

BEKI Bulletin

A New Haven Tradition since 1892. Visit us at www.beki.org

March 2004 Vol. 10 Issue 3

ק"ק בית אל-כתר ישראל

Adar 5764

Introducing: Garinim

*A Jewish Montessori Preschool
Opening at BEKI September 2004*

A Message from School Director Lana Gad

As director of the new preschool at BEKI, I'd like to introduce myself and the idea of a **Jewish Montessori preschool**.

I received my Montessori post-graduate education through the London Montessori Center in 1990, and taught in a Montessori school before opening my own Montessori preschool in Cape Town, South Africa.

Upon arriving in the United States, I taught at the Montessori School in Woodbridge for two years, stopping just prior to the birth of our son, Matthew. Two years later, my husband, Martin, and I had to decide where to send Matthew – a Montessori school or a Jewish nursery school?

For mostly social reasons, we opted for a Jewish education and followed the same path for our second son, Dustin. Our third son, Ari, will be attending nursery school next year – and I know where he's going. *A Jewish Montessori School, right here in New Haven, at BEKI.*

What is Montessori?

Children learn best in a home-like setting, filled with developmentally appropriate materials that provide experiences that contribute to the growth of self-motivated, independent learners.

Nearly a century ago, Dr. Maria Montessori, the first female physician to graduate from the

University of Rome, developed this method of education based on her observation of young children's behavior.

Her teaching success led her to believe that children possess a high level of sensitivity and a huge capacity for absorbing and learning from their environment – interaction with people, as well as teaching materials. These materials are unique and specific to the Montessori method.

The classrooms are multi-aged in a family-like grouping, thus allowing for natural learning. The children are free to work at their own pace with materials that they have chosen, either alone or with others. The teacher, through careful observation, decides when and what new materials to introduce to a child, or a group. The success of a Montessori classroom is dependent on its core beliefs – freedom within limits, and respect for each other and the environment.

As a Jewish Montessori school, we will include, along with an appreciation for other cultures and events, an understanding of Jewish holidays and traditions, and a celebration before each Shabbat.

Hebrew and English will be incorporated throughout the day through words and songs, and introduced as beginner reading and writing in the Montessori method.

This is a wonderful and exciting opportunity – feel free to ask many questions and spread the word!

I look forward to talking to you.
Lana Gad, (203) 389-7445

Checks VISA MasterCard Honored

Our office accepts VISA™ and MasterCard™ in payment of any pledge, bill or purchase (except grocery certificates). BEKI is charged fees for the use of charge cards, so checks are still preferred. To pay by Visa™ & MasterCard™ simply call, write or visit our office with the card's name, number and expiration date.



Letters

Dear Rabbi Tilsen,

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Adele Tyson and Ruthie Greenblatt, Sisterhood Presidents, and Gila Reinstein, BEKI President, and their able helpers who arranged the outstanding Hanuka Family Celebration which also honored me on my 93rd birthday.

The family gathering was in a festive mood. The food was delicious. The soothing music, Jewish songs, dancing, etc. made the evening most enjoyable. A special "Posener Cake" was large enough to share with the 75-80 attendees.

As we start the New Year, may God, the Grand Architect of this wondrous universe, bless each and everyone with good health, much happiness and many more years of living.

Most Sincerely,
George G. Posener 10 January 2004

P.S. Whatever Sisterhood does has a special touch and this note comes to thank Sisterhood ever so much.



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, donations, or special activities, call the Synagogue office (203) 389-2108, or write to 85 Harrison Street, New Haven, CT 06515-1724

or email: jjtilsen@beki.org
or see our web page: www.beki.org

For information about advertising, call the synagogue office. Deadline for submission of ads or articles is the 1st of the month preceding publication.

Annual subscription is \$36.00.

BEKI Bulletin

© 2004 Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel.
A Message from Rabbi Tilsen & Dear Rabbi
© 2004 Jon-Jay Tilsen. All rights reserved.

Editor
Associate Editor
Associate Editor
Circulation Manager
Photographer
Advertising Editor
Advertising Associate

Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen
Donna Levine
Donna Kemper
Saul Bell
Charles Ludwig
Sheila Gardiner
Ronni Rabin

• Save the Date •

Sunday 06 June 2004

6:00p to 11:00p

*A Dinner in Celebration of
our first 10 years together!*

*Honoring
Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen &
Miriam Benson*

Leave a Legacy

I have been asked to write a monthly column for the BEKI Bulletin dealing with the subject of philanthropy, and thought a question and answer format might work well. I welcome your questions (785-8079, sdsij@aol.com, or via the BEKI office to my attention). If I do not know the answer, I will check with the experts at the Jewish Foundation for Greater New Haven, the Community Foundation, or other estate planning attorneys or counselors. Any information given is of a general nature, so be sure to consult with your personal advisor or with me to determine how a particular situation might affect you personally. Below is a sample question.

Dear Counselor,

I have a life insurance policy which I purchased a long time ago to provide for my children in the event of my death. My children are grown now and don't need my money. Should I cancel the policy, or do you have another suggestion?

Sincerely,

A Senior Citizen

Dear Senior,

A life insurance policy would make a wonderful contribution to BEKI. The owner and beneficiary of the policy can easily be transferred to BEKI by completing a simple form provided by your insurance company. You may be entitled to a charitable deduction for the cash value of the policy at the time of the assignment. The proceeds can go a long way toward insuring the continuing life of BEKI when your life on this earth comes to an end. You might think of donating it to BEKI as converting it into an "Eternal Life Policy." Please contact me if you would like me to assist you in any way with this transaction.

Sincerely,

Donna Levine

SUN SAT MAT ACT



Rabbi Tilsen

Students who are Shabbat observers and who plan to take standardized tests such as the SAT, MAT and ACT may register for regularly scheduled Sunday test dates. The SAT will be administered on several Sundays throughout the year. For more information on Sunday testing, see www.collegeboard.com/sat/html/students/reg004.html. If you need a letter from a rabbi, contact Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 x10 or jjtilsen@beki.org.

Torah Scroll Restoration

Our Torah scrolls are all about 100 years old and in need of restoration. Some of the scrolls were restored in the 1980s, but the passage of time and daily or weekly use has taken their toll. All of the scrolls need lettering cleaned, replaced and treated. Some need sewing and taping of parchment, and some need a new set of *etz hayim* (spools).

The cost of restoring our best scrolls is \$3,600 to \$6,000 each; a fund of \$50,000 would provide for the permanent regular maintenance of the scrolls. If you would like to learn more about the condition of our scrolls or about the restoration process, or would like to fund the restoration of one or more scrolls, please contact Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 x10 or jjtilsen@beki.org.

Help Those in Need

We are collecting "sample" or "hotel" containers of shampoo, toothpaste and other personal hygiene items for homeless people. Single use containers are ideal as homeless people often have no place to store large containers. The collection box is in the coatroom. 🙏

In February, our fourth and fifth grade students, their teachers and parents from six area Religious Schools gathered in Woodbridge for a Tu BeShevat program. The Religious Schools represented were: BEKI, Bnai Jacob, Hillel, Temple Emanuel, Temple Beth David and Or Shalom. As an outgrowth of Principal's Council, we have been working now for two years to plan programming that connects our students to one another. We are better and stronger when we are mutually supportive.

We began with a tribute to the Israeli astronaut, Ilan Ramon. I conducted a short service of remembrance since the date was the *yahrzeit* of the Columbia Shuttle disaster. We honored Ilan ("tree" in Hebrew) Ramon as a Jew who set off for space armed with a picture of the earth as seen from the moon. It was drawn by Petr Ginz, a young writer and artist who interned at Terezin and perished at Auschwitz.

He also took with him a Torah scroll from Bergen Belsen, a microfiche copy of the bible, the Israeli flag, and the dreams and hopes of us, the Jewish People.

I described to the students how Ilan Ramon, as a Jew, kept kosher in space and how he said *Shema Yisrael* as he flew over Jerusalem. Then I shared new information that was just made public by NASA. Two months after the crash, Ilan's journal was found in a field in Texas. Miraculously, the first page of the journal was intact. The other pages were singed and the writing was bleached by impact or the hot sun. NASA delivered the journal to Rona Ramon, his widow. She contacted Israeli scientists and through infrared readers, they were able to bring back the Hebrew text.

The students received the information about the journal so lovingly and seriously. As he arrived in space he wrote to his wife and children, "I can't believe I'm here." He also wrote to his

wife," Shalom my love, I wish you were here with me."



Dr. Lauren Kempton

Tzvi Rappaport had created a huge tree. Each Religious school put leaves on the tree in memory or in honor of loved ones to represent trees that will be planted by the Jewish National Fund in the Ilan Ramon forest. Ilan Ramon had sent this message back to earth: "I call upon every Jew in the world to plant a tree in the land of Israel during the coming year. I would like to see at least thirteen or fourteen million new trees planted in Israel exactly one year from now, on the anniversary of the launching."

The anniversary has taken on a different meaning but we still are challenged by Ramon's wish.

—LK

BEKI Religious School

March finds BEKI Religious School students involved in learning and preparing for Purim and Passover. The students are all working on their Hebrew readings for the School's Model Seder.

The Project Etgar students under the direction of their teacher, Ina Silverman, are heavily involved in their major unit on Kashrut (Jewish Dietary Laws). They started the unit by shopping at Westville Bakery and Stop and Shop while studying the varied symbols of kashrut supervision. They then had class at Ina's house to cook a kosher meal. They kept a "kosher" journal and examined and studied the dietary laws of Judaism. The values covered during this unit were: Holiness, Kindness to Animals, Obligation to Mitzvot, Unity of the Jewish People, Faith and the historical development of Halakha (law) as taught by the Conservative movement. ♣

Mazal Tov to:

- **Sam & Harriet Kantrowitz** on celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of their Qiddushin (Jewish Wedding)
- **Isaiah Cooper** (& Lauri Lowell) on opening his new law firm, Cooper Law LLC, specializing in transactional business law for businesses and nonprofits

*Births, Baby Event and Benei Mitzva Notices can be found on BEKI's website www.beki.org in the **LifeCycle** section.*

*Death Notices and Yahrzeit Observances listed by name and date can be found on BEKI's website www.beki.org in the **LifeCycle** section.*

BEKI Religious School would like to announce

**BARTONS PASSOVER
CANDY FUNDRAISER**



\$\$\$ Help us to reach our goal \$\$\$
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Watch your mail for order form or pick one up at the BEKI Religious School Office

Rivercliff Fuel, Inc.

155 Wheeler's Farms Road
Milford, CT

877-9101

All your fuel needs

**COOPER LAW LLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

www.cooperlaw.net

- Entity Formation
- Leases
- Consulting Agreements
- Employment Contracts
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Software Licenses
- Shareholder Disputes
- Distribution Contracts

Isaiah D. Cooper

(203) 233-4547 icooper@snet.net



*One Stop, On The Spot
Car Care!*



Guaranteed Lowest Prices on all Brands of Tires
and Custom Wheels

Fast, Courteous Service

Huge Inventory

Full-Service Auto Repair

ASE Certified mechanics Always on Duty

Free Estimates

40 Orange Avenue
West Haven, CT
933-2886

Hours
M, T, W, F 8:00-5:30
Thurs. 8:00-7:00
Sat. 8:00-3:00

Office Hours by Appointment
(203) 389-9174

RAVIT AVNI-SINGER, MSW LCSW

Child, Adolescent and Adult Psychotherapy

214 Amity Road
Woodbridge, CT 06525

Contributions

For information on donating by credit card online or by email, please see www.beki.org/donate.html. BEKI accepts VISA & MasterCard as well as checks.



Rabbi's Tzedaka Fund (minimum \$25)

- Stephen & Rachel Wizner in appreciation for Simhat Bat for granddaughter Leilani Zael Beatrix Wizner
- Grace Cohen Geisinger with prayers of healing for sister Estelle Handelman

Qiddush Sponsors (Minimum \$150)

- Margot Roten in honor of her milestone birthday
- Trish Loving & Alan Lovins in honor of their wedding anniversary
- Stephen & Rachel Wizner in honor of the birth of their granddaughter
- Tina Rose in honor of her father's yahrzeit
- Leon Cummings marking his uncle's yahrzeit
- Karen Kassap & Cary Caldwell in honor of Myles, Samuel and Naomi's birthdays
- Janice Wolf & Barry Etra in honor of Janice's birthday
- Coby & Roz Ben-Chitrit in honor of Coby's birthday

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

- In honor of Jonah Cooper on his Bar Mitzva by the Lew Family
- In honor of Jonah Cooper on his Bar Mitzva by Judy Ribnick & Diane Burhenne
- In appreciation from the Ben-Chitrit children

Frankel-Mattler Memorial Fund

- In memory of her father Harry Schultz by Sylvia & Jacob Botwinick

David & Lillian Levine Endowment for People with Special Needs

- In honor of Leilani Wizner by Marvin & Elinor Mitchell

Gilah Benson-Tilsen Fund for Youth

- In memory of Moe Miller by the Balayan Family
- In honor of her daughter Willa Needler's birthday by Edith Cooper
- In honor of her son-in-law Prof. Howard Needler on his presentation by Edith Cooper

Harold Ratner Memorial Fund

- In memory of Murray, Miriam and Evelyn Kahn by Richard & Michael Kahn

Louis & Mary Rosenkrantz Family Library Fund

- In memory of Helen L. Krosnick by Mary & Louie Rosenkrantz

Kadima & USY

- Marsha Beller in honor of Darryl Kuperstock

Synagogue Fund (min. \$10) to support synagogue operations

- To Yaron & Mindy Baitch in honor of their newborn son by Gila Reinstein
- To Sylvia Parkins with prayers for healing and wellness by Elsie Morris
- To Susan Williams with prayers for healing and wellness by Elsie Morris
- To Carol Friedman and family with sympathy on the passing of Morris Goldstein by Howard Gralla & Linda Schultz
- To Stan Goldstein and family with sympathy on the passing of Morris Goldstein by Howard Gralla & Linda Schultz

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

- In memory of Reuben Gralla by Howard Gralla & Linda Schultz
- In memory of Eleanor Hepler by Howard Gralla & Linda Schultz
- In memory of Annie Cohen by Ted Maltin
- In loving memory of their dear parents Bernhard and Lucie Moser by Inge & Lenny Fish
- In loving memory of their dear mother Fannie Fish by Inge & Lenny Fish
- In memory of Sarah Miller by Lillian & Leon Weinberg
- In memory of Hattie Henken by Gladys Lipkin
- In loving memory of Morris E. Oppenheim by Joyce & Michael Bohnen

- In memory of Rose Alderman by Bernard & Sonya Alderman
- In memory of Norma Gerken by Donald Green & Ann Gerken Green
- In memory of Rivka Peregman by Peregman Jewelers
- In memory of Martin Faymann by Regina Faymann
- In memory of Irving Golden by George & Diane Dumigan
- In memory of Ida Zelkovitz by Helen Z. Kaplan
- In memory of Fanny Kasimer by Eli & Goldie Kasimer
- In memory of her grandfather Louis Ginzberg by Barbara Supowitz Greenberg
- In memory of Harry Levine by Dr. Julius E. Levine
- In memory of Irving Nabatoff by A. David & Carol Nabatoff
- In memory of Louis Rochlin by Kranie & Earl Baker
- In memory of her mother Anna Cooper by Rose Hodes
- In memory of Benjamin Gollinger by Gertrude Gollinger
- In memory of Maurice Miller by Helen Miller
- In memory of Sophie Olenik by Helen Miller
- In memory of Arthur Silver by Morton & Ruth Silver
- In memory of Samuel Miller by Richard Miller
- In memory of Max Haves by Hyman & Ethel Haves
- In memory of Pauline and Harry Gurian by Muriel & Earl Banquer
- In memory of Ben and Rebecca Yankeloff by Shirley Halprin
- In memory of Maurice Savin by Dr. Ronald Savin

Kosher Wines from Around the World

It's not just your father's
extra-sweet Concord anymore

Saturday 13 March
8p to 9:30p at BEKI

Join us for a fun fundraiser
Taste and learn about 10-12
interesting, sophisticated Kosher
wines from around the world, with
complementary foods.
Reds and whites. Dry and dessert.

Hosted by *The Wine Thief*
Tickets \$18 per person

Open to the public ~ Bring friends
Contact the BEKI office (203-389-2108
office@beki.org) for reservations
Space is limited, so reserve early

- Your Ad Here -

The BEKI Bulletin is sent to over 600 households and is repeatedly consulted as a reference document.

Advertisers report positive results.

For rates and to place your ad, contact Peggy at office@beki.org (389-2108 x14)

Telephone (203) 776-1243
Fax (203) 785-1247

J. DEBORAH FERHOLT, M.D.
A. JOSEPH AVNI-SINGER, M.D.
Child and Adolescent Health Care, L.L.C.

Office Hours
By Appointment

303 WHITNEY AVENUE
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06511

Where There's a Will...

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 *tzedaka* (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) for a confidential discussion.

Buying Stuff on the Web?

If you purchase from Amazon.com or Buy.com and access these merchants via the links here or at www.beki.org/links.html, BEKI receives a small commission on your purchase, at no additional cost to you. You must use these links each time you access the merchants' website in order for BEKI to receive a commission.

KINAHARA: Kashrut Update

Information on local kashrut issues and kashrut in general is available at www.kinahara.org. KINAHARA is the Kashrut Initiative of the New Haven Area Rabbinical Assembly.

BEKI Recycles

Please place plastic cups and plasticwear in the "plastics recycling" bin next to the trash barrel

following qiddush and other events. Please be careful to keep trash and recyclables separate.

Weekday morning services at BEKI

Begin your day with spiritual renewal and fellowship. The Monday morning service (7:00a to 7:45a) includes a brief Torah service, and is followed by the Rashi Study Group (7:45a to 8:30a). Tuesday mornings (7:00a to 7:30a) are attended by a unique mix of people. Wednesday mornings (7:00a to 7:30a) features a continuing group of friends, followed by a 30-minute period of Talmud Study (7:30a to 8:00a). Thursday mornings (8:15a to 9:00a) are ideal for people who may not wish to rise earlier or who bring children to school, and includes a brief Torah service. It is perfect for those who wish to avoid crowds. Friday mornings (7:00a to 7:30a) present an ideal setting for someone wishing to help develop a cadre of dedicated daily *daveners*.

In addition to fulfilling the daily mitzvot of *qeriat shema* (recitation of the Shema), *tefila* (prayer), *Talmud Torah* (study) and *Tzedaka* (charity), attendance also affords those in mourning a Minyan so that they can recite *qaddish*. Audio recordings of some of the prayers are available at the BEKI website under "[Audio Library](#)." Regular participants in these services are always glad to welcome additional worshipers. Call our office at 389-2108 x14 or see www.beki.org/schedule.html for a complete schedule.

Maariv Evening Service

The daily *maariv* evening service comprises the recitation of the Shema and its accompanying blessings, as well as the individual recitation of the Amida. The *maariv* service (also known as *arvit*) provides an opportunity to fulfill the Biblical commandment of reciting the Shema at night as well as fulfilling the rabbinically

mandated recitation of the Amida. An audio recording of the Shema is available in BEKI's web Audio Library.

Renovations Update

The current scope of Renovation Phase 2B, now underway, entails the creation of a new entryway from the parking area and the installation of an elevator. Most of the work will be confined to the space within the walls of the current small chapel and coatroom. The enlarging of the lobby (which entails removing the current chapel/lobby wall), relocation of the small chapel and children's room, and lobby finishes, will be in Phase 2C to be completed later in the construction sequence. This plan will minimize disruption to our programs and services during Phase 2B and insure that this phase can be completed without disrupting the spring "Benei Mitzva

Season." It will, however, entail an intermediate period during which the lobby/entryway/offices will be functional but the layout and finishes may seem peculiar.



Renovations Pledge Payments Welcome

Thanks to those who have already sent in payment on your Renovations Campaign pledge. Your payment now will reduce our expense in carrying a construction loan and other finance charges.

Children's Shabbat Havura

The Children's Shabbat Havura meets every Shabbat morning at 10:45a 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 qiddush refreshments and then enjoy supervised play until they join the adult worship for the Concluding Service and qiddush.

The Havura enjoys strong support from parents and the Synagogue. Currently about 70 children 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 preschool children is an obligation of the Jewish community and an important part of the Synagogue's mission. The Havura (Friendship Circle) links the children to one another, to other concerned Jewish 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 Shabbat (Saturday) morning at 10:45a and see for yourself. 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 x13 or lkempton@beki.org, the staff person who supports this parent cooperative.

Sponsor a Qiddush

To sponsor a qiddush following a Shabbat or Festival service, or to reserve a date, contact Ruthie Greenblatt at 203.389.4349 or ruthept@aol.com.

Kulanu

Kulanu participants have started a new project through Interfaith Cooperative Ministries (of which BEKI is a member organization) under the guidance of Dr. Lauren Kempton and Olivia Wood of Chapel Haven. The project is part of Interfaith Care Givers of Greater New Haven.

There are sixty elderly people in the Greater New Haven area of all faiths who need assistance with grocery shopping, socialization or both. The volunteers from Chapel Haven completed their training at St. Rita's in Hamden and are now matched with seniors who need assistance. If you would like to help with this project, please call Lauren at 389-2108, Ext. 13. LK

Kulanu – Sisterhood Special Needs Seder

The **Sisterhood** of Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel, and **Kulanu**, in conjunction with the Jewish Family Service and Abel Caterers, will present the twenty-second annual **Adult Special Needs Model Seder** at BEKI on Monday 22 March 2004 from 6:00p to 8:00p. 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 65 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, BEKI's Kulanu Outreach Program, the generosity of Abel Caterers (389-2300) and the good offices of the Jewish Family Service, the Exodus is reenacted through song, food and story at a table set in the Passover tradition.

If you would like to attend or help, please contact Adele Tyson (389.9599) or Dr. Lauren Kempton (389-2108 x33 or lkempton@beki.org).

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.

Second Seder at BEKI

Congregations Beth El-Keser Israel, Temple Beth Sholom, Bnai Jacob, and Or Shalom invite you to join the community in celebrating the second



night of Passover at our Community Seder on Tuesday 06 April 2004 at BEKI. The Festival Evening Service will begin at 6:30p and the Seder at 7:00p. The *seder* is adult-oriented and child-friendly. Highchairs are available.

A traditional kosher Passover dinner will be served, including gefilte fish with horseradish, chicken soup with matzo balls, glazed roasted chicken or eggplant, glazed carrots, potato kugel, assorted cookies and macaroons. Reservations are \$36 per adult and \$18 per child 12 and under. Reservations and payment are *due by Tuesday 30 March*.

If you would like to sponsor the participation of someone in our community who otherwise could not attend, please make a contribution to BEKI designated for the "Passover Fund."

KINAHARA: Kashrut Alert

The Orthodox Union (OU), which supervises some Entenmann's baked goods, notes that "Entenmann's Devil's Food Cake Cookies" are not certified as kosher. "Consumers should always check for the OU symbol [or another symbol of supervision] and not rely on brand recognition." There are other brand names that produce both kosher-supervised and non-kosher products. *Always check the labels.*

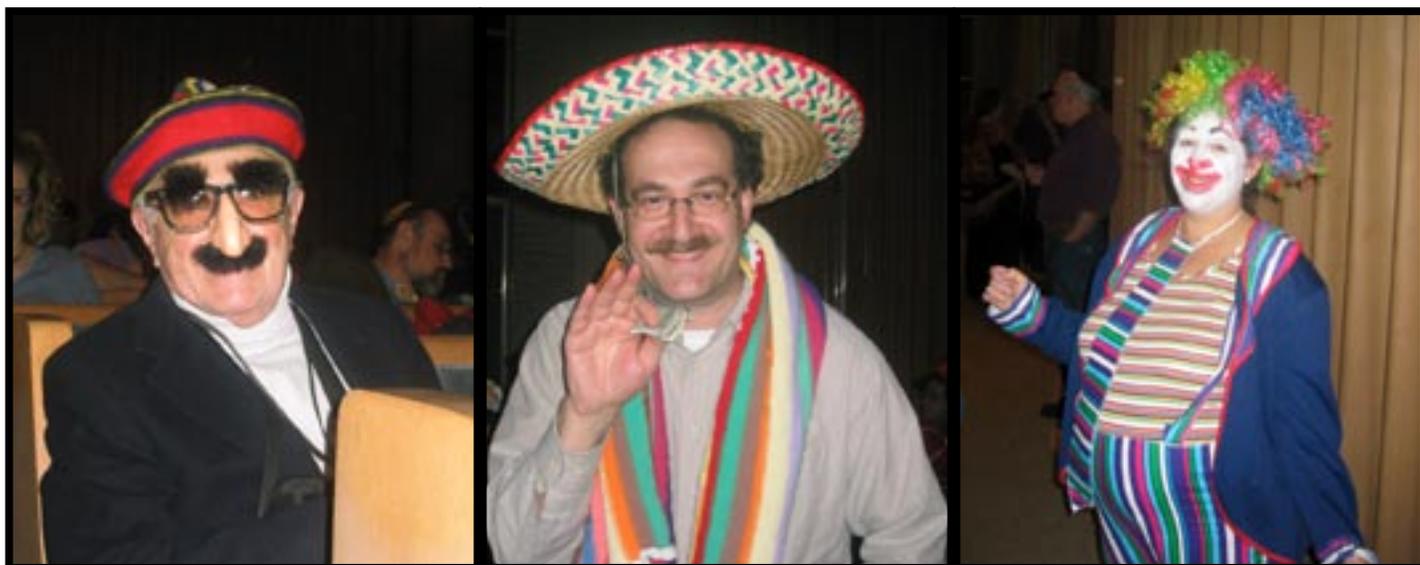
Purim at BEKI

Be Happy it's Adar

Fast of Esther

The holiday of Purim commemorates the failure of a genocide plot against the Jews in the Persian Kingdom over twenty centuries ago. The dramatic (and some would say comic) story is told in the Biblical Book of Esther, which is read on the night and morning of the holiday.

Taanit Esther (The Fast of Esther), usually observed the day before Purim, is observed this year on Thursday 04 March, because the day before Purim is Shabbat, when fasting is prohibited. Taanit Esther marks the serious side of the holiday. While on Purim we joyously celebrate the failure of the plot and mock the racism of its hatchers, on the Fast of Esther we fast and pray that we will bring the world to an era that does not know the threat of genocide. The Fast of Esther begins at dawn on Thursday 04 March 2004. Thursday *shaharit* morning services are from 8:15a to 9:00a and include "Avinu Malkenu -- Our Father, Our King," as on Yom Kippur. No food or drink is consumed. The Fast of Esther is a minor observance, and therefore those with any significant medical



contraindication should not undertake the fast. Since the *taanit* this year is advanced due to the Sabbath, some authorities do not view the fast as obligatory. The *minha* afternoon and *maariv* evening service are from 5:45p to 6:15p. The fast ends at 6:15p, or when the person observing the fast eats, whichever comes first.

Megilla Readings

The Megilla (Scroll of Esther) is read during the evening service, which begins at 6:30p on Saturday 06 March 2004, and then again during the morning service, which begins at 9:00a on Sunday 07 March 2004.

Hearing the reading of the Megilla (or reading it oneself) is a Biblical commandment (*mitzva*). Other Purim *mitzvot* (religious imperatives) include sending food gifts to a neighbor, alms for the poor, and a feast on Purim day. Children are reminded to keep their adults from talking or making too much ruckus during the actual Megilla reading at BEKI. If the congregation makes too much noise during the reading, we will have to start over to insure that everyone hears each word.

Groggers (noisemakers) will be available so that no one will have to hear the name of the Purim story's villain reverberate through our sacred halls on our sacred cinderblocks. The use of internal combustion engines, explosives or blackboards as noisemakers is no longer permitted at BEKI. Please keep hands and feet within the sanctuary until the service comes to a complete stop.

Please do not bring firearms, explosive devices or weapons, or any toy that resembles any form of weapon (these will be confiscated at the door – we mean it). Absolutely no weapons of mass destruction are permitted. This applies on Purim as well as year-round.

Purim Se`uda Celebration

On Purim afternoon, Sunday 07 March 2004, a *se`uda* (Feast) will take place from 5:00p to 8:00p, including a light dairy dinner. Preregistration and payment is **required** by Monday 01 March. The cost is \$10 per adult, \$8 per child age 3-12, and free for children 2 and under, when registered and paid in advance (or \$100 per adult or \$80 per child at the door). Sorry, no exceptions.

Highlights include “Lord of the Hamantashen Meets Purim of the Caribbean” by Jay Sokolow (to perform or help contact Jay at 387-6019 sokolow@snet.net) • 5:45 Minha-Maariv • Ruth Greenblatt “Clowning Around” • Burpkat Hamazon • Steven Miller “Now You See It, Now You Don’t” • BEKI *Bulletin* Bass-Produced

To volunteer to help call Janet Brown, Food Chair, 288-9073; Jessey Palumbo, Membership Greeting & Recruiting, 387-8359; Liora Lew, Decorations Chair, 389-1048; Miriam Benson, Set-Up, Registration Table, or Clean-Up Committees, 389-6137

Registration forms are available in the lobby, from the BEKI office, and at www.beki.org/forms.html. Advance registration and payment is *required*.

From the President

March madness is upon us, BEKI style.

By the time you read this, our Phase 2-B (“or not to be”) renovations should be in progress. We expect the work on this phase of the Master Plan to take 10 weeks (or thereabouts), not 10 years, so we can call it The Small Dig. Thanks for your patience with any dust, noise or inconvenience. Please avoid falling into holes or vats of cement, if possible.

Purim on Saturday night 06 March will be festive and as silly as possible. The traditional BEKI Purim *se'uda* on Sunday 07 March is sure to be good fun, with real, live entertainment by real, live BEKI member Jay Sokolow. Remember to pick up your Purim basket when you're in the building and volunteer to deliver any unclaimed baskets. Thanks to Ina and committee for helping us carry out this important high-carb *mitzva*.

The following week, on Saturday night 13 March, we're hosting a fabulous wine-tasting, thanks to Roger Colten (and the cooperation of The Wine Thief, one of New Haven's best purveyors of the fruit of the vine).

Tasting begins at 8p. Yes, the wines will all be kosher. No, they won't all be sweet. You'll have a chance to try 10 or so sophisticated wines from around the world, whites and reds, and an opportunity to order the ones you liked. BEKI will receive a percentage of what you order, so don't hold back! Soft drinks and light refreshments will also be served. If we run out of designated drivers, you can always sleep in the Social Hall.

Tickets are \$18 per person. Invite friends to come: Non-members are welcome. Space is limited to the first 150 people. Please reserve in advance by calling or emailing Peggy in the office at 389-2108 x14 or office@beki.org.

Save Sunday 25 April, 7:30p, for a Yom Ha'Atzma'ut - Israel Independence Day Concert. The Earl Banquer Wind Quintet will perform classical and klezmer music at BEKI.

Save another date: On Sunday 06 June, 6p-10p, we will pay tribute to Jon-Jay and Miriam with a celebration of their first ten years at BEKI! The celebration may include cocktails, dinner, dancing, and other festivities. Watch for your invitation.

Gila Reinstein

Two-Way Traffic

The driveway from Harrison Street to the parking lot supports two-way traffic. (The "exit only" pattern is in force only for High Holy Days.) When exiting via the driveway, be sure to stop before crossing the sidewalk, in compliance with state traffic laws and in compliance with *halakha* (Jewish law) which strictly prohibits running over pedestrians.

Watch those Kids!

Parents of young children attending services at BEKI are asked to be sure their children are always under their supervision. Children are welcome to be in the sanctuary with their adults or in their age-appropriate youth service. Unsupervised children may represent a safety concern to themselves or to others.



VIDEO PRODUCTION & EDITING • COMPUTER TRAINING
WEBSITE DESIGN • DVD/TAPE DUPLICATION

Classes in Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, PageMaker, GoLive, After Effects, Apple Final Cut Pro, iMovie, Macromedia Flash and Director

109 Boston Post Road
Orange, CT 06477
203-795-6400
email: info@MediaArtsCenter.net
WWW.MEDIAARTSCENTER.NET

Shabbatot

Darshanim in March

Morris Bell will serve as *darshan* (Torah commentator) on Shabbat Zakhor – *parashat* Tetsave 06 March 2004

Jennifer Klein & Jim Berger will serve as *darshanim* on Shabbat Para (Sabbath of the Cow) – *parashat* Ki Tisa 13 March 2004

A student of the **Jewish Theological Seminary of America** will serve as guest *darshan* on JTS Shabbat – Shabbat HaHodesh (Sabbath of the First Month) – *parashat* VaYakhel-Pe'udei 20 March 2004



Education Director **Dr. Lauren Kempton** will serve as *darshanit* on Shabbat *parashat* VaYiqra (Leviticus) 27 March 2004

Shabbat Shalom Learners' Minyan



The "Shabbat Shalom Learners' Minyan," which meets every other Saturday morning at 10:45a in BEKI's [Rosenkrantz Family Library](#), is an ideal setting for veteran and novice shul-goers alike to become more comfortable and

proficient in the Shahrarit (morning) and Torah services in a supportive setting. Expertly led by **Steven Fraade, Rabbi Alan Lovins** and others, the Shabbat Shalom Learners' Minyan is a nurturing step-by-step practice in a non-threatening, multi-generational setting. Many members who take advantage of this unique offering feel a deeper sense of awe born of increased understanding and appreciation for the services.

The SSLM meets on the 6th & 20th of March. Everyone is welcome to participate regardless of religious status or background.

Sunday 28 March 2004

NEW: Hagada Workshop

Get ready for Pesah with a new look at the Hagada with R' Moshe Meiri. The workshop will be held on Sunday 28 March 2004 at 9:30a, immediately following the 9:00a morning service.

Mondays

Rashi Study Group

Special time: 19 January 9:45a to 10:30a

All other Mondays: 7:45a to 8:30a

Each Monday morning from 7:45a to 8:30a adults meets in the [Rosenkrantz Family Library](#) to read Rashi's commentary on the Torah. It is possible to join the study for a single meeting or to begin at any time. Knowledge of Hebrew is not necessary. Rashi purported to explain the *peshat* of the text, i.e., the meaning in its historical, literary and linguistic context. Visitors and new participants are welcome. The Rashi Study Group meets immediately following the 7:00a *shahrarit* morning service.



Wednesdays

Berakhot Talmud Study Group

A Berakhot Talmud Study Group meets weekly on Wednesday mornings from 7:30a to 8:00a. The Study Group focuses on the original text and the issues that arise from the Mishna and Gemara,



with attention to the technical aspects of the text. A knowledge of basic Hebrew is very helpful but not required. The

Group is open to all. The study group will meet every Wednesday morning in March.

Rabbis' Study Group

Wednesdays with Murray is a weekly study group exclusively for rabbis, facilitated by Rabbi Murray Levine. The Wednesday study group affords local rabbis an opportunity to pursue their own *talmud torah* (Torah study) in a "safe" setting and with opportunities to learn from each other's experience and insight. For more information, call Rabbi Murray Levine at (203) 397-2513.

Thursdays

Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group

The "Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group" meets weekly on Thursdays during the lunch hour at a downtown New Haven professional office for Talmud study. The Group has met weekly since 1999. For some participants, this is their first direct experience with Talmud text. The Group focuses on the issues raised in the Talmud, with less attention to the technical aspects of the text. Knowledge of Hebrew or Aramaic is helpful but not required. For information contact Marc Schwartz at 562-9873 or mschwartzmd@hotmail.com.

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 Jay at (203) 387-6019 or email Jay at sokolow@snet.net.

Every Day

Required Reading & Reference Books on Web

A listing of basic Judaic reference and introductory works is posted on BEKI's website at www.beki.org/books.html with a brief annotation by Rabbi Tilsen.

Torah Readers Wanted

Marsha Beller is coordinating Shabbat Morning Torah Readings for Shemot (Exodus). If you would like to read Torah on a Shabbat morning during the winter, or would like to learn how to read Torah, please contact Marsha (387-4657 or mbellereco@aol.com). If you would like to plan to read Torah on a Shabbat afternoon or Monday morning, please contact Rabbi Tilsen (389-2108 x10 jjtilsen@beki.org) or Andy Schultz at aschultz@beki.org.

Audio Library on Web

Various blessings and prayers are recorded for educational purposes on BEKI's web site. Shabbat, Festival, and daily liturgical selections are presented. To hear the selections, go to www.beki.org/audio.html.



WESTVILLE
KOSHER BAKERY
FOX'S DELI

1460 Whalley Avenue New Haven, CT 06515

BAKERY	FAX	DELI
387-2214	387-4129	397-0839

Specializing in:
Bar/Bas Mitzvah, Weddings, Office and Home Parties
• Platters for all occasions • Prepared foods

March 2004

8 Adar 5764 - 9 Nisan 5764

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1 7a Shaharit 7:45a Rashi Study Group 5:45p Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8 Adar</p>	<p>2 7a Shaharit 5:45p Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9 Adar</p>	<p>3 7a Shaharit 7:30a Talmud Berakhot Study Group 8:30a Rabbi's Study Group 4p Religious School & Benei Mitzva Prgrm 5:45p Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10 Adar</p>	<p>4 Fast of Esther 8:15a Shaharit 12:30p Talmud Study Group (off-site) 5:45p Maariv 8p A.A.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11 Adar</p>	<p>5 7a Shaharit 5:29p Candle Lighting 6p Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12 Adar</p>	<p>6 9:15a Shaharit Darshan: Morris Bell 10:45a Children's Prgrms 10:45a Learner's Minyan Qiddush: Paula Hyman 5:30p Minha, Maariv, Havdala 6:30p Megila Reading</p> <p style="text-align: center;">13 Adar</p>
<p>7 Purim 9a Shahrarit & Megila Reading 9a Religious School Purim Talent Show 5p Purim Seuda 5:45p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">14 Adar</p>	<p>8 Shushan Purim 7a Shahrarit 7:45a Rashi Study Group 5:45p Minha & Maariv 7:30p Exec. Board Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15 Adar</p>	<p>9 7a Shahrarit 5:45p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">16 Adar</p>	<p>10 7a Shahrarit 7:30a Talmud Berakhot Study Group 8:30a Rabbi's Study Group 4p Religious School & Benei Mitzva Prgrm 5:45p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">17 Adar</p>	<p>11 8:15a Shahrarit 12:30 Talmud Study Group (off-site) 5:45p Minha & Maariv 8p A.A.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">18 Adar</p>	<p>12 7a Shahrarit 5:37 Candle Lighting 6p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">19 Adar</p>	<p>13 9:15 Shahrarit Darshan: Jennifer Klein & Jim Berger 10:45 Children's Prgrms Qiddush: Stan Saxe 5:37p Minha, Maariv, Havdala 7:30p Wine Tasting Benefit</p> <p style="text-align: center;">20 Adar</p>
<p>14 9a Shahrarit 9a Religious School 12:30p Teacher's Meeting 5:45p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">21 Adar</p>	<p>15 7a Shahrarit 7:45a Rashi Study Group 5:45p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">22 Adar</p>	<p>16 7a Shahrarit 5:45p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">23 Adar</p>	<p>17 7a Shahrarit 7:30a Talmud Berakhot Study Group 8:30a Rabbi's Study Group 4p Religious School & Benei Mitzva Prgrm 5:45p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">24 Adar</p>	<p>18 8:15a Shahrarit 12:30p Talumd Study Group (off-site) 5:45p Minha & Maariv 8p A.A.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">25 Adar</p>	<p>19 7a Shahrarit 5:44 Candle Lighting 6p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">26 Adar</p>	<p>20 9:15a Shahrarit JTS Shabbat 10:45a Children's Prgrms 10:45a Learner's Minyan Birthday Qiddush 5:45p Minha, Maariv, Havdala</p> <p style="text-align: center;">27 Adar</p>
<p>21 9a Shahrarit 9a Religious School 5:45p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">28 Adar</p>	<p>22 7a Shahrarit 7:45a Rashi Study Group 5:45p Minha & Maariv 6p Special Needs Seder 7:30p General Board Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">29 Adar</p>	<p>23 Rosh Hodesh 7a Shahrarit 5:45p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 Nisan</p>	<p>24 7a Shahrarit 7:30a Talmud Berakhot Study Group 8:30a Rabbi's Study Group 4p Religious School & Benei Mitzva Prgrm 5:45p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2 Nisan</p>	<p>25 8:15a Shahrarit 12:30p Talmud Study Gtoup (off-site) 5:45p Minha & Maariv 8p A.A.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3 Nisan</p>	<p>26 7a Shahrarit 5:53 Candle Lighting 6p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4 Nisan</p>	<p>27 9:15a Shahrarit Darshanit: Lauren Kempton 10:45a Children's Prgrms 10:45a Learner's Minyan Qiddush: Ruthie Greenblatt 5:45p Minha, Maariv, Havdala</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5 Nisan</p>
<p>28 9a Shahrarit 9a Religious School 9:30a Hagada Workshop 12:30p Teacher's Meeting 5:45p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6 Nisan</p>	<p>29 7a Shahrarit 7:45a Rashi Study Group 5:45p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7 Nisan</p>	<p>30 7a Shahrarit 5:45p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8 Nisan</p>	<p>31 7a Shahrarit 7:30a Talmud Berakhot Study Group 8:30a Rabbi's Study Group 4p Religious School & Benei Mitzva Prgrm BRS Model Seder 5:45p Minha & Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9 Nisan</p>			

New math. 5,000 year old standards.

At Ezra Academy, our students are immersed in a wonderful combination of academic excellence and Jewish values. To learn how an Ezra Academy education will benefit your child, call NancyKatz, Admissions, at 203-389-5500 today.



EZRA Academy
A Solomon Schechter Day School
The George G. and Leah E. Posner Elementary School
The Middle School at Ezra Academy
75 Ransom Road, Woodbridge, CT 06525
Telephone 203-389-5500 Fax 203-387-5607
email info@ezraacademy.net
Member Connecticut Association of Independent Schools

WESTVILLE *Kosher* MARKET

95 Amity Rd. (Next to Amity Wine)
New Haven (off exit 59 Meritt Pkwy)

Glatt 389-1166 *Kosher*

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

Sun. 8:30-4:00 • Mon.-Wed. 8:30-6:00
Thurs. 8:30-7:00 • Fri. 8:30-3:00 • Closed Sat.

MICHAEL MARTONE
MANAGER



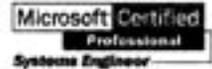
Arnold's Jewelers

DIAMONDS - WATCHES - GIFTS
CHINA - SILVER - CRYSTAL

WATCH AND
CLOCK REPAIRING

NORTH HAVEN SHOPPING CENTER
NORTH HAVEN, CONN. 06473
203-239-4291

203-530-7986
herb.kolodny@computerdoc.biz
POB 4465, Hamden, CT 06514-4465



Computer-Doc

Herb Kolodny

We Make House Calls

Training • Internet • Installation • Configuration • Networks

JEWISH FOUNDATION



of Greater New Haven

STEPHEN L. SALTZMAN
CHAIR

IRENE R. JECUSCO
ADMINISTRATOR

360 AMITY ROAD,
WOODBRIDGE, CT 06525
(203) 387-2424
EXT. 312

CONTACT THE FOUNDATION TO DISCUSS HOW YOU CAN BENEFIT BETH EL - KESER ISRAEL AND THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF GREATER NEW HAVEN THROUGH THE JEWISH FOUNDATION OF GREATER NEW HAVEN.

**Rent or Buy
New / Used**

Kentucky Trailers
AMH Bobtail Trucks
Moving Equipment
Furniture Pads
Equipment Rental
Cartons



800-743-7237 East Haven
www.newhaven-usa.com



*"Shirt Laundering &-Dry Cleaning
Done by Experts"*

- Tablecloths Hand Finished on Premises
 - Same Day Service
 - Shirts & Dry Cleaning
- Tailor on Premises 6 Days a Week
 - FREE-Box Storage

M-F 6:30-6:00 Sat. 8-4
363 Whalley Avenue • New Haven
562-3460

Also in North Haven & Orange

**CHARLES F. ROSENAY!!!!'S
LIVERPOOL PRODUCTIONS**

**The Famous Fun
"BOPPERS" DJs**



**BAR/BAT-MITZAHS
& All "FUN" Jewish PARTIES**

We don't just stand there like statues. We Perform.
Phone (203) 865-DJDJ www.boppersdjs.com

Elder Care Options, Inc.

Marsha R. B. Beller, MSW, LCSW
Professional Geriatric Care Manager

- In home assessment of elder's needs
- Locating community resources and monitoring service
- Finding proper housing or residential placement
- Family consultations
- Medicare-eligible therapy

Call for free brochure and
confidential consideration of your situation
(203) 389-2882

One
TOWER
East
TOWER

**18 Tower Lane
New Haven, CT 06519**

**Tel: 203.772-1816
Fax: 203.785-8280**

www.seniorhousing.net/ad/towers

REACHING NEW HEIGHTS IN AFFORDABLE SENIOR LIVING!

Call for more information or to schedule a tour.
Conveniently located just off I-95 in historic downtown New Haven.

***We provide just the right mix of independence and security,
activity and relaxation, privacy and companionship***



Equal Housing
Opportunity



ROBERT E. SHURE, INC.
Funeral Home

**Dedicated to the Dignity
and Respect of Tradition**

**543 George Street
New Haven**

562-8244

Robert E. Shure James M. Shure
Founder President

**WELLER
FUNERAL HOME**

*Serving the Jewish community
of greater New Haven
with dignity since 1881*

**493 Whitney Avenue
New-Haven, CT**

Daniel W. Klein

624-6912

*Lichtenstein
Monument*

FOR OVER 64 YEARS

*Accurate Hebrew Lettering
Bonded Memorials
Ask About Our Written Guarantee
Monuments Erected
In All Cemeteries*



287-1593



323 Washington Avenue •Hamden
At Whitney (Opposite Kof C Hall)



**GIORDANO BROS.
MONUMENTS
203-777-5569**

- **No Phone Calls**
- **No Salesman at Your Door**
- **No Letters Written to You**

*Just open and closed show areas for your
inspection of our display of over 300 monu-
ments and markers for sale, including a
large showroom.*

1-800-782-5759
275-277 Derby Ave. •West Haven, CT
(Next to the Yale Bowl)

Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel
85 Harrison Street
New Haven, CT 06515

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #131
New Haven, CT

DATED MATERIAL



**JEWISH HOME FOR THE AGED
&
GOODWIN-LEVINE ADULT DAY
HEALTH CENTERS**



***"WHERE CARING &
TRADITION MEET"***

(203) 789-1650, ext. 237

-JCAHO Accredited- -Non-Sectarian-