



## Update on BEKI's co-sponsored Darfur family

Our co-sponsorship of a refugee family from Darfur has once again provided an opportunity for the BEKI community to show its generous spirit. Working with Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services (IRIS), our community reached out with donations of time, clothes, food, home furnishings, and most of all giving the family the security of knowing that there are caring people who can help them transition to a new culture and a new home.

Although the culture of our Darfur Muslim family may appear to be new to us, many of us have found profound connections, both in the richness of the culture as it relates to our own Middle Eastern based culture, and as a reconnection with the immigrant experiences of our own families. We are, after all, all refugees.

Our family of seven includes two parents (mother 30, father 42) and five children, ranging in age from a 16-year-old teenage daughter, 13-year-old son, an eight-year-old daughter, a five-year-old daughter, and a nearly three-year-old daughter.

We have been a part of their lives since the week before their arrival in the USA. Those first few weeks of furnishing

the apartment were so crucial, and of course in the week before Pesah we filled the refrigerator and cupboards with food. Just before their arrival, Eva Shragis accompanied me on that first look at the apartment. By the time that the family arrived, BEKI members had donated sheets, towels, toothpaste, school supplies, toys, curtains, books, a television, DVDS and clothes. Robert Lettick and Mark Blander helped carry the mounds of donations to the apartment and set them, including the nice touches of brightly patterned curtains for the children, and fresh flowers on the table.

As soon as the family arrived, Ruth Silver, Darryl Kuperstock, Rhoda Zahler, Trish Loving, and many others pitched in to make sure that they had food. Mimi Glenn even cooked with family members! Laura Kempton and family took them to the laundromat for the first time, and Peg Olin's family took them grocery shopping. Just as important was a first "play date" with the Klein-Berger family, which after a week of apartment life was the first time that they ventured to a

Continued on **Page 3**

## July 1: BEKI 120 Picnic: Can We Get 120 People Eating Snow Cones at Once?

Join us, rain or shine, on July 1 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. to celebrate BEKI's 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Bring your favorite foods from home and join us at BEKI for a picnic supper. We'll provide a dazzling array of parve desserts. Snow cones and watermelon will help us beat the heat, while we watch the kids (and interested adults) toss water balloons, race with eggs and run sack races. And learn about the 120 ways to celebrate over the next year!

If you are interested in helping, please contact Jennifer Myer at (203) 241-7439.



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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
- Write: 85 Harrison Street, New Haven, CT 06515-1724
- Email: [jjtilsen@beki.org](mailto:jjtilsen@beki.org)
- Visit our web page: [www.beki.org](http://www.beki.org)

For advertising information, call the synagogue office.

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

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A Message from Rabbi Tilsen & Dear Rabbi  
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All of us. One Foundation.

## Darfur

Continued from **Page 1**

playground.

A few weeks later, BEKI members faced another important round of support. Imagine taking a school bus for the first time, leaving your parents waving good-bye as you ride off for a day of learning in a new language and making new friends. Thanks to Darryl Kuperstock, Ina Silverman, and Rhoda Zahler for making those first school days more exciting and less scary.

Regular visits to the family are still welcome. The children need attention in the form of reading and talking in English, as do the adults. Already we have a great crew of visitors, Laura Kempton and Brooks Parmelee, Rhoda Zahler, Mimi Glenn, Mark Oppenheimer, Trish Loving, and Mary Lesser. Especially welcome are visits by college student volunteers, Hannah Rosner and Anna Altman.

The family also enjoys Westville community activities. The Westville Art Walk, was a great success, with the Col-

ten-Berry family, Ina Silverman and Jay Sokolow, Sascha van Creveld, and Nadav Sela. More suggestions of activities that are within walking distance would be wonderful.

We know that so many BEKI members have been generous with giving items to the family. As time goes on, the family will continue to need school supplies and other basics, and more than anything, they will need visits to practice English! Our year of helping is just one quarter of the way through.

Summer and early fall are especially important. Although the family has some planned activities, there are still days when the children will all be at the apartment, and a young person or adult visitor would be welcome. Ina Silverman and Barbara Cushen invited the mother over for laundry and cookie baking, forging a great model of outreach that saves the family money (laundromats are expensive) and helps them feel at home as well. And what could be a better introduction to American culture than Cookies.

If you can help in any way, contact: Cynthia B Rubin, [cbr@cbrubin.net](mailto:cbr@cbrubin.net)



## Service Leaders' & Volunteers' Rotation

The schedule for service leaders for July-Dec 2012 was mailed to 100 participating households in mid-June. It is posted at [www.beki.org/rotate.html](http://www.beki.org/rotate.html) and available in the literature rack in the lobby or by request via schlep-post from [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org). If you would like to request specific dates for January-December 2013, or to be added or dropped from a roster, please contact Jon-Jay at [jjtilsen@beki.org](mailto:jjtilsen@beki.org) for all services, and Miriam Benson [mirbenson@aol.com](mailto:mirbenson@aol.com) for children's programs. Additional leaders are needed for Pesuqei DeZimra, Friday Night and Shabbat Morning Greeters, Shabbat Minha (Saturday afternoon) and Maariv (Saturday night during winter).

If your name was left out by mistake or you'd now like to be included, please request an "available" date from Rabbi Tilsen by email or phone (but not in person on Shabbat, as we cannot schedule on that day). Normally several additional dates become available during the course of the semester, and anyone erroneously omitted will be the first to be asked to fill those dates.

## Schmeckfest Manners

Persons of all ages are welcome to take all they want and are urged to eat all they take at the Shabbat Qiddush and other food presentations. Please help your children learn that being very hungry at the outset does not mean that they need to eat or take any more than usual. "If you're ten times as hungry, you will not eat ten times as

much food." Persons unfamiliar with the menu might like to take a sample of each item and then return after tasting. Children who participate in the children's programs are offered nutritious snacks at programs' end. Please help control waste and be sure your wards learn courteous manners. Please dispose of your trash and that of your wards, and those who need assistance, in the trash receptacles.

## Rabbi's Annual Report

Rabbi Tilsen's Annual Report (July 2011 – June 2012) is available after July 1 at [www.beki.org/tilsen/annual12.pdf](http://www.beki.org/tilsen/annual12.pdf) and in the literature rack in the lobby. The report supplements the reports of synagogue committees and describes highlights, progress and challenges of the past year. It also offers occasional prospective comments.

## HaMaqom Yenahem

*With sorrow we note the passing of*

**Robert Franklin Nelson,**  
father of Sarah Berry (& Roger Colten)

*May the Almighty comfort those who mourn*

**BEKI Minyanaires:** The warmth of your community was greatly appreciated during avelut for my dear mother. Thank you for being present.

Harriet Friedman and family.

## New Members

Daniel Leisewitz & Daniele Viale and Sam  
Rabbi Megan Doherty & Lital Ruderman and baby Girl  
Doherty Ruderman

## Mazal tov to

Benjamin Karsif & Erin Moulthrop on their marriage under a huppa; and to Brian Karsif, father of the groom. Rabbi Tilsen was the mesader qiddushin.

Rabbi Megan Doherty & Lital Ruderman on the birth of their daughter Baby Girl Doherty Ruderman in June.

Jenna Rose Alpern and Benjamin Alpern on their marriage under a huppa in Jerusalem in May; and to Tina Rose, mother of the bride. A qiddush will honor them on Shabbat morning Aug. 25 at BEKI.

Margaret Martin on winning a Silver Medal in the 50-meter freestyle swimming event in the Connecticut

## Special Olympics

Roz Ben-Chitrit on being honored with the JCC Kavod Key

Jimmy Shure on receiving the Federation President's Award

James Hayward on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout

## Graduates

Please report news of your graduates to [jjtilsen@beki.org](mailto:jjtilsen@beki.org)

**Ezra Academy Class of 2012:** Gabriel Freiman, Benjamin Gerber, Jonathan Hayward, Joni Weintraub, Leora Weitzman (constituting 17% of the class)

**High School:** Lital Avni-Singer; Solomon Botwick-Ries; James Hayward; Dana Lew; Sascha Weitzman

**College:** Annie Bass, Cornell University; Joshua Levine, Wesleyan; Zach Bell, University of Pennsylvania

**Jenna Rose Alpern and Benjamin Alpern's May wedding in Jerusalem.**



# TISHA BEAV AND TU BEAV

## Tisha BeAv

The fast day of Tisha Be' Av ("ninth day of the Hebrew month of Av") will be observed on the tenth day of Av, Saturday night July 28 and Sunday July 29. The observance is deferred from its namesake day as it cannot be observed on Shabbat. The Shabbat Minha afternoon service is at its usual time, 5:45 to 6:20. The fast begins at 8:12 p.m. The Maariv evening service and the reading of Eikha (Lamentations) begin at 9 p.m. and conclude about 10:15 p.m.



The Shaharit (morning) service on Sunday July 29 is from 9 to 10:20. 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, from 5:45 to 6:30 on Sunday, *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 8:14 Saturday night until 8:46 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 until Monday night (i.e., 24 hours *after* the end of the fast of Tisha BeAv). The extension of the mourning practices is in part recognition that the Temple burned for two days and some of the early sages believed that the memorial should be observed on the tenth as much as or instead of the ninth.

Tisha Be' Av commemorates the destruction of the first two Temples and other tragedies that have taken place in our long history. The destruction of the Temples represents the downfall of the independent Jewish government, the devastation of Jewish society and tragic loss of life. The downfall of the Bar Kokhba government and the Roman massacre and destruction of Betar occurred in 135 C.E. 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.

Normally, a *seudat mafseket* (meal before a fast) is a modest undertaking. As this year the meal occurs on Shabbat, as the *seuda shelishit* (third Shabbat feast), it should be enjoyed as are other Shabbat meals, without consideration of the mood of the fast that follows. The meal should be completed before 8:14 p.m. when the fast begins. Before undertaking any fast, one should eat a nutritious meal of normal proportions. Fresh fruits and vegetables are believed to help maintain hydration. Consult your dietician or medical references for other dietary and medical advice.

## Tu BeAv

Tu BeAv (15 Av) occurs on Thursday night August 2 and Friday August 3. From *The Jewish Encyclopedia* (1906), s.v. Ab, Fifteenth Day of:

Popular festival in Judea during the time of the Second Temple . . . According to a tradition preserved in the Mishnah (Ta'anit, iv. 9, 10; Gem. pp. 26, 31), on that day, as well as on the Day of Atonement, the maidens of Jerusalem, rich and poor, without exception, dressed in white, went out to dance in the vineyards with the young men, asking them to make their choice of a partner for life. The fair ones sang: "Young men, turn your eyes to beauty; for woman stands for beauty." The patricians' daughters sang: "Young men, turn your eyes to noble parentage; for woman is the preserver of family pride." Those possessing neither beauty nor noble birth sang: "Grace is beautiful and beauty is vain; but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised." Of the many reasons given in the Talmud for the celebration of this day, that attested by the oldest authority, R. Eliezer ben Hyrcanus of the first century (Megillat Ta'anit, v.) is that it was the great day of wood-offering, when both priests and people brought kindling-wood in large quantities to the altar, for use in the burning of sacrifices during the whole year. . . . The actual explanation is given in Meg. Ta'anit, v. and Mishnah, iv. 5, according to which nine families of Judah brought at certain times during the year the wood for the burning of the sacrifices on the altar, in accordance with Neh. x. 34; on the Fifteenth Day of Ab, however, all the people, the priests as well as the Levites, took part in the wood-offering.

— Kaufmann Kohler, *Jewish Encyclopedia*

Support the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Women's League for Conservative Judaism. For 70 years we have helped to ensure future generations of Conservative Jews by providing Rabbis, Cantors, and Educators & Administrators for Day Schools, Synagogue Schools & Synagogues, Social Workers and Researchers.

Support the campaign & support The Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) by becoming a Benefactor (\$180) or Guardian (\$300) or purchase cards for all occasions at only \$4 each.

As a benefactor you can be proud to wear our 5773 pin as Torah Fund's gift to you in recognition of your support.

## Torah Fund: Uri Uri

Awake – Greet the New Dawn!

As women, we experience many wake-up calls. Devora the Prophet was a judge in Israel when she was roused from her seat under a palm tree to lead her people's troops into battle with the words, "Arise, arise, Devora; arise and join in the chant" (Judges 5:12). But Devora was also known as a mother in Israel, and as such she must have

been responsive to the great variety of wake-up calls women experience throughout their lives: a hungry baby, a child in need, a cause that demands immediate attention and action.

Being roused to action is often just the prelude to awakening others, whether via the shofar as seen growing out of the letter 'ayin in the 5773 Torah Fund pin,



or by using our voices and networks to focus on the critical needs of our families and communities, our Movement, and our people. The imagery of dawn invokes an awareness of the challenges before us as well as our need to be alert to address them. What challenges will we face in 5773 as Jewish women? Will we rise to meet them, and will the glory of God be present in our response? *Uri, uri – Awake – shir*

*dabeiri* – sing a song – of activity, of victory, and of thanks to the Holy One whose light illuminates all of our waking moments.

Thank you to the following for purchasing cards. Please call Barbara Cushen, (203) 407-0314, to have your card sent out immediately, just \$4 (includes the stamp)!

### Get Well to:

- Mimi Glenn from Muriel Banquer, BEKI Sisterhood, Harriet & Noel Barstein, Barbara Cushen, Stanley Saxe, Violet & Charlie Ludwig
- Sylvia Zeid from BEKI Sisterhood, Barbara Cushen, Stanley Saxe, Violet & Charlie Ludwig, Adele Tyson

### Mazal Tov to:

- Goldfarb Family on Samantha's Bat Mitzvah from Louis Petrillo
- Isaiah Cooper & Lauri Lowell on Daniel's Bar Mitzvah from Barbara Cushen & Stanley Saxe
- Ed & Rhoda Lemkin in honor of their daughter's engagement from Charlotte Teitelman

### In Memory of:

- Helen Beller to The Beller Family from Barbara Cushen & Stanley Saxe, and David Wright
- Estelle Miller to Lester Margolis & family from Bea Smirnoff

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*Shabbatot (Saturdays)*

**Darshanim**

–noun, plural dar-sha-nim [Seph. Heb. dahr-shah-neem; Ashk. Heb. dahr-shaw-nim], dar-shans. Judaism. a preacher or teacher of Aggadah or Halakha in a synagogue.

Baruch A. Levine will serve as *darshan* on Shabbat morning July 7, *parashat Balaq*.

Bill Hallo will serve as *darshan* on Shabbat morning July 14, *parashat Pinhas*.

Nadav Sela will serve as *darshan* on Shabbat morning Aug. 4, *Shabbat Nahamu, parashat VaEthanah*, part one of a two-part presentation.

Nadav Sela will serve as *darshan* on Shabbat morning Aug. 11, *parashat Ekev*, part two of a two-part presentation.

Mark Oppenheimer will serve as *darshan* on Shabbat morning Sept. 1, *parashat Ki Tetsei*

**Shabbat Shalom Learners' Minyan Torah Study**

The “Shabbat Shalom Torah Study,”

formerly known as the “Learners’ Minyan,” meets every other Saturday morning at 10:45 in the office and is an ideal setting for veteran and novice shul-goers alike to explore the scripture readings and liturgy of the day in a supportive setting. Expertly led by **Steven Fraade, Rabbi Alan Lovins, Rabbi Murray Levine, Nadav Sela, David Kuperstock, Isaiah Cooper, Jack Gilron, Rabbi Eric Silver** and others, the Shabbat Shalom Torah Study 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 Torah reading, Haftara

(Prophetic reading) and liturgy.

The program often focuses on the scriptural readings, but also addresses the prayer liturgy and other topics related to the liturgical calendar, scriptural readings or current issues of concern.

Everyone is welcome to participate regardless of religious status or background. It is suitable for mature, or at least well-behaved, youth along with adults.

*Mondays*

**Renewed: Rashi Study Group begins Shoftim**

Each Monday morning from 7:45 to 8:30 adults meet in the Library Chapel to read Rashi’s commentary on the Tanakh (Hebrew Bible). The RSG is now beginning the Book of Shoftim (Judges), now in chapters 2-4. Characters in the

narrative include the Prophet Devora, Baraq, Yiftah, Mrs. Manoah, and Samson and Delila. 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. Hebrew and English texts are available. The Rashi Study Group meets immediately following the 7 a.m. *shaharit* service. With Jon-Jay Tilsen.

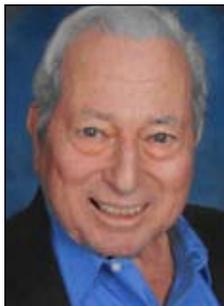
*Tuesdays*

**Hebrew Alefbet**

New sections opening the first week of July. To register for the next session, contact Peggy at [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org).



**Baruch Levine**



**Bill Hallo**



**Nadav Sela**



**Mark Oppenheimer**



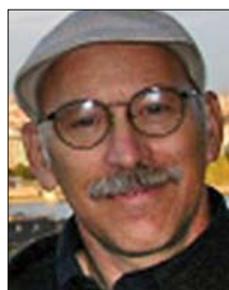
**Steven Fraade**



**Alan Lovins**



**David Kuperstock**



**Jack Gilron**



**Eric Silver**



**Jon-Jay Tilsen**

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**Adult Studies**

Continued from **Page 7**

**Duration:** Approximately 12 classes, 6 weeks. **Location:** BEKI classroom 4. **Price:** None. **Prerequisites:** None. **Audience:** Adults, member or non-member. **Materials:** Will be provided. **Course Description:** This course is designed to teach the *alefbet* to students who have little or no background in the *alefbet*. In this course, students will be able to identify the letters of the Hebrew alphabet by name, associate the letters with sounds, and show proficiency in the following skills and skill relationships: writing, identifying, listening to writing, reading to pronunciation, and reading to transliteration. Inquiries to William Auriemme [perfectexodus@gmail.com](mailto:perfectexodus@gmail.com).

**Modern and Prayerbook Hebrew**

New sections opening the first week of July. To register for the next session, contact Peggy at [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org).

**Duration:** Approximately 20 classes, 10 weeks. **Location:** BEKI classroom 4. **Price:** None. **Prerequisites:** Hebrew Alefbet or proficiency in the *alefbet*. **Audience:** Adults, member or non-member. **Materials:** Will be provided. **Course Description:** This course is designed for students either interested in Modern Hebrew and/or Prayerbook Hebrew. Time will be devoted to both topics. Students are required to demonstrate proficiency in the *alefbet* already, for all material is presented in Hebrew print only. Students will be expected to speak, read and write printed Hebrew. Important communicative and conversational Hebrew language structures will be employed and encouraged as various vocabularies and topics are explored.

**Register** with Peggy [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org); inquiries to William Auriemme [perfectexodus@gmail.com](mailto:perfectexodus@gmail.com)

*Wednesdays*

**Hebrew Word of the Week**

The Wednesday morning service (shaharit) features a 90-second “Hebrew word of the Week” to promote the learning of Hebrew. The Hebrew language is highly structured. Most words are based on three-letter roots, and are made with a limited set of verb or noun forms. By learning a few dozen roots and a small set of word-forms, it is possible to roughly translate Hebrew words isolated from any context, something less often possible in English. The Word of the Week often relates to the weekly scriptural readings, enhancing personal study and public Torah discussion.

**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. The study group meets Wednesday mornings in the Rosenkrantz Family Library. For more information, call Rabbi Murray Levine at (203) 397-2513.



**Murray Levine**

*Thursdays*

**Mini Morning Learning Service**

The Thursday morning services are supplemented with commentary and teaching relating to the history,

themes, choreography and language of the daily morning service. Shaharit service is from 8:15 to 9:11 on Thursdays; on other weekdays, the service begins at 7 a.m.

**Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group**

The Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group will be on recess from Aug. 1 until after the Shemini Atseret festival, and will resume on Thursday Oct. 11.

The *Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group* meets weekly on Thursdays during the lunch hour (12:30 to 1:30). The Group has met weekly since 1999. For



**Isaiah Cooper**

some participants, this is their first direct experience with Talmud text; for others, it is a continuation of a long journey. The Group focuses on the issues raised in the Talmud, with less attention to the technical aspects of the text. Knowledge of Hebrew or Aramaic is helpful but not required.

The Talmud, based on an oral text, has no beginning or end. One can begin study at any point; now is the best time.

The Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group meets in BEKI’s Rosenkrantz Family Library. For information, contact Isaiah Cooper at his law office [icooper@cooperlaw.net](mailto:icooper@cooperlaw.net).

**Hebrew Alef and Bet**

See description under Tuesdays

*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.”



MICHAEL MARTONE  
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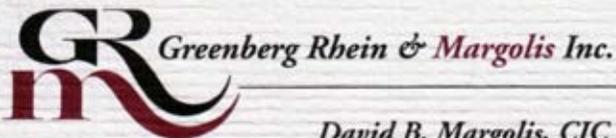


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## Rabbi's Tzedaka Fund (minimum \$25)

- Alan Lovins & Trish Loving with condolences to Sarah Berry & Roger Colten at the passing of Robert F. Nelson
- Harriet Friedman & Charles Bruce marking the yahrzeit of Tillie Leah Friedman
- Marsha Beller for mekhirat hametz

## Qiddush Sponsors (Min. \$280)

- Mimi & Effi Glenn
- Yair Minsky & Ada Fenick
- Margie Wiener
- Evelyn Woolfson
- Brian Karsif
- Dina Mayzlin & Aaron Cohen
- Rebecca Gratz
- Corey Stone & Sue McDonald

## Chai Fund (minimum \$18) to support synagogue operations

- To Trish Loving & Alan Lovins with sympathy on the passing of Lominta Loving Loftis by Jonathan Freiman
- To Trish Loving & Alan Lovins with sympathy on the passing of Lominta Loving Loftis by Rhoda Zahler & Alan Samuel
- To Trish Loving & Alan Lovins with sympathy on the passing of Lominta Loving Loftis by Rachel Lovins & Andrew Hogan
- To Trish Loving & Alan Lovins with sympathy on the passing of Lominta Loving Loftis by David & Darryl Kuperstock
- To Trish Loving & Alan Lovins with sympathy on the passing of Lominta Loving Loftis by Steve & Rachel Wizner
- To Trish Loving & Alan Lovins with sympathy on the passing of Lominta Loving Loftis by Joanne Foodim & Rob Forbes
- To Trish Loving & Alan Lovins with sympathy on the passing of Lominta Loving Loftis by Marge Wiener
- To Trish Loving & Alan Lovins with sympathy on the passing of Lominta Loving Loftis by Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter
- To Lori & Natan Weinstein with sympathy on the passing of Bernard Bober by David & Darryl Kuperstock
- To Lori & Natan Weinstein with sympathy on the passing of Bernard Bober by Jay Brown
- To Gadiel & Julie Robbins with sympathy on the passing of Herbert Morton Robbins by Jonathan Freiman
- To Gadiel & Julie Robbins with sympathy on the passing of Herbert

- Morton Robbins by David & Darryl Kuperstock
- To Lori & Natan Weinstein with sympathy on the passing of Bernard Herbert Bober by David & Rayna Belowsky
- To Mimi Glenn with wishes for a speedy recovery by David & Darryl Kuperstock
- To Daniel Cooper in honor of his Bar Mitzva by Harold & Bobbie Miller
- To Marty Feldman and family with sympathy on the passing of Cathy Schwartz by Avrom Kopelman & Megan Yost
- To Gadiel & Julie Robbins with sympathy on the passing of Herbert Morton Robbins by Joanne Foodim & Rob Forbes
- To Esther & Irwin Nash with sympathy on the passing of Charles Rosenberg by Steve & Rachel Wizner
- To Esther & Irwin Nash with sympathy on the passing of Charles Rosenberg by David & Darryl Kuperstock
- To Esther & Irwin Nash with sympathy on the passing of Charles Rosenberg by Sharon & Dan Prober
- To Harold Levarek with sympathy on the passing of Joseph Levarek by Rayna & David Belowsky
- To Howard Gold with sympathy on the passing of Arlene Gold by Joyce S. Flederman
- To Esther & Irwin Nash with sympathy on the passing of Charles Rosenberg by Barbara & Dennis Rader
- To Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter with sympathy on the passing of Ruth Rosenberg by Karel Koenig & Robert Oakes
- To Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter with sympathy on the passing of Ruth Rosenberg by Steve & Rachel Wizner
- To Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter with sympathy on the passing of Ruth Rosenberg by David & Darryl Kuperstock
- To Margie Wiener with sympathy on the passing of Marilyn Sperling by David & Darryl Kuperstock
- To Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter with sympathy on the passing of Ruth Rosenberg by Steve & Joanne Rudolf
- To Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter with sympathy on the passing of Ruth Rosenberg by Joanne Foodim & Rob Forbes
- To Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter with sympathy on the passing of Ruth Rosenberg by Gloria Cohen
- To Trish Loving & Alan Lovins with sympathy on the passing of Lominta Loving Loftis by Belle Greenberg
- To Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter with sympathy on the passing of Ruth Rosenberg by Belle Greenberg

- To Trish Loving & Alan Lovins with sympathy on the passing of Lominta Loving Loftis by Marjorie Wiener and family
- To Mimi & Effi Glenn in honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by the Rothman Family
- To Margie Wiener in honor of her Bar Mitzva anniversary by the Rothman Family
- To Cliff & Laura Skolnick in honor of Rachel's graduation by the Rothman Family
- To Benjamin Gerber in honor of his Bar Mitzva by Amy, Rob, Sophie, Jacob & Esther Marx/Schonberger
- To Jacques Ben-Avie in honor of his Bar Mitzva by Amy, Rob, Sophie, Jacob & Esther Marx/Schonberger
- To Coby Goldberg-Blander in honor of his Baby Naming by Amy, Rob, Sophie, Jacob & Esther Marx/Schonberger
- To Carole & Paul Bass in honor of Annie's graduation from college by David & Darryl Kuperstock

## Synagogue Fund (minimum \$10) to support synagogue operations

- To Esther & Irwin Nash with sympathy on the passing of Charles Rosenberg by Leon Cummings
- To Trish Loving & Alan Lovins with sympathy on the passing of Lominta Loving Loftis by Leon Cummings
- To Mr. & Mrs. Natan Weinstein and family with sympathy on the passing of Bernard E. Bober by Violet & Charles Ludwig
- To Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter with sympathy on the passing of Ruth Rosenberg by Sid & Donna Levine
- To Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter with sympathy on the passing of Ruth Rosenberg by Dan & Sharon Prober

## The Eric I.B. Beller Environmental Endowment Fund

- To Marsha Beller and family with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by Heni & Mark Schwartz
- In memory of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Eric's yahrzeit by David & Ann Brandwein
- To Marsha Beller with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by Harold & Bobbie Miller
- To Marsha Beller with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by Leon Cummings
- To Andrea Beller & Ken Stolarsky with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by Judy & Ruben Gechter
- To Marsha Beller for all of her endeavors by Ruth & Morton Silver
- In memory of her brother Eric Beller and mother Helen Beller by Andrea Beller & Ken Stolarsky
- To Marsha Beller with sympathy

- on the passing of Helen Beller by Yvonne & Herb Kolodny
- To Marsha Beller with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by The J Street U Team

## The Diana Friedman Opton Fund for the Benefit of Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel (formerly known as The BEKI Endowment Fund)

- With thanks to all the wonderful people of BEKI who have fed, befriended, and supported us throughout our time in New Haven by Zachery Strassburger, Kate Jenkins & Maya

## BEKI Religious School

- To Trish Loving & Alan Lovins with sympathy on the passing of Lominta Loving Loftis by Ina Silverman & Jay Sokolow
- To Gadiel & Julie Robbins with sympathy on the passing of Herbert Morton Robbins by Jay Sokolow & Ina Silverman
- To Mimi & Effi Glenn in honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by Rachel & Morris Statlender
- To Esther & Irwin Nash with sympathy on the passing of Charles Rosenberg by Ina Silverman & Jay Sokolow
- To Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter with sympathy on the passing of Ruth Rosenberg by Ina Silverman & Jay Sokolow
- To Ben Surman in honor of his Bar Mitzva by Ina Silverman, Jay Sokolow & family
- To Daniel Cooper in honor of his Bar Mitzva by Ina Silverman, Jay Sokolow & family

## The BEKI Benei Mitzva Qiddush Committee Tzedaka Fund

- To Daniel Cooper in honor of his Bar Mitzva by Sherry Kent & Harriet and Richard Kantowitz
- To Ben Surman in honor of his Bar Mitzva by Paul & Carole Bass
- To Ben Gerber in honor of his Bar Mitzva by the Colten-Berry Family
- To Dustin Gad in honor of his Bar Mitzva by the Colten-Berry Family
- To Ari Kaufman-Frankel in honor of his Bar Mitzva by the Colten-Berry Family
- To Jacques Ben-Avie in honor of his Bar Mitzva by the Colten-Berry Family
- To Daniel Cooper in honor of his Bar Mitzva by the Colten-Berry Family

## Social Action/Tikkun Olam

- In honor of Daniel Zlotoff's graduation from medical school by

Continued on **Page 12**

# ABRAHAM'S TENT - REPORT AND RESULTS

Abraham's Tent (introduced to BEKI in the February 2012 BEKI *Bulletin*), a cooperative effort between Columbus House, Interfaith Cooperative Ministries and local congregations, just completed its third year, having run from early December 2011 through the end of March 2012. This year, the program was expanded from 12 to this year's 17 weeks as a result of more congregations offering to host the men from Columbus House. With the help of only a few professional staff people, the program was able to involve not only 17 wonderful host sites, but an additional 15 congregations and schools providing much needed volunteer supports. BEKI is excited to have been one of these 15 "partner" congregations.

To review briefly, there were 12 men for whom Abraham's Tent provided shelter over this winter. These men had gone through an application process conducted by Columbus House staff and were chosen in part due to their ability to be part of such a small group throughout the winter. The twelve men were assigned a case manager, and from the beginning were offered services that included employment and income support, basic life skills training and referrals to community resources for health care, mental health and/or substance abuse treatment. Toward the end of the winter, these 12 men were also offered housing assistance, and at this time, *at least eight of the men are housed in their own apartments, four are working, two are receiving SSI or SSDI benefits, one will be graduating shortly from a medical transcription program and will begin his internship in August, and one is showing his artwork in a New Haven gallery exhibit through July.* "By all counts, this is a tremendous success!" said Alison Cunningham, Executive Director of Columbus House.

This year, there were well over 2000 volunteers involved at some level in the Abraham's Tent initiative from the various congregations and organizations involved. I am pleased to report that among them were the following fantastic volunteers from BEKI who shopped, cooked, dined with, and provided overnight support:

Ivan Alvarez, Tova Benson-Tilsen, Isaiah Cooper, Mimi Glenn, Darryl Kuperstock, David Kuperstock, Rob Lettick, Maya Levine-Ritterman, Betty Levy, Dana Lew, Trish Loving, CJ May, Betsy Ratner, Yoav Ravid, Sherry Rothman, Cynthia Rubin, Steven Stoll, Matt Wiener, Steve Wizner, David Wright, and Kai Yang.

Our partnership with the Church of the Holy Spirit (Episcopal) and the Turkish Cultural Center (Muslim) was a great experience and I suspect that some of the friendships built during the course of this project will be on-going. Responsibility for providing dinners was split between the three groups, and overnight support was provided by mixed groups of volunteers. We were able to provide vouchers for lunches for the 12 men for two days, two wonderful dinners for all the men and volunteers, and four nights of overnight support.

I'd like to personally thank all of those who volunteered and all who very generously made donations to support the dinners and lunch vouchers BEKI provided. If you are interested in participating in next winter's Abraham's Tent initiative (planning will start in September) or have questions about the project, or if you are interested in working with BEKI's Tikun Olam Committee, contact either me ([kuperst@aol.com](mailto:kuperst@aol.com)) or Nathan Bixby ([nathan.bixby@gmail.com](mailto:nathan.bixby@gmail.com)).

— Darryl Kuperstock

## Contributions

Continued from **Page 11**

Ron Zlotoff & Donna Kemper

- In honor of the engagement of Daniel Zlotoff to Sarah McNally (whom he met on the Birthright trip in Israel) by Ron Zlotoff & Donna Kemper

### The Barzillai Cheskis BEKI Youth Israel Scholarship Fund

- To Linda Ritt Kupfer & Stuart Kupfer with sympathy on the passing of David Ritt by Rena Cheskis-Gold, Marty Gold

and family

### The Marcel Gutman Scholarship Fund

- To Mimi & Effi Glenn in honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by Marjorie Wiener and family

### Yahrzeit Fund (\$5 minimum) to support synagogue operations

- In memory of Mildred K. Rieser by Violet & Charlie Ludwig
- In memory of Gail Cutler by Charlie & Violet Ludwig
- In memory of Sylvia Hoberman by Carl Hoberman

- In memory of Morris Maltin by Ted Maltin
- In memory of Samuel Olmer by Zane B. Olmer
- In memory of Ida Weiss by Suzanne Weinstein
- In memory of Murray Ratoosh by Sheri Ratoosh & Alan Glombicki
- In memory of Sara Oppenheim by Anita & Michael Malina
- In memory of Sara Oppenheim by Joyce & Michael Bohnen
- In memory of Michael Freiman by Jonathan Freiman
- In memory of Leonard Brill by Doris C. Brill
- In memory of Marilyn Levine by Mordy & Elizabeth Levine

- In memory of Estelle Gottfried by Helene & Edward Vanderhoef
- In memory of Eli Slopak by David Schwartz
- In memory of Marilyn White by Summer White
- In memory of Milton Smirnoff by Bea Smirnoff and family
- In memory of Milton Weiner by Joanne & Stephen Rudof
- In memory of Sophie Rosell by Morton Dimenstein
- In memory of his father Robert Colten by Roger Colten & Sarah Berry
- In memory of Harry Kabakoff by Marvin Kabakoff



# Seeding Our Congregation's Future: Introducing the BEKI 120 Fund

“May you live until 120”: that’s the traditional Jewish birthday greeting and wish for a long, full life.

This year at BEKI, we are celebrating the 120th birthday of our spiritual home. Thanks to the hard work and vision of so many, we’re still growing strong, with revitalized daily services, a thriving Shabbat community, and congregants from a wonderfully diverse range of backgrounds, orientations, and life circumstances.

However spiritually vibrant as we are, BEKI is not where it needs to be financially. Our building requires

extensive -- and expensive -- repairs. Abiyoyo day care’s closing last year left a hole in our budget and empty rooms in our basement. Dues cover only about one-third of our costs, in part because of our economically diverse membership and our commitment to make belonging to BEKI affordable for all. Our endowments, for which we are grateful, are not enough to cushion us fully.

The rest is up to us. We, the generation of members who have seen BEKI reach 120, must build on our strengths and prepare our beloved shul for the next 120 years.

Introducing the BEKI 120 Fund. With \$40,000 in initial multiyear pledges already identified, this fund-raising seeks to reach the following goals by our 125th anniversary in 2017:

- **Reducing Our Debt:** \$160,000 to pay off one of our mortgages
- **Fixing Our Home:** \$80,000 for needed repairs to increase building life
- **Securing Our Future:** At least \$100,000 added to endowments, and 18 new planned giving commitments
- **Adding Sustainability:** \$80,000 to reduce operating costs and increase revenues
- **Providing a Cushion:** \$80,000 for an operating reserve against future needs



Progress on the campaign will be reported regularly via lobby displays and updates online and in the BEKI Bulletin.

If you have questions about the BEKI 120 Fund or about the synagogue’s finances generally, please feel free to ask any BEKI 120 Fund committee member or Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen.

You may have recently received a BEKI 120 Fund letter; if not, it will arrive shortly. Please give it your careful consideration and think about what you can do to help take BEKI from strength to strength.

For the Fundraising Committee

- Rebecca Weiner (co-chair)
- John Weiser (co-chair)
- Carole Bass
- Brian Karsif
- Lisa Stanger (advisor)
- Dan Weintraub (advisor)

# July 2012

11 Tammuz 5772 - 12 Av 5772

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9:00am Shaharit 4:00pm BEK1 120 Picnic at Mitchell Library  11 Tammuz	<b>2</b> 7:45am Rashi Study Group  12 Tammuz	<b>3</b> 6:30pm Hebrew class: Alef-bet 7:15pm Hebrew class: Modern & Prayerbook Hebrew  13 Tammuz	<b>4</b> Office Closed/Independence Day 9:00am Shaharit  14 Tammuz	<b>5</b> 12:30pm Talmud Study Group 6:30pm Hebrew class: Alef-bet 7:15pm Hebrew class: Modern & Prayerbook Hebrew  15 Tammuz	<b>6</b> 6:00pm 20's/30's Havura Dinner (off-site/reservations required) 8:10pm Candle Lighting  16 Tammuz	<b>7</b> <b>Balak</b> Darshan: Baruch Levine 10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: TBA 5:45pm Minha  17 Tammuz
<b>8</b> <b>Fast of Tammuz 17</b> <b>Exodus</b> <b>Isaiah</b> 9:00am Shaharit  18 Tammuz	<b>9</b> 7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm Executive Board Meeting (off-site)  19 Tammuz	<b>10</b>  20 Tammuz	<b>11</b>  21 Tammuz	<b>12</b> 12:30pm Talmud Study Group  22 Tammuz	<b>13</b> 8:07pm Candle Lighting  23 Tammuz	<b>14</b> <b>Pinhas</b> <b>Jeremiah</b> Darshan: Bill Hallo 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Shabbat Shalom Torah Study Qiddush: Stutz 5:45pm Minha  24 Tammuz
<b>15</b> 9:00am Shaharit  25 Tammuz	<b>16</b> 7:45am Rashi Study Group  26 Tammuz	<b>17</b>  27 Tammuz	<b>18</b>  28 Tammuz	<b>19</b> 12:30pm Talmud Study Group  29 Tammuz	<b>20</b> <b>Rosh Hodesh Numbers</b> 8:02 Candle Lighting  1 Av	<b>21</b> <b>Mattot</b> <b>Mase</b> 10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: TBA 5:45pm Minha  2 Av
<b>22</b> 9:00am Shaharit  3 Av	<b>23</b> 7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm General Board Meeting  4 Av	<b>24</b>  5 Av	<b>25</b>  6 Av	<b>26</b> 12:40pm Talmud Study Group  7 Av	<b>27</b> 7:56pm Candle Lighting  8 Av	<b>28</b> <b>Devarim</b> 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Shabbat Shalom Torah Study Qiddush: TBA 5:45pm Minha  9 Av
<b>29</b> <b>Fast of Tisha B'Av</b> <b>Morning: Deuteronomy;</b> <b>Afternoon: Exodus</b> <b>Morning: Jeremiah;</b> <b>Afternoon: Isaiah</b> 9:00am Shaharit 5:45pm Minha  10 Av	<b>30</b> 7:45am Rashi Study Group  11 Av	<b>31</b>  12 Av				

## Service Times

### Sundays

9 a.m. Shaharit  
5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv

### Mondays

7 a.m. Shaharit  
5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv

### Tuesdays

7 a.m. Shaharit  
5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv

### Wednesdays

7 a.m. Shaharit  
5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv

### Thursdays

8:15 a.m. Shaharit  
5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv

### Fridays

7 a.m. Shaharit  
6 p.m. Minha-Maariv

### Saturdays

9:15 a.m. Shaharit  
5:45 p.m. Minha

# August 2012

## 13 Av 5772 - 13 Elul 5772

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

			1	2	3 <b>Tu B'Av</b> 7:48pm Candle Lighting	4 <b>Vaet'Hanan</b> Darshan: Nadav Sela 10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: TBA 5:45pm Minha
			13 Av	14 Av	15 Av	16 Av
5 9:00am Shaharit	6 7:45am Rashi Study Group	7	8	9	10 7:40pm Candle Lighting	11 <b>Ekev</b> Darshan: Nadav Sela 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Shabbat Shalom Torah Study Qiddush: TBA 5:45pm Minha
17 Av	18 Av	19 Av	20 Av	21 Av	22 Av	23 Av
12 9:00am Shaharit	13 7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm Executive Board Meeting (off-site)	14	15	16	17 7:30pm Candle Lighting	18 <b>Rosh Hodesh I Re'Eh Numbers</b> <b>Isaiah</b> <b>Preceding Rosh Hodesh: I Samuel</b> 10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: Palumbo & Rosenberg/Richter 5:45pm Minha
24 Av	25 Av	26 Av	27 Av	28 Av	29 Av	30 Av
19 <b>Rosh Hodesh II Numbers</b> 9:00am Shaharit	20 7:45am Rashi Study Group	21	22	23	24 7:10pm Candle Lighting	25 <b>Shoftim</b> 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Shabbat Shalom Torah Study Qiddush: Rose 5:45pm Minha
1 Elul	2 Elul	3 Elul	4 Elul	5 Elul	6 Elul	7 Elul
26 9:00am Shaharit	27 7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm General Board Meeting	28	29	30	31 7:08pm Candle Lighting	
8 Elul	9 Elul	10 Elul	11 Elul	12 Elul	13 Elul	

### 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 5:45 p.m. Minha



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**Free Yoga**

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**The Shul in the News**

BEKI’s 120<sup>th</sup> Birthday – The Jewish Forum with Barry Herman, interviewing Carole Bass, Harold Miller and Jon-Jay Tilsen, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQKOGotmuIs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQKOGotmuIs).

**Read *In the Desert***

To read Torah from BeMidbar (Numbers, or “In the Desert of Sinai”) contact Darryl at [kuperst@aol.com](mailto:kuperst@aol.com).



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