.

BLOOD DRIVE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

1:00 – 4:00 PM



Davis Chapel

The purpose of Sinai Temple is to worship God in accordance with the Jewish faith; to cultivate a love and understanding of Jewish heritage through education; to stimulate fellowship in the Jewish community; to strengthen bonds of loyalty with Jewish people everywhere; and to bring nearer the Dominion of God on earth through an emphasis on righteousness (*tzedakah*), commandments (*mitzvot*), and goodwill (*gemilut hasidim*) to one another and to society at large.

From Rabbi Alan Cook's Desk



The Cook family had the opportunity for a bit of a getaway at the end of May. Like many, this was the first significant travel we'd done in well over a year, due to the pandemic. As we drove to our destination, particularly along federal and state highways (as opposed to interstates), I marveled at the small roadside businesses—"mom and pop" motels, restaurants, and niche shops that have weathered the downturn in tourism and continue to stand as testimony to

our nation's spirit of entrepreneurship and perhaps as wistful reminders of an element of Americana from yesteryear. Of course, there are some small businesses that could not withstand the challenges brought on by COVID, and the demise of that piece of history is certainly lamentable.

But in addition to those classic roadside attractions and businesses that do indeed date back to the 1950s or 60s (or even earlier), every once in a while one can spot a business that has artificially tapped into our penchant for nostalgia. Though they were founded much more recently, they model themselves on the institutions from a bygone era. They recognize that they can market themselves well by exploiting our collective longing for days past.

The net effect, however, is that we may find ourselves pining for a past that never truly was. The glorious images that we see in our minds' eye of the "way things used to be" may not be fully accurate. Yet perhaps we can transform them into something aspirational. Perhaps as we begin to emerge from these months of isolation and gather as community once again, we will more richly appreciate a slower pace, life's simpler pleasures, the lure of the great outdoors, the company of loved ones.

The month of August coincides this year with the Hebrew month of Elul, the month preceding our High Holidays. Some of you have seen or heard me teach before on the rabbinic notion that the word Elul is actually an acronym standing for the phrase from Song of Songs, "Ani L'dodi v'Dodi Li; I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine." This phrase is often used in wedding ceremonies to underscore the romantic love between two partners. The rabbis use it metaphorically, particularly in connection to the month of Elul being preparatory time for the High Holidays, and say that the two "beloved" referred to in the quote are God and the Israelite people. But maybe we can stretch the metaphor a bit further. Maybe the phrase can mean, "I feel responsibility for, and connection to, those whom I love, and pray that they feel the same toward me."

As we return to the physical presence of those with whom we have created this *kehilla kedosha*, this holy community of Sinai Temple, let us live out this promise and commitment to one another. Let us embrace one another (metaphorically if you're not comfortable with physical contact!) and sustain one another and greet one another and love one another anew. Let us look to Sinai practices of the past when we all joined together in sacred partnership and let us build a wonderful future in which we reaffirm that partnership and look forward to continued blessing. Let us recapture that *je ne sais quoi* that inspired each of us to connect with Sinai Temple in the first place, and let us affirm that the truly important and special elements of our past have never gone away, and will continue to serve us well *l'dor vador*, from generation to generation.

L'Shalom,

Rabbi Alan Cook

High Holiday Mailer is in the mail and online!

The holiday schedule, zoom links, High Holiday greeting information, lulov & etrog order information and so much more is included in this mailing.



Bulletin Submission: The deadline for **September Bulletin** is **August 15th**. All submissions may be edited for length and content. **EMAIL submissions to:** Kathy Douglas at stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org or 352-8140

From President Julia Rietz

Recently I had dinner with a group of friends. That should not seem remarkable but given that we only recently have been able to safely gather around a table at a restaurant, it was a significant event. We shared a delicious dinner, caught each other up on our lives, exchanged gifts, toasted a retirement and a future wedding, and reestablished our friendship. That friendship began at Sinai Temple. Each of us at the table came to Sinai Temple to raise our families in Judaism, to worship, and to be a part of our Jewish community. We found each other and created lifelong friendships. Our children grew up at Sinai, attended religious school and went to summer camp, and created their own lifetime friendships. We received so much through our affiliation with Sinai Temple.

To receive, you must also give. Each of us has given back by giving our time, our talents, our resources, in a variety of ways. We give by hosting an Oneg, greeting and welcoming congregants. We give by serving as committee chairs, creating opportunities for congregants to be educated, entertained, and involved. We give by donating and paying dues. We give so that Sinai Temple can provide a Jewish community in East Central Illinois. Without that Jewish community, we would not have connected, and would not have shared that lovely evening reconnecting after a year of pandemic separation.

This is my first president's report for the monthly bulletin. I am honored to serve as the board president, particularly while we work through COVID-19 pandemic changes and our building renovation. I am mindful of the responsibility you have given me. I will do all I can to live up to the challenge. My goal as board president is to create opportunities for gathering and engagement so that others can find lifelong friendships and create a strong Jewish community here in Central Illinois, as I and my group of friends have done. In my professional life, I am known to say that change is an opportunity for change, and that "because we have always done it that way" without some other reason is the wrong answer to the question of why we

follow a procedure or have some certain process. In this time of change, I will approach Sinai's challenges from that perspective, valuing and honoring tradition but asking why, considering other paths and opportunities, and encouraging involvement, input and support from you.

We have so much to be thankful for and so much to look forward to. Our renovation is moving forward. When it is complete, we will have an accessible, open, and beautiful space in which to worship, gather, and create community and friendship. Now and in the future, take advantage of the resources, facilities, and opportunities Sinai Temple provides you and your family. Play on the playground, browse and visit in the library, shop the gift shop, worship in the sanctuary, learn in the classrooms, enjoy the peace of the patio, or join the virtual options technology has made possible. Sinai Temple is your Jewish home.

Like any home, maintaining Sinai Temple requires support, effort and resources. As president I will be encouraging temple members to volunteer and give generously of your time and resources. Support Sinai Temple in a way that is meaningful and feasible for you. Give your time, donate to a fund that speaks to you, serve on a committee, attend an event. I hope that you will be inspired to give back so that Sinai Temple is your Jewish home, a place where you find comfort, joy, friendship and community, as I have. I look forward to your input and involvement as we move forward,



Julia Rietz



The Neuman Garden has been weeded and pruned for a fresh, clean look. Check it out the next time you are at the Temple!

Announcements

Green Team Tip

Join the Green Team for 5782!

An important aspect of Tikkun Olam (repairing the world) is to manage our environmental impact. The Sinai Temple Green Team works to advance sustainability for our synagogue community, the Champaign-Urbana area, and all people.



Our projects the past couple of years included a Reduce, Reuse, Recycle program, which featured a contest for the best 3R ideas, and recyclables collection through TerraCycle. We also established and maintain a pollinator area within the Neuman Garden, and continue to work with the Building Committee to foster sustainable practices for our building and grounds. Everyone can see the native tree plantings on our grounds, made possible this summer by a grant from our partners at Faith in Place.

We need new committee members and supporters. We meet on a project-by-project basis, keeping in touch via e-mail. What ideas do you have for Green Team activities next year? How can we involve you and your family in sustainable practices?

Please get in touch with Green Team chair Alice Berkson at berksonalice@gmail.com.

Sinai Temple Gift Shop

(All Gift Shop profits go to support the Religious School)

Be on the lookout for information about our

HUGE LIQUIDATION SALE!

As the Gift Shop moves into our newly renovated space, many things must go! Don't miss out on fantastic savings.

The Gift Shop is now open by **appointment only!**

Please contact Jessica Kopolow to set up an appointment. You can reach her by phone at 417-8699 or email at jessicakopolow@yahoo.com

Cash or checks are always welcome. Credit cards accepted for charges over \$25. We now accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover using SQUARE.



Paul and Linda Weichsel are overjoyed to announce that their son, Joshua Lev, has been united in marriage to Emily Marie Flesch. The wedding took place under a chupah designed and built by the bride's father, Dan, at a ceremony officiated by the groom's father, Paul, on May 22nd of this year. A festive meal lovingly prepared by Emily's parents followed their exchange of vows and reading of their ketubah. The couple's French bulldog, Reggie, served as ring bearer. A bonfire and s'mores at sunset were the perfect way to end the lovely and intimate event that took place at the couple's St. Paul, Minnesota home.

Announcements



The Book Group usually meets the third Monday of the month at 7:30 PM.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic we had been meeting via Zoom. We have resumed meeting in person, but will provide a Zoom link for those who are unable to join in person.

Contact Person: Susan Schomer (359-2938).

August 16: The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett

Hostess and Facilitator: Susan Cohen, 3506 S. Vine St., Urbana (217)384-7871

GENTLE CHAIR YOGA

Tuesdays at 9:30 AM - ONLINE

For those who would like to do chair yoga, online, with Robin, Goettel while in your home, please contact her at robinfans1@gmail.com.



Pink Dogwood by the playground

YESOD LE'ATID
יסוד לעתיד

Foundation for the Future

During July, renovation work continued on underlying infrastructure – most of which will be invisible when the work is done! For example, the electricians have spent time installing wiring for electrical and Audio-Visual purposes. This lays the groundwork for the lighting, cameras, microphones, and TVs in the final product.

Similarly, the structural reinforcement of the steel beams was completed, which was an important step to prepare for the new sliding doors between the pods and the sanctuary. Also in the pods – the heating and cooling ducts were installed. This was a key recent development, because the ductwork was held up while decisions were made about the location and look of the ducts. (The final answer combined the goals to maximize efficiency, lower costs, and look as unobtrusive as possible.)

The most exciting development during July was a resolution to change suppliers for the stone on the east wall, behind the Ark. Supply chain issues caused a huge backup with the original plans for a ceramic material. Faced with lengthening timelines (because other work depended on the wall covering being in place first), our architects suggested a different material – a true Jerusalem stone – from a supplier they worked with on another recent synagogue project. Most importantly, the supplier has the stone in stock, and Sinai entered into an agreement with them to provide and install the stone. Although this new approach is slightly more expensive, it's not a significant increase and the true stone will look more beautiful AND be available much faster.

Development Committee

We won't be back in the sanctuary when we hoped, but we can see our Foundation for the Future emerging. I am thankful for the support everyone has been giving to the Yesod Le'Atid campaign.

As you consider your giving plans for the rest of 2021, please consider an additional contribution. Perhaps you have a Required Minimum Distribution that is larger than you expected, or a Donor Advised Fund that could be used.

Regardless of source or amount, your support is appreciated.

With wishes for a healthy year,

Wynne Korr

Announcements

Natalie Frankenberg's 80th Birthday

A Tree of Life plaque was purchased in honor of Natalie's birthday with donations from:

Elizabeth Baxter
Carol Belber
Rabbi Alan, Rabbi Jody, Gabe, Orli and Eden
Laurie Dey
Kathy Douglas
Robin Goettel
Monica Grant
Miriam Greenberg
Barbara Hetzer
Paula Kaufman
Joan Kozoll
Lilyan Levant
Leslie Mason
Diane Ore
Art Siegel
Ann Sussman
Bette van Es
Rosalind Weinberg

Paul Weichsel's 90th Birthday

A Tree of Life plaque was purchased in honor of Paul's birthday with donations from:

Allen Avner
Alice Berkson & Alex Scheeline
Rabbi Alan, Rabbi Jody, Gabe, Orli and Eden
Melanie & Harry Dankowicz
Ann Einhorn
Joyce Eisenstein
Nigel Goldenfeld and Joan Campagnolo
Peggy and Michael Grossman
Mitch and Francis Harris
Judith and Richard Kaplan
Wynne Korr
Faye Lesht and Joyce Meyer
Julia & Gene Robinson
Robert Silverman
Ira & Lynn Wachtel
Adena and Bev Wilson



TREE OF LIFE LEAF

Our synagogue is proud to possess the EitzChaim, a "Tree of Life". This beautiful sculpture, given to us by the Hymowitz family, is permanently displayed in the Sinai Temple lobby. The branches of the tree contain leaves which can be inscribed to highlight or commemorate such joyous events as births, weddings, anniversaries,

B'nai Mitzvah, graduations or simply to honor parents, family or friends. Share your happy occasions by inscribing your family "Simchas" on our synagogue's "Tree of Life". This will be a permanent dedication to the meaningful and happy events that touch our lives. The price per leaf is \$250. For more information, please call the Temple office at (217) 352-8140.

Board Introductions



Carmen Glezer

Board of Trustees

My family and I moved from Tennessee to Champaign in 2007. I spent a 41-year career as a family nurse practitioner, working most recently on campus at McKinley Health Center, and just retired the end of June. This is my second nonconsecutive term on the Temple board. My husband, Jeff, and youngest daughter, Emma, live with me in Champaign, while our other daughters, Claire and Eliza, live in Washington, DC and Springfield, IL respectively. You may know Emma as a teacher from religious school or CUTY leader. Things, other than family, that make me happy, include reading, cooking, fly fishing with Jeff, cocktail hour on the deck, and spending time with our boys Rascal (a PBGV) and Oliver (adopted cat).

Lil Levant, Vice President

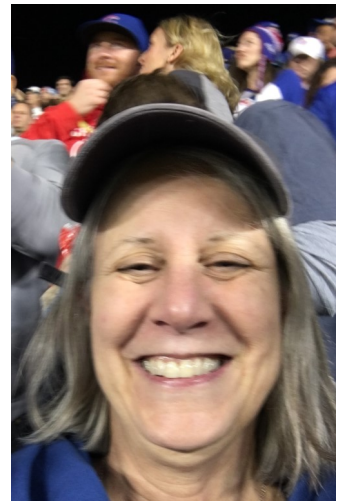
I am proud and excited to serve as Vice President of the Sinai Temple Board of Directors. Previously, I served as a Sinai Board member for several years and I am elated, as I am certain you are, that the Temple renovation is now well under-way. The Temple and its community is one of the many advantages for living in this community.

I moved to C-U from Chicago nearly ten years ago and never expected to stay! I grew up in Chicago but lived a good chunk of my life in Los Angeles. I had never lived in a small town, except for college, but I found myself getting more and more comfortable living here. Four years ago, I bought a 114-year-old house (fraught with charm and challenges) in the States Street neighborhood of Urbana, where I live with Miguel, my beloved 20-lb, very mini Golden Doodle. Most likely, if you have ever met me, I have brought Miggy up in the conversation within seconds.

Aside from multiple long walks with Miggy each day, I work remotely full time for Challenger, Gray and Christmas, an outplacement firm out of Chicago. I work on Zoom with people who have lost their jobs and I advise them on job search strategies. I love my work because most of my clients do eventually find new positions, which is very gratifying.

Some of you know, I came down here to run Illini Media which I did for five years, and then I worked at the News-Gazette as a VP of business development. I am happy that that chapter is now thankfully over with and that now I have the good fortune of working from home and having flexibility in my schedule. And I now am in a position to work with the Board in a leadership role, and I still have time for yoga, swimming and traveling back to Chicago frequently and to NYC every few months to spend time with my sisters and old friends.

One of the highlights of my life was attending, IN PERSON, the 7th game of the 2016 World Series in Cleveland. I literally grew up in Wrigley Field (my mom dropped my sisters and me off at the bleachers nearly every day during the summers, and we never missed a Ladies Day). In addition to being the best game ever played in sports, for a life-long Cubs fan, the win was like climbing to the mountaintop



Giving for June/July

BUILDING FUND

Justin Aronoff & Christy Harms-Aronoff
Robert & Lauren Boucek
Dov Cohen & Andrea Aguiar
Jon & Meredith Ebel
Ben & Shari Fox
Joan Friedman & Charles Blair
Minna Friedman
Robin & Bruce Goettel
Sanford & Elizabeth Hess
Ted Hymowitz
Faye Jones & Joseph Taylor
Brian & Jacque Kahn
Debra Karplus
Paula Kaufman
Ira & Cecile Lebenson
Daniel & Eileen Lichtblau
Leslie & Gary Mason
Amy O'Dell & Lee Deville
Barbara Orden
Dana Rabin & Craig Koslofsky
Amy Roady
Art & Marcia Siegel
David & Carole Sinow
William & Fran Strauss
Elliot & Rosalind Weinberg
Jon & Kathryn Weisbaum
Betty Weiss
Inna & Vadim Zharnisky

GENERAL FUND

Elaine Bruner, in memory of Jack
Rothenberg
Joyce Eisenstein, in memory of Thelma
Rubinstein
Elizabeth & Steven Glaser
Anita Hochberger, in memory of Gerald
Hochberger
Paula Kaufman, in memory of Harry
Kaufman
Lilyan Levant, in memory of Rhoda Solomon
Levant
Stanley & Joan Levy
Leslie & Gary Mason, in memory of Thelma
Rubinstein
Diane & George Miller, in memory of
George Perlstein
Yevgenya Movshovich
Myron & Sonya Sholem, in memory of Harry
Siegal and in memory of Carlyn
Gottschalk
Michael Spear

KITCHEN/ONEG FUND

Jon & Meredith Ebel
Ben & Shari Fox
Joan Friedman & Charles Blair
Nigel Goldenfeld & Joan Campagnolo
Sanford & Elizabeth Hess
Ted Hymowitz
Faye Jones & Joseph Taylor
Debra Karplus
Paula Kaufman
Ira & Cecile Lebenson
Daniel & Eileen Lichtblau
Leslie & Gary Mason
Amy O'Dell & Lee Deville
Pam & Ken Olson
Art & Marcia Siegel
David & Carole Sinow
William & Fran Strauss
Elliot & Rosalind Weinberg
Jon & Kathryn Weisbaum
Betty Weiss

LIBRARY FUND

Sue Brim, in memory of Dora Lovett Lapedes

MUSEUM FUND

In honor of Pam Olson for the beautiful
challam for Logan's Bar Mitzvah

NAOMI SIEGEL SOCIAL ACTION FUND

Tony & Penelope Soskin, in recognition of
the generosity of Sonya and Myron
Sholem and David and Jan Sholem

PAULA DECKARD FUND

Stacy Deckard

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Garth Gersten & Janet Bercovitz, in memory
of Davida Stotland, in memory of Ronald
Gersten and in memory of Paul Bercovitz
Robin & Bruce Goettel, in memory of my
dear friend Rachel Filinson
Richard Newman, in memory of Pearl Miller,
in memory of George Miller and in
memory of Beverly Newman

SECURITY FUND

Justin Aronoff & Christy Harms-Aronoff
Robert & Lauren Boucek
Dov Cohen & Andrea Aguiar
Jon & Meredith Ebel
Ben & Shari Fox
Joan Friedman & Charles Blair
Minna Friedman
Robin & Bruce Goettel
Nigel Goldenfeld & Joan Campagnolo
Sanford & Elizabeth Hess
Ted Hymowitz
Faye Jones & Joseph Taylor
Debra Karplus
Paula Kaufman
Ira & Cecile Lebenson
Daniel & Eileen Lichtblau
Leslie & Gary Mason
David & Theresa Meyer
Amy O'Dell & Lee Deville
Pam & Ken Olson
Barbara Orden
Dana Rabin & Craig Koslofsky
Art & Marcia Siegel
David & Carole Sinow
Mark & Ann Sapoznik
William & Fran Strauss
Elliot & Rosalind Weinberg
Jon & Kathryn Weisbaum
Betty Weiss
Inna & Vadim Zharnisky

SENIOR MEMBER FUND

Gene & Julia Robinson, in memory of
Thelma Rubinstein

YESOD L'ATID RENOVATION FUND

Andrew & Tamarra Bernstein
Richard Cooke
Frances & Mitchell Harris
Richard & Judith Kaplan
Elaine Katz, in honor of Stephen Downie and
Deborah Katz-Downie for a happy and
healthy anniversary
Charles and Joan Kozoll
Lilyan Levant
Leslie & Gary Mason
Scott Redman & Barbara Hetzer, in honor of
Natalie Frankenberg's birthday
Paul & Susan Schomer, in memory of
Thelma Rubinstein and in honor of
Natalie Frankenberg's birthday.
Betty Weiss

Memorials for August

| | | | |
|-------------------|--|---|---|
| Friday, August 6 | Edward Bruner (7 Aug) Goldie Burack (11 Aug) Percida DelCarmen Chandia (12 Aug) Justin Lilbert Cooke (7 Aug) Jeanette Leavitt Davis (10 Aug) Rose Hirsch Ducoff (7 Aug) Dora Egherman (1 Elu) Simeon Grinshtein (11 Aug) Dvorah Leah Hamburg (12 Aug) | Solomon Alexander Klein (8 Aug) Shmariahl Kopelevitch (1 Elu) Ezra Levin (2 Elu) Harry C. Loeb (9 Aug) Arnold L. Miller (8 Aug) Joseph Mizrahi (7 Aug) Herman Pincus (11 Aug) Myra Helman Schwartz (13 Aug) Ray Spooner (8 Aug) | Warren Stone (12 Aug) William Taylor (8 Aug) Abe Weinberg (29 Av) Bernice Weinstein (13 Aug) Byron Weisbaum (11 Aug) |
| Friday, August 13 | Sim N Avner (18 Aug) Dena Braunstein Brandman (15 Aug) Gilbert Corman (14 Aug) Bob Irwin Eisenstein (17 Aug) Laura Eisenstein (14 Aug) Joseph Farag (14 Aug) Morris Klein (20 Aug) Minnie Lachman (14 Aug) Minnie Lachman (14 Aug) Helen Levin (19 Aug) | Henny Lewin (17 Aug) Murray London (17 Aug) Hyman Marco (17 Aug) Anne Linsider Melhado (7 Elu) Paul Hyman Meyer (20 Aug) Charlotte Rutmann Rendelman (20 Aug) Milton Shapiro (11 Elu) Fannie Sudman (18 Aug) Benjamin Telcser (7 Elu) | Michael Tepper (19 Aug) |
| Friday, August 20 | Mary Adleman (26 Aug) Simon Aprill (24 Aug) Mollie G. Berg (21 Aug) Harold Black (15 Elu) Lisa Anne Busjahn (25 Aug) Norma Florine Deckard (24 Aug) William Wiley Deckard (26 Aug) Sandra Mae Fromm (25 Aug) William Kent Gillies (21 Aug) Louis Gordon (23 Aug) | Anna Greenstein (25 Aug) Florence Ethel Klein (22 Aug) Samuel Klein (22 Aug) Ida Borowsky Klorfine (22 Aug) Fannie Tepper Kohn (26 Aug) Maurice Robert Morton (21 Aug) Bernard Pass (22 Aug) Arthur David Savran (14 Elu) Abe L. Selicovitz (27 Aug) Melvin Sherman (27 Aug) | Haviva Yairi (23 Aug) Gertrude Rothberg Zveitel (22 Aug) Isaac Zveitel (21 Aug) |
| Friday, August 27 | Henrietta F. Alpiner (29 Aug) Lester Burack (3 Sep) Beatrice Cossman (3 Sep) Howard Ducoff (28 Aug) Dorothy Ferrer (20 Elu) Anne L. Flagg (28 Aug) Edwin L. Freudenstein (31 Aug) Florence Nagel Howard (2 Sep) Diane Kaufman (31 Aug) Samuel Kranson (30 Aug) Jacob Kurland (30 Aug) | Raphael Lemkin (28 Aug) Minnie Levin (3 Sep) Malcom McKenzie McClure (30 Aug) Estelle Nelson (28 Aug) Albert E. Rigberg (2 Sep) Wolf Shklair (26 Elu) Ruth Siegle (25 Elu) Yetta Silver (3 Sep) Minnie Sosnoff (2 Sep) Alpiner L. Stern (3 Sep) Max Tepper (31 Aug) | Mildred Topolosky (2 Sep) |