



Chadashot Ha'am

A bi-monthly newsletter for Congregation Bet Ha'am

May/June 2021

Iyar/Sivan/Tamuz 5781

Welcome to the Chadashot! Some articles are presented in part; click the "Read More" link to go to our website where you can finish the story. Other content is presented here in full.

RABBI JARED H. SAKS



Rabbi's Column

As you may be aware, I will be on sabbatical from May 18-August 18, 2021. This is the remaining 3 months of my 6-month sabbatical from my 7th year at Bet Ha'am. To make things smoother for the congregation, rather than taking all 6 months at once...

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LYNN URBACH, President



Lynn Urbach, Chadashot Article, May, 2021

This is a bittersweet moment for me. By the time you receive this article it will be about one week until our congregation's annual meeting and the end of my term as president of Bet Ha'am. This has been one of the most exciting and most...

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SAM SPINRAD, Education Director



May Chadashot: Sam Spinrad, Religious School Director

When the pandemic continued into a second school year, all our religious school volunteers knew their tasks would be less personal and more challenging than in previous years. Yet the community met the challenge and conducted school in a caring...

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L. MARK STONE, Treasurer



Treasurer's Ledger

This month I'd like to focus on two topics and their implications for the future of Bet Ha'am: Short-Term Financial Results Longer-Term Projections When COVID first hit, no one knew really what to expect. We became very concerned about budget...

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Bat Mitzvah Sabina Petrucci — May 1, 2021

Sabina is a seventh grader at Harrison Middle School in Yarmouth. She arrived in Maine near the end of her fifth-grade year, and immediately appreciated the warm welcome of the Bet Ha'am Community.



In her spare time, Sabina enjoys reading, playing tennis, being with her dogs, and playing the piano. She also loves being outside in all seasons—swimming, skiing, skating, or walking in the fall leaves.

For her mitzvah project, she is collecting food for the local Pet Food pantries. (They are especially in need of cat food)! As a long-term project, she is also working with her Standard Poodle puppy to obtain his Canine Good Citizen certification, so she can eventually take him to visit nursing homes in our area.

Sabina is very grateful for the guidance of all of her Hebrew and Religious School teachers, including Sam Spinrad, Julie Dubovsky, Toby Rosenberg, Lowell Turnbull, Cantor Sheila Nesis, and Rabbi Saks.

Bar Mitzvah Aziza Morrison - May 15, 2021



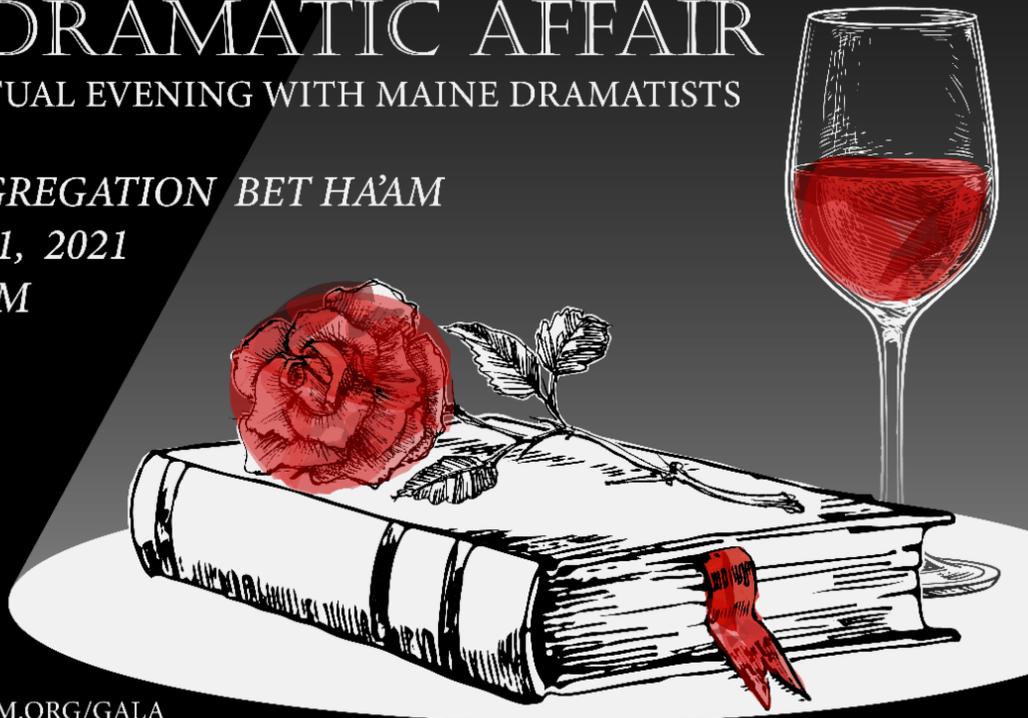
Aziza Morrison is in 7th Grade at Lincoln Middle School in Portland, Maine. She likes ripsticking, skating, dancing, and painting. She also enjoys playing with her cat. She is having a combination in-person/Zoom bat mitzvah on May 15, due to the coronavirus.

For her mitzvah project, Aziza originally encouraged people to donate to PETA, or People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, but later found out about things they had done that she didn't agree with. After coming to terms with the fact that she would need to change her project, she made a video explaining why she no longer was encouraging people to donate to PETA, and provided some resources to vet charities, such as Guidestar and Charity Navigator, and promoted charities such as the ASPCA, the Humane Society, and Best Friends Animal Society. She continues to love and want to help animals and is additionally planning to volunteer at her local animal shelter when it is safer. She is also a vegetarian because her love of animals overpowers her love of meat. Aziza wants to one day live in a world where animals are treated with kindness and have safe habitats.

She would like to thank her best friend, her parents, her tutor Sheila Nesis, Rabbi Saks, the volunteers at Bet Ha'am, and everyone else who has helped this along journey. She looks forward to becoming a bat mitzvah.

A DRAMATIC AFFAIR A VIRTUAL EVENING WITH MAINE DRAMATISTS

CONGREGATION BET HA'AM
MAY 1, 2021
AT 8PM



BETHAAM.ORG/GALA

A Dramatic Affair

It's just twelve days before the curtain rises on A Dramatic Affair, Bet Ha'am's 2021 annual spring gala. It will be presented virtually at 8 PM, Saturday, May 1.

[Read more
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The Garden Committee's Outdoor Plant Sale Returns This Year!

What: 11th Annual Plant Sale Date: Sunday May 16, 2021 Time: 9 AM to 1 PM All COVID safety protocols will be in place. We are excited to be able to hold this event again since the Plant Sale is the primary fundraiser which supports the Garden...

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Jewish Women Leaders of the Worker's Rights Movement

This winter the 5th grade at Bet Ha'am has been learning about Jewish women leaders of the worker's rights movement. We also learned about what life was like for Jews in the United States in the early 1900s, the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire...

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What Makes Bet Ha'am the Vital Community That It Is?

There are many definitions of the word vital but when applied to Bet Ha'am and to me this meaning is head and shoulders above all others: "absolutely necessary or important; essential." As a new Jew, a neophyte in so many respects, being part of a...

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CONDOLENCES

Zecher T'zaddik L'vrachah to:

- Debra Rothenberg and Rick Peterson on the loss of Debra's father, Allen W. Rothenberg
- The family and friends of Dr. Robert Allan Summers
- The family and friends of Kate Goldfield

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Adult Library Fund

- In memory of Esther Bergman by Sherri Bergman and Donald Quaid

Annual Fund

- Gene and Alice Peters
- In honor of Garth Ebner by Regina Ebner
- With thanks to Sharon Newman by Rabbi Saks and Kirk Boettcher
- In appreciation of Rachel Stamieszkin for tutoring Tobias for his Bar Mitzvah by Martin Lodish and Kristin Schardt
- In celebration of the birth of my grandson and Matt and Tiffany Bernstein by Karla Krassner
- In memory of Edythe Weisberg and Ruth Klein on their Yartzeits by Ginger Spiro
- In memory of Jerome Schick on his Yartzeit by Andrea Schick
- In memory of Joel Polisner by Duane and Evie Polisner
- In memory of Ray Spiro on his Yartzeit by Ginger Spiro
- Robert Hammer

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- In appreciation of Rabbi Saks as Zephyr became Bar Mitzvah by Glory Nightingale
- In appreciation of Rabbi Saks for his support by Willie Rose and family
- In honor of Susan Mayer by Bill Burge and Tracey Hall
- In memory of Alan Goldstein by Trudy Goldstein
- In memory of Louis Michael by Mary Michael

Close the Budget Gap Fund

- Andrea and Chip Gavin
- Ashley DiPietro
- Bill and Jodi Welch
- Catherine Share
- David and Cindy Stein
- David Soley
- Diane Newman Pappin
- Donna Landau
- Garth Ebner
- Gene and Alice Peters
- In memory of loved ones by Gail Kass and Susan Horowitz
- Jacob and Karli Efron
- Kira Wigoda and Daniel Sobol
- Lynn Urbach and Jerry Olshan
- Mark and Deborah Tillman Stone
- Michael Levine
- Sam Rothman
- Sylvia Most and Alan Cardinal

General Fund

- In appreciation of our virtual worship services by Denise and Cal Fuhrmann
- In appreciation of Rachel Stamieszkin by Pam Weiss
- In appreciation of Sharon Newman as Zephyr became Bar Mitzvah by Glory Nightingale
- In appreciation of zoom services by Cal and Denise Fuhrmann
- In memory of Elaine Kopans on her Yartzeit by Rona and Robert Rosenthal
- In memory of Lena Rickless on her Yartzeit by Wendy and Bill Sirois
- In memory of my brother Michael Sclar on his Yartzeit by Gail Zarr
- In memory of my dad Abraham Ben Israel by Sol and Carol Israel
- In memory of Noel Goodman on his Yartzeit by Annette Goodman
- In honor of Sylvia Most as our incoming Board president by Susan and Ivan Most

Religious School Fund

- In memory of mom Pauline L. Rabin by Leora Rabin

Tutor Fund

- In appreciation as Zephyr Conford became Bar Mitzvah by David Conford

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