

DECEMBER 2012
KISLEV-TEVET 5773

The Temple Tablet



Congregation Beth Aaron/ 406-248-6412

cbabillings@yahoo.com



Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

DECEMBER Calendar of Events

Saturday, December 1

10:00 a.m.: Torah study*, par. Vayishlach

Sunday, December 2

3:00 p.m.: Board meeting

Monday, December 3

6:30 p.m.: Adult Hebrew (cont.)*

Friday, December 7

7:30 p.m.: Erev Shabbat service; oneg follows

Saturday, December 8

10:00 a.m.: Torah study*, par. Vayeshev

5:00 p.m.: Religious School**

6:00 p.m.: Chanukkah Latkefest!
See flyer on p. 4.

Monday, December 10

Noon: MAJCO candle-lighting at State Capitol in Helena

NO Adult Hebrew

Saturday, December 15

10:00 a.m.: Liturgy study*

10:30 a.m.: Shabbat morning service, par. Miketz

Monday, December 17

11:45 a.m.: Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Block*. Topic: Jews and Christmas

6:30 p.m.: Adult Hebrew* (cont.)

Friday, December 21

7:30 p.m.: Erev Shabbat service

Saturday, December 22

10:00 a.m.: Torah study*, par. Vayigash

Saturday, December 29

(tentative)

10:00 a.m.: Torah study*, par. Vayichi

*Liturgy Study, Torah Study, Lunch & Learn, and Adult Ed are open to CBA members and those who have received prior approval by Rabbi Block.

**Religious school requires preregistration and membership in CBA.

The Rabbi's Column

In the northern hemisphere, the month of December is the darkest month of the year. Like many cultures, we Jews celebrate with a festival of lights. But for many, holiday lights are not enough to lift them out of darkness.

So it is fitting that in the last week of November, as the days become ever shorter, the *Billings Gazette* is running a series about suicide. I am dismayed to find that Montana has the highest suicide rate in the nation. The *Gazette* reports that an estimated 15 Montanans attempt suicide every day, and in 2011, at least 452 died as a result.

As Jews, we are commanded to choose life. We must choose life even when that choice is not easy. And even if we ourselves are not suffering from the plague of mental illness, we are commanded not to stand by when our neighbor is suffering.

So every one of us needs to educate ourselves about the warning signs of suicide, and every one of us should know where to find help.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) has excellent information on suicide prevention as well as other mental illnesses. Here is a link to NAMI's webpage on suicide:

http://www.nami.org/Content/ContentGroups/HelpLine1/Suicide_-_Learn_more_learn_to_help.htm

For help or to report a suicide, contact the Montana Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255). For the deaf or hearing impaired, TTY: 1-800-799-4TTY (4889). The services are free and confidential.

This month we will celebrate the story of a miracle. A cruse of sanctified oil was expected to last for just one day. But the light did not go out. When things seemed darkest, the light held. If things are dark in your life, remember that light may come from an unexpected source. And if you are feeling fortunate, reach out and share your light. A life may depend on it.

L'shalom,

Rabbi Barbara L. Block

Update from Interfaith Hospitality Network

THANK YOU to Carmen and Bill Galt and American Lutheran Church for hosting former IHN guest families for Thanksgiving dinner again this year. Many IHN families have never had family holiday traditions because they do not have healthy family or social support networks. Our families often tell us that IHN becomes the family they never had. Thanksgiving dinner at American Lutheran Church has become, for many of our families, the special Thanksgiving tradition that they look forward to every year.

Mark your 2013 calendars for Saturday, February 2, at the Depot for IHN's second annual Beach Blizzard! We are looking forward to another evening of fantastic food and fun that benefits IHN families, and we are encouraging IHN congregation members to reserve tables early. Tables of eight are \$1,000, so gather a group of friends and call the IHN office at 294-7432 so we can save you a table!

Adela Awner, IHN Executive Director





Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

*The deadline for submitting items for the January Temple Tablet is **Monday, December 24**. Send items to the editor, Rachel Schaffer.*

Candle-Lighting Times

Friday, Dec. 7	4:12 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 14	4:12 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 21	4:14 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 28	4:19 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 4	4:25 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 11	4:32 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 18	4:41 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 25	4:51 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 1	5:01 p.m.

Torah Portions for December

12/1: Vayishlach Pent. Gen. 32:4-36:43; Pr. Obadiah 1:1-21

12/8: Vayeshev Pent. Gen. 37:1-40:23; Pr. Amos 2:6-3:8

12/15: Miketz Pent. Gen. 41:1-44:17; Num. 7:30-35; Pr. Zech. 2:14-4:7

12/22: Vayigash Pent. Gen. 44:18-47:27; Pr. Ezek. 37:15-28

12/29: Vayechi Pent. Gen. 47:28-50:26; Pr. I Kings 2:1-12

Donations

In honor of CBA

*Fray Bustos

*Dave & Kathleen Wilt

In memory of

*Golide Sukin, by Bob & Sandra Sukin



Come Celebrate the Latke!

This year, the 2012 Congregation Beth Aaron Chanukkah latke party is being held at 6:00 p.m. the evening of Saturday, December 8, the first evening of Chanukkah. Although a congregational event, it is open to all guests; non-member guests and the hosts of non-member guests are asked to make a donation to Congregation Beth Aaron to help cover expenses. Checks should be made out to "CBA" and brought to the event.

The festivities will begin following Shabbat havdalah, the lighting of the first candle of Chanukkah, and a few rousing Assyrian-Greek *tush*-kicking songs. All are encouraged to bring their own favorite holiday menorahs. All are also asked to bring salads, casseroles, home-baked breads, etc., or a dairy potluck dinner. A dessert of sufganiyot

Snail Mail vs. Email

Sending the *Temple Tablet* by email rather than snail mail saves CBA a considerable chunk of change, but we do understand that receiving a hard copy is more convenient for some people. If you would like to continue getting that hard copy, we are asking that you make a donation to CBA of at

least \$18.00 to help cover printing and mailing costs, even if you are a member. Nonmembers who for whatever reason do not opt for the email edition of the *Tablet* might unfortunately need to be dropped from the abbreviated mailing list now in development.

least \$18.00 to help cover printing and mailing costs, even if you are a member. Nonmembers who for whatever reason do not opt for the email edition of the *Tablet* might unfortunately need to be dropped from the abbreviated mailing list now in development.

The latke crew is being coordinated by Jeff Simkovic. All help would be greatly appreciated. Jeff may be reached at cbabillings@yahoo.com or by calling Temple Beth Aaron at 248-6412 and leaving a message.

An adult dreidel game will be held during the latke party. Strict "Virginian Dixie" rules will be followed; rules may be requested at cbabillings@yahoo.com. All those wishing to participate must donate \$2.00, or more to the Congregation. (Checks made out to **Congregation Beth Aaron** will be accepted.) Bring nickels, dimes, and quarters. *Shekalim* are allowed at the exchange rate of \$0.20 each, but no *agorot* allowed.

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).

Kislev

17 (Dec 1): Rose Yoelin, grandmother of Sandy Sukin

18 (Dec 2): Bessie Schnitzer, grandmother of Brian Schnitzer

22 (Dec 6): Sol Cohen, grandfather of Ellen Alweis

Jenny Nemer Sibinger, daughter of Linda and Bob Nemer; sister of David Nemer; granddaughter of Zella and Maury Nemer

Adam Sibinger, son-in-law of Linda and Bob Nemer

24 (Dec 8): Aaron Small, longtime member of CBA

25 (Dec 9): Goldie Sukin, mother of Jack and Bob Sukin, grandmother of Dean Sukin

Tevet

1 (Dec 14): Charles Elton Lund, father of Liz Barnea

11 (Dec 24): Ida Page, mother of Al Page

14 (Dec 27): Harvey Jaffe, uncle of Heather Rio

16 (Dec 29): Rose Silver, grandmother of Jack and Bob Sukin
G. Fink, father of Arthur Fink

18 (Dec 31): Isidore Duberstein, father of Lenny Duberstein

21 (Jan 3): Miriam Burstein, mother of Uri Barnea

22 (Jan 4): Eleanor M. Fink, mother of Arthur Fink

Henry Myers, father of David Myers






















24 (Jan 6): Beverly Small, member of CBA

Louis Nodler, father of Marsha Selwyn

28 (Jan 10): Susan Hutcherson, mother of Cendri and Miri Hutcherson and Jill Hutcherson Salsbury

29 (Jan 11): David Firestone, grandfather of Lisa Sukin

December 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10:00 a.m.: Torah study  Vayishlach Pent. Gen. 32:4-36:43; Pr. Obadiah 1:1-21
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 10:00 a.m.: Torah study 5:00 p.m.: Religious School 6:00 p.m.: Latkefest  Vayeshev Pent. Gen. 37:1-40:23; Pr. Amos 2:6-3:8
3:00 p.m.: Board meeting 	6:30 p.m.: Adult Hebrew 				7:30 p.m.: Erev Shabbat service  Shabbat	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 10:00 a.m.: Liturgy study 10:30 a.m.: Shabbat a.m. service  Miketz Pent. Gen. 41:1-44:17; Num. 7:30-35; Pr. Zech. 2:14-4:7 
	Noon: MAJCO candle-lighting, Helena 				 Shabbat 	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 10:00 a.m.: Torah study  Vayigash Pent. Gen. 44:18-47:27; Pr. Ezek. 37:15-28
Last day of Chanukkah 	11:45 a.m.: Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Block  6:30 p.m.: Adult Hebrew 	Send in member news! 			Winter begins! 7:30 p.m.: Erev Shabbat service  Shabbat	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 10:00 a.m.: Torah study (tentative)

Schedule of Services for January-June 2013/5773

Friday, January 4
 Saturday, January 12
 Friday, January 18
 Friday, February 1
 Saturday, February 9
 Friday, February 15: Shabbat & Purim service
 Friday, March 1
 Saturday, March 9
 Friday, March 15
 Tuesday, March 26: 2nd night Passover CBA Seder
 Friday, April 5
 (Sunday, April 7: Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Memorial Day)

Saturday, April 13
 Friday, April 19: Shabbat & Yom Ha'Atzma'ut service
 Friday, May 3
 Saturday, May 11
 Friday, May 17: Shabbat & Shavuot service
 Friday, June 7
 Saturday, June 15
 (Friday, June 21: tentative; Montana Hadassah meets this weekend.)

Unless stated otherwise, Friday services are at 7:30 p.m. & Saturday services are at 10:30 a.m.

**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](mailto:rschaffer@msubillings.edu)

[@msubillings.edu](mailto:rschaffer@msubillings.edu)

Production

Deborah Schaffer

Rabbi

Barbara L. Block

([RabbiBlock10](mailto:RabbiBlock10@gmail.com)

[@gmail.com](mailto:RabbiBlock10@gmail.com))

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.cbamt.org

Useful links on the Web:

URJ weekly Torah series

[http://urj.org/torah/#cprFor%
20Webmasters](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/>



LET US GATHER together at Congregation Beth Aaron to enjoy the fruits of the latke bochers' labors on **Saturday evening, December 8, at 6:00 p.m.**

WE WILL BEGIN our celebration in the sanctuary with a candle lighting service led by Rabbi Block. Bring a family chanukkiyah to display and light.

THEN STAY as we move into the social hall to enjoy **GOOD** food, **GOOD** company, and Chanukkah **FUN** of all kinds!



Please bring potluck food to share, **dairy compatible!**
(Please do not bring meat or shellfish.)

Last name:

A-R: side dish or salad

S-Z: dessert

A NOTE TO FOLKS WHO ARE NOT CURRENTLY MEMBERS OF CBA:

We hope you will join us in our celebration! We request that you support our congregation both with your presence and a donation so we may continue to have a Jewish presence in Billings for many years to come. Checks should be made out to "CBA" and brought to the event.



May the lights of Chanukkah usher in a better world for all humankind...



CONGREGATION BETH AARON

**PO Box 187
Billings, MT 59103**

