

BEKI Bulletin

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September 2001 Vol. 7 Issue 9

ק"ק בית אל-כתר ישראל

Tishrei 5762

Rosh HaShana & Yom Kippur

Rabbi Alan H. Lovins will again serve as our *Hazzan Rishon* (lead cantor) for the High Holy Days. In addition to Rabbi Lovins, the services will again be lead by BEKI members serving as volunteer hazzanim. For the ninth consecutive year, Rabbi Tilsen will conduct the services.



Alan Lovins

Jewish men who wish to visit the *Miqva* (Ritual Bath) may join with the BEKI Men's Club for *individual* (private) immersion at the New Haven Mikvah, 86 Hubinger Street, on the mornings before Rosh HaShana and Yom Kippur from 8:30a to 9:30a.

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.

Continued on page 5

New Directors Take Office

Stephen Pincus President

Stephen Pincus has been elected as President of BEKI for the new year 2001-2002 5762, following the conclusion of the term of Dr. Brian Karsif. Brian has served as President since 1997.

Stephen and his wife Amy have been members of BEKI since 1993. Stephen has been a member of the Board of Directors since 1995 and was a Vice President from 1997 to 1999. Over the last several years, he has concentrated his volunteer work at the synagogue on BEKI's fundraising efforts. For the past two years, he has chaired BEKI's Income Development committee and has overseen all fundraising activities in the synagogue. In 1999, along with Brian Karsif and Rob Leikind, Stephen was a founding co-chair of BEKI's highly-successful Renaissance Campaign, which has increased annual non-directed giving to BEKI from \$35,000 a year to \$125,000 a year in just two years. During the past year, Stephen has participated on the BEKI long-term financial planning committee, which is currently conducting a feasibility study for a capital campaign to fund needed building improvements and provide for the future of the Congregation.

Continued on page 2

Lauren Kempton Appointed BEKI Education Director

Our Congregation has taken a major step in its growth and enhanced its commitment to the future of our people through the hiring of our new Education Director and Religious School Principal, Dr. Lauren Kempton. Lauren is widely known in our community as a dynamic educator whose energy, innovative ideas, and love of people make her

a perfect leader for our educational programs and an excellent role model for our children.

Lauren comes to us most recently from Ezra Academy, where she served as Coordinator of Secular Studies. In that role, she worked closely with teachers, administrators and



Dr. Lauren Kempton

Continued on page 4

New Directors Take Office

Continued from page 1

Beyond financial development, Stephen has worked on several other projects at BEKI. He co-directed a project to remove two underground oil tanks and chaired the search committee that added Office Manager Mary Ellen Mack to the staff. Stephen has also served on the Board's nominating committee, budget committees, and life cycle policy committee.

Stephen is an attorney in private practice. His wife Amy is also an active volunteer at BEKI and currently teaches BEKI's [Benei Mitzva Preparation Program](#). Amy and Stephen live in Westville with their daughters Sarah, age 4, and Miriam, age 2.

Also taking office are Vice-Presidents Robert Forbes, Gila Reinstein, and Marc Schwartz; Treasurer Natan Weinstein; Financial Secretary Eric Beller; Secretary Donna Levine; Special Appointees Roz Ben-Chitrit and Saul Bell; and Immediate Past President Brian Karsif.

General Board members include Ken Buckman; Hugh Fryer; Sharon Lovett-Graff; Steven Fraade; Elisabeth Youngerman; Darryl Kuperstock; Adele Tyson; David Goldblum; Andy Weinstein; David Sagerman; Milton Smirnoff; Gloria Cohen; Ruth Greenblatt; Paula Hyman; Helen Rosenberg; Roger Colten; Rabbi Alan Lovins; Harold Miller; Alan Rosner; Roger Levine; Carl Goldfield; Andy Bedford; Valerie Sandler; Isaiah Cooper. At press time there was one additional member to be named.

You can email Stephen Pincus at sapincus@yahoo.com or call him at 387-1235.

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 created by Phill Simon: 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

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A Message from Rabbi Tilsen & Dear Rabbi
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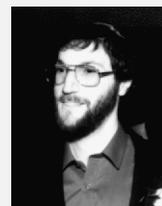
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A Message from Rabbi Tilsen

A sage is quoted in the Talmud as saying, "A single sentence of *sincere* prayer is worth all of the (lengthy) confessions of Yom Kippur." Concise is nice. This lesson applies to Rabbis' columns (and sermons) as well.

May you be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Life.

Jon-Jay Tilsen



Rabbi Tilsen

Uncle Shemuel Wants You!

The *Shaharit* (morning) service is held at BEKI every Sunday morning at 9:00a and every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday morning at 7:00a, and every Thursday morning at 8:15a, in the George G. Posener Daily Chapel. (Note, though, that morning services on Monday 3 September begin at 9:00a for the Labor Day holiday.) Minha (afternoon) and Maariv (evening) services are held at 5:45p Sunday through Thursday.

These daily services provide the opportunity to fulfill numerous *mitzvot* (religious imperatives) such as daily recitation of the Shema and Amida prayers, Torah study, *Tzedaka* (charity), *nihum avelim* (comforting mourners), and attendance at the House of Study. In addition, the services provide a structure for personal spiritual development and fulfillment as well as an opportunity to improve one's facility in the Hebrew language.

Sometimes there are services for which attendance is one or two short of the *minyan* (quorum) needed to recite certain communal prayers. If you'd like to be that "tenth" (or maybe eighth...) person, come on a Tuesday, Thursday or Friday morning. And if you just want to come regardless of what anyone else is doing, then just come. While only legally adult Jews are counted toward the quorum, all are encouraged to attend both for their own sake and for the sake of adding to the spiritual strength of the Congregation.

For a complete schedule of BEKI services, see www.beki.org/schedule.html.

Information on the Counter

Literature may be placed in the literature rack, on the coatroom counter and on the Community Bulletin Board by permission only. To request permission for placement on this counter or on the Community Bulletin Board, please contact Synagogue Administrator Mary Ellen Mack at 389-2108 ext. 14 (beki@snet.net). After office hours, you may leave one copy of your submission, with your phone number, under Mary Ellen's door, or you may fax it to Mary Ellen at (203) 389-5899 (24-hours).

The lobby display areas are reserved for BEKI programs and activities. We receive frequent requests to promote activities of the Jewish Community Center, Jewish Federation, Jewish Foundation, Jewish Home, Jewish Family Services, Ezra Academy, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, the Jewish Theological Seminary, and the Schechter Institute for Jewish Studies, along with a host of other worthy and important communal agencies and institutions. It would not be possible to place them all on the counter by the coatroom. Posters and flyers for these institutions are found on the Community Bulletin Board.

Sometimes flyers and posters that are inappropriate for display at BEKI have been found placed without permission. *Flyers and posters placed without permission are immediately discarded.* Your cooperation in maintaining a fair and respectful policy is appreciated.

Lauren Kempton Appointed BEKI Education Director

Continued from page 1

students on a daily basis. Lauren’s ability to keep everyone organized and inspire those around her to achieve at their highest possible level were among the qualities that the educator search committee and the BEKI Board felt qualified her for her new challenge at BEKI. Lauren, who earned an Ed.D from the University of Hartford in Educational Leadership, has taught students from grade school through the university level prior to working at Ezra Academy. She has focused much of her work on Holocaust studies, and has developed programs on diversity and tolerance. In addition, Lauren’s experience in the area of special education and her work with children having special learning needs is extensive.

Lauren will bring a new energy, joy and professionalism to our Congregation and to our Religious School. In addition to serving as Religious School Principal, she will provide support to our Shabbat Morning Children’s Programs and to our [Kadima](#)

and [USY Youth Groups](#). She will direct BEKI’s [Kulanu](#) program of outreach to adults with special needs as well as [Saul’s Circle](#), BEKI’s program of outreach for adults who are mental health services consumers. (Anne Johnston, who directed these programs in recent years, will be on leave with her family in Jerusalem through next summer. When Anne returns we know there will still be plenty for her to do at BEKI!) Lauren will also work closely with Betsy Rosenberg and others in developing our Family Education programs.

Lauren joined BEKI a year ago when she and her husband, Brooks Parmelee, relocated to New Haven. Her children are grown but her cats are still at home.

To reach Lauren, you can call her at BEKI at 389-2108 x13 or at home at 387-7720, or email her at LKempton@beki.org.

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Rosh HaShana & Yom Kippur

Continued from page 1

The Rabbi Murray Levine Family is again sponsoring the outstanding High Holy Days programs for children at Beth El-Keser Israel in memory of Malka Levine. Malka, who died in May 1996, was a renowned Jewish educator and wife of Rabbi Murray Levine. She was a beloved member of the BEKI community. The sponsored children's programs include the Children's Havura for preschoolers, K-2 Kehila and Junior Congregations. These programs enjoy a reputation for excellence. These programs are open to all children. For safety and planning reasons, children must be pre-registered to participate in these services. For registration information call 389-2108 ext. 14.

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.

Rosh HaShana services begin 17 September at 6:45p with the Minha service, followed by Maariv at 7:00p. The service concludes by 7:30p. Morning services begin at 8:30a on Tuesday 18 September and on Wednesday 19 September. Youth services begin at 10:45a each morning.

Tashlikh ("casting") services will be held on the first day of Rosh HaShana, Tuesday 18 September, at 5:00p, at the Edgewood Bridge, Beaver Pond Park, and Whitney Museum Covered Bridge. The *Tashlikh* service is a popular outdoor event for people of all ages, and includes a brief prayer, poetry and singing. It is held beside a body of natural water.

On the afternoon before Yom Kippur, Wednesday 26 September, the Minha afternoon service begins at 6:15p. The Kol Nidre and Maariv Evening services begin promptly at 6:30p. Shharit Morning services begin at 9:00a and Minha Afternoon services begin at 5:00p. The service ends with Havdala and the sounding of the Shofar at 7:23p.

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.

For a complete schedule of services please call the office at 389-2108 x14 or see the schedule at www.beki.org/schedule.html. Schedules can also be found on the counter by the coatroom, and are included with the High Holy Days mailings sent to all BEKI members.

For information on seating and ticketing call 389-2108 ext. 14.

Getting Ready for Sukkot

Time to get ready for Sukkot! This "Feast of Booths" is considered by many the most joyous festival on the Hebrew calendar. Sukkot begins the night of Monday 1 October 2001 – so preparations must begin in September if not sooner.

On Sunday 30 Sept 9:30a to Noon, Everyone is welcome to help set up the BEKI sukka, which is dedicated to the memory of Morris "Moishe" Schnitman. For information call Saul Bell at 389-1647 or sbell470@aol.com.

There will also be a Children's Sukka Crafts Hour

for BEKI and neighborhood kids. This time for fun and creativity will be on Sunday afternoon 30 September from 4:30p to 5:30p. The program will be held outside in the sukka unless it rains, in which case we will be inside. Dress for mess. Please feel free to invite friends and neighborhood children with their adults to join us and help decorate the BEKI sukka! Children are welcome to take home their creations or leave them in the sukka.

Remember to order your Lulav & Etrog from your favorite Judaica shop.

Religious School first meeting

Religious School classes begin Wednesday 5 September 2001 or Sunday 9 September (for younger students) under the direction of Principal Dr. Lauren Kempton (see accompanying article). Faculty members include Carol Ferency-Takacs, Paula Samuel, Rita Sela, and Betsy Rosenberg (adjunct), among others. Anne Johnston is on leave with her family in Israel.

Again this fall educational services will be available for students with special education needs. If your child might benefit from special education services, please call Principal Lauren Kempton (389-2108 x13 lkempton@beki.org) at your earliest opportunity.

Thanks to Gladys Lipkin for establishing [The Gladys Lipkin Fund](#) for the BEKI Hebrew School, to George G. Posener for establishing [The George G. & Leah Posener Fund for Youth Education](#) at BEKI, and the Borick Family for establishing the [Borick Family Endowment for Special Education](#) at BEKI. These endowments provide an annual contribution to support BEKI's religious school. We also thank Dr. Ralph Friedman and all those who contribute to the Louis Friedman Scholarship Fund.

We also urge all children's participation in either the [Children's Shabbat Havura](#) (for preschoolers), [K-2 Kehila](#) (for kids in K-2) or [Junior Congregation](#) every Shabbat morning year-round at 10:45a until about noon. Older youth, in grades 6-8, may participate in [Cosmic Conversations](#). There is no additional charge for these programs which reinforce and supplement the School's curriculum. These programs are also ideal for children attending Ezra Academy and other Jewish Day Schools. We also urge all families to participate in BEKI's Family Education Programs.

For more information, please call BEKI Religious School Principal Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x13 (LKempton@beki.org).

Benei Mitzva Class first meeting

The Program was created in 1999 at the request of parents who wanted to combine individual tutoring with a group experience for people celebrating benei mitzva. Registration and payment are required. The Program meets mostly on Wednesday afternoons from 4:15p to 6:15p. This two-hour period includes the required service attendance, group study and individual work. For more information, contact Liora Lew (389-1048, lioralew@aol.com) or Amy Pincus (387-1235).

LifeCycle

BEKI Welcomes New Members

Evelyn R. Benson

Mazal tov to

- **Noel & Harriet Barstein** on the birth of their granddaughter **Amanda Rae Barstein** on 19 May 2001 – Shabbat 26 Iyar 5761
- Mazal tov to **Sybil Richards & Hans Massaquoi**, and **Yehohanan Massaquoi**, on the birth of their daughter and sister *Merav Margalit Bina* — **Mina Margriet Nenet Rutgers Massaquoi** on 22 June 2001 – 1 Tammuz 5761
- Mazal tov to **Yaron & Mindy Baitch** on the birth of their son *Tsvi Mordekha* – **Michael Zvi Baitch** on 2 August 2001 – 13 Av 5761

Darshanim in September

Herbert Winer will serve as *Darshan* (Torah commentator) on Shabbat morning 1 September, *parashat Ki Tetse*. Herb is a veteran member of BEKI and has served in various leadership positions. He lives in New Haven with his wife Hannah, and is marking a milestone birthday.



Herbert Winer

Benjamin Bell will serve as *Darshan* on Shabbat morning 8 September, *parashat Ki Tavo*, as a *bar mitzva* (see accompanying article).

Rabbi Murray Levine, Shabbat Shuva, 22 September

Matthew Prober will serve as *Darshan* on Shabbat morning 29 September, *parashat Ha'azinu*, as a *bar mitzva* (see accompanying article).

Benei Mitzva in September

Benjamin Bell, son of Morris Bell & Raina Sotsky, will participate in and lead services as a *bar mitzva* on Friday night 7 September during the 8:00p service and on Shabbat morning 8 September during the 9:15a Shaharit service. Ben is a graduate of BEKI's [Religious School](#) and of the [Benei Mitzva Preparation Class](#).



Benjamin Bell

Matthew Prober, son of Daniel & Sharon Prober, will lead and participate in services on Shabbat morning 29 September during the 9:15a Shaharit service. Matti is a graduate of Ezra Academy.



Matthew Prober

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T & E Horwitz Youth Award

The Year 2001 Tillie & Edward Horwitz Youth Fund Award goes to Dana & J Etra to support their attendance at USY events. Dana and Joanna are daughters of Barry Etra & Janice Wolf. The award is made possible through the generosity of Tillie Horwitz to encourage the activities of the BEKI Youth Groups.

...And the Winner Is:

Mazal tov to Paul Goodwin on winning the Grand Prize in the BEKI Raffle. While he is floating on a cruise ship in the Caribbean or touring the ruins of ancient Greece (or doing whatever he wishes at his own expense and on his own initiative), Paul will be able to enjoy his Grand Prize of one year of free membership at one of the area's finest synagogues. Thanks to Stephen Wizner for running the raffle.

Saul's Circle at Fellowship

Saul's Circle, BEKI's *qeruv* (outreach) program for adult mental health services consumers, will present two pre-holiday programs at Fellowship House in New Haven. This outreach program seeks to welcome its participants into the BEKI and broader Jewish community, and to help bring the healing and saving power of Torah and Jewish tra-

dition to those in need. The program also aims to help the general BEKI membership learn to understand, welcome and appreciate Saul's Circle participants. Saul's Circle was originally developed by Anne Johnston. It is now directed and developed by Dr. Lauren Kempton, BEKI's Education Director. For more information contact Lauren at 389-2018 x13 (LKempton@beki.org)



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New Humash Enhances Shabbat & Festival Services

Through the generosity of David & Darryl Kuperstock, and the support of BEKI members, we have purchased copies of Etz Hayim, the Conservative Movement's new *Humash* (Pentateuch with Haftaret and Commentaries). Copies are expected to be available for use in our services in early October, after Sukkot.

The *Humash* (Hebrew for "Five") contains the Five Books of Moses (Genesis through Deuteronomy), which are the first five books of the Hebrew Bible and sometimes referred to as "The Torah." The volume also contains the Haftaret, which are selections from the Prophets that complement the weekly or holiday Torah readings.

Etz Hayim features a large and clear Hebrew text along with the "New Jewish Publication Society" (JPS) English translation. The JPS translation is considered by many to be the best English translation of the Hebrew Bible, with respect to its clarity in conveying the meaning of the original text consistent with its historical, religious, literary and linguistic context.

The new *Humash* contains several fascinating commentaries, drawing on both the rich tradition of our sages and the insights of modern scholarship. The publication was a joint project of the [Rabbinical Assembly](#), the [Jewish Theological Seminary](#), and the [United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism](#).

For many decades, we have been using the Hertz *Humash*, written by Rabbi J.H. Hertz and first published in England in 1936. Rabbi Hertz was a student in the first graduating class of the [Jewish Theological Seminary of America](#) at the end of the 19th century. The Hertz *Humash*, considered a classic, is known for its polemic in defense of classic rabbinic interpretation.

Fans of the Hertz *Humash* will be happy to know that our plan is to keep our existing copies in the sanctuary as long as they are usable. Thanks to the careful and loving labor of Past-President Herb Etkind in rebinding and repairing our books, many volumes of the original Hertz *Humash* remain in good condition. Although the pagination is different, both the Hertz *Humash* and the Etz Hayim *Humash* provide chapter and verse numbers to facilitate easy navigation. It is our hope that having both books available will broaden and enhance the intellectual and spiritual experience of our members and guests. We will now have enough books for each person to have their own on most occasions.

If you would like to dedicate a single copy of the Etz Hayim *Humash*, the cost is \$75, which includes the book, a bookplate stating the dedication, and notification of the honoree, if any. Please contact Mary Ellen Mack at x14 or beki@snet.net or use your VISA or Mastercard at www.beki.org/donate.html.

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BEKI Events
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Shaharit=Morning Minha =Afternoon Minha-Maariv=Evening SSLM=Shabbat Shalom Learners' Minyan TNS=The New [Religious] School	BEKI phone numbers: (203) 389-2108 Fax (203) 389-5899 Mary Ellen-Office x14 Religious School x13 Rabbi x10 Lauren Kempton x 13	Office Hours: Mon 9a-12 & 1p-3p Tue by appt. only Wed 10a-12 & 1p-6p Thu 9a-12 & 1p-3p Fri 9a-2p	Office: beki@snet.net Rabbi: jtilsen@beki.org Religious School/Education Director: lkempton@beki.org website: www.beki.org			13 Elul 1 9:15a Shaharit 10:45a Children's Programs <i>Darshan: Herb Winer</i> Kiddush Sponsors: Herb & Hannah Winer 5:45p Minha
14 Elul 2	15 Elul 3	16 Elul 4	17 Elul 5	18 Elul 6	19 Elul 7	20 Elul 8
9:00a Shaharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv	<i>Labor Day - Office Closed</i> 9:00a Shaharit 9:45a Rashi Study Group 5:45p Minha-Maariv	7:00a Shaharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv	7:00a Shaharit 4:15p Religious School 4:15p Benei Mitzva Pgm 5:45p Minha-Maariv	8:15a Shaharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv 8:00p A.A.	7:00a Shaharit 6:00p Minha-Maariv 7:00p Candles 8:00p Benjamin Bell Bar Mitzva	9:15a Shaharit <i>Benjamin Bell Bar Mitzva</i> 10:45a Children's Programs 10:45a Cosmic Conversations 10:45a SSLM 5:45p Minha Selichot Service at Beth Shalom, Hamden
21 Elul 9	22 Elul 10	23 Elul 11	24 Elul 12	25 Elul 13	26 Elul 14	27 Elul 15
9:00a Shaharit 9:00a Religious School 5:45p Minha-Maariv	7:00a Shaharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv 7:45p General Board	7:00a Shaharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv	7:00a Shaharit 4:15p Religious School 4:15p Benei Mitzva Pgm 5:45p Minha-Maariv	8:15a Shaharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv 8:00p A.A.	7:00a Shaharit 6:00p Minha-Maariv 6:30p 20s/30s Havura Group Dinner 6:47p Candles	9:15a Shaharit Kiddush Sponsors: Friends of Terri Stern & Brian Karsif 10:45a Children's Programs 5:45p Minha
28 Elul 16	29 Elul 17	1 Tishri 18	2 Tishri 19	3 Tishri 20	4 Tishri 21	5 Tishri 22
9:00a Shaharit 9:00a Religious School Qever Avot Cemetery Memorial Services: 10:00a Beth El Memorial Park, Warner St. Hamden 11:00a Keser Israel Memorial Park, Farwell St., W. Haven 5:45p Minha-Maariv	<i>Erev Rosh Hashanah</i> 7:00a Shaharit 7:45a Rashi Study Grp 8:30a Mikveh 6:40p Candles 6:45p Minha 7:00p Evening Service	<i>Rosh Hashanah - Office Closed</i>		<i>Fast of Gedaliah</i> 8:15a Shaharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv 8:00p A.A.	7:00a Shaharit 6:00p Minha-Maariv 6:35p Candles	<i>Shabbat Shuvah</i> 9:15a Shaharit 10:45a Children's Programs 10:45a Cosmic Conversations 10:45a SSLM 5:45p Minha
6 Tishri 23	7 Tishri 24	8 Tishri 25	9 Tishri 26	10 Tishri 27	11 Tishri 28	12 Tishri 29
9:00a Shaharit 9:00a Religious School 5:45p Minha-Maariv	7:00a Shaharit 7:45a Rashi Study Grp 5:45p Minha-Maariv 7:30p Executive Board	7:00a Shaharit 5:45p Minha-Maariv	<i>Kol Nidre</i> 7:00a Shaharit No Religious School or Benei Mitzva Program 6:15p Minha 6:15p Babysitting 6:25p Candles 6:30p Kol Nidre & Maariv	<i>Yom Kippur - Yizkor Office Closed</i> 9:00a Shaharit & Musaf 9:00a Babysitting 10:45a Children's Programs 10:45a Cosmic Conversations After 11:00a Yizkor Memorial After Yizkor - Learner's Minyan 5:00p Minha 6:00p Neila 7:15p Maariv 7:23p Havdala & Shofar 7:30p Break Fast	7:00a Shaharit 6:00p Minha-Maariv 6:23p Candles	9:15a Shaharit <i>Matthew Prober Bar Mitzva</i> 10:45a Children's Programs 5:45p Minha
13 Tishri 30	Tuesday, September 18: ***Tashlikh: Edgewood Bridge, Beaver Ponds Park or Whitney Museum Covered Bridge					

Brian Karsif & Terri Stern to be Honored

On Shabbat morning 15 September, the BEKI community will honor Dr. Brian Karsif and Terri Stern in recognition of their service to BEKI over the past several years. Brian served as President of BEKI from 1997 to 2001, dedicating thousands of hours to ensure the continued growth of the synagogue. Terri served as principal of BEKI's religious school from 1996 to 2001, and was responsible for helping establish BEKI's own religious school last year.

Please join us in honoring Terri and Brian. A qiddush will be held in their honor following services. If you would like to help sponsor the qiddush (\$25 recommended), please contact Mary Ellen at beki@snet.net or at 387-2424 ext. 14.

SP

Labor Day 3 Sept

9:00a service 9:45a Rashi

On Monday 3 September 2001 - 15 Elul 5761, Morning services will begin at 9:00a, and the Rashi Study Group will meet at 9:45a. The office will be closed. Afternoon services begin at the usual time, 5:45p.

Service Schedules and Candle Lighting Times

Information on service times at BEKI and other Conservative synagogues, and candle lighting times for the upcoming months, can be found at BEKI's website and 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!

Nadav Sela to Lead Bible Text Study

BEKI member Nadav Sela will lead a text-based study of a book from *Neviim Rishonim* ("Former Prophets") on six consecutive Sunday nights from 6:15p to 7:30p beginning 9 September. The class will meet in BEKI's Rosenkrantz Library. There is an \$18 advance registration fee for the class (\$25 at the door). In addition, participants may need to

Qever Avot Sunday 16 September

The annual Qever Avot Cemetery Memorial Services will be held at 10:00a at the Hamden Cemetery, and at 11:00a at the West Haven Cemetery on Sunday 16 September. Rabbi Tilsen will lead a communal prayer and will be available for individual prayers as well. Those who wish to visit the graves of their ancestors or loved ones but are unable to do so because of distance are invited to attend along with those whose loved ones are buried in the BEKI cemeteries.

In addition, a representative of the Cemetery Association will be present to answer questions and concerns of those owning or considering the purchase of plots at the BEKI cemeteries.

Directions to the cemeteries can be found at www.beki.org/findbeki.html.

acquire a text. For more information on the class, contact Nadav at nadav.sela@snet.net or 624-2035. To register, contact Mary Ellen Mack at 389-2108 x14 or beki@snet.net.

Kashrut Korner

A recent article in *BusinessWeek* (4 June 2001 p. 14) noted that McDonald's French fries and "Many other seemingly meat-free foods also contain animal products." Products mentioned in the article include Kellogg's Frosted Mini-Wheats, Skittles (candy), Church's Chicken and Denny's French fries, Applebee's restaurant's guacamole and vegetable roll-up tortilla, Pizza Hut pizza sauce and white sauce. For most processed foods, the only way to be assured it is kosher or vegetarian is to rely on rabbinic supervision (*hashgaha*). Even seemingly simple products such as apple juice are commonly made with meat ingredients. In addition, *kashrut* rules require that all utensils used in preparing and cooking be kosher.

New on BEKI's Web Site

[Audio recordings](#) of selected prayers and blessings can be found at BEKI's website, www.beki.org, in the audio collection on the Library page. Those wishing to learn prayers and blessings may find these recordings useful.

Midrasha: Adult Institute for Jewish Learning

BEKI is a co-sponsor of Midrasha, a program of adult study in Greater New Haven, which is held in participating congregations in our area. Classes begin for six Mondays beginning on 29 October. For locations, times and registration information, call Nancy at the Department of Jewish Education of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven at 387-2424 x 201.



BEKI Youth Eligible for Free Israel Trip

KOACH, the College Outreach Department of The [United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism](#), invites students ages 18-26 to participate in the KOACH Birthright Israel 2001 program. Students who have never been to Israel on a peer educational program are invited to apply for this free 10-day travel and study mission, scheduled for early January 2002. (A required deposit of \$250 is refundable following the return from Israel. Covered expenses do not include travel to and from New York from other American cities.)

This is a marvelous opportunity to experience Israel through the prism of ancient and contemporary texts, walk in the footsteps of our ancestors and have first-hand experience with the Masorti Movement. The trip will observe Kashrut and Shabbat and the group will daven regularly.

Registration will take place on-line now through October, on the KOACH website, www.koach.org. For questions and more information, check the KOACH website or contact Rabbi Elyse Winick at winick@uscj.org or 781-784-8434.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our youth," commented Rabbi Tilsen. "My second cousin went on the Birthright Israel 2000 program and thought it was tremendous. I encourage any eligible BEKI youth to go."

KISS "Snow Days - No School Days" Program

Elementary schools close for scheduled "teacher training" and "parent conference" days as well as unplanned "snow days." Many families need placement for their children on such days. BEKI has a comfortable children's room and library, conveniently located on a State snow emergency route, with ample and convenient parking.

The BEKI "Snow Days - No School Days" program provides an educational and recreational Judaic activity day on scheduled school-closed days when businesses are normally open, and on unplanned "snow days" for the New Haven Public Schools and Ezra Academy. Space is limited. The Program will be held regardless of weather conditions. The Program does not guarantee that streets, sidewalks or the BEKI driveway will be passable. Only the parents determine whether they can safely transport their children to and from the program in inclement weather. Parents will have a "hot line" phone number for last minute information on program plans.

The "Snow Days - No School Days" program will use the Claire Goodwin Youth Room and BEKI's Rosenkrantz Library. Participants bring their own dairy lunch. Snacks are provided. Activities are lead by Sybil Richards and Lauren Kempton, as well as others under her supervision.

The participation fee is \$20 per day or part thereof per child; a "subscriber" discount is available. Pre-payment reserves a space; otherwise, spaces are available on a first-come-first-served basis, with priority to BEKI members. Payment is required before service. Reservations are non-transferable (except between siblings). A pre-payment of \$20 reserves a space for the first New Haven or Ezra "Snow Day."

For a list of scheduled school closing dates, or to register, or for more information, please call Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 13 or download a form at www.beki.org/forms.html.

Kulanu Program

Kulanu, BEKI's outreach program for adults with developmental disabilities, will begin its fourth year this autumn. For information on Kulanu, please contact BEKI's Education Director Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x13 or Lkempton@beki.org. Kulanu is funded by the [David & Lillian Levine Endowment for People with Special Needs](#) at BEKI and by the Congregation.

Cosmic Discussion Group Meeting

The Shabbat morning Discussion Group for young adults in grades 6 to 8, [Cosmic Conversations](#), meets every two weeks. In addition, the Children's Shabbat Havura for preschoolers and their adults, the K-2 Kehila for kids in grades K-2, and the Junior Congregation for elementary age children continue to meet every Shabbat.

Divrei Torah on Website

Divrei Torah (sermons) by BEKI members and Rabbi Tilsen can be found on BEKI's website at www.beki.org under the "Adult Education" heading.

Wanted: Shabbat Afternoon Torah Readers

Be part of the BEKI Shabbat Afternoon scene! The weekly *Shabbat* (Saturday) afternoon *minha* service has become a new home for people who have wanted to read Torah but do not feel ready to read on Shabbat morning.

Readers have learned and recited three to five verses during the *minha* (afternoon) service in the intimate setting of the George G. Posener Chapel.

If you are an adult or child who would like to learn to chant Torah or who would like to relearn it, this is your chance. Or, if you simply enjoy a spirited, musical 45-minute service, come and help make the minyan. The service begins at 5:45p and ends by 6:30p during September and October. For service times in November through March, check the listing in the Bulletin or at www.beki.org/schedule.html.

Take the plunge and learn Torah-reading for the Minhavura. Short Aliyot of as few as three verses are available for chanting. For help in starting, call Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 x10 or jjtilsen@beki.org.
MB

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