

**AUGUST 2013**  
**Av-Elul 5773**

# The Temple Tablet



Congregation Beth Aaron/ 406-248-6412

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Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

## Calendar of Events

### August

#### Friday, August 2

7:30 p.m.: Shabbat service; conversion of Propp family; oneq follows.

#### Saturday, August 3

10:00 a.m.: Torah study\*, par. Re'eh

#### Sunday, August 4

3:00 p.m.: Board meeting

#### Monday, August 5

11:45 a.m.: Lunch and Learn\*: Mussar

#### Saturday, August 10

##### NO SERVICE

12:00 p.m.: Sukkah building & chair cleaning

6:00 p.m.: Potluck

7:00 p.m.: Havdalah

(See article on page 2.)

#### Friday, August 16

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

#### Saturday, August 17

10:00 a.m.: Torah study\*, par. Ki Tetze

#### Monday, August 19

11:45 a.m.: Lunch and Learn\*: Preparing for the High Holidays  
6:30 p.m.: Adult Hebrew

#### Friday, August 30

7:00 p.m.: Shabbat dessert gathering for CBA members at the Rabbi's home. Info will follow via email.

### SAVE THE DATE!

**Oct. 4-6:** MAJCO Shabbaton in Missoula

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

## The Rabbi's Column

Did you know that there are Reform congregations that celebrate a second day of Rosh Hashanah?

I was surprised when I learned this some years ago. I thought that Reform Jews all over the world celebrated one day. I thought that Rosh Hashanah was like the three festival holidays of Sukkot, Passover, and Shavuot. In the Torah, we are told that the first day of each of the festivals, like Rosh Hashanah, is a sacred occasion when we do no work. For many years, Jews in the Diaspora – that is to say, those living outside Israel – observed two days of rest and prayer at the beginning of these holidays rather than one. The reason given was that when the holiday was declared in Jerusalem, it took time to relay the message by smoke signals or by messengers to more distant lands. So in the Diaspora, the beginning date was in doubt. To make sure that the holidays were observed at the proper time, they were observed for two days rather than one. And the week-long holidays were celebrated for eight days rather than seven.

The early Reform Jews pointed out that we now have good calendars. We no longer rely on smoke signals and messengers. Thus there was no reason to extend the holidays. They preferred to celebrate the holidays as the Torah commands. They also felt that it was valuable to celebrate just as the Jews in Israel do. And so holy days are observed for one day rather than two by Reform Jews the world around.

## CBA Cemetery Project

The Yellowstone Genealogy Forum's project to compile the history of the people buried in Beth Aaron Cemetery was featured in an article by Ed Kemmick in the July 5 edition of the *Billings Gazette*. The Forum presented the binder containing those biographies, a map of the cemetery, and other

## MAJCO Shabbaton Is Coming October 4-6!

Make sure to save the dates October 4-6 (Friday-Sunday) as Congregation Har Shalom hosts the 2013 MAJCO Shabbaton in Missoula! The theme for our meeting this year is based on Parashat Noach: The Good Ship Montana, Sailing into Our Jewish Future!

October in Missoula offers (usually)

But Jews in Israel – whether traditional or Reform – observe two days of Rosh Hashanah! I did not know this until I lived for a year in Israel. One explanation for this is that the ancient Sages declared Rosh Hashanah a "Yoma Arichta," one long day of 48 hours. Another is that in order to do the spiritual work of Rosh Hashanah, two days are needed.

Many Reform congregations in the US are resuming observance of the second day of Rosh Hashanah. Our High Holiday Machzor (prayerbook) has two services for Rosh Hashanah, one for the first day and one for the second. There is a different Torah reading for the second day, and services in many congregations are less formal than those on the first day.

I have had requests from CBA members from more traditional backgrounds to have services on the second day of Rosh Hashanah. This year, if we are assured in advance of a minyan, we will offer a service on the morning of the second day of Rosh Hashanah (Friday, September 6). Please contact me either by e-mail, [rabbiblock10@gmail.com](mailto:rabbiblock10@gmail.com), or by calling the office at 406-248-6412, **no later than Friday, August 16**, if you are willing to commit to attending this service. Also, please let me know if you have ideas you would like to share for our second day observance, or are willing to help in some way.

L'shalom,

*Rabbi Barbara L. Block*

material to CBA; it is available for browsing in the library. The Gazette story can be accessed at [http://billingsgazette.com/news/local/sm-all-cemetery-gets-big-gift-from-genealogy-group/article\\_5fd34f71-e8da-5566-a352-3945dc823de0.html](http://billingsgazette.com/news/local/sm-all-cemetery-gets-big-gift-from-genealogy-group/article_5fd34f71-e8da-5566-a352-3945dc823de0.html).

good weather, along with outdoor activities like hiking. Housing accommodations include the Holiday Inn Downtown and home hospitality.

A full schedule of activities is available via email from the editor, Rachel Schaffer, and more information is promised soon.



Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

*The deadline for submitting items for the September Temple Tablet is **Thursday, August 22**. Send items to the editor, Rachel Schaffer.*

## Candle-Lighting Times

Friday, August 2 8:24 p.m.  
 Friday, August 9 8:15 p.m.  
 Friday, August 16 8:04 p.m.  
 Friday, August 23 7:52 p.m.  
 Friday, August 30 7:39 p.m.

### Erev Rosh Hashanah

Wed., Sept. 4 7:30 p.m.  
 Friday, Sept. 6 7:26 p.m.

### Erev Yom Kippur

Friday, Sept. 13 7:12 p.m.

## Torah Portions for August

**8/3: Re'eh** Pent. Deut. 11:26-16:17; Pr. Isa. 54:11-55:5

**8/10: Shoftim** Pent. Deut. 16:18-21:9; Pr. Isa. 51:12-52:12

**8/17: Ki Tetze** Pent. Deut. 21:10-25:19; Pr. Isa. 54:1-10

**8/24: Ki Tavo** Pent. Deut. 26:1-29:8; Pr. Isa. 60:1-22

**8/31: Nitzavim - Vayelech** Pent. Deut. 29:9-31:30; Pr. Isa. 61:10-63:9

## Donations

Many thanks for these generous donations to CBA.

\*Sandy & Bob Sukin in memory of Sandy's grandmother, Sarah Greenstein.

## Member News

\*Sincere condolences to **Jeff Lakier** on the passing of his mother, Nina Lakier, on July 1 (23 Tammuz).

\*A hearty mazel tov to **Bob** and **Chris Rosenbaum**, who have a new grandson, Jacob Scott Long, born May 24, 2013.

\*Mazel tov to **Nancy Gollin** and **Carson Singer** on their wedding.

\*Thank you to **Nancy Gollin** and **Carson Singer** for their donation of candy dishes and paper goods.



## Fifth Friday Scheduled for August

Congregation Beth Aaron is attempting to increase opportunities to gather together socially for appropriate moments other than those following services at the synagogue.

Our current service schedule focuses primarily on the earlier weeks of each month. Several months on the secular calendar will have five Fridays each year. We have asked congregants to host an informal after-dinner get-together for members only on those few Fridays. Your Board of Directors has approved modest financial support for these events.

## Sukkah Building, Chair Cleaning, and More!

Each fall we have had to arrange to gather on one of the few Sundays between Yom Kippur and Sukkot to construct our sukkah. The struggle to construct the sukkah seemed to distract from any possible excitement in decorating it. After an additional eight days, an often much smaller group had to attempt to take it down and put it away in storage. Because of the time of year, this was often done in colder, even snowy, weather. To complicate matters more, last year, our present sukkah appeared unlikely to withstand another season of this trauma.

It was decided to design and build a sukkah-like frame on the concrete pad at the back of the synagogue. The new structure was to allow some degree of use in nice weather and to require only an appropriate roof for use as a sukkah. In future years, the creation of the roof (*s'chach*) would begin, as is traditional,

## 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).

### Av

27 (Aug 3): Murray Kramer, father of Steve Kramer

29 (Aug 5): Gussie Greenstein, mother of Sandy Sukin

30 (Aug 6): Samuel Brown, father of Mel Brown

### Elul

8 (Aug 14): James Misner, father of Marilyn Kramer

18 (Aug 24): Benjamin Schaffer, grandfather of Rachel and Deborah Schaffer

22 (Aug 28): Murray Sanders, uncle of Jeff Sanders

The first such Erev Shabbat took place on May 31, attended by about 15 congregants and considered very successful. The second Fifth Friday will take place on August 30.

Members are invited to the home of **Rabbi Barbara Block** for coffee, tea, dessert, and conversation on **Friday, August 30** from **7:00-8:30 p.m.** Her address will be sent to members by email. She may be reached by calling Congregation Beth Aaron at 248-6412 or emailing her at [rabbiblock10@gmail.com](mailto:rabbiblock10@gmail.com).

at the close of the Yom Kippur breakfast. For completion, the sukkah would then only need to have the roof finished and be decorated. Dismantling it would also require less effort. The sukkah could have lighting without additional wiring as electrical outlets are currently available.

We also have decided to clean the social hall folding-chairs this summer.

As construction of the new sukkah should begin in early August, we shall hold a "Sukkah-Start & Social Hall Chair-Cleaning, Potluck, and Havdalah" on Saturday, August 10. Activities will begin at 12:00 noon. The power washing of the chairs will take place throughout the afternoon. A non-dairy fried chicken potluck will be held around 6:00 p.m. followed by Havdalah at approximately 7:00 p.m. **All are invited and encouraged to participate!**

25 (Aug 31): Irvin Schnitzer, father of Brian Schnitzer

Rabbi Samuel Horowitz, beloved rabbi of CBA

26 (Sept 1): Sarah Greenstein, grandmother of Sandy Sukin

### Tishrei

5 (Sept 9): Morris Schnitzer, paternal grandfather of Brian Schnitzer

10 (Sept 14): Paul Alweis, uncle of Don Alweis

Mollie Miller, grandmother of Don Alweis

13 (Sept 17): Shimon Burstein, father of Uri Barnea

# August 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
					7:30 p.m.: Shabbat service, conversion, & oneg ☆ Shabbat	10:00 a.m.: Torah study ☆ Re'eh
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3:00 p.m.: Board meeting 📋	11:45 a.m.: Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Block 🍴				☆ Shabbat	12:00 p.m.: Sukkah & chairs 6:00 p.m.: Potluck 7:00 p.m.: Havdalah ☆ Shoftim
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
					6:00 p.m.: Members potluck & service ☆ Shabbat	10:00 a.m.: Torah study ☆ Ki Tetze
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	11:45 a.m.: Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Block 🍴 6:30 p.m.: Adult Hebrew 📖	Send in member news! 📣		👉 Tablet Deadline	☆ Shabbat	☆ Ki Tavo
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
					7:00 p.m.: Shabbat dessert at Rabbi's home ☆ Shabbat	☆ Nitzavim-Vayelech

## Final Fundraising for Projects

As several of our fund raising projects come to a close, you still have time to help us reach our goal. The Torah restoration project is in the final stretch and soon all of our Torahs will be done and back with us. We are planning a special service in the near future when we will have completed this process. If you have not yet contributed to this, now is the time. We are in the designing stage for our donors, and if you want your family's name included, please contact me.

Elsewhere in the *Tablet* you will see that our long anticipated art project has been completed. Many thanks to Carol Roberts and her family for all the work that went into this. The art has been installed in the foyer, and it sure brings color and vision to our building. We have been working on raising the necessary funds for this and are a bit short of our goal. If any family or member would like to help us on this, please let me know as it will only take several contributions to meet our goal. Please contact your tax advisor for information on your donation.

Al Page

## New Year's Greeting Fund

At the July 14 annual meeting, the Board passed the motion to use the New Year's Greeting Fund to go towards the cost of the new art work in the foyer (see article on page 4).

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See us at:

[www.cbamt.org](http://www.cbamt.org)

### Useful links on the Web:

URJ weekly Torah series

<http://urj.org/torah/#cprFor%20Webmasters>

Weekly newsletter of the  
Reform movement

<http://urj.org/eneews/jta/>

Weekly "Ten Minutes of  
Torah"

<http://urj.org/torah/ten/>

## New Synagogue Artwork

CBA is now the proud owner of a triptych of paintings by award-winning artist Smadar Livne. Born and raised in Israel and with degrees in fine art, literature, and architecture from Haifa University, she has a studio in Owings Mills, MD.

Smadar's paintings consist of bold, bright colors in multi-level compositions

containing biblical references, poems, and history. The pieces capture the wonders of nature and have a spiritual or mystical theme. Subtle messages are painted into each piece, and require time for observation and reflection. The paintings are acrylic on canvas and incorporate recycled objects, fabric, antique collections, and other mixed media.



Photos courtesy Brian Schnitzer

### Schedule of Services Congregation Beth Aaron September 2013 / Elul – Tishrei 5773-74

#### Rosh Hashanah

7:30 p.m.: Wednesday, September 4; oneg sponsored by the CBA Board.

10:00 a.m.: Thursday, September 5, followed by Tashlich at Lillis Park

Tentative: 10:00 a.m., Friday, September 6 – if there is a minyan; see Rabbi's column.

#### Shabbat Shuvah

7:30 p.m.: Friday, September 6

#### Yom Kippur

7:30 p.m.: Kol Nidrei, Friday, September 13

10:00 a.m.: Saturday, September 14

3:00 p.m.: Afternoon service

4:30 p.m.: Yizkor

5:15 p.m.: Concluding service & potluck break-fast

**Build Sukkah** on Sunday, September 15, 10:00 a.m.

**Sukkot** (begins evening of Wednesday, September 18)

6:00 p.m.: Friday September 20, Shabbat service and potluck supper

**Take down Sukkah** Sunday, September 29, 10:00 a.m.

## CONGREGATION BETH AARON

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