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# BEKI bulletin

Congregation  
Beth El-Keser Israel

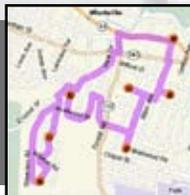
September 2007

Elul 5767 – Tishrei 5768  
Vol. 13 Issue 9

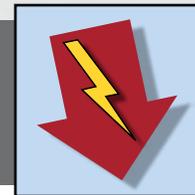
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## Welcoming our new Religious School Director

Dorothy Bowser, an experienced and dedicated Jewish educator, has been appointed principal of [BEKI Religious School](#) (BRS).

“We are thrilled that Dorothy will be heading our school,” said Dr. Jay Sokolow, president of the congregation. “With her help, we look forward to enhancing the educational offerings, increasing the student population, and attracting more support for the school. Hiring Dorothy Bowser is our way to say to the world at large that we are making an effort to have the very best religious school possible.”

Dorothy comes to BEKI after serving as co-head of the Metropolitan Schechter High School in Teaneck, New Jersey — an institution formed in 2006 by the merger of Solomon Schechter High School of New York (SSHS-NY) and Schechter Regional High School of New

Jersey. She was responsible for the transition and integration of the New York students, faculty, and program into this new entity.



**Dorothy Bowser**

For five years prior to that, Bowser was Head of SSHS-NY, with responsibility for all educational and fiscal operations of the school and its \$3 million budget. She hired a world-class faculty and implemented an outstanding academic program in both Judaic and secular studies. Under her leadership, SSHS-NY produced many award-winning science students, including a national Intel semi-finalist.

Before serving in the Jewish day school world, Dorothy worked for 30 years in public education in both urban and suburban school systems. She has been a junior high school teacher, principal, director of funded programs, and an Assistant Superintendent of

## Yamim Noraim High Holy Days at BEKI

For all the details to help your plans for the upcoming High Holy Days, see Page 6.



*Continued on Page 3*

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## BEKI Bulletin

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- To contribute articles or for inquiries regarding membership:
- Call the Synagogue office: (203) 389-2108 or
  - Write: 85 Harrison Street, New Haven, CT 06515-1724 or
  - Email: [jtilsen@beki.org](mailto:jtilsen@beki.org) or
  - Visit our web page: [www.beki.org](http://www.beki.org)

For information about advertising, call the synagogue office.  
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You give us 22 minutes —  
We'll give you the world to come  
Attend Minha-Maariv Daily Services  
5:45 p.m. to 6:07 p.m.

# Our New Religious School Director

*Continued from cover*

Schools in New York City, as well as a District Supervisor for Curriculum and Instruction in a school district on Long Island. Additionally, while a student at the Jewish Theological Seminary, she worked as an educational consultant for both the Professional Development Laboratory at New York University and the William Davidson Graduate School of Education at the JTS.

Bowser earned her BA from Brooklyn College, her MA in Educational Administration from Fordham University, and did her doctoral work in Educational Administration and Policy Studies at Hofstra University. She has received awards from the New York State Superintendents' Association, the American Association for School Administration, and the NAACP. Most recently, and maybe most importantly, the Metropolitan Schechter High School Graduating Class of June 2007 dedicated their yearbook to her because, "From the day she got to our school, she was known as the person who understood the student body's perspective..."

When talking about choosing a career in education, Bowser says, "As a child of Jewish immigrants, I was taught to believe that education and service to others were an integral part of life. I chose to go into public education because I believed that there was a need for people of good will and strong commitment to participate in an educational system that was too often found wanting. Throughout my career, I have labored to create environments that respect children and create excitement about learning, in the context of Jewish values."

Dorothy's involvement in Jewish education came when she believed that it was time to return to her roots and bring all of the professional skills she had acquired in the public school system into Jewish schools.

Dorothy describes herself as "a committed Jew... involved in Jewish education because I am concerned about issues of Jewish continuity. Without Jewish education there will not be a Jewish future. As the daughter of a Holocaust survivor, I believe that we must continue."

***"... I am concerned about issues of Jewish continuity. Without Jewish education there will not be a Jewish future."***

**— Dorothy Bowser**

An avid golfer, Bowser lives with her family in New York City and Niantic. Though she has a myriad of interests, schools and students have been her major focus. The last six years have, in her words, been "the golden age" of her professional service. "Working in a Jewish community that is committed to excellence in education, in an environment that is values-based, amongst people who are kind, compassionate, and caring... has provided me with a fabulous work and life experience."

Roz Ben-Chitrit headed the search committee to select a new educational director. "We received numerous resumes and letters of interest about the position, which replaces Dr. Lauren Kempton, our principal of the last five years," she said. "Given Lauren's outstanding contributions, we knew it would be hard to fill her shoes. While there were a number of very strong

applicants, upon receiving Dorothy's resume and, especially, after meeting her at the first interview, we knew we had someone special. The final interview, which included parents, board members and the rabbi, resulted in an overwhelming and positive feeling that we had found an extraordinary educator and administrator who would continue Lauren's work to shape the BEKI Religious School into a synagogue school that other congregations would choose to emulate."

BRS meets twice a week during the academic year, on Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons. With classes from Kindergarten through Seventh Grade, the BRS was named a "Framework of Excel-

lence School" by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism in 2005. Since 1995, the school has offered a Special Education Program — the first of its kind in the region. Special Education at BEKI is supported by the Department of Jewish Education of the [Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven](#) and by [The Borick Family Endowment for Special Education for Youth at Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel](#).

BRS is both traditional and innovative. The curriculum emphasizes the fundamentals of living a full Jewish life, including Hebrew language, Jewish history, holidays, prayer, and *tiqun olam*. The innovations include a developmental emphasis, the use of multi-age groupings, interactive family education programs, integration of teenage *madrikhim* as school assistants, and a special curriculum for the youngest students.

# Solar Array Dedication Ceremony - Sept. 18

Connecticut Innovations, whose Connecticut Clean Energy Fund provided major support for BEKI's rooftop solar array, in collaboration with our Congregation, will hold a public dedication ceremony and press conference on Tuesday, Sept. 18, at 9 a.m. Refreshments will be served. A representative of our vendor, Sunlight-Solar Power, Inc., will be present to answer questions about solar photovoltaics in general or our system in particular. Please join us for a few minutes on that morning.

As a result of the solar initiative, we have taken additional steps to improve the efficiency of our energy use at

BEKI. This will be a continuing theme in the coming years, as the energy issues assume crisis proportion. It's time to put the conserve into Conservative Judaism. Our seniors who lived through the Great Depression understand the importance of conservation, but many of us grew up in an era when power companies convinced us that "electricity is penny cheap." That day is long-gone.

Using data supplied by our power company, we compared two measures: Consumption and demand. Consumption refers to the total kilowatt hours used in any time period. A 25-watt light bulb burning for 40 hours consumes one kilowatt hour (i.e., 1,000-watt hours).

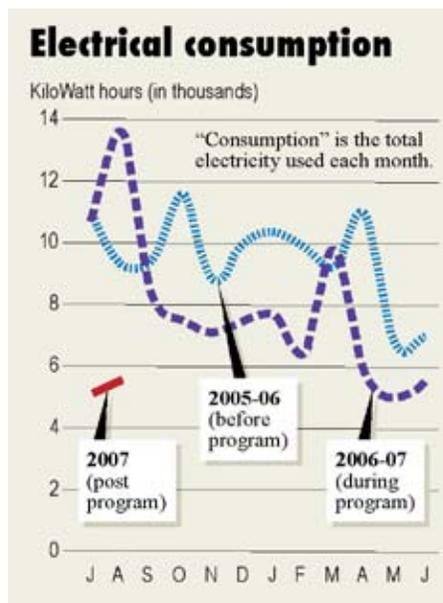
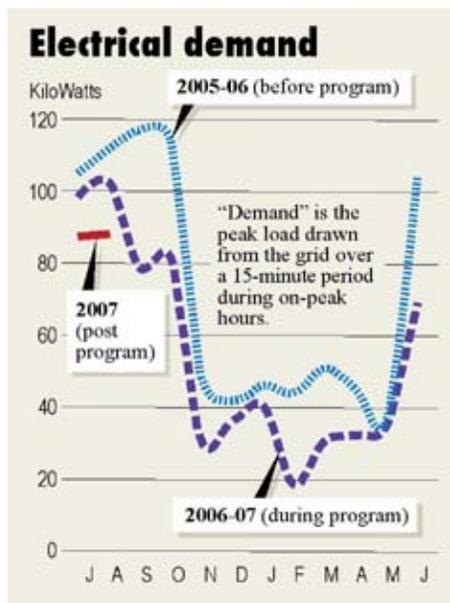
Demand refers to the highest load demanded by a user for a fixed duration during any time span. Demand level is significant because the power company must be able to provide generation and distribution services for the highest demand; moreover, it is during the peak demand periods that the least efficient,

with our program year of July 2006-June 2007, we achieved a reduction of consumption of 16.8%, and a reduction in demand of 24.3%. Even more striking, comparing the final three months of the base year to the same period of our program year, we achieved a fourth quarter reduction of consumption of 33.6% and a

demand reduction of 26.3%. Our usage in July and August 2007 was less than half that of the same period in the previous year. Inasmuch as some of the reduction results from "permanent" changes to our usage patterns, and inasmuch as some of the conservation or alternative sources were implemented

during the course of the program year, we anticipate a further decline in the next year.

Implementing conservation and alternative energy at the synagogue depends on the participation of many people, from the student who turns off the light when leaving a classroom to the donor for a photovoltaic system, from the volunteer who changes to a compact fluorescent bulb to the Sisterhood member who turns down the heat. In this way, the reduction in electric usage recorded necessarily measures a broad effort. This reduction in electric usage in the fourth quarter suggests an annualized saving of at least \$4,000.



dirtiest and most expensive generators are used. Billing depends on both consumption and demand.

There are several variables that affect month-to-month consumption and demand, such as weather and level of activity in the building. Individual months may have billing periods from 28 to 33 days, creating the appearance of "false highs" in our data (such as is the case of March 2007, which was a 33-day period, preceded and followed by 29-day periods). As reported by our utility, the month's bill reflects usage to about the 12th day of each month.

Our results are striking. Comparing our base period of July 2005-June 2006

## HaNoladot beMazal Tov

Hannah Lily Klein-Berger and Teya Samara Klein-Berger, daughters to Jennifer Klein & Jim Berger. A simhat bat (baby naming) is scheduled for Shabbat, Sept. 8, 2007, at 5:45 p.m. in the George G. Posener Daily Chapel

Mazal tov to Gila Reinstein on the birth of granddaughter Zohar Lacy Brown Reinstein, born to Ezra & Jennifer Reinstein in June

Mazal tov to Guy Lord & Dina

Hornreich on their qiddushin (Jewish marriage) in July

## Honorable Menschen

Matt Prober, son of Dan & Sharon Prober, served as a counselor this summer at Camp Ramah of New England. Matt will be attending Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa.

## Welcome to New Members and Their Families

Thomas & Elisa Black and Dana

## HaMaqom Yinahem

*With sorrow we note the passing of*

**Anne Miller, mother of Philip (and Lynn Coleman) Miller**

**Dorothy Mattler, sister-in-law of Shirley Mattler**

*May the Almighty comfort those who mourn*

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## Shofar, Sho Good

A Shofar sounding workshop will be held in conjunction with BEKI Religious School on Wednesday, Sept. 5, at 4:30 p.m., with Isaiah Cooper. All are welcome.



Isaiah Cooper plays his *other* horn

## Selihot at B'nai Jacob

Congregation B'nai Jacob will host the Conservative-Masorti Community Selihot Service on Saturday night, Sept. 8. The evening begins at 8:30 p.m. with Havdala and a presentation by Rabbi Dov Peretz Elkins. Refreshments will be served at 9:30 p.m., followed by a youth choir presentation. The *selihot* service begins at 10 p.m. and ends at 11 p.m.

The *selihot* (penitential) prayers are said during the middle of the night during the period immediately before Rosh HaShana and Yom Kippur. It is believed that a heightened sense of spiritual awareness can be achieved during those hours.

## Qever Avot Cemetery Memorial Services

The annual Qever Avot Cemetery Memorial Services will be held at 10 a.m. at the Hamden Cemetery, and at 11 a.m. at the West Haven Cemetery on Sunday, Sept. 9. 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. If you would like a ride to the service, please contact the office a few days in advance.

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](http://www.beki.org/findbeki.html). For information on cemetery purchases or upkeep, please call the BEKI Cemetery Association at 389-2108 x57.

## High Holy Days Participation

Please be sure to return your High Holy Days volunteer/participation forms. We will definitely need help with every aspect of our holiday celebrations. The form is also available on the BEKI website at [www.beki.org/forms.html](http://www.beki.org/forms.html).

## Rosh HaShana and Yom Kippur

Rabbi Alan H. Lovins will serve as our Hazzan Ris-hon (lead cantor) for the High Holy Days. In addition to Rabbi Lovins, the services will again be led by BEKI members serving as volunteer *hazzanim*.

For the fifteenth consecutive year, Rabbi Tilsen will conduct the services.



Alan Lovins



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.

For safety and planning reasons, children must be pre-registered to participate in these services. For registration information, call 389-2108 x14.

If you are interested in babysitting service, please call 389-2108 x14. Walk-in babysitting is not available.

Rosh HaShana services begin Wednesday, Sept. 12 at 6:45 p.m. with the Mincha service, followed by Maariv at 7 p.m. Candle Lighting is at 6:49 p.m. The service concludes by 7:30 p.m. Morning services begin at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 13; several services for children and youth, and a learners' service, are held as well.

*Tashlikh* ("casting") services will be held on the *first* day of Rosh HaShana, Thursday, Sept. 13, at 4:30 p.m., at the

# Yamin Noraim: Days of Awe

Edgewood Bridge and at the Whitney Museum Covered Bridge. For tashlikh at Beaver Pond Park, contact [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org) 389-2108 x14. 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. Minha and Maariv services on Thursday afternoon are also at 6:45 p.m. and 7 p.m.

On Friday, Sept. 14, morning services are also at 8:30. Youth services are held as well. On Friday afternoon, Erev Shabbat, the second day of Rosh HaShana, the Minha service begins at 6 p.m., followed by the Maariv service at 6:15 p.m., ending by 6:45 p.m.

While it is customary to stand for some parts of the service, those for whom standing is difficult, impossible or dangerous should feel comfortable sitting. Rabbi Tilsen comments that “You get five points for answering ‘Amen!’ but only one point for standing, so keep it in perspective. This applies to people of all ages.”

On the afternoon before Yom Kippur, Friday, Sept. 21, the Minha service begins at 6:15 p.m. Candle Lighting is 6:33 p.m. (or earlier). The Kol Nidre and Maariv Evening services begin promptly at 6:30 and end by 8:30 p.m. Shahrarit

Morning services begin at 9; the Yizkor Memorial service begins after 11 a.m.. The Minha Afternoon services begin at 5 p.m., and is followed immediately by the Neila and Maariv services. The services end with Havdala and the sounding of the Shofar at 7:25 p.m.



**George G. Posener**

## George G. Posener Break Fast Concludes Yom Kippur

Following the concluding Yom Kippur services on Sept. 22, please join us as we gather for our amazing community Break Fast. This year we are again pleased that, to honor the memory of his beloved family, George Posener’s generosity is enabling us to provide you with a lovely meal and great company.

Each year, the George G. Posener Family Memorial Break Fast is prepared

entirely by members of the BEKI community. Overseen by Darryl Kuperstock and Linden Grazier, some of the prep work is done in advance, but the bulk of the assembly and plating (and clean-up) of this banquet is done by *you*, the fantastic volunteers who join us in the kitchen during the afternoon break on Yom Kippur. It’s fun, intense, and extremely satisfying — so come help us out this year.

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

For a complete schedule of services please call the office at 389-2108 x14 or see the schedule at [www.beki.org/schedule.html](http://www.beki.org/schedule.html). Schedules are also available in the lobby literature rack, and are included with the High Holy Days mailings sent to all BEKI members.

For information on seating and ticketing, contact 389-2108 x14 or [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org).

## HABITS, TRADITIONS, SAFETY

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.

People who need to eat or drink or take medication on Yom Kippur may speak with an usher, or contact the office in advance, for assistance. Rabbi Tilsen notes that “People for whom fasting represents a significant medical threat are prohibited from fasting. Water, milk or a simple meal should be consumed as needed.”

# Sukkot: Feast of Tabernacles

## Sukkot is Coming

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 are used each day of Sukkot except Shabbat, until and including Hoshana Rabba. Information on the festival observances appears in the October *Bulletin*.

Set up of the Morris "Moishe" Schnitman Memorial Sukka is planned for Sunday, Sept. 26, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Add a personal touch by bringing some of your own *sekhakh* (evergreen branches are preferred) for the roof to enhance the beauty and aroma of our congregational *sukka*. Breakdown and storage are planned for Sunday, Oct. 7, following *Shaharit*. Additional power drivers and ladders are welcome. Please come and help. For information, contact Saul Bell (389-1647) or David Kuperstock (387-0304).

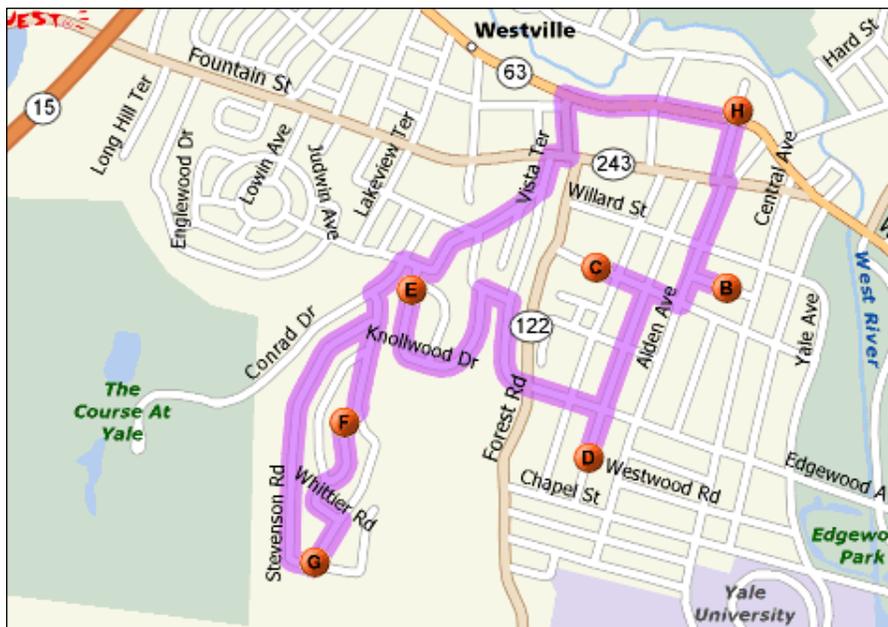
## Sukka Dinner

A starlit dinner in BEKI's Moishe Schnitman Sukka (indoors in case of rain) will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 26, the first night of Sukkot, following the 6 p.m. service. For reservations, contact Peggy at 389-2108 x14 [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org).

## Sukka Hop

Join the Annual Beki Family Sukka Hop on Thursday, Sept. 27, departing from the BEKI Sukka at 12:45 p.m. A light progressive meal and Sukkot activity will take place at each sukka. Reservations required with Miriam 389-6137 [mirbenson@aol.com](mailto:mirbenson@aol.com) by Thursday, Sept. 20.

The route is shorter than five miles and ends in the BEKI Sukka at 5:45 p.m. Following the Mincha service, at 6:15 p.m., there will be Sundaes in the Sukka. Thanks to Linden Grazier for coordinating.



Sept. 27 Sukka Hop route map

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This past spring BEKI Sisterhood gave Marcel Gutman scholarships to six students of BEKI families to pursue Jewish related studies and activities.

Set up by BEKI Sisterhood member Mimi Glenn, to perpetuate the memory and ideals of her late father, this year's recipients were: • Yedidya Ben-Avie • Mollie Sapadin • Max Pauker • Zachary Bell • Karen Sutin • Sarah Bass

Criteria for a scholarship: Parent must be a Sisterhood member (men or guardian can be associates of Sisterhood).

We are planning a brunch for the fall at which time the students will speak about their experiences over the summer. A flyer will be forthcoming.

BEKI Sisterhood recently donated \$300 to the [Greater New Haven Holocaust Memorial](#). This was the proceeds from the sale of yellow Yizkor candles in 2006-07. This gift enables the program to move forward with their plans, especially to preserve the Holocaust Memorial physical structure on Whalley Avenue.

Patronize Sisterhood's [Gift Shop](#). Lots of new merchandise at great prices! Look for our 10 percent off coupon.

Adele Tyson  
Ruth Greenblatt  
Co-Presidents

## Torah Fund

To ensure future generations of Conservative Jews, the [Torah Fund](#) campaign of Women's League for Conservative Judaism supports the following programs of the [Jewish Theological Seminary](#):

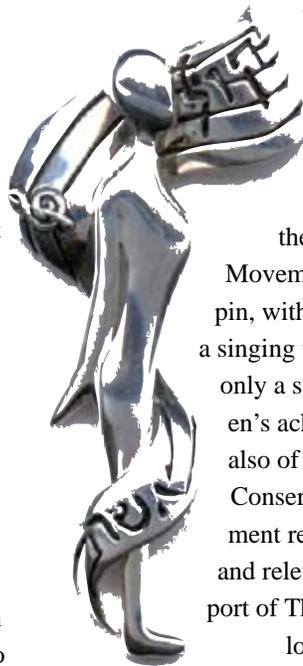
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Your Torah Fund contributions and purchase of cards perpetuates Conservative Judaism throughout the world.

Barbara Cushen  
Torah Fund Chair

## Kol Ishah — A Woman's Voice 5768 (2007–08)

The theme, Kol Ishah: A Woman's



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Voice, celebrates

the twentieth anniversary

of the investiture

of female

cantors into

the Conservative

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pin, with its image of

a singing woman, is not

only a symbol of women's

achievements, but also

of the ways the

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## Cards sent over the summer

### Mazel Tov to:

- Dina Mayzlin & Aaron Cohen on the birth of Rose from the Hesed Committee, Sid & Donna Levine
- Jennifer Klein & James Berger on the birth of their twins from the Hesed Committee, Sid & Donna Levine

- Stephanie & Yair Listokin on their new baby from Sid & Donna Levine

- Berengere Gay & Perry Goodman on the birth of their twins from Sid & Donna Levine

- Gila Reinstein on the birth of a granddaughter from Sid & Donna Levine

- Sid & Donna Levine in honor of their new home from Violet & Charlie Ludwig

- Mimi Glenn on her milestone birthday from Violet & Charlie Ludwig, Adele Tyson

- Bernice Siegelson on her 80th birthday from Adele Tyson

### Get Well to:

- Alan Massey from Barbara Cushen & Stanley Saxe, Violet & Charlie Ludwig
- Jack Olderman from Anna Goldberg
- Stanley Saxe from the Hesed Committee
- Lydia Levine from Ruth & Morris Olmer
- Barbara Tomsy from Ruth & Morris Olmer

### In Memory of:

- Robert Jaffe to Marilyn Ritchie from Barbara Cushen, Shirley Mattler, Claire & Bud Volain
- Brian Gedansky to Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Gedansky from Anna Goldberg
- Beatrice Cabacoff to Marcia & Louis Cabacoff from the Hesed Committee
- Anne Miller to Phillip & Lynn Miller from the Hesed Committee, Sid & Donna Levine
- Fannie Elkin to Robert Weiner, Carol Greenberg & Thelma Parker from Helen Miller
- Yetta Schefts to Shelley Schefts & family from Ruth & Morris Olmer
- Herbert Brumberger to Mrs. Phyllis Brumberger & family from Ruth & Morris Olmer
- Jean Schpero to her Family from Ruth & Morris Olmer
- Peter Myers to Paul & Cindy Goldenberg from Lou Petrillo
- Karen Kaplan's mother from Mikki Ratner
- Miriam Morgan from Molly & Ted Satin
- Sam Dimenstein to Mrs. Doris Dimenstein & family from Stanley Saxe & Barbara Cushen
- Jane Foley's father from Adele Tyson
- Neil Abel to his family from Adele Tyson
- Marion Schwartz's brother from Claire & Bud Volain

## BEKI Social Action Tikun Olam Committee

The [BEKI SATO](#) Committee is working to bring lots of opportunities for individuals to get involved in our community through BEKI.. There are things we can do as a group and things you can do as individuals. We have opportunities for people who work during the day, evenings or even weekends – we also welcome retirees and stay at home parents and children!!

- You can help by volunteering once a month at a soup kitchen

- Get involved by picking up and delivering the many things we collect when we do food, coat, blankets, toys, diapers, and backpack drives. Is there another drive you think we should do?

- We are continuing our involvement in [BEKI Builds](#)

- Maybe you are interested in creating a relationship with the family homeless shelters in New Haven to offer support to their many needs

- We need people to write letters about social issues

- In conjunction with other synagogues in the area, we will celebrate Israel's 60th birthday; we will work to collect donations to buy an ambulance for ARMDI.

- We want and need your ideas too...

We will be beginning a monthly SATO meeting at BEKI. We will meet at BEKI at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month; our first meeting will be Tuesday, October 9.

Also, we will be giving people the opportunity to express their volunteer interests on Rosh HaShana. Not only will you get your regular pledge card asking for a monetary donation, you will also get a pledge card asking for your interest and commitment to become involved in a BEKI SATO project. We hope lots of

you are interested.

We hope you want to join us. You can call, email or just come to the first meeting.

Bring a friend!! SATO Committee chair Jennifer Botwick can be reached at 203-387-8661 or at [drjbotwicknd@aol.com](mailto:drjbotwicknd@aol.com); co-chair Joanne Goldblum can be reached at 203-624-0536 or at [joanne@newhavendiaperbank.org](mailto:joanne@newhavendiaperbank.org).

If you think you're too small to be effective you've never been in bed with a mosquito. – JB & JG

## BEKI Builds Update

Once again, BEKI's energetic volunteers are working with others in our community to build a new home for a hard-working deserving family through [Amity Cares — Habitat for Humanity](#). Along with others in the wider Amity community (other synagogues, churches, civic organizations, schools) and the Greene family who will eventually live there, we began work on the home in July, and hope to have the entire house completed by Thanksgiving!

What an amazing feeling to watch the wood you have just been nailing be raised in the air and suddenly become the frame of a new house! Even the summer heat has not dried up the energy that our volunteers bring to this project, or that this project brings to our volunteers. Our last Habitat project included 46 BEKI volunteers!! This time, be one of them.

Everyone is welcome and needed (including unskilled workers — there are so many things you can do!).

We will be working one Sunday a month, at least through November. The build dates for BEKI (working with folks from B'nai Jacob, Temple Emanuel and Or Shalom) are Sept. 9, Oct. 21 and Nov. 11. Workdays begin at 10 a.m. and end at 3 p.m. Be sure to wear layers of clothing, closed sturdy shoes and hats for the sun. Bring sunscreen and your lunch. And

don't forget plenty of water! Workers must be 16 year of age or older.

We are attempting to schedule at least two Youth Work Days during this build, for teens 12-15 years old. As soon as those dates are in place, we will notify the community.

About [Habitat for Humanity](#):

- Since its founding in 1976, Habitat has built and rehabilitated more than 225,000 homes around the world.

- Habitat sells these homes at no profit to low-income partner families. Their no-interest mortgage payments help to support Habitat homes for additional partner families.

- Partner families invest "sweat equity" by helping to build the homes they buy.

- Families apply to be considered for Habitat homes and are chosen on the basis of need, ability to repay their no-interest mortgage, and willingness to become partners in the program.

- Although started as a Christian ministry, Habitat International is overseen by an ecumenical, international volunteer board of directors. [Habitat for Humanity of Greater New Haven](#) is autonomous and is managed by an independent ecumenical volunteer board.

- Habitat is not a government organization but does work with local governments who often help to provide land and other resources.

For more information about this build, Habitat in New Haven, directions to the build site, or to commit to working on this project (we absolutely must know how many volunteers will be working on any given day), please contact **Darryl Kuperstock at 387-0304** or [kuperts@aol.com](mailto:kuperts@aol.com). You can also get more information at [www.habitatgnh.org](http://www.habitatgnh.org) or [www.amitycares.org](http://www.amitycares.org). – DK

## The Hesed Committee

“Mazel Tov to BEKI members \_\_\_\_\_ on the birth of \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 2007. May this be a sign of blessing for this family, our congregation, the Jewish People and all humanity.”

“With sorrow we note the passing of BEKI member \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 2007 in New Haven. Funeral services are scheduled for \_\_\_\_\_. May the Almighty comfort those who mourn.”

“\_\_\_\_\_ needs a ride to services Friday evening. Is there someone who can pick her up?”

“Meals are being coordinated by \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ who is convalescing. Can Hesed provide the Shabbat dinner?”

Twenty-six such requests have been emailed to Hesed (kindness or mercy) between January and July of this year. All have been responded to either with calls, cards, dinners or

rides. Appropriate cards are sent by Barbara Cushen benefiting both the recipient and the Torah Fund. Meals are ordered for the family members who will be celebrating Shabbat together. They are delivered by devoted delivery man, Stan Saxe. Others of the Hesed volunteers have given rides, or visited those unable to attend services or made telephone calls.

The ongoing activity of the committee has caused it to move from an “ad hoc” designation to a standing committee position.

We are very grateful for the thank you notes, contributions and support from the Board of Directors and the membership. If there are those who would like to volunteer, especially those who can offer rides to those who are unable to drive themselves, they would be very welcome.

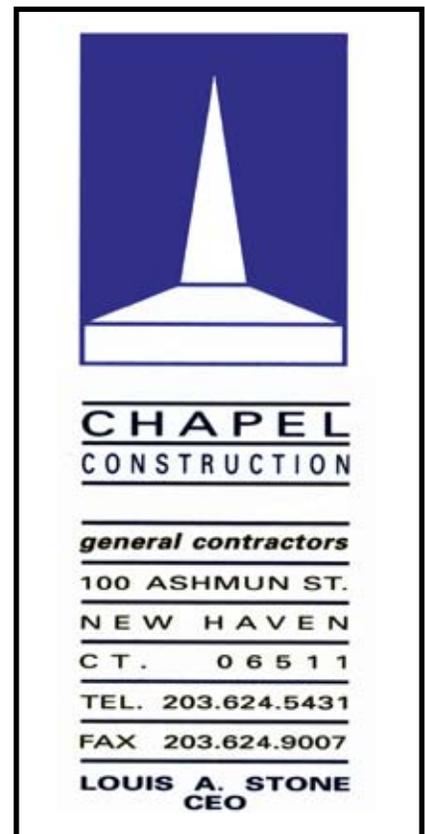
It is hoped that in the future the committee will be available and flexible as new needs arise. If there are suggestions you would like to forward, please call me, Muriel Banquer, at 787-3743.

## BEKI awarded \$3000 for Library, Social Action

The [Women of Vision Society of the Jewish Federation](#) has announced two \$1500 grants to BEKI, in response to applications prepared by the BEKI Grants Group. One grant is for acquisitions and programming for the new [BEKI library](#) pertaining to the needs, aspirations, accomplishments, and concerns of Jewish women. Bennett Lovett-Graff chairs the Library Committee, which will oversee implementation of this project.

The second grant responds to one of the major recommendations of the BEKI Eder Leadership Retreat: to involve the entire BEKI community in efforts to promote social justice and Tiqun Olam, with special attention to the role Jewish women have played in these efforts. The BEKI SATO, Hesed, and Program

committees are working with other community partners to plan a series of programs providing opportunities to become involved in additional activities in the community. Beginning with Rosh HaShana, Social Action pledge cards will be provided, with tabs to fold back indicating interest in potential social action/ tiqun olam projects for the coming year. There will also be an exhibit of Women of Valor in the BEKI lobby, and special readings will be available. Programs will continue through Sukkot and Hanuka, and culminate in a Shabbaton the weekend of January 4-5. If you are interested in helping to plan these activities, please contact Rhoda Zahler ([rzahler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rzahler@sbcglobal.net)) or Paula Hyman ([paula.hyman@yale.edu](mailto:paula.hyman@yale.edu)).





## USY & Kadima News

### 2007-08 USY BEKI/BJ Chapter Board

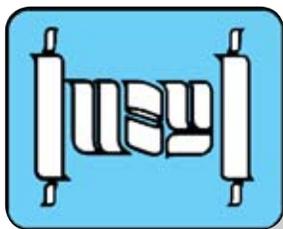
President: Karen Sutin

Religious Educ.: Yedidya Ben-Avie

Membership/Kadima: Daphne Lew

SATO: Maya Sutin

Communications: Carmi Cheskis Gold



## New USY Advisor

We'd like to welcome new USY advisor Shiri Friedman to our staff.

Shiri moved to New Haven this summer to begin studies at the Yale School of Management. A native of Pittsburgh, Shiri was an active member of USY and attended Camp Ramah in Canada as both a camper and counselor. She, along with husband Josh, spent the past year living in Karmiel, Israel, helping the region recover from last summer's war with Hizbollah. Before her year in Israel, Shiri spent five years working in Manhattan, and her undergrad years at Penn.

She is excited to be a part of the New Haven community. *Berukha haba'a* to Shiri!

## Free Trip to Israel for Youth

[KOACH](#) invites post-high school students, ages 18-26, who have never been to Israel on an organized peer trip, to participate in the Winter 2007/2008 birthright Israel program!

- Ten days of travel, study and fun
- Walk in the footsteps of our ancestors
- See Israel through the eyes of the Conservative Movement

Registration opens Sept. 5 for a limited time. Don't miss out on this great opportunity! Contact [koachbirthright@uscj.org](mailto:koachbirthright@uscj.org) if you'd like us to send you a reminder when registration opens.

## Garinim Montessori Preschool

The 2007-08 year for the [Garinim Montessori Preschool](#) for children ages 2 to 6 at BEKI begins in September and is now accepting registration. The school combines the methods of Montessori with the traditions and culture of Masorti-Conservative Judaism. For information, contact Lana Gad at 389-7445 or [lane@garinim.org](mailto:lane@garinim.org).

## 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 Rosh HaShana, Yom Kippur or Sukkot, contact Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108 x10 or [jjtilsen@beki.org](mailto:jjtilsen@beki.org).

## Religious School Beginning

Religious School classes opening is Wednesday, Sept. 5. Late registration is still open. The School is under the direction of Principal Dorothy Bowser.

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 Dorothy Bowser

(389-2108 x13 [dbowser@beki.org](mailto:dbowser@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](#). The [Bessie & Max Levine Endowment](#) provides some of the textbooks for the students. These endowments provide an annual contribution to support BEKI's religious school. We also thank **Dr. Ralph Friedman** and the **Friedman & Aprile** families and all those who contribute to the [Louis Friedman Scholarship Fund](#), along with our contributors to the **Rabbi Andrew Klein Scholarship Fund**.

We 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 10:45 a.m. until about noon. Older youth, in grades 6-8, may participate in [Cosmic Conversations](#). There is no additional charge for these programs that reinforce and supplement the School's curriculum. These programs are also ideal for children attending [Ezra Academy](#) and other Jewish Day Schools. We urge all families to participate in BEKI's Family Education Programs.

For more information, please contact BEKI Religious School Principal Dorothy Bowser at 389-2108 x13 or [dbowser@beki.org](mailto:dbowser@beki.org).

## Saul's Circle

[Saul's Circle](#), BEKI's *qeruv* (outreach) program for adult mental health services consumers, presents programs at Fellowship House in New Haven and

*Continued on Page 15*

*Continued from Page 14*

at BEKI. This outreach program seeks to welcome participants into the BEKI and the broader Jewish community, and to help bring the healing and saving power of Torah and Jewish tradition 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 will celebrate the High Holidays with a teaching session led by Dr. Lauren Kempton. For more information contact Lauren at 389-2108 x33 [lkempton@beki.org](mailto:lkempton@beki.org).

## Kulanu Program

Kulanu, BEKI's outreach program for adults with developmental disabilities, will begin its sixth year this autumn. Kulanu participants have had a very busy summer. We had many programs preparing for the High Holidays. Parents of new community members at Chapel Haven now visit BEKI when they bring their family members to join Chapel Haven. Attendance on Shabbat morning has increased. For information on

Kulanu, please contact BEKI's Special Outreach Director Dr. Lauren Kempton at 389-2108 x33 [lkempton@beki.org](mailto:lkempton@beki.org). Kulanu is funded in part by the [David & Lillian Levine Endowment for People with Special Needs at BEKI](#) and by the Congregation.

## Benei Mitzva Program Begins in September

Rabbi Tilsen will serve as the director of our [Benei Mitzva Program](#). We will also have a number of new tutors, as some of our tutors are off to college or yeshiva.

We expect that the BMP will meet on Wednesdays from 5 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. most weeks during the year. Individual tutoring will be scheduled at the convenience of the tutor and student. BMP students who are also students at [BEKI Religious School](#) can expect their schedules, and curriculum, to be coordinated.

We are very excited about the upcoming year. We believe that we are developing the Program in response to the

direction offered by parents and participants, as well as our professional judgment. Class begins Wednesday, Sept. 5, at 5 p.m.; pre-registration is required.

## 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](mailto:minyan-subscribe@beki.org). You can unsubscribe by sending a message to [minyan-unsubscribe@beki.org](mailto:minyan-unsubscribe@beki.org) and obtain additional instructions at [minyan-help@beki.org](mailto:minyan-help@beki.org).

## 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.

**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.

---

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Lana Gad-Director 203.389.7445



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*Shabbatot*

## Darshan in September

Nadav Sela will serve as *darshan* on Shabbat morning Sept. 1, *parashat* Ki Tavo.

Baruch Levine will serve as *darshan* on Shabbat morning Sept. 8, *parashat* Nitzavim-VaYeilekh. Baruch is an editor of the popular humash *Etz Hayim* and is the Skirball Professor of Bible and Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Hebrew and Judaic Studies at New York University.

Rabbi Peter Stein will serve as *darshan* on Shabbat morning 15 September, Shabbat Shuva, *parashat* Ha'azinu.

## Shabbat Shalom Learners' Minyan

The "Shabbat Shalom Learners' Minyan," which meets every other Saturday morning at 10:45 a.m. 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.

*Mondays*

## Rashi Study Group

Each Monday morning from 7:45 to 8:30 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.



**Nadav Sela**

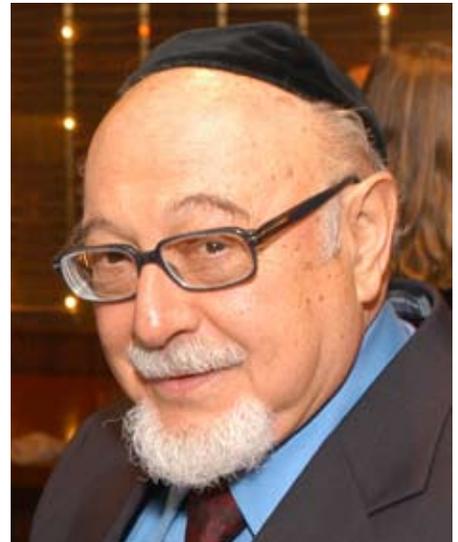
Knowledge of Hebrew is not necessary. Rashi purported to explain the *peshat* of the text, i.e., the meaning in its historical, literary and linguistic context. The Rashi Study Group has met weekly since 1994 and is currently reading the book of Numbers. Visitors and new participants are welcome. The Rashi Study Group meets immediately following the 7 a.m. *shaharit* service.

*Thursdays*

## Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group

The Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group, hosted by Isaiah Cooper, meets Thursdays during the lunch hour with Rabbi Tilsen in downtown New Haven for Talmud study. Due to the holiday schedule, the Sanhedrin Study Group will not meet during September and will resume on Thursday, Oct. 11. The Group has met weekly since 1999. Anyone is welcome to attend or join for any or all meetings.

The nature of the Talmud is such that there is no beginning and no end; you can jump in any time. The Study Group provides all texts in English, Hebrew and Aramaic. No particular background is required. Current subject matter broadly



**Baruch Levine**

revolves around rules of criminal procedure in capital cases. Specific issues recently encountered include: How to harness the labor of fish; Are there any rules that apply to non-Jews but not to Jews? Is meat that falls from the sky kosher?; and post-conviction appeals for capital cases.

SSG meets Thursdays 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the office of Isaiah Cooper, 205 Church Street, Third Floor Conference Room, New Haven. Bring your own lunch. Texts are supplied. For information, contact Isaiah Cooper at 233-4547 or [icooper@cooperlaw.net](mailto:icooper@cooperlaw.net).

## AA Meeting

The Here We Are Group of AA meets at BEKI every Thursday night at 8 p.m. The weekly Meeting has been held at BEKI since May 1997. Open to any person who can benefit from a recovery program, the meeting is held according to standard AA procedure. This is not a specifically Jewish recovery group, although a large proportion of participants are Jewish. For information on the weekly meeting contact Jay at (203) 387-6019 or [sokolow@snet.net](mailto:sokolow@snet.net).

# September 2007

## 18 Elul 5767 - 18 Tishrei 5768

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

						<p>1</p> <p>Darshan: Nadav Sela 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Learner's Minyan Qiddush: Cummings</p> <p style="text-align: center;">18 Elul</p>																	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8																	
<p>Office Closed/Labor Day 9:00am Shaharit 9:45am Rashi Study Group</p> <p style="text-align: center;">19 Elul</p>	<p>Garinim Montessori Preschool Opening Day</p> <p style="text-align: center;">20 Elul</p>	<p>4:00pm Religious School Open House/Orientation 4:30pm Shofar Lessons 5:00pm Benei Mitzva Program Begins</p> <p style="text-align: center;">21 Elul</p>	<p>12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site) 8:00pm A.A.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">22 Elul</p>	<p>6:58pm Candle Lighting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">23 Elul</p>	<p>Selihot Darshan: Baruch Levine 10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: Shragis/Weiner-Rastelli 5:45pm Klein-Berger baby naming 8:00pm Selihot Service at B'nai Jacob</p> <p style="text-align: center;">24 Elul</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Selihot Darshan: Baruch Levine 10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: Shragis/Weiner-Rastelli 5:45pm Klein-Berger baby naming 8:00pm Selihot Service at B'nai Jacob</p> <p style="text-align: center;">25 Elul</p>																	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15																	
<p>9:00am Religious School 10:00am Qever Avot Beth El Memorial Park in Hamden 11:00am Qever Avot Keser Israel Memorial Park in Hamden</p> <p style="text-align: center;">26 Elul</p>	<p>7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm Executive Board Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">27 Elul</p>	<p>Erev Rosh Hashana No Religious School No Benei Mitzva Program 6:45pm Minha 6:49pm Candle Lighting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">28 Elul</p>	<p>Rosh Hashana I Office Closed For High Holiday Service Schedule See Related Article</p> <p style="text-align: center;">29 Elul</p>	<p>Rosh Hashana II Office Closed For High Holiday Service Schedule See Related Article 6:46pm Candle Lighting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 Tishrei</p>	<p>Rosh Hashana II Office Closed For High Holiday Service Schedule See Related Article 6:46pm Candle Lighting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2 Tishrei</p>	<p>Darshan: Rabbi Peter Stein 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Learner's Minyan Qiddush: Cake &amp; Fruit</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3 Tishrei</p>																	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22																	
<p>Fast of Gedaliah 9:00am Religious School</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4 Tishrei</p>	<p>7:45am Rashi Study Group</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5 Tishrei</p>	<p>9:00am Public Dedication &amp; Press Conference for Solar Array</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6 Tishrei</p>	<p>4:00pm Religious School 5:00pm Benei Mitzva Program</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7 Tishrei</p>	<p>12:30pm Talmud Study Group (off-site) 8:00pm A.A.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8 Tishrei</p>	<p>Erev Yom Kippur Kol Nidre 6:34pm Candle Lighting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9 Tishrei</p>	<p>Yom Kippur (Yizkor) For High Holiday Service Schedule See Related Article</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10 Tishrei</p>																	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29																	
<p>No Religious School 9:30am Building of BEKI Sukkah 12:00pm Sukkah Decorating</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11 Tishrei</p>	<p>7:45am Rashi Study Group 7:30pm General Board Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12 Tishrei</p>	<p>Erev Sukkot No Religious School No Benei Mitzva Program 6:28pm Candle Lighting 6:30pm BEKI Sukkah Dinner (by reservation only)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">13 Tishrei</p>	<p>Sukkot I Office Closed 9:15am Festival Service 12:45pm Sukkah Hop Begins 4:30pm Kulanu/Saul's Circle Sukkah Dinner Candle Lighting After 7:29pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">14 Tishrei</p>	<p>Sukkot II Office Closed 9:15am Festival Service 6:22pm Candle Lighting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15 Tishrei</p>	<p>Sukkot II Office Closed 9:15am Festival Service 6:22pm Candle Lighting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">16 Tishrei</p>	<p>Hol Hamoed Sukkot I 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Learner's Minyan Qohelet Qiddush: Dimenstein</p> <p style="text-align: center;">17 Tishrei</p>																	
30	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td rowspan="4" style="width: 5%; text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"><b>Service Times</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>Sundays</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>Tuesdays</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursdays</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>Saturdays</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>9 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv</td> <td>7 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv</td> <td>8:15 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv</td> <td>9:15 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>Mondays</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>Wednesdays</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>Fridays</b></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>7 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv</td> <td>7 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv</td> <td>7 a.m. Shaharit 6 p.m. Minha-Maariv</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>					<b>Service Times</b>	<b>Sundays</b>	<b>Tuesdays</b>	<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>Saturdays</b>	9 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv	7 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv	8:15 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv	9:15 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha	<b>Mondays</b>	<b>Wednesdays</b>	<b>Fridays</b>		7 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv	7 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha-Maariv	7 a.m. Shaharit 6 p.m. Minha-Maariv		18 Tishrei
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