

A New Haven Tradition since 1892

# BEKI

Congregation  
Beth El-Keser Israel

## bulletin

Tammuz-Av 5781

Vol. 27 Issue 7

Message from Rabbi Woodward: Page 13

# ALL SERVICES ARE BACK INSIDE

BEKI will hold every minyan in person starting Thursday, July 1. Zoom still will be available on weekdays, though. We also have restored processions with the torah scrolls.

All Shabbat services will continue in the sanctuary/social hall, except that we will continue an outdoor service once a month, weather permitting. This month, we are hoping to be in the courtyard for Kabbalat Shabbat on the third Friday, which is July 16.

Kiddush is ramping up. After 14 months with so many of us missing the camaraderie of sharing food and conversation following Shabbat morning services, the BEKI Board approved a phased re-start plan. For now, kiddush is outdoors.

In May, we started with a mini-kiddush, coordinated by ad hoc teams. Although kiddush menus will likely continue to be simpler than in pre-pandemic days, the company and fellowship evident during these initial gatherings appears as good as ever, and perhaps even more appreciated.

To provide a menu beyond the mini kiddush level, we need your help to fill out our prep teams. Contact Ellen Cohen [ellen.cohen@snet.net](mailto:ellen.cohen@snet.net) to volunteer for an afternoon or evening

kitchen prep slot (target time: 1½ - 2 hours), as an “alternate” prep for more occasional participation, as a monthly or more occasional shopper, or to receive Kiddush Committee updates, including information about special events such as Bake-and-Freeze or Cook-and-Freeze sessions.

Special thanks to Jennifer Myer for organizing mini kiddushim and coordinating an ad hoc prep team, to Margie Wiener for organizing an ad hoc prep team and a massive kitchen clean-up/reorganization, to Eva Shragis for organizing and leading her prep team for the graduates’ kiddush, to Michael Barone for outdoor set-up and clean-up (even in the rain), and to all others who have joined or re-joined the Kiddush Committee and contributed so much during our first weeks of re-entry.

### Team Leaders and Thursday Prep Times

- \*Team 1: Jennifer Myer 7 pm (start time may change)
- \*Team 2: Lana Gad 7 pm
- Team 3: Marge Wiener 3 pm
- Team 4: Eva Shragis 4:30 pm

\*Teams currently most in need of additional preppers



Kiddush preppers meet over food and drink in early June.



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## 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:

- Call the Synagogue office: 203.389.2108
- Write: 85 Harrison Street, New Haven, CT 06515-1724
- Email: [bulletin@beki.org](mailto:bulletin@beki.org)
- Visit our web page: [www.beki.org](http://www.beki.org)
- Follow us on social media: 
- For advertising information, call the synagogue office.

Deadline for submission of ads or articles is the first of the month preceding publication.

Annual subscription is \$36

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Editor	<i>Rachel Bashevkin</i>
Associate Editors	<i>Donna Levine, Donna Kemper</i>
Layout & Design	<i>Bruce Oren</i>

## Introducing This Year's Board of Directors

If you have questions or concerns, please speak with a Board member.

- |   |                    |                         |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------|
| • Yaron Lew (president) <a href="mailto:president@beki.org">president@beki.org</a>                        | • Eric Dunsker     | • Gadiel Robbins        |
| • Michael Hurwitz (vice president) <a href="mailto:michael.hurwitz@yale.edu">michael.hurwitz@yale.edu</a> | • Mimi Glenn       | • Tamara Schechter      |
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| • Donna Levine (secretary)  | • Jennifer Myer    | • Rachel Wiseman Gerber |
| • Murray Akresh   | • Mark Oppenheimer | • Evan Wyner            |
| • Harold Birn   | • Sam Purdy        |                         |



**Itamar Lebowitz  
Bar Mitzvah**

The bar mitzvah of Itamar Lebowitz, son of Eli and Mira Lebowitz, will be celebrated on Saturday, July 10, *parashat Matot-Masei*.

Itamar is a rising 8th grader at Ezra

Academy. He is a voracious reader and enthusiastic Boy Scout who also enjoys tennis, Dungeons and Dragons, and judo. Most of all, Itamar loves spending time with his friends and his two younger brothers. The congregation is invited to attend the service, to be held in the main sanctuary, and kiddush afterwards.



**A Message from President Yaron Lew**

*Adapted from his remarks at services on May 29*



**Yaron Lew**

I met Darryl Kuperstock at deli box preparation and made mistakes. I cut a pickle to six wedges instead of four. I put the egg salad on the left bread slice and then put the right one on it instead of turning it over – totally unforgivable. I lined up the tables left justified for the welcome line instead of right justified and almost had my head chopped off. Worst of all, I put the apple over the sandwich

instead of next to it and by that time, there was nothing left for Darryl to do but give me her Darryl look and say, “Yaron, eventually you’ll learn.” After my fourth round of deli boxes, I finally understood: Darryl just knows what works and what doesn’t; she puts a lot of thought into it; she really cares that it succeeds and most importantly that

we all have fun.

I met David Kuperstock when I volunteered to put up the BEKI Sukkah. I had absolutely no clue what to do, but David, who was very busy running around, found time to come and explain to me in the kindest tone what’s the next step and how I should put up the next piece.

When I became President, I was blessed with feedback from both Darryl and David. And I had the pleasure of serving on the Board with Darryl for many years. At the last Board meeting we recognized Darryl’s thirty years of service on the Board. I must say what we all know: BEKI will not be the same without the Kuperstocks. It will take many of us to accomplish what one Kuperstock could do. Their commitment, dedication, contribution and all-encompassing willingness to give their time and effort to BEKI will never be forgotten, and I dare say will never be matched.



**Newborn Arianna Bella Luna Katz  
relaxes with her parents, Molly  
Sapadin and Austen Katz**

**Welcome new members**

Elan Weinstock & Sarah Silverman

**Mazal Tov to**

• Grandmother Helene Sapadin, and parents Molly Sapadin and Austen Katz, on the May 24 birth of Arianna Bella Luna Katz.

• Nathaniel “Tani” Cohen-Fraade, son of Ellen Cohen and Steven Fraade, on his new position as Head of School at Ezra Academy.

**More BEKI graduates  
in the Class of 2021**

**GRADUATE PROGRAMS**

• Jane Coffee, graduating from Yale School of Nursing.

• Yedidya Benavie, graduating from New York Medical College, School of

Medicine.

• Dana Lew, graduating from Tel Aviv University Sackler School of Medicine.

**COLLEGE**

• Talia Colten, graduating from Emerson College.

• David Forbes, graduating from University of California Berkeley.

*If your graduate’s name was missing from the list in the June bulletin, please accept our apology and send the information to [bulletin@beki.org](mailto:bulletin@beki.org). We will include it in the August issue.*

Going forward, we will wish a mazal tov for all marriages and babies of BEKI member families. Please send your news and photos to [bulletin@beki.org](mailto:bulletin@beki.org).

### Saturday, July 17 at 1:00 pm

After kiddush lunch, you are invited to walk down to Valley Street, just below BEKI, for a tour through the Botanical Garden of Healing. Dedicated to victims of gun violence in New Haven, the one-acre garden, designed by Svigals + Partners, includes a sculpture, benches, trees, shrubs, and thousands of flowers planted by volunteers with Urban Resources Initiative (URI).

Conceived by Marlene Pratt and three other mothers who lost children to gun violence, the garden includes a brick walkway inscribed with the names and ages of over 600 victims since 1976, all arranged chronologically. The garden is designed not only to offer a tranquil place for families to remember a loved one, but also to spark conversation and action.



**Botanical Garden of Healing**

### Wednesday, July 21 at 7:00 pm

We'll have a kumsitz in the BEKI courtyard on July 21, with a rain date Thursday, July 22. Kumsitz just means to "come" and "sit." We'll sing around a campfire, an event especially suited to anyone nostalgic for summer camp! All ages are welcome. We'll sing niggunim—which have no words—as well as traditional American songs and Jewish songs. We'll use the song list that Max Duboff prepared for Lag BaOmer, when we were rained out.



**Max DuBoff**

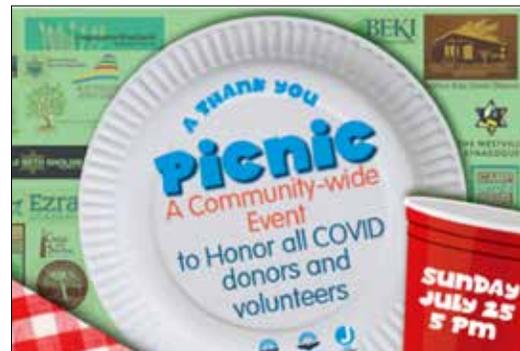
Max also recorded each selection:

<https://www.beki.org/resources/lag-baomer-kumsitz>. We'll have paper song sheets or can use our cell phones to read the lyrics. Please bring a mask and a chair, though we will have some there too.

### Sunday, July 25 at 5:00 pm

BEKI is participating in the Jewish Community Summer Picnic from 5:00 to 6:30 pm at the Beckerman Lender Jewish Community Campus at 360 Amity Road (Route 63) in Woodbridge.

If you have a BEKI t-shirt or hat, please wear it. Bring your dinner. Beverages, desserts, fun and games will



be provided. The fun continues with a drive-in movie, *An American Tail*, an animated film about emigration to the U.S. by Fievel Mousekewitz and his family. There is no fee for either, but please register at [https://www.jccnh.org/community\\_calendar/community-appreciation-picnic](https://www.jccnh.org/community_calendar/community-appreciation-picnic). To the right, you'll see a blue block with the word Register, and then down lower on the page, the link to sign up for the movie.

### Wednesday, July 28 at 7:00 pm

We are delighted to present another evening of live music in the BEKI courtyard, this time a performance by Elm City Winds. Composed of Jennifer Sidney Silva, flute; Caesar Storlazzi, oboe; Laura Caruthers, clarinet; Adrienne Gallagher, bassoon; and Emily Fine, French horn, this woodwind quintet performs both classical and popular music. Please make a reservation with Peggy Hackett at [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org). Tickets are free, but donations will be requested at the concert to support Jewish Family Services. The rain date will be Thursday, August 5 at 7:00 pm.



**Elm City Winds**

# USY Goes from Strength to Strength

By ANNIE NORMAN-SCHIFF,  
YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMMING DIRECTOR

We ended the school year by electing a new board of seven teen leaders and by honoring the graduating seniors and outgoing board members who rose to the challenges of this most unusual year.

BEKI USY's Chapter Board for 2021-22 will be:

- Helen Gerber, president
- Aviva Wyner, executive vice president
- Miles Katz, religion and education vice president
- Daniel Manning, social action and tikkun olam vice president
- Miranda Hurwitz, Israel affairs vice president
- Hannah Herbst, membership and Kadima vice president
- Sarah Rastelli, communications vice president

Even bad weather could not keep our USYers from

gathering on June 2 to celebrate the end of the year with leaders old and new. Fifteen BEKI teens joined us on a rainy weeknight—including the entire outgoing and new chapter boards—for a pizza party under a tent in the BEKI courtyard.

New President Helen Gerber thanked outgoing board members Ella May, Caleb Freiman, Aaron Bruce, and Noam Benson-Tilsen (the recent recipient of the Mel Goldman Memorial Award from our USY region for his outstanding leadership). Helen also ran a riotous round of the murder guessing game Mafia, a BEKI USY favorite.

Our teens are now off pursuing their summer adventures (several as campers or counselors at Camp Ramah). The new year of programming will begin with a leadership retreat for the chapter board in late August.



Newly elected BEKI USY President Helen Gerber leads a game at the End of Year Pizza Party.

## All Youth Services Meeting Every Week

It is a wonderful sign of life returning to normal that all Shabbat morning family services have returned to meeting every week at 10:45 am.

Children's Havura still meets outdoors in the courtyard when the weather permits. K-2 Kehila and Junior Congregation meet indoors. All three communities get a chance to sing and pray and learn every week. And perhaps best of all, every service ends

at the same time—perfect for gathering with BEKI members of all ages at the Kiddush.

For any questions about Shabbat morning services for children and families, contact Annie Norman-Schiff at [anormanschiff@beki.org](mailto:anormanschiff@beki.org).

# Tisha BeAv July 17-18

We are now in a three-week period during which certain restrictions related to mourning are practiced, such as not getting haircuts, having parties or celebrations. The major fast day of Tisha B'Av falls at the end of those weeks, on Saturday night, July 17 and Sunday, July 18.

Although Shabbat ends on July 17 at 9:04 pm, the fast begins at 8:22 pm. We'll hold Tisha BeAv Maariv with kinnot (dirges) & Eikhah (The Book of Lamentations) 9:20 to 10:30 pm Saturday night, in person and on Zoom.

On Sunday, we'll have the 9:00 am

service in person and on Zoom with Torah reading and the book of Eikhah. We'll also have our 5:45 pm service in person and on Zoom. A common Ashkenazic practice is to wear tefillin on Sunday at Minha instead of Shaharit. The fast ends on Sunday at 9:01 pm.

## HIGH HOLY DAYS 5782

BY JENNIFER MYER AND HAROLD BIRN,  
HIGH HOLY DAY CO-CHAIRS

Though summer has just begun, High Holy Days are around the corner since Rosh Hashanah begins the evening of Monday, September 6 (coinciding with Labor Day), and Yom Kippur begins on the evening of Wednesday September 15.

Planning is underway in conjunction with Rabbi Eric, who is excited to learn about BEKI traditions and incorporate new ideas. Our plan is to be back inside for all services in a familiar way. At this point, we expect that every BEKI member will be free to attend any and all services. We will continue with the fully congregant-led format which has been the recent and enjoyed tradition.

We will continue to use a ticketless entry system, which was one of the pandemic modifications that seemed to work well. Honors distribution will be a more hybrid form, with some honors being assigned ahead of time, but most being offered to congregants who are present at services.

The particulars around masking and distancing are evolving and will affect seating and break-fast. BEKI's Board, which is attentive to both CDC and state guidelines as well as the tenor of the congregation, will continue to set shul policy on these issues. BEKI will also likely be streaming all services this year which will allow another worship option independent of the in-person guidelines.

We look forward to a meaningful, vibrant Elul to prepare us for Yamim Nora'im.

### Easy Fundraiser

The Stop & Shop gift cards sold by the BEKI office are debit cards for groceries or gasoline. This is an ongoing fundraiser that costs you nothing. Contact Peggy [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org) to arrange pickup.

### Amazon Smile

Sign up on Amazon to donate 0.5% percent of each of your Amazon orders to BEKI. It costs you nothing and happens automatically with each order

### Donate Online

Fast and easy  
at [www.beki.org/give](http://www.beki.org/give)

### Taped Shabbat Services Online

For anyone not able to attend our in-person Shabbat morning services, a selection of Psukei d'Zimrah, Shacharit, Torah, and Musaf services—led by volunteers and filmed by Jennifer Myer in the BEKI sanctuary—is posted at [www.beki.org/shabbat-service-videos](http://www.beki.org/shabbat-service-videos).

- Psukei d'Zimrah led by Jennifer Botwick
- Psukei d'Zimrah led by Rabbi Carl Astor
- Shaharit led by Rabbi Carl Astor
- Shaharit led by Max DuBoff
- Torah Service led by Rachel Adelstein
- Musaf led by Isaiah Cooper

# SEEKING PRE-1950 FAMILY PHOTOS

BY THE BEKI ART COMMITTEE

For our High Holiday Ancestors exhibition, the BEKI Art Committee is seeking photographs, paintings, and other images of family members dating from before 1950. We broadly define “Ancestors” to include people who were so close they were considered family as well as unidentified people whom family tradition defined as family. We expect the exhibition to reflect the ethnically diverse ancestry of our current membership. Volunteers to edit photographs are most welcome.

Up to two pictures of individuals or group shots can be included per member, but you may send more for selection. We plan to repeat the theme of “Ancestors” in future years; therefore, some submissions may be reserved for next time. Paintings and other already framed works are most welcome. If you missed the June scanning session for small, unframed photographs, email [beki.photos@gmail.com](mailto:beki.photos@gmail.com).

## Thursday, July 15 deadline for submissions

Tell us what you have:

- Send a casual photograph of framed paintings & photographs that you are lending, or
- Send a link to a print-ready scan of a photograph at 11” x 15”, 300 dpi, to [beki.photos@gmail.com](mailto:beki.photos@gmail.com).

*We will send a registration form when we hear from you.*

- The drop-off dates for ready-to-hang photographs and paintings are August 15 (10 am to noon) or August 18 (3 to 6 pm).

*If you cannot make these times or cannot transport your contribution, email [beki.photos@gmail.com](mailto:beki.photos@gmail.com).*



**Mario Armando Alvarez, paternal grandfather of member Ivan Alvarez (1935).**

## Newly Found Art in the BEKI Collection

Over the decades, BEKI collected an assortment of artworks, some magnificent, some not quite as stellar. These works came to us as direct donations by BEKI members who support the arts, as legacy donations from artist members who wanted to permanently share their artwork with the BEKI community, and as works donated to fundraiser auctions that simply did not sell, even when the works were spectacular.

As the pandemic kept most of us out

of the building, facilities manager Michael Barone opened closets and cleaned out spaces that most of us did not even know existed. And there, in heaps of unprotected glass and twisted cardboard, were parts of the BEKI Art Collection we did not know that we had.

As Michael rescued the art, the Art Committee began to brainstorm what to do with it all. Working with Michael and house committee chair Eric Dunsker, we found a dedicated basement storage area. After installing modified shelv-

ing, we set out to identify, document, and then properly wrap as much of the valuable art as possible, in an ongoing process that will take time to complete. Of course, not all of the works are worthy of preservation, but we found some surprisingly wonderful gems that no one seemed to remember we owned.

Thanks to Helene Sapadin, Dan Weintraub, Helen Rosenberg, Peg Olin, Ellen Wolpin, and Cynthia Rubin for beginning the process of preserving our artwork.

## Sisterhood

BY JESSEY PALUMBO, SISTERHOOD TREASURER

### Sisterhood Donations to the Congregation

At the annual meeting, BEKI Sisterhood announced its donations to support BEKI projects. To support Adam Miller's plans for the improvement of the playground, we initially allocated \$500, but that has been enhanced with an additional \$1,000 donation made by Jim Stacey and Julie Cohen; a further \$500 is allocated for a special program the Religious School has planned.

Our chapter provided \$1,150 to the Women's League of Conservative Judaism Torah Fund, which supports the education of future rabbis and educators. Once again, thank you to all our Sisterhood members who renewed their membership. We encourage you all to join Sisterhood and enjoy access to the wonderful educational programs provided by WLCJ.

### Favorite Children's Books in Hebrew

The Gift Shop now carries well-loved stories in Hebrew: *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, *A Kiss for Little Bear*, *Good Night Moon*, and *Where the Wild Things Are*. Not only are they a great way to introduce children to Hebrew with familiar stories, they are good for all ages of Hebrew learning.



Of course, we also have a wonderful selection of books in English for all ages of children and adults. As always, personalized shopping is available by calling Karen 203-430-2182 or Harriet 203-675-8607, or email us at [giftshop@beki.org](mailto:giftshop@beki.org).

### Tree of Life Awaiting Your Leaf

The Tree of Life at the entrance to BEKI is a collection of gold-colored leaves that honor people and moments in our lives. For \$118 you can add a leaf. Contact Marjorie Wiener at 203.387.6278 or [marjoriewiener@yahoo.com](mailto:marjoriewiener@yahoo.com)

## Social Action – Tikun Olam

### Food Drive July 11

The next drive-by food collection will be held Sunday, July 11 from 10 to 11 am in the BEKI parking lot. Call 203.671.4705 to arrange for Rob Lettick to be in the parking lot to receive your donation. Donations will support Beth-El Center in Milford and Jewish Family Service. If you have questions, please write to Rob at [robolettick@aol.com](mailto:robolettick@aol.com).

### Refugee Resettlement Update

Now that summer is here, JCARR is using grant money to help JCARR's children attend camp and summer programs. One of the teenagers has been given an intern position at the Eli Whitney Day Camp in Hamden and has been accepted for the fall into a special academic program at Hamden High School!

JCARR is looking towards accepting a new refugee family from IRIS, hopefully in the fall. Much preparation is needed to welcome a new family, affording many volunteer opportunities from synagogue members. Please contact Madeleine Kleinman [madk117@gmail.com](mailto:madk117@gmail.com) to volunteer.

Stay tuned for information on JCARR's chamber music fund-raising event, scheduled for the fall.



**Thanks to JCARR, daughters of Family 5 attended a weekly program helping kids through tennis and education.**

## Rabbi's Tzedakah Fund

**To the Chernoff family with sympathy on the passing of Shula Chernoff by**

- Diane & Dan Krevolin

**In honor of Elizabeth Frieden by**

- Ada Fenick & Yair Minsky

**In honor of Rabbi Astor by**

- Joel Getz

## Chai/Synagogue Fund *to support synagogue operations*

**To Richard Brodner with sympathy on the passing of Leatrice Brodner by**

- David & Darryl Kuperstock
- Ina Silverman & Jay Sokolow (BEKI Religious School)
- Mimi Glenn

**To Shoshana Lash with sympathy on the passing of Elbert Hall Marshall by**

- Mimi Glenn
- Alice Kosowsky
- Bobbie & Harold Miller
- Stewart Frankel & Joy Kaufman

**To Corey Stone & Sue McDonald in honor of the birth of their grandson Maurice "Moe" Wallace Stone by**

- Rachel Bashevkin & Eric Dunsker

**To Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade in honor of the birth of their grandson by**

- Rachel Bashevkin & Eric Dunsker
- Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter
- Ruth Silver
- Steve & Rachel Wizner
- Rena Cheskis-Gold & Marty Gold (Barzillai Cheskis Youth Israel Fund)
- Joanne Foodim & Rob Forbes
- Sherry Kent, Richard Kantrowitz & Charlie Ludwig
- Gloria Cohen
- Tamara Schechter & Jessica Bod
- Marjorie & Jay Hirshfield

**To Rabbi Murray Levine in memory of Malka Levine by**

- Judah Levine & Adina Kling

**To Elisabeth Oppenheimer in honor of her Bat Mitzvah by**

- Rena Cheskis-Gold & Marty Gold (Barzillai Cheskis Youth Israel Fund)
- Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter
- Bobbie & Harold Miller
- Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade
- Ruth Silver

**To Illana, Sean & Justin Lazarus with sympathy on the passing of Shrager Lazarus by**

- David & Darryl Kuperstock
- Ina Silverman & Jay Sokolow (BEKI Religious School)

- Lana & Martin Gad and family

**To the Chernoff family with sympathy on the passing of Shula Chernoff by**

- Steve & Rachel Wizner
- Rachel Bashevkin & Eric Dunsker
- Joy Kaufman & Stewart Frankel
- The Rastelli-Weiner family
- Helen Rosenberg & Keith Richter
- Ina Silverman & Jay Sokolow (BEKI Religious School)
- The Freiman-Light family
- Joanne Foodim & Rob Forbes
- Belle Greenberg
- Bobbie & Harold Miller
- Yaron Lew
- Ruth Silver
- Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade
- Carol & Marc Weitzman
- Lana & Martin Gad and family
- Sherry Kent, Richard Kantrowitz & Charlie Ludwig

**To the BEKI Community by**

- Richard Mei Jr
- **In honor of the volunteers who cleaned out the kitchen and storerooms by**
- Rachel Bashevkin & Eric Dunsker

**Mazal tov to our BEKI graduates by**

- Rachel Bashevkin & Eric Dunsker
- **Farewell wishes to Darryl & David Kuperstock by**
- Rachel Bashevkin & Eric Dunsker
- Marjorie & Jay Hirshfield

**With gratitude to Rabbi Carl Astor for serving as our Interim Rabbi by**

- Rachel Bashevkin & Eric Dunsker
- **Welcoming Eric Woodward, Katharine Baker, Ayelet, and Tamar to our community by**
- Rachel Bashevkin & Eric Dunsker
- **In gratitude to the Rabbi Search Committee by**
- Rachel Bashevkin & Eric Dunsker
- **To Jay Kaplowitz in honor of his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday by**

- Judy Resnick (Frankel-Mattler

Memorial Fund)

## Liora Lew Endowment for the Advancement of Youth Education and Youth Activities

- Anna VanCleave & Joshua Perry
- To Ari Kaufman-Frankel in honor of his graduation by Ada Fenick & Yair Minsky

## Jon-Jay Tilsen Endowment for the Benefit of BEKI

- Barbara Cushen

## Yahrzeit Fund *to support synagogue operations*

**In Memory of:**

- Beverly Zerwitz Zlotoff by Ron Zlotoff
- Eli Slopak by David Schwartz
- Leonora Tomkins by Bruce Tomkins
- Samuel Zarnes by Robert Sagerman
- Samuel Olmer by Zane Olmer
- Milton Weiner by Joanne & Steve Rudof
- Sophie Granoff by Jeff Granoff
- Sara Oppenheim by Anita & Michael Malina
- Rose Cohen by Doris & Stephen Brody
- Dora Shure by Betsy Shure Gross & Gary Gross
- Sam Kitavitz by Betty Swinkin
- Morris Maltin by Ted Maltin
- Her husband Israel Glazman by Polina Naiman
- Marilyn Levine by Mordy & Elizabeth Levine
- Adolf Hirschdorfer by Tina Swirsky
- Their mother Pearl Small Teplitzky by Bruce & Rhoda Small
- Harry Kabakoff by Marvin Kabakoff
- Ida Weiss by Suzanne Weinstein
- Henry Cohen by Cliff & Donna Cohen
- Estelle Gottfried by Edward & Helene Schnitman Vanderhoef
- Mendel Rosner by Sara-Ann & Hillel Auerbach
- Lois Alper Rosenblatt by the Alper family
- Mordechai Rosmarin by Jessey Palumbo
- Her father Louis Melnick by Marjorie & Jay Hirshfield
- Jack Mendlestein by Rissa Mendlestein
- Diane Margolis by David Margolis
- Louis Margolis by David Margolis

## Facebook Digest Available

Everyone is encouraged to join the [BEKI Facebook group](#). You'll enjoy the humor, community information, and links to cultural opportunities.

For members who do not have a Facebook account but want to see the posts, just email [bulletin@beki.org](mailto:bulletin@beki.org) to request the weekly Facebook digest, sent as one email each Friday.

MICHAEL MARTONE  
MANAGER



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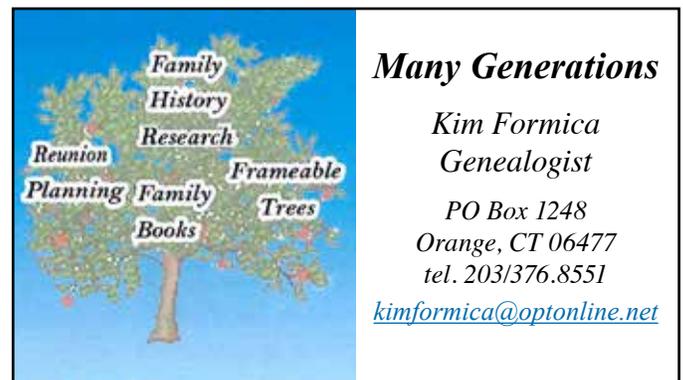


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# What will your Jewish Legacy be?



## Harold Miller Created a Legacy for his Synagogue, BEKI

*"Keser Israel, and now Beth-El Keser Israel ("BEKI), has been my synagogue for my entire life. My grandfather was actually the president of Keser Israel in 1948. I had my Bar Mitzvah at Keser Israel and I was married at BEKI. It is a pleasure for me to make a legacy commitment to this synagogue that has been and continues to be such an important part of my life."*

—Harold

For more info about Create A Jewish Legacy, contact Lisa Stanger, (203) 387-2424 x382, [lstanger@jewishnewhaven.org](mailto:lstanger@jewishnewhaven.org).  
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# GETTING TO KNOW ERIC WOODWARD

One of the things I've come to love about BEKI in the past month has been

how tightly connected the community is. People know each other, not simply as acquaintances, but deeply. As one of the newest members of our community, I want to use the space of these columns this year to give you a chance to get to know me better, sharing things you might not pick up from a sermon or a kiddush conversation. To that end, I plan to share in each issue of the bulletin a few things: to tell you about a book or movie that has meant something to me (explicitly Jewish books are excluded); to share a recipe with you; and to teach a little Torah.

I'll begin with the book: Strunk and White's *The Elements of Style*. In high school, I spent almost all of my free time with our high school newspaper, *The Chronicle*. I lived and breathed for that newspaper, even wearing a white shirt on the days it came out so that the ink would stain it as I lugged bundles of the tabloid-size papers around campus. In eleventh grade, I served as Chief Copy Editor, and that work was my passion. I carried my red pen with me everywhere I went (I was really cool), and would zone out in class by copy-editing the textbook.

My bible for this work was *The Elements of Style*. I loved its teaching and tone, and I lived for its examples of bad writing. (My favorite is the reworking of Thomas Paine to: Soulwise, these are trying times.) Its lessons would stay with me, and I can hear it in my head when I



write. When I arrived in college, I met Katharine my first week. We immediately connected over our love of Strunk and White—we had both been copy editors, though she was much better. I still carry around my old copy of that book, and it's always been a part of my story.

As for food: guacamole. I've been eating guacamole for most of my life, and one of my other treasured possessions is my *abuela's molcajete*, the igneous rock mortar and pestle used for grinding in indigenous (and later Mexican) cooking. A *molcajete* involves two parts—the basin, or *molcajete*, and the pestle tool, called a *tejolote*. It's great for making guacamole, but also for making any other type of food that benefits from the stone-on-stone bruising that releases great flavors, like *sechug*, or salsa.

I am a guacamole purist—no peas, please—but if you must add something, add it as a garnish. Here follows my recipe:

## Rangel-Woodward Family Guacamole

- 1 small or medium clove of garlic, finely minced and smashed with kosher salt
- 2 tablespoons finely minced onion
- 1 serrano or jalapeno chile, finely minced, seeded and deveined if you want less heat
- 3 avocados, perfectly ripe, cored and mashed
- 1 large handful of cilantro, roughly chopped
- Salt to taste
- ¼ teaspoon lime juice, optional, but necessary if the avocados are mediocre

Finely mince the garlic, and then sprinkle with a quarter- to half-teaspoon kosher salt. Mince it more, and then, using the flat side of the knife, mash it into a paste. Bruising the garlic releases its sweetness and takes out its edge; this will mimic the grinding of a

Continued on **Page 14**

### Guacamole

Continued from **Page 13**

*molcajete*. Combine minced garlic with onion, serrano, and half of the cilantro. Stir together and agitate. Halve avocados, discard pits, and spoon flesh into bowl with other ingredients. Using two spoons, mash avocado while mixing with other ingredients, until it is mostly smooth but with some good texture. At this stage, add lime juice if you must, but bear in mind that guacamole should taste like avocado, not lime or garlic. Garnish with finely crumbled salty cheese — feta or cotija — and serve with chips or with hot corn tortillas.

And some Torah: This summer brings us the holidays of the 17<sup>th</sup> of Tammuz and the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av (Tisha BeAv). These are holidays where we commemorate the destruction of the first and second Temples in 586 BCE and 70 CE by fasting and reading the book of Eichah. It always strikes me that the saddest holidays of the Jewish year occur in the middle of the summer. Just as Hanukkah asks us to create light in a time of cold and darkness, Tisha BeAv reminds us that even in a time of sun, there is still loss and suffering in the

world. Tisha BeAv tells us that being a Jew is sometimes about being deeply countercultural, even taking dangerous stands against an oppressive government.

The Talmud in Megilah 13a tells us that Mordekhai, in the story of Purim, is referred to as “Mordekhai ha-Yehudi,” the Jew, because it is a play on “Mordekhai ha-Yechidi,” Mordekhai who stands alone. It continues, in the name of Rabbi Yochanan, “*kol ha-kofer ba-avodah zarah nikra Yehudi*” — anyone who stands up against (literally, commits heresy toward) idol worship is called a Jew. I think this is beautiful; it tells us that the essential Jewish move is a brave opposition to idol worship. What is idol worship? That’s harder to answer, but I think, based on the reference of this story of Mordekhai, that it is not simply considered a religion of idols — it is also a worshipping of power, a bowing-down to Haman.

These sad holidays, involving fasts and other afflictions, feel out of sync with the world around us. But maybe that’s the point. Maybe we’re practicing being able to stand up, being able to differ, being able to create, like Esther or Rep. John Lewis, good trouble. Maybe we ritualize standing up to oppression because sometimes we have to do it. 



**Rangel-Woodward Family Guacamole**

# July 2021

21 Tammuz 5781 - 22 Av 5781

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Mark Your Calendar</b> Sept 6 Erev Rosh HaShanah Sept 7-8 Rosh HaShanah First & Second Day Sept 15 Kol Nidre Sept 16 Yom Kippur Sept 20 Erev Sukkot Sept 27 Hoshana Rabbah Sept 28 Shemini Atzeret & Erev Simḥat Torah Sept 27 Simḥat Torah Oct 8-9 Bat Mitzvah of Aviva Robbins				<b>1</b> 8:15am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  21 Tammuz	<b>2</b> 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 6:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat & Zoom Service 8:11pm Candle Lighting  22 Tammuz	<b>3</b> 9:15am Shabbat Service (Sanctuary) 10:45am Children's Havura, K-2 Kehila & Junior Congregation  23 Tammuz
<b>4</b> 9:00am Courtyard & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  24 Tammuz	<b>5</b> Office Closed/Independence Day Observed 9:00am Chapel & Zoom Service (Federal Holiday Service Time) 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  25 Tammuz	<b>6</b> 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  26 Tammuz	<b>7</b> 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  27 Tammuz	<b>8</b> 8:15am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  28 Tammuz	<b>9</b> 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 6:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Chapel & Zoom Service 8:09pm Candle Lighting  29 Tammuz	<b>10</b> Rosh Hodesh Itamar Lebowitz Bar Mitzva 9:15am Shabbat Service (Sanctuary) 10:45am Children's Havura, K-2 Kehila, Junior Congregation Kiddush: Lebowitz Family  1 Av
<b>11</b> 9:00am Courtyard & Zoom Service 10:00am Drive-By Food Drive 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  2 Av	<b>12</b> 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  3 Av	<b>13</b> 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  4 Av	<b>14</b> 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  5 Av	<b>15</b> 8:15am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  6 Av	<b>16</b> 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 6:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Courtyard & Zoom Service 8:06pm Candle Lighting  7 Av	<b>17</b> 9:15am Shabbat Service (Sanctuary) 10:45am Children's Havura, K-2 Kehila, Junior Congregation 1:00pm Tour of Garden of Healing 9:20pm Tisha BeAv Service  8 Av
<b>18</b> Fast of Tisha B'Av 9:00am Courtyard & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  9 Av	<b>19</b> 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  10 Av	<b>20</b> 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  11 Av	<b>21</b> 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service 7:00pm Kumsitz (BEKI Courtyard)  12 Av	<b>22</b> 8:15am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service 7:00pm Kumsitz Rain Date  13 Av	<b>23</b> 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 6:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Chapel & Zoom 8:00pm Candle Lighting  14 Av	<b>24</b> Tu B'Av 9:15am Shabbat Service (Sanctuary) 10:45am Children's Havura, K-2 Kehila, Junior Congregation  15 Av
<b>25</b> 9:00am Courtyard & Zoom Service 5:00pm Jewish Community Summer Picnic & Film 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  16 Av	<b>26</b> 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  17 Av	<b>27</b> 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  18 Av	<b>28</b> 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service 7:00pm Elm City Winds Quintet Concert - BEKI Courtyard  19 Av	<b>29</b> 8:15am Chapel & Zoom Service 5:00pm BEKI Art Committee - Deadline for Submissions 5:45pm Chapel & Zoom Service  20 Av	<b>30</b> 7:00am Chapel & Zoom Service 6:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Chapel & Zoom 7:54pm Candle Lighting  21 Av	<b>31</b> 9:15am Shabbat Service (Sanctuary) 10:45am Children's Havura, K-2 Kehila, Junior Congregation 1:00pm Rain Date-Tour of Garden of Healing  22 Av

## Service Times

Sundays	Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays	Saturdays
9 am Shaharit 5:45 pm Maariv	7 am Shaharit 5:45 pm Maariv	7 am Shaharit 5:45 pm Maariv	7 am Shaharit 5:45 pm Maariv	8:15 am Shaharit 5:45 pm Maariv	7 am Shaharit 6 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	9:30 am Shaharit



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## BEKI Service Schedule

### BEKI Services for July are all in-person!

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Sunday 9:00 am (outdoors *) | Wednesday 5:45 pm                              |
| Sunday 5:45 pm              | Thursday 8:15 am                               |
| Monday 7:00 am              | Thursday 5:45 pm                               |
| Monday 5:45 pm              | Friday 7:00 am                                 |
| Tuesday 7:00 am             | Friday 6:00 pm (outdoors 3rd Shabbat in July*) |
| Tuesday 5:45 pm             | Saturday 9:15 am                               |
| Wednesday 7:00 am           |  |

\* Weather permitting

All services are also available on Zoom, except the Saturday morning Shabbat service. When we are indoors, masks are optional for vaccinated people; unvaccinated people over age 2 should be masked. For the latest information on services, check Happenings or email [bekitefilla@gmail.com](mailto:bekitefilla@gmail.com)

### Save a Tree and Save a Stamp

Contact the BEKI office if you would like to receive your monthly yahrzeit notices and/or monthly statements via email rather than snail mail; [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org) or 203-389-2108 x114