Posener Endows Yom Kippur Break-Fast

The George G. Posener Family Memorial Yom Kippur Break-Fast Fund at Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel in blessed memory of his wife, parents, sisters, brother and two precious sons has been established by George G. Posener to create a lasting memorial at the time of the yahrzeits of his family members. Proceeds from this endowment provide for a special and meaningful community gathering at the end of Yom Kippur.

George Posener is a leader in volunteer, directorship and financial support at BEKI, and a recipient of the Congregation’s “Distinguished Service Award.” Several of George’s family members’ yahrzeits occur during Elul and Tishrei, that is, during the “Penitential Season.” Several of our members memorialize their loved ones by sponsoring a qiddush at the time of their yahrzeit each year. George has gone a step further by making his spon-
Email Update

Please note that Rabbi Tilsen’s email address is jjtilsen@beki.org. If you would like to be added to the list of members who receive occasional email messages of lifecycle and other events, please let Rabbi Tilsen know.

Our office (beki@snet.net) will also be very happy to learn of your new or revised email address.

No Parking

Members and visitors are advised that parking is prohibited at all times on the East side of Harrison Street as indicated by the “No Parking” signs. Parking is usually available across Harrison Street, and ample parking is available in the BEKI lot at the rear of the building. When driving in the BEKI parking lot, please observe the five-miles-per-hour speed limit.

Daily Services

Daily services at BEKI provide an opportunity to learn, pray, reflect, transition and center one’s own spiritual life. Services provide a context for fulfilling the mitzva (religious obligation) of daily worship. Services are held every weekday morning and evening. See the calendar for a schedule. During this month, there will be a special need for more participants on Tuesday mornings (7:00a), Thursday mornings (8:15a) and Sunday nights (5:45p).
A Message from Rabbi Tilsen

Free Medical Advice

As part of my work as rabbi in our community, I often visit BEKI family members and supporters in the local hospitals. Usually I know of hospitalizations only when someone (the patient, family member or friend) informs me, and then (barring emergency) I try to visit the next working day. Very often patients remark on the quality of the care they receive from their doctors, nurses and other medical professionals.

If I were to require hospitalization, there is no time in the past and no place other than the New Haven area that I would rather be hospitalized. We are fortunate in our area to have many exceptionally caring, dedicated and skilled medical professionals.

At the same time, many patients (or family members) point out problems they have encountered. Problems include incorrect or delayed medications, wrong diet, missed appointments, overlooked diagnoses. I have seen diabetics given non-diabetic meals or no meals; a deaf patient incorrectly assumed to be mentally incompetent; a post-operative gastro-intestinal patient given a (nearly fatal) meal. The list goes on. Often, patients or their family members catch mistakes, most of which would have relatively minor consequences, but some of which could be fatal. We were all horrified recently by the two deaths that occurred at a local hospital after the anesthesia and oxygen lines were crossed in an operating room.

With all of our wonderful medicines, technology and workers, why is our medical care system so problematic? It seems that the value of the system as a whole is sometimes less than the sum of its parts. When I have an emergency procedure done, I don’t want to be treated by an internist suffering from sleep deprivation. I don’t want to be cared for by a nurse who has been working for 11 hours straight and whose patient load is overwhelming. When I am given a life-sustaining medication, I don’t want it to be administered by someone who does not know what the medication is or what it is for.

Besides supporting those who are working to improve our health care system through local, state and national initiatives, each of us can take simple steps to help insure we get the best care available. Free advice: Be in charge of your own case. By this I mean, each hospitalized person (or their family member) should know what medication is being given, when and why; what procedure is being done; and what the plan is. Ask questions, politely, but firmly, until you understand what is being done or proposed. If you think something is wrong, speak up. Better to be safe than sorry.
It has been six months since the events of 11 September. During February, I attended two workshops pertaining to the events of that date. One was presented by the Community Foundation of Greater New Haven, and the other by the American friends of Ghetto Fighters’ Museum. The topic of the second was “How do we teach about the Holocaust in the wake of the Intifadah and 9/11.” Our presenter was Dr. David Pelkovitz. He addressed us on the impact of trauma and suggested that many groups in America feel totally incapacitated by the visions and memories of 11 September. He stressed to us the importance of “naming the monsters” now, not later – in other words, confronting the fears of the trauma.

In my work post 9/11, two groups of people that I love and work with, survivors of the Shoah (Holocaust), and Saul’s Circle participants, have been particularly affected by the Twin Towers terrorism. To many survivors, the Twin Towers event evoked images of Auschwitz: the smoke, the burnt flesh, disaster, terror, loss. To some Saul’s Circle participants, the memories of 9/11 continue to disturb and sadden them.

Many of us are still looking for answers and, at times, solace. Some of us pray and some cry. Those with young children watch them more carefully, listen to their stories, extend the bedtime rituals. Those of us with elderly ones in our lives give an extra call, a hug, or a loving gesture. When I need solace, I look to my family, the Torah, or wise sayings, to guide and sustain me.

I found solace in the words of Dr. Moshe Shner, Director of the Ghetto Fighters’ Museum in Nahariya, Israel:

We have learned from the Holocaust that human dignity is fragile and that freedom must be protected. It taught us how easy it is for human beings to be caught up in the mindset of racism and to become oppressors. Even in the darkest times, human beings can – and therefore must – identify and protect the good in society, while recognizing evil and resisting it, even with chained hands.

The hands of the American people are not chained. We trust your ideals of freedom, courage and strength. As you stand at the side of the Israelis in our dark hours, we want to be with you during your dark time. Israel is a tiny country but we offer you our love, friendship, and support when you mourn your victims and when you start on the long road of healing and the difficult struggle you have undertaken with international terrorism. As you support our efforts to achieve peace, we support your efforts for world freedom.

Catastrophes do not make us stronger. They make us confront our responsibilities and vulnerabilities as human beings. The events of 9/11 made us aware of our identity and our total commitment to life, freedom and human solidarity.
Purim at BEKI

Religious School News

The students in K-1 have been very busy preparing for Purim. They have their own textbook on Purim and created beautiful mishloah manot boxes. They held a baking party with their parents to prepare hamantashen for shalah manot. They have just mastered the Hebrew letter vav and are starting to have Hebrew homework. A favorite part of their morning is Debbie Friedman’s Purim songs, “Miracles” and “Wonders.”

The Alef class is continuing to study Jewish Life Cycle events. In Judaics and Hebrew they can recite and read the Shema’. They are also working on mastering the Hamotzi, Qiddush, and the Shehechianu. (Recordings of these prayers and blessings are available in BEKI’s web audio library.)

Kita Bet-Gimel has been hard at work on their Hebrew grammar, focusing on the particle shel and its declension. The Fourth graders are working in the Shema textbook and the Fifth graders are working on the Amida textbook. In Judaics they are reading David and Bathsheba. They are also studying the reign of King David. They continue to provide leadership during Parsha Quiz.

Kita Dalet Hei had a slight respite from studying on Sunday 3 February. As proud members of Kadima they made Deli-Boxes for the Kadima sale. In Judaics as part of their Shoah curriculum, they are reading The Sand Game by Uri Orlev, an Israeli author and child Survivor of the Shoah. They are also very involved in costumes, sets, and make-up for the Purim shpiel. LK

Learning Lites

Highlights from “Learning Lites” – the BEKI Family Education program, partially funded by Kesher L’Mishpacha, which is made possible by a grant from The Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven and The Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven.

• Following a terrific Tu BeShevat program, Purim preparation kicked into high gear at the BEKI Religious School. A Purim Event provided more hands-on holiday learning activities for all the participants. Yasher Koach to all the parent and Family Education Committee volunteers!

• Children’s Shabbat Havura Social Hour families have enjoyed holiday crafts and conversation, and a Passover theme was set for the session on 3 March. A planning group will be forming, and parents are encouraged to join.

• The “Akiva Series” Session 3 – Using What We Learn, adult beginners Hebrew class, will meet on 10 March, at 9:00a. Please note the earlier start time. We will join the Tefilah (prayer) program that day. The classes do not assume any reading skills, and can be joined at any time.

• BRS students and their families will participate in a Model Seder program, Wednesday 20 March, during school hours (4 – 6:15 pm). Watch for your flyers!

• To participate in, or find out more about, any Learning Lites program or committee, please e-mail Betsy Rosenberg at betcr@yahoo.com, or call 389 – 2108 X 25, for her voicemail. ALL BEKI community members are invited to become involved!

BR
**Passover at BEKI**

**Holiday Preparation Workshops**
A workshop, “Passover: Enriching the Experience,” with Amy Pincus, will be presented on Sunday 3 March from 9:45a to 11:45a in BEKI’s Rosenkrantz Library.

There will be a workshop on “Kosher for Pesah” detailing the rules and procedures for food on Pesah, presented by the Kashrut Initiative of the New Haven Area Rabbinical Assembly (KINAHARA) on 11 March.

See the articles in this issue in the “Torah for the Hungry Mind” listings for more information.

**Pesah Food Questions?**
BEKI members and supporters with questions regarding Passover observances are welcome to contact Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 x10. Answers to frequently asked questions can also be found at the website of the Kashrut Initiative of the New Haven Area Rabbinical Assembly.

**Special Needs Seder**
The Sisterhood of Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel, and Kulanu, in conjunction with the Jewish Family Service and Abel Catering, will host the twentieth annual Adult Special Needs Model Seder at BEKI on 13 March. Each year the Sisterhood has hosted an enthusiastic group of Jewish adults from the New Haven area with a variety of special needs. Last year, over 50 people participated.

For many, this is their only taste of Passover and one that they relish and look forward to each year. The Torah teaches of four types of children, and the Haggada reminds us that we must tell the story of the Exodus to each son and daughter of Israel in the way that is most meaningful to him or her. Through the efforts of Sisterhood, Kulanu Director Lauren Kempton, the generosity of Abel Catering and the good offices of the Jewish Family Services, the Exodus is reenacted through song, food and story at a table set in the Passover tradition.

If you would like to help, please contact Adele Tyson (Sisterhood), Dr. Lauren Kempton (Kulanu), or Jennifer Cohen (JFS).

Kulanu is BEKI’s outreach program for adults with special needs. Kulanu is supported by The David & Lillian Levine Endowment for People with Special Needs at Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel, which is managed by the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven. It is also supported this year through a special contribution of Roger & Susan Stone Levine.

**Bediqat Hametz & Biur Hametz**
On the night of Tuesday 26 March (the night before the first seder), it is customary to perform “Bediqat Hametz,” the final check for leavening before Passover. This procedure can be done as a spiritual or fun ritual with children or adults. The next morning, Wednesday 27 March (the morning before the first seder), it is customary to perform “Biur Hametz,” a final “search and destroy” mission for leavening, to insure compliance with the rule against possessing or eating hametz during the festival. Instructions for Bediqat Hametz and Biur Hametz can be found in most Hagadot, including the Rabbinical Assembly’s *Passover Haggadah: The Feast of Freedom*.

**Siyyum Bekhorot**
The Fast of the First Born is Wednesday 27 March beginning at dawn. Firstborn who attend the Wednesday morning service at 7:00a may conclude their fast by partaking of the seudat mitzva (obligatory feast) celebrating a siyyum, the conclusion of a study project. Services and siyyum will end by 8:15a. All may attend. That time will also be close

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Passover at BEKI


to the last opportunity to authorize Rabbi Tilsen to sell your hametz (see “Selling of Hametz” in this issue).

**Men’s Miqva Experience**

Jewish men are invited for private immersion in the *miqva* (ritual bath) before the festival. The New Haven Mikvah will be available for men on the morning of 27 March following the Siyyum Bekhorot (after 8:15a). A contribution of $5 to $10 is customary. Boys accompanied by their father or other adult male are welcome.

**Let All Who Are Hungry...**

The Seder of Pesah is a wonderful opportunity to welcome others into our homes. Our congregation comprises many people who may not have extended family locally, do not have Jewish relatives, are new to the area, or who otherwise would benefit greatly from a seder invitation. If you are able to open your Seder to additional guests, please contact Rabbi Tilsen at your earliest opportunity at 389-2108 x10 (jjtilsen@beki.org). If you are able to host an adult who is a mental health services consumer or who has developmental disabilities, please contact Education Director Dr. Lauren Kempton (389-2108 x33 or lkempton@beki.org).

**Service & No Service Schedule for Pesah**

Please note that there is no evening service at BEKI on the first and second nights of Pesah. Festival morning services begin at 9:15a on 28 & 29 March and 3 & 4 April. For a more complete listing, see the calendar page in this issue or our website at www.beki.org/schedule.html.

**Sefira – Counting the Omer**

At the second seder (Thursday night 28 March), we begin daily *sefirat ha-omer* (counting of the omer), a counting of days to Shavuot, the next major festival. The counting, preferably done each night for 49 nights, is an expression of eager anticipation, commemorating the period of expectation and preparation we experienced in the Exodus from Egypt until the revelation at Sinai.

The simple home ceremony is printed in most *siddurim* (prayer books), including *Sim Shalom*, immediately after the weekday evening service. While it is a mitzva prescribed for adults, sefirat ha-omer can also be a fun, artistic and joyous ritual for families with children.

In the days before printed calendars, calendar watches and daily newspapers, the sefira served to keep the liturgical calendar of the Jewish People synchronized, no simple accomplishment given dispersion and isolation of much of the community.

The term *omer* refers to the measure (one handful) of grain that was used to create a physical relic of the counting. With a physical reminder, even illiterate people could do a recount in case they forgot the day’s number.

**Shir HaShirim Song of Songs**

The Biblical love poetry of Shir HaShirim - Song of Songs will be read on the morning of 30 March during the Shabbat Pesah service. Tradition ascribes the work to King Solomon himself, writing 2,900 years ago. Celebrate the spring holiday of Pesah with this beautiful and moving reading.

**Yizkor Memorial Service**

The Yizkor Memorial Service will be held during the 9:15a Festival morning service on Thursday 4 April. The Festival service includes a Shaharit morning service, *Hallel* (Psalms of praise), a Torah reading and Haftara, and the Musaf additional service, and concludes by noon. The Yizkor memorial service is one of four such services during the year that help us recognize our feelings of loss, which are often especially intense during the Pesah season, and to honor the memories of our loved ones.
Posener Endows Yom Kippur Break-Fast
Continued from page 1

sorship permanent through the creation of an en-
dowed fund.

The evening Break-Fast following the Yom Kip-
pur Neila (Closing) service serves as a spiritual tran-
sition from the intense introspection and prayer of
the Holy Day to the joyous beginning of a new year
with all of its potential for good. The Break-Fast
unites and elates our community as we renew our
relationships with others after completing a long
period of prayer and meditation. Participants of-
ten comment that it is a high-point in their religious
life. It is therefore fitting that this community event
be dedicated to the honor and memory of the George
G. Posener family.

If you are interested in creating an endowed fund
for the benefit of BEKI, or in including BEKI in your
estate planning or current planned charitable giving,
please feel free to contact estate planning attorney
Donna Levine at 787-1633 (sdsij@aol.com). You may
also contact Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 x10
(jjtilsen@bei.org) or David Tein at The Jewish Foun-
dation at 387-2424 x304 (dtein@jewishnewhaven.org)
for a confidential discussion.

The Children’s Shabbat Havura

The Children’s Shabbat Havura meets every
Shabbat morning from 10:45a to noon in the Claire
Goodwin Youth Room. Designed to address the
spiritual and social needs of preschool children,
the Havura meets concurrently with K-2 Kehila,
Junior Congregation, Cosmic Conversations, the
Shabbat Shalom Learners’ Minyan and the main
Sabbath service. Following the half-hour of songs,
stories, prayers and dance, the children have their
own kiddush refreshments and then enjoy super-
vised play until they join the adult worship for
the Concluding Service and kiddush.

The Havura enjoys strong support from par-
ents and the Synagogue. Currently about 70 chil-
dren and their parents actively participate in the
Havura. Visitors have come from across New
England to observe this program as a model for
their own synagogues.

Meeting the spiritual and social needs of pre-
school children is an obligation of the Jewish com-
unity and an important part of the Synagogue’s
mission. The Havura (Friendship Circle) links the
children to one another, to other concerned Jew-
ish parents, and to the Synagogue. The Havura
enjoys the active participation of parents who
themselves are enriched by the experience. For
many adults, the Children’s Shabbat Havura
serves as their introduction to active participation
in the Synagogue Community.

If you are interested in learning more about the
BEKI Children’s Shabbat Havura, come any Shab-
bat (Saturday) morning at 10:45a and see for your-
self. Or contact Miriam Benson at 389-6137 or
mirbenson@aol.com, who, along with Ellen
Cohen, coordinates the program. You can also
contact Education Director Dr. Lauren Kempton
at 389-2108 x33 or lkempton@bei.org, the staff
person who supports this parent cooperative.
Saul’s Circle

On 24 February, Saul’s Circle hosted a festive Purim Party at Fellowship Place in New Haven. Dr. Lauren Kempton, assisted by Dana Etra and Sara Mag, Social Director of Fellowship Place, retold the Purim story. Saul’s circle members made masks, hamantashen, and received mishloah-manot. The afternoon ended with a reading of selections from the Megila.

Kashrut Advisory

Buy Heksher food. Food manufacturing often entails the use of chemicals and processes that impinge on a product’s kashrut (kosher status). Even seemingly innocuous products should be produced under rabbinic supervision. Gelatin-based clarifiers are often used in making apple juice; animal fats are often used in packaging; animal-derived vitamin A is often added to fortify milk. Only foods produced and sealed under rabbinic supervision (other than fresh fruits and vegetables) may be brought into Beth El-Keser Israel.

For more information on kosher issues in the Greater New Haven Area, contact KINAHARA™: Kashrut Initiative of the New Haven Area Rabbinical Assembly (www.kinahara.org).

LifeCycle

Mazal tov to

• Jennifer Klein (& Jim Berger) on her appointment as Assistant Professor of History at Yale University
• Tammy Baitch & Sam Katz on their Engagement. Tammy is the sister of Yaron (& Mindy) Baitch. Their huppa is planned for 26 May 2002 at BEKI.
• Diane Heisler & Steve Wechsler on their engagement. Diane is the daughter of Alex & Lillian Heisler. Their huppa is planned for 13 October 2002.
• Valerie Sandler on her engagement to Alex Thaler. Their huppa is planned for 22 June 2003 in Pennsylvania. Valerie is a graduate student in Modern Jewish History at Yale, and Alex teaches fifth grade at Meadowside Elementary School in Milford. Alex’s family lives in West Haven.
• Helen Rosenberg on her engagement to Keith Richter. Their huppa is planned for sometime in 2003.
• Robert Oppenheim & Alisa Katz on their engagement. Robert is the son of Gerald & Judith Oppenheim.

See the listing of Nisuin (Jewish weddings) of BEKI family members on our website.
# BEKI Events

**March - Adar - Nisan**

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<th>Sunday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shaharit=Morning</td>
<td>BEKI phone numbers:</td>
<td>Office Hours:</td>
<td>Office: <a href="mailto:beki@snet.net">beki@snet.net</a></td>
<td>7:00a Shaharit</td>
<td>9:15a Shaharit</td>
<td>5:24p Candles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minha =Afternoon</td>
<td>(203) 389-2108</td>
<td>Mon 9a-12 &amp; 1p-3p</td>
<td>Rabbi: <a href="mailto:jjtilsen@beki.org">jjtilsen@beki.org</a></td>
<td>5:24p Candles</td>
<td>Bryce Brown Bar Mitzva</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maariv=Evening</td>
<td>Fax (203) 389-5899</td>
<td>Tue by appt. only</td>
<td>Religious School/Education</td>
<td>6:00p Maariv</td>
<td>10:45a Children's Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSSL=Shabbat Shalom</td>
<td>Mary Ellen-Office x14</td>
<td>Wed 10a-12 &amp; 1p-6p</td>
<td>Director: <a href="mailto:Ikempton@beki.org">Ikempton@beki.org</a></td>
<td>10:45a Cosmic Conversations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learners'/Minyan</td>
<td>Religious School x13</td>
<td>Thu 9a-12 &amp; 1p-3p</td>
<td>website: www:beki.org</td>
<td>5:25p Minha, Avot, Maariv, Havdala</td>
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<td>BRS=BEKI Religious</td>
<td>Rabbi x10</td>
<td>Fri 9a-2p</td>
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<td>School</td>
<td>Dr. Lauren Kempton x 33</td>
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<td>9:00a Religious School</td>
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**Rosh Hodesh**

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<td>8:15a Shaharit</td>
<td>9:00a Shaharit</td>
<td>5:40p Candles</td>
<td>Shai Sokolow Silverman Bar Mitzva</td>
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<td>9:00a Religious School</td>
<td>7:45a Rashi Study Group</td>
<td>4:00p Religious School</td>
<td>5:45p Maariv</td>
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<td>5:45p Maariv</td>
<td>10:45a Children's Programs</td>
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<td>9:30a Adult Ed: Passover-Enriching the Experience</td>
<td>5:45p Maariv</td>
<td>4:00p Religious School</td>
<td>4:15p Benei Mitzva Pgm</td>
<td>7:45p Maariv</td>
<td>5:45p Maariv</td>
<td>10:45a Cosmic Conversations</td>
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<td>5:45p Maariv</td>
<td>7:45p General Bd.</td>
<td>5:45p Maariv</td>
<td>6:00p Special Needs Seder</td>
<td>7:45p Maariv</td>
<td>6:00p Maariv</td>
<td>4:30p Minha, Avot, Maariv, Havdala</td>
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**4 Nisan**

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**11 Nisan**

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<td>5:45p Maariv</td>
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<td>5:45p Maariv</td>
<td>8:00p Maariv</td>
<td>5:45p Maariv</td>
<td>6:00p Maariv</td>
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**Search for Hametz**

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<tr>
<th>31 Nisan</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00a Shaharit</td>
<td>No Religious School</td>
<td>5:45p Maariv</td>
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**Pesah-1st Seder**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Office Closed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00a-3:00p KiSS</td>
<td>7:00a Shaharit</td>
<td>7:00a Shaharit</td>
<td>7:15a Festival Morning Svc</td>
<td>9:15a Shaharit</td>
<td>Festival Svc</td>
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<td>7:30a Men's Miqva</td>
<td>8:00a-3:00p KiSS</td>
<td>No evening service</td>
<td>5:55p Candles</td>
<td>10:45a Children's Programs</td>
<td>Cosmic Conversations</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15a Seder</td>
<td>8:00a-3:00p KiSS</td>
<td>after 6:54p Candles</td>
<td>6:00p Maariv</td>
<td>10:45a Cosmic Conversations</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:45p Maariv</td>
<td>8:00p Maariv</td>
<td>No evening service</td>
<td>5:45p Maariv</td>
<td>5:45p Minha, Avot, Maariv, Havdala</td>
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**Pesah**

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**Kiddush Sponsors: David & Darryl Kuperstock**

**USY Shabbaton**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9:00a Shaharit</th>
<th>USY Shabbaton</th>
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</table>
March Brunch

“The Reconstructionist Movement” will be explained and discussed by Rabbi Alan Lovins and Terri Stern at the 10 March BEKI Sunday Brunch, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Alan and Terri have been important contributors to the BEKI community, respectively, as High Holiday cantor and Religious school principal. They have come to an appreciation of the Reconstructionist approach to Judaism through a process and level of commitment that can inform others seeking to define their relationship to their Jewish heritage.

Benei Mitzva

Bryce Brown, son of Andrea Sadick-Brown & Jim Brown, will lead and participate in services as a bar mitzva on Shabbat morning 2 March. The service begins at 9:15 a.m.

Shai Sokolow Silverman, son of Jay Sokolow & Ina Silverman, will lead and participate in services as a bar mitzva on Shabbat Evening, Morning, and Afternoon 15-16 March.

KISS

The KISS program (“Kids In Shul when they close the School”) continues to run very smoothly under the direction of Sybil Richards. Now that winter has arrived, you may need childcare for an unplanned snow day. Or perhaps you must find placement for your elementary-age children when school closes for a civic or school holiday, such as the days before Passover. KISS is planned for 26 & 27 March, the two days before Pesah, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please contact Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x 33 or lkempton@beki.org to arrange for participation in KISS, BEKI’s program of Judaic and fun activities when the schools are closed.
Creating BEKI’s Future

George G. Posener, Rabbi Murray Levine, and Marvin Missan are among those who have informed BEKI that they have included the Congregation as a beneficiary in their estate plans or wills. Rabbi Tilsen is pleased to announce that he has now joined the ranks of these distinguished leaders.

“I don’t know what the future holds for me,” explained the rabbi. “But I do know that BEKI has been very important to my life as a Jew and as a human being for these past eight and a half years, and may be important to me for years to come. Whatever happens, I want to acknowledge this and help make sure that BEKI can be here, and be strong, for future generations. Many of those who enjoy the BEKI community are either young people who stay in New Haven for a few years as part of their career development and move on, or pensioners – people at stages of their lives when they are least able to provide financial support. This means that BEKI must rely more on wills and the generosity of its wealthier members to finance its operations.”

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

If you would like information on including BEKI in your estate planning or current planned charitable giving, please contact your financial advisor or estate planning attorney and BEKI officer Donna Levine at 787-1633 (sdsij@aol.com). You may also contact Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 x10 (jjtilsen@beki.org) or David Tein at The Jewish Foundation at 387-2424 x304 (dtein@jewishnewhaven.org) for a confidential discussion.

Take Care of Your Cemetery Need

The time to take care of your cemetery need is before there is a need. Now is the perfect time to select your sites...while there is a good selection. BEKI cemeteries are located in Hamden and West Haven, within minutes of the synagogue and with easy access to main thoroughfares. Member discounts are available.

We can help you select a site and discuss payment terms. Call the BEKI Cemetery Association office today at 389-2108 x57 and arrange a meeting of one of the officers of the cemetery association. For directions to the cemeteries see our website at www.beki.org under “Directions.”

Food Certificates Fundraiser

Food certificates can now be charged to VISA and Mastercard on-line through Helping.org. You will be receiving a mailing with the details. We are well stocked and they are available daily and Sundays from the Religious School office. Follow the directions at www.beki.org/donate.html. LK
**Torah for the Hungry Mind:**
**Adult Studies at BEKI**

**Kosher for Pesah**

Kosher for Pesah, a workshop on the practical requirements of being “Kosher for Passover.” Monday 11 March 2002, 6:00p to 7:30p, in BEKI’s Rosenkrantz Family Library.

The workshop is a program of “The Kashrut Initiative of the New Haven Area Rabbinical Assembly” (KINAHARA) and is free and open to the public. Major funding for KINAHARA is provided by the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven in 2001-2003 (5762-5763) and by The New Haven Area Rabbinical Assembly (NAHARA).

For more information contact Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen at 389-2108 or jjtilsen@beki.org.

**Passover: Enriching the Experience**

“Passover: Enriching the Experience” with Amy Pincus will be presented on Sunday 3 March from 9:45a to 11:45a in BEKI’s Rosenkrantz Library. For more information, contact Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x33 or lkempton@beki.org.

**Shabbat: Ritual & Song**

“Shabbat: Ritual & Song” with Amy Pincus will be presented on Sunday 10 March from 9:45a to 11:45a in BEKI’s Rosenkrantz Library. Bring a tape recorder! For more information, contact Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x33 or lkempton@beki.org.

**Book Group**

BEKI’s monthly Book Group meets on Shabbat afternoon 23 March immediately following qiddush (about 1:00p) in BEKI’s Rosenkrantz Family Library. The March selection is Thirst: The Desert Trilogy, by Shulamith Hareven, $13.56, ISBN 1562790889. Hareven is an Israeli writer who uses the Book of Exodus as a basis for these stories in which characters face challenges through which they have to deal with timeless questions. For further information, contact Helen Rosenberg at 389-9594.
J. Deborah Ferholt, M.D. and A. Joseph Avni-Singer, M.D. are pleased to announce the formation of Child and Adolescent Health Care, L.L.C.

303 Whitney Avenue
New Haven, Connecticut 06511

(203) 776-1243

General Pediatrics and Developmental Consultation

AA Meeting

A Thursday night AA meeting is held 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 call Dr. Jay at (203) 387-6019 or email Dr. Jay at drjays.nai@rcn.com.

Jewish Cooking

Chief Chef Michael Ries concludes the series “Jewish Cooking” on Tuesday evenings from 7:00p to 9:00p in BEKI’s Kosher Kitchen on 5, 12, 19 March. To register for the remainder of the course, contact Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x33 or lkempton@beki.org.

Starry Nights: The Winter Sky

The study of our world is one way we come to know and love the Almighty. On Tuesday nights from 7:00p to 9:00p, Brooks Parmelee will help us identify and appreciate what is above. The class began in February and will meet for its last two times on 12 & 19 March. To attend the final classes, contact Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x33 or lkempton@beki.org.

Mishna With Moshe

A Mishna Study with Rabbi Moshe “Murray” Levine meets on Tuesday mornings at 10:00a in BEKI’s Rosenkrantz Library. The class, which began in February, will meet every Tuesday in March. To register, contact Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x33 or lkempton@beki.org.

Pirqe Avot

A  vot Mishna Avot, also known as Pirqe Avot or Ethics of the Fathers is studied at BEKI each Shabbat afternoon between the minha and maariv services during the winter months. Everyone is welcome. See the calendar page or www.beki.org/rotate.html for the service time.

Shabbat Shalom Learners’ Minyan

The Shabbat Shalom Learners’ Minyan for adults meets in BEKI’s 1st Rosenkrantz Family Library every second Shabbat (Saturday) morning year-round from 10:45a to noon. The SSLM meets on the 9th and 23rd of this month. Everyone is welcome to participate regardless of religious status or background.

RAVIT AVNI-SINGER, MSW LCSW

214 Amity Road
Woodbridge, CT 06525
(203) 389-9174

Announces the establishment of her practice in child, adolescent, and adult psychotherapy.
**BEKI Kids to Sing on Yom Ha-Atzma’ut**

On 21 April 2002, in celebration of Yom Ha-Atzma’ut, BEKI Kids will sing in “The Spirit of Israel,” a participatory family day featuring the art, music, dance and food of Israel at the JCC. There will be one mandatory rehearsal on 14 April at 1:00p at the JCC. Ruthie Greenblatt will be working with our singers from BEKI. If you would like to be involved, please call Dr. Kempton at 389-2108 ext. 33. The Religious School students will also be creating poster board presentations about Israel.

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**Audio Library on Web**

Various blessings and prayers are recorded for educational purposes on BEKI’s web site. Shabbat, Hanuka, and daily liturgical selections are presented. Check for additions! To hear selections, go to www.beki.org/audio.html.

Thanks to Amy Pincus for her recordings!

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**Rabbi Andrew Klein**

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**Gregory and Adams, P.C.**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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Wilton, Connecticut 06897

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**Westville Kosher Market**

95 Amity Rd. (Next to Amity Wine)

New Haven (off exit 59 Meritt Pkwy)

389-1166

-  New Dining Area  -  All Foods Freshly Made on Premises
-  Bakery Products  -  Under Strict Rabbinical Supervision
-  Expanded Groceries  -  Expanded Groceries
-  Home-Made Deli Items  -  Kosher
-  Fresh-Meat & Poultry  -  Kosher & Kashered
-  All Meat & Poultry Kosher & Kashered

Sun. 8:30-4:00 • Mon.-Wed. 8:30-6:00
Thurs. 8:30-7:00 • Fri. 8:30-3:00 • Closed Sat.
20s-30s Havura Enjoys Dinner, Brunch

Jewish singles and couples in their 20s and 30s are invited to contact BEKI member Valerie Sandler (777-4784 or valerie.sandler@yale.edu) or Mary Ellen Mack (389-2108 x14 or beki@snet.net) for information on special events of interest. BEKI’s new 20s-30s Havura is for adults, and meets about once a month at BEKI for Shabbat services, dinner or brunch, and shmoozing and informal discussion.

Ramah Family Camp

The Ramah Family Camp will be held in May at Camp Ramah in Palmer, MA. The camp is for the Entire Family. For information call 781-449-7090 x231 or ramahfamilycamp@yahoo.com. Camp Ramah serves as the camping arm of the Conservative Movement. For information on other Jewish camping opportunities, contact The Foundation for Jewish Camping at 1-212-792-6222 or Info@JewishCamping.org.