Grand Auction at BEKI

BEKI members, along with friends and neighbors, are invited to a gala “Bidding for BEKI” auction on Saturday night 12 March beginning at 7:30p. $25 per ticket in advance, $30 at the door. The price of admission entitles you to bid on a wide range of wonderful goods and services. Proceeds will be applied to the operating budget of the shul.

In addition to an extensive silent auction, master auctioneer Harold Lindy will conduct a live auction for some of the most exciting offerings. Among the donated auction items are:

- Dinner for 10, catered by Neil Abel
- One-year family membership to the ICC
- Week at a vacation cottage in Nova Scotia
- One-hour flight in a private airplane
- Tickets to theater, concerts, sports events and other local attractions
- Original works of art and hand-crafted jewelry
- Overnight stay at the Omni at Yale Hotel
- Art books
- Sports memorabilia
- Judaica
- Hebrew tutoring and Torah reading lessons
- Home-cooked Kosher gourmet food by BEKI chefs
- Shabbat dinner for you and your family at the Benson-Tilsen home
- Gift certificates to local stores and salons
- Gift baskets of goodies.

The evening promises to be a lot of fun, with live music by keyboard artist Gary Lynes, elegant hors d’oeuvres, wine and soft drinks, followed by coffee and desserts. Tickets are $25 per person in advance or $30 at the door. The price of admission entitles you to bid on a wide range of wonderful goods and services. Proceeds will be applied to the operating budget of the shul.

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- Gift baskets of goodies.

cont. on page 14
Mark Your Calendar

- **Winter Shabbat Dinner**
  Friday 4 February 2005

- **Deli Box**
  Pickup Sunday 6 February 2005

- **Gala Auction**
  12 March 2005 7:00p

- **Trip to JTS in NYC**
  20 March 2005 9:00a to 4:00p

- **Wine-Tasting**
  9 April 2005

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**Brunch**

*Featuring*

Social Action Programs at BEKI
Sunday Morning 13 February
9:30a to 11:00a

*Highlighting*

Adopt-A-Social-Worker
Habitat for Humanity
ZIV

All Welcome

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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, donations, or special activities, call the Synagogue office (203) 389-2108, or write to:
85 Harrison Street, New Haven, CT 06515-1724
or email:jjtilsen@beki.org
or see our web page: www.beki.org

For information about advertising, call the synagogue office.
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BEKI Bulletin
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A Message from Rabbi Tilsen & Dear Rabbi
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Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen

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**Sisterhood Torah Fund**

What could be easier? No trip to the store in cold weather to buy a card – send a Torah Fund card and support The Jewish Theological Seminary (JTSA) – Just one call and your get well, *mazal tov* or sympathy card will be sent right out. $3.00 per card includes the stamp. Call Barbara Cushen at 407-0314.

Thank you to all who do support the JTS by donations or purchasing cards. Come with us to visit JTSA with Rabbi Murray Levine on Sunday 20 March. Call Sherry at 397-2249 for reservations.

*Barbara Cushen*
-Torah Fund Chair

**Mazel Tov:**

- To Larry Hoffman on his milestone birthday from Lori, Natan, Beth & Justin Weinstein
- To Cy Siegel on his 80th birthday from Adele Tyson
- To Priscilla Garber on becoming a great-grandmother from Adele Tyson
- To Norma Rifkin on becoming a great-grandmother from Bea & Milton Smirnoff, Ruth & Sam Roflowitz, Mikki Ratner
- To Steven Fraade & Ellen Cohen on Liora’s Bat Mitzvah from Violet & Charlie Ludwig, Stanley Saxe, Barbara Cushen, Mikki Ratner
- To George Posener on his birthday from Violet & Charlie Ludwig, Rena Miller, Mikki Ratner
- In memory of Diane Myers to her family from Anne Goldberg
- In memory of Dorothy Sherman to Mr. Arthur Sherman & Family from Bea & Milton Smirnoff
- In memory of their sister to Mr. & Mrs. Al Eisenberg from Susan & Victor Stein

In memory of Irving Silver to Mr. & Mrs. Ira Bloom from Irving Weinstein

**Sympathy:**

- In memory of Janet Brown to Jay Brown from Jennifer Botwick & Michael Ries, Barbara Cushen, Stanley Saxe, Grace Geisinger, Hyla Greenberg, Rena Miller, The BEKI Hesed Committee, Mikki Ratner, Sylvia Zeid
- In memory of Ernest Roth to Mrs. Helene Roth from Anna Goldberg
- In memory of Philip Semack to Mrs. Carol Semack from Anna Goldberg, Mikki Ratner
- In memory of Irving Silver to Mr. & Mrs. Ira Bloom from Irving Weinstein

**Get Well:**

- To Barbara Levine from Jennifer Botwick
- To Herb Etkind from Violet & Charlie Ludwig
- To Stanley Padover from Lori, Natan, Beth & Justin Weinstein
- To Bob Silverman from the BEKI Hesed Committee
- To George Posener from the BEKI Hesed Committee

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The BEKI Bulletin is sent to over 700 households and businesses and is repeatedly consulted as a reference document. Advertisers report positive results.

For rates and to place your ad, contact Peggy at office@beki.org (389-2108 x14).
A Message from Rabbi Tilsen

Act of God

I will maintain My covenant with you: never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.

*Genesis 9:11*

Describing the Tsunami Disaster of 2004 as an “Act of God” is an unfortunate expression. Although it is a secular legal term for a natural event, and not intended as a theological statement of blame, it does somehow impugn the Deity. Taken hyper-literally, it suggests that God consciously chose to inflict a disaster on innocents. That may comport with some people’s theology, but not mine.

The greater problem, though, is the implication that the Tsunami Disaster was beyond our control. We can give God credit for the *tsunami*, but it is largely our own fault that it was a *disaster*. That is because a global tsunami warning system is technically simple and inexpensive. Americans spent $800 million on Christmas trees in December (no figures are available for spending on dreidels). One tenth of that sum could have built an impressive global warning system that could have saved 90% of the death toll and prevented the bulk of the economic loss.

As we move inexorably toward a global market economy, we need to be aware of the term “externality” as it is used in the social science of economics. An externality is a force or fact that is not a factor in the market equation. If I choose my new car or appliance based on dollar cost, the fact that one model may pollute more is not taken into account; it is external to the equation. If my spending decision is made based on rate of return on capital, then the fact that some people may die as a result is simply irrelevant. It is a choice for individuals and communities, for corporations and governments, to add these “non-economic” factors into the equation.

If we can spend $50 billion a year on the war in Iraq, we can spend 1% of that, one time, to build a tsunami warning system. If we can spend $1 billion once a year on Valentine’s candy…. You can provide your own examples.

In Congress, Senator Lieberman has sponsored legislation to create such a system. Across the ocean, an Israeli innovator is offering to provide, at his own expense, a detector to any village or town. His invention, he claims, costs under $200 per unit to build.

Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.”

Listen, O House of Israel: Is My way unfair?

Is it not your ways that are unfair?!

…Repent, therefore, and live!

*Ezekiel 18:25ff*
JTS Library Trip

BEKI is offering a trip to The Jewish Theological Seminary of America (www.jtsa.edu) in New York on Sunday 20 March, along with friends from Congregation B’nai Jacob. The Seminary is the scholarly home of Conservative Judaism. The highlight of the trip will be a tour of the Seminary’s world-renowned library at which time Rabbi Murray Levine, a BEKI congregant and Seminary graduate, will present to the Library an out-of-print autographed edition of Eli Wiesel’s book, *Ani Maamin* (“I Believe”).

Following the presentation, the group will tour the Seminary. Lunch will be served on the bus. Reservations are limited and must be submitted by 1 March. We will leave from BEKI at 9:00a and will return at 4:00p. The cost of the trip, including lunch, will be $35 per person. For reservations or information contact Sherry Rothman 397-2249 or Peggy at 389-2108 x14 office@beki.org.

USY News

BEKI-BJ USY hosted its 5th annual Limousine Scavenger Hunt in January. Forty-two USYers, grades 8-12, rode in style around Woodbridge, New Haven, Orange, and Milford in limousines filled with snacks and goodies. Following clues in rhyme, the USYers visited a myriad of locations and had a blast. Highlights included an obstacle course at Ezra Academy, learning an Israeli dance at the home of a local dance expert, and performing on a Yale Repertory Theatre stage. At the same time, the USYers also gave back to the community. Each limousine group was provided with money to purchase a stuffed animal, kosher canned food produced in Israel, and a DVD to donate to various organizations. The evening was a huge success. “It was a blast!” enthused USYer Sam Weiser.

Eighth graders can now attend USY chapter and regional events for the rest of the year. BEKI-BJ’s next event is laser tag on Sunday 13 February.

Upcoming regional events include the Mid-Winter Kinnus on 4-6 February and the Semi Formal Dance/Junior-Senior Overnight on Saturday 5 March. Come join in on the fun!

Please contact chapter advisor Ari Teplitz at usy@beki.org for more information or to be added to the mailing list.

Kadima News

The BJ / BEKI Kadima chapter of New Haven had a wonderful first half of the year. Local kids from 6th – 8th grade came together for a variety of events to celebrate the Jewish holidays and to just do fun things with other preteens. Kadimaniks enjoyed apple picking before Rosh HaShana, Sukka Decorating and a Sukka hop, as well as a Hanuka party. The kids also went bowling, played laser tag, and visited the Soup Kitchen before Thanksgiving. Additionally, 50 kids from throughout the state came together for a regional event in our very own backyard at Smiles Entertainment Center.

The second part of the year promises to be just as exciting. We’re starting out with a 5-chapter Color War, and we’ll be baking brownies and providing support for the Youth Commission’s Deli Box Fundraiser. Please see the dates below for other upcoming events.

6 February – Super Bowl Deli Box Fundraiser
12-13 February – Regional Overnight Event
27 March – Purim Party
10 April – Passover Program
15 May – Final Regional Event
22 May – Final Chapter Event

Look for more information on upcoming events on the USY / Kadima boards at BJ and BEKI. To join Kadima or get on the e-mail list, please contact Sabrina Spector at kadima_newhaven@yahoo.com or kadima@beki.org.

-RCG
George G. Posener Celebrates His 94th Birthday with a Special Birthday Qiddush at BEKI

Dear Rabbi Tilsen & Friends at BEKI,

I wish to express my appreciation and thanks to Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen, the Qiddush Committee and all my BEKI friends who arranged, managed and executed the wonderful qiddush celebrating my 94th birthday.

I’m also very grateful to all those who attended and extended birthday greetings to me. I am also sure that everyone enjoyed the delicious food and the special Posener double-layer birthday cake which was large enough to share with all the attendees.

My sincere thanks go out to all those who sent flowers, birthday cards, gifts, made telephone calls and made generous contributions to my BEKI endowment fund. Yes, the 25 December 2004 birthday qiddush will be a happy event I will never forget.

May God bless each and every one of you with good health, much happiness and many, many more years of life. May God also bless America and Israel, including all the brave men and women in the armed forces who are fighting to protect us.

Again, I thank each and every one of you for celebrating my birthday with me.

Shalom,
George G. Posener
HaMaqom Yenahem

With sorrow we note the passing of
Louis Belowsky
father of David (& Rayna) Belowsky and Robin (& Charles) Arntsen

Mazal Tov to

• Andy & Mindy Schultz on the birth of their son Ari Benjamin Schultz, on Monday 27 December 2004, and his entry into the covenant through Brit Mila.

Births, Baby Event and Benei Mitzva Notices can be found on BEKI’s website www.beki.org in the Lifecycle section.

Death Notices and Yahrzeit Observances listed by name and date can be found on BEKI’s website www.beki.org in the Lifecycle section.

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Shabbat Dinner Coordinators & Helpers

If you are interested in helping to run or coordinate Shabbat dinners at BEKI about once every month or two, please contact Bryna Pauker at lysnslck@aol.com. Tasks for which help is needed include shopping and prepping the meal, helping to set up the dinner, helping to serve the dinner, helping with clean-up, advertising to members, making phone calls, and organizing programming.

Cemetery Cleanup

Volunteers are needed to clean and tend the Beth El Memorial Park and Keser Israel Memorial Park. One hour once a month is needed at each cemetery. To volunteer please contact David Sagerman at 389-2108 x57 or lavdorsagerman@webtv.net, or contact Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 x10 or jjtilsen@beki.org.

Megilla Readers Needed

If you would like to read Megilat Ester (the Book of Esther) on Purim at BEKI, or learn how to, please contact Rabbi Tilsen (389-2108 x10 jjtilsen@beki.org) at your earliest opportunity. Purim is observed on Thursday night 24 March and Friday morning 25 March 2005 in New Haven and other cities that were not walled in the thirteenth century BCE.

Florida Gathering

Two dozen members and supporters joined President Gila Reinstein and Rabbi J-J Tilsen for a lunch gathering in Florida. The gathering, hosted by past-president Paul Goodwin, was held to renew the bonds between BEKI members and supporters in Florida and the present New Haven community.

“It was really a treat to see old friends reunited and to hear them share fond memories of BEKI,” said Gila. “Those who retired to Florida 25 and 30 years ago were delighted to learn about the exciting things going on at their old shul. I was glad that I could report on the influx of young families with children, since children guarantee the future of Judaism. Those who attended the event were also impressed with the level of attendance at services on a typical Shabbat. I guess we have a good thing going.”

“Being part of the BEKI community is a very important part of people’s lives,” commented Rabbi Tilsen. “Whether the involvement was years ago or is ongoing, the relationships formed, experiences enjoyed and memories created at BEKI are life-defining. Once you become part of BEKI, it becomes part of you. That is the message I hear from our friends who have moved to Florida, as well as California, Illinois, Pennsylvania and elsewhere.”

A lunch was sponsored by the family of Bob Tilsen, father of Rabbi Tilsen, marking Bob’s milestone birthday. Thanks to Paul Goodwin, Barbara Cushen, Shula Lubarr, Sandy Tilsen and the Tilsen Family for their efforts in presenting this event.

“I wished that I had time to visit with our members and supporters in Florida, including those who were not able to attend the event. I will suggest that the Board send me to Florida for a week to ten days next winter. Although I hate to be away, I am willing to make this sacrifice for the Congregation,” said Rabbi Tilsen.

The event was received very favorably and it is hoped to gather again next winter. In the future, additional efforts will be made to insure that all of our members and supporters receive a timely and personal invitation.
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A Message from Education Director

Jump off the Haystack

I had the distinct honor to accompany eight BEKI teens and 42 teens from the New Haven area, Bridgeport, Stamford and West Hartford to Israel on the Southern New England Consortium Mifgash program during December and January. Our teens were hosted for five nights by their Israeli peers in the Afula Gilboa Region, our Partnership 2000 community in Israel.

Our itinerary was ambitious; Illegal Immigration (Atlit), Seam Line, Salam Checkpoint-Gilboa Fence, Tel Hai, Bet Shean ruins, the Ramay David Air Force base, Latrun, Kibbutz Yifat Museum of Pioneer Settlement, Shabbat at the Kotel, David’s Citadel, the Kinneret, Safed, the Golan, Tel Aviv (Independence Hall and Rabin Square) and a teen shelter in Tel Aviv.

The students returned with a kaleidoscope of faces and places in their minds and hearts, and stories. As our emissaries, Beccy and Eilam wrote to our Mifgash students, “your mission is to expose others around you to this land so full of history and amazing stories of bravery, extraordinary music and culture and overall beauty... to allow others to get a” taste” of Israel through you.”

The students return as emissaries in their own right to advocate for Israel. One story stays with me, a story I will retell again and again. We went to the Kinneret Courtyard and Cemetery. Our educator Joel told us personal stories of the halutzim, the young and passionate idealists who came from Eastern Europe, fleeing pogroms. They changed Jewish life for all times. In their stone houses, they slept on haystacks and trained to be pioneers to create a totally new kind of Jewish society and a new kind of Jewish person. Their three ideals were to revive the ancient Hebrew language, to transform themselves into Jewish laborers and to implement Jewish self-defense. Each morning they would “jump off the haystack” to begin their day after planning the future of the homeland late into the night. Let’s design Israel, let’s start a kibbutz. They were idealists. As one of their diaries recorded, “I come to this country to transform the landscape and by doing so I will transform my soul.”

I believe many transformations occurred on this mission; transformations of spirituality and pride and advocacy for Eretz Israel. I believe our teens will “jump off their haystacks” to increase their commitment to Israel. They now have experienced the vision of the Jews rebuilding their homeland, reclaiming the desert and building a nation state.

LK
Checks VISA MasterCard Honored

Our office accepts VISA™ and MasterCard™ in payment of any pledge, bill or purchase (except grocery certificates). BEKI is charged fees for the use of charge cards, so checks are still preferred. To pay by Visa™ & MasterCard™ simply call, write or visit our office with the card’s name, number and expiration date.

Where There’s a Will…

Wills and estate plans are not just for the wealthy. Financial advisors suggest that anyone with children – regardless of age – and anyone who cares what happens to their financial resources or property after their death, must have a formal will or estate plan. Even if a donor leaves just 10% or 5% or even 1% to BEKI, it can make a big impact on the Congregation’s future. Designating BEKI as a beneficiary in one’s will demonstrates to one’s heirs and neighbors the importance of tzedaqa (charity), of BEKI, and of the continuity of the Jewish People.

If you would like information on including BEKI in your estate planning or current planned charitable giving, please contact your financial advisor or estate planning attorney and BEKI officer Donna Levine at 787-1633 (sdsij@aol.com). You may also contact Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 x10 (jjtilsen@beki.org) for a confidential discussion.
Shabbatot

Darshanim in February

Isaiah Cooper will serve as darshan (Torah commentator) on Shabbat Tetsave, 19 February.

Barry Etra will serve as darshan on Shabbat Ki Tisa, 26 February.

Shabbat Shalom Learners’ Minyan

The “Shabbat Shalom Learners’ Minyan,” which meets every other Saturday morning at 10:45a in BEKI’s Library Chapel, 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 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 for the services. Everyone is welcome to participate regardless of religious status or background.

Laws of Shabbat: Shabbat Afternoon Study

The laws of Shabbat will be studied between Shabbat minha afternoon service and maariv evening services this season. The sixteenth century law code Shulhan Arukh will be the basic text. The Shulhan Arukh was written by Rabbi Yosef Karo and serves as an essential guide to modern practice. Hebrew and English texts are available. The study period lasts about thirty-five minutes.

Mondays

Rashi Study Group

Each Monday morning from 7:45a to 8:30a adults meet in the Library Chapel to read Rashi’s commentary on the Torah. It is possible to join the study group for a single meeting or to begin at any time. 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. Visitors and new participants are welcome. The Rashi Study Group meets immediately following the 7:00a shaharit morning service. On Monday 21 February 2005, Presidents’ Day, morning services are from 9:00a to 9:45a and the Rashi Study Group meets from 9:45a to 10:30a.

New – Coming in March & April: Principles of Judaism: Torah on One Foot

“Principles of Judaism: Torah on One Foot” is for adults wishing an overview of the Principles of Jewish thought and life. It is ideal for people new to Judaism, considering conversion, or wishing to begin a systematic study and practice of Judaism. Topics include The Torah, Halakha (Jewish Law), The Mitzva System, 3,600 Years of Jewish History, The God of Israel, Fundamental Observances, Conservative & Other Judaisms, Messiah, Eternal Life, Talmud Torah, The Sabbath, and more. The series will meet on Monday nights in March & April 2005, beginning 14 March, from 5:45p to 7:30p in BEKI’s Rosenkrantz Library. The class immediately follows the 5:45p afternoon & evening service. To register, contact Peggy at 389-2108 x14 or office@beki.org. Material & registration fee $18.00 per person.
**Wednesdays**

**Berakhot Talmud Study Group**

A Berakhot Talmud Study Group meets weekly on Wednesday mornings from 7:30a to 8:00a during the academic year. The Study Group focuses on the original text and the issues that arise from the Mishna and Gemara, with attention to the technical aspects of the text. Knowledge of basic Hebrew or Aramaic is very helpful but not required. The Group is open to all. The Group will not meet on 9 February (Rosh Hodesh) or on 23 February (school vacation).

**Women’s Writing Group**

Member Ruth Silver has formed a women’s writing group that is open to all women. It meets each Thursday in the Chapel Library from 2:00p to 4:00p. Each week a group of interested women come together to share the short pieces that they have written: memoirs, poetry, children’s stories and short stories. The goal of the group is to encourage writing, critique of written pieces, and publishing. Each week the women come together with a piece of their writing. The writer then has a “Read-Aloud” and the group provides feedback. The founder hopes that this community will generate writing and provide support and feedback for published pieces. For more information please contact Ruth Silver at bergida@yahoo.com or Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x13 or lkempton@beki.org

**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.”

**Reading Torah at BEKI**

If you would like to read Torah, or learn how to read, contact the Torah Reading Coordinator through the synagogue office at 389-2108 x14 or through Rabbi Tilsen at jtitlsen@beki.org. Marsha Beller is the Coordinator for Shemot (Exodus), which we read 1 January – 12 March 2005.

**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 opportunities to learn from each other’s experience and insight. For more information, call Rabbi Murray Levine at (203) 397-2513.

**Thursdays**

**Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group**

The “Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group” meets weekly on Thursdays during the lunch hour (12:30p to 1:30p) at a downtown New Haven professional office for Talmud study. The Group has met weekly since 1999. For some participants, this is their first direct experience with Talmud text. 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. For location or information, contact Isaiah Cooper at 233-4547 or icooper@cooperlaw.net.

**AA Meeting**

The *Here We Are* Group of AA meets at BEKI every Thursday night at 8:00p. The weekly Meeting has been held at BEKI since May 1997. Open to any person who can benefit from a recovery program, the meeting is held according to standard AA procedure.

It is currently engaged in a 12 & 12 Study – Discussion. This is not a specifically Jewish recovery group, although a large proportion of participants are Jewish. For information on the weekly meeting contact Jay at (203) 387-6019 or sokolow@snet.net.
Grand Auction at BEKI

Hard-working volunteers have been soliciting donations and coordinating all aspects of the event for months. Chaired by Donna Levine and Robert Lettick, the group includes Jennifer Botwick, Jennifer Fleming, Joanne Foodim, Linden Grazier-Zerbarini, Judith Hoberman, Karel Koenig, Darryl Kuperstock, Bryna Pauker, Gila Reinstein, Sherry Rothman, Natan and Lori Weinstein, Marge Wiener, and David Wright. Cynthia Rubin provided the invitation art. Peggy Hackett, our multi-talented office manager, is the glue holding this complex project together, and, as usual, she does it with humor and grace.

Help will be needed in the days right before the auction and during the event itself, to set up, decorate, greet people as they come in, and assist with the collection of money and disbursement of items. If you are interested in lending a hand, please contact Donna or Rob directly, or leave a message with Peggy in the BEKI office.

If you have an item or a service that you would like to donate, but have not been contacted about it yet, please call the BEKI office right away.

The event on 12 March will give us all a chance to get together to party, bid for -- and win -- great bargains, and raise much-needed money for the synagogue. We’re counting on your participation. Come, enjoy the fun, and bid generously!

Purim Is Coming

This year we will again help you celebrate the Purim mitzva of mishloah manot - the sending of gifts – and matanot la-evyonim – presents to the poor – with our beautiful BEKI Purim Baskets.

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Just send in the order form you receive in the mail. (Order forms are available at [www.beki.org/forms.html](http://www.beki.org/forms.html) in the literature rack in the lobby, and from our office at 389-2108 x14.) Start making your list. There is enough time to check it twice!

Baskets will be available for pick-up at BEKI. Volunteers are needed to deliver baskets! Recipients outside of the New Haven area may receive a card in lieu of a basket at the committee’s discretion depending on the availability of volunteers. Call Ada Fenick to volunteer at (203) 397-3789.

The cost for each basket is $5.00 for member recipients and $6.00 for non-members. The cost for each reciprocal purchase is $5.00, unless you choose only reciprocity in which case the cost is $6.00 per basket, for which you will be billed. We offer a special rate of $260 to those families interested in sending to the entire BEKI community.

The order form and payment must be received by 7 March 2005.

Fast of Esther: Thursday 24 March (dawn to dark)

Megilla Readings: Thursday Night 24 March & Friday Morning 25 March

Shabbat Shushan Purim Dinner: Friday Night 25 March
Congregation Beth El - Keser Israel

Purim Basket Order Form 2005

Thank you for your support of the Purim Basket project! Our theme this year is “memory.” Carefully circle the name of the party you wish to send a basket to. Non-members are marked with an asterisk. If you wish to send baskets to people not on this list, write their names, addresses, phone numbers, and your name, on a separate piece of paper and attach it to this form.

Pick-up and Delivery: Baskets will be available for pick-up at BEKI Thursday 24 March (which is a fast day) to Sunday 27 March. Volunteers are needed to deliver baskets! Due to Shabbat time constraints on our ability to deliver this year, recipients who do not pick up their baskets may receive them after Purim, or a card in lieu of a basket will be sent at the committee’s discretion and depending on the availability of volunteers. Call Ada Fenick to volunteer to deliver at 397-3789. Thanks!

Cost/Reciprocity/BEKI Option: The cost for each basket is $5.00 for members, $6.00 for non-members. If you would like to reciprocate for each basket you receive, please sign below and mark off the following space _____.

The cost for each reciprocal purchase is $5.00, unless you choose ONLY reciprocity in which case the cost is $6.00 per basket. You will be billed for reciprocity. We offer a special rate of $260 to those very generous families wishing to send to the entire BEKI community. If you choose “The Entire BEKI Community” option, mark off this space _____ and simply attach your check in the amount of $260.

1 Please return the completed form with your check made out to “BEKI” (and please double-check your math!)
2 Mail the order form and check to: BEKI Purim Baskets, 85 Harrison Street, New Haven, CT 06515, or
3 Email your order to Peggy Hackett at office@beki.org or fax to 389.5899

The Order Form with Payment Must Be Received By 7 March 2005.
Please contact Ina Silverman at 387-6019 or Peggy Hackett in the office at 389-2108 x14 with any questions.

Your Name: ___________________________ Your Address: ___________________________
Your Signature (for reciprocity option) ___________________________ Your Telephone: ___________

Abramovitz, Alan & Sally
Allentuch, Simon & Leora Netter
Arntsen, Robin & Charles
*Altman, Bruce & Darcy McGraw
Auerbach, Hillel & Sara-Ann
Avni-Singer, Joseph & Ravit
*Back, Iris
Banquer, Muriel & Earl
Bass, Paul & Carole
* Battat, Stacey
Bedford, Andy & Becca Levy
Bell, Morris & Raina Sotsky
Bell, Saul
Beller, Marsha
Belowsky, David & Rayna
Ben-Chitrit, Jacob & Rosalyn
Bender, David & Sharon
Benson, Evelyn
Berger, Jim & Jennifer Klein
Berro, Neil & Mackie
Bertazzio, Rhona
Blackmer, Corinne
Brodie, Rabbis Amanda & Colin
*Bloom, Howard & Laura
*Borofsky, Lewis & Yael Wertheimer
Bronstein, Bentsion & Elizabeth
Bromell, Clarence
Brotman, Jay & Lynn
Brown, Jay
Buckman, Kenneth & Linda
Burger, Eugene & Alida Engel
*Canaan, Allon & Merav
Chernes, Ira & Liz
Chernoff, Shulamith
Cheskin, Barzillai
Chorney, David & Wendy
Purim Basket Order Form

Cohen, Morris & Gloria
Colodner, Gregory & Lisa Stanger
Colton, Roger & Sarah Berry
Consiglio, Ronnie & James
Cooper, Isaiah & Lauri Lowell
Coville, Lynn
Cummings, Leon
Cushen, Barbara
Cyr, Liann & Paul
Dinovetskiy, Oleg & Angela
Dumigan, Diane & George
Edelkind, Tamar
Epstein, Ethel
Etkind, Herbert
Etra, Barry & Janice Wolf
Fenick, Ada & Minsky, Yair
*Feldman, Lois
Feldman, Marty & Cathy Schwartz
Fish, Leonard & Inge
Forbes, Robert & Joanne Foodim
Fraade, Steven & Ellen Cohen
Frankel, Stewart & Joy Kaufman
Friedman, Lloyd & Kai Yang
Friedman, Ralph
Fryer, Hugh
Gad, Martin & Lana
Gardner, Sheila
Geisinger, Grace
Gekhman, Leonid & Svetlana
Gelbert, Alan & Joan
Gerber, Alan & Rachel
Glenn, Miriam & Ephrem
Gold, Martin & Rena Cheskis-Gold
Goldberg, Anna
Goldberg, Etta
Goldblum, David & Joanne
Golden, David & Janet
Goldfield, Carl & Gaylord Bourne
*Goodwin, Betty
Goodwin, Paul
Goodwin, Richard & Rachel Lampert
Gordon, Adam
*Gordon, Steve & Deborah Wittes
*Gottlieb, Jonathan & Elisabeth
Youngerman
Graff, Bennett & Sharon Lovett-Graff
Graham, Jim & Melissa Perkal
Gralla, Howard & Linda Schultz
Gratz, Rebecca
Grazier-Zerbarini, Lina & Linden
Green, Donald & Ann
Greenberg, Hyla
Greenblatt, Ruth
Guthertz, Daniel
Guttenberg, Elma
Haas, Elizabath
Hackett, Peggy & Don
Hamburger, Irma
Hartman, Geoffrey & Renee
Hauptman, Leo
Heisler, Alexander & Lillian
Herskovitz, Adena
Hoberman, Judith & Dominic Kinsley
*Hodes, Abraham & Norma
Hodes, Elsie
Hodes, Rose
Hoffman, Donna
*Holmes, Oliver & Hannah
Horwitz, Mrs. Edward
Hyman, Paula & Stanley Rosenbaum
Jacobson, Jeremy
Janette, Nathan & Judi
*Johnston, Robert & Anne
Joy, Stephen & Debby
Kaltman, Muriel
Kantrowitz, Richard
Kantrowitz, Samuel & Harriet
Karsif, Brian & Teri Stern
Kasha, Helene & Henry
Kasimer, Eli & Goldie
Kassap, Karen & Cary Caldwell
Katz, Matthew & Ronni Rabin
Kempton, Lauren & Brooks Parmelee
*Kleinman, Alan & Lynn Rudich
Kligfeld, Caryl & Michael
Koenig, Karel
*Koenigsberg, Michael & Rebecca
Kolodny, Herbert & Yvonne
Konoff, Simon
Kravitz, Samuel & Zelda Kravitz
Kuperstock, David & Darryl
Lebow, Bruce and Laurie
Lehrer, Alex & Amy
Lehrer, Paulette
Lemkin, Edward & Rhoda
Lerner, Peter & Gwen Weltman
Lesser, David & Mary
Lettick, Robert & Janice
Levine, Baruch & Corinne
Levine, Karen & Daniel
Levine, Sidney & Donna
Levine, Murray
Levine, Roger & Susan
Levy, Arthur & Betty
Lew, Yaron & Liora
*Lieberman, Matt & April
Lipinsky, Martin & Cathy
Lipkin, Gladys
Lovins, Alan & Trish Loving
*Lovins, Rachel
Lowell, Eleanor & Jeffrey
Ludwig, Charles & Violet
Mandelkern, Marshal
Marcus, Lisa & Ken
*Marder, Melissa
*Marek, Susan
Margolis, David & Amy
Margolis, Lester & Bernice
*Martin, Andres & Rebecca
Martin, Margaret
Mattler, Shirley
Medvedow, Leon & Phyllis
Meisel, Harriet
Michael, Daniel
Miller, Elinor
Purim Basket Order Form

Miller, Harold & Barbara
Miller, Helen
Miller, Phillip & Lynn
Miller, Rena
Minsky, Yair & Ada Minsky-Fenick
Missan, Marvin
Morris, Elsie
Moscowitz, Mike
Myer, Jennifer & James Kempton
Needler, Howard & Willa
Nova, Lisa
Oestricher, Edina & David
Olmer, Morris & Ruth
Olmer-Luther, Elaine
Opton, Diana
Ottenstein, David & Reyna
Palowitz, Mark & Joanna Sheinfeld
Pulumbo, Ghislaine & Joe
Pauker, Seth & Bryna
Pepper, Jacob
*Perry, Sidney & Tony
Pizer, Marvin & Mila
Pollowitz, Ruth
Posener, George
Prober, Daniel & Sharon
Proctor, Claire
Ratner, Miriam
*Reese, Belle
Reifler, Michael & Sara
Reinstein, Gila
Relave, Debra & Arnold Gans
Resnik, Judith & Dennis Curtis
Richards, Sybil & Hans Massuquoi
Ries, Michael & Jennifer Botwick
Rieser, Paul & Polly
Rigler, Lionel & Nancy Suchman
Rose, Esther
Rose, Tina
Rosenberg, Helen & Keith Richter
Rosner, Alan & Deren Manasevit
Ross, Richard & Helen
Roten, Margot

Rothchild, Henry
Rothman, Stephen & Sheryl
Rubenstein, Allan & Carolyn Kone
Rubin, Cynthia
Rudof, Stephen & Joanne
Sachs, Ivan & Rita
Sachs, Mark & Ilene
Sagerman, David & Doris
*Samuel, Paula
*Sapadin, Al & Blanche
Sapadin, Helene
Saslow, Harold & Linda
Saxe, Stanley
Schneider, Leonard
Schottenfeld, Richard & Tanina Rostain
*Schultz, Andy & Mindy
Schultz, Celia & David Driscoll
Schwartz, David
*Schwartz, Marc & Anne
Secchiaroli, Dina & Michael
Seigel, Paul
Sela, Nadav & Rita
Serkin, Esther
Serkin, Sarah
Serow, Robert & Eileen
Shragis, Bill & Eva
Shure, James & Patty
Silver, Morton & Ruth
*Silverman, Lillian
Sklar, Beth
Smernoff, Cindy
Smernoff, David
Smirnoff, Milton & Beatrice
Sokolow, Jay & Ina Silverman
Spangler, Joan
Spector, Esther
*Spector, Sabrina
*Spielman, James
Stahl, Nanette & William Hallo
Stein, Peter & Ilana Kurshan
Stein, Victor & Susan

Stern, Leonard & Barbara
Stern, Michael & Kathy Rosenbluh
Stoll, Steven & Sara Labowe Stoll
Stone, Corey & Sue
Sugarman, Howard
Tilsen, Jon-Jay, & Miriam Benson
*Timoner, Julian & Anne Scholet
Thaler, Valerie & Alex
Thompson, David
*Tomsky, Boaz
Tyson, Adele
van Creveld, Sascha & Michael Ben-Avie
Visocheck, Larry & Julie Cohen
Voigt, Susan & Philip
Volain, Bernard & Claire
Volman, Stephen & Carole
Watsky, Kalman & Deborah Fried
*Weinberger, Philip & Jill
Weinstein, Irving
Weinstein, Natan & Lori
Weinstein, Andrew & Paige
Weinstein, Richard & Suzanne
Weitzman, Marc & Carol
Wiener, Stanton & Marjorie
*Wightman, Matthew & Maria Sinnamon
Winer, Herbert & Hannah
Winter, Michael & Ellen Mackler
*Witten, Richard & Marcia
Wizner, Stephen & Rachel
Wolfson, Steve & Susan
Wolpin, Ellen
Wright, David & Sandra McKenny
Yakerson, Laura & Jack
York, Iain & Annie Wareck
Zahler, Rhoda
Zalkind, Shelley
Zax, Shoshana & John Weiser
Zeid, Sylvia
Zlotof, Ronald & Donna Kemper
Zusman, Howard & Patricia
### February 2005
#### Sunday 22 Shevat 5765 - 19 Adar I 5765

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<td>9:00a Religious School</td>
<td>7:45a Rashi Study Group</td>
<td>9:00a Rashi Study Group</td>
<td>12:30p Talmud Berakhot Study Group</td>
<td>12:30p Talmud Study Group (off-site)</td>
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<td>27 Shevat</td>
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<td>9:00a Religious School</td>
<td>7:45a Rashi Study Group</td>
<td>7:30a Talmud Berakhot Study Group</td>
<td>7:30a Rabbi's Study Group (off-site)</td>
<td>12:30p Talmud Study Group (off-site)</td>
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<td>4:00p Religious School</td>
<td>4:00p Religious School</td>
<td>8:30a Rabbi's Study Group</td>
<td>8:30a Rabbi's Study Group</td>
<td>2:00p Women's writing group</td>
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<td>5:00p Benei Mitzva Program</td>
<td>4:00p Benei Mitzva Program</td>
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<td>No Religious School</td>
<td>Office Closed-President's Day</td>
<td>Purim Katan I</td>
<td>Purim Katan II</td>
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<td>No Religious School</td>
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<td>18 Adar I</td>
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#### BEKI Events

### Calendar Notes in February

**Presidents’ Day:** On Monday 21 February, Presidents’ Day, the Shaharit Morning Service is from 9:00a to 9:35a. The Rashi Study Group will meet from 9:45a to 10:30a. The office is closed.
Contributions

BEKI accepts VISA & MasterCard as well as checks

Rabbi’s Tzedaqa Fund (minimum $25)
- Diane Cover in appreciation
- Steven Fraade & Ellen Cohen in appreciation and celebrating Liora’s bat mitzva observance
- Evelyn Benson
- Trish Loving & Alan Lovins honoring Liora Cohen-Fraade on becoming a bat mitzva
- Trish Loving & Alan Lovins in memory of Janet L. Brown
- Jack & Laura Yakerson in appreciation

Qiddush Sponsors (Minimum $150)
- Violet & Charlie Ludwig marking their birthdays
- Carl Goldfield & Gaylord Bourne marking Carl’s birthday
- Joanne Foodim & Robert Forbes marking their milestone anniversary
- Karen Kassap & Carey Caldwell marking Karen’s birthday
- BEKI Sisterhood
- Sarah Berry & Roger Colten marking Talia’s birthday
- Lana & Martin Gad marking Dustin’s birthday
- Elayne & Morton Dimenstein marking their 30th anniversary
- George G. Posener marking his 94th birthday
- Family of Robert S. Tilsen marking his milestone birthday (Florida Gathering)

Chai Fund (minimum $18) to support synagogue operations
- To the BEKI Religious School in appreciation by Rabbi Dana Z. Bogatz
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by the BEKI Executive Board
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by Joanne Foodim & Robert Forbes
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by Paula Hyman & Stanley Rosenbaum
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by Steve & Rachel Wizner
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by the Kolodny Family
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by Roger Colten & Sarah Berry
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by Dr. Lauren Kempton
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by Darryl & David Kuperstock
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by Diana Friedman Opton
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by Sybil Richards & Hans Massaquoi
- To Liora Cohen-Fraade in honor of her Bat Mitzva by Sybil Richards & Hans Massaquoi
- To BEKI’s building fund in appreciation by Celina & Ronald Riebman
- To Liora Cohen-Fraade in honor of her Bat Mitzva by the Rothman Family
- To Liora Cohen-Fraade in honor of her Bat Mitzva by Doris & David Sagerman
- To Donna Levine-Hoffman with sympathy on the passing of Dr. Julius E. Levine by Geri L. Feinstein
- To Fred Gross with prayers for healing and wellness by the Rothman Family
- To George G. Posener in honor of his 94th birthday from Inge, Lenny & Gary Fish
- In memory of Dr. Julius Levine by Thelma Kugell
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by Muriel Kaltman
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by Richard & Suzanne Weinstein
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by Stephen & Amy Pincus
- To Liora Cohen-Fraade in honor of her Bat Mitzva by Stephen & Amy Pincus
- To Donna Levine-Hoffman with sympathy on the passing of Dr. Julius E. Levine by Violet & Charlie Ludwig
- To Liora Cohen-Fraade in honor of her Bat Mitzva by Gila Reinstein
- To George G. Posener in honor of his 94th birthday from Inge, Lenny & Gary Fish
- In memory of Dr. Julius Levine by Thelma Kugell
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- In memory of Dr. Julius Levine by Thelma Kugell
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by Muriel Kaltman
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by Richard & Suzanne Weinstein

Frankel-Mattler Memorial Fund
- In memory of Rebecca Miller Shultz and Harry Shultz by Sylvia & Jacob Botwinick

Prayer Book Fund
- In memory of Samuel Lender by Ann & Julius Lasnick

Louis Friedman Scholarship Fund to provide needs-based religious school scholarships
- In honor of Ben Zlotoff’s admission to Brown University by Donna Kemper & Ron Zlotoff

The Tillie Dworski Horwitz & Edward Horwitz Endowment Fund
- Tillie D. Horwitz

Synagogue Fund (minimum $10) to support synagogue operations
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by Stephen & Amy Pincus
- To Liora Cohen-Fraade in honor of her Bat Mitzva by Stephen & Amy Pincus
- To Donna Levine-Hoffman with sympathy on the passing of Dr. Julius E. Levine by Violet & Charlie Ludwig
- To Liora Cohen-Fraade in honor of her Bat Mitzva by Gila Reinstein
- To George G. Posener in honor of his 94th birthday from Inge, Lenny & Gary Fish
- In memory of Dr. Julius Levine by Thelma Kugell
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by the Rothman Family
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by Muriel Kaltman
- To Jay Brown with sympathy on the passing of Janet Brown by Richard & Suzanne Weinstein

Yahrzeit Fund ($5 minimum) to support synagogue operations
- In memory of Sarah Schnitman by Helene & Edward Vanderhoof
- In memory of Bessie Golden by Evelyn G. Fierman
- In memory of Jacob J. Cohen by Lewis Cohen
- In memory of Hyman Fleischner by Richard & Suzanne Weinstein
- In memory of his grandmother Esther Yehudis Cuker by Robert Silverman
- In memory of George Weiss by Richard & Suzanne Weinstein
- In memory of Jacob Winess by Sylvia Winess
- In memory of her husband Fred Shure by Gertrude L. Shure
- In memory of Harry Cooper by Edith T. Cooper
- In memory of Anna Mitnick by Lawrence L. Mitnick
- In memory of Benjamin Gollinger by Gertrude Gollinger
• In memory of Yosef Benarroch by Gerson Benarroch
• In memory of Harry Cooper by Edith T. Cooper, Willa & Howard Needle
• In memory of Esther Hodes by Abraham & Norma Hodes
• In memory of Jacob J. Cohen by Carol J. Cohen
• In memory of Ida Kantrowitz by Samuel & Harriet Kantrowitz
• In memory of Sasha Snyder by Irwin & Zelda Snyder
• In memory of Murray E. Kahn by Richard & Michael Kahn
• In memory of Ida Caminer Levine by Lester & Bernice Margolis
• In memory of Samuel Adam Margolis by Lester & Bernice Margolis
• In memory of Edith Stein by Victor & Susan Stein
• In memory of her mother Rebecca Wovsaniker by Diana Klatzkin
• In memory of Pauline Gurian by Muriel & Earl Banquer
• In memory of Thela Samowitz by Sherman & Norma Granoff
• In memory of E. Lester Feldman by Steven E. Salomon
• In memory of Mary Nitkin by Bernard Nitkin
• In memory of Truda & Yonny Segal by Saul Bell
• In memory of Ruth Matloff by Kenneth Matloff
• In memory of Louis Rochlin by Kranie & Earl Baker
• In memory of her father George Brunswick by Barbara Cushen
• In memory of her daughter Donna Wright by Barbara Cushen
• In memory of Sarah & M. Michael Franzman by Susan & Laurence Franzman
• In memory of Jack Nankin by David Nankin
• In memory of Mary Sagerman by Doris & David Sagerman
• In memory of Louis Israel by Doris & David Sagerman
• In memory of Kate Weinstein by Richard & Suzanne Weinstein

• In memory of Menucha Ethel Calechman by Marjorie Levinson
• In memory of Pearl Weiner by Stephen & Joanne Rudof
• In memory of Nettie Proasco by Mae Katz & Leon Proasco
• In memory of Fannie & Charles Rosenblat by Saul Bell
• In memory of Bella Bell by Saul Bell
• In memory of Rose Alderman by Bernard & Sonya Alderman
• In memory of Jack Nankin by Sheldon Nankin
• In memory of Abraham Hyman by Joyce & Robert Selig
• In memory of Morris Oppenheim by Michael & Anita Malina

• In memory of David Brown by Sharon Brownstein
• In memory of Samuel Miller by Rich, Vicky, Sammy & Max Miller
• In memory of Sydney Presser by Marshall Presser & Nancy Sherman
• In memory of Sophie Olenik by Helen Miller
• In memory of Seymour Snyder by Zelda & Irwin Snyder

Toda Raba – Thank You
• To Trish Loving for repairing Torah mantles
Buying Stuff on the Web?

If you purchase from Amazon.com or Buy.com and access these merchants via the links here or 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.

KINAHARA: Kashrut Update

Information on kashrut issues and kashrut in general is available at www.kinahara.org. KINAHARA is the Kashrut Initiative of the New Haven Area Rabbinical Assembly.

BEKI Recycles

Please place plastic cups and plastic-ware in the “plastics recycling” bin next to the trash barrel following qiddush and other events. Please be careful to keep trash and recyclables separate.

Renovations Pledge Payments Welcome

Thanks to those who have already sent in payment on your Renovations Campaign pledge. Your payment now will reduce our expense in carrying a construction loan and other finance charges.
Just open and closed show areas for your inspection of our display of over 300 monuments and markers for sale, including a large showroom.