Dear Friends – Shalom Chaverim!

A man went to the Rabbi and said “Rabbi, my beloved dog died. I am so sad, can you say Kaddish for him?” The Rabbi responded: “I’m sorry, we can’t say Kaddish for an animal. Maybe try the other synagogue in town.” The man said: “Oh, too bad, I was going to make an $85,000 donation too.” The Rabbi quickly said: “You didn’t tell me your dog was Jewish!”

As far back as the book of Genesis, we find laws which teach us compassion for animals. Even the mitzvah of observing Sabbath rest is extended to our animals. The Rabbis used a term tzaar baalei chayim “compassion for the pain of living animals” to teach that people must care for their animals with kindness and compassion. The Talmud teaches, “You may not eat your own meal until you have seen to it that all your animals have been fed” (Berachot 40a).

I am proud to be part of a tradition that regards the life of all of God’s creatures as sacred. And certainly many of us who have pets truly love our animals and find them to be a great source of joy in our lives.

In honor of our pets, I invite you to our first “Pet Parade” on Sunday afternoon June 27th at 3:30 on our front lawn at the Temple. Animal behaviorist Jody Epstein will lead a special training session for us; I will briefly discuss the “spirituality that animals bring to our lives” and even have a special blessing for our animals, then we will share some treats (human food for us, animal food for the chayas- animals!).

See you in shul! L’shalom

Rabbi Michele Paskow
Rav.Michal@verizon.net

Dear Congregants,

Last month we celebrated Passover, which is a time that brings together family and friends. I hope your first seder brought you the same joy, fun and happiness as mine. Our temple celebrated the second seder with over sixty members from our community and congregation. Our sanctuary was transformed into a beautiful banquet room, complete with a wonderful service crew thanks to the leadership of Sandy Leon. Rabbi Michele led an inspired fun-filled seder with good food (hot even) and plenty of music.

On April 15th we had a general membership meeting in which a new board of directors was elected and a complete update on the Corto and Bonita properties was given by Michael Mutal, president of the JLC. I would like to thank the nominating committee chaired by Michael Mutal, with Jennifer Rosenstein, Pamela Mikita, Deborah Bass and Dana Miyamoto for their efforts in putting together a slate and running the election. I want to thank the 2009 – 2010 CBE board for their time, effort and dedication to the temple and for all the hard work they did in making our temple a better place this past year. I wish the new 2010-2011 board of directors much success in the coming year.

It has been an honor to serve as president of CBE for the last three years. I am looking forward to continuing my service to the temple in various ways in the future.

Shalom, Keep the Faith,

Earl Rosado
President’s Message by Michael Hollander

Wow! I am humbled by your vote of confidence in selecting me to be the new President of Congregation B’nai Emet. This office has always been a big job with enormous responsibilities. My predecessors have taken on many issues and tasks to bring us to where we are today. I thank all of them for their insight, foresight and genuine commitment to this office, the synagogue, Board of Directors and of course, the membership. Specifically, I want to thank and hug our outgoing President, Earl Rosado. His energy, love for the temple and still more energy will probably never be matched again on our Board. It’s tough to keep up with him and we are all better off for his service the last 3 ½ years. Fortunately, Earl will continue on the Board this year in the role of Immediate Past President and hopefully, beyond that in another capacity. Earl will also continue to be an important negotiator as we move through the Escrow to eventual ownership of the Bonita Drive property. Earl - Keep the Faith!

Every year our temple seems to face challenges; some tougher than others. I’m sure this year will not be different. Whatever they may be, we can meet them head on and overcome them. Our new Board is made up of some very bright and creative people. I believe they are ready to take on any obstacle and solve it without interrupting the spiritual flow and family atmosphere we enjoy at the Temple.

Hopefully, before this year is up, we will be land owners. That, however, will not end our strong desire and effort to bring our Preschool to the Bonita Site. That should be the focal point for our fundraising goals over the next few years. We must embrace that effort and do whatever we can to bring the Preschool and Temple together in one location. Fundraising ideas are always welcome and I invite you to share them with me or with our new Fundraising VP, Jerry Auerbach. I want to congratulate all the incoming and returning Board Members. We are bound to have a great year and hopefully, lots of fun along the way. You can see the current list right here on this page.

As we progress through the year, I would like to see more committees formed and make sure they remain active. We all lead very busy lives with work, family and temple involvement. The more membership involvement on the many projects, the easier it will be on our dedicated volunteers. Please consider joining our effort this year to support your temple. I also want to encourage you to continue making donations and supporting our events and projects as much as you are able. I realize we are in difficult times, so do what you can. As most of you know, I have been

(Continued on page 3)
Bar Mitzvah

Shalom! My name is Steve Sherden. I live in Simi Valley with my parents, Bob and Lori, and my brother, Jeff (15). I currently attend Valley View Middle School as a 7th grader. My hobbies are to play and listen to all kinds of music, and to participate in sports such as football and volleyball.

My Bar Mitzvah on June 5 is important to me because I know that I am finally entering the world as a Jewish adult. Plus, on a less sophisticated note, who doesn’t like a good party, right? To me, being Jewish means learning to read Hebrew and studying the torah. Also, one of the most important things about being Jewish is to have fun while studying and reading.

For my Mitzvah Project, I chose to feed the hungry and homeless. We gave a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner with turkey, yams, mashed potatoes and much more to the people that couldn’t afford a Thanksgiving meal. Also, I asked Congregation B’nai Emet to bring in bags of canned food for SOVA. I am excited to take a new step into my Jewish adult life by continuing on in my Hebrew studies by going into Judaica High, and after that, I would like to teach my own children about Judaism and the study of torah.

Save the Dates

SHABBAT UNDER THE STARS!

Last year’s outdoor Shabbat services were a great success! This year we’ll have Shabbat on the patio on the 3rd Friday during the summer months at 8 pm. Join us on Fridays June 18th, July 16th and Aug. 20th for these extra special services.

Preceding these services we’ll have hors d’oeuvres and nosh at 7 pm. Save the dates and bring your friends too!

PET PARADE

Join us for our first “Pet Parade” on Sunday afternoon June 27th at 3:30 on our front lawn at the Temple. Animal behaviorist Jody Epstein will lead a special training session for us; Rabbi Michele will briefly discuss the “spirituality that animals bring to our lives” and even have a special blessing for our animals, then we will share some treats (human food for us, animal food for the chayas- animals!).
### Men’s Club

The Men’s Club is preparing for its fund raising day at the Simi Valley Street Fair. The men in charge of the day are Glen Knecht, Vice President, and Wayne Schultz, a veteran of many of past Simi Valley Street Fair days.

We usually have two events per month, one a breakfast meeting and the other a social meal, either breakfast or dinner.

Some of our upcoming activities will include a cigar night, movie night, and a trip to Las Vegas or Laughlin in the fall. Any questions about becoming a member please contact me at 805-527-9104 or 805-587-9210.

Thank you.

**Michael Mutal**  
President of Men’s Club of CBE.

### Jewish Life Center

The Jewish Life Center has been active, keeping both escrows moving forward. We have been dealing with the company that wants to purchase Royal/Corto as well as the Church Elders from whom we want to purchase the Bonita site.

Probably the most important item that the JLC board can convey to everyone is we are nearing an end. Your board thought the two escrows would be concluded at the end of May or beginning of June, but there is a possibility that there could be a three month extension. We will keep you posted on events in a timely manner.

Thank you,

**Michael Mutal**  
Chair, Jewish Life Center of Simi Valley

### SHAVUOT – THE NEXT JEWISH HOLIDAY!

“Shavuot” or “Shavuos” is the next holiday we’ll celebrate, on June 9-10. While originally it was a harvest holiday, the rabbis of the talmudic period gave this holiday a new historical connection – namely that it celebrates the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai. This is a powerful and meaningful image which strengthens our connection to the Torah and to generations past and it becomes as if we, too, are actually receiving the Torah ourselves!

The Torah is our most sacred object for it contains our holy teachings, our sacred stories, our covenant with God. One Chassidic teacher wrote, “We study Torah for no other reason than this: that by studying Torah we might become Torah.” In other words, we study to learn and to be uplifted by our religious and moral teachings. The Zohar, the main book of Jewish mysticism, notes, “If you study the Torah, you are joined to the Tree of Life” (152b).

As we approach the Shavuot holiday, I hope you will renew and strengthen your commitment to Jewish life, values and learning. Read a Jewish book, study a little Torah, come by the synagogue and be an active part of Jewish life in Simi Valley. We will celebrate Shavuot together on Friday May 21st.

We will be having Shabbat services throughout the summer – I hope to see you!

**Rabbi Michele**

### Passover Thank You

Our Community Seder March 30th was a wonderful event. Every year it gets better and better. The Rabbi led an interesting and entertaining service. I have so many to thank for helping to make this evening smooth and well-organized.

Thank you to Earl Rosado, Michael Hollander, RuthAnn Rossman, Marty Richter, Marilyn Hollander, and Karen Ribstein. Apologies to anyone I may have forgotten.

**Sandy Leon**

### ATTIRE REDUX

A few weeks ago, at our Community Seder, someone asked Marty Richter how come he was so dressed up wearing a suit and tie? His answer was simple, but eloquent: "It's Yuntif, and I'm in shul."

Dear God, for what are these people saving their finery? President Obama has had his Inaugural Ball and the Academy Awards are behind us. Doesn't attendance at one's House of Worship deserve some respect? How funny that someone who has the feel of what is appropriate needs to offer an explanation!

We pray with our hearts and with our voices, we observe our laws and customs with understanding and from tradition. Why can't we dress to reflect who we are, what we are doing, and where we are doing it?

**Irwin Cohen**
Religious School

March and April have been busy months for us at the Religious school. Getting ready for Passover – we had two model seders during Sunday School where each child participated by bringing an item for the seder tables. To commemorate Yom HaShoah, we were honored to have Mrs. Dinah Balbien – a Holocaust survivor herself. Mrs. Balbien graciously shared the story of her life with our students in grades 5 thru 7 and Judaica High. Her presentation was both interesting and touching. We are very lucky that she was willing to spend part of her day with us.

Our Israel Faire was an amazing success with both students and parents participating. Students went from room to room learning about Israel’s Historical Heroes, as well as doing crafts and completing puzzles - all the while also learning facts about Israel and her heroes.

The highlight of the day was the performance of Peter Small – a top performer who re-creates historical figures and who came to us as Golda Meir and told the story of Israel through her eyes. His performance was commanding and everyone who attended enjoyed it immensely. “Golda’s” appearance was followed by a delicious Israeli style lunch which was enjoyed by everyone! Each person in attendance had a wonderful time, and we sat and schmoozed afterwards – the best sign of a successful event!

Deborah Bass, V.P. Religious School

CBE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
WISH-LIST:
Laminating machine
(speak with Rabbi)

The winning ticket for the Hawaii Raffle was drawn at the Purim Carnival.

Congratulations & Aloha to Karen Ribstein!

Tribute Party for Irwin Cohen
CBE Choir Director

Rosh Hashanah
Honey Fundraiser

What better way to wish family, friends and business associates a “Sweet and Healthy New Year” than sending a jar of honey?

This distinctive 8-ounce jar of kosher honey arrives in time for the Rosh Hashanah holiday, decorated with a festive label, and includes a personalized card reading “L’Shana Tova, wishing you a Healthy and Happy New Year.”

This card also lets the recipients know that a donation has been made in their honor to Congregation B'nai Emet Religious School.

Your cost is only $10.00 per jar which includes shipping and handling within the United States. We will gladly mail orders outside the United States for an additional fee. Orders placed after July 12 will incur an extra shipping charge.

To order honey go to www.congregationbnaiemet.org. Click on the honey link and follow the step-by-step instructions.

Order online by September 1, 2010 to ensure delivery by Rosh Hashanah.

For more information or help with ordering, please contact: Deborah Bass, VP Schools 818-321-6989 deborah.bass.2001@gmail.com
Sisterhood has had a busy couple of months. In February we baked Hamantaschen for the Purim service and the Purim Carnival. Then at the Carnival, we held our world famous Chicken Soup Cook-Off. Congratulations to Emily Doepking, who sold the most tickets and won Tasters’ Choice for her tasty broth. Other winners were Ruth Ann Rossman, who won Matzah Ballsiest!, Tami Plotkin, who got Cutest Booth, and Cheryl Hirsch, who was declared Most (Julia) Childs-est. Thank you to Ruth Ann for her hard work and clever contributions to getting the Cook-Off going.

In March, we had a fun game night at the temple, and then in April we enjoyed dinner at Sutter’s Mill as we installed our new Board. Robyn Blachman from Temple Ahavat Shalom in Northridge performed a lovely installation ceremony. Thank you to retiring Board member Deborah Bass. Special thanks to Penny for arranging the dinner and to Meridith for making the certificates.

Here is our new Sisterhood Board for 2010-2011:

President: Geri Brandler
First VP: Penny Neugroschl
Membership Co-VPs: Ronnye Sacks & Holly York
Fundraising VP: Ruth Ann Rossman
Programs Co-VPs: Meridith Patera & Phyllis Crugnale
Treasurer: Kathy Smith
Secretary: Cathy Holst

On April 25, we had a very successful Mah Jongg Tournament at the temple. Lots of our members helped to make this an exciting day for our many guests. Thank you so much to the Men’s Club for setting up and tearing down so that we could have this event at the temple!

Our calendar planning meeting will be in May. Watch for all the exciting events and programs we will hold in the coming twelve months and join us for another great year of Sisterhood fun and fund raising.

Geri Brandler, President, Women of CBE

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**February 26, 2010**
Deborah Bass in memory of her mother Barbara Bass

**March 5, 2010**
The families of the Fifth Grade Class
The Rosado Family in honor of Earl’s birthday
Steve & Lois Friedman
The Plotkin Family in memory of Leo Plotkin

**March 12, 2010**
The Nusbaum Family in honor of Rachel’s bat mitzvah & Grandma Shirley’s birthday & Nate & Margaret’s 20th anniversary!
Irwin Cohen in honor of Irwin & Adam’s birthdays
Minnie Anzo in memory of her mother, Anna Freeman
Ken & Frieda Bahr in honor of Eva’s Hebrew naming

**March 19, 2010**
Fredyce Holland in honor of Irwin Cohen’s birthday
The Botan Family in honor of Shelly’s birthday
The Tellio Family in honor of Amy’s birthday
Lesli Friedman in honor of the birthdays of Jeremy Friedman & Irwin Cohen

**March 26, 2010**
The Rosenstein Family in honor of Rachael and Jennifer’s birthdays
The Melnick Family in honor of Stan’s birthday

**April 2, 2010**
The families of the Fourth Grade Class

**April 9, 2010**
Peppi Lamm in memory of Irving Lamm
Eric & Stacy Cohen in honor of Devon’s birthday
Jeff Wohlner in memory of his mother, Pearl (Pesha) Wohlner
Holly York in memory of Arthur Korn
Ken & Suzanne Epstein in honor of Ken’s birthday
The Ascher Family in honor of Nubia’s birthday
Steve & Raye Charton in honor of Raye’s birthday
Cantor Michael & Merle Russ in honor of Adina’s wedding and in memory of Oscar Keimon

**April 16, 2010**
Carla Shaw & MerIdith Patera in memory of Kate Shaw
Miko & Bobbie Sion in honor of Rabbi Michele’s birthday
Ruth Ann Rossman in honor of Rabbi Michele’s birthday
Rabbi Shimon & Carol Paskow in honor of Rabbi Michele’s birthday
The Tolchin Boyd Family in honor of the birthdays of Carol & Max
Purim Carnival, Rummage Sale, Chicken Soup Cookoff
Recent Donations

**Building Fund**
Steven and Raye Charton – in memory of Helen and William Rogen
Donald and Michelle Forman – in memory of Sylvia Krebs

**Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund**
Philip Kilmnick – in memory of Linda Kilmnick
Nate and Margaret Nusbaum – in appreciation of Rabbi Michele and in honor of Rachel’s Bat Mitzvah
Peter and Jennifer Rosenstein – for Golda Meir Presentation

**Religious School Fund**
Nate and Margaret Nusbaum
Sheldon and Joan Liebmann – in memory of Jacob Landau, Gail Lenore Shapiro and Joyce Alexman
Jeffrey and Barbara Wohlner – in memory of Pearl Wohlner

**Preschool Fund**
Jerry and Sue Coffey – in memory of Fritzie Gilson
Gerald and Marla Bergmann – in memory of Lewis Stone

**Memorial Donations**
Karen Ribstein – in memory of Nessine Ribstein
Lloyd and Carole Picker – in memory of Curtis Picker
Andrew and Catherine Weinstein – in memory of Stanford Weinstein
Ken and Suzanne Epstein – in memory of Werner Hollander

**Tribute Donations**
Kenneth and Frieda Bahr – in honor of daughter Eva’s baby-naming
James Vandenberg – in honor of granddaughter Eva’s baby-naming

**Preschool/Religious Education Building Fund**
Gerald and Gloria Hasson – in memory of Dorothy Hasson

**Miscellaneous Donations**
Jewish Family Services of LA – Community Seder Grant
Barbara Cohen – Prayer for quick recovery of Bob Dennis
Women of CBE
4 chafing dishes - Robert and Judith Sternberg

*The following families made donations in honor of Irwin Cohen’s 80th birthday celebration, which benefited the Rabbi’s Discretionary, Choir, Religious School and General Funds:*

Penny Neugroschl
Lloyd and Carole Picker
Bud Geisenheimer
Sandra Allen
Michael and Wendy Dager
Robert Gersten
Vincent and Carole Nowell
Dan and Geri Brandler
Miko and Bobbie Sion
Michael and Marilyn Holland
Lawrence and Marsha Kaufman
Mel and Louise Edelson
Ronnye Sacks
Jeffrey and Donna Ackerman
Richard and Carole Fineberg
Wesley and Adrianne Barcon
Donald and Michelle Forman
Peppi Lamm
Marty Richter
Earl and Carol Rosado
Minnie Anzo
William and Ines Schachter

5th Grade Service 3/5/10

4th Grade Service 4/2/10
CBE Religious School held our Israel Faire on Sunday, April 18. Students learned about some of the heroic people who built the State of Israel, did craft activities, and received a visit from Golda Meir (actually historical impressionist Peter Small). Afterwards we enjoyed a delightful Israeli-style lunch.
Birthdays

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<tr>
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Anniversaries

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<td>Eric and Cherie Bordo</td>
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<td>Joseph and Diane Hetzel</td>
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BULLETIN BYTES from Rabbi Michele

Thank you & yasher koach to Sandy Leon and Ruth Ann Rossman who worked so hard to make this year’s Passover Seder a great success.

Everything was wonderful!
Please check the current Yahrzeit information on the data sheet you received in your membership packet. Verify its accuracy and call the office with any changes or new Yahrzeit information.

During the year, you will receive reminders for upcoming Yahrzeit dates. We want to have complete and accurate information.

Call Michael Hollander with any questions regarding Yahrzeit data.

Thank you.

How to observe a Yahrzeit at C.B.E

Light a 24-hour memorial candle in your home at sundown on the evening that begins the yahrzeit (anniversary of death.) It is also customary to attend Shabbat services at Temple and recite the Kaddish. At Congregation B’nai Emet, names of your loved ones are read on the Friday evening before the Yahrzeit. If you observe the Gregorian (English) date, the name will be read following the yahrzeit date. It is suggested that you make a contribution to the Temple so that the memory of your loved one can be honored with an act of love and kindness.
COME JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL

CBE FAMILY PICNIC

SUNDAY MAY 2nd, 2010

1:00 — 4:00pm
At the preschool
3050 kadota St. Simi Valley, CA. 93063

Everybody’s welcome—invite your family and friends

Raffles & Silent Auction

D.J.

Pictures with Characters

Art & Crafts

Bouncer 4 in 1

Root Beer Floats
50/50 Floats

Food - Hot Dogs,
Hamburgers,
Chips,
Drink
Send a thoughtful greeting for sympathy, birthdays, congratulations, or just to reach out to someone!

Cards from the Women for Reform Judaism’s YES Fund go to support projects for Youth, Education and Special Projects here and in Israel, such as rabbinic training and Israeli preschools for needy children.

Each card is hand written and mailed for you; all you have to do is contact us with the information and send a check made out to CBE Sisterhood.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Candle lighting</th>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Torah Portion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr 30/17 Iyyar</td>
<td>7:20 PM</td>
<td>Shabbat Service 8 PM</td>
<td>Emor— Lev. 21:1-24:23</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2/18 Iyyar</td>
<td>7:25 PM</td>
<td>Lag B’Omer</td>
<td>Behar-Bechukotai—Lev. 25:1-27:34</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 7/24 Iyyar</td>
<td>7:31 PM</td>
<td>Family Service 7 PM</td>
<td>Bemidbar—Num. 1:1-4:20</td>
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<td>May 14/2 Sivan</td>
<td>7:36 PM</td>
<td>Shabbat Service 8 PM</td>
<td>Shevuot</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 19/6 Sivan</td>
<td>7:41 PM</td>
<td>Shabbat Service 8 PM</td>
<td>Nasso—Num 4:21-7:89</td>
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<td>May 21/9 Sivan</td>
<td>7:45 PM</td>
<td>Family Service 7 PM</td>
<td>Beha'alotkha—Num. 8:1-12:16</td>
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<td>June 5</td>
<td>7:51 PM</td>
<td>Steve Sherden Bar Mitzvah 10 AM</td>
<td>Korach—Num. 16:1-18:32</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 11/30 Sivan</td>
<td>7:53 PM</td>
<td>Shabbat Service 8 PM</td>
<td>Chukat—Numbers 19:1-22:1</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 18/7 Tammuz</td>
<td>7:55 PM</td>
<td>Shabbat Service 8 PM</td>
<td>Balak—Numbers 22:2-25:9</td>
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<td>June 25/14 Tammuz</td>
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<td>Bar Mitzvah 10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 25</td>
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Check out our web site at [http://congregationbnaiemet.org](http://congregationbnaiemet.org)