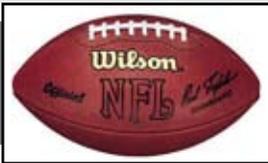


A New Haven Tradition since 1892

# BEKI bulletin

Congregation  
Beth El-Keser Israel

January 2008

Tevet-Shevat 5768  
Vol. 14 Issue 1

Deli Boxes for Superbowl Sunday — Order Form

Page 4

## Let Justice Well Up As Waters

On weekend of Jan. 4-5, Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel will hold a Shabbaton in preparation for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The program will combine beautiful, traditional Shabbat observance with an exploration of Jewish women in the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s, a discussion of how we might help create a more just society in New Haven today, along with fun family activities.

Everyone in the community is welcome to attend. All events are free, except for the Friday night dinner, which will be a kosher Chinese feast catered by Eden Wok

of New Rochelle (with plentiful choices of both vegetarian and meat dishes). Reservations for the dinner are \$20 per adult, \$10 for children aged 6-12, and free for 5 and under. Lunch on Saturday is free and open to all.

The Shabbaton will open with a warm, welcoming, Qabalat Shabbat service,

beginning at 6 p.m. After services, there will be a communal dinner (reservations required) and then the Reverend Bonita Grubbs, an ordained minister in the American Baptist Church, will speak about the ideals of the Civil Rights movement and what

challenges the community faces now. Childcare will be provided during the talk.

A dynamic and inspiring speaker, Rev. Grubbs is executive director of Christian Community Action in New Haven, a position she has held since 1988. A graduate of Smith College, she

earned master's degrees from Yale University's Divinity School and School of Public Health. She has served as president of the CT Coalition to End Homelessness and was a member of the board of trustees for the Mercy Center in Madison and Dwight Hall at Yale.

On Shabbat morning, the speaker will be Debra L. Schultz, author of *Going South*:

*Jewish Women in the Civil Rights Movement* (New York University Press, 2001). *Going South* presents the experiences of 15 women who joined the 1960s civil rights movement, working primarily with the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), a

progressive, action-oriented civil rights group led by young black organizers.

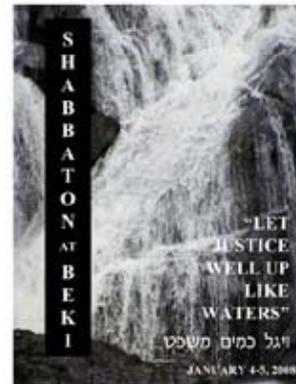
For her *devar Torah*, Dr. Schultz will talk about what drew her personally to study this topic. Following a festive Kiddush luncheon, open to all, she will give a talk titled

"Fighting for the Dream: Jewish Women and the Civil Rights Movement."

Children are welcome to attend. All regular Shabbat morning children's programming will take place, beginning at 10:45. Following lunch, childcare and a supervised napping room will be provided from 1:15 to 5:15, so parents with small children can participate in the sessions. For school-



**The Rev. Bonita Grubbs**



*Continued on Page 3*

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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:

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

For information about advertising, call the synagogue office.

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

Annual subscription is \$36

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A Message from Rabbi Tilsen & Dear Rabbi  
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<b>Photographer</b>	<i>Charles Ludwig</i>

## Mark Your Calendar

**Bidding for BEKI** Sunday, June 1, 5-8 p.m.  
Fabulous silent and live auction  
Delicious hors d'oeuvres and desserts

## 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.

Dr. John S. Levy  
Chairman,  
Board of Trustees

Lisa A. Stanger, Esq.  
Director  
203 387-2424 x382  
[lstanger@jewishnewhaven.org](mailto:lstanger@jewishnewhaven.org)

Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven



All of us. One Foundation.

**SHABBATON** *continued from Page 1*

age children from kindergarten to benei mitzva, there will be creative, engaging, educational, age-appropriate, fun organized activities. Teenagers are welcome to join the adult sessions.

From 2:30-3:30 p.m., everyone will choose an activity to enjoy. These will include yoga, led by Lisa Eldracher; Israeli dancing, led by Rena Cheskis-Gold; songs for Shabbat, led by Annie Bass and Marsha Beller; a discussion for teens only, led by Dr. Lauren Kempton; and “New Haven: What’s Happening?”—a panel on contemporary issues of social justice, moderated by Paul Bass, founder and editor of *The New Haven Independent*. Panelists will include Carl Goldfield, Rabbi

Peter Stein, Helen Rosenberg and others. Goldfield is president of the New Haven Board of Aldermen. Stein is director of strategic planning for the Regional Growth Partnership, south central Connecticut’s economic development corporation.

Rosenberg is business service officer for the City of New Haven’s Economic Development Office.

Following the small-group activities, all the adults and teens will gather for a discussion of current civil rights and social justice issues in New Haven and the role the Jewish community can play in addressing them. This will be presented by Lauri Lowell, director of the Jewish Community Relations Council.

Following the afternoon minha service, journalist Carole Bass will conduct a text study session looking at Jewish teachings that promote justice for all. The Shabbaton will conclude with ma’ariv and havdala.

The Shabbaton is made possible by contributions from BEKI members and a grant from the Women of Vision Society of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven. The organizing committee for the Shabbaton included Rhoda Zahler, Rabbi Lina Zerbarini, Professor Paula Hyman, and Darryl Kuperstock. To register, contact the BEKI office at 389-2108 x14 [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org).

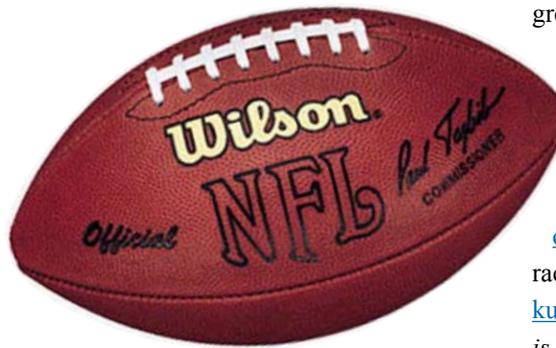
## Deli Boxes

# Look For The “Golden Ticket” And Win!

For the 15<sup>th</sup> year in a row, our community will be treated to festive, flavorful and fantastic boxed kosher deli lunches and dinners, thanks to the efforts of the BEKI/BJ Joint Youth Commission. The event, Deli Boxes, is our only annual fundraiser for the joint youth programs of the two synagogues, and will be on Feb. 3 — Superbowl Sunday (as usual).

Buy Deli Boxes! You don’t need to be watching the Superbowl to enjoy a delicious deli meal prepared with love. Give yourself a break, have a party, *fress!*

**New this year:** “Golden Tickets” will be randomly included in three Deli Boxes. Each “Golden Ticket” will entitle each winner to four *free movie tickets!* Per your request, there will also be one additional choice of sandwich this year: roast beef. This will be added to the already abundant choices usually offered: pastrami, corned beef, portabella mushroom with roasted red peppers, turkey, tuna salad, egg salad



and salami.

The funds that are raised will be used to provide subsidies to enable more of our youth to participate in a broad range of chapter, regional and international activities, and to supplement the program activities of both USY and Kadima at BEKI and B’nai Jacob.

The Youth Commission would like to encourage you to volunteer to help out at BEKI on Saturday evening, Feb. 2, from 6:45–7:45, or on Sunday, Feb. 3, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., or both, as the

great “Deli Boxes” machine rolls into action. We need all the help we can get to make sure the program is a success.

Order forms are available in this bulletin, in your mid-month mailing, on the BEKI website [www.beki.org/forms/delibox.pdf](http://www.beki.org/forms/delibox.pdf), in the literature rack in the lobby, and by email request to [kuperst@aol.com](mailto:kuperst@aol.com). *Deadline for orders is Friday, Jan. 25.* Please send orders to: Darryl Kuperstock, 2 Debby Lane, Woodbridge, CT 06525.

If you are interested in providing additional support for our youth (with funding or volunteer participation), please contact the BEKI Youth Commission Chairperson: Rena Cheskis-Gold.

Thanks for your support!

**NOTE: The date for picking up Deli Boxes was incorrect on the order form in December’s mid-month flyer. Pickup is on Sunday, Feb. 3.**

# Deli Boxes

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2008!!!**  
**PICK-UP FROM 11:45 - 1:30PM**

On Super Bowl Sunday, invite some friends over and don't worry about the food.  
LET US PREPARE THE MEAL FOR YOU!  
If you're not watching the game, see a movie, play bridge, have a party or just relax and enjoy the break!  
**JUST DON'T COOK!**

**All profits benefit youth programs at both B'nai Jacob and BEKI**

Only \$9.50 each!!! - Each Deli box contains:

1 delicious **Deli Sandwich**, on freshly baked rye bread (see choices of sandwiches below), 1 container of freshly made **coleslaw**, 1 **beverage**, 1 bag of **potato chips**, 1 scrumptious pareve **brownie**, 1 large barrel **pickle**, 1 piece of fresh **fruit**, condiments, napkin, flatware-  
*all food certified KOSHER and prepared under supervision*

## NEW THIS YEAR – FIND A "GOLDEN TICKET"

3 Golden Tickets will appear in random boxes and can be exchanged for 4 movie tickets each! Good for the whole family or a night out with friends!

**ALL ORDER FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2008**  
**PAYMENT BY CHECK-- MADE OUT TO BEKI/BJ USY-- MUST ACCOMPANY ALL ORDERS**

PLEASE SEND ALL ORDER FORMS AND CHECKS TO:  
**DARRYL ROTMAN KUPERSTOCK, 2 DEBBY LANE, WOODBRIDGE, CT 06525**  
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT DARRYL AT (203)387-0304 OR KUPERST@AOL.COM

PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY ORDERS TO SYNAGOGUE OFFICES

-----cut along this line -----

**DELI BOXES ORDER - 2008** (please fill in ALL information and return w/payment – PLEASE PRINT)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I will PICK UP my Deli Box(es) at  BEKI  B'nai Jacob

Please indicate the NUMBER of boxes you would like:

Corned Beef  Egg Salad (vegetarian)  Pastrami  Portobello & peppers\*(vegan)  Salami  Tuna Salad  
 Turkey Breast  Roast Beef (NEW!!) Total # of Boxes \_\_\_\_\_ x \$9.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Choice of Beverage (1/box)  Coke  Diet Coke  Sprite  Apple Juice  Spring Water

ADDITIONAL DONATION TO BEKI/BJ Youth Programs \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*served on a roll

Total amount of check made out to BEKI/BJ USY \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Library Committee Progress

The BEKI Library Committee has been making steady progress in re-establishing the synagogue's library, which has been in storage for over a year. The committee met in September, when it discussed a collection policy that fits the needs of the congregation for such purposes as leading a children's service, participating in the Learners' Minyan, conducting a book discussion or preparing a devar Torah.

In the interim, the library committee has concentrated on reviewing BEKI's library holdings and removing titles in poor condition, duplicate copies, out-of-date works and publications unsuited to the congregation's current interests or needs. The committee is also formalizing a process for handling book donations, exploring a simple and practical lending system, preparing and submitting (and even receiving!) grants to fund the acquisition of new titles, and considering ways of collaborating with the JCC and other synagogue libraries.

So stay posted on the progress of the BEKI library and if you would like to see particular titles that the library does not have, feel free to forward your requests to the Library Committee Chair, Bennett Lovett-Graff, at [bennett\\_lovett\\_graff@hotmail.com](mailto:bennett_lovett_graff@hotmail.com).

## Erev Shira on Shabbat Shira and Tu B'shevat

Join us on Motse'ei Shabbat (Saturday night) Jan. 19, from 7-9 p.m. at the Minsky-Fenick Residence, 56 McKinley Avenue (RSVP 397-3789 by Jan. 15). Bring songsheets, musical instruments, and a kosher dessert or drinks to share. This event is supported by the Morris & Sara Oppenheim Fund for Sacred Music at BEKI.

## MLK Day

On Monday, Jan. 21, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, morning services are from 9 to 9:45; the Rashi Study Group meets

from 9:45 to 10:30 a.m.; and the office is closed. Other services are at their usual times.

## Visiting Sofer

A sofer (scribe), Rabbi J. Teitelbaum, will visit BEKI on Sunday, Jan. 13. If you would like to inspect, repair, adjust or purchase mezuzot or tefilin, you are welcome to make an appointment with him by calling (845) 536-3226 or to just come and be served on a first-come basis.

## USY Scavenger Hunt

United Synagogue Youth will be snow tubing on Sunday, Jan. 6. For information, contact [usy@beki.org](mailto:usy@beki.org).

Plan to join USY's annual Limousine Scavenger Hunt on Motse'ei Shabbat Saturday night, Jan. 26, a guaranteed evening of fun. Look out for forms and further information in the mail! For more information or to reserve your seat contact [usy@beki.org](mailto:usy@beki.org).

This event is open to youth in grades 8 to 12. We can't wait to see you there!

## Rotation Schedule Available

The "Master Rotation List" for Shabbat & Festival service participation was mailed in late December to participating BEKI households. (Additional copies are available from the BEKI office at 389-2108 x14, in the literature rack, or at [www.beki.org/rotate.html](http://www.beki.org/rotate.html)). The list is the schedule of services and programs to be led by volunteers. If you would like to lead a children's or adult service, or learn to do so, contact Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 x10 [jjtilsen@beki.org](mailto:jjtilsen@beki.org).

The "Master Rotation List" offers only a partial picture of the volunteerism at BEKI. Not listed there are the over fifty Torah Readers and the Torah Reading coordinators, the leaders of weekday services, those who prepare BEKI mailings, the work of the Board and its committees, the work of the Sisterhood and Religious School, the Renovations Committee and

Qiddush Committee, and much more.

Leaders of the *shaharit* (morning) service on Shabbat may sometimes be asked to yield leadership of the Torah service (*hotsaat haTorah*) to benei mitzva students. Leadership of this segment of the service is not scheduled separately.

## Megilla Readers Needed

If you would like to read Megillat Ester (the Book of Esther) on Purim at BEKI, or learn how to, please contact Rabbi Tilsen (389-2108 x10 [jjtilsen@beki.org](mailto:jjtilsen@beki.org)) at your earliest opportunity. Purim is observed on Thursday night and Friday, March 20-21, in New Haven and other cities that were not walled in the 13th century BCE. In cities that were walled at that time, Shushan Purim is observed the following Sunday.

## 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 [jjtilsen@beki.org](mailto:jjtilsen@beki.org). Marsha Beller is the Coordinator for Shemot (Exodus), which we read through mid-March.

## Important Tax Information

You can contribute stocks and securities directly to BEKI. For some, significant tax advantages can be realized by contributing appreciated stocks. IRS regulations normally allow the donor to deduct the appreciated value of the security if it has been held for more than one year.

Taxpayers are reminded that synagogue dues, pledges and contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Unlike other deductions, charitable deductions usually can be enjoyed even by those subject to the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT). For some people, January presents a new opportunity to contribute in a way that is deductible in the new year. It is also helpful to BEKI to receive your payment at an early date. Please consult your tax advisor for more information.

**HaMaqom Yenahem**

*With sorrow we note the passing of*

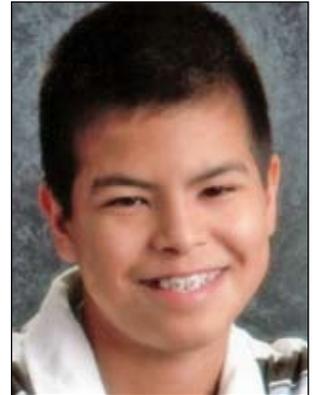
**Allan M. Campbell,**  
father of Patricia (& James) Shure

**Harry Johnson,**  
father of Anne (& Robert) Johnston

*May the Almighty comfort those who mourn*

**Bar Mitzva in January**

Jonathan Friedman, son of Lloyd & Kai Yang Friedman, will lead and participate in services as a bar mitzva on Shabbat, Jan. 11-12. Jon is a student of BRS and a graduate of our Benei Mitzva Program.



**Jonathan Friedman**

**Mazal tov**

To BEKI students (or recent grads) **Annie Bass, Joshua Levine, Daphne Lew, Laura Visocek, and Shira Winter** who were among the 34 designated as "AP Scholars" in New Haven

To **Rabbi Lina Zerbarini** on being elected President of the New Haven Board of Rabbis.



**AP Scholars**

**PURIM IS COMING**

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

**No worry! No fuss! No shopping!**

Just send in the order forms you will receive in the mail. (Forms are available at [www.beki.org/forms.html](http://www.beki.org/forms.html) and will be on their way via *schleppost*.) Start making your list. There is enough time to check it twice!

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For many years BEKI Sisterhood has come to the aid of the congregation with a new commercial refrigerator, blinds, air conditioning, etc. This year we are very proud to be the sponsor of the New Ark for the daily chapel — *beit midrash*. Plans will be unveiled soon and we are awaiting its construction and installation.

Sisterhood also supports various Women's League projects and donates annually to the Masorti Movement (Conservative Movement in Israel), and the *benei mitzva* program for children with special needs in Israel.

Here at BEKI we provide holiday refreshments for Simhat Torah, Hanuka and Purim, and sponsor the Passover Seder for adults with special needs. We present each bar- or bat-mitzva student with either candle holders or a Kiddush cup.

Our Marcel Gutman Scholarship assists children of Sisterhood members or male associates to attend United Synagogue programs, trips to Israel, camp and other Judaic programs. Applications are now available for 2008 in the office.

Join Sisterhood and contribute your ideas and experience — we need your input — dues are \$25 and your check can be left in the office.

Starting this month, BEKI Sisterhood will make monthly donations to the following BEKI projects:

January – Hesed Committee  
February – Rabbi's Discretionary Fund  
March – Kiddush Committee  
April – Special Seder  
May – Ari Nathan Levine Children's Library  
June – Youth Committee  
July – Building Fund  
August – Landscape (beautification)  
September – High Holiday Committee  
October – Marcel Gutman Scholarship Fund  
November – Holiday Food Baskets (with Jewish Family Services)  
December – Religious School

Remember to shop for special-occasion gifts at Sisterhood Gift Shop.

Adele Tyson  
Ruth Greenblatt  
Co-Presidents

## Torah Fund

Our annual appeal letter has gone out and your generous support will benefit the Jewish Theological Seminary and its schools. The New York campus houses the Rabbinical School; the H.L. Miller Cantorial School; the Albert A. List College; the William H. Davidson Graduate School of Education; and the Graduate School.

The Seminary's Albert A. List College of Jewish Studies provides undergraduates with a Jewish studies education of the highest quality, granting the degree of Bachelor of Arts and offering courses in Bible, Hebrew language, Jewish history, Jewish literature, Talmud and rabbinics. Through the Joint Program with Columbia University's School of General Studies and the Double Degree Program with Barnard College, students also receive a superior liberal arts education. Some List College graduates choose careers in the Jewish community, but most pursue a wide variety of professions, becoming the future lay leaders of the Conservative Movement.

Your donations go *directly* to Women's League Torah Fund and indirectly benefit us, a Conservative Congregation in New Haven.

Thank you for your support. The list of cards sent out in December will appear next month. Cards can be sent for you just by calling me at 407-0314. They are \$4 each and include postage. Any special occasion can be recognized with a beautiful card.

Barbara Cushen  
Torah Fund Chair

## Synagogue Directory

We will be preparing a synagogue directory with a list of members and their photos. All who are photographed will receive a free directory and a free 8X10 photo portrait. You may list just your name, or you may include any additional contact information. Participation is voluntary. The dates for being photographed are Jan. 20-23 and Feb. 3-4, subject to minimum enrollment. You can sign up by following the link in red at [www.beki.org](http://www.beki.org) to [www.appointment-plus3.com/ap/beki/index.php?page=10](http://www.appointment-plus3.com/ap/beki/index.php?page=10) or by calling Peggy at 389.2108 x14.

## Three "Squeaky" Stories

by Muriel Kaltman

Each story is about a little boy whose nickname is "Squeaky" and his adventures with a squirrel, with a cricket, with a chickadee — a delightful book of fantasies available with each donation of \$50 toward BEKI's financial needs.

Peggy has a small supply of the books  
389-2108 x14.

## Shabbatot

### Darshanim in January

Dr. Debra Schultz will serve as darshan on Shabbat Jan. 5, parashat VaEra, in conjunction with the Shabbaton (see cover story).

A guest will serve as darshan on Shabbat morning Jan. 19, parashat BeShelah – Shabbat Shira.

Dr. Daniel Jacoby will serve as darshan on Shabbat, Jan. 26, parashat Yitro.

### Shabbat Shalom Learners' Minyan

The “Shabbat Shalom Learners’ Minyan,” which meets every other Saturday morning at 10:45 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, Rabbi Murray Levine 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.

## Sundays

### Talmud with Moshe Meiri

Serious high school students are studying Talmud on Sundays with Moshe Meiri. The class meets Sunday mornings from 9:45 to 11:45. Students wishing to enroll for the Spring Semester should speak with Moshe and should



**Moshe Meiri**

register with the office ([office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org)). The classes are open only to students in grades 8-12. This class is taught in an academic Jewish Studies style. Disciplined attendance is expected. Registration and materials fee is \$120 for the spring semester. Moshe may be reached at [moshe@snet.net](mailto:moshe@snet.net).

## Mondays

### Rashi Study Group

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 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 a.m. *shaharit* service (except on Jan. 21, Martin Luther King Day, when it follows the 9 a.m. service). New participants are welcome.

## Wednesdays

### 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 (12:30 to 1:30) at the downtown New Haven professional office of

attorney Isaiah Cooper 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@cooper-law.net](mailto:icooper@cooper-law.net).

## 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.”

### Friendly Face?

If you might like to serve as a “Greeter” on a Shabbat or Festival morning, to welcome guests, direct visitors, and assist those with special needs, please contact Ritual Committee Chairperson Steven Fraade at 397-9430 or [steven.fraade@yale.edu](mailto:steven.fraade@yale.edu), or Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 x10 or [jjtilsen@beki.org](mailto:jjtilsen@beki.org).

—*Shammai taught: Greet every person with a cheerful face* (Avot 1:15)

### Minyan Seekers / Makers

If you would like email notification when BEKI members are seeking additional participants for a daily service in order to insure a minyan, and might like to request that others attend on a specific date on which you seek a minyan, send a message to [minyan-subscribe@beki.org](mailto:minyan-subscribe@beki.org). You can unsubscribe by sending a message to [minyan-unsubscribe@beki.org](mailto:minyan-unsubscribe@beki.org) and obtain additional instructions at [minyan-help@beki.org](mailto:minyan-help@beki.org). If that does not work, just send a request to [jjtilsen@beki.org](mailto:jjtilsen@beki.org).

# Point of Grammar



Notes on Hebrew Morphology, Syntax and Grammar to Aid Ba'alei Qeri'a (Torah & Haftara Readers), Shelihei Tsibur (Service Leaders) and Gabbaim at BEKI.

## Sheva` : Silent and Vocalized

The vowel *sheva`* is written as two dots arranged vertically under a letter:

⋮

There are two variations on the *sheva`*. One is pronounced as the vowel *shewa* (that's what it is called in English) as the u in circus or the e in deposit. The other is silent.

The *sheva`* is vocalized in several

circumstances. Here are the four most common.

⋈ The **first** letter of a word or syllable, such as *benei Yisrael* or *kas-pekhém*

⋉ The **second** of two *shevas* in a row, as in *yiq-reu* (under the *q* and *r*)

⋊ Under a letter following a *tenu`a gedola* (long vowel) such as under the *mem* in *shomerim*

⋋ Under a letter with a **dagesh** (dot) in it such as in *siperu*

(The long vowels are *qamatz gadol* [regular *qamatz*], *tserei*, *hiriq gadol*, *holam* and *shuruq*.) You can remember this as the alef-bet-gimel-dalet rule (*alef*=first letter, *bet*=second of two she-

*vas*, *gimel*=*gadol*, *dalet*=*dagesh*).

**Gabbaim note:** If a Torah reader pronounces the *sheva`* incorrectly, it usually is not necessary to correct the reading, as this error does not affect the meaning or intelligibility of the text. However, if a reader confuses a *sheva`* and another vowel, it may change the meaning of the word, and would have to be corrected. The vocalized *sheva`* in *shema* must not be confused with a *patah* (or *qamatz*), which would render the word *shama`* “heard” instead of *shema`* “hear!” or with a *segol*, which might make the word sound like *shema`* (ending in *alef*), “perhaps.”

## News

### Get Your Bulletin by Email

If you would like to receive the BEKI *Bulletin* by email, send a blank message to [bulletin-subscribe@beki.org](mailto:bulletin-subscribe@beki.org) from the email account which you want to receive the *Bulletin*. A request for confirmation will be sent to that account within a moment, and then you must reply to that request for confirmation by hitting *reply* and then *send*. To cancel a subscription, send a message to [bulletin-unsubscribe@beki.org](mailto:bulletin-unsubscribe@beki.org) from the email account you wish to unsubscribe.

### Web Buys

If you purchase from Amazon.com via this link [www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/redirect-home/beki-20](http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/redirect-home/beki-20) or at [www.beki.org](http://www.beki.org) through the “Amazon” box at the bottom of the page (or through other Amazon links on the BEKI website),

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. BEKI received over \$200 in 2004, 2005 and 2006, and close to \$400 in 2007.

### Candle Lighting Times

For up-to-the-minute information on candle lighting, havdala and other liturgical times, see <http://www.beki.org/schedule.html#candles>. For a Hebrew Calendar Add-on with candle lighting times for Mozilla Firefox, see <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/1379>. These are accurate to within a minute or two. See Candle Lighting Times on the BEKI site for polar coordinates and elevation, which affect the times.

### Kadima News

Snow Tubing Jan. 13; this is a regional event; members only.

For details contact Ruthie Greenblatt, BEKI/BJ kadima advisor, (203) 389-4349, [ruthept@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ruthept@sbcglobal.net).

### Energy Saving

BEKI received a rebate of \$460.15 from United Illuminating (UI) for our participation in the Summer Savers program, in recognition of having reduced electric consumption in the summer of 2007 by 35.88% compared to the previous summer. That represents a saving of 10,741 kWh. However, utility rates increased by about 50% this year, so even with this marked conservation, utility bills remain high. Additional steps are being taken to lower our energy consumption.

# January 2008

## 23 Tevet 5768 - 24 Shevat 5768

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		23 Tevet	24 Tevet	25 Tevet	26 Tevet	27 Tevet
6 No Religious School 9:30am Talmud with Moshe	7 7:45am Rashi Study Group	8 Rosh Hodesh	9 8:30am Rabbi's Study Group 4:00pm Religious School 5:00pm Benei Mitzva Program	10 12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site) 8:00pm A.A.	11 4:24pm Candle Lighting 6:00pm Jon Friedman Bar Mitzva	12 9:15am Jon Friedman Bar Mitzva 10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: Friedman 4:25pm Minha-Maariv
28 Tevet	29 Tevet	1 Shevat	2 Shevat	3 Shevat	4 Shevat	5 Shevat
13 9:00am Religious School & Teacher Conference 9:30am Talmud with Moshe	14 7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm Executive Board Meeting (off-site)	15	16 8:30am Rabbi's Study Group 4:00pm Religious School 5:00pm Benei Mitzva Program	17 12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site) 8:00pm A.A.	18 4:32pm Candle Lighting	19 Darshan: TBA Gafni-Kane Simhat Bat 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Learner's Minyan Qiddush: Gafni-Kane, Levy & Oppenheimer 4:30pm Minha-Maariv
6 Shevat	7 Shevat	8 Shevat	9 Shevat	10 Shevat	11 Shevat	12 Shevat
20 No Religious School No Talmud with Moshe	21 Office Closed-MLK Day 9:00 Shaharit 9:45 Rashi Study Group	22 Tu B'Shevat	23 8:30am Rabbi's Study Group 4:00pm Religious School 5:00pm Benei Mitzva Program	24 12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site) 8:00pm A.A.	25 4:41pm Candle Lighting	26 Darshan: Daniel Jacoby 10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: TBA 4:40pm Minha-Maariv
13 Shevat	14 Shevat	15 Shevat	16 Shevat	17 Shevat	18 Shevat	19 Shevat
27 9:00am Religious School 9:30am Talmud with Moshe	28 7:45am Rashi Study Group	29	30 8:30am Rabbi's Study Group 4:00pm Religious School 5:00pm Benei Mitzva Program	31 12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site) 8:00pm A.A.	<b>MARK YOUR CALENDAR</b> <b>Shabbaton:</b> Jan. 4-6 <b>Bar Mitzva:</b> Jon Friedman, Jan. 11-12 <b>Kadima Snow Tubing:</b> Jan. 13 <b>Simhat Bat:</b> Zohar Gafni-Kane Jan. 19 <b>Deli Box Pickup:</b> Sunday, Feb. 3	
20 Shevat	21 Shevat	22 Shevat	23 Shevat	24 Shevat		

### Service Times

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