



# Chadashot Ha'am

March 2011

Adar I, Adar II

## Vice President's Message - Lisa Pierce

### Counting Tricks

I'd like to share a true story from a few years ago: I was getting ready for our Purim Carnival and filling our guess-how-many jar with M&M's. The idea of this game is simple – the person who guesses closest to the actual number of candies in the jar gets to take the whole thing home. So there I was at the kitchen table, taking my time to get it right, "956, 957, 958..." My husband walked by and started to laugh. "Has it occurred to you," he asked, "that it might go a bit faster if you just pour them in and make up a number that sounds plausible?" No one else will ever count them. My kids laughed, too. "Hey Mom! I'll count those for you. Watch! 4682. Done."

They made a good point. It would have saved me a lot of time. But I just couldn't do it. And my family would have been horrified if I did. It wouldn't have been fair. I counted each and every one of those M&M's, and the child who guessed closest won that jar legitimately.

But does it really matter?

What do we think about when we get that Congregation Bet Ha'am dues form in the mail each summer? The one that says, "I/we pledge 1.75% of our annual gross income?" How many of us have questions? Before taxes? Really? Before or after I discount for my student loans? For taking care of my elderly parents? Does that mean just my income, or do I have to include the income of my non-Jewish spouse? Do I count my volunteer time? What about other donations I've already made? What if I only go to services once a year? What if I am blessed to make a large salary and my dues payment would be \$10,000? Do I

really have to pay that? What if I make a very small salary and I can't afford my groceries at the end of the month? Then what? When we say we're a fair-share congregation, what does that mean? What's fair? Are we all sharing?

These questions are part of an important conversation that our congregation needs to have as we consider our future. And with the guidance of the members of the Finance Committee, we will begin to have those conversations in the coming months and start to explore whether our dues policy is meeting the needs of our community. Please watch the announcements for special meeting dates and times. If you are unable to participate, please make your opinions known by contacting me, our treasurer, Tom Rosen, or any member of the Finance Committee or the Board.

Flash back to an earlier time, when I was not yet blessed with wise children and carnivals to plan, but young and free and in the big city on my own for the first time. In the process of moving myself to Chicago I had left my car in a parking garage for several days. It was going to be a hefty fee. As I pulled up to the window and handed the attendant my ticket, I noticed a sign that said, "Lost Tickets - \$24." Hmmm. My cost was going to be over \$100. As I was handing over my hard-earned bills, I asked the elderly gentleman behind the window, "Why don't more people just pretend to have lost tickets?" He smiled at me as he counted my change, and he finally said, "Because God knows when you do that. You think you are getting away with something, but God knows. And then you gotta live with that."

We exchanged our thank you's, and I

## Chadashot Chai-lights

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### Dates to Remember

#### March 13

Monthly 7th grade parent/  
student session 4:00 PM

#### March 20

Megillah reading followed by  
Purim Carnival 9:00 AM

#### March 26

Farewell event for  
Rabbi Goldfinger 4-6:00 PM

drove off into the world with something to think about.

Flash forward to this year's carnival preparations. It is a pretty busy time for me, what with the rabbi search and transition plans underway. But there I was again this afternoon, at the kitchen table, "314, 315, 316..." The only difference this time was that I switched to Skittles to keep it peanut-free. And I counted each and every one. Who will win this year?

**Congregation Bet Ha'am**

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 www.bethaam.org

**Interim Rabbi Sam Seicol**

Orly Mendelson Biggie,  
 Religious School Director  
 Pam Denuffe, Synagogue Administrator  
 Teri Berenson, Bookkeeper  
 Chris Skidgel, Custodian

**Executive Committee**

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 Lisa Pierce, Vice President  
 Tom Rosen, Treasurer  
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**Office Hours:**

Tuesday - Friday, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM  
 The office is closed on Mondays.  
 Building Use: All meetings, events  
 or gatherings must be scheduled  
 with the office.

**Office extensions and email addresses:**

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## Trick or Treat vs. *Mishloach Manot*?

by Rabbi Sam Seicol

Should Jews let their children celebrate Halloween? This is a frequent topic in the Jewish press in October. I do not advocate non-participation in Halloween. Indeed, my children and grandchildren enjoy these annual outings with their friends, and the adults in the family enjoy the parade of costumed youngsters – both those known to us and those new to us that year. The holiday has become an intrinsic part of American culture and no longer has most of its pagan or later Christian trappings. I do not believe that this trend is in any way supporting the commercialization or secularizing of a religious observance that is important to my neighbors of other faiths. If it were, I would discourage my Jewish community from participating and de-sanctifying the holiday of a fellow religion. Thus, discussions concerning Halloween are not a priority of my rabbinic mission.

Rather, I prefer to teach the beauty of our traditions and practices. At times, as now, this entails a little comparison of parallel observances. On Purim we are encouraged to dress in costumes and overturn the normal rules of worship and religious observance. On Halloween we are also told to dress in costumes and participate in practices not usually observed on other days of the year. Is one better than the other? Should we be advocating or shunning one over the other?

Purim is an excellent opportunity to offer additional education on the values advanced by Jewish practice and observance. By discussing the similarities of Purim to Halloween, the underlying differences become more clear. On both holidays it is customary to dress in costumes and travel door to door for something related to sweets. On Halloween, the goal is to leave one's house with an empty bag and seek to fill it by requesting (one might say "extorting") sweets from all in the neighborhood. Meanwhile, the house of origin begins the evening with a bowl filled with sweets for the myriad of similar sweet-seekers. On Purim, on the other hand, the tradition teaches that we send out sweets to our friends and neighbors; we keep none for ourselves.

On Halloween the traveler's bag starts empty and the home bowl starts full. By the end of the evening, the bowl is empty and the bag returns filled. What has been lost (from the bowl) has been gained (in the bag). On Purim the sweets all leave the house and there is nothing left at home. By the end of the journey, the sweets are gone and the home is often filled with received treats and goodies. What has been gained (at home) has been lost (from the distributing of the *mishloach manot*). It would appear that both are equal since both are, ideally, a break-even proposition.

But the message we give our children is the key. On Halloween we are saying to our children, "You go and get gifts from others and we (the parents) will be responsible to give to those who seek from us." On Purim we are saying, "You are responsible to share in the mitzvah of giving to others (as are we all) and, if others choose to give to us, we are grateful for what we receive."

It does not need to be an either/or debate. We might say on Halloween, "Have fun with your friends." And on Purim, we renew our commitment to bringing the lessons and values of our tradition more regularly into our homes and community. May this Purim season be filled with joy and may we each find at least two others with whom we can share the sweetness of our bounty.

Rabbi Sam

## From the Religious School Director Orly Mendelson Biggie



March will be an extremely busy month in our Religious School. The 14th of Adar (March 20th) brings Purim. As you may remember, we are in the midst of a leap year in the Jewish calendar. Purim is celebrated during the second month of Adar that is only part of leap year calendars.

This year we will be hosting our biennial Purim carnival.

The carnival fun will begin on Sunday, March 20, at 10:30 AM. But what's Purim without the Megillah? So we will begin the morning with our Megillah reading at 9:00 AM. To truly enjoy the Megillah reading, I encourage everyone to observe the mitzvah of dressing in costume. And our evening students will celebrate Purim by participating in a costume contest with great prizes.

Our review of the school programs we offer will continue in March. We are grateful to have Julie Meltzer and Mark Carignan, both experienced educators, helping us in this process. Julie and Mark have also been training our volunteer teachers.

On Sunday, March 13, we are having focus groups so we can get input from our parents and congregants: What do you expect from your child's religious school education? How can we best serve the Bet Ha'am community? I hope many of you will take this opportunity to help us evaluate our school.

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

All in our community are invited to attend

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Our morning school parents are invited to attend

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Our evening school parents are invited to attend

Happy Purim!

**Thank you** to last month's substitute teachers: Julie Meltzer, Sherri Carignan, Pam Weiss, Brett Stillman and Roy Rosenberg.

## Religious School News

### MARCH FAMILY SERVICE

Grades 6A and 6B will participate in the March 11 family service. A potluck Shabbat dinner for the students and their families will begin at 5:30 PM. Please RSVP by Friday, March 4.

### HAMANTASCHEN BAKING

Our annual hamantaschen baking day will be on Sunday, March 13, from 9:00 to noon. If you can help us with this event, please call Orly to volunteer.

### PURIM

March 20 (the 14th of Adar) is Purim! Everyone is invited to participate in our morning Megillah reading at 9:00 followed by our Purim carnival. All children should come in costume, and adults are also encouraged to do so.

All Sunday evening students will participate in a special Purim program. There will be a costume competition on Sunday evening for students and teachers alike!

### MAINE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

Grades 7-10 will view the movie *Ben and Eli* on Sunday, March 27, at 4:00 PM as part of the youth program of the Maine Jewish Film Festival. This film will take the place of our regular Sunday evening program. Tickets are free for all youth. (Students who do not attend our religious school can get free tickets from the MJFF office.) Parents may purchase tickets through the MJFF office.

### 7TH GRADE PARENT/STUDENT SESSION

The monthly meeting for 7th graders and their parents will be on Sunday, March 13, from 4:00-5:00 PM. The meeting will be part of a new Bet Ha'am project, Sowing Seeds – Braiding Community. This project will focus on gardening in our raised beds: why we are doing it, what we will grow and what we will do with our harvest. This project is sponsored by our Gardening and Social Action Committees.

### GRADES 11-12

Grades 11-12 will meet on March 6 and March 20 from 5:00-6:30 PM. All students in grades 11 and 12 are welcome to join us for this community program, even if they are not registered. Please call Orly for more information.

### TREE CAMPAIGN

Thank you to all who participated in the Jewish National Fund's Operation Carmel: from black to green. Your generosity will plant 49 new trees!



*Please join us for a Havdalah  
celebration and potluck dinner  
in honor of*

**Rabbi Alice Goldfinger  
& Zachary and Hannah**  
Saturday, March 26  
4:00 to 6:00 PM

81 Westbrook Street  
South Portland, Maine

*Please bring a hearty vegetarian main course, side  
dish, or salad (enough to serve 6-8 people)  
Appetizers, dessert and beverages  
will be provided.*

RSVP by March 18  
office@bethaam.org or 879-0028



**In APPRECIATION of  
RABBI GOLDFINGER'S  
DECADE of INSPIRATION  
at BET HA'AM,**

we will present her with a memory book  
containing messages from individual  
congregants and photographs of congregational  
and lifecycle events in which she participated.

**To contribute to this special book,** please  
email a brief recollection or message of  
appreciation that you would like to share with  
Rabbi Goldfinger, along with any photos  
reflecting her time at Bet Ha'am, to Laura Kittle  
at [lbkittle@maine.rr.com](mailto:lbkittle@maine.rr.com). Please specify how  
you would like your name(s) written beneath  
your submission.

Blending poetry into our worship was  
one of Rabbi Goldfinger's special gifts to the  
congregation. Please feel free to contribute  
a piece of poetry that you think she would  
particularly enjoy in addition to, or in lieu of,  
a personal memory. Please be sure to  
include the poet's name.

## Schedule of Services

### Friday, March 4

Social Action Shabbat Service 7:30 PM

### Saturday, March 5

Torah Study 9:00 AM  
Worship Service 10:00 AM  
*Parsha Pekudei*

### Friday, March 11

Family Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30 PM

### Saturday, March 12

Torah Study 9:00 AM  
Worship Service 10:00 AM  
*Parsha Vayikra*

### Friday, March 18

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:30 PM

### Saturday, March 19

Torah Study 9:00 AM  
Worship Service 10:00 AM  
*Parsha Tzav*

### Sunday, March 20

Purim Megillah Reading 9:00 AM

### Friday, March 25

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:30 PM

### Saturday, March 26

Torah Study 9:00 AM  
Worship Service 10:00 AM  
Andrea Bryant, daughter of  
Eric Bryant & Shari Broder  
*Parsha Shmini*

**Please join the congregation  
in celebration as Andrea is  
called to the Torah as a  
Bat Mitzvah.**

## A lot is going on with Adult Education

### Passover Workshops

On Sunday, April 10, we will be having Passover Workshops from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. We are looking for Bet Ha'am members to lead or co-lead sessions lasting fifty minutes on any Passover topic. Session possibilities include:

- traditional or not-so-traditional songs
- What do I need to put on the seder table?
- fun seder ideas for families with small children
- interfaith seders
- how to lead a seder
- choicest charoset
- traditional Passover dietary guidelines
- arts and crafts for kids and/or adults

We hope to have multiple sessions offered simultaneously. In order for this to be a successful program we need your help! Call Lynn Urbach or Louise Abramson to offer your help or to ask questions. And watch for more details to come!

### Ongoing Hebrew Liturgy Literacy class

Join us from 5:00-6:00 PM on Saturday nights as Rabbi Seicol helps us improve our Hebrew reading and comprehension. All levels are welcome; the only prerequisite is knowledge of Hebrew letters and vowels. Bring a vegetarian dinner item to share.

### Tanach Study: the Prophets

Beginning Saturday, March 12, at 6:30 PM, Rabbi Seicol will lead an ongoing class in the study of Tanach. This is a continuation of Saturday morning Torah study. We will begin with the prophets and work our way through the Tanach. We will announce chapters in advance so participants can read each section in preparation for discussion. Rabbi Sam will begin with a basic overview of Joshua and then we will delve further into the book. No prerequisites!

Any questions? New ideas? Want to help? Call or email Lynn Urbach (lurbach1@maine.rr.com, 846-6974) or Louise Abramson (labramso@maine.rr.com, 781-8819).

Please join us on **Sunday morning,**  
**March 20, at 9:00 AM** for a Purim  
morning service and Megillah telling.

## Celebrate Purim at Bet Ha'am!

Bring a batch of your best hamantashen for our annual Hamantashen Bake-Off! Winners will be announced after the Purim service, and samples of all hamantashen will be available for sale in the café.

Stick around for fun and games at the Purim Carnival, from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Try your hand at games of skill and chance! Stations will be set up throughout the religious school building.

Come in costume and get a prize! Children should be accompanied by an adult. Tickets will be available at the door: 10 for \$5 and 25 for \$10.



## SAVE THE DATE!

Portland Chamber Music Festival  
Saturday, April 9, at 8:00 PM  
at Congregation Bet Ha'am

Music of Schubert, Mozart,  
John Harbison and Dohnanyi  
with  
Peggy Pearson, oboe  
Jennifer Elowitch, violin  
Michelle LaCourse, viola  
Marc Johnson, cello

Tickets: \$25  
Free for those age 21 and under  
See the PCMF website [www.pcmf.org](http://www.pcmf.org)  
for tickets and more information.

## Women's Minyan Passover Seder

Please join us on Saturday, April 23, at  
3:30 PM as we gather to celebrate our  
19th Annual Potluck Seder for Women.

This year's seder is dedicated to  
the memory of Debbie Friedman,  
whose music enriches and inspires our  
celebration.

Please RSVP to Gail Wartell at 772-0792  
or [gwartell@yahoo.com](mailto:gwartell@yahoo.com) by April 13 if  
you are interested in attending the  
seder or participating in planning it.

This seder is open to women of all ages  
and is one of full participation by all  
who attend. We share food, laughter,  
songs, tears, insight, and poetry, as  
well as setting the table and cleaning  
up afterwards. We all join together to  
conduct the service and we conclude  
with Havdalah.

## In the Shelter of Each Other

by Shoshana Hoose

I visited my friend Helen in Portland's Riverton Park housing project on one of the coldest nights of the year. As I was leaving her apartment, I noticed a young boy crying in the parking lot. His jacket was unzipped and he was woefully underdressed for that freezing night.

I asked what was wrong. Sobbing and shivering, he told me that he had been locked out of his apartment, and he didn't know where his mother had gone.

I zipped up his jacket and suggested that we walk to the nearby study center to get help. But understandably, he did not want to go anywhere with a stranger.

I knew he needed to get out of the cold as soon as possible. So we worked out a compromise. He would stand under a nearby streetlight where I could see him as I dashed into Helen's house to call for help.

When I explained the situation to Helen, she came outside, recognized the boy and called him by name. He gratefully came in out of the cold and she wrapped him in a blanket. Helen called his family and told them what had happened. The boy stayed with her until his mother arrived.

As I thought about that incident later, one thing struck me. Many people who have never been to Riverton Park or Portland's other subsidized housing projects view them as dangerous places. But they are communities, and neighbors help each other, just as they do in Cape Elizabeth or Falmouth. Thank goodness that little boy was living in a place where others could notice him. I shudder to think what might have happened if he had been locked out of a suburban home and was wandering in the dark in a neighborhood where there were few people on the streets.

The state of Maine is a small community in many ways. And we all have a role to fill helping our neighbors who are struggling. Some are truly out in the cold, facing homelessness. Others are trying to get by without a job or health insurance. As the Maine Legislature looks for ways to cut spending in order to balance the budget, social services are a likely target.

In the Shelter of Each Other will be a special Shabbat service planned by Bet Ha'am's Social Action Committee for March 4 at 7:30 PM. The service will include special prayers, songs and a brief talk by Christine Hastedt, co-founder and public policy director of Maine Equal Justice.

During the oneg, representatives from several nonprofit programs serving low-income Mainers will provide information about how you can get involved in both hands-on service and advocacy. This is a great opportunity for young people to learn about mitzvah projects, and for all of us to find ways that we can help our neighbors.

You'll leave inspired, fired up and singing the chorus of a beautiful song by Kim and Reggie Harris, "In the shelter of each other, we are hopeful, we are wise."

Everyone attending the March 4 service is requested to bring canned goods to donate to a local food pantry. A list of needed items will be posted on the Social Action Committee's blog, <http://www.bhsocialaction.blogspot.com/>

**SECOND NIGHT PESACH SEDER**  
**Tuesday, April 19, at 5:30 PM**

**(Catered by A MOVEABLE FEAST)**

**Chicken entree includes:** Matzo ball soup  
Spiced boneless chicken thighs roasted with butternut, turnip & onion  
Garlic mashed potatoes (parve)  
Colorful cauliflower  
Sautéed red cabbage and apples  
Garden salad

**Vegetarian entree includes:** Carrot ginger soup  
Vegetarian entree  
Garlic mashed potatoes (parve)  
Colorful cauliflower  
Sautéed red cabbage and apples  
Garden salad

**Coffee, tea and brownies**

*If you have other special requests, arrangements must be made **with your reservation.***

Because this is a family event, no child care will be provided.

Please bring your own **Matzah**

**Wine and beverage**

**One item to share (from the list below)**



**BET HA'AM CONGREGATIONAL SECOND NIGHT PESACH SEDER**  
**Tuesday, April 19, at 5:30 PM**  
**Reservations are required.**

Please return form to  
Bet Ha'am, 81 Westbrook St., South Portland, ME 04106, before March 30

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ Adult members @ \$20 each      \_\_\_\_\_ Adult non-members @ \$24 each
- \_\_\_\_\_ Child member (5-12) @ \$15 each      \_\_\_\_\_ Child non-member @ \$18 each
- \_\_\_\_\_ Children under five: free

*Of the above reservations,  
please provide a vegetarian entrée for \_\_\_\_\_ adults and \_\_\_\_\_ children*

**\$ \_\_\_\_\_ check enclosed payable to Congregation Bet Ha'am**

Choose one item to share (required)

- Charoset for 20
- Horseradish for 20
- Seder plate: shank bone, hard boiled egg, bitter herb, charoset, karpas
- Optional: I will be able to help  serve soup  with clean-up
- I will bring candlesticks and candles or flowers to add to our tables.

## Garden Notes by Toby Rosenberg

The Garden Committee is preparing for a very busy April. We hope you'll join us for some or all of the activities we have planned!

### Mystery of Matzah Weekend, April 1-3

Guest Scholar/Farmer/Baker Elisheva Rogosa will interweave topics of Torah, mysticism, food justice, organic farming practice and gastronomy into a lively weekend of worship, study and hands-on activities. Much thanks to Kelly Brophy for creating the beautiful ad you will find elsewhere in this Chadashot. Please take a look at the ad for complete information about the weekend.

**Volunteers and materials are still needed for the weekend.** We need dry fire wood to fuel the clay matzah oven, fire tenders to stoke the oven in shifts from 8 AM to 3:30 PM on Sunday, and matzah bakers to place and pull matzah from the oven. Please call the office if you can help.

Here are some other details, including pre-registration information:

**Luncheons:** A generous URJ Incubator Grant for our Sowing Seeds, Braiding Community project has enabled us to offer two luncheons free of charge. To assure we have plenty of food, please pre-register with the Bet Ha'am office. If you would like a kosher meal, let the office know when you register.

**Study Circles:** All are free and open to the public. Pre-register so that we can prepare enough hand-out materials.

**Grains Session, Saturday afternoon:** If you are planning to participate in wheat growing at Bet Ha'am or to grow wheat in your own garden, don't miss our "How to Grow Heritage Grains" session. Elisheva will offer a primer on growing grains in Maine and present us with the wheat seeds we will sow later this spring.

**"Traditions of Matzah" workshop, Sunday afternoon:** Space is limited, so we suggest you sign up now. Discover the traditions of matzah baking and make your own kosher for Passover and artisan matzah from rare einkorn and emmer mother wheat – the kind used by our ancestors to make the very first matzah. A \$5 fee will be charged to cover exotic baking materials.

### Raising Issues on Raised Beds

Everyone is invited to join our seventh graders and their families on Sunday, April 10, 4-5 PM as Craig Lapine and members of his Cultivating Community staff raise the dialogue on raised bed gardens at Bet Ha'am. Be part of the conversation as we discuss: why make raised bed gardens at our synagogue? What should we grow? How do we tend these beds? What do we do with our harvest? The conversation will incorporate Jewish perspectives, social action issues and gardening education.

Later this spring we will hold a hands on workshop to build our raised beds and plant them. We are truly blessed that Craig Lapine has generously offered his own time and talents and those of his Cultivating Community staff to lead our program. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from the best.

### More Information

For more about Cultivating Community, visit [www.cultivatingcommunity.org](http://www.cultivatingcommunity.org).

For more about Elisheva Rogosa, visit [www.growseeds.org](http://www.growseeds.org).

### Help Us Grow

If you are ordering your garden seeds or starting seedlings to plant in your own garden, consider setting some aside to be planted in the Bet Ha'am raised beds or to sell at our annual plant sale.

## Have Room at Your Seder?

We are hoping to link Bet Ha'am members with Bet Ha'am families who are having a seder on the first night of Passover. If you would enjoy having an additional guest or another family join you at your seder table, or if you are looking for a seder to join, please call the office (879-0028) and let us know.

## Adult Library News

We haven't achieved triple *chai* card-carrying library patrons yet, and the challenge still stands. One member shared how easy we made it in her e-mail request for a library card. In case you missed it in the last month's newsletter, here's how it works:

To get a card, stop in the library, find the clipboard on the reading table and fill out the requested information. Or, you can e-mail Donna Landau at [dmlandau@hotmail.com](mailto:dmlandau@hotmail.com) with your name, mailing address and phone number. Either way, a key tag will be waiting for you at the library office. Then you can borrow any of the wonderful books that are in the collection.

Thank you to Lisa Munderback for donating the following books to the Adult Library:

- *Friendly Fire* by A. B. Yehoshua. The New York Times describes Yehoshua, "Israel's most distinguished living novelist, as a dove . . . who joins love for the unique qualities of his people with despair over their failure to make room . . . for the Arabs among them. Yehoshua's despair comes out as a . . . shattering Talmudic questioning."
- *Genesis: The Beginning of Desire* by Avivah Gottlieb Zornberg
- *The Particulars of Rapture: Reflections on Exodus* by Avivah Gottlieb Zornberg. The publisher describes Zornberg as "one of the great, creative interpreters of Talmud and Torah in the contemporary world."

You can find Yehoshua's book in the FICTION section. Zornberg's books are in BIBLICAL STUDIES, and their call numbers on the spines are BS 1235 Zor.

The library is staffed on Tuesdays from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM and on Sunday mornings when there is religious school from 10:00 AM - noon. Feel free to borrow, browse, read, and relax any time the synagogue is open.

## Did You Know?

- ◆ The Roosevelts (Rosenvelt) were Dutch Jews who arrived in NYC in 1682. Sarah Delano, FDR's mother, was descended from Sephardic Jews.
- ◆ Jews comprise 1/4 of 1% of the world's population.
- ◆ Golda Meir was the first female in history to be elected as a head of government.
- ◆ The word *gragger*, Purim noisemaker, is a Yiddish word.
- ◆ The Sea of Galilee is the only fresh water lake in Israel.
- ◆ Kirk Douglas's birth name was Issur Danielovitch Demsky.
- ◆ The national anthem of Israel, "*Hatikvah*", means *hope*.

## Finances for Dummies

Answers to Questions You've Always Had!

\*Recordkeeping, Taxes, Investments, Retirement Plans\*

**Janet O'Toole, CPA, P.F.S.**  
Honeck & O'Toole

Wednesday, March 9, at 7:00 PM  
at Congregation Bet Ha'am

**Sponsored by the National Council of Jewish Women**

**COMMUNITY IS INVITED TO ATTEND**

**Contact: Eileen Kalikow**  
772-2323

## Join The Bet Ha'am Donor Gallery

We invite you to join the Bet Ha'am Donor Gallery today! We have many needs and many ways for you to contribute. If you have an event you would like to celebrate, a person you would like to honor, a *yahrzeit* to remember, or you just want to help support our programs, please fill out the form and send it along with your check to Bet Ha'am. Include an address if you would like an acknowledgement to be sent.

Our Donor Gallery listing should read:

Please acknowledge to: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Fund choice (please check one):

- General Fund  
 Sandmel Education Fund  
 Building Capital Campaign  
 Berkowitz Open Door Fund  
 Rabbi's Discretionary Fund  
 Youth Fund  
 Cohen Fund for Worship & Learning  
 Religious School Library Fund  
 Adult Library Fund  
 Rosalyn S. & Sumner T. Bernstein  
     Scholar in Residence Fund  
 *Bikur Cholim* (hospital chaplaincy)  
 Tutor Fund

### ***Bet Ha'am Donor Gallery***

#### **We thank our generous contributors**

##### **Capital Campaign**

- In memory of Martin Kohn and Virginia Kittle on their *yahrzeits* by **Laura Kittle & Jeremy Moser**
- In memory of Donald Cummings by **Jeremy Moser & Laura Kittle**
- In memory of Donald Cummings by **Wayne & Jo Ann Miller Goodman**
- Wishing Alison Noiles a speedy recovery by **Jeremy Moser & Laura Kittle**
- Wishing Elizabeth Rosen a speedy recovery by **Jeremy Moser & Laura Kittle**

##### **Religious School Library Fund**

- In honor of Charlie Gardner becoming a Bar Mitzvah by **Pam Weiss & Ken Lemieux**

##### **General Fund**

- In memory of Charlotte Kopans by **Rona & Robert Rosenthal**
- In appreciation of Rosie Wohl by **Sheila Bock** (*Bikur Cholim*)
- In memory of Donald Cummings by the **Tabenken family** (Caring Committee)
- In appreciation of Elaine Falender and the Rabbi Search Committee by **Tim Boulette**
- In appreciation of the Broad Cove Hadassah: Kerri, Debbie, Trish & Denise by **Rabbi Alice Goldfinger**

#### ***Zecher T'zaddik L'vrachah***

- Condolences to the family of Evelyn Rudy on their loss
- Condolences to Stephanie Cummings and Susan Cummings Lawrence on the loss of their father, Donald E. Cummings
- Condolences to the Becca and Emily Brock on the loss of Becca's grandfather Arthur Johnson

#### ***Welcome New Members***

- Seth Cheikin & Susan Babin

# The Mystery of Matzah

*Jewish teachings on farming, food & community*

JOIN US FOR A WEEKEND OF EXPLORATION

*April 1 – 3, 2011*

*featuring*

GUEST SCHOLAR • FARMER • ARTISAN BAKER

— **ELISHEVA ROGOSA** —

*Discover our matzah traditions anew.*

*The power and potential of matzah will be explored through worship, study, baking and sharing.*

## CONGREGATION BET HA'AM

81 WESTBROOK STREET • SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE 04106

207.879.0028 [OFFICE@BETHAAM.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@BETHAAM.ORG)

THE MYSTERY OF MATZAH IS PART OF

"SOWING SEEDS, BRAIDING COMMUNITY"

— A BET HA'AM PROGRAM SUPPORTED BY A URJ GRANT



*Friday* • **APRIL 1, 2011**

7:30 PM **SHABBAT SERVICE**

*D'var Torah*

— **CRAIG LAPINE** —

*Executive Director, CULTIVATING COMMUNITY  
The Joyful Table & Tikkun Olam*

*Saturday* • **APRIL 2, 2011**

9:00 AM **TORAH STUDY**

with **RABBI SEIGOL**

*Theme related Torah topics*

10:00 AM **WORSHIP**

*D'var Torah*

— **TOBY ROSENBERG** —

*Sowing Seeds, Braiding Community  
followed by a*

**KIDDUSH LUNCHEON** *(reservations please)*

*Kosher lunch is available. Please request when registering.*

1:00 PM **STUDY CIRCLE**

*Ancient grain celebrations through the  
Jewish seasons, liberation and food systems*

2:00 PM **STUDY CIRCLE**

*How to Grow Heritage Grains*

*Restoring Maine's Heritage of Wheat & Bread Traditions*

*Sunday* • **APRIL 3, 2011**

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**BET HA'AM RELIGIOUS  
SCHOOL STUDENTS**

*& their families make Passover matzah together*

12:30 PM – 3:30 PM

**LUNCHEON, STUDY CIRCLE  
& MATZAH MAKING**

*Space is limited & registration  
is required before March 25, 2011.*

**LUNCH** • 12:30 PM

*Kosher lunch is available. Please request when registering.*

**STUDY CIRCLE**

*Traditions of Matzah & Wheat*

**MATZAH MAKING**

*Bake Kosher for Passover matzah  
with your own hands & heart. There is a \$5 fee  
to cover the cost of Emmer flour at this program.*

# MARCH 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Finance Committee meeting 9:00 AM	3	4 Social Action Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:30 PM	5 Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Liturgy Literacy Class 5-6:00 PM
6 Grades 11-12 5:00-6:30 PM	7	8	9 Finance For Dummies 7:00 PM	10	11 Family Kabbalat Shabbat Service Grade 6A/6B 6:30 PM	12 Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Liturgy Literacy Class 5-6:00 PM Tanach Study: The Prophets 6:30 PM
13 Religious School Focus Groups 10-11:00 AM Everyone 11-12:00 PM Morning parents 5-6:00 PM Evening parents New Member pizza party 12:15 PM Grade 7 parent/student 4:00 PM	14	15	16	17	18 Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:30 PM	19 Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Liturgy Literacy Class 5-6:00 PM Tanach Study: The Prophets 6:30 PM
20 Megillah Reading 9:00 AM Purim Carnival 10:30 AM Social Action Committee 4:30 AM Grades 11-12 5:00-6:30 PM	21	22	23	24 Garden Committee meeting 7:00 PM	25 Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:30 PM	26 Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Andrea Bryant Farewell Event for Rabbi Goldfinger 4-6:00 PM
27 Grades 7-10 Maine Jewish Film Festival 4:00 PM	28	29	30	31		