



Congregation Beth Aaron/ 406-248-6412

cbabillings@yahoo.com

The Rabbi's Column

I have just returned from an inspiring weekend of Jewish prayer, learning, food, and fun – right here in Montana! The Montana Chapter of Hadassah comes together one weekend a year, and this year's meeting has left me with a great appreciation both for the local chapter – especially the efforts of our own Karen Beiser in creating a great weekend – and for the work that Hadassah does in Israel.

Hadassah is a women's Jewish organization more than 330,000 strong that brings women, girls and the men who support them together with a continued determination to improve medical care and research, social action and advocacy, volunteerism, Jewish education, youth programs that foster connections with Israel, and reforestation and parks projects. Here is its mission statement:

"Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, is a volunteer organization that inspires a passion for and commitment to its partnership with the land and people of Israel. It enhances the health of people worldwide through its support of medical care and research at the Hadassah Medical Organization in Jerusalem. Hadassah empowers its members and supporters, as well as youth in Israel and America, through opportunities for personal growth and education, advocacy and Jewish continuity."

This is a great mission statement. I was impressed, too, upon meeting Fredi Brown, the president of the Mountain Region of which our chapter is a part. Fredi impressed upon us that Hadassah is first and foremost a cause – and not simply an organization. She asked us how the values of Hadassah come alive for us, and how we would bring those

values home to our communities. This column is, for me, a start. I urge you to learn more about Hadassah by checking out the website, www.hadassah.org. Here is a taste of what you will find on the website:

"Earlier this month, the women of Hadassah opened the doors to our crowning accomplishment of the century, the Sarah Wetsman Davidson Hospital Tower at Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem. This building is allowing us to do what Hadassah has always done: Provide compassionate, expert care to all patients, regardless of religious or ethnic background.

But it also represents the continuation of a 100-year-old legacy in the power of generations of Hadassah women to not only build a first-rate medical system, but to bring women together across time, oceans, ages and community and advocacy needs. Hadassah's pioneering work can be found in our members' endeavors to not only build a strong and healthy Israel, but also to nurture Jewish-Arab relations, both in the Middle East and in the United States, through programs that assist at-risk youth, integrate new immigrants, and of course, develop strong Jewish commitments among Diaspora youth."

I hope that this whets your appetite. If you would like to talk with someone about Hadassah in Montana, contact Sandy Sukin, a long-time member of Hadassah. And note that while Hadassah is a women's organization, men are welcome as associate members – ask Bob Sukin!

L'shalom,
Rabbi Barbara L. Block



Photo courtesy Montana Hadassah
Billings members—just the women



Photo courtesy Montana Hadassah
Billings members—men, too!



Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

JULY-AUGUST Calendar of Events

Friday, July 6

6:00 p.m.: Potluck for CBA members followed by Shabbat service at member home; more info will follow via email.

Saturday, July 7

10:00 am: Torah study, par. Balak

Sunday, July 8

3:00 p.m.: Board meeting

Tuesday, July 10

11:45 a.m.: Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Block. Topic: conversion to Judaism

Saturday, July 14

10:00 a.m.: Liturgy study
10:30 a.m.: Shabbat morning service, par. Pinchas

Friday, August 3

7:30 p.m.: Shabbat service; Angie Stidham will speak on the occasion of her conversion.

Saturday, August 4

10:00 am: Torah study, par. Va'etchanan, at member home; more info will follow via email.

Sunday, August 5

3:00 p.m.: Board meeting

Tuesday, August 7

11:45 a.m.: Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Block. Topic: preparing for the High Holidays

Saturday, August 11

10:00 a.m.: Liturgy study
10:30 a.m.: Shabbat a.m. service, par. Ekev

SAVE THE DATES

Friday, September 7

7:30 p.m.: Shabbat service

Saturday, September 8

10:00 a.m.: Torah study
Evening (exact time TBD):
Selichot service

Friday, October 19-Sunday, October 21

Shabbaton in Billings!



Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

Thank You to Alan Kraushaar!

Congratulations and thanks to Alan Kraushaar for masterminding and organizing the Israel booth at the Festival of Cultures at Rocky Mountain College on June 10. Thanks, too, to the many CBA volunteers who helped to staff the booth. It was a great event, despite nasty weather. Here's a great write-up that appeared in the

June 11 Billings Gazette:

http://billingsgazette.com/news/local/festival-brings-other-nations-cultures-to-billings/article_9d2d64bf-6c6a-5d0e-996c-b2f900f33184.html

We look forward to having this booth again next year, so if you missed it this year, stay tuned!

Hazon Cross USA Ride

On Tuesday, June 26, CBA hosted 17 Jewish bike riders participating in the Hazon Cross USA Ride for an evening of eating, schmoozing, and sleeping. Hazon is the world's largest Jewish environmental group; they are riding from Seattle to Washington, DC, to add the Jewish community's voice to calls for environmental responsibility and sustainable food systems. I had the wonderful opportunity of joining them in their ride from Billings to Hardin and look forward to their visit next year. More information about the

group can be found at

<http://www.hazon.org/programs/cross-usa-ride/>.

Diane Kersten



Photo courtesy Brian Schnitzer
Hazon potluck at CBA

The God Survey

Reform Judaism magazine is conducting a survey asking people about their beliefs about God, adapted from Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro's survey for his congregation. The results will be discussed in a future issue of the magazine.

The anonymous survey is short, with both items to check and boxes where

you can write about your beliefs in more depth, if you would like to. It is also extremely thought-provoking. It can be accessed at the following link: http://reformjudaismmag.org/Godsurvey/?utm_source=WB&utm_medium=email&utm_content=20120615&utm_campaign=ReformMovementandJewishWorldNews.

The deadline for submitting items for the September Temple Tablet is **Thursday, August 23**. Send items to the editor, Rachel Schaffer.

Candle-Lighting Times

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Friday, July 6 | 8:48 p.m. |
| Friday, July 13 | 8:44 p.m. |
| Friday, July 20 | 8:38 p.m. |
| Friday, July 27 | 8:31 p.m. |
| Friday, August 3 | 8:22 p.m. |
| Friday, August 10 | 8:12 p.m. |
| Friday, August 17 | 8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, August 24 | 7:48 p.m. |
| Friday, August 31 | 7:35 p.m. |
| Friday, August 31 | 7:35 p.m. |
| Friday, Sept. 7 | 7:22 p.m. |
| Friday, Sept. 14 | 7:09 p.m. |

Erev Rosh Hashanah

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| Sunday, Sept. 16 | 7:05 p.m. |
| Friday, Sept. 21 | 6:55 p.m. |

Erev Yom Kippur

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Tuesday, Sept. 25 | 6:47 p.m. |
| Friday, Sept. 28 | 6:41 p.m. |

Torah Portions for July & August

7/6: Balak Pent. Num. 22:2-25:9; Pr. Mic. 5:6-6:8

7/13: Pinchas Pent. Num. 25:10-30:1; Pr. Jer. 1-2:3

7/20: Matot/Masei Pent. Num. 30:2-36:13; Pr. Jer. 2:4-28; 3:4

7/27: Devarim Pent. Deut. 1:1-3:22; Pr. Is. 1:1-27

8/4: Vaetchanan Pent. Deut. 3:23-7:11; Pr. Is. 40:1-26

8/11: Ekev Pent. Deut. 7:12-11:25; Pr. Is. 49:14-51:3

8/18: Re'eh Pent. Deut. 11:26-16:17, Num. 28:9-15; Pr. Is. 54:11-55:5, 66:1, 23, I Sam. 20:18, 42

8/25: Shoftim Pent. Deut. 18:18-21:9; Pr. Is. 51:12-52:12

Yahrzeits

In Jewish custom, the yahrzeit is the anniversary of a loved one's death according to the Hebrew calendar. The Hebrew date comes first; the civil date follows (and varies by year).

Tammuz

6 (June 26): Valera Wright, mother of Sally George Wright

7 (June 27): Charles Silver, grandfather of Bob and Jack Sukin

13 (July 3): Max Greenberger, grandfather of Ellen Alweis

Zolla Miller, father of Heather Rio, grandfather of Jonathan Edward Rio

24 (July 14): Bette Prestridge, mother of Merry Prestridge

26 (July 16): Timothy Myers, son of David and Nancy Myers

28 (July 18): Isadore Greenstein, father of Sandy Sukin

Sally Noe, member and friend of CBA

July 22: Harold Kapelovitz, husband of Lee Kapelovitz

Av

4 (July 23): Rosella Alweis, mother of Don Alweis, grandmother of Sheldon Alweis

6 (July 25): Judith Rosenthal Kraushaar, wife of Alan Kraushaar

7 (July 26): Edgar Hecht, grandfather of Lisa Sukin

11 (July 30): Sol S. Lipman, grandfather of Cendri, Miri, and Jill Hutcherson Salisbury

27 (Aug 15): Murray Kramer, father of Steve Kramer

29 (Aug 17): Gussie Greenstein, mother of Sandy Sukin

30 (Aug 18): Samuel Brown, father of Mel Brown

Elul





8 (Aug 26): James Misner, father of Marilyn Kramer

18 (Sept 5): Benjamin Schaffer, grandfather of Rachel and Deborah Schaffer

22 (Sept 9): Murray Sanders, uncle of Jeff Sanders

25 (Sept 12): Irvin Schnitzer, father of Brian Schnitzer

July 2012

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------|---|---|----------|--|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 Independence Day!  | 5 | 6 6:00 p.m.: Potluck & Shabbat service ☆ Shabbat | 7 10:00 a.m.: Torah study  Balak Pent. Num. 22:2-25:9; Pr. Mic. 5:6-6:8 |
| 8 3:00 p.m.: Board meeting  | 9 | 10 11:45 a.m.: Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Block  | 11 | 12 | 13 ☆ Shabbat | 14 10:00 a.m.: Liturgy study 10:30 a.m.: Shabbat a.m. service ☆ Pinchas Pent. Num. 25:10-30:1; Pr. Jer. 1-2:3 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 ☆ Shabbat | 21 ☆ Matot/Masei Pent. Num. 30:2-36:13; Pr. Jer. 2:4-28; 3:4 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 ☆ Shabbat | 28 ☆ Devarim Pent. Deut. 1:1-3:22; Pr. Is. 1:1-27 |
| 29 ☆ Tisha B'Av | 30 | 31 See the August calendar on page 4! | | | | |

Shabbaton in Billings

CBA will be sponsoring the statewide Shabbaton October 19-21. Stay tuned for more information! in conjunction with MAJCO from Friday-Sunday,

Online Jewish Class This Fall from MSUGF

Aitz Chaim in Great Falls will be sponsoring an online Jewish Course through MSU College of Technology this fall. Laurie Franklin of Missoula will be teaching the course from Israel. This is a fundraiser for their community, and eight students minimum are needed. The course will run from September through mid-

December online. There are no papers to write, but lots of interesting readings and discussions about various topics in Judaism. Interested people can register through MSU Great Falls by calling 771-4300 or by going to www.msugf.edu.

Member News

*Mazel tov to **Angie Stidham** on her graduation from Rocky Mountain College with a Master in Accountancy.

*Mazel tov to **Rabbi Keren Gorban** (formerly Klein) on her ordination from HUC-JIR in May and on her new position at Temple Sinai in Denver, CO.

*Sincere condolences to **Marilyn and Steve Kramer** on the death of Marilyn's cousin, Bonnie Gould Westby.

*Mazel tov to **Pamela and Mitch Doerr** on the June wedding in Alaska of their son, David, to Teah Watson.

Congregation Beth Aaron

PO Box 187
Billings, MT 59103
2031 Broadwater Ave.

PHONE
406-248-6412

EMAIL
cbabillings@yahoo.com

President
Brian Schnitzer
Vice President
Marilyn Kramer
Treasurer
Al Page
Past President
Jeff Simkovic
Editor

Rachel Schaffer
(245-7811 (H), 657-2954 (W), fax 657-2187,

rschaffer@msubillings.edu)

Production
Deborah Schaffer
Rabbi

Barbara L. Block
(RabbiBlock10@gmail.com)

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.cbamt.org

August 2012

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|-----------|-------------------|---|---|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | | | 7:30 p.m.: Shabbat service ☆ Shabbat | 10:00 a.m.: Torah study Vaetchanan Pent. Deut. 3:23-7:11; Pr. Is. 40:1-26 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 3:00 p.m.: Board meeting 📅 | | 11:45 a.m.: Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Block 🍴 | | | ☆ Shabbat | 10:00 a.m.: Liturgy study 10:30 a.m.: Shabbat a.m. service ☆ Ekev Pent. Deut. 7:12-11:25; Pr. Is. 49:14-51:3 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| | | | | | ☆ Shabbat | ☆ Re'eh Pent. Deut. 11:26-16:17; Num. 28:9-15; Pr. Is. 54:11-55:5, 66:1, 23, I Sam. 20:18, 42 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| | Send in member news! 📢 | | | 📰 Tablet Deadline | ☆ Shabbat | ☆ Shoftim Pent. Deut. 18:18-21:9; Pr. Is. 51:12-52:12 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| | | | | | ☆ Shabbat | Friday, September 7 7:30 p.m.: Shabbat service Saturday, September 8 10:00 a.m.: Torah study Evening: Selichot service |

Useful links on the Web:

URJ weekly Torah series
<http://urj.org/torah/#cprFor%20Webmasters>

Weekly newsletter of the Reform movement
<http://urj.org/enews/jta/>

Weekly "Ten Minutes of Torah"
<http://urj.org/torah/ten/>

Update from Interfaith Hospitality Network

Our program is full with four families, all headed by single parents, including a single father. IHN's four transitional housing apartments are fully occupied as well. We also continue to work with many "graduated" families, helping them with budgeting, emergency assistance, and other needs. There are a number of past guest families that have experienced unexpected emergencies in recent months, and none of them would still be housed were it not for the

assistance provided to them by IHN.

Summer has officially arrived, and that means that the 2012 Cardboard Box City is not far off. Save the Date—Saturday, October 6, at Rocky Mountain College—for the 5th annual Cardboard Box City!! We extend our thanks to our returning Presenting Sponsor, Little Horn State Bank, for their generosity again this year!

Adela Awner
IHN Executive Director

CONGREGATION BETH AARON

PO Box 187
Billings, MT 59103

