

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN by *Holly Kingsford*

It is said that the only constant in our lives is change. As we approach the High Holy days this year, I am especially struck by this concept. We just learned that Robin Williams has left this plane of consciousness. Children grow up and become themselves in such a short time. Careers bloom and bring opportunities that bring about change and personal growth. Peace is a fleeting element for our brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers in Israel.

Before we left Connecticut, a friend showed me the concept of letting go. He asked me to close my eyes and envision myself at the beach. He asked me to scoop up sand with my fists clenched. When I opened my hands, there were no more than a few grains of imaginary sand stuck between my fingers. Then he asked me to scoop up sand with my open palms. And my imaginary sand was abundant. The lesson he was trying to help me see was to be open to the new in order to celebrate abundance and allow all good things to come.

Fear often hinders our transition into change. We are holding on to the old so tightly that there is no space for new. As we approach this New Year, my prayer for you is that you will hold loosely to your lives. Discard that which no longer serves you, whether that is physical stuff or emotional, relationships or ideals. Leave a gap for the new and improved to enter your life and to find a welcome home with you.

Let's go back to that imaginary seaside in Connecticut and close your eyes. Think of the way the water ebbs and flows. It brings treasure and takes away that which is no longer needed. My prayer is that you will have this kind of flow in your life.

Bless those that you love and seek to be happy. I want to extend my warmest wishes for this New Year. L'Shanah Tovah Tikatevu - may you have a good year, and may you be inscribed for blessing in the Book of Life.

LAURIE'S LETTER by *Laurie Franklin*

Season of Possibility

When I was child in NYC, the start of school meant many forays into local shops to inspect and choose school supplies. I never chose right away because I liked to visit all the shops in the neighborhood. Neat piles of binders and notebooks, papers, pens and pencils, pencil cases, dividers, erasers, crayons beckoned like candy. They were comforting, because the world was continuing as usual, and challenging, because I had to choose from a vast array. I loved school. For me, buying the new school supplies was a delicious promise of the learning that would unfold in the months ahead.

Our Jewish calendar reminds me of the school-supply trips. Each fall holiday offers gifts of learning: On Selichot (see High Holiday calendar), we acknowledge that we are sorry for our failings and begin to reach from darkness to light. On Rosh Hashanah, we gratefully celebrate the sweet promise of renewal in the New Year. On Yom Kippur, we realign ourselves with Divine teaching through fasting, prayer, and careful self-examination. During Sukkot, we bare our heads and souls to Divine flow and celebrate vulnerability and its indispensable partner, trust; on Simchat Torah, we renew the annual cycle of Torah readings and rejoice in the wisdom of Torah.

In this season of renewal and re-awakening, may you find deepened connection to yourself, our community, and the Holy One, and may you experience the great gift of possibility.

DRIVEWAY CHANGE

Please let everyone know that effective IMMEDIATELY we will reverse our enter/exits at the shul. From now on all vehicles need to enter from the SOUTH (left) driveway and exit from the NORTH (right) drive way.

Board of Directors **President:** Holly Kingsford 207-2078 • holly@kingsfordcommunications.com
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Atidaynu* News

by *Sheehan Rosen*

**Atidaynu means "our future."*

Atidaynu begins Sunday, Sept. 28 at 10 am

Atidaynu, Har Shalom's children's education program will begin on September 28 at 10am with a registration, orientation and social meeting. This is a great time for new and returning students and families to meet their teachers and learn a little bit more about what is to come this year. Atidaynu welcomes children ages 3-14 for twice monthly meetings. Our goal is to help children and their parents begin to understand the significance of Judaism in their lives and to provide a solid foundation for becoming an active member of the community.

We begin each morning with a short service and almost always gather round for an Israeli dance; parents are encouraged to join their children for this time. During our time together, children engage in age appropriate lessons on Torah, Jewish history, holiday celebrations, liturgy and Hebrew language. A mid-day snack is provided. B'nei Mitzvah preparation is also part of our program, with additional meetings with spiritual leaders and tutors arranged by the family. Throughout the year, families are also encouraged to participate in services and special community projects. Please contact Sheehan Rosen at 406-642-6527 for more information or to register. We look forward to seeing your family on Sept. 28!



The Har Shalom newsletter is written entirely by volunteers. Submissions are welcome.
Next deadline: Oct 17 for Nov/Dec '14 issue
Send corrections or comments about this newsletter to Pat Cohen, editor, at cohenpc@aol.com

High Holy Days and Fall holiday schedule 2014

S'lichot	Saturday, September 20 8 pm Candlelight Service
Holiday Challah Baking	Tuesday, September 23 2–5 pm Bake Challah with friends
Erev Rosh Hashana	Wednesday, September 24 7 pm Service
Rosh Hashana I	Thursday, September 25 9 am Family service 10 am General Service (Families welcome), followed by Tashlich
Rosh Hashana II	Friday, September 26 6 pm Potluck, Kabbalat Shabbat and Tashlich at Greenough Pk
Shabbat Tshuva	Saturday, September 27 9 am Lolo Hot Springs mikveh 11 am Shabbat Shuva service with Contemplative Torah meditation at Devoto Memorial Grove, Highway 12, Idaho (weather permitting)
Yom Kippur	Friday, October 3 6:30 pm Kol Nidre Saturday, October 4 9 am Family service 10 am General service (Families welcome) 6 pm Yizkor 6:15 pm Mincha/Maariv/Neilah 8:24 pm Havdallah/Break the Fast
Erect the Sukkah	Sunday, October 5 3 pm
Sukkot	Friday, October 10 6 pm Potluck 7 pm Service in the Sukkah, weather-permitting
Annual Meeting	Sunday, October 12 1–3 pm
Simchat Torah	Friday, October 17 7 pm Service (we unroll the whole Torah!) followed by Oneg in celebration of Mia Foster's Bat Mitzvah on Sat., Oct. 18

Candlelight Selichot 8 pm Saturday, September 20

Join us for Selichot, a journey into forgiveness and the opening observance of our High Holiday season. We will meet on Sat., Sept. 20, at 8 pm at Har Shalom. As the room grows darker and candlelight illuminates the sanctuary, we'll begin a gentle, communal preparation for the High Holy Days with chanting, poetry, and song.

Special Mikveh and Torah Practice on Shabbat Shuva Saturday, September 26

On Shabbat Shuva, Sat., Sept. 26—the Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur—we will journey to Lolo Hot Springs for a private mikveh in preparation for Yom Kippur. We will proceed to the nearby Devoto Memorial Grove, an accessible and beautiful old-growth Western Red Cedar forest, for a Shabbat Shuva Contemplative Torah service, followed by lunch. Please pack your own food. If the weather doesn't cooperate, we'll return to Har Shalom for the service. Want to join us for the service but not the mikveh? Meet at the Devoto Grove parking lot on Hwy 12 (12 miles into ID from the MT border) at 11 am, weather permitting.

MANY WAYS TO CONNECT ON ROSH HASHANAH AND YOM KIPPUR

Join us for Selichot, a journey into forgiveness and the opening observance of our High Holiday season. We will meet on Sat., Sept. 20 at 8 pm at Har Shalom. As the room grows darker and candlelight illuminates the sanctuary, we'll begin a gentle, communal preparation for the High Holy Days with chanting, poetry, and song.

ANNUAL MEETING Sun., Oct. 12, 1–3 pm

The Har Shalom Annual Meeting will be held October 12 after a potluck lunch at noon. Come for lunch and stay for the Annual Meeting. We will discuss what Har Shalom has accomplished this past year and what our plans are for the future. There will be an election for an open Board seat and confirmation of those who are continuing their terms. Contact any board member or email info@har-shalom.org with questions or comments.

GIFTS AND NEEDS

Thankfully many of you have paid or are paying this year's dues already. Our rent payments from Garden City Montessori and the garages in our parking lot convinced First Security Bank to offer us a \$400,000 first mortgage for 20 years and "Loan B," a 10 year \$164,000 loan that we will pay off in eight years. The rents pay the monthly payment on the mortgage. Formerly the bank asked us for a lump sum payment for the building each year. Generous donors who helped us for years paid most of the lump sum. With much of the building debt paid by our income, we are reaching out to generous donors for help with our \$22,400 annual payment on Loan B. There is also another urgent need, contributions toward operating expenses. Our dues cover less than 15% of our operating budget. Over the coming months we will reach out to friends and members for help with these needs. We thank you for considering these needs.

Sukkot—Give Us Shelter Friday, October 10

Join us for a potluck dinner, 6 pm, and Sukkot service in the Har Shalom sukkah, at 7 pm, Friday, October 10. Last year, the moon broke over the horizon and rose over Mount Sentinel as we said Kaddish—truly spectacular! If the weather is wet enough to dilute the soup (a Mishnah Sukkot 2:9 consideration), we'll meet indoors.

Simchat Torah—Dance with the Scroll Fri., October 17

Once more, we celebrate the renewal of the annual cycle of Torah by reading the last words of Deuteronomy (Devarim) and the first lines of Genesis (B'reishit). We will call all children to Torah, the only occasion they are called until they become bnei mitzvah. We dance around the synagogue with the Torah and unroll the entire scroll around the sanctuary! And this year, something even more special: Mia Foster will be Bat Mitzvah on Parshat B'reishit, and her family will sponsor the Friday evening oneg. Come and celebrate!

Mia Foster is called to Torah Saturday, October 18

Join us for a potluck dinner, 6 pm, and Sukkot service in the Har Shalom sukkah, at 7 pm, Friday, October 10. Last year, the moon broke over the horizon and rose over Mount Sentinel as we said Kaddish, truly spectacular! If the weather is wet enough to dilute the soup (a Mishnah Sukkot 2:9 consideration), we'll meet indoors.

ADDITIONAL SEPT/OCT EVENTS

Women's Rosh Chodesh Saturday, October 25, at 11 am



Rosh Chodesh will be celebrated October 25 at 11 am. Aimee Ryan will begin the session with yoga practice, followed by discussion of the book *G-d is a Verb, Kabbalah and the Practice of Mystical Judaism*, by Rabbi David A. Cooper. The next two gatherings will be November 23 and December 22.

Conversion Class continues Sunday, October 26

For those who are interested in exploring Judaism as their spiritual path, we resume classes on Sunday October 26 from 2 to 4:30 pm. Classes will be led by Laurie Franklin. Please contact Laurie at 546-9368 or laurief@har-shalom.org if you have not previously participated.

September is Har Shalom's Food Drive Month

Through the Missoula Interfaith Collaborative (we are full members), we are participating in a program to provide coordinated, targeted assistance to the Missoula Food Bank. September is our Food Bank food drive month. Two other congregations are contributing this month: St. Francis and Christ Church.

There are two ways to help: You can make a monetary donation to Har Shalom, earmarked for the food bank, and we will send the Missoula Food Bank a single check at the end of the month. Alternatively, you can bring nonperishable foods to Har Shalom, and we will bring them to the food bank. If the latter, the food bank specifically requests peanut butter, canned condensed soups (chicken noodle and tomato), canned fruit, canned chili, beef stew and canned vegetables (especially corn). Please bring your food donations to the Har Shalom lobby. You can donate money to Har Shalom via PayPal (be sure to indicate that it's for the food bank), by check, or by cash. If check, please mail to Har Shalom PO Box 3715, Missoula, MT, 59806, or drop in the lobby mailbox. If cash, please drop in the lobby mailbox.

Our September food drive aids us as part of our High Holidays process of Tshuva, return. Through giving, we elevate our spiritual capital! It's win-win: We help others, and it helps us!

Yahrzeits

The Yahrzeit is the Hebrew-calendar anniversary of a loved one's death. The Hebrew date is invariant and is computed on the basis of the day and time of the deceased's passing, but the corresponding civil calendar date changes each year.

In the list below, the Hebrew date appears listed first, followed by the current year's civil date in parentheses. Yahrzeit candles are traditionally lit the evening before the specified date because the Jewish day begins at sunset of the previous day. At Har Shalom, we read our congregants' Yahrzeits and recite the Mourner's Kaddish at the Shabbat service before the Hebrew calendar Yahrzeit date.

Do we have your information correct?

Here is a link to a Google Docs form so we can better serve our Har Shalom community. Please enter the names of your family members, your address, and include yahrzeits that you would like to observe. It'll take just a few minutes to enter your information for our records. Thank you.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1xPb0jUysYHbGhdXuzSMiFaML7gx9hmfu0SR8AsQvFKY/viewform>

ELUL

13 (September 8) George Lorinczi
Kate Soukonnikov's father

14 (September 9) Nancy Polishuk
Jackie Cohen's sister

17 (September 12) Ann Goldberg
Richard Goldberg's mother

26 (September 21) Jack Witkowsky
Kathleen Witkowsky's father

TISHREI

3 (September 27) Bernard Robin
Melinda Robin's father

5 (September 29) William Sanz
Mark Sanz's father

13 (October 7) Charles Stahl
Larry Stahl's grandfather

16 (October 10) Charles Sherman
Suzanne Aboulfadl's father

19 (October 13) Arnold Finklin
Har Shalom community member

21 (October 15) Eva Stahl
Larry Stahl's grandmother

24 (October 18) Francis B. Rosenzweig
Frank Rosenzweig's father

26 (October 20) Leroy Bloomberg M.D.
Staci Bloomberg's father

CHESHVAN

1 (October 25) Joseph Goldberg
Richard Goldberg's father

4 (October 28) Bill Martin
Marilyn Dayries's father

5 (October 29) Flora Kaplan
Maeta Kaplan's mother

5 (October 29) Frances Blindman
Elizabeth Howard's grandmother



P.O. Box 3715, Missoula, MT 59806

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Donations and Tributes

We are grateful to our current and past contributors. Every donation, regardless of size, is deeply appreciated. Making tributes and memorials is a wonderful way to honor someone and support the Jewish community.

To make a donation, pay membership dues or religious school fees, visit us online at har-shalom.org and click on the “NEW: Make secure credit card payments here” link. Or, use your bank’s FREE “Bill Pay” feature. Or mail your payment to Har Shalom at PO Box 3715, Missoula 59806. Please specify the intention of your donation: Memorial; Honor; Membership; Capital Campaign; school, camp, or special event fee. If you use a credit card, please consider adding 2% to your donation to cover our credit card fees.

Har Shalom is supported by its members and donors. We are grateful for your support.

Capital Campaign

Anthony Beltramo
Shirley and Theodore Cohn
Elaine Gershenson
Barry and Kathy Good
David Jolles and Erin Craney
Boris and Kate Soukonnikov

Honors and Memorials

Suzanne Aboulfadl – In Honor of Laurie Franklin
Jack and Pat Cohen – In Memory of Flora Cohen
Jack and Pat Cohen – In Memory of Hank Butzel
World’s Apart But Not Strangers Workshop –
In thanks to Har Shalom

Rabbi Fund

Melissa Baggett



SOCIAL ACTION *by Lida Running Crane*

This has been an exciting month of progress toward getting multiple projects off the ground and there is much to look forward to for our Har Shalom community. We begin September with the start of our Kids' Film Festival (see events below). Following later in the month are great opportunities to come together to help shape not only our Har Shalom congregation but our greater Missoula community as well. All the events will be listed in the weekly too; continue to look for more events in the future.

Kids' Film Festival Sun., Sept. 7, 7 pm at Har Shalom

We introduce our very own Jewish children's film series to be held at our synagogue which will run from September-April. Our opening kick-off will feature an outside movie in the garden (bring sweaters and chairs), paired with pizza and popcorn from our fancy popping machine! The movies will be held about every six weeks and offer our younger generation an opportunity to connect, while parents are invited to share in the fun or to gain a few hours of adult time. The next film will be presented Sunday, October 19 at Har Shalom.

Jewish Film Festival Sun., Oct. 5, 5 pm at the Roxy Theater

We introduce our first annual Jewish film festival entitled **Our Stories: Films of the Jewish Experience** to be shown at the Roxy starting on Sunday, October 5. We will begin by featuring seven films at six showings and, depending on public participation, there is a possibility of additional showings. We have some superb, award-winning and lesser-known films to show from inspiring documentaries to light-hearted dramas and believe that we will offer a full variety of wonderful entertainment choices. Please invite your friends and neighbors to help make our film series a smashing success!

If you or your business would like to sponsor one of the movies, contact Lida Running Crane at lidarunningcrane@yahoo.com or 829-1697.

Tree Planting Sunday, September 21, noon at Boyd Park

Sunday, September 21st, is the International day of Peace; we will celebrate with the planting of a Linden tree in Boyd Park. It is our hope that this becomes an annual tradition, both creating our own little grove in Boyd Park, and bringing greenery to other places in Missoula. Many of us have given money to the Jewish National Fund to plant trees in Israel and this is another way we can connect that process closer to home. The planting will be a community effort and our hope is that people will recite poems, give speeches, and sing together about the innate connection between trees and peace. As with all good things, a potluck picnic will follow under the small but growing branches of our newly-planted tree!

Missoula Interfaith Collaborative

Our partnership with Missoula Interfaith Collaborative has brought us to the point where we are ready to introduce possibilities for community action projects and to provide congregants with multiple opportunities to volunteer. Plans are currently in the works to collaborate with the Poverello to initiate a poetry and short story reading group for the homeless, potentially raising awareness through the telling of stories. We would like to begin by meeting together in Westside Park, inviting all North and West side residents to join us as we welcome the Poverello to the neighborhood. We would also like to create connections to the local art community to initiate pottery making and painting experiences that would draw the community closer and help dissipate concerns of having the heart of the homeless community in the North/West side neighborhood.

More Tikkun Olam

For those seeking a more personal connection, we are creating an opportunity for volunteers to visit with and support an elderly person in the community or in a local long-term care facility. And we are looking into options for "adopting" a school where we could mentor children in the classroom, provide donations, and support families at risk for homelessness. As pieces fall into place and plans are solidified, we will provide updates and hope that congregants are inspired to join us in our efforts to reach out.

We are so excited to share these engaging new opportunities and hope that each of you finds an opportunity to join in, connect, and enjoy. For questions on how to become involved or to join the Community Action Committee, please contact Lida Running Crane at 829-1697.

Jackie Cohen's Book Review

THE KOSHER PIG BY RICHARD ISRAEL

159 pages

If you ever wondered any of the following: Why does Jewish wine taste terrible? What do you do on a long overseas flight when another passenger eats your kosher meal and your only alternative is a bacon and egg sandwich? How do you make a yarmulke stick on a bald head? Why don't services provide you with religious discoveries? Then you will enjoy this book.

Kosher Pig is about balancing Jewish customs with modern times, about the ironies in the life of any modern Jew who willingly adheres to the regimens of traditional Jewish life. Through examples, anecdotes and provocative dilemmas, Israel confronts the dissonances of the modern Jew who strives to practice Jewish customs and dictates. For example, when a taxi driver asks Israel where he is from, Israel ponders. Should he reply, "Chicago, Palestine, or Abraham's hometown of Ur?"

One of the book's bonuses is Israel's open door to his daily life, his obsession with running—the Boston Marathon for 18 years—his beekeeping, his love for Hillel students, and the ways his large family interacts with each other and their many, varied guests, all within a Jewish context.

The book is a collection of essays that previously appeared in various newspapers and magazines such as "Moment," and "The Baltimore Times." Positive, warm and mostly humorous, the book is an easy and informative read.



ABOVE: Participants in July's "Worlds Apart But Not Strangers" panel.

TODAH RABAH

To Dave Jolles for making the Parking Lot improvements.

To Marc Kline for his landscaping design and assistance in making it happen.

To those who worked on 'Worlds Apart but Not Strangers' Workshop, Kate and Boris Soukonnikov, Laurie Franklin, Dave Jolles, Rabbi Berry Nash, Bert Chessin, Mike Chessin, Holly Kingsford, Lida Running Crane, Justin Drucker, Sigrun Kuefner, and the Chutzpah Band.

To Bert Chessin, Barb Gross, and Paul Kingsford for organizing our Summer Camp and to Toba Winston for hosting the Kumzitz.

To Barbara Gross, Toba Winston, and Kate Soukonnikov for leading services.

To Tzofiya Harris for painting the Har Shalom office.

To Har Shalom for donating 31 pounds of food for the Food Bank.

To Susan Hay Patrick for books donated to the Har Shalom library.

To all the anonymous drive-by book donors.

To Dr. Larry Stineford and family for books, art works, and Judaica.

To all the generous respondents to David Pratter's travel assistance request.

To Rabbi Ed Stafman for serving on our conversion batei din.

To these people for helping with Shrub Fest: Paul Kingsford, the Running Crane Family, Laila Podlipny, Julian Nickles, Boris and Kate Soukonnikov, Lisa Carter, the Charman Family, Carson Kelly, Bert Chessin, and Dave Jolles for tools.