



Congregation Beth Aaron/ 406-248-6412

cbabillings@yahoo.com



Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 13

7:30 p.m.: Erev Rosh Hashanah service; oneg sponsored by CBA Board.

Monday, September 14

9:00 a.m.: Children's service
10:00 a.m.: Rosh Hashanah morning service followed by **Tashlich** at Lillis Park

Tuesday, September 15

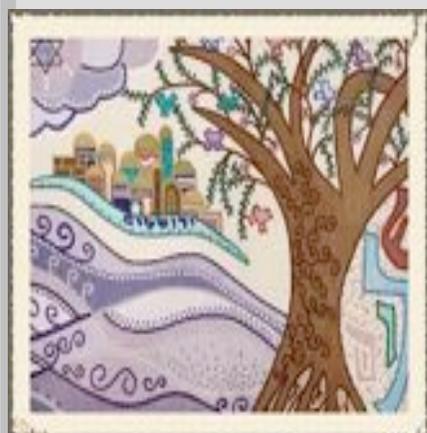
10:00 a.m.: Second day Rosh Hashanah morning service IF THERE IS A MINYAN—see article.

Tuesday, September 22

7:30 p.m.: Kol Nidre

Wednesday, September 23

10:00 a.m.: Morning service
2:00 p.m.: Mincha
4:00 p.m.: Yizkor
5:00 p.m.: Neilah
Havdalah and potluck break-fast follow; completion of Sukkah—see article.



From the Student Rabbi

Tekiah. Truah. Shevarim. Tekiah Gedolah. This litany of calls is chanted each day in traditional communities during the month of Elul, to cue the shofar blower to his task. For each of the 30 days of Elul, Jews around the world listen to the shofar blast and experience its melancholy cry. But what is the meaning and purpose behind this ritual, and why would one consider adopting it?

First, the month of Elul precipitates the High Holy-days, wherein it provides time for reflection and increased self-examination leading up to the Days of Awe. It is a time to partake in personal *teshuvah*, repentance towards others and ourselves. Only once we have explored those earthly connections can we face God and do *teshuvah* for transgressions against the Holy One.

The shofar is one of the key symbols of both Elul and Rosh Hashanah. It reminds us to fulfill these needs of self-examination through its simple wordlessness.¹ The fact that we hear/feel it to our core means each person is touched differently, but most are touched emotionally. The non-verbal nature of the shofar makes it easier for it to penetrate and also

stops us from pursuing an intellectual rationalization of the sound and our response. Rather, we can focus on the spiritual or emotional reactions.

Maimonides, a 12th-century Sephardic philosopher, taught in his explication of *halacha*, "Awake, you sleepers, from your sleep. Arouse, you slumberers, from your slumber and ponder your deeds; remember your Creator and return to God in repentance. Do not be like those who miss the truth in pursuit of shadows and waste their years seeking vanity. Look well to your souls and consider your deeds; turn away from your wrong ways and improper thoughts."² This year, as we face the shofar blasts, whether during the month of Elul or during the Days of Awe, may we be awakened to something new within us, a new reality or a new observation. May we embrace that part of ourselves and heed the call. Chag Sameach.

Rabbi Elana Nemitoff

¹ Rabbi Abraham Twerski, *Living Each Day*, 347

² Maimonides, *Mishna Torah: Hilkhos Teshuvah* 3:4

Rosh Hashanah Second-Day Service

We are planning a second-day service again this year, dependent upon having a minyan. Last year our second-day service was very well attended, and like last year, I ask that

you let us know if you plan to attend. Please respond by phone (248-6412) or email (cbabillings@yahoo.com). The Torah portion is Breisheit.

Completing Our Sukkah after Yom Kippur

As the frame for our sukkah already exists as a pergola, we need add only the roof/*s'chach* to complete it. We anticipate adding the *s'chach* in the closing moments of the Yom Kippur break-fast.

We would like to encourage each congregant planning to be present at

the end of Yom Kippur to bring a few items for decorating the sukkah. With the Rabbi present, we shall have the kids string the items and hang them in the sukkah before heading home. The sukkah should be completed before we have cleaned up from the break-fast.

Holy Day Greetings

Every year, the CBA Board reviews the needs of the synagogue and votes to fund a particular project. In recent years, Holy Day Greetings have funded library acquisitions, the tables in our social hall, and cutlery for our kitchen. We voted that this year, Holy Day Greetings would support the High

Holy Days themselves and the additional expenses the synagogue incurs at this time. Your contributions will be acknowledged during the High Holy Days and in *The Temple Tablet*. Thank you for your generous and continuing support of Beth Aaron.



Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

The deadline for submitting items for the October Temple Tablet is **Thursday, September 24**. Send items to the editor, Rachel Schaffer.

Candle-Lighting Times

Friday, Sept 4	7:29 p.m.
Friday, Sept 11	7:15 p.m.
Erev Rosh Hashanah	
Sunday, Sept 13	7:11 p.m.
Friday, Sept 18	7:02 p.m.
Erev Yom Kippur	
Tuesday, Sept 22	6:54 p.m.
Friday, Sept 25	6:48 p.m.
Friday, Oct 2	6:34 p.m.
Fridav. Oct 9	6:21 p.m.

Torah Portions for September

9/5: Ki Tavo Pent. Deut. 26:1-29:8; Pr. Isa. 60:1-22
9/12: Nitzavim Pent. Deut. 29:9-30:20; Pr. Isa. 61:10-63:9
9/19: Vayelech Pent. Deut. 31:1-31:30; Hosea 14:2-10; Micah 7:18-20; Joel 2:15-27
9/26: Haazinu Pent. Deut. 32:1-52; II Sam. 22:1-51

Canned Food Drive

It has been a tradition for many years to have a collection of canned food at CBA over the Holy Days. With the consolidation of all food distribution in the City now occurring at the Billings Food Bank (BFB), they prefer donations of money over canned goods. This is more efficient for the BFB and also allows them to purchase and direct resources where there is the most need. If you would normally make a donation of non-perishable items, please consider donating an amount equivalent to a day's expenditure on food. Family Promise, Family Support Network, Salvation Army, Montana Rescue Mission, and others also provide food for people in need. "Mazon: a Jewish Response to Hunger" is very active here and in Israel, and can be supported at <http://mazon.org>.



האיחוד ליהדות רפורמית
SERVING REFORM CONGREGATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

From the President

Every year in the month of Elul, I have done a little self-examination and reflection: sometimes more, sometimes not so much. One of the yearly recurring thoughts is that I have not done enough self-reflection during the year. I've tried to spread it through the year but it does seem that in this month, there's a lot to reflect on.

A recurring theme of the Yom Kippur liturgy is that we have made mistakes. Several times during the day we recite our litanies of sins. My understanding of the Hebrew *xun/chet* means "aiming for what's right but missing the mark," rather than the English word "sin," with all its connotations. Nonetheless, most of us could find instances of both types of transgressions upon self-reflection.

The traditional *vidui*, or confession, consists of two parts, *ashamnu* and *al chet*, and is recited in first person plural. We have been hard-hearted, selfish, deceitful, immoral, xenophobic and more. The list is long, and though we know that no one has committed all of the transgressions, we acknowledge that our weaknesses are shared, by

Candles and Calendars

Yahrzeit candles are available at CBA, free for members, or for nominal donation by non-members. They can be found by the memorial boards during High Holy Days. Ask about them when you come for services, or let us know and we can arrange a pick-up time.

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*

13 (June 30): Max Greenberger, grandfather of Ellen Alweis Zolla Miller, father of Heather Rio, grandfather of Jonathan Edward Rio

16 (July 3): Lois White, mother of Denise Fink

20 (July 7): Bud Rosenbaum, brother of Bob Rosenbaum

*These yahrzeits were omitted from the Summer *Tablet* because of the time gap between the May and Summer issues. They are printed here so the annual record will be complete.

Elul

18 (Sept 2): Benjamin Schaffer, grandfather of Rachel and Deborah Schaffer

22 (Sept 6): Murray Sanders, uncle of Jeff Sanders

25 (Sept 9): Irvin Schnitzer, father of Brian Schnitzer

reciting in the plural. And we know that forgiveness is shared by all of us, no matter what our individual transgressions may have been.

So this year I am working on my own, personal *Al Chet* prayer. It's a work in progress. I have no illusions that it will be complete for this Yom Kippur. I'm writing in first person singular, so I have to take personal responsibility for all the sins, all the "missing the mark" instances that I am listing, and all the hidden things that only I know about.

In undertaking this personal reflection, already I have come to realize that for every "missing the mark," there is a flip side, the other side of the coin. And all these flip sides help lead me to see that perhaps my greatest "sin," is insufficient gratitude for all I've been given in this blessing we call life.

On this Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, may we all be inscribed in the book of life, and blessed for another year of life.

L' Shana Tova,
Tricia Williams

We express gratitude to Michelotti Sawyers for their continuing generosity in once again donating beautiful calendars, which are now available in the social hall at Beth Aaron.

Rabbi Samuel Horowitz, beloved rabbi of CBA

26 (Sept 10): Sarah Greenstein, grandmother of Sandy Sukin

Tishrei

5 (Sept 18): Morris Schnitzer, paternal grandfather of Brian Schnitzer

10 (Sept 23): Paul Alweis, uncle of Don Alweis

Mollie Miller, grandmother of Don Alweis

13 (Sept 26): Shimon Burstein, father of Uri Barnea

16 (Sept 29): Louis Gold, grandfather of Brian Schnitzer

17 (Sept 30): Yetta Niss, founding member of CBA

22 (Oct 5): Milt Cohen, father of Ellen Alweis

John Forwalter, father of Denise Fink

September 2015

August 2015	September 2015	October 2015
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	4 5 6 7 8 9 10
9 10 11 12 13 14 15	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	11 12 13 14 15 16 17
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	18 19 20 21 22 23 24
23 24 25 26 27 28 29	27 28 29 30	25 26 27 28 29 30 31
30 31		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day 	8	9	10	11	12
13 7:30 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah	14 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Children's Service Morning Service	15 Morning Service 10:00 a.m.	16	17	18	19
20	21 Send in member news 	22 7:30 p.m. Kol Nidre	23 Neilah & Break-fast 5:00 p.m. Morning Service 10:00 a.m.	24 Tablet deadline 	25	26
27	28 Sukkot 	29	30	1	2	3

Donations

Many thanks for these generous donations to CBA.

- *Rondel Smith for High Holidays security
- *Tricia Williams to the Building Fund

In honor of CBA

- *Chris Hettinger
 - *Fray Bustos
- ### In memory of Julie Coleman
- *William Mavity
 - *Donna Meyers
 - *Al Page
 - *Mel & Frosty Brown
 - *Debra Sunberg
 - *Jack & Adrea Sukin

In honor of CBA for Family Promise

Please see article on p. 4.

Adult Ed Classes

This fall, Uri Barnea will again teach Adult Ed classes. Classes meet once a week, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the Lincoln Center. The offerings are The Biblical Prophets (six weeks) on Thursdays, starting September 10; Introduction to Judaism (six weeks) on Tuesdays, starting November 3; and two new classes: Basic Musicianship (four weeks) on Mondays, starting September 21, and The Mystery of the Ten Commandments (four weeks) on Thursdays, starting October 22.

To enroll online, go to <http://www.billingsadultcommunityed.org> or by phone 406-281-5000 or 281-5010, or stop at the Lincoln Center, room 107. Class catalogs are available at the *Billings Gazette* and/or the Lincoln Center.

Member News

*Sincere condolences to the family of Julie Coleman, long-time member of Congregation Beth Aaron, who died on July 21, 2015. She will be missed.

Yizkor List

Please make any corrections to your family's information in our Yizkor List, which is available in the Library until Monday, September 21, the day before Erev Yom Kippur, when it is read aloud. We are also updating our Yahrzeit list. Please include the date and year of death (Hebrew date if known) so that your family members are remembered in the month of their Yahrzeit at Shabbat services. You may also contact me by CBA email cbabillings@yahoo.com, or phone (leave a message), 248-6412. Thank you, Tricia.

Congregation Beth Aaron

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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/enews/jta/>

Weekly "Ten Minutes of
Torah"

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

Tashlich Service

Tashlich (תשל"ח) is a ritual that many Jews observe during Rosh Hashanah. "Tashlich" means "casting off" and involves symbolically casting off the sins of the previous year by tossing pieces of bread into a body of flowing water (preferably containing fish). Just as the water carries away the pieces of bread, so too are our sins symbolically carried away. We leave our shortcomings behind us and start the New Year with a clean slate. Tashlich is believed to have originated during the Middle Ages and was inspired by a verse in the book of Micah:

God will take us back in love;
God will cover up our iniquities,
You [God] will hurl all our sins
Into the depths of the sea. (Micah 7:19)

On the first day of Rosh Hashanah, September 25, at the conclusion of services, we will recite Tashlich at Lillis Park. Bring bread, and bread will also be available. Directions: Drive west on Broadwater, cross 24th St W to Parkview Dr. (immediately before the park and the bridge on Broadwater) and turn right. Maps will also be available at Beth Aaron.

Hosting the Student Rabbi

It is my job to find families to host Rabbi Elana for dinners on her weekends in Billings. Because of her dietary restrictions, congregants might feel more comfortable hosting if they understand what she can have for dinner: fish or other vegetarian, meatless protein; gluten-free dishes like rice, potatoes, quinoa, or gluten-free pasta (every supermarket in town carries these); vegetables and fruits are all fine. This takes some

planning, but hosting the Student Rabbi offers a wonderful opportunity to get to know her. So fix some fish, a vegetable, some rice or potato, and some fruit or ice cream for dessert, and enjoy. Of course, there is always another choice . . . take her out to dinner. Thank you to those who have hosted in the past and who are hosting this year. I will be asking people to sign up over the next few weeks; please say "yes"—it is a gratifying experience.

Nyd Kraushaar

More Exciting News about Family Promise

Thank you to everyone who donated to Family Promise on behalf of Congregation Beth Aaron. The funds help support the capital campaign Family Promise has been conducting, and our congregation will be recognized on the donor wall inside the new day center.

Those who donated are:

Steve & Marilyn Kramer
Carol Roberts
Al Page
Deb & Rachel Schaffer
Amira Harper
Diane Kersten

Joel & Ann Guthals
Ilan Kaufmann
Uri & Liz Barnea
Jill Salsbury
Lori Pelatt
Andy & Heather Rio

Rondel Smith
Donna Healy
Don & Ellen Alweis
David & Nancy Myers
Tricia & Roger Williams

There is another exciting opportunity just presented to Family Promise. An anonymous donor in one of our host congregations challenged Family Promise to raise \$25,000 by the end of September; if we do, the donor will match our efforts with another \$25,000! So if you didn't give before but would like to now, or know someone you think would like to contribute, you can make your dollars double! You can send your check directly to Family Promise at 40 10th St. West, Billings, MT 59102. Thank you, again, to each of you who has donated and continues to support the program by helping with meals.

With much appreciation for your support and pride that Congregation Beth Aaron will be listed among all the other congregations who support Family Promise,

Carol Roberts, Capital Campaign Chair

Cardboard Box City

When? Saturday October 3, 5:00 p.m. until Sunday, 7:00 a.m.

Where? Rocky Mountain College Football Practice Field

Why? Cardboard Box City is an annual event that helps raise awareness of the crisis of homelessness in Billings and the surrounding area. Youth and families are invited to spend the night, participate in service projects, and join with others in this community to seek an end to homelessness.

For more information, visit: <http://www.familypromiseyv.org>

CONGREGATION BETH AARON

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