

A New Haven Tradition since 1892



BEKI bulletin

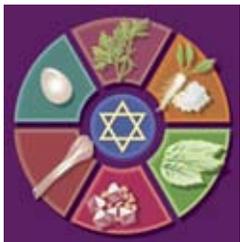
Congregation
Beth El-Keser Israel

Adar II-Nisan 5771

Vol. 17 Issue 4

Message from Rabbi Tilsen - Page 14

PASSOVER AT BEKI



Kosher for Pesah guidelines are available in the "Rabbinical Assembly Pesah Guide" in the BEKI literature rack (also available by request from the office) and at www.rabbinicalassembly.org.

Pre-Pesah Shabbat Evening Dinner at BEKI

Come to BEKI for Shabbat dinner 15 April 2011 as you prepare your own kitchen for Pesah. A dairy Shabbat dinner will be available for the highly subsidized price to those who make reservations by 4:59p 11 April of \$12.00 per adult or \$6.00 per child under 13 or \$36.00 per household and will include soup, salad, entree, beverage, fruit and dessert. Please sign up early as space is limited. Surcharge for later reservations may apply.

Selling of Hametz

During the eight days of Pesah (Passover), it is forbidden for Jews to eat or own edible *hametz*. Hametz is any product containing wheat, barley, oats, spelt or rye that has not been especially prepared kosher for Pesah. Ideally, one physically disposes of all hametz by the morning before Pesah. In order to be sure that this has taken place, or to avoid the loss of expensive hametz such as liquor, you can sell your hametz for the period of Pesah. If you would like to authorize Rabbi Tilsen to sell your hametz to someone who is allowed to own it, please sign and return the form available at www.beki.org/forms.html and in the literature rack. If you need a form faxed to you, give Peggy (203-389-2108 x14 or office@beki.org) your fax number or fax her at 203-389-5899. The form is a

power of attorney allowing Rabbi Tilsen to sell your hametz for you.

KINAHARA: Kosher for Pesah

Answers to frequently asked questions can be found at the website of the Kashrut Initiative of the New Haven Area Rabbinical Assembly, www.kinahara.org.



Kulanu: Special Needs Seder

The [Sisterhood](#) of Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel, and BEKI's [Kulanu](#) Havura outreach program, in conjunction with Jewish Family Service and Abel Catering, will host the twenty-ninth annual Adult Special Needs Model Seder at BEKI on Tuesday 12 April. Each year the Sisterhood has hosted an enthusiastic group of Jewish adults from the New Haven area with a variety of special needs. This year, about 70 people are expected to participate.

For many, this is their only taste of Passover and one that they relish and look forward to each year. The Torah teaches about four types of children, and the Hagada reminds us that we must tell the story of the Exodus to each son and daughter of Israel in the way that is most meaningful to him or her. Through the efforts of Sisterhood, our outreach coordinator, the generosity of ACI Catering and the good offices of the Jewish Family Services, the Exodus is re-enacted through song, food and story at a table set in the Passover tradition.

Kulanu is BEKI's outreach program for adults with special needs. Kulanu is supported by The **David & Lillian Levine**

THERE IS A DIFFERENCE



It's about our unique approach to building educational excellence on a foundation of Jewish tradition and values, an appreciation of modern culture and a firm belief in the importance of weaving learning into living.

To learn more about the Ezra Academy difference, visit www.ezraacademy.net



75 Rimmon Road, Woodbridge, CT
(203) 389-5500 www.ezraacademy.net

BEKI Bulletin

The newsletter is published monthly by Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel for the benefit of its members.

Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel is affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

To contribute articles or for inquiries regarding membership:

- Call the Synagogue office: (203) 389-2108
- Write: 85 Harrison Street, New Haven, CT 06515-1724
- Email: jjtilsen@beki.org
- Visit our web page: www.beki.org

For advertising information, call the synagogue office.

Deadline for submission of ads or articles is the first of the month preceding publication.

Annual subscription is \$36

BEKI Bulletin © 2011 Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel.

A Message from Rabbi Tilsen & Dear Rabbi
© 2011 Jon-Jay Tilsen. All rights reserved.

Editor	<i>Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen</i>
Associate Editor	<i>Donna Levine</i>
Associate Editor	<i>Donna Kemper</i>
Associate Editor	<i>Herbert Winer</i>
Photographer	<i>Charles Ludwig</i>



A brand new school for a bold new world.

Accepting Applications Now

2710 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604

Directly adjacent to the Town of Fairfield in the newly renovated educational facilities of Congregation B'nai Israel

For information or to schedule your visit:

203.275.8448 admissions@jhsct.org www.jhsct.org

Web Buys

If you purchase from Amazon.com via this link www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/redirect-home/congregabethelke) or at www.beki.org through the "Amazon" box at the bottom of the page, BEKI receives a small commission on your purchase at no cost to you. You must use these links each time you access the merchant's website in order for BEKI to receive a commission.

WESTVILLE *Kosher* MARKET

95 Amity Rd. (Next to Amity Wine)
New Haven (off exit 59 Meritt Pkwy)

Glatt **389-1166** *Kosher*

- New Dining Area
- Bakery Products
- Expanded Groceries
- Home-Made Deli Items
- Fresh-Meat & Poultry
- All Meat & Poultry Kosher & Kasherod
- All Foods Freshly Made on Premises
- Under Strict Rabbinical Supervision
- Expanded Groceries

Sun. 8:30-4:00 • Mon.-Wed. 8:30-6:00
Thurs. 8:30-7:00 • Fri. 8:30-3:00 • Closed Sat.

Benefit Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel

Ask us about establishing a fund, trust or annuity to ensure BEKI's future.

Charitable giving strengthens our Community and provides the donor with tax savings.

David Trachten
Chair,
Board of Trustees

Lisa A. Stanger, Esq.
Director
203 387-2424 x382
lstanger@jewishnewhaven.org

Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven



All of us. One Foundation.

Passover

Continued from Page 1

Endowment for People with Special Needs at Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel, which is managed by the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven.

Hagadot and Seder Plates at Giftshop

Hagadot (do-it-yourself guide and service books) for Pesah, including the Rabbinical Assembly's *Passover Haggadah: The Feast of Freedom*, are available at the Sisterhood Giftshop and wherever fine Judaica is sold. The Giftshop also offers a significant collection of decorative seder plates and other Pesah supplies (such as toy frogs).

If you purchase your *hagadot* or other items from Amazon.com or Buy.com and access these merchants via the links at www.beki.org/links.html, BEKI receives a small commission on your purchase, at no additional cost to you. You must use these links each time you access the merchants' website in order for BEKI to receive a commission.

Siyyum Bekhorot: Feast or Famine

The Fast of the First Born is Monday, April 18, the morning before the Pesah seder, beginning at dawn. Firstborn who attend the Monday morning service at 7 o'clock may conclude their fast by partaking of the *seudat mitzva* (obligatory feast) celebrating a *siyyum*, the conclusion of a study project. Services and *siyyum* will end by 8:20 a.m. All may attend.

Bediqat Hametz and Biur Hametz

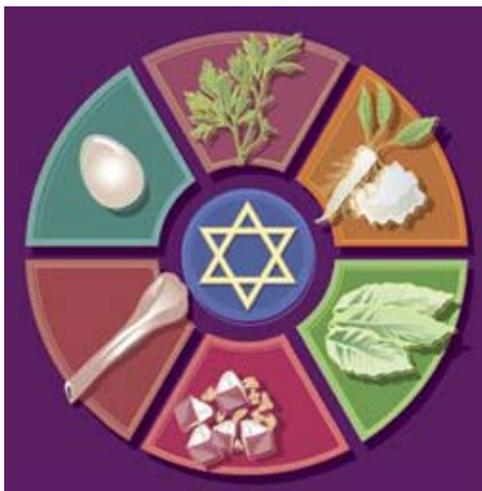
On the night of Sunday April 17, it is customary to perform *Bediqat Hametz*, the final check for leaven before Passover. This procedure can be done as a spiritual or fun ritual with children or adults. On the next morning, Monday April 18, it is customary to perform *Biur Hametz*, a final "search and destroy" mission for leaven, to insure compliance with the rule against possessing or eating hametz during the festival. Instructions for *Bediqat Hametz* and *Biur Hametz* can be found in most *Hagadot*, including the Rabbinical Assembly's *Passover Haggadah: The Feast of Freedom*.

Let All Who Are Hungry...

The Seder of Pesah is a wonderful opportunity to welcome others into our homes. Our congregation comprises many people who may not have extended family locally, do not have Jewish relatives, are new to the area, or who otherwise would benefit greatly from a Seder invitation. If you are able to open your Seder to additional guests, please contact Rabbi Tilsen at your earliest opportunity at (203) 389-2108 x10 or jjtilsen@beki.org. If you are able to host an adult who is a mental health services consumer or who has developmental disabilities, please contact Special Outreach Coordinator Ina Silverman, (203) 389-2108 x13 or principal@beki.org.

Service Times for Pesah

There will be no public evening service at BEKI on Monday April 18 or Tuesday April 19, the evenings of the seders. On Tuesday & Wednesday mornings, April 19 and 20, festival services begin at 9:15 a.m. The following week, the seventh and eighth days of Pesah, Monday & Tuesday April 25 and 26, festival services begin at 9:15 a.m.



Hol HaMoed: The Intermediate Days

While we observe the two initial and two final days of Pesah as major holidays, which include most of the restrictions on *melakha* ("work") followed on Shabbat, the intermediate days are observed as semi-holidays.

Ideally, one avoids or minimizes *melakha* during this period as well, but in our setting most observant Jews simply go to work or school as usual. *Melakha* is a technical rabbinic term used to define the set of actions that are prohibited on the Sabbath Day, based on the 39 categories of acts involved in creating the Temple, which is the Biblical context in which the term is used.

On the festival days (*hag*), tefillin are not worn, but on Hol HaMoed it is common to wear tefillin in the morning until after the amida and to remove them before Hallel. (Others omit tefillin altogether in this period.) During Hol HaMoed, as in the entire month of Nisan, the Tahanun (supplication) is omitted in the daily services. Hallel and musaf

Continued on Page 4

Passover

Continued from **Page 3**

are recited daily, and the passage *Ya'ale veYavo* is included in the amida and in Birkat haMazon (grace after meals).

The prohibition against possessing and eating hamets remains in force. One should seek to make the period celebratory. In the idyllic future, the period should be a general public holiday when all can skip work without concern for income or security.

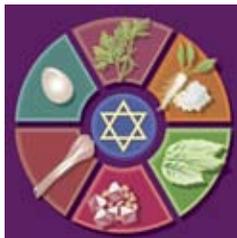
Pesah Candle Lighting

The first night of Passover is Monday April 18; candle lighting in New Haven is at 7:16 p.m. For the second night, candle lighting should be *after* 8:16 p.m. (an hour later). Because it is not permitted to strike matches on the Festival days, our practice is to light a flame before the festival begins that will burn at least 26 hours, and to use that flame to light the Pesah candles the second night.

Candle lighting for the seventh day, Monday April 25, is at 7:25 p.m., and on Tuesday night April 26 *after* 8:25 p.m.

Sefira – Counting the Omer

At the second Seder (Tuesday night April 19), we begin daily *sefirat ha-omer* (counting of the *omer*), a counting of days to Shavuot, the next major festival. The counting,



preferably done each night for 49 nights, is an expression of eager anticipation, commemorating the period of expectation and preparation we experienced in the Exodus from Egypt until the revelation at Sinai.

The simple home ceremony is printed in most *siddurim* (prayer books), including *Sim Shalom*, immediately after the weekday evening service. While it is a mitzva prescribed for adults, *sefirat ha-omer* can also be a fun, artistic and joyous ritual for families with children.

In the days before printed calendars, calendar watches and daily newspapers, the *sefira* served to keep the liturgical calendar of the Jewish People synchronized, no simple accomplishment, given the dispersion and isolation of much of the community. The term *omer* refers to the measure (one handful) of grain that was used to create a physical relic of the counting. With a physical reminder, even illiterate people could do a recount in case they forgot the day's number.

Families with young children may use this opportunity to help their children understand and experience anticipation, planning, counting and hope.

Teach us to number our days, that we may attain a heart of wisdom

— Psalm 90:12

LifeCycle

Memorial Services

Morris Cohen: A memorial service for Morris Cohen is to be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday May 1 at Levinson Auditorium, Yale Law School, 127 Wall St., New Haven.

Terri Stern: A *hanukat matseva* (“unveiling”) ceremony for Terri Stern is to be held at noon on Sunday May 15 at King David Memorial Park in Neshaminy PA; details from Brian Karsif bkarsif@comcast.net.

Benei Mitzva

- **Joni Weintraub**, daughter of Daniel & Beth Weintraub, April 1-2, *parashat Tazria – Shabbat HaHodesh*
- **Katya Labowe-Stoll**, daughter of Steven Stoll & Sara Labowe-Stoll, May 20-21, *parashat Behuqotai*
- **Leora Weitzman**, daughter of Marc & Carol Cohen Weitzman, May 27-28, *parashat BeMidbar*

HaMaqom Yinahem

With sorrow we note the passing of

Richard Samuel,
father of Joanne (& David) Goldblum

Frank Frumento, Sr.,
husband of Shirley Frumento

Joseph London,
father of Sharon (& David) Bender

*May the Almighty comfort those who
mourn*



Joni Weintraub



Mark Oppenheimer

Darshanim

Joni Weintraub, bat mitzva, will serve as darshanit on Shabbat Ha-Hodesh, parashat Tazria, April 2.

Mark Oppenheimer will serve as darshan on Shabbat parashat Metsora, April 9.

Matthew Wightman will serve as darshan on Shabbat haGadol, parashat Aharei-mot, April 16.

Darcy McGraw will serve as darshanit on Shabbat parashat Qedoshim, April 30.

Shabbatot

Shabbat Shalom Learners' Minyan

The "Shabbat Shalom Learners' Minyan," which meets every other Saturday morning at 10:45 in the of-

fice, is an ideal setting for veteran and novice shul-goers alike to become more comfortable and proficient in the Shaharit (morning) and Torah services in a supportive setting. Expertly led by **Steven Fraade, Rabbi Alan Lovins, Rabbi**



Steven Fraade

Murray Levine, Rabbi Eric Silver and others, the Shabbat Shalom Learners' Minyan is a nurturing exploration of practice and theory presented in a participatory, non-threatening and multi-generational setting. Many members who take advantage of this unique offering feel a deeper sense of awe born of increased understanding and appreciation of the services. Everyone is welcome to participate regardless of religious status or background.

Shabbat Schmooze

A Shabbat afternoon conversation with educator and poet Shulamith Chernoff is slated for April 30, following the morning service and qiddush (about 12:45 p.m.) in the Rosenkrantz Family Library.

Mondays

Rashi Study Group: Last Call

The RSG began in January 1994 with the first verse of Genesis and is currently reading the final verses of Deuteronomy. The group will conclude its reading in April and plans to celebrate a siyyum (conclusion of study) on Shabbat morning April 16. Each Monday morning from 7:45 to 8:30 adults meet in the Library Chapel to read Rashi's commentary on the Torah. It is possible to join the study group for one of the final meetings.



Alan Lovins



Shulamith Chernoff

Knowledge of Hebrew is not necessary. Rashi purported to explain the *peshat* of the text, i.e., the meaning in its historical, literary and linguistic context. The Rashi Study Group meets immediately following the 7 a.m. *shaharit* service. Most participants attend the service before the Study Group. With Jon-Jay Tilsen.



Jon-Jay Tilsen

Wednesdays

Word for the Day

The Wednesday morning service (shaharit) features a 90-second "Hebrew word for the day" to promote the learning of Hebrew. The Hebrew language is highly structured. Most words are based on three-letter roots, and are made with a limited set of verb or noun forms. By learning a few dozen roots and a small set of word-forms, it is possible to roughly translate Hebrew words isolated from any context. The Word for the Day often relates to the weekly scriptural readings, enhancing personal study and public Torah discussion. The Wednesday morning service normally begins at 7 and ends at 7:31. (The service ends later on Hol HaMoed, Hanuka, Rosh Hodesh and other holidays; Word for the Day is not presented on those occasions.)

Rabbis' Study Group

Wednesdays with Murray is a weekly study group exclusively for rabbis, facilitated by Rabbi Murray Levine. The Wednesday study group affords local rabbis an opportunity to pursue their own *talmud torah* (Torah study) in a "safe" setting and with opportuni-

Continued on **Page 6**

Adult Studies

Continued from Page 5

ties to learn from each other's experience and insight. The study group meets Wednesday mornings in the Rosenkrantz Family Library. For more information, call Rabbi Murray Levine at (203) 397-2513.



Murray Levine

Thursdays

Mini Morning Learning Service

The Thursday morning services are dedicated to encouraging those learning to serve as ba'alei tefila (precursors or prayer leaders), ba'alei qeri'a

(Torah readers), gabbaim and other leaders, and are sometimes supplemented with commentary and teaching relating to the history, themes, choreography and language of the daily morning service. Shaharit service is from 8:15 to 9:05 on Thursdays; on other weekdays, the service begins at 7 a.m.

Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group

The *Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group* meets weekly on Thursdays during the lunch hour (12:30 to 1:30). The Group has met weekly since 1999. For some participants, this is their first direct experience with Talmud text; for others, it is a continuation of a long journey. The Group focuses on the issues raised in the Talmud, with less attention to the technical aspects of the

text. Knowledge of Hebrew or Aramaic is helpful but not required.

The Sanhedrin Study Group meets in BEKI's Rosenkrantz Family Library. For information, contact Isaiah Cooper at his law office icooper@cooperlaw.net.



Isaiah Cooper

Every Day

Divrei Torah on the Web

A collection of Divrei Torah (Torah commentaries) and essays by members and Rabbi Tilsen is posted on BEKI's website under "Adult Studies" and "Meet Rabbi Tilsen." For a complete list, see <http://beki.org/hungry.html>.

ROBERT E. SHURE, INC. Funeral Home

**Dedicated to the Dignity
and Respect of Tradition**

**543 George Street
New Haven**

562-8244

**Robert E. Shure
Founder**

**James M. Shure
President**

I WANT YOU ...



... TO ATTEND DAILY SERVICES

Kadima in the Technological Age

How the Internet Helps Our Youth Groups

As a member of the technologically hip generation, I have had the luxury of growing up with the Internet as a part of my young-adult and adult life. Since I was about 11 years old, I have had an Instant Messenger screen name – and an email address soon after that as well. And during my college career, an unknown site called Facebook became the new “it” thing. With all these additions to the Internet – blogs, social networking, video streaming, etc. – I am now able to use those tools to my advantage.

Having worked for my first year out of college as an online marketing account manager for a major film company, I learned about the utter need for an online presence in today’s world. Without a website or a Facebook page or even an email address, you simply *do not exist*. Having said that with a hint of sarcasm, it is slightly true; for young persons today not to have a Facebook page, they are met with a shocked reaction by their peers of “Are you serious? Why not?”

When I was hired to become BEKI-BJ Kadima’s chapter advisor, my first order of business was to create

an online presence for our chapter. I began with Blogspot.com, a widely used free blog-hosting site; I created a chapter website to provide parents and kids with all event information and

to year? So I made a free Gmail.com account for our chapter, easily organizing all our emails into one place.

Last, I “whipped up” very affordable business cards through VistaPrint.com, to pass out to parents unfamiliar with our web address and email – without having to write the information (especially on Shabbat).

Although all these modes of providing information require frequent work on my part to remain accurate and high quality, it is an effort *worth* making. I hope that these ideas will catch on, and will help to get information

to group members in an easy-to-read *and* easy-to-find manner.

Please view our “Klog” blog here:

<http://bekibjkadima.blogspot.com>

And visit our Facebook page by typing into the Facebook search bar: “**BEKI-BJ Kadima**”

Please feel free to email me at:

bekibjkadima@gmail.com

Sarah Oren

BEKI-BJ Kadima Advisor

The youth group of the Conservative movement for 5th – 8th Graders



forms, along with event photos and updates. I was excited to be changing the way Kadima efforts are executed, one website at a time. I then set up an elegant group-emailing platform through ConstantContact.com, something that would be quite expensive if not for B’nai Jacob’s active membership (which Kadima makes use of). Once email and the website were set, I created a Facebook.com group for our chapter, to allow for site members to check event updates easily. And how could a group not have an official email, remaining the same from year

Changing Roles of American Jewish Women



Part I New Roles in World War II

Sunday Brunch

April 10

10 to noon

Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel

\$5 Donation suggested

**Laura Small Levine working
as a "Rosie the Riveter"**

The Jewish Historical Societies of Greater New Haven and Hartford have participated in a project begun by the Jewish Women's Archive in Brookline, Mass., to record the stories of American Jewish Women whose lives were changed by World War II. Local interviews were conducted by Rhoda Sachs Zahler, and are part of the JHSGNH archives. Segments of the interviews may be found on a new website created by Cynthia Beth Rubin. Please take a look at: www.jhsgnh.org/jw-ww2/. Some of the women interviewed will participate in the program following the film.

All invited to this Sunday Brunch program which will feature Estelle Kafer, Executive Director of the *Jewish Historical Society of Greater Hartford* presenting their recent documentary film on the topic:

PRIDE, HONOR AND COURAGE: JEWISH WOMEN REMEMBER WORLD WAR II

Women in the military served in a number of capacities – they were nurses, weather observers, cryptographers, radio operators, sheet metal workers, parachute riggers, bomb-

sight maintenance specialists, aerial photograph analysts, control tower operators, pilots, glass blowers, and lab, surgical and dental technicians. At home, women took over many jobs to free men for combat. They worked in offices and factories, and then dealt with the shortages brought on by rationing. Many had Victory Gardens to supplement their food supply. They sewed and remade garments, maintained blackout conditions, collected scrap metal and other commodities for the war effort, helped to boost morale with letters and by attending social events, and worried about family members who were in the armed forces. This film focuses on the stories of several women, representing the thousands who did their duty and then get on with their lives.

Co-sponsors: Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel, and the Jewish Historical Society of Greater New Haven. This event was supported by a grant from the Women of Vision Society of the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven. Call the JHSGNH at (203) 392-6125, or the BEKI office at (203) 389-2108 to RSVP.

Changing Roles of American Jewish Women



Paula Hyman



Miriam Benson



Daphne Lew

Part II New Roles in Communal and Religious Life: An Intergenerational Conversation

Tuesday

May 10

7:30 p.m.

Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel

How have the roles of women changed in the life of the Jewish community since the 1960's? What caused these changes? How have these new roles changed our communities? What do we envision for the future?

Adele Tyson, Past President of BEKI and long time Sisterhood President. The Sisterhood of Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel is an arm of the Congregation providing numerous volunteer opportunities for its members and crucial services to the Congregation. It serves the Congregation in all aspects of its life and continues as a source of strength as the next generation of women join its ranks. The Sisterhood is affiliated with the Women's League for Conservative Judaism.

Paula Hyman is the Lucy Moses Professor of Modern Jewish History at [Yale University](http://www.yale.edu) and president of the American Academy of Jewish Research. She also served as the first female dean of the Seminary College of Jewish Studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary. Among her books are *The Jewish Woman in America*, *Gender and Assimilation in Modern Jewish History*, and the two-volume encyclopedia *Jewish Women in America*, which she co-edited with Deborah Dash Moore. She has played an active role since the 1970's promoting egalitarian roles for women in Judaism.

Miriam Benson was an active member of Women of the

Wall (WOW) in 1988-89, and has maintained her connection with Women of the Wall by serving as legal liaison between the International Committee for Women of the Wall (the Diaspora-based support organization for WOW) and the attorneys in Israel. Upon her return to the United States, she worked as an attorney in New York and Connecticut, and then served as the Executive Director of the Connecticut Valley Region of United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

Daphne Lew is currently a student at the University of Pennsylvania studying Bioengineering. She is highly involved in Penn's Hillel, having served as past Social Chair and Education Chair on the Executive Board of the Conservative Jewish Community. She was also involved in the BEKI/BJ Chapter of USY during her high school years. Aside from her involvement in the Jewish community at Penn, she also works in a Bioengineering lab, serves as a campus Tour Guide, and coordinates a program for children at the Kelly Writer's House.

Panel Moderator: Joanne Rudof, Archivist of the Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies at [Yale University](http://www.yale.edu).

This event is supported by a grant from the Women of Vision Society of the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven. All are welcome to attend.

Purim Seuda Roundup

We had 194 people at the seuda – thanks for coming! Save the date: Thursday March 12, 2012, for the next one. Special thanks to the following for helping make the Purim Seuda a success:

Food: Eva Shragis, Kai Yang, David Friedman, Janice and Robert Lettick, Marge Wiener, Adam Greenberg, Caryn Azoff, Donna and Sid Levine, Jessey Palumbo.

Decorations: Liora Lew and the entire Lew family.

Meet and Greet: Jessey Palumbo.

Singalong: Yair Minsky & Ada Fenick. Sutin family: Rachel, Allan, & Avital: face painting.

Shpiel: Darcy McGraw, Bruce Altman, and Steven Stoll for directing; and participants Steve Miller, Hakakian/Ahmadi boys, Bruce/Friedman family, Labowe/Stoll family, Mara Blander, Helen and Ben Gerber, Elie Azoff-Slifstein, and Joni Weintraub.

BEKI Bulletin, Special Edition: Mark Oppenheimer. Peggy and Clarence.

Cleanup: Bill and Eva Shragis, Liora Lew, David Friedman, Kai Yang, Tsvi Benson-Tilsen.

BEKI at 120

Although best described as a “diverse” community, BEKI is sometimes described as a “young” congregation, referring, apparently, to the median age of its members or abundance of youth. But the Congregation – or more precisely, its predecessor congregation – is about to celebrate its 120th anniversary.

The number 120 has certain cultural resonance. The “full” lifespan of a human is said to be 120, and thus it is common to wish a birthday celebrant, ‘ad me’ a ve-esrim, “may you live to 120!” The number of seats in full Sanhedrin is 120, as was the number of leaders in the “Great Assembly.”

Several ideas have been suggested for how to mark this milestone. It has been suggested that the Congregation commission the writing of a needed Torah scroll, which is considered an individual mitzva. Given that the scrolls currently held by the Congregation are older than 120 years, it is apparent that the Congregation has not yet created the opportunity to partake in this mitzva. Such a project would need a lead gift of \$40,000, to fund the writing of the scroll, with additional sums to ensure its maintenance. Another suggestion is to create much needed covers for our current scrolls, either for year-round or High Holy Day use, or

both sets. A third related idea is to create a fund to provide for ongoing maintenance of our older Torah and Prophets scrolls.

Hosting events such as scholars-in-residence Shabbatonim, brunches, lectures or other events focused on historical, legal or citizenry themes have also been suggested. If you have a great idea that you might like to help realize, or would otherwise like to help in planning, please contact our BEKI 120 Committee now in formation at beki120@beki.org or call 203.389.2108 x14.

Buying Groceries

Use gift cards for Stop & Shop, Westville Kosher Market and other local outlets, available at face value – no additional cost to you – and BEKI receives a significant commission. Available from Gloria Cohen and from Office.

Bidding for BEKI is back

A Country Auction will be held June 5. Gila Reinstein (gila.reinstein@yale.edu), Betsy Ratner (b.ratner@sbcglobal.net) and Donna Levine (sdsij@aol.com) will co-chair the event and are looking for volunteers for all aspects of making this a fun and profitable fundraiser. Please contact one of the co-chairs or call Peggy in the office (203) 389-2108 x14 if you wish to work on decorations, food, collecting items, selling tickets, or any other aspect of this sure-to-be-fun event. And....save the date.



STAR
Tire & Wheels

Andy Weinstein

40 Orange Avenue
West Haven, CT 06516
203-933-AUTO (2886)

MICHAEL MARTONE
MANAGER



Arnold's Jewelers

DIAMONDS - WATCHES - GIFTS
CHINA - SILVER - CRYSTAL

WATCH AND
CLOCK REPAIRING

NORTH HAVEN SHOPPING CENTER
NORTH HAVEN, CONN. 06473
203-239-4291

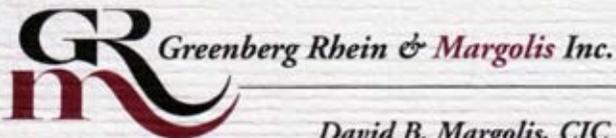


NEW SYLVAN CLEANERS

All Work Done On Premises

Mon.-Fri. 7:00-6:00 | Sat 8:00-4:00 | Sun closed

363 Whalley Ave. New Haven, CT 06511 • 203.562.3460
663 Orange Center Rd. Orange, CT 06477 • 203.795.0087



David B. Margolis, CIC

1768 Litchfield Turnpike (Rte. 69)
Woodbridge CT 06525-2309

Tel: (203) 389-4511 • Direct (203) 907-4829

Fax (203) 397-2266 • Cell: (203) 668-0344

Email: david@grminsur.com

www.grminsur.com



Isaiah D. Cooper

Practical Solutions for Complex Business Transactions

Company Formation • Mergers & Acquisitions
Equity & Debt Finance • Consulting Agreements
Shareholder Disputes • Distribution Contracts
Employment Contracts • Leases • Software Licenses

205 Church St., Suite 307
New Haven, CT 06510

Tel: 203-497-9969

icooper@cooperlaw.net

www.cooperlaw.net

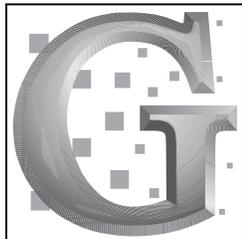
**SERVING ALL OF NEW ENGLAND!
OVER 30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE!**

FREE LIGHTING
WITH THIS AD!
(NEW BOOKINGS
ONLY)



BOPPERS LEADS. THE INDUSTRY FOLLOWS.

866.865.DJJD • BOPPERSDJS.COM



GOOD COPY
Printing & Digital Graphics

🏠 110 Hamilton Street
New Haven CT 06511

☎ 203.624.0194

📄 203.624.3609

✉ goodcopy@goodcopy.com

🌐 www.goodcopy.com



287-1593



**323 Washington Avenue • Hamden
At Whitney (Opposite K of C Hall)**





Tower One/Tower East
18 Tower Lane • New Haven, CT 06519

tel (203) 772 1816 fax (203) 785 8280
www.towerone.org

Tower One
Tower East

**A distinctive non - profit apartment and
assisted living retirement community.**



Fostering Independence and Community — in the Jewish tradition.



BARRY RADIN
792-2222

144 DERBY AVENUE
NEW HAVEN, CT 06511



Abel Caterers • Elegant Events
Brian Averna Catering
The Belvedere

70 Bradley Road, Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525
(203) 389-2300 Fax (203) 389-2668
www.thebelvedere-ct.com

Child and Adolescent Health Care, L.L.C.

A. Joseph Avni-Singer, M.D., FAAP

303 WHITNEY AVENUE
NEW HAVEN, CT 06511
(203) 776-1243
FAX (203) 785-1247

Shari Storeygard, M.D., FAAP

Carol Dorfman, M.D., FAAP

Shannon Martinello, M.D., FAAP

1 BRADLEY ROAD, SUITE 102
WOODBIDGE, CT 06525
(203) 397-1243
FAX (203) 397-1241

RAVIT AVNI-SINGER, MSW LCSW
CHILD, ADOLESCENT AND ADULT PSYCHOTHERAPY
PARENT CONSULTATION

1 BRADLEY ROAD, SUITE 906
WOODBIDGE, CT 06525

(203) 389-9174
BY APPOINTMENT



32 Cherry Street
Milford, CT 06460
(203) 874-6755

Podiatric Medicine and Foot Surgery

DAVID C. NOVICKI, D.P.M., F.A.C.F.A.S.
MARTIN M. PRESSMAN, D.P.M., F.A.C.F.A.S.
JAMES G. KRANTZ, D.P.M., F.A.C.F.A.S.
ROBERT P. NOVICKI, D.P.M., F.A.C.F.A.S.
JESSE P. PARKS, D.P.M.

info@computerdocs.biz
<http://www.computerdocs.biz>
Hamden, CT 06514-4465



Computer-Docs LLC
203-848-6950

Health Care Services for PCs and Networks

Tune-ups • Repairs • Installations • Networks • Security



1058 Orange Avenue • West Haven, CT 06516
Tel: 203.932.1200 Fax: 203.932.1222
Scott Walstedter



A Letter to Senator Lieberman

Dear Senator Lieberman,

I am writing today to ask your help in getting me appointed to a government death panel.

During the debates before the enactment of Obamacare, several leading public figures, mostly Republican, including Sarah Palin, promised that once the law came into effect, life-and-death decisions would be made for the elderly and infirm by government death panels.

From our personal acquaintance, you may know that I am experienced and credentialed in the realm of “who shall live and who shall die.” Beyond my rabbinic training and ordination at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, I served for a summer as an intern (pastoral field worker) at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. During my nineteen and three-quarters years serving congregations in Connecticut, I have counseled hundreds of families facing death or grieving a loved one, have attended numerous individuals at their hour of death, and have prepared the dead for burial. I have experience in guiding families and medical workers in deciding whether to “pull the plug” and in the consequences of their decisions.

Beyond that, I already have begun working on a list of who is worthy to live and who is ready to sail out on the next iceberg, to use the Eskimo idiom.

My opposition to judicial execution (the “Death Penalty”) is based on a lack of faith in the judicial system, not in a fundamental objection to the government killing people

when required, so it should not stand in the way of my appointment. Unlike other local clerics and public officials, I have never actually been convicted of a felony, which makes me a stand-out candidate. I get along fine with most government workers, except the people at the CT DMV; I’ve even slept in Ben Bernanke’s bed, though he wasn’t there at the time.

Although the promise of government death panels was made by Republicans, I turn to you for help because you are the closest thing we have in Connecticut to a Republican, no offense, and because you are by all accounts highly regarded among your Senate colleagues. I would add that I once supported a Republican in his race for the Senate, and even though he was sentenced to one year of probation after his admission of misuse of public funds, I don’t regret supporting him, since his Democratic opponent whose name I won’t mention was even more of a scoundrel. I should hope that the death panels are bi-partisan, or even better non-partisan, anyway.

To avoid creating any appearance of favoritism, cronyism or conflict of interest, I pledge that if you help me in my quest I will never pay you back with a political or personal favor, or do anything that could be interpreted as supporting your career or otherwise compromising your appearance of independence, other than pouring you a small serving of fine single-malt whiskey should you happen to join us one day for qiddush as in days of old.

April 2011

26 Adar II 5771 - 26 Nisan 5771

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Mark Your Calendar

Bat Mitzva: Joni Weintraub April 1-2
Kadima Kinnus: April 1-3
USY Kinnus: April 1-3
Darshan: Mark Oppenheimer April 9
Sunday Brunch: April 10
Kadima Chocolate Seder: April 10
USY Chocolate Seder: April 10
Special Needs Seder: April 12

Darshan: Matthew Wightman April 1
Taanit Bekhorot/Siyyum Bekhorot: April 18
First Seder (Home Ritual): April 18
Pesah First Day: April 19
Community Second Seder at OS: April 19
Pesah Second Day: April 20
Pesah Seventh Day: April 25
Pesah Eighth Day: April 26
Shabbat Schmooze: Shula Chernoff April 30

1	2
Joni Weintraub Bat Mitzva 6:58pm Candle Lighting Kadima Regional Kinnus Weekend & USY Regional Spring Convention (both off-site)	Joni Weintraub Bat Mitzva 10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: Weintraub 5:45pm Minha
26 Adar II	27 Adar II

3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:00am Religious School 1:00pm Pomegranate Guild	7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm Executive Board Meeting (off-site)	Rosh Hodesh	8:30am Rabbi's Study Group 4:00pm Religious School 5:00pm Benei Mitzva Program	12:30pm Talmud Study Group	7:06pm Candle Lighting	Darshan: Mark Oppenheimer 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Learner's Minyan Qiddush: Weiner 5:45pm Minha
28 Adar II	29 Adar II	1 Nisan	2 Nisan	3 Nisan	4 Nisan	5 Nisan
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:00am Religious School/Pesach Program 10:00am Brunch & Documentary Screening "Pride, Honor & Courage: Jewish Women Remember World War II" 12:45pm Kadima Chocolate Seder @ B'nai Jacob	7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm General Board Meeting	5:30pm Special Needs Seder	8:30am Rabbi's Study Group 4:00pm Religious School 5:00pm Benei Mitzva Program	12:30pm Talmud Study Group	7:13pm Candle Lighting	Darshan: Matthew Wightman 10:45am Children's Program Qiddush: Rashi Study Group (Siyyum) 5:45pm Minha
6 Nisan	7 Nisan	8 Nisan	9 Nisan	10 Nisan	11 Nisan	12 Nisan
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
No Religious School	Erev Passover 7:45am Siyyum Bekhorot 10:00am: Last Hametz No Evening Service 7:16pm Candle Lighting	Passover I Office Closed/Passover 9:15am Festival Service No Evening Service 6:00pm Community Seder (off-site @ Congregation Or Shalom, reservations required)	Passover II Office Closed/Passover 9:15am Festival Service No Religious School No Benei Mitzva Program 5:45pm Minha	Hol Hamoed Passover I No Talmud Study Group	Hol Hamoed Passover II 7:21pm Candle Lighting	Hol Hamoed Passover III 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Learner's Minyan Qiddush: Goldblum 5:45pm Minha
13 Nisan	14 Nisan	15 Nisan	16 Nisan/1 L'Omer	17 Nisan/2 L'Omer	18 Nisan/3 L'Omer	19 Nisan/4 L'Omer
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Hol Hamoed Passover IV No Religious School 7:23pm Candle Lighting	Passover VII Office Closed/Passover 9:15am Festival Service	Passover VIII (Yizkor) Office Closed/Passover 9:15am Festival Service	8:30am Rabbi's Study Group 4:00pm Religious School 5:00pm Benei Mitzva Program	12:30pm Talmud Study Group	7:28pm Candle Lighting	10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: Rudof Shabbat Schmooze with Dr. Shulamith Chernoff 5:45pm Minha
20 Nisan/5 L'Omer	21 Nisan/6 L'Omer	22 Nisan/7 L'Omer	23 Nisan/8 L'Omer	24 Nisan/9 L'Omer	25 Nisan/10 L'Omer	26 Nisan/11 L'Omer

Service Times

Sundays 9 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv	Mondays 7 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv	Tuesdays 7 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv	Wednesdays 7 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv	Thursdays 8:15 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv	Fridays 7 a.m. Shaharit 6 p.m. Minha-Maariv	Saturdays 9:15 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha
---	---	--	--	--	--	---