



PESAH AT BEKI

Selling of Hametz

During the eight days of Pesah (Passover), it is forbidden for Jews to eat or own edible hametz. Hametz is any product containing wheat, barley, oats, spelt or rye that has not been especially prepared kosher for Pesah. Ideally, one physically disposes of all hametz by the morning before Pesah. In order to be sure that this has taken place, or to avoid the loss of expensive hametz such as liquor, you can sell your hametz for the period of Pesah. If you would like to authorize Rabbi Tilsen to sell your hametz to someone who is allowed to own it, please sign and return the form available at <http://www.beki.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/hametz.pdf> and in the literature rack. The form is a power of attorney allowing Rabbi Tilsen to sell your hametz for you.

KINAHARA: Kosher for Pesah

The Rabbinical Assembly's Pesah Guide is available at <http://rabbinicalassembly.org/pesah-guide>.

Hagadot and Seder Plates at Giftshop

Hagadot (do-it-yourself guide and service books) for Pesah, including the Rabbinical Assembly's Passover Haggadah: The Feast of Freedom, are available at the Sisterhood Giftshop and wherever fine Judaica is sold. The Giftshop also offers a significant collection of decorative seder plates and other Pesah supplies (such as toy frogs).

Bediqat Hametz & Biur Hametz

On the night of Thursday April 2, it is customary to perform Bediqat Hametz, the final check for leaven before Passover. This procedure can be done as a spiritual or fun ritual with children or adults. On the next morning, Friday April 3,

it is customary to perform Biur Hametz, a final "search and destroy" mission for leaven, to insure compliance with the rule against possessing or eating hametz during the festival. Instructions for Bediqat Hametz and Biur Hametz can be found in most Hagadot, including the Rabbinical Assembly's Passover Haggadah: The Feast of Freedom. Hametz should not be eaten after 10:19 on Friday morning; hametz should be burned before 11:37 a.m.

Siyyum Bekhorot: Feast or Famine

The Fast of the First Born is Friday April 3, the morning before the first seder. Firstborn who attend the Friday morning service from 7 to 7:35 may conclude their fast by partaking of the seudat mitzva (obligatory feast) celebrating a siyyum, the conclusion of a study project. Services and siyyum will end by 8:05 a.m. All may attend and participate in the siyyum and mini-seuda.

Let All Who Are Hungry...

The Seder of Pesah is a wonderful opportunity to welcome others into our homes. Our congregation comprises many people who may not have extended family locally, do not have Jewish relatives, are new to the area, or who otherwise would benefit greatly from a Seder invitation. If you are able to open your Seder to additional guests, please contact Rabbi Tilsen at your earliest opportunity at jttilsen@beki.org. If you are able to host an adult who is a mental health services consumer or who has developmental disabilities, or would like to host another guest, please contact Special Outreach Coordinator Ina Silverman (203) 389-2108 x13 or principal@beki.org.

Benefit Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel

Ask us about
establishing a fund, trust or annuity
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Charitable giving strengthens our Community
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Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven



All of us. One Foundation.

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: jjtilsen@beki.org
- Visit our web page: www.beki.org

For advertising information, call the synagogue office.

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

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A Message from Rabbi Tilsen & Dear Rabbi
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If you are buying items from Amazon and use the link on BEKI's [home page beki.org](http://home.beki.org) (bottom) then BEKI will receive a small commission on the sale at no cost to you. Bookmark our link.



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Pesah

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Community Second Seder at TBS

Temple Beth Sholom in Hamden is hosting the Masorti-Conservative Community Second Seder open to the public on the second night of Passover, Saturday night April 4.

For reservations (required) and information, contact Temple Beth Sholom (203) 288-7748 bethsholomhamden@aol.com. People needing help with transportation are asked to call (203) 288-7748.

Special Service Times for Pesah

Because the first night of Pesah coincides with Shabbat, we have a special schedule this year. Services Friday night April 3 are 6 to 6:40 p.m.

Shabbat Festival morning service is 9:15 to noon on Shabbat April 4. The minha afternoon service is 1:05 to 1:40 p.m. in the Beit Midrash. Evening services that night, the night of the second seder, will not be held at BEKI.

Festival morning services on Sunday April 5 are 9:15 to 11:30, and afternoon and evening services are 5:45 to 6:15.

Hol HaMoed: The Intermediate Days

While we observe the two initial and two final days of Pesah as major holidays, which include most of the restrictions on melakha ("work") followed on Shabbat, the intermediate days are observed as semi-holidays. Ideally, one avoids or minimizes melakha during this period as well, but in our setting most observant Jews simply go to work or school as usual. Melakha is a technical rabbinic term used to define the set of actions that are prohibited on the Sabbath Day, based on the 39 categories of acts involved in creating the Temple, which is the Biblical context in which the term is used.

On the festival days (hag), tefillin are not worn, but on Hol HaMoed it is common to wear tefillin in the morning until after the amida and to remove them before Hallel. (Others omit tefillin altogether in this period.) During Hol HaMoed, as in the entire month of Nisan, the Tahanun (supplication) is omitted in the daily services. Hallel and musaf are recited daily, and the passage Ya'ale veYavo is included in the amida and in Birkat haMazon (grace after meals).

The prohibition against possessing and eating hametz remains in force. One should seek to make the period celebratory. In the idyllic future, the period should be a general public holiday when all can skip work without concern for income or security.

Pesah Candle Lighting

The first night of Passover is Friday night April 3; candle lighting in New Haven is at 7 p.m. For the second night, candle lighting should be after 8 p.m. (an hour later). Because it is not permitted to strike matches on the Festival days, our practice is to light a flame before the festival begins that will burn at least 26 hours, and to use that flame to light the Pesah candles the second night.

Candle lighting for the seventh day, Thursday night April 9, is at 7:07 p.m. or earlier, and on Shabbat (Friday) night April 10 at 7:08 p.m.

Shir HaShirim – Song of Songs

The Biblical love poetry of Shir HaShirim - Song of Songs will be read on the morning of Shabbat Pesah April 11 after the haftara reading. Tradition ascribes the work to King Solomon himself, writing 2,900 years ago. Celebrate the spring holiday of Pesah with this beautiful and moving reading.

Sefira – Counting the Omer

At the second Seder (Saturday night April 4), we begin daily sefirat ha-omer (counting of the omer), a counting of days to Shavuot, the next major festival. The counting, preferably done each night for 49 nights, is an expression of eager anticipation, commemorating the period of expectation and preparation we experienced in the Exodus from Egypt until the revelation at Sinai.

The simple home ceremony is printed in most siddurim (prayer books), including Sim Shalom, immediately after the weekday evening service. While it is a mitzva prescribed for adults, sefirat ha-omer can also be a fun, artistic and joyous ritual for families with children.

In the days before printed calendars, calendar watches and daily newspapers, the sefira served to keep the liturgical calendar of the Jewish People synchronized, no simple accomplishment, given the dispersion and isolation of much of the community. The term omer refers to the measure (one handful) of grain that was used to create a physical relic of the counting. With a physical reminder, even illiterate people could do a recount in case they forgot the day's number.

Families with young children may use this opportunity to help their children understand and experience anticipation, planning, counting and hope.

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Pesah

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Teach us to number our days, that we may attain a heart of wisdom

– Psalm 90:12

Yizkor Memorial Service

The Yizkor Memorial Service will be held during the 9:15a Shabbat Festival morning service on April 11. The Festival service includes a Shaharit morning service, Hallel (Psalms of praise), a Torah reading and Haftara, and the Musaf additional service, and concludes by 12:15p. The Yizkor memorial service is one of four such services during the year that help us recognize our feelings of loss, which are often especially intense during the Pesah season, and to honor the memories of our loved ones.

Yom HaShoah – Holocaust Memorial Day

Yom HaShoah, a memorial day for the hurban, the destruction of Jewish civilization in Europe, will be observed on Wednesday night April 15 and Thursday April 16.

Sisterhood is selling yellow Holocaust memorial candles this year. Candles may be purchased from the Sisterhood Giftshop on Sundays 11 a.m. to noon when Religious School is in session, or call Mimi Glenn (203) 397-3851 any other time.

Yom HaZikaron, Yom HaAtzmaut

Yom HaZikaron, Israeli Memorial Day, is observed Tuesday April 21 and Wednesday April 22; Yom HaAtzmaut, Israel Independence Day, is observed on Wednesday night April 22 and Thursday April 23. These back-to-back holidays recognize the combination of suffering and joy, of sacrifice and achievement that often necessarily come together in our lives. All of these days are marked liturgically in public worship at BEKI.

Purim Round-Up

Thank you to all those who helped with the Purim Seuda: Thank yous: Food and Clean-up: Jennifer Myer, Sherri Rothman, Margie Wiener, Gloria Cohen, Dina Secchiaroli; Decorations: Liora Lew; Meet and Greet: Mark Oppenheimer; Singalong: Isaiah Cooper and Alice Kosowsky and Helene Sapadin and Noam Benson-Tilsen; Face Painting: Nicole Korda; Arts & Crafts: Beth Weintraub; Shpiel: Rabbi Tilsen, Gadiel Robbins, Seth Rosenthal, Jon Hayward, Tova Benson-Tilsen, Noam Benson-Tilsen, Guido Secchiaroli; BEKI Bulletin, Special Edition: Rebecca Weiner; Registration Table: Noam Benson-Tilsen and Eitan Hirshfield; Staff: Peggy and Clarence.



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA RUBIN

המקום ינחם

HaMaqom Yinahem

With sorrow we note the passing of

Sanford Kuvín, father of Michele Kuvín (& Gary) Kupfer

William “Bill” Hallo, husband of Nanette Stahl

Gladys Kane, mother of Rabbi Steven Kane

May the Almighty comfort those who mourn



Bill Hallo

Welcome New Members & Their Families

- Ivan Alvarez & Cynthia Wooding-Alvarez and Caleb
- Iris & Naftali Kaminski and Ayelet

Mazal Tov

Mazal Tov to Rafi Prober on successfully leading a six-year campaign to secure reparations for several thousand families and survivors of French Jews and others transported to the Nazi death camps by the French National Railroad. This led to a treaty signed in December 2014 between the U.S. and France, in which France agreed to pay \$60 million on behalf of their railroad.

Benei Mitzva

Benjamin Goldstein, son of Daniel Goldstein & Grace Jenq, April 24-25, *parashiyot Tazria – Metsora*.

Sisterhood

Passover... Pesah

On the first two nights of Pesah we conduct a seder by stepping into the Hagada that brings us back centuries in time, and makes us stand at Egypt, each one of us...at Egypt and Sinai...we were there. We still stand and remember our exile out of Egypt. With courage and determination to the promised land.

Thinking back I thought of Natan Sharansky who stood before the Soviet court and said,

“I am happy. I am happy that I lived honestly, in peace with my conscience.

I never compromised my soul, even under the threat of death. I am happy that I helped people. I am proud that I knew and worked with such brave and courageous souls as Sakhrov, Orlov, and Ginsburg, who are carrying on the traditions of the



Mimi Glenn

liberation of Russia’s Jews. For more than 2,000 years, the Jewish people, my people, have been dispersed. But wherever they are, wherever Jews are found, each year they have repeated, ‘Next year in Jerusalem.’ Now when I am further than ever from my people, from my Avital, facing many arduous years of imprisonment, I say, turning to my people, my Avital, ‘Next year in Jerusalem.’”

But now, he too is home, he and his people, our people, looking to a future where they can make their homes wherever they choose.

Sisterhood extends a wish of a happy and Kosher Passover to the BEKI community.

Special Stipend

We are offering a stipend to BEKI students in grades 8-12 from the Marcel Gutman scholarship fund. You can find an application form at www.beki.org under “Resources/Forms” or in the literature rack in the lobby. For more information contact Peggy in the office.

BEKI to Host Torah Scholars

The BEKI programming committee is thrilled to be bringing two weekends of Torah study to BEKI in May.

On May 1-3 we are hosting Judy Klitsner, a senior faculty member at Pardes in Jerusalem, for a full weekend of study at BEKI. With support from a generous donor, most of the weekend will be free of charge for participants.

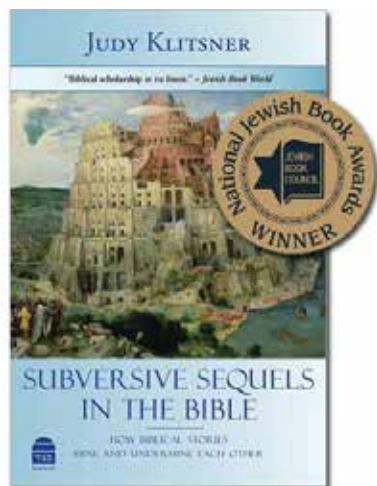
Judy Klitsner has taught Bible and biblical exegesis for two decades and is a popular international speaker whose lectures abound with original insights based on her close reading of text. She is the author of "Subversive Sequels in the



Judy Klitsner

Bible: How Biblical Stories Mine and Undermine Each Other."

Ms. Klitsner will speak at BEKI on Friday May 1 following Qabbalat Shabbat services and a communal Shabbat dinner. She will join us on Saturday May 2 for more learning, following Shabbat services and a festive Kiddush lunch. In addition, our own Tani Cohen-Fraade



(son of BEKI members Steven Fraade and Ellen Cohen), a Jewish educator in Brooklyn and one of Judy's former students at Pardes, will lead a special program for teens on Saturday afternoon. We will conclude the weekend with a Sunday brunch at which Judy will speak again and will be available to sign copies of her book, which will be available for purchase.

But wait, there's more

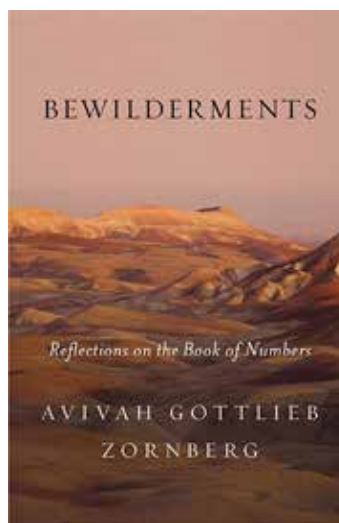
Two weeks later on May 15-17, along with Congregation B'Nai Jacob and Westville Synagogue, with support from the Jewish Federation of New Haven, the BEKI community will host internationally renowned Torah scholar, Dr. Avivah Zornberg.

Zornberg was born in London and grew up in Glasgow, Scotland, where her father was a Rabbi and the head of the Rabbinical Court. She studied with him from childhood. She holds a BA and PhD in English Literature from Cambridge University. After teaching English literature at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, she turned to teaching Torah.

For the past thirty years, she has taught Torah in Jerusalem at Matan, Yakar, Pardes and the Jerusalem College for Adults. She has written a number of books; the most recent one published this spring, is "Bewilderments: Reflections on the Book of Numbers."



Avivah Zornberg



Dr. Zornberg will speak on Friday night May 15 at Westville Synagogue and on the morning of Sunday May 17 at Congregation B'nai Jacob.

On Saturday May 18, following Shabbat services and Kiddush lunch she will speak at BEKI. Her topic will be "Am I a stranger? Becoming Ruth," in which she will explore the process by which Ruth finds her way into a foreign and unfamiliar culture and religious tradition. She will also explore the question, "How does destiny come about?"

For more information about Dr. Zornberg, see this article by Beth Kissileff in Tablet magazine's March 9 on-line issue. <http://tabletmag.com/jewish-life-and-religion/189474/avivah-zornberg-numbers>

Please look for detailed information about both programs in the mail and on BEKI's website. Many of the sessions will be free and all are open to the public, so spread the word to friends beyond our community who might be interested.

Solar 2015 Update

The project to install a grid-tied photovoltaic solar array on the classroom wing and social hall roofs is underway. The engineering studies have been completed and equipment is being ordered. In April and May the system will be assembled and wired. When completed, the arrays will be providing for more than half of our electric use, thereby reducing our use of fossil fuels and lessening our demand on the grid – and reducing our electric bill. The new Solar Array at BEKI will reduce our carbon release by 30 metric tons per year for 25 years (based on the EPA model). If you would like to be a major donor, or if you want to help or know more, contact Yaron Lew yaronl@aol.com or Rabbi Tilsen jjtilsen@beki.org or Andy Hirshfield president@beki.org.

Elders of Zion

All Welcome – Of Special Interest to Elders. Learn Lunch. Schmooze. All programs begin at 10:30a followed by lunch; reservation required.

Monday **April 13**, Professor Rob Forbes: “All Men Are Created Equal?”

Monday **April 20**, Shai Silverman: “Issues in Medical Ethics.”

Monday **April 27**, Dr. Morris Bell: “Your Brain, Part 2.”

Monday **May 4**, Donna Levine, Esq., “Estate Planning, Part 2.”

For reservation contact Ina Silverman at principal@beki.org (203) 389-2108 x13. Will you need a taxi from the Towers?



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA RUBIN

Havdala Yoga at BEKI

Kadima

BEKI-BJ USY Kadima had a fun and busy end of the winter season. In February, Kadima members celebrated Tu BeShevat by making recyclable crafts and eating a Tu BeShevat-themed seder. At the end of February, Kadima members took to the hills and went snow-tubing at Powder Ridge Mountain. In March, Kadimaniks went to an overnight Regional event, Kadima Kallah, at Camp Ramah in Palmer, Mass.

This month, Kadimaniks will be celebrating Pesach and Yom HaAtzmaut in style. Ideas include a Pesach-themed Capture-the-Flag game and a Sing-Off Style Yom HaAtzmaut event in which Kadimaniks will learn Israeli songs.

Kadima is for Jewish middle-schoolers, from 5th-8th grade, regardless of synagogue affiliation. Please contact Stefan Kostolitz, BEKI-BJ Kadima Advisor, at bekibjkadima@gmail.com for more information about events and membership.



Stefan Kostolitz

USY

The BEKI-BJ USY Chapter held a successful Iron Chef event at the end of March. Teams of USYers cooked color-themed dishes – red, blue, yellow, and green – for a panel of judges. Who knew teenagers could be such talented chefs?

This month, USYers are collaborating on a Jewish Federation Event called “Break the Hate: The New Anti-Semitism on College Campus.” The event will address different forms of anti-Semitism in college and strategies Jewish teens can use to react to it. The event is on Sunday April 12 at the JCC from 2-4:30 p.m.

In the beginning of May, the USYers are planning their Annual Limousine Scavenger Hunt. Be on the lookout for more information.

The USYers continue to meet on Tuesday evenings at B’nai Jacob from 6 - 8:30 p.m. for Lounge Nights. Dates include April 7, April 21, May 5, May 19, June 2 and 9.

Stefan Kostolitz

BEKI BJ Youth Coordinator (203) 213-1067

bekibjusy@gmail.com

bekibjkadima@gmail.com

www.bekibjkadimausy.blogspot.com



Snow-tubing at Powder Ridge Mountain.

Shabbatot (Saturdays)

דַּרְשָׁנִים

Darshanim

Darshan – *noun, plural dar·sha·nim.* Judaism. a preacher or teacher of Aggadah or Halakha in a synagogue.

Rabbi Tilsen has invited the following speakers to serve as guest Darshanim in the coming weeks:

Ben Goldstein, bar mitzva, will serve as darshan on Shabbat Parashat Tazria-Metsora April 25.

Matthew Silverman, bar mitzva, will serve as darshan on Shabbat Parashat Emor May 9.

Ari Gad, bar mitzva, will serve as darshan on Shabbat Parashat Naso May 30.



Matthew Silverman

Shabbat Shalom Torah Study

The Shabbat Shalom Torah Study meets every other Saturday morning at 10:45 in the office and is an ideal setting for veteran and novice shul-goers alike to explore the scriptural readings and liturgy of the day in a supportive setting. Expertly led by Steven Fraade, with Rabbi Alan Lovins, Rabbi Murray Levine, Nadav Sela, Isaiah Cooper and others, the Shabbat Shalom Torah Study 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 Torah reading, Haftara (Prophetic reading) and liturgy.

The program often focuses on the scriptural readings, but also addresses the prayer liturgy and other topics related to the liturgical calendar, scriptural readings or current issues of concern.

Everyone is welcome to participate regardless of religious status or background. It is suitable for mature, or at least well-behaved, youth along with adults.



Steven Fraade



Alan Lovins



Nadav Sela

Mondays

Rashi Study Group: Shemuel

Each Monday morning from 7:45 to 8:30 adults meet in the Library Chapel to read Rashi's commentary on the TaNaKh (Hebrew Bible). The Rashi Study Group (RSG) has begun the Book of Shemuel

(Samuel). Characters in the narrative include the Prophet Samuel, King Saul and King David, Mikhal, Batsheva, and more. It is possible to join the study group for a single meeting or to begin at any time.

Knowledge of Hebrew is not necessary. Rashi purported to explain the peshat of the text, i.e., the meaning in its historical, literary and linguistic context. Visitors and new participants are welcome. Hebrew and English texts are available. The RSG meets immediately following the 7 a.m. shaharit service. With Jon-Jay Tilsen.



Jon-Jay Tilsen

Wednesdays

Hebrew Word of the Week

The Wednesday morning service (shaharit) features a 180-second "Hebrew word of the Week" to promote the learning of Hebrew. The Hebrew language is highly structured. Most words are based on three-letter roots, and are made with a limited set of verb or noun forms. By learning a few dozen roots and a small set of word-forms, it is possible to roughly translate Hebrew words isolated from any context, something less often possible in English. The Word of the Week often relates to the weekly scriptural readings, enhancing personal study and public Torah discussion.

Rabbis' Study Group

Wednesdays with Murray is a weekly study group exclusively for rabbis, facilitated by Rabbi Murray Levine. The Wednesday study group affords local rabbis an opportunity to pursue their own talmud torah (Torah study) in a "safe" setting and with opportunities to learn from each other's experience and insight. The study group meets Wednesday mornings in the Rosenkrantz Family Library. For more information, call Rabbi Murray Levine at (203) 397-2513.



Murray Levine

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Adult Studies

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Thursdays

Mini Morning Learning Service

The Thursday morning services are supplemented with commentary and teaching relating to the history, themes, choreography and language of the daily morning service. Shahrar service is from 8:15 to 9:15 on Thursdays; on other weekdays, the service begins at 7 a.m.

Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group

The Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group meets on Thursdays during the lunch hour (noon to 1). The Group has met weekly since 1999. For some participants, this is their first direct experience with Talmud text; for others, it is a continuation of a long journey. The Group focuses on the issues raised in the Talmud, with less attention to the tech-

nical aspects of the text. Knowledge of Hebrew or Aramaic is helpful but not required.



Isaiah Cooper

The Talmud, based on an oral text, has no beginning or end. One can begin study at any point; now is the best time. The Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group meets in BEKI's Rosenkrantz Family Library. For information, contact Isaiah Cooper at his law office icooper@cooperlaw.net.

The Sanhedrin Study Group will not meet on April 2.

Every Day

Divrei Torah on the Web

A collection of Divrei Torah (Torah commentaries) and essays by members and Rabbi Tilsen is posted on BEKI's website under "Learning."



Contributions

Rabbi's Tzedaka Fund

- Albert Friedman with condolences to Alan Abramovitz & Family and in memory of Sally Abramovitz
- Harriet Friedman, Charlie Bruce and Family with condolences to Alan Abramovitz & Family and in memory of Sally Abramovitz
- Terri & Adam Patkin in memory of Sally Abramovitz
- Betsy Ratner in appreciation to the Hesed Committee, the Sisterhood and friends in remembering Cindy Gimbel Baybick and marking the yahrzeit of Nancy Gimbel
- Albert Friedman in appreciation
- Karen Kassap and family for selling hamets
- Sharon & Dan Prober for selling hamets
- Albert Friedman for selling hamets
- David Schwartz for selling hamets
- Gloria Cohen for selling hamets
- Rabbi Murray Levine for selling hamets
- Alan Lovins & Trish Loving with condolences to Rabbi Steven Kane & Family on the passing of mother Gladys Kane
- Rachel Light & Jonathan Freiman for selling of hamets
- Natan & Lori Weinstein for selling of hamets
- Natan & Lori Weinstein marking the yahrzeit of Genia Weinstein
- Dana & Marty Kline wishing refua shelema to Steve Rudof

- Alan Abramovitz for selling of hamets
- Rabbi Richard & Judy Eisenberg for selling of hamets
- Bill & Eva Shragis for selling of hamets
- Barbara Cushen for selling of hamets
- Jonathan Freiman & Rachel Light for selling of hamets
- Harold & Stephanie Birn for selling of hamets
- Jay & Lynn Brotman for selling of hamets
- Bud & Mickey Chorney for selling of hamets
- Joanne Foodim & Robert Forbes for selling of hamets
- Donna Kemper & Ron Zlotoff marking the first yahrzeit of Sydney Kemper
- Dennis Curtis & Judith Resnik in memory of Hugh Curtis
- Judith Resnik & Dennis Curtis in memory of Dorothy Resnik
- Irwin & Esther Nash for selling of hamets
- Stephen & Rachel Wizner for selling of hamets
- Tamar Edelkind for selling of hamets
- Sarah Serkin for selling of hamets
- Moshe Meiri for selling of hamets
- Howard Gralla & Linda Schultz for selling of hamets
- Evelyn Benson for selling of hamets
- Rachel Bashevkin for selling of

- hamets
- Elma Guttenberg, and Lisa & David Weiss for selling of hamets
- Albert Friedman in appreciation
- Barbara & Dennis Rader for selling of hamets
- Michael Winter & Ellen Mackler for selling of hamets
- Betty & Art Levy for selling of hamets

Qiddush Sponsors (minimum \$280)

- The Herbst family
- Shula Chernoff
- The Hakakian-Ahmadi family
- The Myer-Kempton family
- Mimi & Effi Glenn
- Susan Jacobson

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

- To Steve Rudof with wishes for a speedy recovery by Steve & Rachel Wizner
- To Betsy Ratner with sympathy on the passing of Cynthia Gimbel Baybick by Joanne Foodim & Rob Forbes
- To Betsy Ratner with sympathy on the passing of Cynthia Gimbel Baybick by Steve & Rachel Wizner
- To Betsy Ratner with sympathy on the passing of Cynthia Gimbel

- Baybick by Sherry Kent
- To Ed & Rhoda Lemkin with sympathy on the passing of Alan Lemkin by Carl Goldfield & Gaylord Bourne
- To Ed & Rhoda Lemkin with sympathy on the passing of Alan Lemkin by David, Wendy & Marlee Chorney
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by David, Wendy & Marlee Chorney
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by Joanne Foodim & Rob Forbes
- To Jim Berger & Jennifer Klein and family with sympathy on the passing of Jean Berger by Joanne Foodim & Rob Forbes
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by David, Wendy & Marlee Chorney
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by the Avni-Singer family
- To Jim Berger & Jennifer Klein and family with sympathy on the passing of Jean Berger by Rhoda Zahler Samuel & Al Samuel
- To Betsy Ratner with sympathy on the passing of Cynthia Gimbel Baybick by Rhoda Zahler Samuel & Al Samuel

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- To Betsy Ratner with sympathy on the passing of Cynthia Gimbel Baybick by Morris Bell & Raina Sotsky
- To Jim Berger & Jennifer Klein and family with sympathy on the passing of Jean Berger by Morris Bell & Raina Sotsky
- To Jim Berger & Jennifer Klein and family with sympathy on the passing of Jean Berger by Rachel Lovins & Andrew Hogan
- To Jim Berger & Jennifer Klein and family with sympathy on the passing of Jean Berger by Jessey & Joe Palumbo
- To Betsy Ratner with sympathy on the passing of Cynthia Gimbel Baybick by Jessey & Joe Palumbo
- To Jim Berger & Jennifer Klein and family with sympathy on the passing of Jean Berger by Willa & Howard Needler
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by Rita & Nadav Sela
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by Rachel Light & Jonathan Freiman
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by Joanne & David Goldblum and family
- To Betsy Ratner with sympathy on the passing of Cynthia Gimbel Baybick by Sherry Kent
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by Harriet and Richard Kantrowitz & Sherry Kent
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by Charlie Ludwig
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by Steven Fraade & Ellen Cohen
- To Jim Berger & Jennifer Klein and family with sympathy on the passing of Jean Berger by Steven Fraade & Ellen Cohen
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by Lloyd Friedman & Kai Yang and family
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by Bobbie & Harold Miller
- To Jim Berger & Jennifer Klein and family with sympathy on the passing of Jean Berger by Steve & Rachel Wizner
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally

- Abramovitz by Stuart Miller
- To BEKI with sincere thanks for the use of the parking lot during the extreme weather conditions by the Providers & Staff of Generations OB/Gyn
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by Terri & Adam Patkin
- To Jim Berger & Jennifer Klein and family with sympathy on the passing of Jean Berger by the Marx & Schonberger family
- To Jim Berger & Jennifer Klein and family with sympathy on the passing of Jean Berger by Anne & Robert Klee
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by Leon Cummings
- To Ed & Rhoda Lemkin with sympathy on the passing of Alan Lemkin by Irvin & Barbara Schapiro
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by Jessey & Joe Palumbo
- To Steve & Joanne Rudof with sympathy on the passing of Ruth Savitt by Jessey & Joe Palumbo

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

- To Steve Rudof with wishes for a speedy recovery by David & Darryl Kuperstock
- To Betsy Ratner with sympathy on the passing of Cynthia Gimbel Baybick by David & Darryl Kuperstock
- To Ed & Rhoda Lemkin with sympathy on the passing of Alan Lemkin by David & Darryl Kuperstock
- To Ed & Rhoda Lemkin with sympathy on the passing of Alan Lemkin by Barbara & Dennis Rader
- To Jim Berger & Jennifer Klein and family with sympathy on the passing of Jean Berger by David & Darryl Kuperstock
- To Betsy Ratner with sympathy on the passing of Cynthia Gimbel Baybick by Julie Cohen & Larry Visochek
- To Jim Berger & Jennifer Klein and family with sympathy on the passing of Jean Berger by Julie Cohen & Larry Visochek
- To Judy Hayward with sympathy on the passing of Elizabeth Mohr by Julie Cohen & Larry Visochek
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by Dan & Sharon Prober and family
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by Julie Cohen & Larry Visochek

- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by David & Darryl Kuperstock
- To Betsy Ratner with sympathy on the passing of Cynthia Gimbel Baybick by Mimi & Effi Glenn
- To Ivan & Rita Sachs with sympathy on the passing of Marvin Sachs by Mimi & Effi Glenn
- To Ed & Rhoda Lemkin with sympathy on the passing of Alan Lemkin by Linda & Herbert Greengas
- To Betsy Ratner with sympathy on the passing of Cynthia Gimbel Baybick by Leon Cummings
- To Judy Hayward with sympathy on the passing of Elizabeth Mohr by Leon Cummings
- To Judy Hayward with sympathy on the passing of Elizabeth Mohr by the Lettick family
- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by the Lettick family

BEKI Religious School

- To Helene Sapadin with sympathy on the passing of Blanche Sapadin by Steve & Louis Schuman and family
- To Betsy Ratner with sympathy on the passing of Cynthia Gimbel Baybick by Ina Silverman & Jay Sokolow
- To Helene Sapadin with sympathy on the passing of Blanche Sapadin by Donna Kemper and Ron Zlotoff
- To Jim Berger & Jennifer Klein and family with sympathy on the passing of Jean Berger by Jay Sokolow & Ina Silverman
- To Helene Sapadin with sympathy on the passing of Blanche Sapadin by Mimi & Efi Glenn
- To Ina Silverman with sympathy on the passing of Eunice Silverman by Mimi & Efi Glenn

The Ari Nathan Levine Children's Library Fund

- To the Abramovitz family with sympathy on the passing of Sally Abramovitz by Donna & Sid Levine

The Harold & Arthur Ratner Memorial Fund

- In memory of their father Murray E. Kahn by Richard & Michael Kahn
- In memory of their aunt Evelyn Kahn by Richard & Michael Kahn

Yahrzeit Fund to support synagogue operations

- In memory of Beatrice Siegel by Michael Siegel
- In loving memory of her mother Eunice S. Rogoff by Eileen S.

- Rogoff
- In memory of Abraham Goldman by Judy & Martin Shore
- In memory of Anita Palmer by Marsha & John Reynolds
- In memory of Seymour Snyder by Irwin & Zelda Snyder
- In memory of Moses Ray by Barbara & Dennis Rader
- In memory of Gertrude Slopak by David Schwartz
- In memory of Rubin Schwartz by David Schwartz
- In memory of Rose & Max Rogoff by Ann Rogoff
- In memory of Sam Rogoff by Ann Rogoff
- In memory of Ida Rogoff Byer by Ann Rogoff
- In memory of her father Samuel Kantrowitz by Sherry Kent
- In memory of Saul Ripps by Ronald Ripps
- In memory of Abraham Goldman by Judy & Martin Shore
- In memory of Morris Oppenheim by Michael & Anita Malina
- In memory of their beloved father Harry A. Jacobson by Susan E. Jacobson & Stuart A. Jacobson
- In memory of their beloved mother Rebecca Govrin Jacobson by Susan E. Jacobson & Stuart A. Jacobson
- In memory of Annie Cohen by Ted Maltin
- In memory of her husband Sidney Cushen by Barbara Cushen
- In memory of Ben Siegel by Debbie & Lou Siegel
- In memory of Ronda Bromberg by Debbie & Lou Siegel
- In memory of James J. Barnett by Caroline Barnett
- In memory of Joseph Gimple by Sidney Gimple
- In memory of Sam Miller by Rich Miller
- In memory of Sam Miller by Howard Miller
- In memory of Wilbur Witten by Marvin & Susan Witten
- In memory of Lillian Chorney by Mickey & Bud Chorney
- In memory of Siegfried Gesund by Hans & Irmgard Gesund
- In memory of Lillie Stern by Barbara & Murray Akresh
- In memory of William Miller by Bobbie & Harold Miller
- In memory of Morris Baer by Irving D. Baer
- In memory of her parents Lester & Charlotte Isenberg by Janis Isenberg
- In memory of Rose Jason by Marcia Geier
- In memory of Philip Abramowitz by Marcia & John Gell
- In memory of her father Saul "Sonny" Hennes by Sheila Dubak
- In memory of Rose Witten by Marvin & Susan Witten



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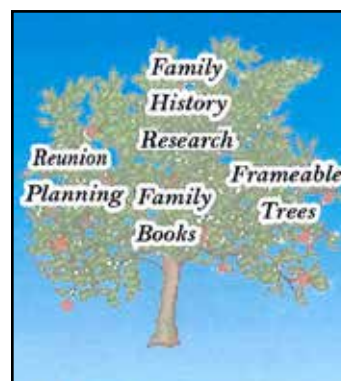
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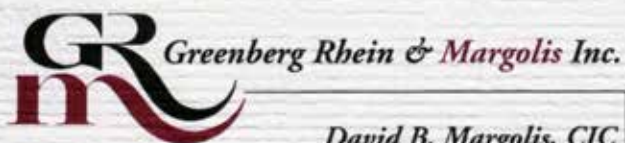


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IS ISRAEL GOING DOWN THE TUBES?

“Pathetic Earthlings! Nothing can save you now!”

It was not, it turns out, intended as a commentary on the result of the 1980 American presidential election, but rather just a poster for the new Superman movie.

Many of my friends have expressed deep discouragement not only about the results of Israel’s March elections, but also to the ensuing political developments and the harsh public discourse in past months. Democracy is besieged, Israel is doomed to conflict with Iran, HAMAS and (le-havdil) Barack. Cheer up, everyone.

Psychologists, political scientist, sociologists and political commentators have written extensively on the relationships between age, political outlook, conservatism, liberalism and the broader question of whether the world is getting better or worse. Are you depressed, or unjustifiably optimistic? (See, for example, Avi Tuschman, “Political Evolution” Bloomberg News, April 17, 2014.) Most researchers, or speculators, suggest that conservatives tend to think the world is getting worse, while liberals tend to think things are getting better. Yet the election of rightists in America or Israel sends progressives into a funk, and the election of a Democratic president name “Barack” sent some rightists into survival mode to protect themselves from the black/Muslim/Jewish hordes trying to take their guns, money and freedom away.

Without actually taking a principled or courageous stand on anything, I would just observe that forces of repression have waxed and waned in the democratic world, including Israel for many decades. Progress, if it occurs, could be slow and erratic.

Objective criteria for measuring the state of society might suggest that some things are getting better. Measures include the ratio of women’s to men’s income; the proportion of Arab and Jewish college graduates or doctorates; representation of women, minorities, or creed-based factions in parliament; per-capita income; wealth concentration; murder rate; death rate; infant mortality rate... and the like. We can also measure the occurrence of hateful, discriminatory or defamatory speech in the media or in text-books. My assertion is that in many areas Israel (and the U.S. for that matter) is measurably better today than 50 years ago.

While none of those areas are necessarily urgent life-or-death questions, they evidence the possibility of improvement due to persistent effort. Building a democratic society based on Jewish ethics and culture is a long-term process. Whether things really are getting better or worse, the right course is to stay the course and to continue to build the institutions and society we want.

April 2015

12 Nisan 5775 - 11 Iyar 5775

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 No Rabbi's Study Group No Religious School No Benei Mitzva Program 12 Nisan	2 No Talmud Study Group 13 Nisan	3 <i>Erev Passover</i> 7:35am Siyyum Bekhorot 6:00pm Minha & Shabbat Festival Service 7:01pm Candle Lighting 14 Nisan	4 <i>Passover I</i> <i>Exodus, Numbers</i> <i>Joshua</i> 9:15am Festival Service 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Shabbat Shalom Torah Study Qiddush: TBA 1:05pm Minha No evening services 5:30pm Community Seder/Temple Beth Sholom (reservations req.) 15 Nisan
5 <i>Passover II</i> <i>Leviticus, Numbers</i> <i>II Kings</i> No Religious School 9:15am Festival Service 5:45pm Minha-Maariv 16 Nisan/1 L'Omer	6 <i>Hol Hamoed Passover I</i> <i>Exodus, Numbers</i> 7:45am Rashi Study Group 10:00am Yoga Hour 17 Nisan/2 L'Omer	7 <i>Hol Hamoed Passover II</i> <i>Exodus, Numbers</i> 7:30pm Israeli Dancing 18 Nisan/3 L'Omer	8 <i>Hol Hamoed Passover III</i> <i>Exodus, Numbers</i> No Rabbi's Study Group No Religious School No Benei Mitzva Program 19 Nisan/4 L'Omer	9 <i>Hol Hamoed Passover IV</i> <i>Numbers</i> No Talmud Study Group 7:07pm Candle Lighting 20 Nisan/5 L'Omer	10 <i>Passover VII</i> <i>Exodus, Numbers</i> <i>II Samuel</i> Office Closed/Passover 9:15am Festival Service 6:00pm Minha-Maariv 7:08pm Candle Lighting 21 Nisan/6 L'Omer	11 <i>Passover VIII (Yizkor)</i> <i>Deuteronomy, Numbers</i> <i>Isaiah</i> 9:15am Festival Service 10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: Brotman & TBA 5:45pm Minha 22 Nisan/7 L'Omer
12 9:00am Religious School 23 Nisan/8 L'Omer	13 7:45am Rashi Study Group 10:00am Yoga Hour 10:30am "All Men Are Created Equal?" with Prof. Rob Forbes 7:30pm General Board Meeting 24 Nisan/9 L'Omer	14 7:30pm Israeli Dancing 25 Nisan/10 L'Omer	15 10:00am Rabbi's Study Group (off-site) 4:00pm Religious School 5:00pm Benei Mitzva Program 26 Nisan/11 L'Omer	16 <i>Yom Hashoah</i> 12:00pm Talmud Study Group 27 Nisan/12 L'Omer	17 7:16pm Candle Lighting 28 Nisan/13 L'Omer	18 <i>Shemini</i> <i>Preceding Rosh Hodesh: I</i> <i>Samuel</i> 10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Shabbat Shalom Torah Study Qiddush: Weiner-Rastelli 12:45pm Shabbat Shmooze with artist Lauri Wohl 5:45pm Minha 29 Nisan/14 L'Omer
19 <i>Rosh Hodesh I</i> <i>Numbers</i> 9:00am Religious School 2:00pm BEKI Sisterhood/Haddasah Program 30 Nisan/15 L'Omer	20 <i>Rosh Hodesh II</i> <i>Numbers</i> 7:45am Rashi Study Group 10:00am Yoga Hour 10:30am "Issues in Medical Ethics" with Shai Silverman 1 Iyar/16 L'Omer	21 7:30pm Israeli Dancing 2 Iyar/17 L'Omer	22 <i>Yom Hazikaron</i> 9:00am Rabbi's Study Group 4:00pm Religious School 5:00pm Benei Mitzva Program 3 Iyar/18 L'Omer	23 <i>Yom Ha'Atzmaut</i> <i>Deuteronomy</i> <i>Isaiah</i> 12:00pm Talmud Study Group 4 Iyar/19 L'Omer	24 Benjamin Goldstein Bar Mitzva 7:23pm Candle Lighting 5 Iyar/20 L'Omer	25 <i>Tazria</i> <i>Metzora</i> Benjamin Goldstein Bar Mitzva 10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: Goldstein/Jenq 5:45pm Minha 6 Iyar/21 L'Omer
26 9:00am Religious School 3:30pm "Year In Motion" film screening and dialogue event with Laina Pauker 7 Iyar/22 L'Omer	27 7:45am Rashi Study Group 10:00am Yoga Hour 10:30am "Your Brain, Part 2" with Dr. Morris Bell 7:30pm Executive Board Meeting (off-site) 8 Iyar/23 L'Omer	28 7:30pm Israeli Dancing 9 Iyar/24 L'Omer	29 9:00am Rabbi's Study Group 4:00pm Religious School 5:00pm Benei Mitzva Program 10 Iyar/25 L'Omer	30 12:00pm Talmud Study Group 11 Iyar/26 L'Omer		

Service Times

Sundays	Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays	Saturdays
9 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Maariv	7 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Maariv	7 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Maariv	7 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Maariv	8:15 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Maariv	7 a.m. Shaharit 6 p.m. Qabbalat Shabbat	9:15 a.m. Shaharit 5:45 p.m. Minha



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