



Rabbi Alan Cook  
Rabbi Emeritus Norman Klein  
Rabbi Emeritus Isaac Neuman Z"L

March 2023

3104 W. Windsor Road ☆ Champaign, IL 61822 ☆ (217) 352-8140 ☆ [www.sinaitemplecu.org](http://www.sinaitemplecu.org)

## Join us for our annual Purim Carnival!

**Sunday, March 5, from 10:00-12:30**, we will have games, crafts, a reading corner, snacks and prizes. Lunch is available for purchase as well. This year, we will take pre-orders - link below for pre-purchase of punch cards and meal plates. We will order extra for lunch that will be available on a first come basis, but can only guarantee food for pre-orders.

## Sinai Temple's celebration of Purim

will continue on **Monday evening, March 6, beginning at 5:30 PM**. We'll begin with a delicious potluck dinner: Sinai will provide the entree (thanks to Diane Ore and her cooking team), and you are asked to bring a dish to share.

At **6:45 PM**, we'll gather in the sanctuary for our fabulous Purim Shpiel,

### *"Charlie and the Shokolad Factory"*

At **8 PM**, we'll wrap up the evening with a traditional megillah reading. We'll begin with a brief festival evening service using the Conservative movement *Lev Shalem* prayerbook, followed by a reading of the whole megillah. Come read a word, line, or chapter in Hebrew, English, or any language or manner that you choose! Please RSVP for dinner and tell us what you're bringing by clicking [here](#).

***Wear your costumes! Bring your graggers! Have a great time!***



## SCHEDULE of SERVICES

### FRIDAY, MARCH 3

5:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service & First Friday Dinner

### FRIDAY, MARCH 10

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

### FRIDAY, MARCH 17

5:30 PM Shabbat Rocks!  
7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

### SATURDAY, MARCH 18

10:00 AM Egalitarian Traditional Minyan Service

### FRIDAY, MARCH 24

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

### FRIDAY, MARCH 31

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

## From Rabbi Alan Cook's Desk



From mid-March and to mid-April, I will be taking a brief sabbatical. This time was graciously granted to me by the Sinai Temple board a number of years ago, and some of the time allocated was deferred due to COVID-19. I am grateful to the leadership of Sinai Temple for allowing me this time to

refresh and recharge, and I thank then-board members Bart Greenberger, Ben Hankin, and Ben LeRoy for helping to construct the initial framework of the agreement.

During my sabbatical, I will be doing a bit of travel, but I also intend to utilize the time for study, research, and writing. I will return to the office following Passover and look forward to sharing with all of you the things that I gleaned during this respite. I will report on my trip to Israel to attend the Central Conference of American Rabbis' (CCAR) convention, and other learning opportunities in which I will have participated.

I am grateful to the various other members of our community who will help to "hold down the fort" during my absence, to ensure the continued strength and vitality of our congregation. This includes Rabbi Jody, who continues to nurture and inspire our students as Director of Education; and Karin Maher, our Temple Administrator, who helps to oversee our day-to-day operations. I am thankful to the Sinai board of trustees, under the leadership of board president Julia Rietz, for having allocated this time to me.

I particularly want to highlight, however, the many other individuals who will be assisting in my absence to ensure that services and programs can continue to run. Rabbinic colleagues locally and throughout east central Illinois have agreed to be "on call" should any issues arise. Individuals in the community who have interesting insights to share will lead adult education sessions. Others will assist with technical aspects of putting our programs on Zoom and YouTube, or leading services, or providing music during worship, or getting the cast ready for our Purim shpiel, or otherwise contribute time and energy to maintaining our *kehillah kedosha*, our holy community. (I am not naming specific names because I don't want to inadvertently offend through accidental omission. Please know that I am deeply grateful to all who are assisting with these tasks.)

As I have been preparing for this time away, I've been reflecting on that special quality in our congregation that

inspires so many to roll up their sleeves and answer the call when assistance is requested. If you've not yet found a specific niche that allows you to match your talents and interests with the needs of our congregation, please don't despair. As we continue to emerge from the COVID pandemic, we are revitalizing our committees and volunteer opportunities. If you have the time and energy, we're happy to find a way to utilize you!

I continue to hearken back to some lyrics written by Pete Shungu. Pete is the band leader for Afro D and Global Soundwaves, who graced our bima on Shabbat Shira in early February. He worked with me to create a song called "Sometimes," inspired by the biblical story of the Song of the Sea. In the chorus, Pete wrote:

And through it all, we have love  
And through it all, we have faith  
And through it all, we have each other  
Community to make it through the darkest days.  
And through it all, we have compassion  
And through it all, we have a light  
A light that shines the way to freedom  
So shine that light through the darkest nights.

Our holy community continues in so many wonderful ways to "shine that light" through times of darkness (which we pray are few) and times of joy. May we all continue to move from strength to strength.

I look forward to being with you all when I return.

B'Shalom,

Rabbi Alan Cook



# Sinai Temple Board Meeting Minutes

## Sinai Temple Board Meeting Minutes February 2023

### Sinai Temple Board Meeting Monday, February 13th, 2023

Board members in attendance: Richard Akresh, Dov Cohen, Joyce Eisenstein, Shari Fox, Jennie France, Janet LeRoy, Lil Levant, Amy Roady, Stacy Trager, Kirstin Wilcox  
Rabbi Alan Cook, Rabbi Jody Cook

1. Rabbi's drash- after making a sports reference to a basketball record being broken, and the prior record holder being gracious, Rabbi Alan hopes our Temple members can also continue to show grace to others. He also discussed a wonderful group that played at Temple recently, & reminded us that he would be heading to a conference soon.

2. Jennie moved, & Amy seconded the approval of last month's minutes.

3. New members- Sharon Benekohal, a prior member was voted in. Terry Maher, active in Bend the Arc, was also voted in.

#### 4. Educator report-

- \$10,000 is the goal for Purim baskets. The theme is gold items. Help is needed to pack & deliver.
- There will be a Purim carnival Sunday, March 5th, 10-12:30.
- On Sunday, March 19th Trent Spoolstra from ADL will do a session with adults, 10-11. There will be a reception. He will then meet with 6th-12th graders on recognizing anti-semitism.
- There will be B'nai mitzvah in April & May.
- Camp scholarship committee will meet soon.

5. Finance Report- Jennie mentioned CUJF is providing fundraising training, available online.

6. Facilities- refrigerator; we accepted the Finance Committee's recommendation to purchase a new refrigerator.

7. Budget 2023-2024; to be continued...

8. Nominating committee- Richard Akresh, Laura Bleill, Joyce Eisenstein, & Stacy Trager have volunteered

9. Old Business: Building use committee- please see committee's document for list of fees in an upcoming email

10. New Business: discussion of use of building for a movie by Ranon Herman. He may use locations in the building other than the sanctuary.

11. We adjourned at 8:43





## *Sinai Temple Announcements*

### *Brit Mitzvah*



Please join us as Althea Elizabeth Bernstein will be called to the Torah as a Brit Mitzvah on Saturday, April 1. Althea is the daughter of Tonia Lopez-Fresquet and Jeremy Bernstein. She has a younger brother Russell and a beloved dog Bella.

Althea is a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Franklin. She loves drawing, playing Dungeons and Dragons, studying at Sinai, and support-

ing the GSA program.

We hope you can join us, either in person or on Zoom, on April 1!



*Mazel Tov!*

## Sinai Temple Announcements

### \*MAZEL TOVS\*

My daughter, children's author **Sari Karplus** recently published her third illustrated kids book, **Robotastic Sleep Mode**, appropriate for ages 4 to 8, now available for purchase on Amazon.com. I am so proud of Sari!

~Debra Karplus

Mazel Tov to **Joshua Weichsel**, son of **Paul and Linda Weichsel**. Joshua has recently accepted a position as an attorney at the Federal Reserve Bank ("The Fed") of Minneapolis, which oversees and regulates banks in all or parts of six states, in the Federal Reserve Bank's role of assuring the financial stability and economic wellbeing of the United States.

Sinai Temple member **Wynne Korr** was honored by **The United Way of Champaign County** and received the **Difference Maker Award** from them.



### Daylight Savings Time Starts

**Sunday,  
March 12, 2023  
2:00 AM**

## Ma'achil Re'eivim / Feeding the Hungry

Sinai Temple is honored to be part of Food & More, a local food pantry that serves over 60 households in our community. The pantry is run by an interfaith consortium of eight congregations. Once a month, over 50 volunteers deliver nonperishable food and household goods to 65 local families. Food & More also provides consumer and nutrition education, and sometimes fills other unexpected needs. The pantry has a waiting list and hopes to serve even more households in the future.

As a new member of this group, our first step is to request volunteers. Currently, Food & More needs:

- 3-4 drivers to deliver food to Partners (recipients) once a month
- 2 people to place groceries in vehicles once a month
- 1 person to help unload a truck occasionally, when the regular volunteers aren't available

For more info and to volunteer, please contact Katherine Coyle: [katherinecoyle2@gmail.com](mailto:katherinecoyle2@gmail.com). Thank you!

# *Sinai Temple Announcements*



## 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](mailto:robinfans1@gmail.com).

## Sinai Temple

### Gift Shop

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

The Gift Shop is now open by **appointment & during Sinai Temple Religious School Hours!**

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

**[jessicakopolow@yahoo.com](mailto: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.**



## March Book Group

**The Book Group meets the second Sunday of each month at 2:00 PM.**

We meet in a hybrid format, both in person in the Sinai Temple Library and via Zoom. The Zoom link is provided for those who are outside the C-U area.

**RSVP's required by Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup> to [nataliefr@comcast.net](mailto:nataliefr@comcast.net)**

**March 12<sup>th</sup>, The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict.**

**Facilitator: Janis Topolosky**



# Sinai Temple Announcements

## Green Team Tip – Recycling Update



Many folks have recycling questions – some of us are unsure about what items to include in our recycling, and if it is at all worthwhile.

The graphic above reminds us that the most effective action for promoting sustainability is to reduce usage of all disposables.

Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle are NOT equal as the familiar triangle might imply.

However, as much as we work to reduce and reuse, if we do have items that are recyclable, it is important to recycle correctly. Incorrect items placed into recycling means that processing is slowed or even prevented (items ending up as trash).

Champaign and Urbana have household recycling available through trash pick-up that includes glass containers, plastic with a recycle symbol, metal, paper (including paperback books) and cardboard. Remember that all items should not have food residue –

pizza cartons are OK if there is no food residue or grease. Aluminum foil that is used but without food sticking to it can be put with recycling.

Do NOT put polystyrene (Styrofoam) into your household recycling. We are fortunate that we can take clean polystyrene (not packing peanuts) to Dart Industries on East Main St. in Urbana.

Do NOT put plastic film such as grocery bags, newspaper sleeves, overwrap for toilet tissue and paper towels into your household recycling if you live in Champaign.

For Champaign residents, plastic bags with the number 2 and number 4 (such as from frozen vegetables and bread wrappers) can be included with grocery bags for drop-off at grocery stores such as Schnucks. Urbana residents can include these with household recycling. A check of the Meijer website shows that they accept all plastic that has the symbol for “store drop-off” so look for this on products.

A great place to refresh your knowledge of local recycling is to go to your municipalities’ website for household recycling. You’ll discover more details and links for correct recycling.

To circle back to the beginning of this article, the best action is to THINK before we purchase or accept an item. As we’ve started to travel post-pandemic, we’ve stopped mindlessly putting hotel toiletries in our suitcase. “Will we really use it?” should be applied to everything!





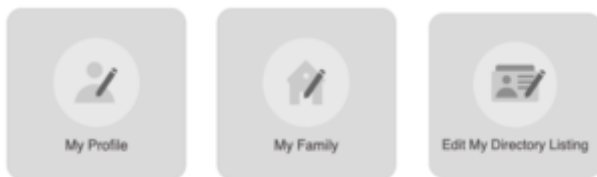
# Sinai Temple Announcements

## Sinai Temple ShulCloud Database Sign-up

We're excited to give you access to your member account on the new Sinai Temple online member system, powered by ShulCloud. With this system (used by over 1300 other congregations), you can connect more easily with other members through the online directory, manage your own information and register and pay for events. ShulCloud is designed to provide a secure and private way to view your transaction history, enter payment methods (you may securely store credit cards or bank information), set up recurring payments and make donations. There is so much you can do when you use your account!

**We need just a little help from you to get started. Please take a few minutes to follow the steps below:**

1. Click this temporary [Set Password link](#) to set your new personal member password (your email address is your user name). Each adult member will be able to set up their own access. This link will expire after 7 days, so we'd appreciate your prompt attention. (If you get a message that your link expired, email your request for a new link to [stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org](mailto:stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org).)
2. Click the **My Profile** tile to verify and edit your profile information.
3. Click the **My Family** tile to verify and edit your family information.
4. Click the **My Directory Listing** tile to change your directory information and set display and sharing preferences. The directory is accessible to all members. Upload a photo of the adult members of your family (recommended).



Now that you have completed the initial set up, it's time to explore! You can access the Temple Dashboard from the Temple's website by clicking on the "Members" link in the upper right corner, or [click here](#), to see a dashboard of options ("buttons") related to your account, including personal and family information, financial information, congregational mailing information, and school and events information.

On the dashboard, you will find an area called **My Financial Information**. We know that this may look a bit different from our statements in the past, but we trust you will find the system user friendly. When you choose to use online payment options, note that the Temple and ShulCloud do not store or have access to your bank or credit card information on its their servers.

We know you may have questions, and we encourage you to explore the new system. If you're having difficulty logging on, please give us a call at the office 217-352-8140 during business hours (9am-3pm) and we'll be happy to help. In addition, we will be available during religious school on Sundays.

If you have comments to share about the new system, please feel free to send us an email at [stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org](mailto:stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org). Thank you for your patience as we all learn a new system, and for partnering with us to make the user experience more efficient for our Temple community!

L'shalom,

Art Siegel

Julia Reitz



# Sinai Temple Announcements

## Temple Donations January 15-February 15



### **BUILDING FUND**

Jill & Randall Rosenbaum  
Joyce Eisenstein  
Cecile & Ira Levenson  
Rachel Fundator & Dan Goldwasser  
Faye Lesht & Joyce Meyer  
Lauren Aronson & Paul Orr  
Drora & Matti Shalev  
Dana Rabin & Craig Koslofsky  
Barbara Orden  
Frank Adleman  
Tonya & Gary Bernstein

### **GENERAL FUND**

Drora & Matti Shalev in Memory of  
Gary Mason  
Phyllis & William Gingold in Memory  
of David Gingold  
Bette & John van Es in Memory of  
Scott Kozoll  
Lynn & Finny Aronson in Honor of  
their daughter Lauren Aronson's  
Aliyah on Yom Kippur  
Carol & Carl Belber in Memory of  
Lillian Radeloff  
Carol & Carl Belber in Memory of  
Scott Kozoll  
Julia & Gene Robinson  
Lilyan Levant in Memory of Jerry  
Levant  
Reva & William Egberman in Memory  
of Scott Kozoll  
Reva & William Egberman in Memory  
of Gary Mason  
Jon & Tracy Gunderson in Memory of  
Scott Kozoll  
Linda & Paul Weichsel in Honor of  
Joshua Weichsel  
Rebecca Swartz & David Scherba in  
Honor of Yael Scherba

### **RENOVATION FUND**

Paula Kaufman

### **KITCHEN FUND**

Holly Rosencranz & Warren Lavey

### **LIBRARY FUND**

Sue Brim in Memory of Henry W. &  
Berniece E. Schwartz

### **CUJE SUPPORT**

CU Jewish Endowment Foundation

### **RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Sean Kelley

*~If you would like to know  
more about the individual  
funds that Sinai Temple  
maintains, please contact  
our office at:*

*treasurer@sinaitemplecu.org  
or (217) 352-8140*



## *Sinai Temple Announcements*



### 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.

### MEMORIAL PLAQUES \*

Honor the loving memory of a departed family member or close friend by having his or her name inscribed on a solid brass Memorial Plaque for placement on our Memorial Wall outside of the Sanctuary. Sinai Temple affords those who have lost a loved one the opportunity to perpetuate the cherished memory of their departed by donating a Yahrzeit Memorial Plaque. Each nameplate is inscribed with the name of the departed along with the English or Hebrew date of death. The name of the departed inscribed on the Memorial Plaque is also published annually at Yom Kippur in the Sinai Temple Roll of Remembrance. Cost: \$325.00 each. Contact the Temple office if you would like to order a Memorial Plaque.

**\*Adding memorials to your membership record is simple. Just call the Temple office 217-352-8140 or email us at [stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org](mailto:stoffice@sinaitemplecu.org) and let us know the name of the deceased, their relationship to you, and the secular or Hebrew date you wish to observe their yahrzeit. If you are unable to attend services and wish to reschedule the observance, please let us know a few days in advance.**

# Sinai Temple Memorials for March 2023

Friday, February 24	<p>Malka Debra Agran ( 1 Mar)  Beverly Rosenfeld Cohen (28 Feb)  Irving Cohen ( 3 Mar)  Adam Ira Feinberg (28 Feb)  Bernice Goldstick Hess ( 3 Mar)  Orville S. Kahn (27 Feb)  Anna Klein ( 5 1Ad)  Lloyd Kraus (26 Feb)  Malcolm Lachman (25 Feb)</p>	<p>Clarence Libman ( 2 Mar)  David Markoff (27 Feb)  Harry Rosenberg (27 Feb)  Aron Rosenstein (28 Feb)  Dorothy Rosenstein (26 Feb)  Mortimer B. Sitron ( 2 Mar)  Daniel L. Smith (26 Feb)  Joseph Solon ( 2 Mar)  Stephen Nathaniel Tager (25 Feb)</p>	<p>David Tepper (29 Feb)  Fay Tepper (26 Feb)  Judy Green Tupac (26 Feb)  Louis Vineberg (26 Feb)  Ruth Weinberg ( 5 1Ad)  Maxine Weiner ( 8 2Ad)  Rosalie Willis ( 3 Mar)  Arthur Winakor (25 Feb)</p>
Friday, March 3	<p>Sakip Altay ( 4 Mar)  Mack Bernard Braun ( 8 Mar)  David S. Choldin ( 6 Mar)  Arthur Fagan ( 7 Mar)  Murray Friedman ( 9 Mar)  Shirley L. Kaplan (15 Ada)  Ann Kapulskey (14 1Ad)  Bernard Karsh ( 7 Mar)</p>	<p>William Klaiman ( 6 Mar)  Sam Klugman ( 8 Mar)  Harriet Mildred Lavey (10 Mar)  Mollie Leavitt ( 9 Mar)  Jack Marco ( 4 Mar)  Shirley M. Newman ( 8 Mar)  Abraham M. Reider (13 Ada)  Solon Aaron Reyman ( 9 Mar)</p>	<p>Gayle Riches (13 2Ad)  Eugenia Coleman Roddis (13 Ada)  Edith Sapoznik (10 Mar)  Minnie Slutsky ( 8 Mar)  Ruth Marieke van Es ( 6 Mar)  Rosetta Kuhn Victor ( 9 Mar)  Colonel Uzi Yairi ( 6 Mar)</p>
Friday, March 10	<p>James Adler (17 Mar)  Sylvia Kadish Cohen (13 Mar)  Stanley Depper (24 Ada)  Bess Frankenberg (15 Mar)  Philip Freedman (15 Mar)  Zola Joseph Goodfriend (12 Mar)  Rita Mae Goodman (22 1Ad)</p>	<p>Carl Greenstein (15 Mar)  Ethel Hymowitz (22 Ada)  Sarah Westerman Konick (15 Mar)  Paul Michael Mischakoff (12 Mar)  Raymond Perlov (15 Mar)  Pauline Lou Rabin (15 Mar)  Delores Jean Rosenbaum (15 Mar)</p>	<p>Ted Sher (11 Mar)  Hiram Gene Slottow (11 Mar)  Irving Weinberg (21 2Ad)</p>
Friday, March 17	<p>Edwin M. Banks (24 Mar)  Fritz Braunfeld (18 Mar)  Oscar Einhorn (25 1Ad)  Sidney S. Feldman (19 Mar)  Gary Fromm (23 Mar)  Annette Lewis Glaser (20 Mar)  Christopher Kanis (21 Mar)  Ben Kaufman (24 Mar)</p>	<p>Joyce Levy (22 Mar)  Harry Lipson Sr (20 Mar)  John P. Melhado ( 1 Nis)  Alan Pall (22 Mar)  Sonya Pearlman (23 Mar)  Charles O. Silverman (25 Ada)  Helen Tepper (22 Mar)  Jerome S. Wachtel (28 1Ad)</p>	<p>Bill Wiese (21 Mar)</p>
Friday, March 24	<p>Rose Shore Applebaum (30 Mar)  Phillip Bedein (28 Mar)  Samuel Cossman (28 Mar)  John Porter Davis (29 Mar)  Edward L. Edlitz (26 Mar)  Bertha Ginsburg (28 Mar)  Isadore Ginsburg (29 Mar)</p>	<p>Harry Hirshenson (25 Mar)  Theodore Hymowitz (26 Mar)  Martin H. Katz ( 4 Nis)  Ida Klugman (28 Mar)  Arthur Lerner (31 Mar)  Fania Levin (30 Mar)  Charles F. Loeb (25 Mar)</p>	<p>Rose (Bebbe) Mandel (29 Mar)  Charles Miller (26 Mar)  Harry Miller (28 Mar)  Evan Gordon Sarney (25 Mar)  Edward I. Siegal (25 Mar)  Anna B. Vineberg (27 Mar)  Anne B. Weisel ( 3 Nis)</p>
Friday, March 31	<p>Jack Diamond ( 3 Apr)  Aida Druker (10 Nis)  Edward Epstein (16 Nis)  Barbara Ferdman ( 4 Apr)  Joshua David Gottheil ( 4 Apr)  Louisa Guise ( 7 Apr)  Emanuel Heller (14 Nis)  Paul Karsh ( 1 Apr)</p>	<p>Clara Kaufman (10 Nis)  Adam Koslofsky ( 4 Apr)  Ruth Lachman ( 7 Apr)  Wolf Lewis ( 2 Apr)  Irma Lipson ( 4 Apr)  Abraham Loeb ( 4 Apr)  Beverlee Mirell ( 1 Apr)  Woodrow Pearlman ( 6 Apr)</p>	<p>Jack Robinson (14 Nis)  Sonja Robinson (10 Nis)  Myer Joseph Rosenfield (13 Nis)  Nina Nelson Seidenberg ( 4 Apr)  Lenore Levy Simon ( 6 Apr)  Marcus Tager ( 4 Apr)</p>
Friday, April 7	<p>Helen Gold Beller (10 Apr)  Dr Samuel Bojar (17 Nis)  Henia Shifreh Burszty (19 Nis)  Saerree K. Fiedler (14 Apr)  Gertrude H. Francisco (19 Nis)  Benjamin Grossman (12 Apr)  Donald Imlay (10 Apr)</p>	<p>Edward R. Kerman (12 Apr)  Lena Loeb Kuhn ( 8 Apr)  Aaron Kurland ( 8 Apr)  Helaine Stone Lane ( 9 Apr)  Leonard D. Lewis (10 Apr)  Ruth Marshak (12 Apr)  Alex Rubin (14 Apr)</p>	<p>Thelma Rubinstein (13 Apr)  Selig Schwartz ( 9 Apr)  Gladys Singman (11 Apr)  Abraham Sitron (12 Apr)  Ethelda "Tedde" Williams (12 Apr)</p>