

A New Haven Tradition since 1892

# BEKI bulletin

Congregation  
Beth El-Keser Israel

October 2006

Tishrei 5767  
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## Sukkot is Coming

A complete schedule of services is available in table format at [www.beki.org/schedule.html](http://www.beki.org/schedule.html).

### *Lulav & Etrog*

If you feel a sense of loss at the end of the High Holy Days, do not despair: it is time for Sukkot, called *the* Festival by our ancestors. Lulav & Etrog sets may be ordered from the BEKI Religious School at 389-2108 x13 or [lkempton@beki.org](mailto:lkempton@beki.org). They are used each day of Sukkot except Shabbat, until and including Hoshana Rabba.

### *Sukka Setup*

#### **Put it Up, Take it Down!**

**UP:** The BEKI Moishe Schnitman Memorial Sukka, which again this year will grace our front courtyard is scheduled to be assembled on **Wednesday 4 October** from 3:00p - 5:30p. Bring ladders, screwdrivers (especially power), work gloves, and hammers.

There is no Sunday between Yom Kippur and the beginning of Sukkot. This is the *only chance* we will have to erect the Sukka. We may be missing a couple of our regular skilled construction crew, so we ask that everyone (men and women) make every effort to join us



for this very important mitzvah and community effort. Decorations will be assembled during this time, as well, and will be put up immediately following the sukkah's completion.

**DOWN:** The deconstruction of the Sukka will take place on **Sunday 22 October** at 9:30a, immediately following the morning minyan service (join us at 9:00a). Bring your ladders, tools and gloves again. Your help is greatly appreciated. For more information about the BEKI Sukka construction, contact David Kuperstock (387-0304, [ndk1024@aol.com](mailto:ndk1024@aol.com) or Saul Bell (389-1647, [sbell1470@aol.com](mailto:sbell1470@aol.com))



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BEKI Bulletin

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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](mailto:jjtilsen@beki.org)

or see our web page: [www.beki.org](http://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.

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BEKI Bulletin

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A Message from Rabbi Tilsen & Dear Rabbi

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## ***Sukkot Festival Days***

Sukkot begins Friday night 6 October 2006. The Minha Afternoon service is at 6:00p. The Festival service begins at 6:10 and concludes by 6:30p. Candle lighting is 6:09p (or earlier).

Festival morning services begin at 9:15a on Shabbat and Sunday. *Lulav* and *etrog* are normally used on each day of the Festival, except Shabbat, up to and including Hoshana Rabba. Shabbat Minha services on Sukkot begin at 5:45p, and candle lighting is after 7:08p.

The *shehehyanu* blessing is recited by each person at the first use of *lulav* and *etrog* during Sukkot. During the entire festival, meals and other activities take place in the *sukka*. Audio recordings of some of the Sukkot berakhot are available at [www.beki.org/audio.html](http://www.beki.org/audio.html).

## ***Family Sukka Hop – Sunday 8 October***

Family Sukka Hop Sunday 8 October  
Departs 12:45p from BEKI Sukka

**Two routes: Lower Westville and Upper Westville**



A light progressive meal and Sukkot activity will take place at each *sukka*; RSVP to Miriam, 389-6137, by Sunday 1 October; please specify Lower or Upper Westville route

### **Lower Westville Route**

Hop schedule: First stop: Benson-Tilsen Sukka, 281 West Elm St., 1:15-1:45p; depart at 1:45p for

Second Stop: Frankel-Kaufman Sukka, 9 Richmond Avenue, 1:55-2:30p; depart at 2:30p for

Third Stop: Minsky-Fenick Sukka, 56 McKinley Ave., 2:40-3:15p; depart at 3:15p for

Fourth Stop: Grazier-Zerbarini Sukka, 122 West Rock Ave., 3:25 – 4:00p; depart at 4:00p for

Fifth Stop: Zax-Weiser Sukka, 428 Yale Ave., 4:10 – 4:45p; depart at 4:45p for

Sixth Stop: Lovett-Graff Sukka, 352 West Rock Ave; 4:55 – 5:30p; depart at 5:30p for BEKI;

Pickup at BEKI at 6:15p following minha service in the BEKI Sukka

At the conclusion of minha: make-your-own sundae on Sunday in the BEKI Sukka! Generously Coordinated by Linden G-Z

### **Upper Westville Route**

Hop schedule: First stop: Botwick-Ries Sukka, 14 Judwin Ave. 1:15-1:50p; depart at 1:50p for

Second Stop: Rothman Sukka, 111 Judwin Ave., 2:05-2:40p; depart at 2:40p for

Third Stop: Rosenbluh-Stern Sukka, 124 Ray Road, 2:55-3:30p; depart at 3:30p for

Fourth Stop: Lew Sukka, 161 Whittier Road, 3:45 – 4:20p; depart at 4:20p for

Fifth Stop: Marx-Schonberger Sukka, 290 Knollwood Dr., 4:35 – 5:10p; depart at 5:10p for

Pickup at BEKI at 6:15p following Minha service in the BEKI Sukka

At the conclusion of mincha: make-your-own sundae on Sunday in the BEKI Sukka! Generously Coordinated by Linden G-Z

## **Hol HaMoed Sukkot**

“Hol HaMoed,” also known as the “intermediate” days of the festival, are those days between the first two and last two days of Sukkot (and of Pesah). They have a “semi-holiday” status. The rules against *melakha* (“work”) that apply on Shabbat and Festivals are not fully in force during this period, although we are encouraged to take this time as a holiday and to avoid work as much as possible. Our weekday morning services are

*continued next page*

*continued from previous page*

enhanced with a brief Torah reading, the recitation of the musical “Hallel” section of Psalms, and a brief Musaf (additional) service. Weekday morning services thus take 60 minutes, instead of our usual 30 to 45 minutes. Afternoon and evening services are the usual length. The *lulav* (branches) and *etrog* (citron) are waved each morning of Hol HaMoed Sukkot (except Shabbat), and one is obliged to dwell (to live in) and eat in a *sukka*. Some morning and evening services will be held in the BEKI *sukka*. Some people do not wear tefillin during Hol HaMoed.

## ***Hosanna! Hosanna!***

The Hoshana Rabba (“Great Hosanna”) morning service on Friday 13 October 2006 begins at 9:15a and ends by 11:00a. This is one of the most colorful, fun and tactile services of the year, featuring seven circuits around the *sukka* or *shul* with *lulav* and *etrog* (palm and citron) and the *hoshana* service in which willow twigs are beaten on the chairs. Special holiday melodies make this an unforgettable spiritual experience. Be sure to come to this “service for all ages.”

Hoshana Rabba is a semi-festival on which work is *not* strictly prohibited as it is on the major festivals. It serves as a “closing ceremony” for the weeklong Sukkot observance in preparation for the concluding festival of Shemini Atseret. Weather permitting, the Hoshana Rabba service will be in the *sukka*.

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## ***Shemini Atseret & Yizkor Memorial Service***

The Festival of Shemini Atseret (“Eighth Day of Assembly”) serves as a conclusion to the autumn Festival of Sukkot (“Booths”). It begins Friday Night 13 October 2006.

Shabbat Shemini Atseret is marked by reading selections from the Biblical Book of Qohelet (“Ecclesiastes”) during the 9:15a service. Qohelet, attributed by tradition to King Solomon in his old age, is a “wisdom” book that many see as being out of step with the rest of the Torah. While it includes such well-known passages as “To everything there is a season,” it also contains statements that seem cynical or nihilistic. The Book will be chanted according to its beautiful and ancient melody. In addition, Hallel will be chanted.

The Yizkor Memorial Service is also incorporated into the Shemini Atseret liturgy. In the Yizkor service we call upon the memories of our ancestors and loved ones who, while not physically present, are part of our “Assembly.” During that memorial service,

individual and communal prayers and remembrances will be offered for all of our departed loved ones. It is also appropriate to light a memorial candle on Friday night immediately before lighting the Shabbat Festival candles at 5:57p.

## ***Simhat Torah Celebration***

Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel is the place to be for the evening and morning of Simhat Torah. *Minha* services begin at 6:00p and evening services begin at 7:00p on Motse’ei Shabbat (Saturday Night) 14 October 2006. Candle lighting on Saturday night is *after* 6:56p.

Festival Morning services begin at 9:15a on Sunday 15 October. Goodie Bags will be presented by the Sisterhood to all the deserving children at services evening and morning. Afternoon *minha* services begin at 5:45p.

## *Memory and Memories*

I believe there is a distinct difference between memory and memories. I have wonderful memories and a quite horrible memory. So let me address memory lapses first. I have no memory for numbers. I do not like numbers so I know very few... my Social Security number and my four work numbers... I still look up my son's number and he has been in Stratford for three years. Every time I need to remember a number, I write it down in my little blue book and I label it "secret code"..... So I have secret codes for BEKI, two phones and a computer, and secret codes for the Federation where I have an office and a phone. I do not know my cell phone number nor my husband's. I am only good on the cell phone in Israel where it is my link to my husband Brooks.

My Mom has Alzheimer's. I have watched her memory fade. Brooks says that the stories she tells over and over – the same stories seconds apart are like a long-playing 78 record. Now I am part of a study on the Children of Alzheimer's patients for UVM and Quinnipiac. The survey was about ten pages of questions... do you walk to the car and forget where you are going? Do you forget appointments? Perhaps I am really being studied?

Now to memories. I have some amazing memories: my Dad of blessed memory... his tie and shirt, never quite matching... at my college graduation in W. Virginia ... so so proud.... my first son ... coal-black hair, eyes scrunched tight... my next son... white blond hair... born hollering ... more.... The first time I saw Jerusalem... City of silver and gold and Bethlehem and Nazareth... the memories of the bible stories of my childhood ... meeting rebels in the post Civil War climate of El Salvador... giving them my Winston 100's... meeting the Pope, one month post 9/11 as 40,000 pilgrims sang, "God Bless America" to us in respect of our loss... and on the March of the Living... the barracks of Auschwitz... the ash pits at Majdanek and the sea of blue jackets with Mogan Davids, my teens... my wedding... Brooks beaming, my sons in their tuxedos.

Memories we hold close and dear to us, for nurturing and for strength. And in this increasingly numerical world, the memories are softer and to me more important than memory. I believe this anniversary of 9/11, the fifth anniversary, is about memories. To my generation perhaps it is like, "Where were you when John F Kennedy was assassinated?" I believe our children hold the memories of Sept 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001, in their mind as youngsters, and try to apply that childhood memory to their understanding of the very different word of today. And they must do this embraced in our love and nurture. LK



Dr. Lauren Kempton

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# Children Belong at BEKI

## ***Children Are Seen and Heard at Weekly Shabbat Services***



Every Saturday morning, while adults pray together in the main sanctuary or at a learning service, the youngest members of BEKI participate in their own weekly ritual. Designed to meet the spiritual and social needs of pre-school children, the Children's Havura is a very special tradition at BEKI.

The Children's Havura is a hands-on, volunteer-led Shabbat service specifically aimed at young children. Children and their grown-ups sit in a circle and read from special prayerbooks, or *siddurim*, with covers lovingly decorated by the kids themselves. The service is replete with many ancient and sacred Hebrew prayers, but it also includes some modern English songs that touch on themes important to the youngest children. For example the verse of one favorite song is "thank you for my friends, thank you for my toys; thank you, God, for taking care of all the girls and boys." Just before settling down for a discussion of the weekly *parasha*, the children sing and march around with room with stuffed toy Torah scrolls. Parents attend the Havura with their children, so there

are plenty of adults to help make the service meaningful for the little ones.

Parent volunteers take turns leading services and organize a special activity that relates to the weekly Torah portion. This may include teaching a new song, reading a favorite story, or acting out a Bible story, complete with costumes and props. Parents tend to focus on the most accessible lessons from the Torah, and recurring themes include being a good friend and a kind and caring person, the value of *tzedaqa* (charity) and the importance of *mitzvot* (religious duties). 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, which is most appropriate for children under five years, enjoys strong support from parents and the Synagogue. Currently about 60 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. For older children, there are other age-appropriate services that also meet every Shabbat. Children in kindergarten through second grade attend K-2 Kehila; Junior Congregation is for children in grades 3-6; Cosmic Conversations is designed for students in middle or junior high school. It is not necessary to be a member of the synagogue to participate. However, many Children's Havura families have joined BEKI because it is such a welcoming community.

## **Look What's New at the JCC**



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# Children Belong at BEKI

Marcia Landesman of Woodbridge is one of the many parent leaders and regular attendees. "I've been attending the Children's Havura with my two children for over a year now, and from the first Shabbat I was blown away by the warm and welcoming atmosphere. That first Saturday, everyone was so friendly and inviting. Though it was clear that everyone else was a 'regular,' my children and I were included and we caught on to the service very quickly. I never thought I'd be a regular Shabbat attendee, but my kids adore being part of a Havura and BEKI has helped me reclaim the peacefulness of Shabbat by creating a space that is welcoming to and stimulating for children."

Sara Labowe Stoll of Woodbridge explains her commitment to the Children's Havura. "We lead the Children's Havura because it keeps us returning to shul on a regular basis. It keeps us religiously active, socially connected and participating in what we believe is good and important to our lives and the lives of our children." Her three-year-old son, Jaden, says "Mommy, I want to go to shul this *Shabbos* and play in the kiddie room!"

Rob Schonberger of New Haven was attracted to BEKI because it is a family-oriented shul. "The Children's Havura has a down-to-earth lay-led feeling to it, but thanks to the skilled facilitation of Miriam Benson, it also has a robust resource file-cabinet and logistical support to make it consistently strong. Beyond that, BEKI welcomes families with small children by offering a child-friendly *qiddush*

including high chairs. Our daughter looks forward to shul each week, as do I."

If you are interested in learning more about the BEKI Children's Shabbat Havura or any of the other three youth Shabbat programs, come any Shabbat (Saturday) morning at 10:45a and see for yourself. Or contact Miriam Benson at [mirbenson@aol.com](mailto:mirbenson@aol.com), who along with Education Director Dr. Lauren Kempton ([lkempton@beki.org](mailto:lkempton@beki.org)) coordinates the program.



"Rabbi Joel & Beth Hoffman and family at Sunday Morning Siddur Workshop for Children"

## Welcome to New Members & Their Families

Eric & Emily Dunsker and Alex Perry Goodman & Berengere Gay  
Rebecca Weiner & Mike Rastelli and Sarah

Adam & Iris Gafni-Kane and Arnon Daniel Goldstein & Grace Jenq and Benjamin and Mia

Gila & Barry Fischman and Allison and Jonathan

Al & Marge Barnett

Yair & Stephanie Listokin and Ami Jonathan & Rachel Dranoff

## Mazal tov to

Belle Greenberg on the birth of her grandchildren Stella Justin Greenberg and Aviv Jacob Tesar

Nadav & Rita Sela on the birth of their grandson to Rebecca & Amitai Sela in New Jersey

Shulamith Chernoff on the publication of *The Stones Bear Witness* (ISBN 1-887012-18-4).

## Upcoming Benei Mitzva Observances

• **Lauren Buckman**, daughter of Kenneth & Linda Buckman, granddaughter of Ivan & Rita Sachs, neice of Mark & Ilene Sachs, 03-04 November 2006, *parashat Lekh-lekha*

• **Matt Lebow**, son of Bruce & Laurie Lebow, 17-18 November 2006

*With Sorrow We Note the Passing of*

**Esther Spector**

**Morton Greenblatt,  
father of Ruthie Greenblatt**

**Abraham Fish,  
brother of Leonard (& Inge) Fish**

**Madeline Carloni, mother of Jim Carloni**

**Marcel Mordecai Gutman,  
father of Mimi (& Ephrem) Glenn**

*May the Almighty comfort those who mourn*

• **Miriam Stern**, daughter of Michael Stern & Kathy Rosenbluh, 15-16 December 2006, Shabbat Hanuka, *parashat VaYeshev*

## Need a Letter for Employer or School?

Shul members occasionally need letters to employers or principals explaining the nature of the Jewish holiday observance. Despite the high level of understanding in our community, there is still a need for education and information. It is important that our children be in shul for all of *Yontif*.

If you would like such a letter for Yom Kippur or Sukkot, contact Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 x10 or [jjtilsen@beki.org](mailto:jjtilsen@beki.org).

## MERCAZ – The Zionist Organization of the Conservative Movement

MERCAZ USA represents the Conservative Movement in the American Zionist Movement and the Jewish National Fund and is affiliated with MERCAZ Olami. MERCAZ represents the Conservative Movement in the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency for Israel. MERCAZ is committed to bringing Conservative Jews closer to Zionism and Israel and works to fashion in Israel the ideal Jewish society based on the values of social justice and ecology. Information about MERCAZ is available on the bulletin board in the hallway, and at [www.mercazusa.org](http://www.mercazusa.org).

# A Message from Rabbi Tilsen

## *Is Hazak a Geezer Pleaser?*

The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ) bills “Hazak” as “USCJ’s organization for mature Jews...Hazak is designed to address the needs of seniors in full-service congregations where programming priorities are often largely targeted to the younger congregant.” Is this something that we need or want at BEKI?

Interest in Hazak at BEKI has so far been muted. While some efforts have been made to address the “needs of seniors” at BEKI, we could not claim to have a wealth of programs or services specifically for seniors. Instead, our approach has been to take some measures to insure seniors are able to enjoy programs meant to be of general interest.

One refrain of BEKI enthusiasts is that they enjoy the “diversity” of the membership. Upon examination, we find that “age diversity” is at or near the top of their list. Specifically, many young people (we’re a Jewish organization, so “young” means under 75) – even people in their twenties – say they actually *want* to be with older members. At the same time, some older members often *enjoy* being with young adults and children. Diversity is experienced positively.

But there are times when we do better in less diverse groups. We have several concurrent Shabbat morning services or programs to address the particular interests or needs of participants, including youth in several age groupings and adults learning the order of the service. We believe that three-year-olds can benefit from

programs that are designed for their developmental level. A toddler may be enraptured watching TV’s “Blue’s Clues,” but adults find it torturous or mind-numbing. One size does not fit all. But most often, we hear that people want to be together with “*everyone*” at least some of the time.

Our congregation is “membership-driven.” That means we do not have offices filled with staff planning programs for our members. Instead, most of what happens at BEKI comes about through the initiative of our active members, sometimes with the assistance of our capable staff. If BEKI is to develop additional programs designed especially for the interests and needs of seniors, it will be up to some of our members to make it happen.

Before we knock ourselves out patting ourselves on the back, we should realize that our efforts to provide for the particular needs of our membership “segments” deserve only a “fair” but not “excellent” rating. We offer programs to address specific needs and interests, including outreach to adults with developmental disabilities or mental illness, as well as classes for people with varied backgrounds. We



have tried to make our building more accessible by creating a new entry and handicapped washrooms. But we still have a lot of work to do to make everyone truly feel welcome, and for each of us to learn to respect and welcome others who are different, one way or another. While trying to address the needs of specific groups, we are focusing on the greatest challenge: To create a broad, diverse, respectful, learning, caring, and worshiping *community*.

*You stand this day, all of you, before the Lord your God—your tribal heads, your elders and your officials, all the men of Israel, your children, your wives, even the stranger within your camp, from woodchopper to water drawer (Deut. 29:9-10).*

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## Mitzva in the Midst

It has been nearly a year since our successful Shabbaton with Danny Siegel. We would like to hear from you; what have you done to make a difference in the past year? Remember, every act is important, no matter the degree of involvement, no matter the size of the task or project.

Please contact Dr. Jennifer Botwick, Social Action chair, with your experiences and stories about your mitzva happenings. After all responses are collected, they will be shared with our terrific congregation. Contact: drjbotwicknd@yahoo.com or leave information in the SATO mailbox at BEKI; attention Dr. Botwick.

Looking forward to hearing from you!  
*Dr. Jennifer Botwick*

Also, please note that our winter coat drive is in progress. Please bring your gently used winter coats and jackets to the marked bins in our lobby. Thank you.

## High Thanks

Sincere thanks to those members of the BEKI community who worked together to make this year's High Holy Days celebration so special. From helping with mailings, cleaning silver, shopping, landscaping, preparing the breakfast, greeting and ushering, assigning honors to leading our services and study groups, chanting from the Torah, and engaging our youth in phenomenal programming (and everything in between) - your efforts to enhance this community are so greatly appreciated.

*Thank you.*

Darryl Rotman Kuperstock, Jay Brown, Sherry Rothman, Lauren Kempton and Saul Bell  
BEKI High Holy Days Committee

## Mmmmmm, PIE! Triple Mitzva!



Please be sure to check your mail for the flyer and order form for this year's annual BEKI/BJ USY Thanksgiving Pumpkin & Apple Pie Sale. As always, in addition to supporting the activities of our youth by ordering delicious ready-to-bake *pareve* pies for your holiday table and home, plan to order additional pies for donation to the CT Food Bank for distribution over the Thanksgiving holiday to those in need. All proceeds are donated to tzedaka through the USY Social Action - Tikkun Olam Fund. Thanks for your support. More info in next month's *Bulletin*.

## Thanks, Guys: Men's Club Cleans Up

For many years, BEKI was blessed with an official "Men's Club" whose members performed many tasks on behalf of the congregation. Although the official designation may have changed,

we still have many men (and women) who carry on the volunteer tradition – putting up the Sukka, preparing Sunday breakfasts, ushering on the Holy Days. We thank Lenny Fish, Saul Bell and the rest of the official members of the Club for spending the last of their treasury on a much needed synagogue project, the industrial-strength cleaning of our kitchen. The Men's Club scrambled thousands of eggs over the years, and still managed to leave the kitchen spotless. I suppose some would say this marks the true spirit of egalitarianism so evident here at BEKI. Thanks, guys! *DL et al.*

## USCJ Honors Sherry Rothman



Sherry Rothman

BEKI member Sherry Rothman will be honored by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ) at a "Celebration of Conservative Judaism" on 22 October. She will receive the Synagogue Leadership Award at the annual meeting of the Connecticut Valley Region of

the USCJ, to be held this year at Congregation Beth El in Fairfield. This award recognizes Sherry's outstanding contributions as an executive officer and as an energetic and effective volunteer, leading by example and motivating many other people to give their time, energy, and resources to the synagogue. Sherry has been the Board liaison to the BEKI Religious School, has lined up parent-leaders for the children's High Holiday programs, found sponsors for Shabbat *qiddushim*, helped organize (and co-sponsor) the Spring Fling auction, and much more. BEKI members are welcome to attend the brunch. Tickets are \$36. To attend, please email [benson@uscj.org](mailto:benson@uscj.org).

In addition to her volunteer work, Sherry teaches special education in Bridgeport. She is married to Dr. Steve Rothman, and they have four wonderful children: Danielle, Michael, Dayna and Mara.

## Service Schedules and Candle Lighting Times

Information on service times at BEKI and other Conservative synagogues as well as candle lighting times for the upcoming months can be found at BEKI's website, [www.beki.org](http://www.beki.org), under the headings "Service Times" and "Candle Lighting." Our website contains a wealth of information on BEKI, Torah, Judaism and related topics. Explore!

## Parking & No Parking

Members and visitors to BEKI are advised that parking is prohibited at all times on the east side of Harrison Street as indicated by the "No Park-

ing" signs. It is also prohibited to obstruct the residential driveways on either side: "No operator shall stop, stand, or leave any horse or other animal or vehicle, in any of the following places... (d) In front of and so as to obstruct a driveway..." (New Haven *Code of General Ordinances* §29-35).

Parking is usually available across Harrison Street, and ample parking is available in the BEKI lot east of the building.

## 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).

## Food Certificates Fundraiser

With the Sukkot Holy Days upon us, you will probably be doing a large amount of food shopping. Your food purchases can produce significant income for BEKI if you use food certificates that are available for Stop & Shop, Shop-Rite, and Westville Kosher Meat Market. Certificates can be ordered from Gloria Cohen, at 203-389-2070 [morris.cohen@yale.edu](mailto:morris.cohen@yale.edu) or purchased at the synagogue office. It does not add anything to *your* food bills, but it can help BEKI pay *its* bills. GC

## Memorial Plaques Available

The Memorial plaques displayed at BEKI serve as a reminder and memorial to departed loved ones. Plaques are available for \$360 by calling Peggy at 389-2108 x14. Prepayment reserves a space and a plaque.

**Standard Time Resumes:  
Clocks are "turned back"  
one hour on Sunday  
morning 29 October 2006.**

**Please note that the convention for changing from Standard to Daylight Saving Time may be altered next year.**



Andy Weinstein

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

# October 2006

## 9 Tishrei 5767 - 9 Heshvan 5767

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 Erev Yom Kippur No Religious School 6:00pm Minha 6:15pm Kol Nidre &amp; Maariv 6:17pm Candle Lighting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9 Tishrei</p>	<p>2 Yom Kippur (Yizkor) Office Closed For High Holiday service schedule, see related article</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10 Tishrei</p>	<p>3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11 Tishrei</p>	<p>4 8:30am Rabbi's Study Group 3:00pm Building of Sukka 4:00pm Religious School 5:00pm Benei Mitzva Program</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12 Tishrei</p>	<p>5 12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site) 2:00pm Writing Group 8:00pm A.A.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">13 Tishrei</p>	<p>6 Erev Sukkot 6:00pm Minha 6:09pm Candle Lighting 6:15pm Festival Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">14 Tishrei</p>	<p>7 Sukkot I 9:15am Festival Shoharit 10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: Kuperstock's 5:45pm Festival Minha Candle Lighting after 7:08pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15 Tishrei</p>
<p>8 Sukkot II No Religious School 9:15am Festival Shoharit 5:45pm Festival Minha</p> <p style="text-align: center;">16 Tishrei</p>	<p>9 Hol Hamoed Sukkot I Office Closed/Columbus Day 9:00am Shoharit 9:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm Executive Board Meeting (off-site)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">17 Tishrei</p>	<p>10 Hol Hamoed Sukkot II 6:00pm Sukkot Celebration for Kulanu, Sauls' Circle &amp; Shalom Group</p> <p style="text-align: center;">18 Tishrei</p>	<p>11 Hol Hamoed Sukkot III 8:30am Rabbi's Study Group 4:00pm Religious School 5:00pm Benei Mitzva Program</p> <p style="text-align: center;">19 Tishrei</p>	<p>12 Hol Hamoed Sukkot IV 12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site) 2:00pm Writing Group 8:00pm A.A.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">20 Tishrei</p>	<p>13 Hoshanah Rabbah 9:15am Shoharit 5:57pm Candle Lighting 6:00pm Minha 6:15pm Festival Maariv</p> <p style="text-align: center;">21 Tishrei</p>	<p>14 Shemini Atzeret (Yizkor) For Holiday Schedule, see related article Qiddush: TBA 6:30pm Simhat Torah</p> <p style="text-align: center;">22 Tishrei</p>
<p>15 Simhat Torah No Religious School 9:15am Festival Shoharit 10:00am Haqafot</p> <p style="text-align: center;">23 Tishrei</p>	<p>16 7:45am Rashi Study Group</p> <p style="text-align: center;">24 Tishrei</p>	<p>17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">25 Tishrei</p>	<p>18 8:30am Rabbi's Study Group 4:00pm Religious School 5:00pm Benei Mitzva Program</p> <p style="text-align: center;">26 Tishrei</p>	<p>19 12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site) 2:00pm Writing Group 8:00pm A.A.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">27 Tishrei</p>	<p>20 5:47pm Candle Lighting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">28 Tishrei</p>	<p>21 10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: Hartman's 5:45pm Minha</p> <p style="text-align: center;">29 Tishrei</p>
<p>22 Rosh Hodesh I 9:00am Religious School 10:00am Sukka Take Down 10:00am Food &amp; the Environment presented by Becky May</p> <p style="text-align: center;">30 Tishrei</p>	<p>23 Rosh Hodesh II 7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm General Board Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 Heshvan</p>	<p>24</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2 Heshvan</p>	<p>25 8:30am Rabbi's Study Group 4:00pm Religious School 5:00pm Benei Mitzva Program</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3 Heshvan</p>	<p>26 12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site) 2:00pm Writing Group 8:00pm A.A.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4 Heshvan</p>	<p>27 5:37pm Candle Lighting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5 Heshvan</p>	<p>28 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Learner's Minyan Qiddush: TBA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6 Heshvan</p>
<p>29 9:00am Religious School 10:00am-3:00pm Blood Drive</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7 Heshvan</p>	<p>30 7:45am Rashi Study Group</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8 Heshvan</p>	<p>31</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9 Heshvan</p>	<p><b>Service Times</b></p> <p>Sundays: 9a Shoharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv</p> <p>Mondays: 7a Shoharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv</p> <p>Tuesdays: 7a Shoharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv</p> <p>Wednesdays: 7a Shoharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv</p> <p>Thursdays: 8:15a Shoharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv</p> <p>Fridays: 7a Shoharit 6p Minha-Maariv</p> <p>Saturdays: 9:15a Shoharit 5:45p Minha</p>			

*Shabbatot*

## **Darshan in October**

A special guest will serve as darshan on Shabbat Bereishit 21 October 2006.

## **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 of the services. Everyone is welcome to participate regardless of religious status or background

*Sundays*

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

### *Beginning & Intermediate Sections*



Moshe Meiri

Serious youth are invited to dive into the "sea of Talmud" on Sunday mornings with Moshe Meiri. Two sections will be 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 text, the *El-Am* edition, will be supplied. This text is vocalized for easy reading and is accompanied by an English commentary and translation. The classes meet Sunday mornings from about 10:00a to 11:00a and 11:05a to noon. 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](mailto:moshe@snet.net).

## **MAKOM Beit HaMidrash at BEKI: "The Genesis Chronicles" with Margolit Kern**

Margolit Kern will be 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 10:00a to 11:00a and 11:05a to 12:25p. 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. The Rashi Study Group has met weekly since 1994 and is currently reading the book of Numbers. Visitors and new participants are welcome. The Rashi Study Group meets immediately following the

# Torah for the Hungry Mind - Adult Studies

7:00a *shaharit* morning service. (The RSG will meet at 9:45a on Monday 9 October following the 9:00a Columbus Day service.)

*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](mailto:icooper@cooperlaw.net).

## Writing Group

The Writing Group meets each Thursday in the Chapel Library from 2:00p to 4:00p. Interested writers gather 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 participants bring a piece of their writing. The writer then has a “Read-Aloud” and the group provides feedback. This community aims to generate writing and provide support and feedback for published pieces. For more information please contact Ruth Silver at [bergida@yahoo.com](mailto:bergida@yahoo.com) or Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x13 or [lkempton@beki.org](mailto: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](mailto:sokolow@snet.net).



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The Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism is a home within the homeland for Conservative Jews from North America.

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Call Miriam Benson, Executive Director of United Synagogue's Connecticut Valley Region at (860) 563-5531 or e-mail her at [benson@uscj.org](mailto:benson@uscj.org)



# Contributions

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

- Irma Hamburger

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## Qiddush Sponsors (Minimum \$250)

- David & Joanne Goldblum
- John Weiser & Shoshana Zax
- Mimi Glenn
- Jay Sokolow & Ina Silverman
- Rachel & Allan Sutin
- Steve & Sherry Rothman
- Jay & Lynn Brotman
- Marty Gold & Rena Cheskis-Gold
- The May family
- Gila Reinstein

---

## Hesed Committee

- To Lenny & Inge Fish with sympathy on the passing of Abe Fish by Sid & Donna Levine

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## Harold Ratner Memorial Fund

- To Lenny & Inge Fish with sympathy on the passing of Abe Fish by Mikki Ratner

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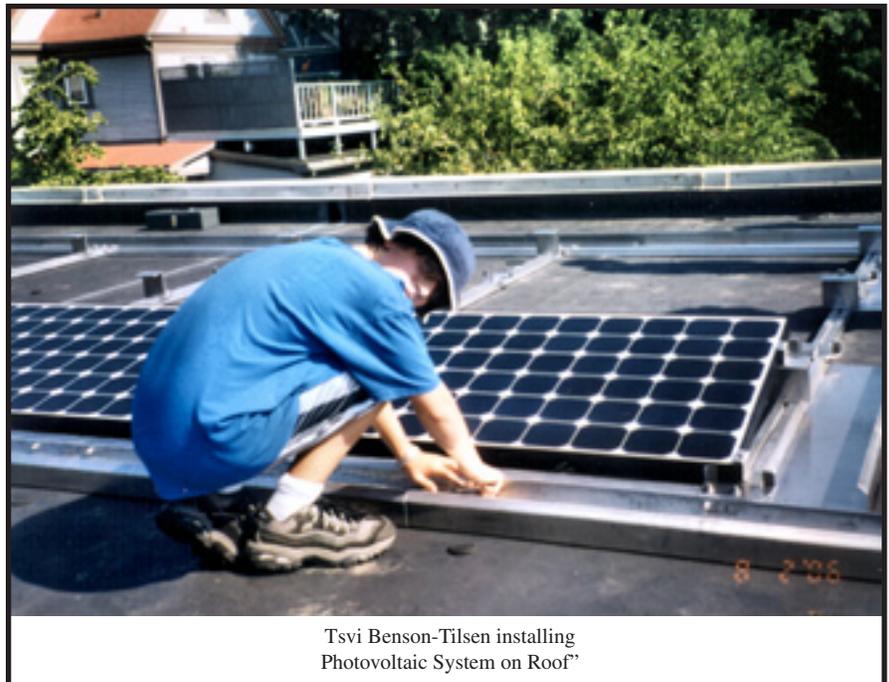
## Ari Nathan Levine Children's Library

- To Ruthie Greenblatt with sympathy on the passing of Morton Greenblatt by Sid & Donna Levine
- In memory of Ari Levine on his *yahrzeit* by Donna, Sid, Sarah, Ilana & Joshua Levine

---

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

- To Sheila Gardiner and family with sympathy on the passing of Henry Rothchild by Mort & Elayne Dimenstein
- To Sheila Gardiner and family with sympathy on the passing of Henry Rothchild by Jay Brown
- To Lester Margolis in honor of his 80th birthday by Milton & Beatrice Smirnoff
- In honor of Jay Sokolow & Ina Silverman by the Mogil family.



Tsvi Benson-Tilsen installing  
Photovoltaic System on Roof"

- To Emma Golub in honor of her Bat Mitzva by Marty Gold & Rena Cheskis-Gold
- To Kaili Janette in honor of her Bat Mitzva by Marty Gold & Rena Cheskis-Gold
- To Yael Grazier-Zerbarini in honor of her Bat Mitzva by Marty Gold & Rena Cheskis-Gold
- To Jonathan & Rachel Granoff in honor of their wedding by Marty Gold & Rena Cheskis-Gold
- To the BEKI congregation with thanks for a great visit and alliance by Daniel Bryan from L.A.
- To the BEKI Renovation fund in memory of Natalie Edison by M.R.K.
- To Ruthie Greenblatt with sympathy on the passing of Morton Greenblatt by Paula Hyman & Stanley Rosenbaum
- To Sheila Gardiner with sympathy on the passing of Henry Rothchild by The Jewish Historical Society of Greater New Haven
- To Ruthie Greenblatt with sympathy on the passing of Morton Greenblatt by Rob Forbes & Joanne Foodim
- To Ruthie Greenblatt with sympathy on the passing of Morton Greenblatt by Mort & Elayne Dimenstein

- To Ruthie Greenblatt with sympathy on the passing of Morton Greenblatt by Janice & Robert Lettick

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## Tsvi Benson-Tilsen Solar Project

- Marty Gold & Rena Cheskis-Gold
- M.R.K

---

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

- To Sheila Gardiner and family with sympathy on the passing of Henry Rothchild by Jack & Rissa Mendlestein
- To Sheila Gardiner and family with sympathy on the passing of Henry Rothchild by Violet & Charles Ludwig
- To Mr. & Mrs. Leon Medvedow with sympathy on the passing of Estelle Krobick Leventhal by Violet & Charles Ludwig
- To Sylvia Dworski in memory of Rose Dworski by Tillie Horwitz
- To Lenny & Inge Fish with sympathy on the passing of Abe Fish by Doris & David Sagerman

# Contributions

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

- In memory of her father Louis Blatt by Marilyn Margolis
- In memory of Albert Pliskin by Diana Klatzkin
- In memory of Louis Rosenkrantz by Max Rosenkrantz
- In memory of Gertrude Cheifetz by Robert Shaye
- In memory of Oscar Stein by Marian Stein
- In memory of Leonard & Mildred Stein by Marian Stein
- In memory of Harry F. Meadow by Arnold Meadow
- In memory of Louis Henken by Gladys Lipkin
- In memory of Arnold Lerner by Celia Lerner
- In memory of Rose Pergament by Deanna Tulin
- In memory of Geraldine Linda Lappie by Steven Hershman
- In memory of Louis Epstein by Kranie & Earl Baker
- In memory of Irving Kaufman by Florence Kaufman
- In memory of Fannie Gurian by Earl & Muriel Banquer
- In memory of Rose Kresel by Audrey Levine
- In memory of his father Albert B. Reifler by Michael & Sara Reifler
- In loving memory of his father Max Silverman by Robert Silverman
- In memory of Isaac Greenberg by Irving Greenberg
- In memory of Marilyn Shure Savin by Ronald Savin
- In memory of Sylvia Fleischner by Hillel & Sara-Ann Auerbach
- In memory of Philip Auerbach by Hillel & Sara-Ann Auerbach
- In memory of Nathan Rosenkrantz by Max Rosenkrantz

- In memory of Renee Abend by Doris & David Sagerman
- In memory of Joseph Sagerman by Doris & David Sagerman
- In memory of Hannah Zarnes by Doris & David Sagerman
- In memory of Harry S. Fleischner by Dr. Robert Fleischner
- In memory of Irv Zerwitz by the Zlotoff Family

- In memory of Fannie Meadow by Arnold Meadow
- In memory of Joseph Abramowitz by Edith Alper
- In memory of Stella Zusman by Howard & Patricia Zusman



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## Yom Kippur

In preparation for the full-day fast of Yom Kippur, it is suggested that caffeine users reduce their intake to avoid withdrawal symptoms on the Holy Day. Some people avoid wearing leather shoes on Yom Kippur, so do not be surprised to see canvas sneakers or other non-leather shoes in use. Some also follow the custom of wearing a *kittel* (white robe) or other white garments on Yom Kippur.

On the afternoon before Yom Kippur, Sunday 1 October 2006, the Mincha service begins at 6:00p. Candle Lighting is 6:17p (or earlier). The Kol Nidre and Maariv Evening services begin promptly at 6:15p and end by 8:30p. Shaharit Morning services begin at 9:00a; the Yizkor Memorial service begins after 11:00a. The Mincha Afternoon services begin at 4:45p. The service ends with Havdala and the sounding of the Shofar at 7:18p.

Following the service, everyone is invited to a Break-Fast in the Lower Level Social Hall presented by George G. Posener as a loving memorial to his dear departed family members, whose *yahrzeits* we observe during this season.

**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** was established by George G. Posener in 2001 to create a lasting memorial at the time of the *yahrzeits* of his family members. Pro-

ceeds from this endowment provide for a special and meaningful community gathering at the end of Yom Kippur.

Tickets are required for adult entrance to most services. Among other reasons, this is to ensure the safety and security of the Congregation. Full-time students and military personnel on active duty may enter upon presentation of proper identification. Every person in the building must be identified before entry.

Some of the ushers serving during the Holy Days may be new members. Veteran members who do not recognize the ushers are urged to introduce themselves, as our ushers wish to meet as many members and visitors as they can.

Babysitting is available by *prior arrangement* for infants during most of the Holy Day services, and for older children during hours when the Children's Programs are not meeting. Walk-in service is *not* available. To reserve babysitting service, please call 389-2108 x13.

## 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.

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Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven



All of us. One Foundation.

## Sisterhood Giftshop

is open Sundays  
10:30a to 12:10p  
During October,  
November &  
December

## Torah Fund for October 2006

The Torah Fund Campaign of Women's League for Conservative Judaism supports The Jewish Theological Seminary. Founded in 1886 as a rabbinical school, The J.T.S. is the academic and spiritual center of Conservative Judaism worldwide. The Seminary trains tomorrow's religious, educational, academic and lay leaders for the Jewish community.

Sisterhoods across the U.S., Canada and beyond support The J.T.S. by purchasing cards for all occasions and by donations. A donation of \$180 entitles the giver to our beautiful pin and the knowledge that your gift has helped a great institution and its students: our future rabbis, cantors, academic and lay leaders.

To donate or send cards and save a trip to the store call Barbara – 407-0314 – and for just \$4.00 your card is sent right out.

*Barbara Cushen*  
*Torah Fund Chairman*

Thank you to BEKI Sisterhood Benefactors as of September 1, 2006. They are Violet Ludwig, Mimi Glenn,

Ruthie Greenblatt, Margot Roten and Barbara Cushen.

Thanks to the following who purchased cards over the past few months.

## Mazel Tov to:

- Shoshana Nemoy on her 65<sup>th</sup> birthday from Hyla Greenberg
- Carol Tendler on her birthday from Elayne & Mort Dimenstein
- Jimmy Tendler on his birthday from Elayne & Mort Dimenstein
- Marcie Dimenstein on her birthday from Elayne & Mort Dimenstein
- Phyllis Rosell on her new job from Elayne & Mort Dimenstein
- Nancy & Olivia Newman on "Peter Pan" from Elayne & Mort Dimenstein
- Herbie Lagin on his birthday from Elayne & Mort Dimenstein

## Get Well to:

- Michele Cleinman from Barbara Cushen & Stanley Saxe
- Marilyn Gerber from Harriet & Noel Barstein
- Sylvia Lupkin from Elayne & Mort Dimenstein
- Grace Geisinger from Charlie & Violet Ludwig
- George Posener from Charlie & Violet Ludwig
- Ruby Ketainek from Helen Miller
- Jack Saxe from Stanley Saxe & Barbara Cushen
- Pricella Kerson from Adele Tyson

## In Memory of:

- Lorraine Cushen from Barbara Cushen
- Ada Tapper from Harriet & Noel Barstein
- Shirley Present from Harriet & Noel Barstein
- Irving Geltman from Anna Goldberg
- Arnold Horowitz from Anna Goldberg, Stanley Saxe & Barbara Cushen
- Irma Berman from Helen Miller
- Peter Myers from Louis Petrillo
- Estelle Leventhal from Stanley Saxe & Barbara Cushen
- Moses Berliner from David Wright
- Abe Fish from Helen Miller, Adel Tyson, Barbara Cushen & Stanley Saxe, David Wright, Grace Geisinger
- Henry Rothchild from Grace Geisinger
- Sylvia Lupkin's brother from Elayne & Mort Dimenstein
- Stacy Lagin's and Alan Lagin's mother from Elayne & Mort Dimenstein
- Morton Greenblatt from Sylvia Zeid, Adele Tyson, Barbara Cushen, Stanley Saxe, the BEKI Hessed Committee, David Wright, Mikki Ratner

# Renovations Update



“Memorial Board Restoration. L-R: Coby, Gila, John, Tsvi, Saul, Jon-Jay.  
Helpers not pictured: Paul G., Mimi G., Seth, Gloria, Gilah B-T, Charlie. Photo by CharLud”

The expanded lobby and coatroom was completed in September. For all worship services and special programs, please enter the building through either the new Sachs Family entrance from the parking lot or the triple-door lobby entry from Harrison Street. All exits may be used without triggering an alarm; however, the exits along the driveway and the single-door exit to Harrison Street in the classroom wing involves an electric switch, which may be of concern to some visitors on Shabbat. The new doors do not involve electronics when used manually.

For entrance during office hours, please enter only through the new Sachs Family entrance on the eastern side of the building from the parking area.

The memorial boards have been restored and are mounted in the

social hall. Spaces are limited; please reserve your plaques by contacting Peggy in the office (389-2108 x14 or [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org)).

Throughout the renovated areas, including the memorial boards, higher efficiency lighting was implemented. In addition, illuminated exit signs in other areas have been retrofitted with higher efficiency bulbs. This lighting is in better compliance with the mitzva of *bal tashhit* (the prohibition against destroying the natural environment), and should make the areas more comfortable by reducing excess heat. The new lighting will also be substantially less expensive to operate. For information on high-efficiency lighting available to consumers and subsidized by United Illuminating, see [www.energyfederation.org/smartliving](http://www.energyfederation.org/smartliving). For a broader selection, see [www.energyfederation.org](http://www.energyfederation.org).

During October, some of the details of the finish will be completed in the lobby area. Artwork, original dedication plaques, mezuzot and other items will be mounted. Construction of the new Claire Goodwin Youth Room should be reaching its conclusion (work was well under way when this issue went to press). Once the new CGYR is passes inspection, work will begin on the new George G. Posener Daily Chapel.

For information on the renovations project, please contact John Weiser at 389-0931.