

A New Haven Tradition since 1892

BEKI bulletin

Congregation
Beth El-Keser Israel

May 2007

Iyar 5767
Vol. 13 Issue 5

In this issue:



Solomon Botwick-Ries, Bar Mitzva
page 4



Simhat Bat – Baby Naming
page 4



Tiqun Leil Shavuot, Adult Study
page 11

Honoring BEKI's Outstanding Civic Leaders



based on photo by David Ottenstein

Carl Goldfield & Gaylord Bourne with the late Phil Voigt

On Sunday 6 May, beginning at 6:30p, Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel will host an elegant dinner party in honor of three of its most distinguished members: Carl Goldfield, President of the New Haven Board of Aldermen; Ina Silverman, Alderwoman; and Susan Voigt, New Haven Democratic Party Town Chair. All three volunteer their

time and energy to civic leadership to make New Haven a better place, and all three are dedicated participants at BEKI.

To purchase tickets (\$90 per person), please contact the BEKI office at 389-2108 or email office@beki.org.

continued on page 3

WUNDERLEE ARTS

A Unique Creative Arts Studio

Offering Individual Lessons

Music: guitar and bass

Arts: drawing painting collage

Register for summer classes now

for more information visit us at:

www.wunderleearts.com

located at

924 Whalley Avenue

Westville, CT

203-387-3537



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

© 2007 Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel.

A Message from Rabbi Tilsen & Dear Rabbi

© 2007 Jon-Jay Tilsen. All rights reserved.

Editor

Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen

Associate Editor

Donna Levine

Associate Editor

Donna Kemper

Associate Editor

Herbert Winer

Circulation Manager

Saul Bell

Layout & Design

Media Arts Center

Advertisement Editor

Sheila Gardiner

Advertisement Associate Editor

Ronni Rabin

Photographer

Charles Ludwig

• Mark Your Calendar •

- **LaG BeOmer Kumsitz Campfire Singalong** Sunday 6 May 2007 Noon to 1:30p Courtyard
- **Tribute to our Civic Leaders** Sunday 6 May 2007 6:15p to 10:00p
- **Bar Mitzva: Solomon Botwick-Ries** Shabbat 25-26 May 2007
- **Bat Mitzva: Dana Lew** Shabbat 1-2 June 2007
- **BEKI Picnic** Sunday 3 June 2007 off-site
- **Simhat Bat Baby Naming: Jade Alexandra Aprile** Shabbat afternoon 12 May 2007 5:45p
- **Bat Mitzva: Lital Avni-Singer** Sunday Rosh Hodesh Tamuz 17 June 2007
- **Annual Meeting** Wednesday 27 June 2007 7:00p

Honoring BEKI's Outstanding Civic Leaders

continued from cover

The evening will begin with a cocktail hour, featuring live music by an outstanding student string ensemble, led by Merav Stern. Student musicians from the Cooperative High School for the Arts and Humanities will entertain during a delicious, kosher, festive sit-down dinner.



Ina Silverman

In connection with the dinner, BEKI has published a Tribute Book. The proceeds from the ads in this book will help support the congregation's many activities and projects. In addition to religious and educational programs, BEKI is a community resource, housing a full-time daycare center, a Montessori nursery school, and a weekly AA meeting. BEKI provides an unusual range of outreach programming for adults with mental illness and other disabilities. It has the only religious school in the region for children with learning disabilities. BEKI recently made its building wheelchair accessible and environmentally more responsible by installing solar cells on the roof, energy-efficient light bulbs, and insulated windows in the Claire Goodwin Youth Room.



based on photo by David Offenstern

Susan Voigt with Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen

As a congregation, BEKI is also very active in community service projects, including blanket and coat drives, food drives, Habitat for Humanity, and more. Although the Tribute Book has already been printed, additional and corrected greetings will be published in the BEKI Bulletin. To place your greeting or

ad, or to request a copy of the Tribute Book, contact Peggy at office@beki.org 389-2108 x14.

**Benefit Congregation
Beth El-Keser Israel**

Ask us about
**establishing a fund, trust or annuity
to ensure BEKI's future.**

*Charitable giving strengthens our Community
and provides the donor with tax savings.*

Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven

Dr. John S. Levy Chairman, Board of Trustees	Lisa A. Stanger, Esq. Director 203 387-2424 x382 lstanger@jewishnewhaven.org
--	--



All of us, One Foundation.

Benei Mitzva in May



Solomon Botwick-Ries

Solomon Botwick-Ries, son of Michael Ries & Dr. Jennifer Botwick-Ries, will lead and participate in services as a bar mitzva on Shabbat parashat Naso, 25-26 May 2007.

Mazal Tov to

Robert Forbes on the publication of his new book, *The Missouri Compromise and its Aftermath: Slavery and the Meaning of America*

Alan Rosner on receiving the Connecticut Bar Association's Pro Bono Award

Arthur & Betty Levy on the birth of a granddaughter in April

We Welcome New Members and Their Families

Kerryanne Natlo and Pat Iorfino and Schuyler

A Note From Charlie & Violet Ludwig

Thank you to our BEKI friends and neighbors for your help, cards, food and rides during Charlie's surgery and recovery. Your outpouring of support is very much appreciated.

Charlie & Vi Ludwig

Baby Naming

Jade Alexandra Aprile, daughter of Judi Friedman & Dominic Aprile, granddaughter of Irene Friedman and of Ralph Friedman, and great-granddaughter of Rev. Louis Friedman z"l, will be named in the synagogue during the minha service on Shabbat 12 May 2007 at 5:45p.



Jade Alexandra Aprile

With sorrow we note the passing of

Ada Fish

sister-in-law of Lenny (& Inge) Fish

**garinim
montessori**

A preschool program for children ages 2 to 6

Celebrating Jewish Tradition

Now Accepting Enrollment

The success of the Montessori classroom is dependent on its core beliefs; freedom within limits and respect for each other and the environment. The goal of the program is to cultivate the child's own natural desire to learn.

Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel • 85 Harrison St., New Haven
Lana Gad-Director 203.389.7445

Who Knows One? I know one... and one is Hashem... One is Hashem... One is Hashem... in the heavens and the earth.

As part of my responsibility at BEKI I organized or led five seders this Passover and as Passover ends this song keeps playing in my mind. The first seder was the 24th annual Special Needs Seder lovingly put on by Adele Tyson and the ladies of Sisterhood along with Kulanu. It was the largest seder yet and Ruthie Greenblatt added to the ruah by leading the singing. Mattie Prober and Sam Weiser helped and were well received by our guests.

My second seder was at St Martin de Porres, a small Nativity school near SCSU. The teacher, Jim Messina, is a friend of Alan Lovins, hence the contact. It was one of the most interactive and spiritual seders of my experience. The kitchen staff, teachers and Board of Directors had prepared a complete seder meal, down to the seder plate and matza ball soup! I brought the *haggadot* and the plagues! These fifth and sixth grade students really knew their Bible stories. They knowingly recounted the Exodus story as we proceeded through the seder. They asked the four questions and aptly read about the four types of children. But the best part ... the singing... Who Knows One reverberated through the school cafeteria and halls!

My next seder was the Model Seder for BEKI Religious School led by Ina Silverman. It is every Jewish parent's dream that their young children knowingly ask the Four Questions... and they did. The telling of the Ten Plagues

was a highlight. We closed the seder by singing *Hatigva*, the Israeli national anthem, expressing hope for the return to Zion and next year in Jerusalem. My next seder was at Chapel Haven. This was more a retelling of the Pesah story. The next seder was at Fellowship Place organized by Sara Mag, Program Leader at Fellowship Place. Thirty community members experienced a traditional seder complete with matza ball soup, gefilte fish, brisket, and macarons.

The *Haggada* reminds us, "Let all those who are hungry, come to our seder and eat." "Love the stranger as yourself for you were once strangers in Egypt" Leviticus 19:34. BEKI provided two *mitzvot* to the broader community this Passover: members of Kulanu, Saul's Circle, Southbury Training School, and the Shalom Group at Jewish Family Services attended at least one seder and in many cases two.... And a group of school children was able to experience a Passover Seder. As the principal and president of St. Martin de Porres Academy wrote, "Our intent at the Academy is to broaden and enhance the knowledge and experience of our students in all areas of their lives... the richness of the Seder/Passover experience."

With Passover we enter a fifty-day period filled with Jewish commemorations, ancient and contemporary. On the second day of Passover we began counting the Omer: followed by Yom Hashoah, Yom Hazikaron, Yom HaAtzmaut, LaG BaOmer, Yom Yerushalayim, to Shavuot. This is the national autobiography of Israel in the twentieth century. So we continue to tell the story of our people, a new maggid.



Solar Cookers for Darfur

The response to our appeal to raise money for the refugees from Darfur has been heartwarming. We have raised four hundred dollars which will buy six solar cookers and guarantee their safe delivery. Thank you so much for your support. The campaign is ongoing. If you want to learn more please go to: www.savedarfur.org. LK

STAR ★
Tire & Wheels

Andy Weinstein

40 Orange Avenue
West Haven, CT 06516
203-933-AUTO (2886)

Answers, Advice & Helpful Household Hints

Dear Rabbi,
Newsweek issued its list of the 50 top rabbis, and we noticed you are not included, along with several other great rabbis, including many Conservative rabbis, whom we know. Was it just an oversight?

Signed, Local Fan

Dear Nearby Air Blower,
I can't comment on *Newsweek's* choices, but I can tell you that the Rabbinical Assembly is issuing a list of the "50 Top Magazines," and *Newsweek* is not on it.

Dear Rabbi,
We have noticed that some gentiles include their pictures in the newspaper death listings, but Jews never do. Is there a prohibition against it, or some other reason?

Signed, Dying to find out

Dear Necrology Noticer,

There is no prohibition to printing an image of the deceased. Cultural sensitivities may vary. It may be that the Jewish practice of holding a funeral soon after death makes including a photo with the death notice logistically difficult, inasmuch as many death notices are submitted to the newspaper within just a few hours of death. At the same time, as a matter of respect,

we do not display the body of our deceased love ones, but rather try to remember them as they looked while filled with life. If you don't want anyone to see you in the morning right after you get up, you certainly don't want anyone to see you after you've been dead for a couple of days.

Dear Rabbi,
I like Shabbat services, but three or more hours is just too long. Can't you make it shorter? "Full-length" films are 90 or at most 120 minutes long.

Signed, Service Shortener

Dear Tefila Attenuator,
We didn't write the Shabbat morning and musaf services, we just recite them. That is how long they are, at least in "standard" form and at a leisurely pace. More like baseball than basketball. However, if you come at 11:00a and

leave at noon, they are only one hour long. If you prefer a 90-minute service, come at 10:30a. Alternatively, try the Shabbat evening (Friday night) service at 6:00p, which is under one hour, or the 36-minute Shabbat afternoon service, or a 36-minute daily shaharit morning service or 22-minute mincha-maariv afternoon-evening double-header. You will find these services more intimate and possibly equally challenging or fulfilling.



Jewish Home for the Aged Goodwin-Levine Adult Day Health Center

169 Davenport Avenue . New Haven 06519
for 90 years serving the elderly in traditional Jewish surroundings

Skilled Nursing . **Short term Rehabilitation** . **Adult Day Health Services**
Resident Centered Care The Bridge from hospital to home Support to keep loved ones at home

Full Time Geriatricians Glatt Kosher Four season courtyard Reserved Parking

Call 203-789-1650 for information

Bea Zampano, JHA Admissions ext. 237 Judy Rolnick, Director, GLADHC ext. 310

Join or REJOIN the Minyan Seekers / Minyan Makers Mailing List

If you would like email notification when BEKI members are seeking additional participants for a daily service in order to insure a minyan, and might like to request that others attend on a specific date on which you seek a minyan, send a message to minyan-subscribe@beki.org . You can unsubscribe by sending a message to minyan-unsubscribe@beki.org and obtain additional instructions at minyan-help@beki.org . If that doesn't work, just send a request to jjtilsen@beki.org. (You may need to copy and paste these addresses to send your message, as the hyperlinks do not work in some email programs.)

USY BEKI/BJ Shabbaton

USYers! Join us on 4-6 May at Camp Laurelwood. Shabbat & LaG BeOmer. For more information on USY e-mail Jon Orell at usy@beki.org or Jeorell@gmail.com or call (203) 415-7076.

SATs: Note to High Schoolers and Their Parents

I want to make you aware of the College Board's Sunday test dates for each administration of the SAT throughout the year. While your family might not be strictly shomer Shabbat, as an act of solidarity with other Jewish teens, and as a show of support for the College Board decision to offer Sunday testing, I strongly recommend that you consider testing on Sunday. In order to do this,



Avital Silverman, one of several BEKI students in Israel this year

request a letter from Rabbi Jon-Jay, and follow the instructions at these links:

www.usy.org/yourusy/reled/sundaysat.asp
www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/reg/circum/sunday.html

As an extra bonus, there is usually a smaller group of testers and the environment in the room is one of camaraderie, not the usual nervous tension from a testing room. (Similar to the feeling of being at shul on a snowy Shabbat with a small, hearty group who have braved the elements.)

Rena Cheskis-Gold,
 BEKI Youth Commissioner



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 K of C Hall)



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

Write On!
invitations • gifts • stationery

****New Bar/Bat Mitzvah Designs****
Large selection • Discount prices

Gifts and invitations for all occasions

Debbie Brander Barbieri
203-393-1230 www.writeonct.com



Isaiah D. Cooper

Practical Solutions for Complex Business Transactions

Company Formation • Mergers & Acquisitions
Equity & Debt Finance • Consulting Agreements
Shareholder Disputes • Distribution Contracts
Employment Contracts • Leases • Software Licenses

205 Church St., Suite 307 Tel: 203-497-9969
New Haven, CT 06510 icooper@cooperlaw.net
www.cooperlaw.net

CHARLES F. ROSENAY!!!'S
LIVERPOOL PRODUCTIONS

The Famous Fun
"BOPPERS" DJs



BAR/BAT-MITZAH'S
& All "FUN" JEWISH PARTIES

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



MAZI SCHERBAN, ABR, CRS
REALTOR®
(203) 389-0015 EXT. 321 OFFICE
(203) 389-5106 FAX
(203) 887-8884 CELL
Mazi.Scherban@CBMoves.com



RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE
270 Amity Rd
Woodbridge, CT 06525

Owned And Operated
By NRT Incorporated.

www.ColdwellBankerMoves.com



GOOD COPY
Printing & Digital Graphics

🏠 110 Hamilton Street
New Haven CT 06511
☎ 203.624.0194
📄 203.624.3609
✉ goodcopy@goodcopy.com
🌐 www.goodcopy.com

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

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

Office Hours
By Appointment

303 WHITNEY AVENUE
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06511

Sefira – Counting the Omer

At the second seder, we began 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. Counting is the fulfillment of a *mitzva* specified in the Torah: “You shall count from the eve of the second day of Pesah, when an Omer of grain is to be brought as an offering, seven complete weeks. The day after the seventh week of your counting will make fifty days” (Lev. 23:15-16).

The simple home ceremony appears in *Sim Shalom* and most *siddurim* (prayer books) 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 the 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.

Families with young children may use this opportunity to help their children

understand and experience anticipation, planning, counting and hope.

*Teach us to number our days, that we
may attain a heart of wisdom*
– Psalm 90:12

LaG BeOmer Kumsitz

On Sunday 6 May 2007, from noon to 1:30p, everyone is invited to a LaG BeOmer Kumsitz campfire sing-along in the BEKI courtyard on Harrison Street.

Bring instruments and song sheets. In case of rain, the sing-along will take place indoors at the same location (without a campfire).

LaG BeOmer is the thirty-third day of the counting of the Omer, the period between Passover and Shavuot, and marks the end of a semi-mourning period between the two festivals.

This music program is made possible through the support of the Morris & Sara Oppenheim Endowment for Sacred Music at BEKI.

Shavuot Two-Day Festival: The Jewish Hajj

The Festival of Shavuot (“Weeks”), one of the three major pilgrimage festivals, celebrates the anniversary of the Giving of the Torah at Sinai some 3,400 years ago. The word *hag* (pilgrimage festival) is known widely by its Arabic cognate, *hajj* (which, for Muslims, means pilgrimage to Mecca). The Torah commands, “Three times a year—on the

Feast of Unleavened Bread, on the Feast of Weeks, and on the Feast of Booths—all your males shall appear before the Lord your God in the place that He will choose. They shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed, but each with his own gift, according to the blessing that the Lord your God has bestowed upon you” (Deut. 16:16-17).

Shavuot comes at the culmination of the counting of seven weeks from Pesah, and will be a major observance at BEKI this summer. Just as we look forward to important events in our personal lives, so too our ancestors enthusiastically and devoutly anticipated the event at Sinai. By participating in BEKI’s Shavuot observance, we re-enact the extraordinary experience of our ancestors and show our own enthusiasm for receiving Torah.

Shavuot Candle Lighting

Those who are able may light Festival candles at 7:52p or earlier on Tuesday 22 May 2007. It is also customary to light Yizkor Memorial candles immediately before lighting the festival candles. On Wednesday night 23 May, the candles are lighted at 8:52p or later using the pre-existing flame of the memorial candles, pilot or other light.

The blessing recited over the Festival candles is “*Barukh...asher qidshanu bemitzvotav vetsivanu lehadliq ner shel yom tov*” and the “*Shehehianu*,” both of which can be found in most *siddurim* (prayerbooks). Audio recordings of these and other *berakhot* (blessings) are available at www.beki.org/audio.html.



Moshe Meiri

Tiqun Leil Shavuot

This year we specially welcome our neighbors from Congregation Or Shalom to our annual Tiqun Leil Shavuot Sweeter than Honey Night of Study, on Tuesday night 22 May 2007. Dairy and pareve refreshments will be served. That means **cheesecake**.

The evening begins with the Mincha Afternoon Service, from 7:50p to 8:00p. The brief Festival Evening service, from 8:10p to 8:30p, will be followed at 8:45p by a presentation.

After another break for refreshments, exploration of Torah continues with another presentation.. A late-night *shiur* by Moshe Meiri will begin sometime after 10:30p. Additional details were being finalized as this issue went to press.

Shavuot Mornings

Yizkor Memorial Service

The Shavuot First Day Festival Shaharit Morning Service begins at 9:15a on Wednesday 23 May 2007. The service includes the full recitation of Hallel.

The Shavuot Second Day Morning service begins at 9:15a on Thursday 23 May 2007. The Festival service includes a *Shaharit* morning service, *Hallel* (Psalms of praise), a Torah reading and *Haftara*. Following the *Haftara* (prophetic reading), the *Yizkor* Memorial Service is held. The *Yizkor* memorial service is one of four such services during the year that help us recognize our feelings of loss, which are sometimes especially intense during the Festival season, and to honor the memories of our loved ones.

Following *Yizkor*, the Book of Ruth is read to a uniquely beautiful and ancient melody based on the same system of *ta'amei hamiqra* ("trope") found in most of the Hebrew Bible. Then the Festival *Musaf* additional service is recited.

Annual Meeting

Wednesday Evening
27 June 2007
7:00p to 8:30p

Greater New Haven County Real Estate Call the EXPERT!



REALTOR

Mark Levine

203.795.2483

203.795.6000 Office

Mark.Levine@CBMoves.com



Call TODAY for your free market evaluation!

(203) 389-9934

(203) 915-6357 (cell)

COBY'S REMODELING

Kitchens • Bathrooms • Home Additions

Commercial • Residential

Complete Design Services

Coby Ben-Chitrit
License# 00560348

12 Pumpkin Patch Rd.
Woodbridge, CT 06525

Shabbatot

Darshanim in May

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

Rabbi Pete Stein will serve as darshan on Shabbat morning 5 May 2007, *parashat* Emor

A **Special Guest** will serve as darshan on Shabbat morning 12 May 2007, *parashat* BeHar-BeHuqotai

Solomon Botwick-Ries, bar mitzva, will serve as darshan on Shabbat morning 26 May 2007, *parashat* Naso.

Shabbat Shalom Learners' Minyan

The "Shabbat Shalom Learners' Minyan," which meets every other Saturday morning at 10:45a in BEKI's Library Chapel, is an ideal setting for veteran and novice shul-goers alike to become more comfortable and proficient in the Shaharit (morning) and Torah services in a supportive setting. Expertly led by **Steven Fraade, Rabbi Alan Lovins, Rabbi Murray Levine** and others, the Shabbat Shalom Learners' Minyan is a nurturing exploration of practice and theory presented in a participatory, non-threatening and multi-generational setting. Many members who take advantage of this unique offering feel a deeper sense of awe born of increased understanding and appreciation for the services. Everyone is welcome to participate regardless of religious status or background.

Sundays

Ivrit with Margalit

Study Modern and Siddur Hebrew with Margalit Kern on Sunday mornings from 9:00a to 9:45a during the academic year. For information, contact Dr. Lauren Kempton in the BEKI office

MAKOM Beit HaMidrash at BEKI: "Introduction to Talmud" & "Talmud Berakhot, Chapter II" with Moshe Meiri

Beginning & Intermediate Sections

Serious youth are invited to dive into the "sea of Talmud" on Sunday mornings with Moshe Meiri. Two sections are offered: one for beginning students, and another for continuing students. Students are expected to have studied some Mishna and be able to read Hebrew. An acquaintance with Rashi's commentaries is helpful. The classes meet Sunday mornings from about 9:45a to 11:00a and 11:05a to 12:15p. Students wishing to enroll should speak with Arnold Carmel at MAKOM. The classes are open only to students in grades 8-12. This is an honors program class and will be taught in an academic Jewish Studies style. Disciplined attendance is expected. Moshe may be reached at moshe@snet.net.

MAKOM Beit HaMidrash at BEKI: "The Genesis Chronicles" with Margalit Kern

Margalit Kern is teaching *Miqra* (Scripture) for youth at two challenging levels on Sunday mornings. The classes are

part of the MAKOM honors program at BEKI for students in grades 8-12. The classes meet Sunday mornings from about 9:45a to 11:00a and 11:05a to 12:15p. Students wishing to enroll should speak with Arnold Carmel at MAKOM. This is an honors program class and will be taught in an academic Jewish Studies style. Disciplined attendance is expected.

Mondays

Rashi Study Group

Each Monday morning from 7:45a to 8:30a adults meet in the Library Chapel to read Rashi's commentary on the Torah. 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. The Rashi Study Group meets immediately following the 7:00a *shaharit* morning service.

Wednesdays

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.

Torah for the Hungry Mind - Adult Studies

Thursdays

Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group

The "Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group," hosted by Isaiah Cooper, meets weekly on Thursdays during the lunch hour (12:30p to 1:30p) with Rabbi Tilsen at a downtown New Haven professional office for Talmud study. The Group has met weekly since 1999. For some participants, this is their first direct experience with Talmud text. The Group focuses on the issues raised in the Talmud, with less attention to the technical aspects of the text. Knowledge of Hebrew or Aramaic is helpful but not required. For location or information, contact Isaiah Cooper at 233-4547 or icooper@cooperlaw.net.

Writing Group

The writing group meets on each Thursday in the Chapel Library from 2:00p to 4:00p. Each week a group of interested writers come together to share the short pieces that they have written: memoirs, poetry, children's stories and short stories. The goal of the group is to encourage writing, critique of written pieces, and publishing. Each week the writers come together with a piece of their writing. The writer then has a "Read-Aloud" and the group provides feedback. For more information please contact Ruth Silver at bergida1@yahoo.com or Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x13 or lkempton@beki.org.

AA Meeting

The *Here We Are* Group of AA meets at BEKI every Thursday night at 8:00p. The weekly Meeting has been held at

BEKI since May 1997. Open to any person who can benefit from a recovery program, the meeting is held according to standard AA procedure. It is currently engaged in a 12 & 12 Study – Discussion. This is not a specifically Jewish recovery group, although a large proportion of participants are Jewish. For information on the weekly meeting contact Jay at (203) 387-6019 or sokolow@snet.net

Every Day

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.



CARL TONUCCI JR.
PETER J. CORDONE
RICHARD SZOSTEK, JR.

LICENSES: P1-202742, S1-302793,
F1-11240, HI-572091

CORDONE AND TONUCCI
PLUMBING, HEATING AND MAINTENANCE CONTRACTORS, INC.
COMMERCIAL, RESIDENTIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL
531 SUMMIT DRIVE, ORANGE, CONN. 06477
203-795-3855 • FAX 203-624-5937
E-mail: cordoneplumbing@58Cglobal.net

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 our Director of Admissions at 203-389-5500 today.



EZRA Academy
A Solution Outside The School

The George G. and Leah E. Posner Elementary School
The Middle School at Ezra Academy

75 Rimmon Road, Woodbridge, CT 06525
Telephone: 203-389-5500 Fax: 203-387-5607
e-mail: info@ezraacademy.net
Member Connecticut Association of Independent Schools

