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BEKI bulletin

Congregation
Beth El-Keser Israel

Sivan-Tammuz 5772

Vol. 18 Issue 6

Page 12: A Message From Rabbi Tilsen

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 120th 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!

Stay tuned for more details. If you are interested in helping, please contact Jennifer Myer at (203) 241-7439.



Notice of Annual Meeting

Attend the BEKI annual meeting on Wednesday night June 27 from 6:30 to 7:45. Find out what just happened and what the big plans are for the upcoming year.

Buying Groceries

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

Yizkor Memorial Book

We are looking for a sponsor for this coming year's Yizkor Memorial Book (used from Yom Kippur thru Shavu'ot). It is a lovely way to honor the memory of a loved one. If you are interested in sponsorship or helping to work on this year's book, please speak with Darryl Kuperstock as soon as possible.

High Holy Days

Yep, it's time to start planning for this year's Yamim Nora'im. We are looking for people to help with every aspect of

the BEKI High Holy Days planning. Do you want to work on the lobby display, children's programming, educational materials, pre-holiday programming, break fast prep, leading a service or reading Torah? Please contact Darryl as soon as possible.

Free Books

Surplus library books are available for free in Classroom Four. Some duplicates are popular and good books. Come and take.

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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
- Visit our web page: www.beki.org

For advertising information, call the synagogue office.

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

Annual subscription is \$36

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A Message from Rabbi Tilsen & Dear Rabbi
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Goodwin Fund Expanded



Paul Goodwin, right, with the late Louis Goodwin.

The Robert Goodwin Memorial Endowment was established as a permanent endowed fund in 1995 by the Goodwin family to honor the memory of Robert Goodwin. This year, Paul Goodwin and the Goodwin family have expanded this fund to honor the legacy of the four Goodwin Brothers: Louis, Robert and Sonny, of blessed memory, and Paul, may he live and be well. The new fund is known as **The Goodwin Brothers Endowment for the benefit of BEKI.**

Both Lou and Paul served as presidents of the Congregation, and Robert was instrumental in developing the social programs of the synagogue, in particular in helping to bring prominent speakers to challenge the congregation on civic and Jewish affairs. Along with Sonny, all of the brothers and their families were members and supporters of the Congregation. Their forebears were the founders of the Rose Street Shul, which became “Beth El.”

Paul Goodwin (or “Pat” to friends), now a full-time Florida resident, is not only a descendant of the founders and an architect of the congregation in its current location and as a merged entity with Keser Israel, but he is also the

grandfather of BEKI Religious School student Jessie Goodwin, and the father of current member Richard Goodwin (& Rachel Lampert). After serving as a chairperson of the Building Committee fifty years ago, Paul worked tirelessly to develop the institution, including his central role in creating endowed funds managed by the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven for the benefit of the synagogue. These endowments provide about one-sixth of the Congregation’s annual income.

As a founder of the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven, Paul has been a visionary as well as a “heavy lifter” or worker in the broader Jewish community as well. Many local and national agencies, as well as the State of Israel, have benefited from his work. Beyond the additional funds brought to support the Congregation this year, Paul has permitted us to disclose that he has included the Congregation in his estate plan, with the hope of encouraging others to follow his example in order to insure the future of the Congregation.

More information about these endowments is available at www.beki.org/endow.html.

HaMaqom Yenahem

With sorrow we note the passing of

Lominta Loving Loftis,
sister of Trish Loving (& Alan Lovins)

Herbert Morton Robbins,
father of Gadiel (& Julie) Robbins

Charles Rosenberg,
father of Esther (& Irwin) Nash

Ruth Rosenberg,
step-mother of Helen Rosenberg (& Keith Richter)

May the Almighty comfort those who mourn

Youth



BEKI-BJ USY Elections

Elections will be held soon for the USY board for the 2012-2013 year and we are looking for enthusiastic USY-ers to serve. Please contact the advisor for further information. Also our co-Presidents Dana Lew and Sasha Weitzman are full of information to answer all of your questions. You can reach them at dana.lew09@gmail.com and koko-pelligurl28@gmail.com.

Seeking Youth Advisors

We are seeking to hire a part-time advisor for each of our award-winning joint youth programs (with Congregation BJ): Kadima (5th to 8th grade), and USY (9th to 12th

grade) for 2012-13. If you are interested in learning more about the position or have a suggestion for someone we can contact, please contact BEKI Youth Commissioner, Rena Cheskis-Gold, r.cheskis-gold@snet.net, (203) 397-1497.

BEKI-BJ Kadima Events

8th graders are now eligible to attend USY chapter events, in addition to chapter and regional Kadima events.

June 3: Chapter Final Event. **Laser Tag**. 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. \$14 per person at Dadd's Xtreme Indoor Sports in West Haven. Let's end the BEKI-BJ Kadima year with a fun party. RSVP to Sarah by May 30: bekibjkadima@gmail.com

June 10: **Regional Event**. Details TBD.

BEKI builds Habitat Hamden on April 29



This year The Sisterhood Book of Life will be dedicated to Jay Sokolow and Ina Silverman. Jay was a president of BEKI and Ina is currently the Religious School principal.

Through his presidency and dedication our congregation has seen many wonderful improvements in both the physical and spiritual aspects of our synagogue. Jay was president from 2007-11.

Through Ina's leadership and enthusiasm, our students have done well in their Judaic and Hebrew studies. Ina has been our Religious School principal since 2008.

Donations of \$18 or more may be made in their honor.

You can also make donations in honor or in memory of your loved ones and friends. Deadline for the inscriptions is June 15. Inscriptions will be written in the Book of Life in our renovated lobby.



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Shabbatot (Saturdays)

Darshanim in July

–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*

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**



Baruch Levine



Bill Hallo



Steven Fraade



Alan Lovins

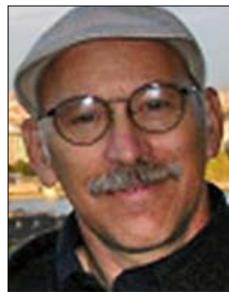
Cooper, Jack Gilron, Rabbi Eric Silver and others, the Shabbat Shalom Torah Study is a nurturing exploration of practice and theory presented in a participatory, non-threatening and multi-generational setting. Many members who take advantage of this unique offering feel a deeper sense of awe born of increased understanding and appreciation of the Torah reading, Haftara (Prophetic reading) and liturgy. The SSTS has been renamed to reflect its focus on scriptural text study and discussion. The word “minyan” has been dropped from the name, as it means “quorum” and implies that a formal prayer service with a quorum will be held, which is generally not the intent of the SSTS. The word “Torah” can be interpreted narrowly to refer to the Hebrew Bible (Tanakh), or more broadly to rabbinic and Judaic literature. In recent years, the program has evolved to focus on the scriptural readings, but also ad-



Nadav Sela



David Kuperstock



Jack Gilron



Eric Silver

dresses the prayer liturgy and other topics related to the liturgical calendar, scriptural readings or current issues of concern. The new name is provisional; please direct your suggestion for a better name to Steven Fraade or Jon-Jay Tilsen. An alternative name, “Shabbat Shalom Learners’ Meeting” has been proposed as well.

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

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). 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 7:00a *shaharit* morning service. (RSG did not meet on Monday 28 May 2012, as it was the festival of Shavuot.) With Jon-Jay Tilsen.

Tuesdays

Hebrew Alefbet

Registration for the current session is closed. To register for the next session, contact Peggy at office@beki.org. A new section may open in late June or July.

Continued on **Page 8**

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.

Modern and Prayerbook Hebrew

Registration for the current session is closed. To register for the next session, contact Peggy at office@beki.org. A new section may open in late June or July.

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; inquiries to William Auriemme 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.

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* meets weekly on Thursdays during the lunch hour (12:30 to 1:30). The Group has met weekly since 1999. For some participants, this is their first direct experience with Talmud text; for others, it is a continuation of a long journey. The Group focuses on the issues raised in the Talmud, with less attention to the technical aspects of the text. Knowledge of Hebrew or Aramaic is helpful but not required.



Isaiah Cooper

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 Study Group meets in BEKI’s Rosenkrantz Family Library. For information, contact Isaiah Cooper at his law office 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.”



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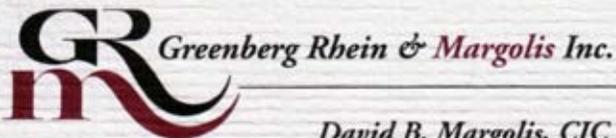


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- Trish Loving & Alan Lovins with condolences to Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter on the passing of Helen's step-mother Ruth Rosenberg
- Trish Loving & Alan Lovins honoring Daniel Cooper becoming a bar mitzva

Qiddush Sponsors (minimum \$280)

- Amy & Jack Gilron
- Kathy Nargi-Toth & Jo Wynschenk
- Rhoda Zahler
- The Avni-Singer Family
- Jonathan Freiman
- Isaiah Cooper & Lauri Lowell
- Marsha Beller
- Rabbi Eric & Dr. M.J. Silver

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

- To Stanley Saxe in honor of his birthday by Gerald & Judith Oppenheim
- To Jacques Ben-Avie in honor of his Bar Mitzva by Joanne Foodim & Rob Forbes
- To Karel Koenig & Bob Oakes in honor of their wedding by Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter
- To the family of Doris White with sympathy on her passing by Rayna & David Belowsky
- To Bruce & Lisa Tabak with sympathy on the passing of Bruce's mother by the Rothman family

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

- To Alan Rosner with sympathy on the passing of Violet Rosner by Leon Cummings
- The Eric I.B. Beller Environmental Endowment Fund
- To Marsha Beller and family with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by Rhoda Zahler & Al Samuel
- To Marsha Beller and family

with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by Steve & Rachel Wizner

- To Marsha Beller and family with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by Jennifer Fleming
- To Marsha Beller and family with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by David & Darryl Kuperstock
- To Andrea Beller & Ken Stolarsky with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by David & Darryl Kuperstock
- To Marsha Beller and family with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by the Avni-Singer family
- To Marsha Beller and family with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by Morris Bell & Raina Sotsky
- To Marsha Beller and family with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by Ina Silverman & Jay Sokolow
- To Marsha Beller and family with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by Eleanor Stutz
- To Marsha Beller and family with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by Audrey & Dudley Wiygul
- To commemorate the 10th yahrzeit of Eric Beller, z"l by Marsha Beller and family
- To Marsha Beller and family with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by Jonathan Freiman
- To Dr. Andrea Beller with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at the University of Illinois
- To Dr. Andrea Beller with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics at the University of Illinois
- To Marsha Beller and family with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by Sharon & Dan Prober and family
- To Marsha Beller with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by Sid & Donna Levine

Qiddush Committee

- To David & Darryl Kuperstock with thanks for the Seder meal by Hannah & Herb Winer
- To Bob Oakes & Karel Koenig in honor of their wedding by Hannah & Herb Winer

Benei Mitzva Qiddush Committee Tzedaka Fund

- To Daniel Cooper in honor of his Bar Mitzva by Sid & Donna Levine
- To Daniel Cooper in honor of his Bar Mitzva by Paul & Carole Bass
- To Daniel Cooper in honor of his Bar Mitzva by David Wright
- To Ari Kaufman-Frankel in honor of his Bar Mitzva by Sid & Donna Levine

Hesed Committee

- To Daniel Cooper in honor of his Bar Mitzva by Muriel Banquer
- To Daniel Cooper in honor of his Bar Mitzva by Caryl & Michael Kligfeld

Social Action/Tikkun Olam

- To help provide food for "Abraham's Tent" by Mimi Glenn

The Barzillai Cheskis BEKI Youth Israel Scholarship Fund

- To Jacques Ben-Avie in honor of his Bar Mitzva by Rena Cheskis-Gold, Marty Gold & family
- To Marsha Beller and family with sympathy on the passing of Helen Beller by Rena Cheskis-Gold, Marty Gold & family

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

- In memory of Fred Kaufman by Lewis Kaufman
- In memory of Bluma Spooogan Soloway by Lewis Kaufman
- In memory of her father Murray Edelkind by Tamar Edelkind
- In memory of Sydney Weiss by Suzanne Weinstein
- In memory of Kate Weinstein by Suzanne Weinstein
- In memory of Charlotte Gralla by Linda Schultz & Howard Gralla
- In memory of Bennett Schultz by Linda Schultz & Howard Gralla
- In memory of Abraham Goldstein by Myra & Marc Goldfarb
- In memory of Susan Schnitman by Helene & Ed Vanderhoef
- In memory of Morris "Moishe" Schnitman by Helene & Ed Vanderhoef
- In memory of Dorothy Nachman Resnik by Judith Resnik & Dennis Curtis
- In memory of his father Matthew Lettick by Robert & Janice Lettick
- In memory of Bessie Flamer by Mickey & Bud Chorney
- In memory of Anna & Abraham Voliansky by Bud & Claire Volain
- In memory of Charlotte Voliansky by Bud & Claire Volain
- In memory of Helen Kasha by Henry Kasha
- In memory of Sophie Hersh bain by Debbie & Louis Siegel
- In memory of Louis Lovins by Alan Lovins
- In memory of Estelle Kone by Carolyn Kone & Allan Rubenstein
- In memory of loved ones by the Rifkin family
- In memory of Walter H. Greenwald by Roberta F. Vine
- In memory of her grandmother Ida Brunswick by Barbara Cushen
- In memory of Anne Benson by Joanne & Stephen Rudolf
- In memory of her mother Goldythe Hyman by Shirley & Harold Fidler
- In memory of his beloved brother Abraham Louis Silverman by Robert H. Silverman
- In memory of her father Hyman H. Hayes by Maeera Hayes Mougim
- In memory of her husband Lewis Meisel by Harriet Meisel
- In memory of her sister Lillian Kogan by Harriet Meisel
- In memory of Mendel Rosner by Sara-Ann & Hillel Auerbach
- In memory of Sara Oppenheim by Gerald & Judith Oppenheim
- In memory of Israel Glazman by Polina Naiman
- In memory of Beverly Zerwitz Zlotoff by Ronald Zlotoff & Donna Kemper
- In memory of Jeannette Spivak by Sheila & Allen Mushin
- In memory of Marilyn Levine by Rabbi Murray Levine
- In memory of Breindel Levine by Rabbi Murray Levine
- In memory of Goldie and Eli Kasimer by Tina Kasimer
- In memory of Eli and Goldie Kasimer by Joe Kasimer



WHERE ALL PEOPLE CAN BE SAFE

I went to school in an ethnically diverse setting, in Independent School District 197 Dakota County, in Minnesota: there were both Swedes *and* Norwegians. Scandinavians being a generally enlightened people -- the bizarre anti-Semitism of their governments and press notwithstanding -- it may be surprising to know that there was some level of intolerance and bullying on the playground and in the schools where I grew up. Well, maybe there was a reason they had to leave Scandinavia.

One of the mean names kids called each other in grade school was “faggot.” Of course, none of us knew what it meant, until one student looked it up in the dictionary and reported that it means “a bundle of sticks.” That seemed a really stupid name to call someone and so it was dropped. For a short while it was fashionably cruel to call someone a woman – “You woman!” – but when a playmate named Wanda responded to such a taunt by saying incredulously and without a sense of having been wronged, “Yeah, well, I am a girl you know,” no one could quite figure out why that was supposed to be an insult and it quickly disappeared from the schoolyard lexicon.

Given my family name, I could pass as either a Swede or Norwegian (since the difference between “Tilson” and

“Tilsen” was inaudible), and so for that reason I was pretty rarely harassed or subject to bullying. Although I was probably one of the more involved and “public” Jews among my contemporaries, many of the other kids in school might not have even recognized my true minority status, although my dark coloring did make me stand out. I of course never engaged in the childhood cruelty of name calling, although I did some pretty mean things I now regret, but we won’t go into that. I prefer to remember myself as the Champion of the Oppressed and Defender of Decency.

Now things are different. When a sixth grader says to another, in the most off-handed fashion possible, “I’m going to blow your head off,” he or she is likely to be suspended or expelled, if not face criminal charges. Back in my day, one of my friends, when I annoyed her, used to threaten to rip out my gizzard, but seeing that I don’t to my knowledge have a gizzard, it’s hard to guess how the authorities would deal with such a case today. The rule, though, is to err on the side of caution – and err they do – and treat such statements as real threats.

It is even worse than that. The playground taunt or insult can be posted on YouTube or Facebook, an apt application of the expression “going viral” inasmuch as a virus is

Continued on **Page 13**

Safe

Continued from Page 12

something generally considered harmful.

It turns out that there is a continuum of badness in insults and threats. Even threats that are not literal or “credible” are harmful. In recent years, insults, taunts, photo exposés and other cruelties that have been spread on the “social media” have led to suicides and other tragedies. Local and national media have reported on “suicide caused by Facebook taunts,” “Texas woman Twitters and Lands in Jail,” and the “Webcam suicide case” at Rutgers.

It is critical to our mission that BEKI be a place where all people can be safe from insults, threats, harassment and embarrassment. This can be a challenge when youth, who attend a variety of schools and camps, each with its own culture, come together on Shabbat and Festivals and in Youth Group (USY and Kadima) activities, without exception wonderful and decent children, each one above average. School can be rough for some kids and they deserve a place to be safe; and kids who come from safe and protected environments should not have to face verbal or emotional violence or bullying in the synagogue.

Nor should they have to see kids at BEKI who harass them elsewhere. Being victimized does not “prepare them for the real world”; it teaches them that other Jewish kids can be cruel, undermines their trust that the community can be safe and nurturing, and drives them away from Torah.

“I was only kidding” is not an acceptable excuse for taunts, teases, torments, ridicule, disrespect and bullying. “I didn’t mean it” doesn’t remove the damage. “He deserved

it” is not a justification. “I never thought that *this* would happen” – not knowing what “minor” teasing might lead to in the end – is not a defense. In some cases, the perpetrators live with a lifetime of guilt or a criminal record; and occasionally they get killed by their victims who react more strongly than anticipated to the insult or abuse. As one of

our sages said, “Whoever embarrasses another person is like one who sheds blood” (Talmud Baba Metsia 58b).

Halakha (Jewish law) specifically prohibits speech and action that can cause embarrassment, shame or fear in another person. A single joke, prank or slight may be a violation of one or more laws, such as the prohibition against tale-bearing and slander (*rekhilut* and *lashon ha-ra*), the rule against endangering one’s life (*hishamer*), the prohibition against oppressing others (*al tonu*), the rule against desecrating God’s name (*hillul ha-Shem*), and the requirement to love one’s neighbor (*ve-ahavta le-re’ekha*), among others. It makes a mockery of Torah and of Judaism.

As Jews, we are especially admonished to be sensitive to foreigners, for we were “foreigners in the land of Egypt”; and we are told to be consider-

ate of the needs and sentiments of those who are vulnerable or oppressed, the “orphan and widow.”

As Rabbi Elazar haModa’I said, “Whoever embarrasses another person, even if he is learned and accomplished, has no share in the coming world” (Avot 3:11). This is why our sages said, “It is better to throw yourself into a fiery furnace than to publicly embarrass another person” (Talmud Baba Metsia 58b).



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)

June 2012

11 Sivan 5772 - 10 Tammuz 5772

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

					<p>1 8:01pm Candle Lighting</p> <p>11 Sivan</p>	<p>2 Naso Ezra Shabbat Darshan: R' Yaakov Komisar 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Shabbat Shalom Torah Study Qiddush: Friends of Helen Sapadin Shabbat Shmooze: Hevra Qadisha at BEKI 5:45pm Minha</p> <p>12 Sivan</p>
<p>3 9:00am Shaharit 11:00am Kadima Chapter Final Event: Lazer Tag off site, reservations required</p> <p>13 Sivan</p>	<p>4 7:45am Rashi Study Group</p> <p>14 Sivan</p>	<p>5</p> <p>15 Sivan</p>	<p>6 8:30am Rabbi's Study Group</p> <p>16 Sivan</p>	<p>7 12:30pm Talmud Study Group</p> <p>17 Sivan</p>	<p>8 8:06pm Candle Lighting</p> <p>18 Sivan</p>	<p>9 Behaalotekha 10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: BEKI Congregation 5:45pm Minha</p> <p>19 Sivan</p>
<p>10 9:00am Shaharit USY & Kadima Regional Six Flags Events, reservations required</p> <p>20 Sivan</p>	<p>11 7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm Executive Board Meeting</p> <p>21 Sivan</p>	<p>12</p> <p>22 Sivan</p>	<p>13 8:30am Rabbi's Study Group (final meeting for summer)</p> <p>23 Sivan</p>	<p>14 12:30pm Talmud Study Group</p> <p>24 Sivan</p>	<p>15 8:09pm Candle Lighting</p> <p>25 Sivan</p>	<p>16 Shelah 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Shabbat Shalom Torah Study Qiddush: Families of New Graduates</p> <p>26 Sivan</p>
<p>17 9:00am Shaharit</p> <p>27 Sivan</p>	<p>18 7:45am Rashi Study Group</p> <p>28 Sivan</p>	<p>19</p> <p>29 Sivan</p>	<p>20 Rosh Hodesh I Numbers</p> <p>30 Sivan</p>	<p>21 Rosh Hodesh II Numbers 12:30pm Talmud Study Group</p> <p>1 Tammuz</p>	<p>22 8:11pm Candle Lighting</p> <p>2 Tammuz</p>	<p>23 Korah 10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: Rudof 5:45pm Minha</p> <p>3 Tammuz</p>
<p>24 9:00am Shaharit</p> <p>4 Tammuz</p>	<p>25 7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm General Board Meeting</p> <p>5 Tammuz</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6 Tammuz</p>	<p>27 6:30pm BEKI Annual Meeting</p> <p>7 Tammuz</p>	<p>28 12:30pm Talmud Study Group</p> <p>8 Tammuz</p>	<p>29 8:11pm Candle Lighting</p> <p>9 Tammuz</p>	<p>30 Hukkat 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Shabbat Shalom Torah Study Qiddush: TBA 5:45pm Minha</p> <p>10 Tammuz</p>

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



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