Recognition & Installation of Directors & Officers

Directors and officers of the Congregation will be recognized and honored during services and during the qiddush on Shabbat 9 July 2005. Past and outgoing directors and officers, as well as returning and new directors and officers will be given honors and blessings during the service.

Donna Levine has agreed to serve as the next President. Recent past-presidents include Gila Reinstein, Stephen Pincus, Brian Karsif, Saul Bell, Milton Smirnoff, David Sagerman, Adele Tyson, Nadav Sela, Andy Wein-stein, Herbert Etkind, Alan Gelbert, and Paul Good- win.

Incoming or returning officers include President Donna Levine; Vice Presi- dents Alan Lovins, Isaiah Cooper and Bryna Pauker; Treasurer Natan Weinstein; Secretary Rhoda Zahler; and Sherry Rothman, Saul Bell, and Gila Reinstein.

A number of non-directors serve as chairpersons and on committees and task forces. As this issue went to press, the new list of directors was being prepared.
Shabbat Bar-B-Q Dinner

Join friends and neighbors on Friday 1 July 2005 for a Bar-B-Q. Minha, Qabbalat Shabbat, and Maariv services are from 6:00p to 6:50p; Shabbat Dinner is from 6:50p to 8:15p+. Salads, meat & pareve main dishes, fruit, and desserts will be served. Adults $15, Children 11 and under $10 with advance reservations. The services and the dinner will be on the courtyard patio (indoors if rainy). To volunteer to Bar-B-Q on Friday or prepare salads on Thursday contact Bryna Pauker lynnslck@aol.com.

Jobs?

There are always BEKI members and members of the extended BEKI family who are in employment and professional transition and who are looking for full-time and part-time work. Our members looking for work include medical specialists, computer maven, laborers, salespeople and more. In addition, many of our members work as professionals, trades people, salespeople and shop owners, and welcome the patronage of BEKI families.

If you have a position to fill, contact office manager Peggy Hackett at 389-2108 x14 or Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 x10.

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Garinim Montessori
A preschool program for children ages 2 to 6
Celebrating Jewish Tradition

Consider Montessori
“An Education for Life”

Garinim Montessori
Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel • 85 Harrison St., New Haven
Lana Gad - Director 203.389.7445 • garinim@optonline.net
Tisha BeAv at BEKI

The fast day of Tisha Be’Av (“ninth day of the Hebrew month of Av”) will be observed on Motse’ei Shabbat – Saturday night 13 August and Sunday 14 August 2005. Shabbat afternoon minha service is at its usual time, 5:45p to 6:20p. The traditional Maariv (evening) service begins at 9:00p. The usual havdala service, marking the end of Shabbat, is not recited; instead, only the blessing over the candle-light is said. The remainder of the havdala service (the blessing over wine and spices, and the havdala blessing itself) is recited Sunday night at the conclusion of the day of mourning.

The Shaharit (morning) service on Sunday 14 August is from 9:00a to 10:15a. The evening and morning services include the reading of the Biblical Book of Eikha (Lamentations). On Sunday morning, according to the Ashkenazic custom generally followed in our community, tallit and tefillin are not worn (although tallit qatan is worn).

At the afternoon Minha service, form 5:45p to 6:30p, tallit and tefillin are worn, with the recitation of their usual berakhot, and a brief Torah reading is chanted along with a haftara.

The fast is observed from sundown Saturday night until 8:36p Sunday night. As a sign of mourning, many refrain from wearing leather shoes and ostentatious clothing, and do not enjoy music, intimate physical relations or entertainment.

Tisha Be’Av commemorates the destruction of the first two Temples and other tragedies that have taken place in our long and glorious history. The destruction of the Temples represents the downfall of the independent Jewish government, the devastation of Jewish society and tragic loss of life. On Tisha Be’Av in 1290, King Edward I signed an edict expelling the Jews from England. Likewise, the expulsion of Jews from Spain occurred on that date in 1492. The fast is the only full day fast on the Hebrew calendar besides Yom Kippur. Those with medical conditions that require oral medications or eating are urged to consult their medical and rabbinic authorities.
To Tell You the Truth

There are some things we say even though we know they are not true.

Every American soldier who dies in battle is called a hero, and his or her family receives a personal note from a commander describing the soldier’s bravery. Even when the soldier dies in a training accident, or from “friendly fire,” or through their own stupidity (forgetting to throw the hand grenade after pulling the pin), the family is told they died in the service of their country. That is the way it has been described to me by the war veterans in our congregation.

And there are some things we don’t say, even though we know them to be true.

In most quarters, it is unacceptable to describe American soldiers in Iraq as anything other than heroes. And indeed, one might fairly assume that most of them are serving with noble intent and bravery. But those who believe that the lives of American soldiers have been squandered on a fool’s mission just can’t say that publicly, even if it what they believe to be true. Even to say that hundreds of billions of dollars have been wasted, that corporate war profiteers have reached new levels of boldness, that uncounted thousands of Iraqis have been killed or had their lives disrupted (as if anyone cares), is viewed as tantamount to saying that our soldiers serve and die in vain, and no one wants to say that.

For those who support America’s invasion of Iraq, the above is merely a theoretical observation that at most might be a reality in some past or future conflict. But for the majority of Americans at this point, the tension between sensitivity toward victims of war and speaking the truth can be extreme.

My personal viewpoint is generally considered to be on the “fringe,” as I opposed “Operation Desert Storm,” the first American war with Iraq, as I do “Operation Freedom Crusade” (or whatever name they finally settled on). But I view the war as a fire that I can’t put out; instead, I am trying to attend to the crisis of democracy in America.

As we approach the anniversary of American bombing of Hiroshima on 6 August 1945, I am reminded of the letter to the editor that appeared in our local newspaper, the St. Paul (Minnesota) Pioneer Press, every year on that date while I was growing up condemning those who criticize that bombing, on the grounds that the bombing saved the lives of 500,000 American soldier who otherwise might have died completing the overthrow of the Japanese Imperial government and occupying Japan. Our local newspaper never quoted the various military experts, including prominent military leaders from that era, who have said the thesis of saving 500,000 troops is nonsense; nor did the paper discuss the government documents of that era that point to the nascent Cold War as a true motive for dropping The Bomb twice. No editorial ever reminded the American reader that America’s occupation of Hawaii was illegal under American law and under any interpretation of international law, the barbarity of Japan’s attack on Pearl Harbor notwithstanding. The average reader believed, we would suppose, that Japan attacked America, got what it deserved, and that is that.

Far be it from me to judge my ancestors. I am concerned, though, about how our children and grandchildren will view our actions of today in the coming decades. Will they understand that Americans felt terrorized by the 9/11 attack and so were justified in whatever military actions, no matter how unrelated, were taken in response? Will they understand why we traded precious freedoms and democratic rule for the magic beans of security? Will they understand why we view the abuses at Guantánamo Bay as a detail that can be ignored, or how we can continue to send American troops into battle in unarmored vehicles even after numerous fatalities?

continued on page 5
And most importantly, will our children enjoy a democratic and tolerant society in which they can respectfully say what they believe to be true without being charged as traitors?

*Adonai, who shall dwell in Your tent
And who shall abide upon Your mountain of holiness?
The one who lives with integrity and does what is right
And who speaks the truth that is in his heart. Psalm 15*

**Scholar-in-Residence Shabbaton to feature Danny Siegel**

You have more Mitzva power than you can imagine. The rest is easy: logistics, projects, timing, and actually less work than you imagine. Take it from a guy who has given away more than $8,600,000 in the last 30 years — starting with $955 — and who hangs out with more than 100 Mitzva heroes, learning from them first-hand how easy it can be.

Danny Siegel is a well-known author, lecturer, poet and teacher who has spoken in more than 500 North American Jewish communities on tsedaqa and Jewish values. He is the author of 29 books on such topics as Mitzvah heroes and practical and personalized tsedaqa, poetry collections and Talmud. As a matter of fact, you may recognize some of his poetry from our High Holy Days lobby displays and additional readings. In 1993, he was awarded the prestigious Covenant Award for Exceptional Jewish Educators. He has been referred to by some as “The World’s Greatest Expert on Microphilanthropy,” “The Feeling Person’s Thinker,” and “The Pied Piper of Tsedaqa.”

**SAVE THE DATE**

The weekend of **9 – 11 September 2005** BEKI will host Mr. Siegel for a Shabbaton open to the entire community. The weekend programming begins with Q abbalat Shabbat and ends with a Sunday morning brunch and includes a great deal of study, fun, food, prayer, and inspiration toward Tiqun Olam (repairing the world) in between.

Please look for additional detailed information in your mail, email and synagogue announcements. We can use a lot of help in making this a fantastic event. Please contact Dr. Jennifer Botwick (387-8661 drjbotwicknd@aol.com) if you are interested in helping in any way.
BEKI Religious School ended for the summer with a graduation ceremony. Mr. George G. Posener, as is his custom, personally presented each student in Religious School with a gift and card. He hugged each student and gave words of advice for their future. The theme for his gifts this year was Hebrew... Hebrew blocks, flash cards and folders for the students to use during the summer vacation.

We were proud to honor the teachers that are leaving to pursue family and work obligations and sad to say goodbye. Sabrina Spector has taught Second Grade for two years and served as the inspirational advisor for Kadima, the Middle School Youth Group for United Synagogue Youth. We also bade farewell to Melissa Marder, Grade Seven Etgar teacher, who is returning to Graduate School fulltime to pursue a teaching degree in History. Melissa has been commuting from Marlborough, CT to BEKI, six hours a week. A special part of the morning was the acknowledgement of the Tzedaqa project of Grade Two. These children collected each week for a year their dimes, pennies, nickels and quarters and presented Charlie Ludwig with $71.00 towards an ambulance in Israel for Magen David Adam.

Gila Reinstein addressed the gathering and told the students how proud she was of them. She stressed how their commitment to BEKI Religious School means studying after a full day of studies at their regular school and also every Sunday morning. She shared an inspirational story about Rabbi Akiva and his beloved students. Sherry Rothman, in her capacity as Chairperson of the Education Committee, congratulated the graduates.

Dr. Lauren Kempton, BEKI Religious School Education Director, proudly announced that BEKI Religious School has been recognized as a “Framework for Excellence School” by United Synagogue – one of nine in the nation. According to USCI Education Director, Rabbi Robert Abramson, “The school has met rigorous standards in professional development, curriculum development and family education.” We will be able to use this distinction in our distribution of information about our school.

That same morning, our Benei Mitzva Program participants celebrated the conclusion of their year of study with the Mitzva Heroes Celebration and Brunch. We were so pleased to have 130 people in attendance to celebrate the Religious School graduation, the Benei Mitzva Program and the lives and works of our Mitzva Heroes. We had an innovation this year. Ariel Weiser depicted the life and mitzvot of Mikki Ratner on video!
Registration for Religious School

Registration packages will be mailed in July for returning BEKI Religious School students. Registration is ongoing and we always welcome new students and their families. If you have any questions please contact Dr. Lauren Kempton, Education Director at 389-2108 x13 or lkempton@beki.org.

BEKI Religious School will host an open house this summer for prospective students and their families. The Open House will provide the opportunity to meet the teachers and preview the Religious School curriculum. If you know new families or unaffiliated families, please help us to spread the word.

Benei Mitzva Observances in July-August

Seth Miller, son of Phillip & Lynn Coleman Miller, will lead services as a bar mitzva on Shabbat 15-16 July.

Yael Grazier-Zerbarini, daughter of Rabbi Lina & Linden Grazier-Zerbarini, will lead services as a bat mitzva on Shabbat 22-23 July.

Mazal Tov to

Margaret Martin on winning two gold and one bronze medal in swimming competitions in the Special Olympics.

HaMaqom Yinahem

With sorrow we note the passing of

Susan Wolfson, wife of Steven Wolfson
Eli Kasimer, husband of Goldie Kasimer
Rivka Cohen-Pencherek, sister of Yvonne & Herbert Kolodny

May the Almighty Comfort those who Mourn
Endowed funds are one of the best ways to demonstrate one’s commitment to the community, honor a loved one, or create a permanent memorial, while insuring the continuing financial strength of the synagogue. Annual dues provide less than half of the synagogue’s operating income.

The Ben & Ruth Marks Endowment, the first of these funds to be established, was created by Ben Marks in 1985. The Tillie Dworski Horwitz & Edward Horwitz Endowment was established in 1989. The rest of the endowments were created after 1993.

We are still in the initial stages of building our endowments. Below are listed the named funds established for our benefit. We take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the donors and to recognize those whose names are honored by these endowments.

The Congregation maintains most of its endowments at the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven. Under the Foundation’s careful management, the “real” (after-inflation) value of the fund principals is maintained so that funds can provide increasing income to the Congregation in perpetuity.

We express our appreciation to those who have established and contributed to the following permanent endowments. For further information, contact Office Manager Peggy Hackett, Officer Donna Levine, or Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen.

• The Ari Nathan Levine Memorial Fund for the Continuity of BEKI
• The Ben & Ruth Marks Endowment
• The Beth El–Keser Israel Endowment Fund
• The Borick Family Endowment for Special Education for Youth
• The David & Lillian Levine Endowment for People with Special Needs
• The Eric I.B. Beller Environmental Endowment Fund
Endowments

• The George G. Posener Family Memorial Yom Kippur Break-Fast Fund

• The George G. Posener Kadima & United Synagogue Youth Fund

• The George & Leah Posener Endowment for the Jewish Education of BEKI Youth

• The Gilah Benson-Tilsen Fund for Youth

• The Gladys R. Lipkin Fund for the BEKI Hebrew School

• The Leah E. Posener and Betty D. Zelen Memorial Fund for Sisterhood

• The Lester & Bernice Margolis Fund

• The Louis & Mary Rosenkrantz Family Library Endowment

• The Morris & Sara Oppenheim Fund for Sacred Music

• The Posener Family Memorial Fund (Building)

• The Robert Goodwin Memorial Endowment

• The Tillie Dworski Horwitz & Edward Horwitz Endowment
Shabbatot
Darshanim in July & August

Baruch Levine Guest will serve as darshan on Shabbat morning 13 August, Shabbat Hazon (the Sabbath preceding Tishav BeAv), parashat Devarim. Baruch is an editor of the popular *humash* *Etz Hayim* and is the Skirball Professor of Bible and Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Hebrew and Judaic Studies at New York University.

A Special Guest will serve as darshan on Shabbat morning 27 August, parashat Ezev.

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, 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 of the services. Everyone is welcome to participate regardless of religious status or background.

Sundays
New: Summer Talmud with Moshe Meiri

Dive into the “sea of Talmud” on Sunday mornings in June. *Summer Talmud with Moshe Meiri* will meet each Sunday morning in June from 9:30a to 10:45a in the Posener Chapel Library. Knowledge of Hebrew and Aramaic is helpful but not required. People of all ages and backgrounds are welcome.

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 for the Hungry Mind - Adult Studies

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. The Rashi Study Group has met weekly since 1994 and is currently reading the book of Numbers. Visitors and new participants are welcome. The Rashi Study Group meets immediately following the 7:00a shaharit morning service.

**New: Mishna Sanhedrin**

A survey of Mishna Sanhedrin will be presented by Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen on each Monday evening from 6:05p to 7:25p from 20 June to 8 August. The Mishna, a law compendium edited by Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi in the second century of the Common Era, includes sixty books or “tractates.” Tractate Sanhedrin deals in large part with court procedures, especially capital cases. It includes the well-known statement, “One who saves a single life is credited with having saved an entire world.” The Mishna is written in concise Hebrew. Participants should acquire a copy of the Mishna Tractate Sanhedrin (or complete Mishna) in Hebrew and, if so desired, with translation and commentary. Copies will be available in class. The $18 registration and material fee may be remitted to the BEKI office; for billing, contact Peggy at office@beki.org or 389-2108 x14. or 389-2108 x14.

**New: Practicum in Jewish Living**

*Three Monday nights in July*

Explore the procedures, rules and meaning of three major areas of private and communal observance on Monday nights in July with Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen. Topics include “Shabbat Rules!” (Monday 11 July); “Chews by Choice: Kosher in and out” (Monday 18 July); and “VeSamatha beHagekha: Celebrating the Major Festivals” (Monday 25 July). Each meeting is from 7:30p to 9:00p in the Library. Everyone is welcome.

**Writing Group**

The Writing Group meets each Thursday in the Chapel Library from 2:00p to 4:00p. Interested writers gather 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, critiques of written pieces, and publishing. Each week the participants bring a piece of their writing. The writer then has a “Read-Aloud” and the group provides feedback. This community aims to 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.

**Thursdays Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group**

The “Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group,” hosted by Isaiah Cooper, meets weekly on Thursdays during the lunch hour (12:30p to 1:30p) with Rabbi Tilsen 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. 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
## BEKI Events

### Service Times

- **Mondays:**
  - 7a Shaharit
  - 5:45p Minha-Maariv

- **Tuesdays:**
  - 7a Shaharit
  - 5:45p Minha-Maariv

- **Wednesdays:**
  - 7a Shaharit
  - 5:45p Minha-Maariv

- **Thursdays:**
  - 8:15a Shaharit
  - 5:45p Minha-Maariv

- **Fridays:**
  - 7a Shaharit
  - 6p Minha-Maariv

- **Saturdays:**
  - 9:15a Shaharit
  - 5:45p Minha

- **Sundays:**
  - 9a Shaharit
  - 5:45p Minha-Maariv

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### Calendar of Events

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### Event Details

- **July 2005**
  - 24 Sivan 5765 - 24 Tammuz 5765

- **Office Closed - Independence Day**
  - 9:00am Shaharit
  - 9:45am Rashi Study Group
  - 6:05pm Mishna Sanhedrin class

- **Rush Hodesh I**
  - 12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site)
  - 2:00pm Writing Group
  - 8:00pm A.A.

- **Rush Hodesh II**
  - 8:00pm Candle Lighting

- **Shabbat BBQ dinner**
  - 6:50pm

- **Candle lighting**
  - 8:11pm

- **Children's Programs**
  - 10:45am

- **Learner's Minyan**
  - 10:45am

- **Qiddush: TBA**

- **A.A. Meeting**
  - 8:00pm

- **Seth Miller Bar Mitzva**
  - 6:00pm

- **Yael Grazier-Zerbarini Bat Mitzva**
  - 6:05pm

- **Fast of Tammuz 17**
  - 7:45am Shaharit
  - 5:45p Minha-Maariv

- **Service Times**
  - **Tuesdays:**
    - 7a Shaharit
    - 5:45p Minha-Maariv
  - **Wednesdays:**
    - 7a Shaharit
    - 5:45p Minha-Maariv
  - **Thursdays:**
    - 8:15a Shaharit
    - 5:45p Minha-Maariv
  - **Fridays:**
    - 7a Shaharit
    - 6p Minha-Maariv
  - **Saturdays:**
    - 9:15a Shaharit
    - 5:45p Minha
  - **Sundays:**
    - 9a Shaharit
    - 5:45p Minha-Maariv

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### Additional Notes

- **BEKI Events**

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### August 2005
#### 25 Tammuz 5765 - 26 Av 5765

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#### Buki Events

- **Fast of Tisha B'Av**
  - 9:00am Shaharit - EIKHA
- **Prober aufruf**
  - 10:45am Children's Programs
  - 10:45am Learner's Minyan
  - Qiddush: TBA
  - 5:45pm Minha
  - 7:37pm Candle Lighting
  - 9:00pm Maariv Tisha BeAv
  - **Tu B'Av**
  - 9:00am Shaharit - EIKHA
  - **10:45am Children's Programs**
  - **10:45am Learner's Minyan**
  - **Qiddush: TBA**

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The recent BEKI Sisterhood “Woman of Valor” dinner was a beautiful affair and it enabled us to present a $2500 check to Gila, our esteemed shul president & honoree, to support the synagogue. Many women over the years have worked very hard to support BEKI, but none worked harder than our 2005 committee on this successful fundraising event.

Mazel Tov to Gila and thank you to everyone who supported the event by purchasing an inscription in the “Book of Life,” displayed in the lobby.

It was also a very successful year for the Torah Fund, which supports The Jewish Theological Seminary.

Thank you to all who purchased cards, made donations and became benefactors this year.

Please call Barbara Cushen at 407-0314 to purchase cards. They are $3.00 each and that includes postage! Save a trip to the store!

Mazel Tov to:

• Linda Cohen on being honored by The National Council of Jewish Women from Barbara Cushen, Adele Tyson
• Taub Gurland on her milestone birthday from Barbara Cushen
• Martin Gold & Rena Cheskis-Gold on Carmi’s Bar Mitzva from Violet & Charles Ludwig
• Gila Reinstein on being BEKI’s 2005 Woman of Valor from Sylvia Zeid

Thank you to Adele Tyson, Ruth Greenblatt, Mimi Glenn, Darryl Kuperstock and the women of Sisterhood for a lovely dinner on May 24th from Gila Reinstein.

Get Well to:

• Cyvia Scharmet from Barbara Cushen
• David Rudnick from Ruth & Morris Olmer

In Memory of:

• Ruth Olderman to Mr. & Mrs. Richard Olderman from Anna Goldberg
• Annette Gold to Lindy Lee Gold from Anna Goldberg
• Rifka Cohen-Pencerek to Yvonne & Herbert Kolodny from the BEKI Hesed Committee
• His mother, Madelyn, to William

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News

Or Hadash Siddur with Commentary

*Or Hadash* — A Commentary on *Siddur Sim Shalom* by Rabbi Reuven Hammer is now available in our Sanctuary and Library for members’ use. In *Or Hadash*, Rabbi Hammer offers extensive and edifying commentary on the religious themes, historical background, and literary context on the traditional Ashkenazic prayerbook. The commentary appears in the margins around the previously published *Siddur Sim Shalom for Shabbat & Festivals* (the siddur we use in the Sanctuary), retaining the earlier work’s pagination, making this volume both familiar and usable in public worship.

Dr. Hammer addresses exegetical and homiletic issues raised by the text. He comments on words, phrases, themes and structure, and adds pointers on generally accepted practice. A concise and informative introduction, commentary on *Pirqei Avot*, and a glossary are a bonus. This is a “must have” for the student of classical traditional Judaism and a great aid to the worshiper in the contemporary synagogue.

Those wishing their own copy may purchase one at the Sisterhood Giftshop, from *Amazon.com*, or wherever fine Judaica is sold.

Service Leaders’ Rotation List

The “Master Rotation List” for Shabbat & Festival service participation was mailed in late June to one hundred households. (Additional copies are available in the lobby literature rack, from the office and at www.beki.org/rotate.html). The list is the compilation of parts to be lead by those who volunteered for the services listed. If you would like to lead a children’s or adult service, or learn to do so, or if you would like to request a specific date between January and June 2006, contact Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 ext. 10 (jjtilsen@beki.org).
BEKI Builds

Together with many other synagogues, churches and civic organizations, BEKI has committed its participation to the Amity Cares Build, a project of Habitat for Humanity of Greater New Haven. The location chosen for the newest Habitat-New Haven project is 526 Winchester Avenue, New Haven. The groundbreaking for this exciting new venture took place on Sunday 5 June and was attended by several eager BEKI members.

A little bit of information about Habitat for Humanity:
- Since its founding in 1976, Habitat has built and rehabilitated more than 150,000 homes around the world.
- Habitat sells these homes at no profit to low-income partner families. Their no-interest mortgage payments help to support Habitat homes for additional partner families.
- Partner families invest “sweat equity” by helping to build the homes they buy.
- Families apply to be considered for Habitat homes and are chosen on the basis of need, ability to repay their no-interest mortgage, and willingness to become partners in the program.
- Habitat International is overseen by an ecumenical, international volunteer board of directors. At the local level, Habitat is managed by independent volunteer boards.
- Habitat is not a government organization but does work with local governments, which often help to provide land and other resources.

Please consider getting involved in this very worthwhile project. We are making plans, contacting potential Sponsors, gearing up for Marketing and Public Relations, and developing our volunteer base. There are many on-going opportunities, including:
- Co-Chair a portion of the project
- Volunteer to assist as a Committee Member
- Assist in Marketing and Public Relations, as a Building Volunteer, in Fundraising, and/or
- Provide Support to those On-Site

Volunteering at a Work Site

Although work will take place at the site on both Saturdays and Sundays, all synagogues will be working on Sundays only, the last Sunday of each month (31 July, 28 August, and 25 September). Volunteers must be at least 16 years old (insurance restrictions). For scheduling purposes BEKI will be assigned a specific dates. However, volunteers are welcome on any construction day whether or not you are affiliated with the scheduled group. All work on Sundays will take place between 10a and 3p.

It is expected that the project will take at least six month to complete. Please come and help build our community – in so many ways!

Darryl Rotman Kuperstock is BEKI’s liaison to the Habitat Amity Cares project. To volunteer to help in any way, or to get more detailed information, please contact her at 387-0304 or kuperst@aol.com.

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You give us 22 minutes –
We’ll give you
the world to come

Attend Minha-Maariv
Daily Services
5:45p to 6:07p
Wine Tasting Review

On Saturday, April 9, 2005 BEKI hosted its second annual Kosher wine tasting, “Kosher Wines from Around the World”. About 50 members and guests had the opportunity to taste and learn about 10 wines from Israel, Italy, Spain, Argentina, and Australia and enjoy a variety of interesting foods. Although the event raised money for the synagogue’s operating budget, many of those who attended described it as a fun, relaxing social evening that did not feel like a fund raiser at all.

Thank you to all the people who helped organize, shop, set-up and clean-up, and greet people at the door. The event was made possible by the generosity of The Wine Thief (378 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, 865-4845); they provided the wine and a knowledgeable server who poured and described the wine at no charge to the congregation. The Wine Thief also made a donation to BEKI based on the purchase of wines people ordered during or shortly after the event. Special thanks are also owed to BEKI member Phil Miller who also provided and served Israeli wines.

Plan to attend the third annual wine tasting in 2006 — it is bound to be a smashing event.

Calling All Teens

All BEKI Teens (9th-12th grade) are encouraged and welcome to assist in leading Junior Congregation on an occasional basis. We welcome your leadership. Please contact Miriam Benson at 389-6137 for further information.

The Tri-Regional USY & Kadima Encampment for people entering grades 6 through 12 will be held 18-23 August 2005 at Camp Ramah in the Poconos, at Lake Como, Pennsylvania. For information, contact Hanefesh@uscj.org 860-563-5531. If you would like to provide a scholarship for a worthy teen, please contact President Donna Levine at (203) 785-8079 sdsij@aol.com or Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 x10 jjtilsen@beki.org.

Cemetery Cleanup

Volunteers are welcome to clean and tend the Beth El Memorial Park and Keser Israel Memorial Park. Your one hour or more, once a week, once a month, once a year or once, would be appreciated. To volunteer please contact David Sagerman at 389-2108 x57 or davdorsagerman@webtv.net.