

Montco synagogue starts a fund-raiser for memorial

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cleansing undertaken by the Nazis," said George Marcus, chairman of Temple Sinai's Holocaust Education Committee.

The idea of memorializing the slain children, as well as others among the 6 million Jews who perished, was born when the Men's Club of Sinai embarked on a program 10 years ago to restore a 500-year-old Torah rescued by British soldiers from a Nazi warehouse in Lostice, Czechoslovakia, after World War II, Marcus said. The Torah would be the centerpiece of the memorial, with the word *Zakrenu* ("Remember Us") inscribed above it.

"The educational aspect is very critical because it is an important part of the history of the Jewish people," Marcus said. "The memorial is a physical and impactful reminder to children, students and congregants that an event like the Holocaust should never happen again."

Additional money for the project will come through various fund-raisers and donations made by members of the Temple Sinai congregation.

Marcus said the proposed memorial had not only awakened the interest of children at Temple Sinai, it also is seen as a sign of appreciation by those who actually lived the horrors of the Holocaust.

"I feel appreciated," said Anne-liese Nossbaum, 71, of Jenkintown, a member of Temple Sinai. "Unless

we tell the story, it will not be remembered."

Nossbaum's ordeal began when she and her parents were interned in a closed convent in Bonn between 1941 and 1942. She recalled being taken in June 1942 to Terezin along with 474 Jews; she spent two years there. At 15, she was taken to Auschwitz. She was young and strong and was designated a good candidate for slave labor and then was taken to Freiberg, Germany, she said. From Freiberg, in open cattle cars, she was transported to Mauthausen, Austria, where she was liberated by Allied forces on May 5, 1945.

"The memorial will not let us forget what happened in that other country," Nossbaum said, her voice shaken by the painful recollection. "If it is not done then, all will be in vain."

Allen Stock, president of Temple Sinai, said that members had been receptive to building the memorial and that they believed both the congregation and the community at large stood to learn a lot from the project.

"It is an educational program that is as equally important as the physical object," Stock said. "It is a tangible reminder to our congregants, children of our congregants and visitors about this remarkable dark time in the history of the world, which, if you forget, you have a good chance of repeating."

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Holocaust memorial proposed

An Upper Dublin synagogue would like to include the structure in its plans for expansion.

By Patricio G. Balona
INQUIRER SUBURBAN STAFF

UPPER DUBLIN — The students of Temple Sinai's religious school have a tough but noble task ahead of them: raising 1.5 million pennies. Each coppery coin represents one of the 1.5 million Jewish children who perished in the Nazi Holocaust.

It is just one part of an effort to raise money for a proposed Holocaust memorial in Temple Sinai's Cutler Lobby, at Limekiln Pike and Dillon Road. The memorial would be the centerpiece of a proposed expansion at the synagogue that would include an expanded library, a conference room and a lounge.

The plans were reviewed by the township's Planning Agency Advisory Board last week and now await the blessing of the commissioners.

"It is a new plan that will be reviewed by the Board of Commissioners [tomorrow]," said Township Manager Paul Leonard. "We will have more information available after that review."

The 16-by-10-foot memorial would consist of granite panels with a mounted, three-dimensional bronze and brass sculpture designed by David Ascalon, an architect/interior designer and jeweler. The graphlike background of the memorial is expected to be constructed this fall, with completion of the memorial anticipated by April 20 to mark Yom Hashoah, the Holocaust Day of Remembrance.

"Among the many symbols on the sculpture are flames symbolizing the Holocaust, the barbed wire reflecting concentration camps, a pair of small shoes, and a bicycle representing the children destroyed in this wave of ethnic

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