



Har Shalom

P.O. Box 3715, MISSOULA, MT 59806 HOTLINE 406.549.9595

WWW.HAR-SHALOM.ORG

STUDENT RABBI CALLIE SOUTHER • CSOUTHER@HUC.EDU

President's Message

As our collective attention is in full summer mode, I would like to reflect a little on developments at Har Shalom and what I see for the next several months.

Another successful religious school has been finished. Todah rabah to Erin Craney, Sheehan Rosen, and all the Atidaynu teachers and helpers, parents and children for giving it your best. We are in the process of planning for 2009-10 and we can look forward to more next year. Yes, the plans are being made to go to a twice-a-month Sunday school schedule. There will be a bigger effort to involve the families in home observances of Shabbat and attending Friday services, too. Of note: three wonderful bnei mitzvoth were celebrated this year, Anna Kalm, Ethan Howard, and Jeb Rosen. Congratulations to the families and the congregation.

Har Shalom's summer camp is happening from August 10-21. Our Israeli partners, Soul Train, will be here to enrich the Jewish experience for children from ages 5-14. If your kids or your friends' children have not yet signed up, I highly encourage you to consider doing so. The modest and family-friendly price is well worth it. And as you will see below, grants are available from the Ed and Ethel Cohen Memorial Fund at Har Shalom.

Our capital campaign made outstanding progress in becoming a professional effort under the able leadership of Sherry Kolenda and tutelage of Susan Cramer. Despite the great challenge of present economic conditions, we are proceeding with realistic and determined efforts.

Har Shalom's Board of Directors is responding to the individual and communal demands of our congregation. Our irreplaceable Maeta Kaplan has served her time on the board in various capacities and is now looking forward to enjoying Har Shalom as simply a congregant. I cannot thank her enough for all she has done for our community. I am also excited at the potential new slate of board members. Transitions are occurring with respect to several officers, e.g., ever-enthusiastic Kate Soukonnikov is now our secretary, taking on communications while moving out of the treasurer's position. We will present our new slate of officers and members at the annual meeting in September.

One of my challenges is to strengthen various committees that perform some of the important work at Har Shalom. I may be calling you to find a place to put your energy and talents if you are not already doing so, but don't wait for the call. Call me or the office with your ideas and offers.

We look forward to seeing many of you at our picnic on August 23, at summer camp or the many other activities that are described inside.

Shalom and Happy Summer.
Bert Chessin

Our Post Office Box Has Changed Please send any correspondence to:
Congregation Har Shalom, P.O. Box 3715, Missoula, MT 59806

Would You Like to Get the Newsletter In the Mail? We are happy to send this newsletter to members who would prefer to get it in the mail, on paper, rather than printing it out from the email attachment. Please send us your name and correct mailing address with a short note and we'll take it from there.

Board of Directors

President: Bert Chessin, 531-5193

Vice President & Interim Treasurer:

David Jolles, 549-3656

Secretary: Kate Soukonnikov, 549-0503

Members:

Ty Brennan, 626-4479 Larry Stahl, 493-6190

Barry Good, 541-0528 Toba Winston, 777-5541

Sherry Kolenda, 251-7996

Send news, events, or letters to info@har-shalom.org. Newsletters publish semi-monthly.

July-Aug '09

Todah Rabah

There are always many people to thank for keeping our beloved synagogue afloat. We would like to especially recognize **Laurie Franklin** for her lay leadership, especially in the bar mitzvah of **Jeb Rosen** and the moving memorial service for **John Winston. Maeta Kaplan** for her years of work on the board as she goes off to a summer trip to China. **Jackie Cohen** for her reestablishment of the Ed and Ethel Cohen Memorial Scholarship Fund (see story in this newsletter). **Kathy Good** for so many ways keeping the shul clean and stocked. **Dave Jolles** for above and beyond assistance with anything needing fixing in the building. **Erin Craney** for completing her very first year heading up our Atidaynu Sunday School. Our Sunday School Teachers: **Bert Chessin, Carter Earls, Jody Jakob, Paul Rosen, Kate Soukonnikov**, and student rabbi **Callie Souther. Pat and Kitte Robin** for their generous donation of a chuppah for the synagogue. If you notice we missed a thank-you opportunity, please let us know!

We extend a very happy, healthy birthday to:

— July

1 Z'eva Singer

6 Ledah Wilcox

(Maeta Kaplan's daughter)

7 Bruce Barrett

8 Rob Natelson

9 Larry Stahl

9 Frankie Feinstein

14 Keegan Eisenstadt

15 Sheelan Miller

15 Koby Silverman

17 Sarah Alla Stevens

20 Samantha Jolles

21 Annie Alexander

25 Ellie Steinman

25 Rachel Goen

26 Ellen Silberglat

26 Ari Jaffe

26 Michael Bloom

31 Heather Licht

(continued on page 3)



The Har Shalom newsletter is written entirely by volunteers. Submissions are always welcome!

The next deadline is August 15 for the September/October 2009 Edition.

A Synagogue for Missoula: Building Jewish Community campaign news

Thanks to our donors, guarantors and First Security Bank, our loan has been refinanced and we were able to reduce our principal even more than the bank asked us to. Still, we have a big challenge from now until next April and need everyone to reach into their hearts and give as much as they can. Any amount is helpful! If you know anyone outside of Missoula who may be willing to contribute, our "Jewish Geography" packets will make the case. Email info@har-shalom.org to get in touch with the committee.

To our generous members who have volunteered to be guarantors for our new loan, on behalf of the Har Shalom Board, the Synagogue for Missoula Committee and all the members of Har Shalom, we extend to you a heartfelt thank you for your generosity and commitment. It is because of friends like you that we continue to move forward and thrive as a congregation. It is because of you that we can look forward to a continuing future in our building, our home, in Missoula.

Our 2009–2010 Loan Guarantors are:

Bert Chessin • Laurie Franklin • Carolyn Goren • Jim Gray • Bob Jaffe
Dave Jolles • Jeff Kooris • Jack Meyer • Larry Stahl • Toba Winston

Scholarship Grants for Jewish Learning *by Jackie Cohen*

A special scholarship fund at Congregation Har Shalom is open to synagogue members. Established in 1999 with seed money from my parents, the Ed and Ethel Cohen Memorial Fund has given scholarship grants to our youth and adults pursuing Jewish educational opportunities. My parents were ardent supporters of education and the fund reflects their desire to promote furthering one's education in Judaism. Our youth have attended summer camps in other states, obtained partial funding for Birthright and Young Judea programs in Israel, and pursued other Jewish learning opportunities. Adults have pursued Jewish study in other states. All recipients have enriched our community after they returned. After ten years of grants, the fund continues. You can obtain an application by emailing info@har-shalom.org.

Donations to the fund are also welcome. Please specify the Ed and Ethel Cohen Memorial Fund if you would like to contribute.

Shabbaton at Har Shalom: Join the Committee!

Har Shalom will host the 2009 Montana Association of Jewish Communities (MAJCO) Shabbaton beginning Erev Sukkot on Friday Oct 2, and continuing through the weekend. Members of congregations from the entire state of Montana will gather at Har Shalom for learning, praying, and partying! As host congregation, we will welcome our guests and run the program. Jobs include (but are not limited to!) hosting overnight guests, arranging meals, running special activities for young children and teens, and building the sukkah. Please email or call Laurie Franklin, rossfranklin@msn.com or 546-9368, to volunteer for the Shabbaton committee.

Music, Rocks and a Picnic: dates to remember

David Louis performance

An Israeli American-born performer, David Louis, will entertain us at Har Shalom, Tues., July 7, 7:30 p.m. David Louis is a rabbi and performer, playing trumpet and flute. He composes music and is a master storyteller. His musical career included playing with the Jerusalem Symphony and touring Europe for several years in the 1990s. He is a Kabbalist, philosopher, and Judaic scholar, who tells "life stories." Free and open to the public.

Rock of ages? Not for long!

We need lots of help cleaning out rocks and weeds and neatening the back lot of our property behind the parking lot on Sunday, July 12, beginning at 10 a.m. Moving rocks, cutting grass, planting and watering. We need to get the "back forty" ready for the Shabbaton and other activities. If you own fun lawn machinery, you can use it here. Refreshments provided. Email info@har-shalom.org to volunteer.

Sun., Aug. 23: Annual Picnic and Volunteer Recognition

Last year was a blast! We hope you all will come for this year's annual picnic, 1 – 5 p.m. at Bonner Park, Missoula. Lots of food and fun for everyone. As always, helping hands would

(continued top of next column)

Music, Rocks and a Picnic: Special dates to remember *(continued)*

be earnestly welcome. We'll need supply schleppers, set-up folks, grill meisters, fun meisters and a clean-up crew. If you can help in any way, email info@har-shalom.org.

Our first Mega Yard Sale Fund-raiser, Sun., Aug. 30, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., in the Har Shalom parking lot. We will take any useable items and welcome baked goods for sale too! Please email info@har-shalom.org to volunteer. We will need folks to pick up, set up, sell and clean up. It's a great way to support the Synagogue for Missoula campaign.

Har Shalom Annual Meeting: Sun., Aug. 30, after the yard sale. Mark your calendars for this important meeting of the congregation. We will update you on the Synagogue for Missoula campaign, elect officers, and look for your ideas and participation for the upcoming year.

The High Holy Days begin with Erev Rosh Hashanah the evening of September 18 and Kol Nidre on the evening of September 27. Look for more information in the September/October newsletter and the weekly emails. Not getting your email? Please send a note to info@har-shalom.org.

Torah Study, Chevruta, Ritual Team continue through summer

Our study calendar is full, even in summer! Join us Wednesday nights, 7:30 – 9 p.m., when we study Talmud together at Chevruta. On Saturdays, 10 a.m. – noon, Torah study stalwarts meet to read and discuss the weekly parashat, Haftarah and commentary. July's Ritual Team meeting will be preempted for the "Back Forty" Clean Up, but we will meet Sun., Aug. 2, 10 a.m. – noon, to plan the service for Fri., Aug. 7. Everyone is welcome to participate; no prior experience is necessary. Questions? Please contact Laurie Franklin, rossfranklin@msn.com or 546-9368.

Small Kindnesses

by Rabbi David A. Whiman

Senior Rabbi, North Shore Synagogue, Long Island, New York

Each June, my Cape Cod neighbor, Mrs. Clark, returns to the cottage her family built in the 1920s. At 95, she still stays by herself. Neighbors pick up the mail at the post office. Children carry out the trash and mow the lawn. No one goes to the store without calling to see if there is something of need.

Twice a week, Mrs. Clark bakes brownies. She wraps each individually in cellophane and sends them off to her helpers. The kettle is always warming on Mrs. Clark's stove. Visitors might surely have a minute for something to drink. As the summer unfolds, Mrs. Clark's kitchen fills with the smell of homegrown hospitality. Music and laughter drift out from the porch. In July, Mason jars filled with flowers appear on your deck. In late summer, she sends over preserves. In December, you get a Christmas card even if you are a rabbi. The woman knows how to return a kindness.

Annually, Mrs. Clark's girlfriends arrive for a week's stay. The youngest is 78. This year, after a furious session of housecleaning, the ladies posed for pictures riding the brooms they had just put to such energetic use. Three hundred years ago in Puritan New England, such playful behavior could have gotten them burned at the stake.

In honor of Mrs. Clark's divisible-by-5 birthday, there were plans for a friendship quilt, but the project never quite got off the ground. The girls were having much too much fun. There's always next year, they quipped. Yet, at 95, there was the awareness that the years, however joyous, are not innumerable.

Mrs. Clark will tell you that those who endure prevail. But, eventually, the obstacles placed in our path cannot be overcome and we surrender our grasp on this gift called life.

Still, it seems to me that our lives together are best built on the exchange of small kindnesses. A jar of preserves. The gift of a flower. The return of a smile. The favor of a word. These are the gestures, the tokens that make life bearable. There is no tally sheet in the exchange of small kindnesses, but there is memory of the moment and the sure knowledge that life at its best is lived with people, with decency, and in the words of our prayerbook with the consolation that when the few years of our earthly pilgrimage are ended we may be ready to meet our end with tranquil mind.

May you consecrate the days of your life with deeds of kindness, caring and love. May you be surrounded by good friends and cherished family, and may your life ever be a praise to the One who bestows the gift of life upon you.

"Tuesdays with Morrie" and extraordinary food to benefit Har Shalom

Theater and great food are coming September 11, 12 and 13 with our signature fundraising event of the year. The theatre performance of "Tuesdays with Morrie," based on the book by Mitch Albom is a moving and splendid show about a professor who taught author Mitch Albom about the meaning of life. Friday will feature a cocktail reception and silent auction, along with the theater performance. Saturday will feature a 5-course chef's dinner, by some of Missoula's top chefs along with the performance, and Sunday will be a lovely brunch with the performance following. This will be a must see event! More information to come. Contact info@har-shalom.org for questions and to volunteer time, or silent auction items.

Birthdays (cont'd from page 1)

—August

3 Candy Miller
3 Lily Morgan-Curet
13 Jack Meyer
14 Caleb Rosen
23 Matilda Ceil Beltz



(Dori Gilels' daughter)

25 Isabel Huff

(Bari Burke's daughter)

28 Maeta Kaplan

If you wish a birthday greeting or a Yahrzeit remembered, and it is not listed, please send us the info and we will include it in the newsletter. Contact Beth Jaffe at 728-1052 or beth@cedarmountainsoftware.com

John Winston Memorial Service

The sad loss of John Winston, beloved husband of Toba, and father of Laura, was May 27. John died after a courageous two-year battle with cancer. On Friday afternoon, May 29, a graveside service was conducted by Laurie Franklin, our lay leader. John was buried under an apple tree in view of the home he loved. (Many people were unable to attend the funeral because it took place so quickly after his death, in accordance with Jewish law.)

Please join us at Congregation Har Shalom on Sat., July 11, 10 a.m., for a regular Saturday morning service and a memorial service and celebration of John Winston's life. After the service refreshments will be served.

John requested that donations in his memory may be made to Har Shalom's Synagogue for Missoula campaign.

Yahrzeits

The Yahrzeit is the anniversary of a loved one's death according to the Hebrew calendar. The civil date varies from year to year. The Hebrew date is listed first, followed by the current year's civil date in parentheses. Yahrzeit candles should be lit the evening before the date specified. This is because the Jewish day actually begins at sundown on the previous night.

— Tamuz

10 (7/02) Adeline Ginsberg
(Beth Leibowitz's father)
16 (7/08) Samuel Nashel
(Elizabeth Howard's grandfather)
22 (7/14) Irving I. Schuldberg
(David Schuldberg's father)
26 (7/18) Mark Behan
(Jackie Cohen's husband)

— Av

5 (7/26) Dorothy Cohen Martin
(Marilyn Dayries' mother)
11 (8/01) Betty Ann Schreiber
(Sheryl Alexander's mother)
16 (8/06) Barbara Goren
(Carolyn Goren's sister)
19 (8/09) Dora Spector
(Ellen Silverglat's mother)
21 (8/11) Morris L. Goren
(Carolyn Goren's father)
21 (8/11) Averil Sherman
(Suzanne Aboulfadl's mother)

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Student rabbi Callie Souther will return in September. Until then, our weekly Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat services are led by lay leader, Laurie Franklin. Snacks are provided before our Shabbat service; if you arrive early you are invited to have a nosh with us. All events, unless otherwise noted, are at Congregation Har Shalom, 3035 S. Russell

Student rabbi appointments: email Callie Souther: csouther@huc.edu

JULY

Wednesday 7/1 7:30–9 p.m. Chevruta Talmud Study
 Friday 7/3 6 p.m. Shabbat Service with Kiddush following
 Saturday 7/4 Independence Day, no Torah Study
 Tuesday 7/7 7:30 p.m. Israeli American-born performer,
 R. David Louis, tells life stories with music.
 Wednesday 7/8 7:30–9 p.m. Chevruta Talmud Study
 Friday 7/10 6 p.m. Shabbat Service with Kiddush following
 Saturday 7/11 10 a.m.–noon Torah Study
 Sunday 7/12 10 a.m. “Back Forty” Clean Up at Har Shalom
 Tuesday 7/14
 5 p.m. Synagogue for Missoula Committee
 7 p.m. Board Meeting
 Wednesday 7/15 7:30–9 p.m. Chevruta Talmud Study
 Friday 7/17 6 p.m. Shabbat Service with Kiddush following
 Saturday 7/18 10 a.m.–noon Torah Study
 Wednesday 7/22 7:30–9 p.m. Chevruta Talmud Study
 Friday 7/24
 5:30 p.m. Vegetarian Potluck Supper
 6:30 p.m. Family Shabbat Service
 Saturday 7/25 10 a.m.–noon Torah Study
 Tuesday 7/28 5:30 p.m. Synagogue for Missoula Committee
 Wednesday 7/29 7:30–9 p.m. Chevruta Talmud Study
 Friday 7/31 6 p.m. Shabbat Service with Kiddush following

AUGUST

Saturday 8/1 10 a.m.–noon Torah Study
 Sunday 8/2 10–11:30 p.m. Ritual Team plans Friday’s service
 Wednesday 8/5 7:30–9 p.m. Chevruta Talmud Study
 Friday 8/7 6 p.m. Ritual Team Service
 Saturday 8/8 10 a.m.–noon Torah Study
 Monday 8/10 Day Camp with Soul Train through 8/21
 Tuesday 8/11
 5 p.m. Synagogue for Missoula Committee
 7 p.m. Board Meeting
 Wednesday 8/12 7:30–9 p.m. Chevruta Talmud Study
 Friday 8/14
 5:30 p.m. Vegetarian Potluck Supper
 6:30 Family Shabbat Service
 Saturday 8/15 10 a.m. Torah Study
 Wednesday 8/19 7:30–9 p.m. Chevruta Talmud Study
 Friday 8/21 6 p.m. Shabbat Service with Kiddush following
 Saturday 8/22 10 a.m.–noon Torah Study
 Sunday 8/23 1–5 p.m. Har Shalom Annual Picnic at
 Bonner Park (at Ronald and Evans Streets)
 Tuesday 8/25 5:30 p.m. Synagogue for Missoula Committee
 Wednesday 8/26 7:30–9 p.m. Chevruta Talmud Study
 Friday 8/28 6 p.m. Shabbat Service with Kiddush following
 Saturday 8/29 10 a.m.–noon Torah Study
 Sunday 8/30
 9–3 p.m. Har Shalom Mega Yard Sale Fundraiser
 3 p.m. (approx.) Har Shalom Annual Meeting



Har Shalom

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Contributions *(those given after the newsletter deadline will appear in the next issue)*

Synagogue Operating Expenses and Building Maintenance

Dori Gilels and Michael Beltz
Erica Bloom
Solen Finzi-Contini
Kathy and Barry Good
Carolyn Goren
Barbara Gross
Kathy Witkowski

A Synagogue For Missoula: Building Jewish Community campaign

Suzanne S. Aboulfadl
The Adler-Golden Family
Jeff Aresty
The Bendremer-Wozniak Family
Barbara Callaghan
Bert Chessin
Dr. Gary and Deborah Cohen
Jackie Cohen
Susan Hay Cramer
Joy and Mark Earls
Howard and Pamela Erlanger
Frankie Feinstein
Laurie Franklin
Dr. Muriel R. Friedman
Lois and Harry Goldman
Jamie Gordon
Shirle F. Gray
Bob and Beth Jaffe
Fredri and Sybil Jakob – in honor of Keith and Jody Jakob
Richard and Donna Jo Johnson
Dave Jolles and Erin Craney
Maeta Kaplan
Linda S. Kauffman – in honor of the Winstons
Sherry and Richard D. Kolenda
Jeff Kooris
Miriam Kurinsky
Helen and Robert Lebowitz
Harriet and Mort Lewis – in honor of Laura Winston's graduation
from Interlochen Arts
Bob and Merce Litfin-Zingmark
Ken and Roberta Lloyd – in honor of Bob and Merce Litfin-Zingmark
Ruth Lorinczi – in honor of daughter Kate Soukonnikov
Diana Lurie
Rob Natelson
Greg Nemoff
Philippa Newfield and & Phillip Gordon – in honor of Toba Winston
Paul and Sheehan Rosen
Peter Rosten and Susan Latimer
David Schuldborg
Matthew Semanoff
Colin Skofield
Michael and Melinda Smith
Boris and Kate Soukonnikov
Maxine Stahl
Stan Stahl
Michael Stern
The TOP Foundation
Phil Tuchinsky
Trina Valencich
Rabbi David Whiman
Dr. Lennard Wilson and Mrs. Karen Erikson
Toba Winston

In Memory of:

Josephine and Gerald Aresty
Jeff Aresty

Bob Berkhoff, father of Brian,
father-in-law of Rebecca Bernstein,
Grandfather of Mason
Melinda Robin

Martha and Morris Feinstein
Frankie Feinstein

Gabriel Jolles
Dave Jolles and Erin Craney

Joseph Michalski
Bob and Merce Litfin-Zingmark

Paul Stahl
Bob and Merce Litfin-Zingmark

Robin Sylira
Michael and Melinda Smith

John Winston
Philip and Elaine Alman
Carol Branch
Jack and Pat Cohen
Dale and Kathleen Dufresne
Elissa Goldstein
Eddie Jose
Linda A. Leffman
Harriet and Mort Lewis
Diane Maupai-Harrington
Edy and Ed Shapiro
Philip Simon and Terry Neben
Patricia and Gerard D. Snover
Janet Tatz and David Morey
Cele and Joseph Tuchinsky
Phil Tuchinsky
Jerrold and Nadyne Weissman
Susanne Woyciechowicz



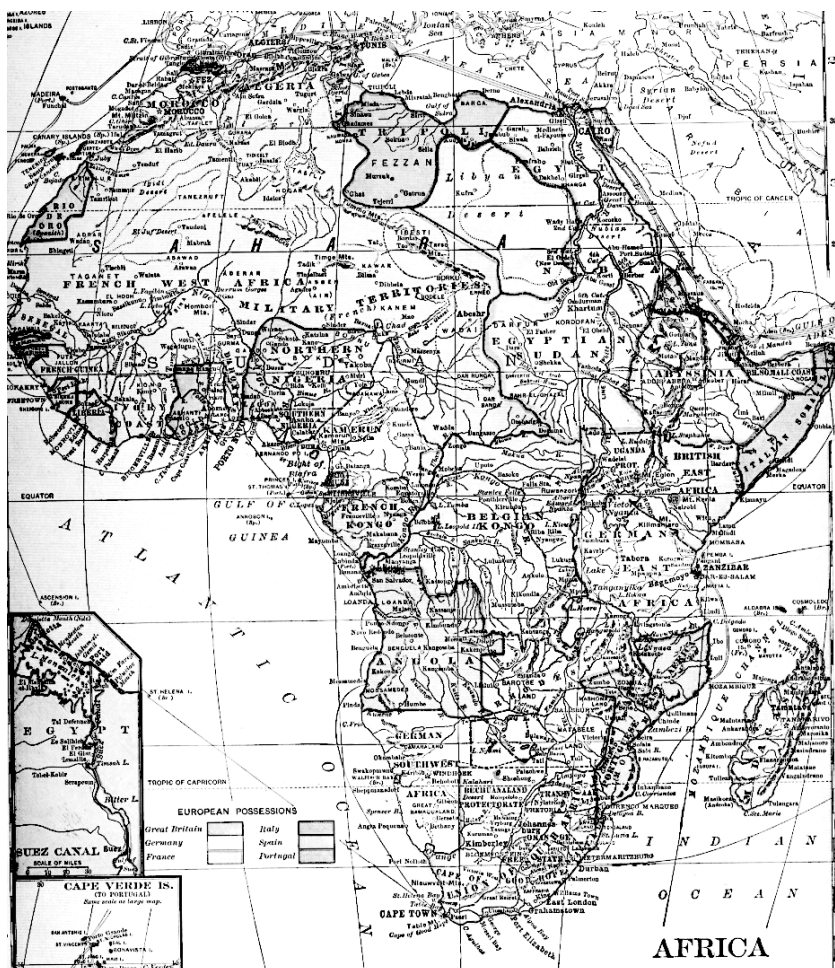
Jeb Rosen Called to the Torah

The Rosen family would like to thank everyone who joined us for Jeb's Bar Mitzvah Saturday, June 20th. It was wonderful to see a full house and have participation (and help!) from so many friends at Har Shalom! It meant the world to us to have all of you there. These words express what we hope for Jeb as he embarks on his adult adventure:

“May you live to see your world fulfilled, May you be our link to future worlds, and may your hope encompass all the generations to be. May your heart conceive with understanding, may your mouth speak wisdom and your tongue be stirred with sounds of joy. May your gaze be straight and sure, your eyes be lit with Torah’s lamp, your face aglow with heaven’s radiance, your lips expressing words of knowledge, and your inner self alive with righteousness. And may you always rush in eagerness to hear the words of One more ancient than all time.”
Talmud (Brachot 17A)

Jeb's Bar Mitzvah day coincided with World Refugee Day. Here is part of his speech with a call to action:

"For my B'nei Mitzvah Project I have decided to help raise awareness of the refugee situation in Africa. The Jewish People know what it is like to be refugees and to face many hardships. We have also faced religious oppression and can help the Africans now. We want to give hope to them, because we know what it is like to be without hope. One of the major problems for refugees is malaria, a disease carried by mosquitoes. By giving bed nets to people in Africa, we can save lives. The URJ has teamed up with Nothing But Nets to deliver these to Africans, especially those hundreds of thousands living in refugee camps. I have launched a web campaign to help buy bed nets and would like you to join me in donating to this cause. Please visit www.mynothingbutnets.net/jrosteam to donate or pick up a brochure and donation form from the Har Shalom information table in the lobby. Thank you!"



Twelve ways you can support the Synagogue for Missoula Capital Campaign

1. Set aside a portion of your family's weekly tzedakah coins for the building fund.
2. Call your Uncle Ernie and ask him for the bar mitzvah present he never got around to sending.
3. Come to any committee meeting to share your ideas and enthusiasm.
4. Ask your employer to consider a donation. Or find out if the company might make a matching donation.
5. Do you really need another crockpot for your birthday? Ask friends to make a donation in your name.
6. It is customary on the anniversary of the death of a loved one to make a donation to the synagogue. Why not choose the campaign fund?
7. Check with a tax advisor to see if you can make a donation out of your IRA without paying taxes on the distribution.
8. Got stocks? You can donate stocks that have appreciated and get a deduction for the current amount (even though your original purchase amount was less). Again, please consult a tax advisor first.)
9. Host "A Synagogue for Missoula" party, and pass the hat.
10. Send a contribution in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone special to you.
11. Send our "Jewish Geography" packet to anyone outside of Missoula. Packets are ready-made and ready to go.
12. Write a check to Har Shalom, PO Box 3715, Missoula, MT 59806, or go online to www.har-shalom.org and click to donate with a credit card.