

MAY 2014
IYAR-SIVAN 5774

The Temple Tablet



Congregation Beth Aaron/ 406-248-6412

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Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

Calendar of Events

May

Friday, May 2

7:30 p.m.: special Shabbat service for Yom Ha'atzma'ut, Israel Independence Day

Saturday, May 3

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

Sunday, May 4

10:30 a.m.: Religious School*

Monday, May 5

Yom Ha'atzma'ut—Israel Independence Day

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

Israel

3:00 p.m.: Adult Hebrew*

Saturday, May 10

10:00 a.m.: Liturgy Study*:

Passover

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

Behar

Monday, May 12

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

Mussar

3:00 p.m.: Adult Hebrew*

Friday, May 16

7:30 p.m.: Shabbat service with vocals by Jill Salsbury

Saturday, May 17

10:00 a.m.: Torah study*

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, June 18, 7:00 p.m.:
CBA Annual Meeting

June 20-22: NIOT Leadership Gathering meets in *our* town!

Saturday, June 21: Montana Council 2014 Scout Shabbat at the Montana Council Camporee in Townsend, MT

Friday, August 1-Sunday, August 3: Montana Hadassah Annual Meeting in Billings

*These events/activities are open to members and those who have received prior approval from Rabbi Block.

The Rabbi's Column

I sit writing this column on Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. In just a few days, we begin the month of May, which is Mental Health Month in America. So I find myself reflecting on the connections between the Holocaust and mental health.

There are two connections that are now well known. First, those with mental illness were targeted by the Nazis. The Nazis began with forced sterilization of those in mental hospitals. This practice was not unique to the Nazis; in fact, according to the Jewish Virtual Library, in the early 20th century, the United States led the world in forced sterilizations. Sterilization policies in both Germany and the United States were influenced by eugenicists who believed the human race could be improved by controlled breeding. Between 1907 and 1939, more than 30,000 people in our country were sterilized, many of them unknowingly or against their will, while they were incarcerated in prisons or institutions for the mentally ill. Still, no nation carried sterilization as far as Hitler's Germany. The forced sterilizations began in January 1934, and altogether an estimated 300,000 to 400,000 people were sterilized under the law.

Forced sterilization escalated toward mass murder. The most extreme measure, the so-called "Euthanasia" Program, was a rehearsal for Nazi Germany's broader genocidal policies. In all, between 200,000 and 250,000 mentally and physically handicapped persons were murdered from 1939 to 1945 under "euthanasia" programs.

It is appropriate, both on Yom Hashoah and during Mental Health Month, to remember and to grieve the loss of liberty and of life of these victims.

The second connection between the

Holocaust and Mental Health Month is the legacy of mental illness suffered by survivors of the Holocaust, and by their children and grandchildren. Darren Sush, a psychologist who is the grandchild of survivors, writes, "A great deal of research points to the conclusion that survivors of Holocaust persecution function within the normal range ... However, they may be more likely than individuals who have not experienced the atrocities and persecution of the Holocaust to exhibit mild psychological problems such as anxiety and depression ... or symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). ... Such effects, whether diagnosed as full PTSD, or simply problems in mood and adjustment, may have serious impairments not only for the survivors, but also for their children."

What does all this mean for us as Jews today? An extraordinary 73% of respondents in the recent Pew study said that remembering the Holocaust is an essential part of what it means to be Jewish. Avner Shalev, chairman of [Yad Vashem](#), asks in a Reform Judaism blog, "How do we ensure that the memory of the Holocaust motivates positively for our identity and heritage?"

One part of that answer, I believe, is to be especially sensitive to the rights and needs of those with mental illness. We must make sure that never again will government policies harm those with disabilities of any kind. We need to educate ourselves about mental illness. And we are called to remember that each of us is created *b'tzelem Elohim*, in the image of God, and strive to treat ourselves and others with respect and with kindness.

L'shalom,
Rabbi Barbara L. Block

Member News & Thank You's

*I want to send a special thank you to Rondel Smith for her help and selection of the shade for the new kitchen window. It has been installed with the new window and will be a

great addition to the kitchen.

Al Page

*A big thank you to Rabbi Uri Barnea for his generous donation of books to the CBA library.

CBA Annual Meeting June 18

Come to the CBA Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 18, at 7:00 p.m. and cast your vote for Board of Directors,

plus discuss plans for the coming year. We look forward to seeing you there.

Tricia Williams



Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

*The deadline for submitting items for the June Temple Tablet is **Friday, May 23**. Send items to the editor, Rachel Schaffer.*

Candle-Lighting Times

Friday, May 2	8:04 p.m.
Friday, May 9	8:13 p.m.
Friday, May 16	8:21 p.m.
Friday, May 23	8:29 p.m.
Friday, May 30	8:36 p.m.
Friday, June 6	8:42 p.m.
Friday, June 13	8:46 p.m.
Friday, June 20	8:49 p.m.
Friday, June 27	8:50 p.m.
Friday, July 4	8:49 p.m.

Torah Portions for May

5/3: Emor Pent. Lev. 21:1-24:23; Pr. Ez. 44:15-31

5/10: Behar Pent. Lev. 25:1-26:2; Pr. Jer. 32:6-27

5/17: Bechukotai Pent. Lev. 26:3-27:34; Pr. Jer. 16:19-17:14

5/24: Bamidbar Pent. Num. 1:1-4:20; Pr. Hosea 2:1-22

5/31: Naso Pent. Num. 4:21-7:89; Pr. Judges 13:2-25

Donations

Many thanks for these generous donations to CBA.

*Sarah Sanders, in honor of Religious School

*Charles Melnick in memory of Louis Melnick and Sam Melnick

In Memory of Maury Nemer

*Robert Nemer

*Raule Nemer

*Don & Carol Roberts

Not in Our Town, in honor of CBA

*Brian Schnitzer

*Rabbi Barbara Block

*Ilan Kaufman

Not in Our Town

On June 20-22, 2014, the Not in Our Town (NIOT) Leadership Gathering will be coming to Billings. This event will be the second gathering of the national organization. This three-day event will bring together hundreds of civic and community leaders, law enforcement officials, faith leaders, youth, and educators from across the NIOT network and build on the considerable successes of NIOT'S efforts to date. The birthplace of the NIOT movement was here in Billings and was the subject of the PBS film *Not in Our Town*.

In 2006, NIOT held its first national gathering in Bloomington, IL. At that gathering, community leaders from around the country were brought together to exchange anti-hate strategies. The meeting underscored the need for ongoing communication and knowledge sharing, and contributed to the formation and development of what have become NIOT's core programs. NIOT.org, the online platform, includes videos, toolkits for local activism, an interactive map, and Not in Our School, their anti-bullying initiative for middle and high school communities.

The goal of this year's event will be for attendees to learn the following:

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).

Iyar

2 (May 2): Esther Colnic, grandmother of Michael Bugenstein

5 (May 5): Jennie Schaffer, grandmother of Rachel and Deborah Schaffer

11 (May 11): Sam Melnick, father of Sandra, Sharon, and Saralee Melnick

25 (May 25): Jessie Alweis, grandmother of Don Alweis

27 (May 27): Fred Harold Grossman, father of Gail Grossman, grandfather of Evan and Maddy Quarles
Lois Ewers, mother of Nyd Kraushaar

Sivan

2 (May 31): Miranda Carr, daughter of Pam Doerr

4 (June 2): Ettie Guthals Schmidt, mother of Joel Guthals and beloved member of CBA

5 (June 3): Louis Bugenstein, grandfather of Michael Bugenstein

*foster diverse community wide participation

*generate a commitment to long term, sustainable action

*create a Crisis Response and Victim's Support Plan.

For more information on NOIT activities, visit their website:

www.niot.org/gathering/2014.

The Board of Directors of CBA has passed a motion to provide a financial commitment to this year's gathering. If any members would like to help participate in this endeavor, your contributions are more than welcome. There are several ways you can donate. One way is to visit our web page, www.cbamt.org, click on Support, and follow the instruction that follow. Using Pay Pal is the easiest way to contribute; please note on the page that the contribution is for NIOT, in honor of Congregation Beth Aaron. You may also send a check made out to NIOT, and in the memo section of your check, state in honor of CBA. Donations can be mailed to Congregation Beth Aaron, PO Box 187, Billings, MT 59103, and I will forward them on to NIOT on your behalf. Any amount that is contributed will be on behalf of CBA and will help.

Thank you for your support.

AI Page, CBA Treasurer

11 (June 9): Louis Harron, founder of CBA

15 (June 13): Helen Firestone, grandmother of Lisa Sukin

22 (June 20): Ruth Cohen, mother of Ellen Alweis, grandmother of Sheldon Alweis

24 (June 22): Rhoda Samuels, grandmother of Rachel and Deborah Schaffer

Rose Nodler, mother of Marsha Selwyn

29 (June 27): Esther Greenberger, grandmother of Ellen Alweis

Tammuz

6 (July 4): Valera Wright, mother of Sally George Wright

7 (July 5): Charles Silver, grandfather of Bob and Jack Sukin

13 (July 11): Max Greenberger, grandfather of Ellen Alweis

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

May 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
					7:30 p.m.: Shabbat service ✡ Shabbat	10:00 a.m.: Torah study 📖 Emor
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10:30 a.m.: Religious School 📖	11:45 a.m.: Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Block 🕒 3:00 p.m.: Adult Hebrew 📖				✡ Shabbat	10:00 a.m.: Liturgy study 10:30 a.m.: Shabbat a.m. service 📖 Behar
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Mother's Day ❤️	11:45 a.m.: Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Block 🕒 3:00 p.m.: Adult Hebrew 📖				7:30 p.m.: Shabbat service ✡ Shabbat	10:00 a.m.: Torah study 📖 Bechukotai
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Lag Ba-Omer		Send in member news! 📣			👉 Tablet Deadline ✡ Shabbat	📖 Bamidbar
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	Memorial Day 🏠				✡ Shabbat	📖 Naso

Hospital Visits from Rabbi Block

Rabbi Block is always willing and eager to visit CBA members in the hospital. Since privacy laws prohibit hospitals from notifying her without the patient's permission, she would appreciate it if anyone who is in the hospital and would welcome a visit would let her know.



**Congregation Beth
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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>

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

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

**Schedule of Services
Congregation Beth Aaron
May-June 2014 / Iyar-Tammuz 5774**

May

Friday, May 2:	7:30 p.m.	Shabbat evening service & Yom Ha'atzma'ut
Saturday, May 10:	10:30 a.m.	Shabbat morning service
Friday, May 16:	7:30 p.m.	Shabbat evening service

June

Friday, June 6:	7:30 p.m.	Shabbat evening service, Shavuot (observed)
Saturday, June 14:	10:30 a.m.	Shabbat morning service
Friday, June 20:	7:30 p.m.	Shabbat evening service

Scout Shabbat 2014

The Montana Council 2014 Scout Shabbat will be held at 9:00 a.m. on June 21, 2014, at the Montana Council Camporee in Townsend, MT, in the 4-

H building. Service will be led by Aaron Weissman and Stephen Boyd, and is open to all attendees at the Camporee.

Montana Hadassah Annual Meeting

The Montana chapter of Hadassah is planning its Annual Meeting on Friday, August 1-Sunday, August 3, in Billings. Planned activities include a dairy potluck dinner on Friday with the

CBA congregation, participation in the regular Torah study and Havdalah on Saturday, and a silent auction and business meeting on Sunday, plus other activities. More information will follow.



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