Charitable Opportunity for Those 70 ½ and Older

As part of the tax extender package, the IRA Charitable Rollover has been signed into law. It is retroactive to 1 January 2015 and permanent going forward.

The IRA Charitable Rollover creates an opportunity for donors to establish an endowment or make an outright charitable gift to BEKI.

Your rollover can be directed for current needs or restricted for endowment purposes. Your gift can also be credited for purposes of our Grinspoon Legacy campaign.

**Example:** Mr. Cohn distributes $18,000 from his IRA to BEKI to establish a permanent endowment to provide annual funding for BEKI. Mr. Cohn names the fund after his grandchildren.

**Without the IRA Charitable Rollover:** Mr. Cohn would be subject to federal and Connecticut income tax on the amount of the distribution (even if it went straight to charity) -- although he could claim a charitable income tax deduction on his federal return for the donation, he would not be able to do that on a Connecticut income tax return and would have Connecticut income tax liability for the distribution—even if it was given directly to charity.

**With the IRA Charitable Rollover:** The $18,000 distribution is not taxable income for federal and Connecticut income tax purposes (even if it is being used toward his minimum distribution) – it is tax neutral. Mr. Cohn has created a wonderful Jewish legacy for his family and community, reduced his Connecticut income tax liability, and reduced his taxable estate!

**What is the advantage?** If you already have enough income and your IRA minimum distribution requirement only increases your tax liability, this allows you to donate your distribution directly to charity without realizing federal or Connecticut income tax liability.

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**Ten things to Know about IRA Charitable Rollovers**

1. The distribution from your IRA must be made directly to the charitable organization.
2. You must be 70 ½ or older at the time that the distribution is made (note, this differs from the minimum distribution requirement where you only need to turn 70 ½ during the year).
3. The distribution is retroactive to 1 January 2015 (only for distributions from IRAs directly to charities) and is permanent going forward).
4. The maximum amount that can qualify is $100,000.
5. The IRA Charitable Rollover will satisfy your minimum distribution requirement.
6. You can rollover more than your minimum distribution requirement and in addition to your minimum distribution requirement.
7. The amount of the IRA Charitable Rollover does not need to be reported as income on your federal or Connecticut income tax return.
8. Only distributions from traditional and Roth IRAs qualify. (You might benefit from a Roth distribution only in specific limited circumstances – ask your advisor.)
9. To qualify, the distribution can only be for charitable purposes and cannot be designated for a donor-advised fund, supporting organization, private foundation or life-income gift (charitable trust or annuity). No goods or services can be received in exchange for the distribution (i.e., tickets or dinner).
10. In most cases, you will need to contact your IRA plan administrator/financial institution.

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Continued on Page 3
Benefit Congregation
Beth El-Keser Israel

Ask us about establishing a fund, trust or annuity to ensure BEKI's future.

Charitable giving strengthens our Community and provides the donor with tax savings.

Tower One/Tower East
18 Tower Lane • New Haven, CT 06519

(203) 772-1816
www.towerone.org

An Active Senior Living Community.
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Affordable Options Available

Amazon Commission
If you are buying items from Amazon and use the link on BEKI’s home page beki.org (bottom) then BEKI will receive a small commission on the sale at no cost to you. Bookmark our link.

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: jitilsen@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.
Annual subscription is $36

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A Message from Rabbi Tilsen & Dear Rabbi
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Founder shurefuneralhome.com President

Visit us at www.beki.org
With sorrow we note the passing of

Tina Brooks, sister of Martin Gold (& Rena Cheskis-Gold)

Daisy Kempton, mother of Lauren Kempton (& Brooks Parmelee)

David Sagerman, husband of Doris Sagerman

Robert Allan Oakes III, husband of Karel Koenig

Abdelmahmoud Hassan Ahmed Adam, father of resettled Darfuri family

Spencer Bromell, son of staff member Clarence & Helen Bromell

May the Almighty comfort those who mourn

Mazal Tov to

Ilana Levine & Jonathan Seidmann, and parents Sid & Donna Levine, on their qiddushin (Jewish marriage) under a huppa at BEKI in December.

Rachel Light & Jonathan Freiman on the birth of Ramona Zahara in December.

IRA
Continued from Page 1

Connecticut income tax liability on the amount of the distribution (you will not have to pay Connecticut or Federal income tax on that amount). In addition, if you have a taxable estate, your IRA will be subject to income and estate taxes (once both spouses are deceased and the IRA is left to your children, grandchildren or other individuals). In fact, in a taxable estate, your non-spouse beneficiaries could end up with 25 cents on the dollar for your IRA assets! The rollover allows you to remove some of those tax-plagued assets from your estate while also providing you with the opportunity to make a significant charitable gift.

In addition, if you have a secondary smaller IRA, which is not a necessary income source, this is an opportunity to donate that IRA to our community and make a significant and much needed impact.

Please consult your professional advisor concerning your tax plans or contact Attorney Donna R. Levine 203.985.9033 x 5 or sdsij@aol.com for assistance in planning your gift to BEKI.

Reserve Your Date

Bar- and bat-mitzva celebrants for 2016 to 2020 who do not have a written confirmation of a date reservation may wish to reserve a date by contacting Peggy at office@beki.org 203.389.2108 x14. Dates are available on a first-come basis to members. Your early reservation maximizes your chance to reserve your choice of dates.

Bereavement Support Group

Contact Rabbi Hesch Sommer at Jewish Family Service for information on the Tuesday noon bereavement group meeting January through April and for other bereavement assistance at hsommer@jfsnh.org 203.389.5599 x117; for BEKI members and other local residents. Memorial Plaques Available

The Memorial plaques displayed at BEKI serve as a reminder and memorial to departed loved ones. Plaques are available for $360 by contacting Peggy at office@beki.org 203.389.2108 x14. Prepayment reserves a space and a plaque.

Charge It

You can pay most BEKI fees and make donations using VISA, MasterCard, Discover and American Express cards. See https://www.beki.org/about/make-a-donation/ or ask Office Manager Peggy office@beki.org for help.

Jewish Support to Refugees

See info at hias.org.
Darshanim

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

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

Jonathan Hayward, 16 January 2016, parashat Bo.

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.

VeNomar Amen! Beginning Hebrew

Beginning Hebrew with Will meets every other Saturday morning from 11a-noon in the office (on the weeks that Shabbat Shalom Torah Study does not meet). Practice Hebrew listening, speaking, and Alef-Bet recognition. Modern Hebrew; suitable for those interested in Biblical and Prayer Book study as well. Free; all welcome. With Will Auriemme. Beginning 16 January 2016; through 23 April 2016.

Mishna Ta’anit

On most Shabbat afternoons between Minha and Maariv through February 2016, survey Mishna Tractate Ta’anit, which centers on public fasts, especially those declared by the leaders, such as in response to drought. Minha begins about 20 minutes before sunset. With Rabbi Tilsen.

Sundays

Alef-Bet Workshop


For people who wish to learn to read the letters of the Hebrew alphabet, or who wish a refresher course in sounding (“decoding”) written Hebrew. (If you’re ready for the next step, see “Prayer Book Hebrew” below.) Registration and book fee $3 per person. Register at office@beki.org 203.389.2108 x14 x14 so that a textbook can be ordered for you. Everyone welcome.

Prayer Book Hebrew 101

Six Sunday Evenings Beginning 6 March 2016. Learn the elements of siddur (prayerbook) Hebrew. Also appropriate for beginners in Biblical and Modern Hebrew. For people who already know how to “read” (sound-out or “decode”) the Hebrew Alef-bet. (If you’re not quite ready for this course, see “Alef-Bet Workshop” above.)

Registration and book fee is $36. Please register at office@beki.org 203.389.2108 x14 so that a textbook can be ordered for you. Everyone welcome.

Class meets in BEKI’s Rosenkrantz Family Library from 6:15p (following 5:45p afternoon & evening services in the George G. Posener Daily Chapel) to 7:15p on each Sunday beginning 6 March 2016. Class meets regardless of weather conditions.

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) is reading Shemuel Bet (Second Samuel), called “second” as it is the second volume of a single continuous narrative split in two for convenience. Characters in the narrative include the Prophet Samuel, King Saul and King David, Mikhail, 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.

Principles of Judaism: Torah on One Foot
With Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen. Six Monday Nights, 14 March to 18 April 2016, 6:10p to 7:15p (Immediately following 5:45p minha & maariv services).

For adults wishing an overview of the Principles of Jewish thought and life. Ideal for people new to Judaism, considering conversion, or wishing to undertake a systematic study and practice of Judaism. Free of charge. Topics include The Torah; Halakha (Jewish Law); The Mitzva System; 3,600 Years of Jewish History; God of Israel; Fundamental Observances; Conservative & Other Judaisms; Messiah; Eternal Life; Talmud Torah; The Sabbath; Homeland.

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.

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. Shaharit service is from 8:15a to 9:15a on Thursdays; on other weekdays, the service begins at 7a.

Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group: New Time
The Sanhedrin Talmud Study Group meets on Thursdays from 1p to 2p and 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 technical aspects of the text. Knowledge of Hebrew or Aramaic is helpful but not required. 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. With Rabbi Tilsen.

Divrei Torah on the Web
A collection of Divrei Torah (Torah commentaries) and essays by members and Rabbi Tilsen are posted on BEKI’s website under “Learning.”
Contributions

Rabbi’s Tzedaka Fund (minimum $25)
- Elaine Kreiger in appreciation to Miriam Benson & Jon-Jay Tilsen
- Sandy & John Balayan marking the yahrzeit of Helen Miller
- Sid & Donna Levine in appreciation for Ilana & Jon’s qiddushin under the huppa at BEKI
- Lou & Lisa Petrillo marking the yahrzeit of Jacob Pepper

Qiddush Sponsors (minimum $280)
- The Akresh, Brodie, Levine, Levy, Marx-Schonberger, Minsky, Oppenheimer & Sela families
- Harold & Stephanie Birn
- BEKI Sisterhood
- Helen Rosenberg
- Evelyn Beslow
- Tova Benson-Tilsen Fund for Animal Welfare
- Donna & Sid Levine

Chai Fund (minimum $18) to support synagogue operations
- To BEKI in honor of the birth of their grandson Jacob Zlotoff Fine by Donna Kemper & Ron Zlotoff
- To Barbara & Lenny Stern with sympathy on the passing of Patricia Corcoran Moldawsky by Donna Kemper & Ron Zlotoff
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by Sandy & Art Garfinkle
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by the Stanger & Colodner family
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by Meyer & Sandra Markowitz
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by Bobbie & Harold Miller
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by Lauren & Scott Miller
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by Sherry Kent
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by Steve & Rachel Wizner
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by Betsy & Glenn Schulman
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by Trish Loving & Alan Lovins
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by Joanne Foodim & Rob Forbes
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by the Avni-Singer family
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade
- To Benjamin Birn in honor of his Bar Mitzva by Ellen Cohen & Steven Fraade
- To Doris Sagerman with sympathy on the passing of David Sagerman

Synagogue Fund (minimum $10) to support synagogue operations
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by Lauren & Scott Miller
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by Joy Kaufman & Stewart Frankel
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by Joy Kaufman & Stewart Frankel
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by Rena Cheskins-Gold & Marty Gold
- To the Friedman & Bruce family with sympathy on the passing of Albert Friedman by Bobbi & Harold Miller
- In memory of Esther Prober by Dan & Sharon Prober
- In memory of her father Julius Margolis by Helene B. Axelrod
- In memory of Rose Nabatoff by Carol Nabatoff
- In memory of Benjamin Zipper by Carol Nabatoff
- In memory of Arthur Nabatoff by Carol Nabatoff
- In memory of her grandfather Louis Brunswick by Barbara Cushen
- In memory of Gloria Goldberg by Arlene & David Throbe
- In memory of Jordan Goldberg by Arlene & David Throbe
- In memory of Isaac Press by Lynne & Jeffrey Heisner
- In memory of Aladar Lowi by Leatrice & Richard Brodner
- In memory of Rabbi Samuel Simson by Marshall & Joan Weiss
- In memory of Fred M. Shure by Betsy Shure Gross & Gary Gross
- In memory of Robert Goodwin by Stacey Goodwin Podell & Jeffrey Podell
- In memory of Tessie Galvin by Joel & Nan Galvin
- In memory of Hyman Fleischner by Sara-Ann & Hillel Auerbach
- In memory of Edith Fields by Stan Saxe
- In memory of Samuel Adam Margolis by David Margolis
- In memory of Stanley Watsky by Kal Watsky & Deborah Fried
- In memory of Morris Feldman by Lois K. Feldman
- In memory of Elsie Hodes by Joyce & David Popowski
- In memory of E. Lester Feldman by Lois K. Feldman
- In memory of Mollie Cohen Fleischner by Sara-Ann & Hillel Auerbach
- In memory of Freda Virshup by Richard & Georgi Virshup
- In memory of Reuben Gralla by Linda Schultz & Howard Gralla

The Harold & Arthur Ratner Memorial Fund
- To Heni & Mark Schwartz in loving memory of Ezra Schwartz by Mikki & Betsy Ratner and family
- To Howard Egalika in loving memory of Terry Egalika by Mikki & Betsy Ratner and family
- To Karen Kaplan in loving memory of Scott Carter by Mikki & Betsy Ratner and family
- In memory of Ida & Isadore Frankel by Shirley Mattler
- In memory of Joseph Frankel by Shirley Mattler
- In memory of Esther & David Black by Shirley Mattler
- In memory of Jacob Mattler by Shirley Mattler
- In memory of Jordan Goldber

Yahrzeit Fund ($5 minimum) to support synagogue operations
- In memory of Louis Winer by Herbert Winer
- In memory of Sydney Weinstein by Dan Goldberg
- In memory of Ida Goldstein Fidler by Richard & Diane Fidler
- In memory of Mary Epstein by Kranie & Earl Baker
- In memory of Anna Altman by Bruce Altman & Darcy McGraw

THE BARZILLAI CHESKIS BEKI YOUTH ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
- In memory of Reuben Gralla by Linda Schultz & Howard Gralla
- In memory of Sherry Kent by Robert & Lynne Gross
- In memory of Steve & Gertie Gralla by Robert & Lynne Gross
- In memory of David & Francine Goldstein by Robert & Lynne Gross
- In memory of全面 Henry Goldstein by Robert & Lynne Gross

Visit us at www.beki.org

6 BEKI Bulletin January 2016
**Pay Now**

Your payment of [dues, pledge and bills](#) to BEKI in December will help us manage our finances responsibly and efficiently, and may provide you with tax advantages. The date “December 2015” on your check will be honored even if it is processed early in 2016.

**Torah Reading**

Rachel Light [r_gutman@yahoo.com](mailto:r_gutman@yahoo.com) is coordinating Torah Reading for Shemot (now through 12 March); J-J Tilsen [jjtilsen@beki.org](mailto:jjtilsen@beki.org) is coordinating for VaYiqra (19 March - 4 June; includes Pesah); Darryl Kuperstock [kuperst@gmail.com](mailto:kuperst@gmail.com) is coordinating for BeMidbar (11 June - 6 August 2016; includes Shavuot). Schedule your readings now. New readers welcome. Thanks to David Wright for coordinating Bereishit, which we completed in December.

**Beyond Alef-Bet**

Prayer Book Hebrew 101. Learn the elements of *sidur* (prayerbook) Hebrew. Also appropriate for beginners in Biblical and Modern Hebrew. Six Sundays beginning 6 March 2016, 6:15p-7:15p. Registration and book fee $36. Register [office@beki.org](mailto:office@beki.org) so that a textbook can be ordered for you.

**Torah on One Foot**


**20s-30s Havura Dinner**

Shabbat Evening 7-8:30 15 January 2016 RSVP off-site.

**Security Volunteers Needed**

Greeters who serve as the “friendly face” of BEKI on Friday Nights and Shabbat Mornings are also serve as security officers to respond to medical, safety and security issues. Volunteer to serve as greeter for a 90-minute shift one or more times in 2016 by volunteering to [jjtilsen@beki.org](mailto:jjtilsen@beki.org); free training provided.

**Security Procedures**

A locally-produced (Yale) video on security procedures is similar to the procedures at BEKI. Members with questions or concerns are invited to contact Jay Sokolow [sokolow@snet.net](mailto:sokolow@snet.net).

**Torah Sparks**

[Conservative Yeshiva devar Torah on the weekly parasha](#).

**USY Summer**

USY Summer Experience offers teens in grades 7–12 the opportunity to travel across North America, Europe, and Israel. First-timers who register before 15 January 2016 receive a $100 discount. An amazing adventure is just a click away. BEKI’s Barzillai Chesiks Fund and the [Marcel Gutman Memorial Fund](#) support BEKI teens going on Israel trips.

**Slobby Lobby**

Please keep food and beverages in the Social Hall, and do not bring food and beverages into the lobby or other areas.

**Re-Charge It**

Two EV Charging Stations have been activated next door at the Blake & Whalley Municipal Parking lot, up to 9 hours free. Slow charging (110 outdoor outlet) available at BEKI to members in the BEKI parking lot (contact [jjtilsen@beki.org](mailto:jjtilsen@beki.org) for info).

**Snow Far Snow Good**

[Services](#) are held at BEKI regardless of weather conditions. Please use your best judgment as to whether and how you can travel to and from BEKI. Free dogsled parking. For weather- or emergency-related updates on other programs, see directions at [http://www.beki.org/worship/daily-services-and-other-holidays/#snow](http://www.beki.org/worship/daily-services-and-other-holidays/#snow).

**Roof Replacement**

The roof replacement scheduled for this year involves two roof sections: the roof over the sanctuary and the roof over the lobby-office area. The two other roof sections, over the social hall and over the school wing, were replaced two years ago and have new solar electric panels. The social hall and school wing roofs are not involved in this current project.
Sisterhood

**TU BE-SHEVAT**

Tu BeShevat, the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat, is a holiday also known as the New Year for trees. It is the new year for the purpose of calculating the age of trees for tithing. Leviticus 19:23-25 states that the fruit from trees may not be eaten during the first three years; the fourth year’s fruit is for God, and after that, you can eat the fruit.  

Each tree is considered to have aged one year as of Tu BeShevat, so if one planted a tree on 14 Shevat, it begins its second year the next day, but if one plants a tree two days later, on 16 Shevat, it does not reach its second year until the next Tu BeShevat.

There is a custom to eat a new fruit on Tu BeShevat, or to eat from the Seven Species (*shivat haminim*) described in the Hebrew Bible as being abundant in the land of Israel. The *shivat haminim* are wheat, barley, grapes (vines), figs, pomegranates, olives and dates (honey) (Deut. 8:8). Many people plant trees on this day in Israel. You too can do the same by purchasing a tree through Wepawaug Hadassah by calling Mimi Glenn 203.397.3851.

**Tree of Life**

BEKI has a beautiful tree in our entrance way, the leaves are waiting for an inscription. Contact Mikki Ratner or Barbara Cushen with an engraved leaf for an anniversary, milestone birthday, Bar- or Bat-Mitzva, in honor of a special occasion, or remembering a loved one in your family or friend. Leaves are $118 each. Leaves can be purchased by calling Mikki Ratner 203.387.7882 or Barbara Cushen 203.407.0314.
We celebrated National Mix It Up Day in October to foster greater respect and understanding among our students.
SATURDAY NIGHT, JANUARY 23, 2016
7:00PM

HEAT WAVE

JOIN US FOR A GREAT MID-WINTER CARIBBEAN PARTY*

GREAT MUSIC - LIVE STEEL DRUM BAND, REGGAE, CALYPSO, SKA!
EXCITING CARRIBEAN FOOD BAR!
RUM PUNCH, PINA COLADAS, AND MORE...!
LIMBO! - HOW LOW CAN YOU GO?
FUN! FUN! FUN!

ADULTS: $18    under 12: $8

RSVP APPRECIATED BY 1/20/16 - kuperst@gmail.com
203-215-8555

*A FUNDRAISER IN SUPPORT OF BEKI HOSTING A WEEK OF 2016 ABRAHAM’S TENT
including a brief introduction to Abraham’s Tent by Alison Cunningham, Exec. Dir. of Columbus House
25th Annual
Super Deli Boxes

Sunday, February 7, 2016!!!
PICK-UP FROM 11:45 – 1:30pm

On SuperBowl Sunday, don’t worry about the food

LET US PREPARE
THE MEAL FOR YOU!

Remember - You don’t have to be watching the big game – watch a movie, play bridge, have a party or just relax and enjoy the break! Invite some friends over!

All order forms MUST be received by FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2016

3 WAYS TO ORDER!

BY MAIL:
Payment by check
(to “BEKI/BJ YOUTH COMMISSION”)
Send to: Darryl Kuperstock, 2 Debby Lane, Woodbridge, CT 06525

BY EMAIL OR PHONE
(or for more information):
kuperst@gmail.com or 203-215-8555
Pay at pick-up (check or cash only)

Still only $13 each!!!

Each Deli box contains:
1 delicious Deli Sandwich on freshly baked rye bread (see choices of sandwiches on order form below) OR Fresh Garden Salad (no bread), 1 container of freshly made coleslaw, 1 beverage, 1 bag of potato chips, 1 scrumptious pareve brownie, 1 large barrel pickle, 1 piece of fresh fruit, condiments, napkin, flatware

all food certified KOSHER and prepared under supervision

PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY ORDERS TO SYNAGOGUE OFFICES

DELI BOXES ORDER - 2016 (please fill in ALL information and return w/payment – PLEASE PRINT)

Name _________________________________ Phone _____________________ Email _____________________

Please indicate the NUMBER of boxes you would like of each type:

____ Corned Beef ______ Pastrami _______ Salami _______ Turkey Breast _______ Roast Beef
____ Tuna Salad _______ Egg Salad (vegetarian) _______ Portobello & Peppers (vegan/served on hard roll)
____ Garden Salad (no bread) – specify 1 only: ___ plain ___ w/turkey ___ w/hb egg

Total # of Boxes ________ x $13 = $ ________

Beverage (CHOOSE 1 PER BOX) _____ Coke _____ Diet Coke _____ Sprite _____ Apple Juice _____ Spring Water

ADDITIONAL DONATION TO BEKI/BJ Youth Programs $ ________

Total amount of payment payable to BEKI/BJ Youth Commission $ ________

I’LL PICK-UP MY ORDER AT ______ BEKI ______ BJ
Once again, as we have for the last 25 years, our community will be treated to festive, flavorful and fantastic boxed kosher deli lunches and dinners, thanks to the efforts of the BEKI–BJ Joint Youth Commission. The event, DELI BOXES, is our only annual fundraiser for the joint youth programs of the two synagogues, and will take place this year on Sunday 7 February 2016 – Superbowl Sunday (as usual).

**Buy Deli Boxes**

You don’t need to be watching the Superbowl game to enjoy a delicious deli meal prepared with love. Give yourself a break, have a party, fress – and support our award-winning youth programs.

Again this year, the choices are abundant, including: pastrami, corned beef, roast beef, portobello mushroom with roasted red peppers, turkey, tuna salad, egg salad and salami – and for those gluten-free or just passing on bread, a green salad (either plain or topped with turkey, egg or tuna).

Funds raised through this program have been and continue to be used to provide subsidies to enable more of our youth to participate in a broad range of chapter, regional and international activities, Israel trips and to supplement the program activities of both USY and Kadima at BEKI and B’nai Jacob.

The Youth Commission would like to encourage you to volunteer to help out at BEKI on Saturday evening 6 February from 7:30p on, or on Sunday 7 February from 9:30a – 1:30p, or both, as the great “Deli Boxes Machine” rolls into action. We need all the help we can get to make sure the program is a success.

Order forms are available on the facing page, in your mid-month mailing (paper or email), on the BEKI website [www.beki.org/wp-content/uploads/Deli-Boxes-flyer-order-form-2016-for-BEKI-DEC-mid-month-COLOR.pdf](http://www.beki.org/wp-content/uploads/Deli-Boxes-flyer-order-form-2016-for-BEKI-DEC-mid-month-COLOR.pdf), in the literature rack in the synagogue lobby, and by email request to kuperst@gmail.com. **Deadline for orders is Friday 29 January.** Please send orders with your advance payment to: Darryl Kuperstock, 2 Debby Lane, Woodbridge, CT 06525, or send your order by email to Darryl at kuperst@gmail.com. (Please note that all emailed orders are commitments for full payment at pick-up on 7 February.)

If you are interested in providing additional support for our youth (with funding or volunteer participation), please contact the Youth Commission Chairpeople: BEKI – Liora Lew, and at BJ – Susan Dardik. Thanks for your support.
A Message from Rabbi Tilsen

SEAT BELT OPTIONAL

A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away, a civilization that was able to travel faster than light and build massive death stars did not have enough sense to put safety rails on the long narrow walkways they repeatedly built over wide, deep, deadly chasms. Closer to home, it is imagined that hundreds of years in the future space explorers will build particle beam transporters and holodecks, but still will not yet have invented the seat belt. “Brace for impact!” the captain of the Enterprise yells as the 46 million metric ton ship, traveling at one-quarter the speed of light, is about to crash into some even more massive body, resulting in sprained wrists and concussions among the bridge crew. Clearly, someone got a “D” in high school physics.

As absurd as that imagined past or distant future may seem, they hold a particular resonance with contemporary life. Not long ago, automakers were reluctant to supply seatbelts, airbags and back-up cameras, on the theory that consumers prefer to spend money on more powerful speakers or engines, not safer cabins. Today, the major automakers have introduced advanced safety technology as a luxury available only in the most pricey models. The technology, such as pre-collision breaking, automatic lane keeping, blind-spot monitoring and enhanced mirrors, cost manufacturers just a few hundred dollars per vehicle to install, but are available only to customers who have purchased sunroofs, leather trim, heated seats and 16-speaker stereo systems.

Instead of “safety first,” the auto manufacturers have decided safety should be a luxury item. These are the same manufacturers who have resisted simple steps to enhance fuel efficiency – or lied about it – and steps to reduce the pollution created by their products. This may seem merely a middle-class complaint, the gripe of someone who can afford a new $20,000 or $30,000 vehicle but does not want to, or cannot, cough up another $10,000 or $20,000 to get the sunroof and leather required before manufacturers will offer the advanced safety options. Still, over 15,000,000 new light vehicles have hit the road in America in 2015, and a lot more of them had sunroofs than pre-collision breaking, which means thousands of preventable deaths will occur because of this corporate marketing decision and lack of regulation. Those less-safe vehicles will be bought used by those with less resources, and more of them will die.

Worse, the harm of the industry’s attitude may be greater in other countries. In Mexico, GM and other manufacturers leave out airbags, life-saving devices that would cost only $100 a pair to install in a new vehicle. They are omitted because Mexican law does not require them (Gautham Nagesh, Wall Street Journal 27.12.2015). The math is simple; how much is a Mexican worth?

That is not to mention trucks. In spending $150,000 on a new truck, a few hundred dollars more would provide a system to alert the driver and take steps to prevent frontal collision, in case the driver’s attention has turned to an important text message while approaching stalled traffic, or is napping, both common deadly scenarios. Given the cost of insurance and collisions, and the toll in lost or diminished lives, you’d think it was a no-brainer. But manufacturers are promoting instead dual chrome stacks and leather, Congress has rolled back safety regulations, and “the trucking industry has resisted most of those safety devices” (Howard Abramson, New York Times, 21.08.2015). Reportedly, “… only about 3 percent of the Class 8 trucks — the heaviest ones, including most tractor-trailers — are equipped with any version of this collision-avoidance technology, according to safety advocates.”

While star-ship crashes are rare, and only people carrying light-sabers traverse unguarded narrow catwalks over chasms, more than 30,000 people die annually in the United States in vehicle collisions and a much larger number suffer painful and life-diminishing injury. The magnitude of this carnage dwarfs that of political or religious terrorism, aviation disasters, or wild bear attacks. Failing to use available simple remedies is a moral atrocity. The corporate policy is morally reprehensible and the absence of regulation is a failure of democracy.

When you build a new house, you shall make a parapet for your roof, so that you do not bring bloodguilt on your house if anyone should fall from it.

Deuteronomy 22:8
# January 2016

**20 Tevet 5776 - 21 Shevat 5776**

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<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>No Religious School</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7:45am Rashi Study Group 10:00am Yoga Hour</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7:30pm Israeli Dancing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4:21pm Candle Lighting</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10:45am Children's Programs 10:45am Shabbat Shalom Torah Study Qiddush: TBA 4:15pm Minha-Maariv</td>
<td>20 Tevet</td>
<td>21 Tevet</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>9:00am Religious School</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Rosh Hodesh 7:45am Rashi Study Group 10:00am Yoga Hour 7:30pm Executive Board Meeting (off-site)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>7:30pm Israeli Dancing</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>No Religious School</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Office Closed/MLK Day 9:00am Shaharit 9:45am Rashi Study Group 10:00am Yoga Hour 7:30pm General Board Meeting</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>7:30pm Israeli Dancing</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>8:00am Religious School 6:00pm Alef-Bet Workshop</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Tu B'Shevat 7:45am Rashi Study Group 10:00am Yoga Hour</td>
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<td>7:30pm Israeli Dancing</td>
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<td>31</td>
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<td>4:46pm Candle Lighting</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>10:45am Children's Programs Qiddush: H. Miller 4:45pm Minha-Maariv</td>
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## Service Times

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<tr>
<th>Sundays</th>
<th>Mondays</th>
<th>Tuesdays</th>
<th>Wednesdays</th>
<th>Thursdays</th>
<th>Fridays</th>
<th>Saturdays</th>
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<tr>
<td>9 a.m. Shaharit</td>
<td>7 a.m. Shaharit</td>
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<td>5:45 p.m. Maariv</td>
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<td>5:45 p.m. Maariv</td>
<td>6 p.m. Qabbalat Shabbat</td>
<td>Before sunset: Minha</td>
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Help New Refugees

Are you interested in welcoming new refugees to the New Haven area? BEKI is joining with other area synagogues in a Jewish Federation initiative that is still in development. Currently we are compiling a list of potential volunteers and donors. We are especially interested in hearing from BEKI members who might attend an upcoming IRIS (Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services) training workshops. Contact: Angela Oren adotoren@gmail.com or Cynthia Beth Rubin cbr@cbrubin.net