

BEKI BULLETIN

Monthly Newsletter of Congregation Beth El – Keser Israel, a Full-Service Synagogue for Greater New Haven Jewry

February 1994

Shevat-Adar 5754

Special Events in February

Ledger Editor Guest Speaker

Join Rabbi Tilsen, Cantor **Irving Weinstein**, Choir Director **Kevin Mack** and the BEKI Volunteer Choir on Friday February 4th at 8:00 PM. Our special guest will be **Lisa Lenkiewicz**, Managing Editor of the *Connecticut Jewish Ledger*, who will speak on the role of the Jewish press. Join us for the Oneg Shabbat/Social Hour following services.

Steve Wizner Darshan

Join us on Shabbat Morning February 5th at 9:15 AM for worship and a special Torah Study lead by Steve Wizner.

Howard Needler Darshan

Join us on Shabbat Morning February 19th at 9:15 AM for worship and a special Torah Study lead by Howard Needler.

Happy Purim!

BEKI Purim Extravaganza

Thursday, February 24th 6:00 PM

Look for Mid-Month Flyer

BEKI Purim Regular-vaganza

Friday, February 25th 7:00 AM

Play-It-Again-BEKI Megilla Reading

Shelah Manot Project

Send Shelah Manot (Purim Baskets)
to your friends and neighbors!

Dates and Times to Remember

February

4	Friday	6:00 PM	Qabbalat Shabbat Service
		8:00 PM	Late Service (Choir & Organ) Speaker: Lisa Lenkiewicz, M'ging Ed. CT Jewish Ledger
5	Shabbat	9:15 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Darshan: Steve Wizner
		10:45 AM	Children's Shabbat Havura
		11:00 AM	Shabbat Learners' Minyan
		5:00 PM	Minha & Pirqe Avot Study
		5:42 PM	Maariv & Havdala
		5:50 PM	Do-It-Yourself: How to Lead Havdala
6	Sunday	9:30 AM	Mishna Berura Study Group
7	Monday	7:45 AM	Rashi Study Group
8	Tuesday	7:30 PM	Hebrew Reading & Comprehension of Siddur
10	Thursday	7:30 PM	Death & Mourning Workshop
11	Friday	6:00 PM	Qabbalat Shabbat Service
		8:00 PM	Late Service with Organ
12	Shabbat	9:15 AM	Shabbat Morning Service; Kadima Kinnus Gadol
		10:45 AM	Children's Shabbat Havura
		4:00 PM	Shabbat Study Group
		5:05 PM	Minha & Pirqe Avot Study
		5:50 PM	Maariv & Havdala
13	Sunday	9:30 AM	Mishna Berura Study Group
14	Monday	7:45 AM	Rashi Study Group
15	Tuesday	7:30 PM	Hebrew Reading & Comprehension of Siddur
17	Thursday	7:30 PM	Death & Mourning Workshop
18	Friday	6:30 PM	Family Qabbalat Shabbat Service
19	Shabbat	9:15 AM	Darshan: Howard Needler
		10:45 AM	Children's Shabbat Havura
		11:00 AM	Shabbat Learners' Minyan
		5:10 PM	Minha & Pirqe Avot Study
		6:00 PM	Maariv & Havdala
20	Sunday	9:30 AM	Men's Club/Sisterhood Joint Breakfast Speaker: Miriam Benson
		11:00 AM	Rabbi Schlomo Carlebach
21	Monday	7:45 AM	Rashi Study Group
22	Tuesday	7:30 PM	Hebrew Reading & Comprehension of Siddur
24	Thursday	6:00 PM	Megilla Reading
25	Friday	7:00 AM	Megilla Reading
		6:00 PM	Qabbalat Shabbat Service
26	Shabbat	9:15 AM	Shabbat Morning Service
		10:45 AM	Children's Shabbat Havura
		5:15 PM	Minha & Pirqe Avot Study
		6:05 PM	Maariv & Havdala
27	Sunday	9:30 AM	Mishna Berura Study Group
		TBA AM	UHS Purim Carnival
28	Monday	7:45 AM	Rashi Study group

March

1	Tuesday	7:30 PM	Prayer Book Hebrew
4	Friday	5:28 PM	Light Candles
		6:00 PM	Qabbalat Shabbat Service
		8:00 PM	Late Evening Service — Choir & Organ Bat Mitzvah Heather Braffman
5	Shabbat	9:15 AM	Shabbat Morning Service
		10:45 AM	Children's Shabbat Havura
		5:25 PM	Minha & Pirqe Avot Study
		6:15 PM	Maariv & Havdala
6	Sunday	9:30 AM	Mishna Berura Study Group
		7:30 PM	Bookclub - Rabbi M & M Levine's home
9	Monday	7:30 AM	Rashi Study Group
8	Tuesday	7:30 PM	Prayer Book Hebrew
11	Friday	5:36 PM	Light Candles
		6:00 PM	Qabbalat Shabbat Service
		8:00 PM	Late Evening Service with Organ Men's Club Shabbat
12	Shabbat	9:15 AM	Shabbat Morning Service
		10:45 AM	Children's Shabbat Havura
		4:00 PM	BEKI Shabbat Study Group
		5:35 PM	Minha & Pirqe Avot Study
		6:23 PM	Maariv & Havdala
13	Sunday	9:30 AM	Torah Fund Brunch — Women's League
14	Monday	7:30 AM	Rashi Study Group
15	Tuesday	7:30 PM	Prayer Book Hebrew
18	Friday	5:44 PM	Light Candles
19	Shabbat	9:15 AM	Shabbat Morning Service
		10:45 AM	Children's Shabbat Havura
		5:45 PM	Minha & Pirqe Avot Study
		6:30 PM	Maariv & Havdala
20	Sunday	9:30 AM	Mishna Berura Study Group
21	Monday	7:30 AM	Rashi Study Group
22	Tuesday	7:30 PM	Prayer Book Hebrew
24	Thursday	Evening:	Bediqat Hamets at Home
25	Friday	5:51 PM	Light Candles
		6:00 PM	Qabbalat Shabbat Service
26	Shabbat	9:15 AM	Shabbat Morning Service
		10:45 AM	Children's Shabbat Havura
		5:45 PM	Minha (only)
27	Sunday	9:30 AM	Mishna Berura Study Group
28	Monday	7:30 AM	Rashi Study Group
29	Tuesday	7:30 PM	Prayer Book Hebrew

A message from Rabbi Tilsen—

Let's Compare Halloween and Purim:

Halloween

Purim

Kids dress as witches and goblins	Adults & Kids dress as Biblical characters
Kids demand candy from neighbors	Adults & Kids bring food gifts to neighbors
Observed outside during dark, dangerous night	Observed safely inside
Teens create mischief & perform pranks	Teens attend Synagogue-supervised party
Pagan origins	Biblical origins
Little kids are frightened	Little kids have fun
Horror stories told	Edifying Biblical story told
Women depicted as Witches	Women depicted as heroines
Parents stay home when children go out	Parents & Kids go together
Lasts one day	Lasts one day
Adults buy candy to hand out	Parents & Kids buy or bake hamentaschen together
Kids pig out on candy hoard	Kids and Parents share a festive meal
Adults worry about Kids' safety	Adults live it up (ad shelo yode'a)
Kids' teeth rot	Adults have hangover
Celebrated in Public Schools	Celebrated in Jewish Homes and Synagogues

What values are promoted and what lessons are taught by each of these holidays? Which one will you make most important for you and your children?

Jon-Jay Tilsen

BEKI Welcomes New Members

Janet Felton & Martin Gilens & Family

Cathleen Greenberg

Boaz & Efrat Huss & family

Moishe Schnitman

James Shure

DEAR RABBI

A column of answers, advice and helpful household hints.

Today's letter comes from a student in our religious school—but many parents ask the same question:

Dear Rabbi:

Why can't we chew gum and eat candy during services? Does the Torah forbid that, too?

Signed, *Bazooka Yosi*

Dear *Bazooka Yosi*,

I hate to be the one to break it to you, but the Torah does forbid you from chewing gum and eating during services. As the Good Book says, "My mouth shall be filled with praises of the Lord." Now, if your mouth is stuffed with gum, candy, or other illicit substances, it could not possibly be completely filled with praises of the Lord. Therefore we are forbidden to chew gum or eat during prayer.

You might point out that during certain parts of the service, such as during the Haftara and, yes, the Rabbi's sermon, your mouth, from the halakic point of view, is in idle, that is, it is not uttering praises. And you might assume that during that time you ought to be able to chew your gum and eat your candy. To that I can only say, you're right. God presumably—and Jewish law—would not object if you chew gum during the Rabbi's sermon. But I can tell you that if you blow bubbles during the Rabbi's sermon, the Rabbi might blow bubbles during your Haftara.

A candidate for President would not chew gum during a televised debate. An attorney would not suck candy while arguing a case before the Supreme Court. A singer would not lick a lollipop during an opera. And so a Jew does not chew, suck or lick while praising or petitioning God. So be patient, wait for the Qiddush after services, leave your gum at home, and let your jaw wag in Praise of the Lord.

All letters to Dear Rabbi should be addressed to Rabbi J-J van Tilsen, care of this newsletter. Due to the volume of mail received, Dear Rabbi cannot answer all inquiries.

MEN'S CLUB NEWS

We report that the Men's Club is alive and well! Membership has increased over last year, and all indications are that the median age of members has been lowered significantly. We are particularly gratified by the response of members who included contributions to the Camp Ramah scholarship Fund with their dues. You do not have to be a member of the Men's Club to contribute to this fund, the purpose of which is to assist young people in our congregation to attend a Jewish summer camp. Contributions should be marked for the Camp Ramah Scholarship Fund and sent to the attention of the Men's Club.

The guest at our December breakfast was Dr. Barry Herman, Director of Graduate Studies at Sacred Heart University, and Adjunct Professor of Education at S.C.S.U. Dr. Herman is an amateur historian of our Jewish Community. His presentation "Jewish Landmarks of New Haven, Past and Present" was a walk down Memory Lane through slides and commentary. It was received with great interest and appreciation by an audience that, unfortunately, was limited by the widely broadcast threat of a serious winter storm.

During the breakfast we presented Irv Weinstein, our designated "bencher" with a token of our affection and esteem in honor of his milestone birthday. Ya'asher koah, Irv!

The eggs and bagels left over because attendance was less than anticipated were delivered the next day to the Community Soup Kitchen.

The breakfast scheduled for January, regretfully, had to be cancelled for reasons beyond our control. However, we resume in February with a joint breakfast with Sisterhood. This annual event will feature as guest speaker, Miriam Benson, our rabbi's wife. Everyone is invited to meet our guest at a very special breakfast after the 9 am. minyan. Watch for details in our usual flier.

Shalom,

Saul Bell, President

SISTERHOOD NEWS

Our Annual Joint Breakfast with Men's Club will be held on Sunday, February 20th, at 9:30 am. The guest speaker for this wonderful morning will be Miriam Benson, attorney, mother, and wife of Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen. Mark your calendar so you don't forget the date.

Sunday, March 13th will be the Torah Fund Brunch. Torah Fund supports the Jewish Theological Seminary through your generous donations and use of the Torah Fund cards. These cards are for all occasions: birthday, anniversary, new baby, get well and condolence. Just call Rose Feen at 387-8743 and she will send it out for you immediately.

Support our Gift Shop.

Happy New Year,

Barbara Cushen & Belle Goldberg

DO YOUR OWN THINK

A Menu for the Hungry Mind

Torah Learning Opportunities for Adults in February & March:

Hebrew Literacy Classes
Prayer Book Reading and Comprehension Classes
Rashi Study Group
Mishna Berura Study Group
Men's Club Speakers
Friday Night Speakers
Shabbat Shalom Learner's Minyan
Pirque Avot Study
BEKI Reading Group
BEKI Shabbat Study Group
Death & Mourning Workshops
Interfaith Couples Group
LaMaazel — The Jewish Spiritual Way of Childbirth
Do-It-Yourself Ritual Workshops
Point of Grammar
Guard Your Tongue
Weekly Torah Discussion

NEW PUBLICATIONS USEFUL FOR SYNAGOGUE AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

The following publications, available through the BEKI Library, may be helpful to members involved in Synagogue or communal activities:

Connecticut Valley Region.

United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

Affiliated Congregations 1993-1994. [with lists of staff and leadership of each].

United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.
Reaching Out, Holding On, Recruiting and Retaining Synagogue Members. (February 1993).

United Synagogue of American.
Congregational President's Handbook. (1990).

United Synagogue. Program Suggestions for Congregations, 5754/1993-1994.

United Synagogue. Synagogues of Excellence, Vol. II, A description of innovative programs (Nov. 1993).

United Synagogue. A Congregation Looks at Itself. How to do a Synagogue Self Evaluation. (Aug. 1993).

See or call **Morris Cohen** (389-2070, evenings; 432-4024, workdays 9:30AM-4:30PM), to borrow any of these publications.

DEATH & MOURNING WORKSHOP February 10 & 17, 1990

What helped you when you were mourning? What do you do during a shiva call? What are the requirements for Jewish burial? Why do people cover mirrors during shiva? Why do we say Mourner's Qaddish?

The answers to these and other questions on dying, death and mourning will be examined in a two-part workshop lead by Rabbi Tilsen on Thursday evening 10 & 17 February at 7:30 in the BEKI Library. All are invited to participate. Mark your calendar right now.

READING GROUP TO DISCUSS SCHINDLER'S LIST

Please join us for the first meeting of the BEKI Reading Group. The meeting will take place Sunday evening March 6 at 7:30 PM at the home of Rabbi Murray and Malka Levine at 35 Knollwood Drive in New Haven. Please RSVP to their home at 397-2513 by February 28. The first selection is Schindler's List by Thomas Keneally, available in paperback at Barnes and Nobles, 109 Boston Post Road, Orange for \$10.80 and at other local booksellers. A Holocaust survivor who was on Schindler's list may be present to share her experience. To enhance the discussion, please read the book prior to the meeting. We look forward to seeing you there.

HEBREW READING & COMPREHENSION IN THE PRAYERBOOK

Beginning February 8th at 7:30 PM, Rabbi Murray Levine will be teaching a ten-part series on basic siddur comprehension and fluency, stressing values and concepts. This is an excellent opportunity to enrich one's knowledge and understanding of the prayer experience. Rabbi Levine is a highly-acclaimed and delightful teacher. To reserve your seat and order a textbook, or for more information, call 389-2108.

HEBREW LITERACY

You can learn to read Hebrew and follow the prayers in the Siddur in ten easy lessons at a time which is mutually convenient. BEKI will teach groups of five or more people morning, afternoon, or evening. Classes begin the week of February 6th. This is a great way to learn or refresh your knowledge of the Hebrew alef-bet. Register by calling the office at 389-2108.

LEARN THE TROPE

If you would like to learn the taamim (trope) for Ruth, Song of Songs, or Ecclesiastes, or for other books of the Torah, please call leave a message for Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108.

Mazal Tov

Dina Kuperstock and Sara Beller
for winning places on the Ezra
Academy MathCounts Team

LARGE PRINT NEWSLETTER

If you or someone you know would like to receive the *BEKI Bulletin* in large-print format, please contact Rabbi Tilsen at 389-2108.

WE NEED YOU TO MAKE PERFECT \$ENSE WITH OUR FOOD CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

- Q. *What is the Perfect \$en\$e food certificate program?*
A. Perfect \$en\$e is a BEKI fund raising program that costs you absolutely nothing.
- Q. *Why should I do it?*
A. Because BEKI needs your financial support.
- Q. *What will Perfect \$en\$e mean for BEKI?*
A. If every family participated in this program and purchased only \$100.00 per month, think what BEKI would realize in much needed revenue.
- Q. *What will it cost me?*
A. Absolutely nothing!!
When you redeem your food certificates, you will purchase their value in groceries, prescriptions, postage stamps, etc. If you use store coupons or manufacturer's coupons, they will be honored.
- Q. *Which stores participate?*
A. Stop & Shop, Pathmark, Waldbaum's, and Westville Kosher Meat Market.
- Q. *How do I buy these certificates?*
A. By calling **Mimi Kahn** at 387-8105 or **Mikki Ratner** at 387-7882 or the synagogue office at 389-2108. As you can see we've tried to anticipate the needs of everyone, we even deliver. We Need You!! because You Count!!

It makes Perfect \$en\$e for us to hear from you. It's a good New Year's Resolution. Certificates come in \$10, \$20, and \$50 denominations.
P. S. These food certificates are not tax deductible.

**Thank you for your
generous donations to our
Synagogue Funds**

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In Memory of:

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Mollie Fleischner
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PRAYER BOOK FUND

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In Memory of Robert Goodwin by Sophie
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SYNAGOGUE FUND

In Memory of Robert Goodwin by Marvin &
Sheila Weinberg.
In Memory of Robert Goodwin by Evelyn &
George Dermer.
In Memory of Robert Goodwin by Steve &
Rachel Wizner.
In Memory of Robert Goodwin by Richard &
Suzanne Weinstein.
In Memory of Robert Goodwin by Joan & Alan
Gelbert.
In Memory of Robert Goodwin by Gloria &
Morris Cohen.
In Memory of Robert Goodwin by Allan
Campbell and family.
In Memory of Robert Goodwin by Violet &
Charlie Ludwig.
In Memory of Robert Goodwin by Harriet &
Samuel Kantrowitz.
In Memory of Abraham Riff by Steve & Rachel
Wizner.
Wishing a Speedy Recovery to Charlotte
Borson by Milton & Bea Smirnoff.
Wishing a Speedy Recovery to Sheila
Gardner by Milton & Bea Smirnoff.

ROSENKRANTZ LIBRARY FUND

By Louis Rosenkrantz

RABBI'S TZEDAQA FUND

Barbara Hall in appreciation.
Edward Lettick in memory of his mother, Mrs.
Michael (Sophie) Lettick.

KIDDUSH SPONSORS

Steve & Rachel Wizner in honor of son Jake's
visit and his dedication to serving humanity.

***PARENT-TODDLER
REGISTRATION OPENS***

**Registration for the Spring Session of
the BEKI Parent-Todler Program
is now opened.
For information call BEKI at 389-2108.**

TORAH FUND

Rose Feen, Chairman (387-8743)

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR — TORAH FUND
BRUNCH — 3/13/94
12/10/93 thru 12/28/93**

Donation

Mae and Herb Etkind

Mazal Tov

To Robert Zimmerman by Ruth & Sam
Rafowitz.

Rejoicing With You

To Hannah & Dave Surasky by Rena & Sam
Miller.

To Rena & Sam Miller by Rose & George
Feen.

Especially For You

To Violet & Charlie Ludwig from Rose
Pergament.

Get Well

To Charlotte Borson by Rena & Sam Miller.
To Louis Hodes from Rose & George Feen.

Sympathy

To Paul Goodwin & Family by Adele & David
Tyson.
To Michael Goodwin by Grace Geisinger.

Your Business Card Here

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by 750 Readers each month***

Very Reasonable Rate

***Leave message for
Linda Schultz
at 389-2108***

TODAH RABAH

To Janet Brown and her committee for
organizing another wonderful BEKI Shabbat
Dinner. Kudos to the cooks!

To Leo Hauptman and Sam Kantrowitz for
sharing their insights and facilitating our
Roundtable Discussion on God.

To Amy Pincus for leading the Do-It-Yourself
Workshop on Haftara Chanting.

KASHRUT ADVISORY

Avoid the K.

There are dozens of legitimate and reputable
kashrut supervision agencies in the United
States, each with their own unique symbol
certifying their supervision. But the plain letter
K is not a registered trademark and may
indicate any of the following:

1. A local rabbi supervises the product.
2. Someone supervised the product five
years ago, but not now.
3. Some rabbi once ate the product.
4. The plant owner has a daughter named
Kay and wanted her name on the label.

Unless we have written evidence that the K
represents current legitimate rabbinic supervi-
sion, plain K products may not be used in
Beth El-Keser Israel.

Watch that Goop

We love kids, and we are especially
pleased that so many attend services.
While we understand that little ones need
snacks, parents are reminded to be sure
that snacks are brought into the sanctuary
only when necessary, and that they are
kosher, dry and non-staining. Parents of
kids needing more substantial snacks
should provide a snack outside of the
sanctuary.

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Beth El-Keser Israel *** February 1994-Shevat/Adar 5754

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Service Times: Sunday 9:00 am. Monday thru Friday 7:00 am. Sunday thru Thursday 5:45</p>		20 Shevat <div style="text-align: right;">1</div>	21 Shevat 4:15 pm. - U.H.S. <div style="text-align: right;">2</div>	22 Shevat 9:30 am. - Parent Toddler Program <div style="text-align: right;">3</div>	23 Shevat Services 6 & 8 pm. with Choir & Organ Guest Speaker: Lisa Lenkiewicz, M'ging Ed of CT Jewish <div style="text-align: right;">4</div>	24 Shevat Mishpatim Services 9:15 am. Darshan: Steve Wizner Learners' Minyan 11:00 am. Mincha 5:00 pm. Maariv 5:42 pm. <div style="text-align: right;">5</div>
25 Shevat 9:30 am. - U.H.S. 9:30 am. - Mishna Berura Study Group <div style="text-align: right;">6</div>	26 Shevat 7:45 am. - Rashi Study Group <div style="text-align: right;">7</div>	27 Shevat 7:30 pm. Hebrew Reading & Comprehension of Siddur <div style="text-align: right;">8</div>	28 Shevat 4:15 PM. - U.H.S. <div style="text-align: right;">9</div>	29 Shevat 9:30 am. - Parent Toddler Program 7:30 pm. - Death and Mourning Workshop <div style="text-align: right;">10</div>	30 Shevat Rosh-Chodesh. Services 6 & 8 pm. with Organ. Kadima Kinnus <div style="text-align: right;">11</div>	1 Adar Terumah Shekalim Rosh-Chodesh. Services 9:15 am. Shabbat Study Group 4:00 pm. Mincha 5:05 pm. Maariv 5:50 pm. <div style="text-align: right;">12</div>
2 Adar 9:30 am. - U.H.S. 9:30 am. - Mishna Berura Study Group Kadima Kinnus <div style="text-align: right;">13</div>	3 Adar 7:45 am. - Rashi Study Group <div style="text-align: right;">14</div>	4 Adar 7:30 pm. Hebrew Reading & Comprehension of Siddur <div style="text-align: right;">15</div>	5 Adar 4:15 pm. - U.H.S. <div style="text-align: right;">16</div>	6 Adar 9:30 am. - Parent Toddler Program 7:30 pm. - Death and Mourning Workshop <div style="text-align: right;">17</div>	7 Adar Family Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 pm. only. <div style="text-align: right;">18</div>	8 Adar Tetzavveh Zachor Services 9:15 am. Darshan: Howard Needle Learners' Minyan 11:00 am. Mincha 5:10 pm. Maariv 6:00 pm. <div style="text-align: right;">19</div>
9 Adar 9:30 am. - U.H.S. 9:30 am. - Men's Club/ Sisterhood Joint Breakfast Speaker: Miriam <div style="text-align: right;">20</div>	10 Adar 7:45 am. - Rashi Study Group <div style="text-align: right;">21</div>	11 Adar 7:30 pm. Hebrew Reading & Comprehension of Siddur <div style="text-align: right;">22</div>	12 Adar 4:15 pm. - U.H.S. <div style="text-align: right;">23</div>	13 Adar Taanit-Esther. Fast-Day. 9:30 AM. - Parent Toddler Program 6:00 pm. Megill <div style="text-align: right;">24</div>	14 Adar Purim. 7:00 am Megillah Reading Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6:00 only. <div style="text-align: right;">25</div>	15 Adar Ki Tissa Services 9:15 am. Mincha 5:15 pm. Maariv 6:05 pm. <div style="text-align: right;">26</div>
16 Adar 9:30 am. - U.H.S. 9:30 am. - Mishna Berura Study Group UHS Purim <div style="text-align: right;">27</div>	17 Adar 7:45 am. - Rashi Study Group 7:45 pm. Board of Directors Meeting. <div style="text-align: right;">28</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Children's Shabbat Havura every Shabbat at 10:45 am. in the Claire Goodwin Youth Room</p> </div>			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Use Food Certificates every time you shop at Stop & Shop, Pathmark, Waldbaums, and Westville Kosher Meat. Call Mimi (387-8105) or Mikki</p> </div>	

COMMUNITY NEWS

Adopt an Israeli Student:

The Jewish Federation is looking for families interested in "adopting" Israeli students attending the University of New Haven. Many of the more than 75 Israeli students completing undergraduate engineering degrees at UNH have expressed an interest in connecting with Jewish families during their stay in the U.S. The students are typically male, in their mid-to late twenties, English speaking, non-observant and first time visitors to the U.S.

Responsibilities of adopting families would be dinner invitations (Shabbat, Pesach and other Jewish and American holidays), invitations to family gatherings, shopping and sightseeing trips, and information and referral resource assistance. Transportation is a problem for most of the students living on campus. If you are interested in volunteering or have questions please contact **Mimi Glenn** at 397-3851 or **Merrill Danziger** at 387-3779.

Rachel's Table:

Hunger never goes away. Rachel's Table will pick up your leftover prepared perishable food and deliver it to local soup kitchens, shelters and community centers. After your party or event, be sure your leftovers are put to their best use. For pickup or further information call Rachel's Table at 387-2424 ext. 325.

Interfaith Caregivers:

Another year has come and gone, as you look over the past year can you say that you've done all that you could have to help your fellow man. If not, why don't you resolve to make "94" your year to reach out a helping hand to someone in your community. Become a Rest and Renewal Volunteer, just a few hours of your time each week will allow the primary caregiver of persons suffering from Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, or stroke results some precious time off to themselves.

This time away from the stress of caring for their loved ones will revive them and give them the strength to continue the caregiving that is so desperately needed. Visit a frail, elderly homebound person in your community. Friendly Visitors are needed to help our elderly friends to remain independent and connected to the community. Just a smile and some friendly conversation may be all that is needed.

Call 230-8994 and ask for **Edie or Shirley**. You can make a difference.

Israeli Dancing:

Now that the JCC has opened, there will be Israeli dancing there every Thursday night. The group is for beginners 7:30 pm., intermediate and advanced dancers 8:30 - 10:45 pm., and there will be both teaching and open dancing. \$2.50 for JCC members & students, \$4.50 general admission. All ages welcomed. If you are interested call **Karen Kaplan** at 287-8688.

Tutors Needed:

Jewish refugees from the former Soviet Union continue to arrive in New Haven. Tutors are needed to meet regularly with these families to reinforce, practice, and expand upon their formal English lessons.

Tutors meet with families in their homes to increase their proficiency in using English to manage daily tasks such as shopping and making appointments. The practice and expansion of their vocabulary prepares them for seeking employment. This person-to-person approach is rewarding for the volunteer and valuable to their students.

Please contact **Caryl Kligfeld**, at the Jewish Federation, 562-2137 if you are interested.

Hospice Needs Volunteers:

Volunteers are needed in the following areas: typing, filing, organize a work environment, operate a word processor, help follow a project through to completion.

To discuss a volunteer work experience that will sharpen your skills, add to your resume, introduce you to new friends while helping CT Hospice at the same time, call Volunteer Services at CT Hospice at 481-6231 or 1-800-8-HOSPICE.

Mordecai recorded these events. And he sent dispatches to all the Jews... They were to observe them as days of feasting and merrymaking, and as an occasion for sending gifts to one another and presents to the poor. (Esther 9:20 ff)

PURIM IS A TIME of fun and happiness. We celebrate Purim through the mitzva of *mishloah manot* (Shelah Manot) -- sending gift packages of food to friends—and *matanot le-eyyonim*—tzedaka to the poor.

We urge you to fulfill these mitzvot on Purim, Thursday night 24 February and Friday 25 February 1994. In addition to personally delivering mishloah manot to a neighbor and handing cash to poor persons, you can partake of these mitzvot by sending a BEKI PURIM BASKET to your friends, neighbors and relatives. A beautiful **basket of goodies** will be prepared for each person you designate. In cases where more than one person sends a basket to a recipient, the recipient will receive only one Purim Basket with a gift card listing all the givers' names. The cost is \$8 for the first basket you give and only \$3 for each additional basket.

We will deliver these PURIM BASKETS on Purim to any BEKI member in Connecticut and to non-BEKI members whenever practicable, barring major storm.

A portion of the proceeds will go to benefit Connecticut Jews in need. The remainder this year will go to support the outstanding BEKI Youth Programs. Your gift will delight the recipient, fulfill the mitzva of tzedaka, and support *talmud torah*.

Please complete and return this order form with a check made out to BEKI by February 17th. For more information call the BEKI office at 389-2108. Happy Purim!

Please send a BEKI PURIM BASKET to the following people:

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | |

List additional recipients on back

Please give address of recipients who are not BEKI members.

On the card please say that "This BEKI PURIM BASKET is from _____."

My Telephone number is _____.

Amount of check (\$8 for first basket, \$3 each add'l) \$_____.

Send to BEKI Purim Baskets, 85 Harrison Street, New Haven CT 06515.

TIMES TO REMEMBER

Daily Minyan

Sunday Morning	9:00 AM
Sunday Evening	5:45 PM
Mon-Fri Morning	7:00 AM
Mon-Thurs Evenings	5:45 PM

Shabbat

begins at candle lighting:	ends:
Feb. 4—23 Shevat	5:30 5:42
Feb. 12—30 Shevat	5:39 5:50
Feb. 19—7 Adar	5:47 6:00
Feb. 26—14 Adar	5:56 6:05

Shabbat Services

Friday night	see calendar
Morning	9:15 AM.-12:00
Afternoon/Evening	see calendar

INSCRIBE A PRAYER BOOK

What a wonderful way to honor someone on their birthday or to say thank you for something that they did. What about remembering them on their Yahrzeit by putting their name in a prayer book. The cost for a prayer book inscription is \$18.00. Please send your check and the brief inscription to the synagogue office.

You Can Help BEKI

Let us Know

The members of BEKI Synagogue care about you. We want to be able to share in your simcha, assist you when you are ill, and comfort you when you have lost a loved one. Please take a few minutes to have someone phone the synagogue to inform us as to what is happening. We want to be there for you!

BEKI Bulletin

The newsletter is published monthly by Congregation Beth El-Keser Israel for the benefit of its members. BEKI is affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. To contribute articles or for inquiries regarding membership, donations, advertising, or special activities, call the Synagogue office (203) 389-2108, or write to 85 Harrison Street, New Haven, CT 06515.

Editor	Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen
President	Milton Smirnoff
Production Editor	Rita Sela
Advertisement Editor	Linda Schultz
Printer	Goodcopy

SPONSOR A KIDDUSH

Having a birthday, anniversary, baby-naming, or any other simcha? Do you wish to honor or remember someone? Consider sponsoring a Shabbat Kiddush. It's a mitzvah! Contact **Steve Wizner** at 432-4800 daytime.

Congregation Beth El -Keser Israel
85 Harrison Street
New Haven, CT 06515

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