



News

June/July 2010 • Sivan/Tamuz/AV 5770

Congregation Beth Israel • PO Box 3266 • 1336 Hemlock St • Chico, CA 95927
Ph: 530-342-6146 • Fax: 530-342-0278 • www.cbichico.org

A nondenominational synagogue center serving the Jewish community in the greater Chico area

Gert Lenner Fund Car Wash June 6

The Religious School parents would like to inform everyone that we are having our first CBI Gert Lenner Fund Car Wash to help fund CBI Religious School students get to summer camp. Many students over the years have been fortunate to be recipients of this generous fund and we are asking for your support for this great cause. Come have your car washed sparkling clean by Religious School students at Rosedale Elementary School located at 100 Oak Street off Nord Avenue & West 1st Street, on Sunday June 6th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. We plan to have great music and snacks for sale, so come on out and start your Sunday morning right with a great mitzvah for our kids. For more information or to help, contact event chair Steve Naiman at naimansteve@yahoo.com or 899-9225.



CBI Annual Membership Meeting and "Ice Cream Social" Oneg

June 18 after Friday Night Service

Join us on June 18 for our Friday evening service and CBI Annual Membership Meeting. After a brief but lively service, the CBI Board will sponsor an "Ice Cream Social" Oneg. President Irv Schiffman and Rabbi Danan will review highlights of the year and thank our board. The new slate of board members and officers will be up for your approval. (See election slate and instructions on page 5.)



Summer Schedule Brings Relaxing Shabbat Celebrations

Summertime, and the living is easy...it's a quiet and restful time in Chico, and our Shabbat schedule slows down and becomes more flexible while the Rabbi is on summer break. Starting the weekend of June 25, our Ritual Committee (chaired by Keren Carter) has planned one fun and relaxing Shabbat event per weekend, except for Independence Day weekend. Events include: a Shabbat potluck at Loretta Steinke's home on Friday, June 25 at 6:30 p.m., a potluck Shabbat breakfast and Torah discussion at the Carter home on Saturday, July 10 at 10 a.m., and a Meditation Service led by Keren Carter at CBI on Friday, July 16 at 7:30 p.m.

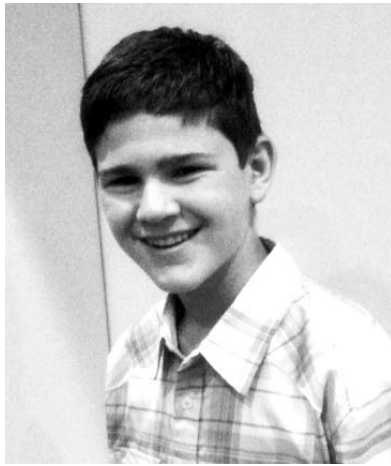
There are no Jewish holidays during the summer, but we do observe Tisha B'Av, the fast commemorating the destruction of the ancient Temple in Jerusalem. To mark that occasion, Keren Carter will lead a study of the book of Lamentations at her home at 8 p.m. on

July 19, the Eve of the Fast day. Shabbat Nahamu, the "Sabbath of Comfort" after Tisha B'Av, brings a Torah service at CBI on July 24 at 10 a.m. It will be led by Keren Carter with Steve Margolin chanting Torah. A potluck Kiddush will follow. We'll finish the summer schedule with a "splash" on Friday, July 30 at 6:30 p.m., with a potluck Shabbat dinner and pool party at the Edelmans. Bring your suits and towels as well as a meatless dish to share!

Rabbi Danan returns to lead Saturday morning services on August 7th and 14th at 10 a.m. Our full, twice-a-week Shabbat schedule resumes with "Back to Shul and School Night," on Friday, September 20. Rabbi Danan will be out of the office from June 23 to August 3. Administrative Assistant Liz Bohn will be in the office on Monday, Tuesday and Friday afternoons from 1-5 p.m.

Michael Puig-Holzman's Bar Mitzvah June 5

Three years ago, I moved to Chico from Texas with my family. In Texas, we were well established in our congregation. When we first got to Chico, my family focused more on the religion than the studying of Hebrew as we adjusted to our new life here. Because of this, all of the things I had learned in Texas were slowly forgotten.



After I attended Greene Family Camp, a Jewish camp in the Texas Hill Country, I realized how far ahead all of my friends my age were in their studying. This motivated me to get my act together and hit the books. As my Bar Mitzvah drew nearer, I had to really focus hard on the task ahead of me.

Even though I can't do some of my favorite activities because of my training, I feel it's more important to dedicate my time to my Hebrew practice. I also feel accomplished and good after I master a prayer. I feel really proud of myself when I finish something like my Torah Portion or my Haftorah. Learning to read is something that connects me to a part of Judaism that has been performed for centuries. It is always fun to meet my friends at Greene Family Camp because everyone is Jewish, so it makes me feel more connected to my friends there. I also like it because you can do Jewish activities you can't do anywhere else. It is really satisfying to be surrounded by only Jewish people for the summer, especially since I have always lived in a city with a small Jewish community.

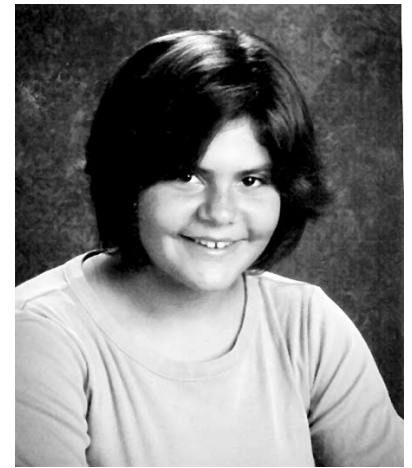
I'm in the 7th grade at Marsh Jr. High. It is a great school and all the teachers are nice. My favorite subject is history. I think it is fun to learn about the past and people that lived in the past. I like to do a lot of things in my free time. I like to ride bikes with my friends, I like to read, and I like to play sports. One of my favorite sports is tennis. I put a lot of time into playing tennis last year. I was invited to go on the traveling tennis team during the summer. I like to hang out with my friends. I'm always riding my bike with them or just playing on my trampoline.

After my Bar Mitzvah I hope I will continue to learn about all things Jewish and take my responsibility in the religion seriously. I know I will always be proud of the studying I have done to prepare for this important day in my Jewish education and life.

Michael will be leading services on Friday, June 4 at 7:30 p.m. and the Torah service on Saturday, June 5 at 10 a.m. There will be a luncheon following the Saturday service and a teen party in the evening. If you have not already done so, please RSVP immediately to the Puig-Holzman family: madelynholzman@me.com.

Niculina Archer's Bat Mitzvah June 12

Hi my name is Niculina Archer, I'm 13 and I go to Chico Jr. High School. I was born in Romania and my Mom adopted me when I was 2½ years old. I came home to Half Moon Bay and we moved to Chico when I was 6. I have a sister Angela, 3 wonderful dogs, and 4 cats.



My favorite things to do are riding horses, playing sports and being with animals. I'm well known in my neighborhood because I have a successful dog training business. My Mom says I have a gift for training animals, which is weird because I was afraid of the golden retriever backpack that she brought to Romania for me. I love to be with friends and family, and just love every minute of life; I live in the moment!

One of my goals in life is to travel for a year and educate people about dogs and horses. Another goal is to go to an animal behavior college or UC Davis. But, one of the biggest dreams I have is to meet Cesar Millan, the Dog Whisperer. I love that guy and the way he understands dogs.

My mitzvah project is to help the Sunshine Sanctuary for Kids and Horses in Los Molinos, which is a nonprofit organization and home to the last remaining Spanish Colonial horses from the island of Santa Cruz. This organization protects the horses and provides help for at risk kids. I am going to donate money from my dog training business and complete a fund raising project at one of the Durham horse shows this summer.

Having a Bat Mitzvah to me is not about the parties, or the publicity. It's about a new step in my life, understanding Jewish teaching and traditions and that I love being Jewish!!

Please let the Archer family know if you are planning to attend Niculina's Bat Mitzvah. She will be leading services on Friday evening, June 11 at 7:30 and the Torah Service on Saturday morning, June 12 at 10 o'clock. All are invited to the luncheon at CBI following the Saturday service. RSVP to Susan Archer at archer.chico@gmail.com.



From Our Rabbi...Looking Back at 5770

By Rabbi Julie Hilton Danan

5770 has been another busy year at Congregation Beth Israel. I started this year asking us to dream big for our congregation, despite the difficult times we face, and we have still managed to flourish as a community. We continue to pursue the dream of building a truly fitting “synagogue center” for the North State, through a capital campaign chaired by David Halimi. Meanwhile, our current building continues to be full of activity, sometimes bursting at the seams with energy and events.

It’s been a busy year at religious school under the direction of Carol Edelman (who also found time to be our Kiddush chairperson) and our fantastic teachers. We started off the year with a “Back to Shul and School” Service and catered dinner. Soon thereafter, we had our first (hopefully of many) Religious School Shabbatons at the Zeichick’s cabin in Mill Creek. The Religious School had many other stellar events this year, including a huge Purim carnival and dinner, a field trip to the Contemporary Jewish Museum in San Francisco to meet a Torah scribe, and a family program for Shavuot. A Thursday class was introduced to offer Hebrew enrichment, and our youngest children continue to enjoy the benefits of the “PJ Library,” which provides free books to Jewish children from 6 months to 8 years of age.

CBI groups were very active this year. The Sisterhood, led by president Donna Greenberg, celebrated a gala 20th Anniversary party at the home of Bev Paull to launch them on a year full of great programs and service to the community. They continue to be at the foundation of our congregational life. The Jewish Teens of Chico, with president Ryan Carter and advisor Jeremy Miller, held many events and did a lot of fundraising and planning for an ambitious summer service trip to Belize, which takes place this month. Menckins, led by Lisa Rappaport, got started again with a new group of tots. Senior Sages and our Book Club continued to meet on a monthly basis. We had a successful Mitzvah day chaired by Phyllis Cullen and twinned our congregation with the Senior Center “Moadon” in Kfar Saba, Israel. In the interfaith community, we participated in the Chico Area Interfaith Council dinner and the Celebration of Abraham, chaired by our own Loretta Steinke.

We’ve had many interesting Shabbat Scholar talks at services, including a presentation by Dr. Tom Resk on Jewish sites in Lithuania, a Devar Torah by Rabbi



Hier from the Wiesenthal Center, and a talk on “Jerusalem in Islam” by visiting professor Raphi Israeli, who later showed a film on “The Forgotten Refugees” (the Jews from Arab lands). We’ve also enjoyed thought-provoking talks by our own Irv Schiffman, Sam Edelman, and Jed Wyrick. We had two lively “Hot Topics” panels on the subject of “Jewish Values and Health Care Reform.” Our Adult Study Class met each Shabbat to learn about “The Prophetic Tradition in Judaism,” while others participated during the week in Exploring Judaism or learning Hebrew.

Holidays and social events have been fantastic this year at CBI. They don’t call us, “America’s #1 Party Shul” for nothing! Thanks to our large Ritual Committee (Keren Carter, chair, Mark Lewkowicz head gabbai) and Social & Cultural Committee (Kristy Bergson, chair), we celebrated time and again. We started the year with the High Holidays in our own congregational home, which was bursting at the seams, standing-room-only at some services. We had a new congregational sukkah (thank you Michael Mulcahy), a home sukkah tour, and on Simchat Torah we unrolled the entire Torah, which was held up by everyone in the congregation. We had a fantastic Israeli dance party, Chanukah Party, Silent Auction (Sheri Trimboli, fundraising chair), Shabbat Shira/Tu Bishvat with our fantastic band (organized by David Frankel and Michael Leitner), Purim Party, Bagel Brunch and our largest community Seder ever (chaired by John and Bonnie Mitchell), with 105 people celebrating the Festival of Freedom! Yom Hashoah (chaired by Carol Edelman) brought the chance to honor a righteous hero in our midst, Bert Schapelhouman. We celebrated six B’nai Mitzvah, named babies, comforted the bereaved (including the start of a *Hevra Kaddishah* group), visited the sick (who received cards from Irma Dakof, our “Sunshine” chair), rejoiced with brides and grooms, welcomed seven new families to the community (thank you to our Membership Chair Dave Bermann) and last month honored our largest confirmation class yet, and helped kids get to Jewish summer camp with the Gert Lenner Fund. And then, thanks to the Jewish Federation of the Greater Sacramento Region, we hopped on board a chartered bus and joined thousands of people at the Jewish Heritage festival at the capitol.

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CBI's Confirmation Class 5770/2010 Justin Halimi, Chloe Pressman, Rabbi Danan, Eli Schwartz, Sarah Puig-Holzman, and David Zisle. Photo by Andrew Sabersky

None of this could happen without our outstanding board, officers, committee chairs and members, volunteers, musicians, maintenance mavens and tech whizzes (Michael Mulcahy, Marshall Thompson, Rhonda Zisle, Rob Greenberg), Kiddush makers, parents, generous donors....all of you! I can't name everyone and apologize in advance because in naming some I am neglecting others who are also doing so much for our community. But let me offer a special thanks to our president Irv Schiffman, for his dedicated service this year, and to treasurer Stan Gottlieb for all his hard work to keep our finances sound. I also want to acknowledge the day-to-day support from our administrative assistant, Liz Bohn. Finally, this great newsletter wouldn't be reaching you without the talents and hard work of our outgoing editor, Nelda Jessee, and our layout artist Carla Resnick.

It's been a great year. Have a wonderful summer!
Rabbi Julie Hilton Danan

HaSifriyah & The Library Corner

"Books are made for use, not to be hidden away."

—Sefer Hasidim

CBI Reads!

On Sunday, June 20 at 2 p.m. our Book Group will be discussing ***Past Continuous*** by Yaakov Shabtai (translated by Dalya Bilu). We will be meeting at the home of Ingeborg Johannsen.



Good Grief: Hevra Kaddisha at CBI

Breakfast, Learning and Discussion on June 6

Just as Jews have rituals around all joyful life cycle events from birth to Bar and Bat Mitzvah and weddings, so too, Jews can be intimately involved with the rituals surrounding a death. The Hevra Kaddisha, a "Sacred Fellowship" or "Holy Group of Friends," is a Jewish Funeral Society that cares for the dead while comforting the living.

Although no one can ever be completely prepared to confront death, familiarity with the Jewish customs and traditions can be of great comfort at a difficult time. With the passing of Jack Edelman, CBI's Ritual Committee was able to lay the foundations of our very own Chico Hevra Kaddisha with the ritual of "shemirah," sitting near the deceased and reciting psalms before the funeral. With time, our congregation may be able to perform the mitzvah of preparing the deceased for burial as well. And perhaps most important of all, these "sacred friends" can help accompany our congregants through the passage of mourning a loved one.

Come and share a light breakfast while learning together... whether you are curious about Jewish mourning practices for a loved one, or are curious about participating in this amazing group involved in very holy work. We will meet at CBI on Sunday, June 6 at 10:30 a.m. RSVP to Keren Carter at 809-0303, so that there is enough food for everyone.



The Religious School students celebrated Shavuot with wreaths, flowers and "first" fruit baskets. Pictured above are (back row) Sadie Pressman, Noah Stone, Lilia Diaz, Emma Carden; (front row) Mia Rappaport, Garrett Green, Dylan Carden.

Photo by Harvey Rappaport

From the President – Vote for Our Volunteer Board

By Irv Schiffman

This is the time of year when the CBI Board seeks to put together a list of candidates to present to the membership for election to the executive board and for election of the committee chairs. This is usually not an easy task. However, we are very fortunate that this year many of our CBI executives and committee chairs have agreed to be nominated for their same positions. Along with Rabbi Danan and our Administrative Assistant, Liz Bohn, activities and functions at CBI are carried out by these dedicated volunteers and others who give of their time and effort to keep our temple running.

Stan Gottlieb, who has been doing an excellent job as Treasurer for the past five years has agreed to continue in that post for another year. This is one of the most important positions on our board and, with no successor in sight, Stan agreed to serve this one more year. We really need to have someone step up and volunteer to take over this role in July 2011.

David Halimi will continue to serve as Past President as well as head up the capital building campaign. David has been a fixture on the board for many years and his input in board decision-making is invaluable. Another past president of CBI, Dave Bermann, has been most successful as Vice President for Membership and has agreed to continue in that position. Our Vice President for Building and Grounds, Michael Mulcahy, who watches over our property as if it was his own, has also agreed to stay on for another year.

Committee chairs who have agreed to be nominated again for their positions include Keren Carter as head of the Ritual Committee. Keren has worked closely with Rabbi Danan and has taken on true leadership responsibilities, particularly with regard to High Holy Day services. A new member, Kristy Bergson, has come into her own as an organizer of our celebrations

and has agreed to continue as Chair of the Social and Cultural Committee. Jona Pressman takes complete minutes as Secretary of the Board and is nominated to continue in that role. Marshall Thompson has once again agreed to wrestle with our finicky watering system and microphones as head of Building and Grounds, and John and Bonnie Mitchell, who made sure the Community seder went off so efficiently, have agreed to supervise that function next year as well. John is again nominated as a member-at-large.

Phyllis Cullen has agreed to continue as Tikkun Olam/Social Action chair. Phyllis was the spark that led our youth group to explore an international experience and initiated our sister relationship with the Yoseftal Senior Center in Kfar Saba, Israel. After two years of doing a great job herding contributors and editing the newsletter, Nelda Jesse is taking a rest and newlywed Terri (Lind) Richman has agreed to take on that assignment.

Leaving the CBI Board is Sheri Trimboli who did a fine job with the Silent Auction as Fundraising chair. Karen Rogers, a real go-getter who has obtained many donations to our Silent Auction from Chico retailers, is nominated in her place. Steve Naiman is nominated to represent the Religious School as David Zeichick moves into a Vice President slot, and Sue Mintzes is nominated to take over the Sunshine and Mitzvot chair from an always-helpful Irma Dakof. Finally, Leanna Rawley and Elisa Kleiman are nominated for the two remaining member-at-large positions. The board also includes the president of Sisterhood/Haverot, very ably represented this year by Donna Greenberg.

I hope our members will give their full support to these volunteers by voting either by e-mail, telephone, or attending the annual membership meeting on Friday evening, June 18.

Slate of Nominees for 2010-2011 (5771) CBI Board of Directors

Executive Board

President Irv Schiffman
Vice President/Membership Dave Bermann
Vice President/Bldg and Grounds Michael Mulcahy
Vice President David Zeichick
Past President/Capital Campaign David Halimi
Treasurer Stan Gottlieb
Secretary Jona Pressman

Committee Chairs

Building and Grounds Marshall Thompson
Communication Terri (Lind) Richman
Fundraising Karen Rogers
Religious School Steve Naiman
Ritual Keren Carter
Tikkun Olam/Social Action Phyllis Cullen

Social and Cultural Kristy Bergson
Sunshine and Mitzvot Sue Mintzes
Member-at-large Leanna Rawley
Member-at-Large John Mitchell
Member-at-large Elisa Kleiman

In addition to those listed above, the Sisterhood president, Donna Greenberg, will serve on the board. To make this year's election easier on the environment and the budget, we will have a paperless election.

You may vote in one of the following three ways:

1. E-mail: admin@cbichico.org. **2.** Call Liz Bohn, administrative assistant, 342-6146 Box 1. (Either way, indicate that you approve or disapprove of the slate by 5 p.m. on June 18.) **3.** Vote in person at the annual meeting on June 18.



At the Contemporary Jewish Museum in San Francisco on April 18

We have just finished a wonderful year at Religious School. I have to start off with glowing comments about the Religious School staff; all of the fantastic things we accomplished this year happened because they are terrific. Lisa Rappaport, Ruth Gordon, David Zeichick, Keren Carter, Rabbi Julie and aides Charles Danan and Charlette Naiman – THANK YOU for your dedication to the school and your talent in working with the children.

As I think about the year, I am amazed and delighted at all of the things we did. Our youngest students in Bet class have learned their Hebrew letters and vowels and can read words. And they have had a year dedicated to Torah study. Each week, they learned about the parsha, and retold the story in their own drawings and words that has become the Bet Class Torah. That Torah, when it is finished, will be housed at CBI. Gimmel class has learned Hebrew and many of the prayers that are part of the Shabbat services. They love to sing together and act together and we've seen several of their short plays this year. They did a half-year unit on life-cycle events and another half-year unit on Jewish history. Our oldest students, in the Dalet class, have mastered reading Hebrew in the Siddur and can lead both Friday night and Saturday morning services. We also had a year of extra activities, our Thursday enrichment classes, our fantastic Shabbaton weekend at the Zeichicks, a fun Purim Carnival, a visit from the Sacramento Theatre troupe, a trip to the Contemporary Jewish Museum in San Francisco to meet a Torah scribe, a Shabbat service led by the students in all three classes, a beautiful Shavuot celebration, and we are planning a wild end-of-year party. Not bad at all! It was a wonderful year that will be hard to beat next year – but we will try!

Mazal Tov, Graduates

Congratulations to all of our graduates and their families.

Esther Ann Bermann, daughter of David Bermann of Magalia, and Miriam Bermann of Modesto, is graduating June 13 from the University of California, Irvine, with a Bachelor of Arts in Theater and Dance, and a minor in Management. Esther was born in Paradise, and as a young child, grew up attending CBI, until the Bermann family moved to Modesto.

Charles Danan, son of Avraham and Rabbi Julie Danan has graduated from Chico High, where he was named co-valedictorian and received the Mathematics Award and Honors in Science. He will attend Rice University in Houston.

Harrison Einhorn, son of Greg Einhorn and Maureen Knowlton, will be transferring from Butte College to UC Berkeley in the fall

Ari Frankel, son of David Frankel and Janice Gagerman, received his MBA from the Haas School of Business at UC Berkeley on Friday, May 14th. Ari graduated with a Certificate in Real Estate and will be concentrating on sustainable development and energy efficiency in commercial buildings. Ari is a LEED Accredited Professional.

Isaac Noah Ginsberg Miller, son of Helene Ginsberg and Andrew Sabersky, graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies and a minor in Ethnic Studies. He has received a grant from the University to pursue an independent project combining urban planning, youth development and spoken word poetry.

Casey Rubinoff, son of Shane and Karen Rubinoff, graduated from Pleasant Valley High School. He will attend Butte College and plans to study pre-law.

Jewish **T**eens of **C**hico

JTC Service Trip

It's finally happening! JTC (Jewish Teens of Chico) is embarking on a service trip to Belize from July 11–21. Participants are Ryan and Emily Carter, Charles and Arielle Danan, Sarah Puig-Holzman, Justin Halimi, Alex Thompson, Chloe Pressman, Shaelyn Howard and Casey Rubinoff. Chaperones are Scott Pressman and Laurie Howard. We look forward to sharing pictures and stories of our adventures when we return!

Shabbat Services for June and July

During the summer months we have a reduced schedule with special Shabbat programming beginning June 25. Be sure to check the schedule for what we have planned that week!

Friday, June 4 Light Candles at 8:13 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	Kabbalat Shabbat led by Rabbi Danan and Michael Puig-Holzman. Oneg sponsored by the Puig-Holzman family in honor of Michael's Bar Mitzvah.
Saturday, June 5	10 a.m.	Bar Mitzvah of Michael Puig-Holzman Kiddush lunch at CARD Center, sponsored by the Puig-Holzman family in honor of Michael's Bar Mitzvah.
Friday, June 11 Light Candles at 8:17 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	Kabbalat Shabbat led by Rabbi Danan with Niculina Archer. Oneg is sponsored by the Sisterhood in honor of Niculina's Bat Mitzvah
Saturday, June 12	10 a.m.	Bat Mitzvah of Niculina Archer Kiddush is sponsored by the Archers and friends in honor of Niculina's Bat Mitzvah
Friday, June 18 Light Candles at 8:20 p.m.	10 a.m.	Kabbalat Shabbat led by Rabbi Danan CBI General Meeting following service. "Ice Cream Social" Oneg sponsored by the CBI board.
Saturday, June 19	10 a.m.	Torah Service led by Rabbi Danan. Parashat Chukat Blessing of Jews-by-Choice. Kiddush sponsored by the Mitchells in honor of their anniversary, our newest Jews-by-Choice, and Mark Lewkowicz's service as a Gabbai.
Friday, June 25 Light Candles at 8:22 p.m.	Summer Schedule Begins 6:30 p.m.	Shabbat POTLUCK at Loretta Steinke's home. RSVP to Loretta at 343-3662
Saturday, July 10	10 a.m.	Breakfast POTLUCK & Torah Discussion at the Carter home. RSVP to Keren Carter at 809-0303
Friday, July 16 Light Candles at 8:17 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	Meditation Service at CBI led by Keren Carter. POTLUCK Oneg
Monday, July 19	8 p.m.	Tisha B'Av (Fast of the Destruction of the Temple) Study of Lamentations at the Carter Home. RSVP to Keren Carter
Saturday, July 24	10 a.m.	Torah Service at CBI, led by Keren Carter. Parashat Va'etchanan Shabbat Nachamu Steve Margolin chants Torah POTLUCK Kiddush
Friday, July 30 Light Candles at 8:06 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	Kabbalat Shabbat Pool Party & POTLUCK at the Edelman home. RSVP to Carol Edelman at 345-3974

Thanks to everybody who sponsored an Oneg or Kiddush in May: The Sisterhood, Loretta Steinke, the Carters, the Danans, the Confirmation Class Parents, organized by Fran Halimi, and the Lewkowicz family.

If you would like to celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or any special event with the community, **please sponsor a Friday night Oneg or a Saturday Kiddush.** Either bring your own treats or make a donation of \$25 (Saturday Kiddush, \$50).

Call the CBI office for more information. 342-6146.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
30	4 p.m. Tefillin Service	31 6:30 p.m. Mah Jongg	1	2	3	4 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Services	5 10 a.m. Michael Puig-Holzman's Bar Mitzvah
6 10:30 a.m. "Good Grief": Discussion by Ritual Committee 10 a.m - 2 p.m. Car Wash for Gert Lenner Fund at Rosedale Elementary School	7	8 6:30 p.m. Mah Jongg	9	10 JTC leaves for trip to Belize	11 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Services	12 10 a.m. Niculina Archer's Bat Mitzvah	
13 11:30 a.m. Sisterhood End of Year Lunch at Sierra Nevada	14	15 6:30 p.m. Mah Jongg	16 11 a.m. Sages' Brunch Country Waffle on Cohasset 7 p.m.CBI Board Meeting	17	18 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Services	19 10 a.m. Torah Service Blessing of newest Jews-by-Choice	
20	21 JTC Returns from Belize	22 6:30 p.m. Mah Jongg	23	24	25 6:30 p.m. Shabbat Potluck at Loretta Steinke's	26	
27	28	29 6:30 p.m. Mah Jongg	30	1	2	3	
4	5	6 6:30 p.m. Mah Jongg	7	8	9	10 10 a.m. Breakfast Potluck and Discussion at the Carters	
11	12	13 6:30 p.m. Mah Jongg	14	15	16 7:30 p.m. Meditation Service	17	
18	19 8 p.m. Tisha B'Av Study at the Carter Home	20 6:30 p.m. Mah Jongg	21 11 a.m. Sages' Brunch Country Waffle on Cohasset	22	23	24 10 a.m.Torah Service led by Keren Carter	
25	26	27 6:30 p.m. Mah Jongg	28	29	30 6:30 p.m. Shabbat Pool Party and potluck at the Edelman's	31	

Sisterhood/Haverot News

By Donna Greenberg

Although it is windy, cloudy and cool while I am writing this article, summer and hot temperatures will be here any day. With summer comes the end of another successful Sisterhood/Haverot year! We have had a wonderful and successful year with a variety of programs and fundraisers including our Cocktail-attire 20th Anniversary membership kickoff, potluck in the sukkah, All Fired Up, Sisterhood Shabbat, and the Bagel Brunch. We donated to a variety of causes, celebrated simchas and mourned losses, we played mah jongg and attended movies—we worked hard and we always had fun.



Front row: Sadie Pressman, Donna Greenberg, Bev Paull, Pam Dakof, Sue Mintzes, Irma Dakof, Fran Halimi, Inge Schmidt. Back row: Kristy Bergson, Carol Roniss, Niisa Schiffman, Sheri Trimboli and Karen Rogers. Photo by D.A. Bermann

It was a gorgeous spring day for the annual Bagel Brunch this year, Sunday April 25th, and as usual, it was a huge success. Great food and great crowds—what more could one ask for. Despite having the Bagel Brunch a week earlier, we did quite well. We netted a little over \$2200 with some of the profit given to the Gert Lenner Campership Fund. THANK YOU is not enough to shout out to Fran Halimi for organizing this gargantuan event, but thank you, Fran! With so many Sisterhood ladies helping I am afraid if I try and list all of you I will forget someone. So thank you to all who helped including our dessert bakers, fruit cutters, clean-up and set-up crews, vegetable slicers, bagel slicers, those who picked up bagels and coffee, ticket sellers, herring makers and on and on... But I would like to single out the egg cooks Scott Pressman and Mike Paull. These dedicated men cracked, mixed and cooked dozens and dozens of eggs standing for many hours over hot stoves to ensure that enough scrambled eggs were available

to the hungry crowd. Other big thanks go to Sadie Pressman for her dazzling ability to sell tickets for the 50/50 drawing and the teens for helping with set-up and clean-up. We were able to raise over \$200 with the raffle, and half of the money was given to JTC towards their Belize trip. We are an amazing group of women!



Jeremy Miller at the Bagel Brunch
Photo by D.A. Bermann

If anyone would like to purchase one of the bagel brunch aprons, we will be bringing them to the luncheon on June 13th. They are only \$15 and are a one-of-a-kind collectible item.

All of you should have received an invitation to the annual end-of-the-year brunch. Be sure to clear your calendars now for June 13th at 11:30 a.m. at Sierra Nevada. I hope many of you will attend, as we will review the past year and install of our new officers for the new year as well as socialize. Good food and company, what more is there!

It is once again time to present to you our slate of officers for the coming year. We will be voting by e-mail again (regular mail for those without e-mail) for next year's officers. Voting will have taken place by the time you receive the newsletter and the names of your new officers will be e-mailed to all of the members.

Kudos to the board for an excellent year, I enjoyed working with all of you. Thanks Fran, Pam, Bev, Laurie, Sue and Kristy.

Shalom and have a wonderful summer,
Donna

Sisterhood 2009/2010 Calendar
End-of-the-year Brunch June 13

Sisterhood Board	
President	Donna Greenberg
Treasurer	Fran Halimi
VP/Interest Groups	Pam Dakof
Past President	Bev Paull
Members-at-Large	Kristy Bergson, Laurie Howard Sue Mintzes

Steven and Maria Naiman Family

By Jim Jessee

Nelda and I had the pleasure to interview Steven and Maria (Matute) Naiman, and their children Charlette Montserrat (15), Ari Gabriel (12), and Isabella Rose (4) Naiman. Steve asked me why we wanted to interview them, and among many reasons was that I was moved by the statement he had prepared for the Yom Hashoah service and wanted to share it here in his own words.

Steve Naiman's parents Charles (Chil) Najman and Mollie (Malka) Zelcer lived in Zawiercie, Poland before they were taken to concentration camps with their entire families. Mollie's mom told the German occupiers of Poland that Mollie was 18 instead of her real age of 13, so that they would take her instead of her older sister, who was engaged to be married, as well as to hopefully put her to work (albeit in a camp) instead of killing her. Both Mollie and Charles were in concentration camps between 4-5 years. Charles was in Buchenwald and other gruesome camps. After Mollie was liberated by Russian soldiers and Charles by American soldiers – he could hardly walk because he was so emaciated from hunger, they traveled back to their home town, Zawiercie, Poland, a shtetl, to see if any of their family members survived. None of their family members had survived, but Charles and Mollie recognized each other because their parents had frequented each other's businesses, tailor and milk sales. They married in 1947 in Berlin, had two boys and immigrated to New York in 1950, where the immigration officials changed their last name from Najman to Naiman. They had two more boys who were born in the U.S. — one in 1954 and Steven in 1957. Charles died in San Diego in May 1986 and Mollie [who lived for a time with Steve and Maria and attended CBI] died in Las Vegas in May 2006.

Steve was born in Brooklyn, but grew up in an Orthodox household in Atlantic City, New Jersey, where Yiddish was his first language. He and his next



The Naiman Family — Maria, Steve, Isabella, Charlette, and Ari

older brother went to “cheder,” six days a week. Steve’s parents had a kosher butcher shop, and Steve thinks this contributed to his early interest in and then devotion to vegetarianism. Eventually all of Steve’s brothers and parents migrated to California, where Steve followed in 1979 to study nutrition and dietetics at CSU, Chico. He found the program and life here perfect for his vegetarian, gardening, and fitness life. He described his student years as idyllic. He has devoted his career and life to dietetics, nutrition and healthy living ever since, working in many responsible roles and positions. Today he is the Community Health Coordinator for Del Norte Clinics, serving low-income families with nutrition and health

services in 13 clinics throughout five area counties.

Steve met Maria Matute while in the Peace Corps on Roatan Island, in the Bay Islands, off the coast of Honduras. Fate took Maria there on a very unexpected vacation when her sister unexpectedly traveled to the U.S. to spend time with her exchange-student parents instead of vacationing with a friend from the U.S. as planned. Instead, Maria accompanied her sister’s friend, Montserrat, to Roatan. There she met Steve while sharing a cab back from a day at the beach... well, the rest is the story of their courtship and marriage, which took place in Honduras, Central America 1½ years later.

Maria has degrees in computer science, elementary education, and Spanish, and was a fully qualified teacher in Honduras. She holds a Single Subject Teaching Credential and has been quite content teaching elementary school students at Rosedale Elementary School for the past two years.

Charlette attended the Dual Spanish Immersion Program at Parkview Elementary School and is now a freshman at Chico High School. She is enrolled to attend the new and exciting Inspire High School of Arts & Sciences during her sophomore year. Ari

Steven and Maria Naiman Family

is finishing up 6th grade at Rosedale and is equally excited about attending Chico Junior High School next year. Isabella is at Innovative Preschool where both her sister and brother attended years ago. Isabella has made many friends at preschool and enjoys chatting with them as well as with all of the teachers and teacher aides at her preschool, and it appears the feeling is mutual. I learned that many of our CBI families, including the Rappaport, Zeichick, Feldman, and Kaplan families, along with Steve and Maria have been and are part of the woof and weave of Parkview and Rosedale Elementary Schools for many years.

While Maria has not formally converted, she highly values the Jewish religion and enjoys the services. She said she loves the CBI community and feels, like Steve, they are her extended family. Maria supports and helps her children with their Jewish education and observances, and in fact ran Ari to study for his Bar Mitzvah with Carol Edelman during our interview. Steve has been a key volunteer and supporter for the CBI Religious School for over 10 years. The last few years have focused on Charlette's Bat Mitzvah, and soon confirmation, and now Ari's Bar Mitzvah, October 23, 2010. They are also looking forward to Isabella joining the Menchkins.

Steve believes that camp helps children to become mature and independent among other important virtues. Charlette and Ari have attended Camp Tawonga over the past 3 years and enjoyed it immensely. They find camp to be both inspiring and reinforcing to their Jewish identification and experiences. Steve and Maria are strong supporters of the Gert Lenner Fund, which supports summer camp for our CBI children, and ask you to support the fund, too. In fact, Steve is coordinating a Car Wash for the Fund on June 6th at Rosedale School.

Steve has been a volunteer for good causes and services since he was a kid. He said his mother Mollie taught him that doing a mitzvah was the most important thing. He believes in Tikkun Olam and, besides his Peace Corps years and continued interests, he volunteers widely in the community. He just finished his fourth year chairing the annual "Growing Healthy Children," a community health and family nutrition fair combined with walk-run and other fitness events and educational opportunities. It received statewide recognition as the "Event-of-the-Year" in this field. Thank you, Steve and Maria.

Religious School Kids had Fun this Year



Purim photo by D.A. Bermann



Making crafts at the CBI Religious School Shabbaton Retreat at the Zeichick's cabin.



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Building Fund

Derek & Magdalena Baum
Michael & Beverly Paull

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Al & Sandy Abrams

Yahrzeits

Katharine McAfee & Brahma D. Sharma: In memory of Katharine's mother

Michael & Wendy Diamond Mulcahy: In memory of the family's yahrzeits

Gert Lenner Fund

Matthew & Isabel Fine: In memory of Nitsa Schiffman's father

Stanley & Anne Gottlieb: In memory of Morris & Edith Gottlieb

Jewish Teens of Chico (JTC)

Sam, Carol, and Helen Edelman
Deborah Shapiro

Mazal Tov

To Irv and Nitsa Schiffman on the recent engagement of their daughter Tamar to Jonathan Lechter.

To Jim and Nelda Jessee on the engagement of their daughter Emma to Michael Hering.

Today Rabbah

Thank you to Andrew Saberksy for taking the Confirmation class photo. Look for it in our foyer soon!

Condolences

We extend our condolences to Lisa Rappaport on the passing of her father, Scott Suneson.

May his memory be a blessing.

Anniversaries in June and July

Mark & Helen T. Levine June 11
John & Bonnie Mitchell June 18
Michael & Wendy Diamond Mulcahy June 18
Michael & Beverly Paull June 19
Steven & Maria Naiman June 20
Joel & Susan Mintzes June 22
Mike Panunto & Mari Peters June 28
George & Leanna Rawley June 28
Matthew & Isabel Fine June 29
Tim & Keren Carter June 30
Victor Mlotok & Anne Warner July 7
Marc & Phyllis Cullen July 9
Marvin & Bonnie Megibow July 20
Jed Wyrick & Lance Ferris July 26
Irv & Nitsa Schiffman July 31

Yahrzeits

Tillie Snower **June 1**
Remembered by Michael & Pamela Dakof

Donald Ray Tobey **June 1**
Remembered by Loretta Steinke

Josephine Forrest **June 6**
Remembered by Renee Everett

Gertrude Lenner **June 7**
Remembered by Matthew & Isabel Fine

Max Lenner **June 11**
Remembered by Matthew & Isabel Fine

Mary Rambach **June 12**
Remembered by Arron & Dawn Rambach

Louis Rappaport **June 12**
Remembered by Harvey & Lisa Rappaport

Anne Passovoy **June 15**
Remembered by Michael & Carol Passovoy

Morris Rambach **June 19**
Remembered by Arron & Dawn Rambach

Henry Paull **June 24**
Remembered by Michael & Beverly Paull

Carl Rakosi **June 24**
Remembered by George & Leanna Rawley

Shirley Mintzes **July 2**
Remembered by Joel & Susan Mintzes

Sol Grossman **July 3**
Remembered by Deborah Shapiro

James Archer **July 19**
Remembered by Susan Archer

Irene Paull **July 24**
Remembered by Michael & Beverly Paull

Don Kipperman **July 25**
Remembered by Karen & Richard Rogers

Joanne Adams **July 28**
Remembered by Steven & Renee Margolin

Abraham Bernard Baum **July 28**
Remembered by Derek & Magdalena Baum

Charlotte Baum **July 30**
Remembered by Derek & Magdalena Baum

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Birthdays in June and July

Samuel Lewkowicz..... June 3
 Mari Peters June 3
 Joy Zeichick June 5
 Donna Greenberg..... June 7
 Michael Puig-Holzman June 7
 Niculina Archer..... June 9
 Lucy Rappaport June 12
 Nitsa Schiffman..... June 15
 Victor Mlotok June 18
 Michael Mulcahy..... June 19
 Daniel Tarazon June 20
 Madelyn Holzman June 22
 Garrett Green..... June 24
 Shane Rubinoff..... June 24
 Alex Thompson..... June 25

Tim Carter..... June 26
 Julia Megibow June 27
 Sandy Abrams..... June 28
 Sam Sabersky June 30
 Carl Megibow..... July 1
 Ryan Rubinoff..... July 2
 Phyllis Cullen July 5
 Martha Fishkin..... July 10
 Victor Castaneda..... July 12
 Irv Schiffman July 15
 Joseph Lewkowicz July 16
 Sarah Einhorn..... July 17
 Tirza Panunto July 20
 Michael Dakof..... July 21
 Adam Deromedi..... July 21
 Isabel Fine July 31


Keeper of Your Castle

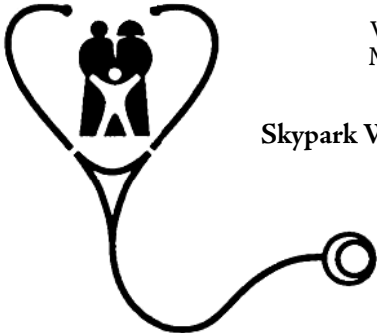
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Mark your calendar	
June 5	Michael Puig-Holzman Bar Mitzvah
June 6	Gert Lenner Fund Car Wash
June 6	Good Grief: <i>Hevra Kaddisha</i> at CBI
June 12	Niculina Archer Bat Mitzvah
June 18	Annual Membership Meeting and Ice Cream Social

Congregation Beth Israel

Congregation Beth Israel is an independent, egalitarian Jewish community whose roots date back a century. The synagogue is both nondenominational and unaffiliated. Our guiding principle is K'lal Yisrael, the unity of the Jewish people. True to that spirit, CBI embraces a diverse membership of Jews from all backgrounds as well as interfaith couples and those exploring Judaism. We serve nearly 100 families in the greater Chico area with a wide range of programs for toddlers, tweens, teens, adults, and seniors. Our Religious School is very strong, and our Sisterhood is very active. Services are held Friday nights at 7:30 p.m. (6 p.m. on the first Friday for the monthly family service) and Saturday mornings at 10 a.m. We also hold services on all major Jewish holidays.

The ideal to which we strive is Mordecai Kaplan's concept of the "synagogue center," in which a congregation serves both as a house of worship and as a community center. Rabbi Julie Hilton Danan provides the inspirational leadership for our Jewish values: study, *Torah*; worship and practice, *Avodah*; social action, *Tikkun Olam*; acts of kindness, *Gemilut Hasadim*; and connection with the Jewish People, *Am Yisrael*.



Cooking at the CBI Sisterhood Bagel Brunch 5770
 Photo by D.A. Bermann