A New Year at BEKI

Cemetery Memorial Services

Cemetery Memorial Services will be held with Rabbi Tilsen on Sunday, 4 September at 10:00 AM in Hamden and at 11:00 AM in West Haven.

Rabbi Tilsen will be available after the service to recite individual graveside prayers by request. No fee or gratuity is accepted for this service although it is appropriate to mail a contribution to Tzedaqa.

Yizkor Memorial Services

Yizkor Memorial Services will be held on Yom Kippur, Thursday, 15 September, and on Shemini Atseret, Tuesday, 27 September during the morning services. Yizkor is a time for each of us to remember our loved ones, our relatives and friends, who have gone to their eternal rest. It is appropriate to mark Yizkor through prayer in shul, lighting a memorial candle, giving tzedaqa, and Torah study.

Holiday Services for Children

On Rosh HaShana and Yom Kippur, there will be holiday services for children. At 10:45 the preschool program, which is aimed toward children under five years of age, will begin in the Claire Goodwin Youth Room. At the same time, in the Chapel, there will be a youth service for school-age children. These programs offer the children a meaningful way to participate in the holiday services.

ADL Speaker

On Friday, September 23, the Anti-Defamation League's Gerry Garcia will speak at our Late Evening Services, which begin at 8:00 PM. His topic will be "A World of Difference."

Sukka Crafts Day for Kids

BEKI and neighborhood kids are all invited to the BEKI sukkah for crafts, song and fun on Sunday 18 September from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM.

The program will be held outside in the sukkah unless it rains, in which case we'll be inside. Help decorate the BEKI sukkah!

Make a Lulav Shake

Since time immemorial, blessing the lulav and etrog has been our way of thanking God for the blessings of the earth on the holiday of Sukkot.

By holding the four species together, we symbolically "get our own act together" for the New Year. By pointing them in six directions, we remind ourselves that God's presence can be found in every area of our lives. And by shaking the lulav and etrog, we commit to being movers and shakers in the world this year, for good and for blessing.

This year, make a lulav shake. Call 389-2108 for more information.
# Dates and Times to Remember

## September

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# ADL's Gerry Garcia

2 BEKI Bulletin

September 1994
A MESSAGE FROM RABBI TILSEN

As a chaplaincy fieldworker at a New York hospital during my rabbinical training, I usually concluded pastoral visits to patients by offering to say a prayer in their behalf. Sometimes a patient would decline, saying, “No, I don’t have any money with me.” When I replied that I neither charge nor accept payment or donations for offering prayers, I was met with incredulity. Why would the rabbi say a prayer for me if he wasn’t to be paid?

Unfortunately the cynicism of this attitude is based on a historical reality. There were many rabbis and gabbaim who depended on such payments for their livelihood, and this practice was the way of life in many parts of Europe. The spiritual consequences of this system were disastrous.

There is something about paying rabbis or teachers that offends our religious sensibilities. Payment for services and teaching calls into question the rabbi’s or teacher’s true motives and may present conflicts of interest.

Indeed, many sages, such as Maimonides, have contended that it is forbidden to charge a fee for teaching Torah. Just as Moses taught the Torah without wage, so too must we (Rambam, Hilkhot Talmud Torah 1:8). Unfortunately, the reality has been in most times and places that rabbis, whether acting as teachers, judges, or prayer leaders must be paid. They must support themselves and their families. This concession was justified by a legal fiction: the payment was deemed to be not for the actual service rendered but rather as unemployment compensation, that is, in place of payment for the work they missed while serving as rabbi. I have tried with little success to convince the BEKI Board that my compensation should be according to the work that I am missing, which is as a CEO of a Fortune 500 company.

In part because of the danger of cynicism, I do not accept fees or gratuities from BEKI members for rabbinical services. Any money I receive for my services are directed to the Rabbi’s Tzedaka Fund, which I use to provide assistance to families and individuals in need, offer scholarships, underwrite the publication of scholarly works, meet special needs of the community, and support other worthy causes. Indeed, I am grateful to the BEKI members who support my presence in the community, enabling me to do my work; they are certainly entitled to regular rabbinic services without charge. Refusing gratuities also helps reduce concerns of favoritism.

I do, though, sometimes solicit for BEKI and other causes I support such as the Torah Fund of the Jewish Theological Seminary. When I do so it is purely because I believe strongly in the importance of the cause and because of the merit attached to encouraging others to perform the mitzva of tzedaka (charity). I have no qualms about asking for donations for these causes. I realize that these are not the only worthy causes in the world and that sometimes people are not in a position to give generously. In soliciting I only wish to make the donor aware of the importance of the specific mitzva opportunity and help to encourage the donor to consider contributing.

Part of my work of tikun, of repairing the world, is leading others to the shocking realization that someone would pray for them out of concern for them and faith in God. May all of our actions in the New Year be based on unreproachable motives.

As we complete our first year in the community, Miriam Benson joins me in expressing appreciation to you who have enabled us to be here, and in wishing you a Shana Tova uMetuqa, and Good and Sweet New Year.

HAMAQOM YINAHEM

We note with sorrow the passing of:

Millie & Lenny Stein
Sister of Jordan Goldberg

Velvel William Goldstein
Brother of Abraham Goldstein

September 1994
DEAR RABBI
A column of answers, advice and helpful household hints.

Dear Rabbi,

I need your advice. I have been married for several years. I am not very happy in the marriage but it is okay. I have been good to my wife and have given her a lot. I don’t feel that she has done the same.

At work there’s a woman who is very attractive. She is kind and loving and level-headed, unlike my wife. She understands me. And she is single, so it wouldn’t violate the Bible’s rules since men could have two wives.

I don’t believe that if there is a God He really wants us to deprive ourselves of companionship and sexual gratification. It’s too much a part of our nature. As long as my wife doesn’t find out if we have an affair, it won’t really hurt her. I don’t want to leave my wife because that would hurt her too much and it would be bad for our children. But I deserve some happiness in this world.

Signed,
Tempted

Dear Tempted,

Deserve? You deserve a klop on the head. Or even if you don’t deserve it, a klop might do you some good.

Come to your senses. Just because you feel an urge to do something does not mean that it part of our nature to do it, it only means that we have certain emotions to contend with. You might have an urge to wring the neck of your kids or your boss or your neighbor who mows his lawn at 8:00 AM Sunday morning, but even if you often have such urges that is no proof that God wants you to do it.

Part of our mission as the Jewish people is to build a society in which certain values are expressed and perpetuated. In contemplating an affair you would discard our value of respect for others, for you would disrespect your wife, your friend, and yourself. You would be building relationships built on deceit and subterfuge. Why should anyone ever trust you for anything? You would even be risking the health of all three of you. When your children find out, which they will, they may hate you. They will lose respect for you. You will lose self-respect. You will turn marriage, which can be a most holy relationship, into a desecration. You would be violating several of God’s commandments, for the allowance of two wives in Biblical days is no longer applicable.

But you do deserve to be happy. First you must make the best of your marriage—and you ought to seek the guidance of a qualified and reputable marriage counselor. Second you may find understanding and love in many relationships besides with your wife. Once you discover how, you will find that you can develop friendships that will meet many of your desires while keeping sacred your marriage.

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.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE BEKI COMMUNITY

To the Rabbi, Officers and members of BEKI,

Many heartfelt thanks for our Rabbi’s visits, your cards, donations and phone calls wishing me a speedy recovery. It helped tremendously to know that all my friends thought of me during my long convalescence. Herb and I are enclosing a donation of a large print Sim Shalom Siddur to the Synagogue.

Most sincerely,
Mae Etkind.

On behalf of Bea and myself, I would like to extend a most heartfelt thank you to the BEKI arms and to the many congregants who have wished us a Mazal Tov on our milestone 50th Anniversary. We are truly overwhelmed by the warm feelings given to us.

Milton Smirnoff
**Special Education Hebrew School**

The United Hebrew School is beginning a program for children with special education needs this fall. Principal Abi Gewirtz has assembled an extraordinary faculty, including teachers and advisors, to enable the school to offer top-quality service. The program is open to children regardless of Synagogue affiliation. This is the only program of its kind in the New Haven Area. For more information call Abi Gewirtz at 389-2108.

**UHS Registration Open**

Registration is open for the United Hebrew School at BEKI. UHS boasts an excellent faculty and administration, a high teacher-student ratio, and a tremendously positive review by students and parents from last year. Classes begin Sunday, Sept. 11. Under the continuing leadership of principal Abi Gewirtz UHS will go from strength to strength as it recommences for 5755. Call 389-2108 for information and enrollment.

**Stars of David**

A local chapter of the Stars of David is being formed now in the New Haven area. The first meeting, a “Get Acquainted” dessert reception for adults only, will be held October 23, 7-9 pm. in Woodbridge at the home of Debbie & Joel Sachs, 1060 Johnson Rd. For more information, directions, and RSVP (by October 19), please contact the Sachs family at 389-5400 or Nancy Horowitz at Jewish Family Services 389-5599.

Stars of David International, Inc. is the national non-profit information/support network for Jewish and partly-Jewish adoptive families, of all sizes, ages and origins. Encompassing every branch of Judaism, its local chapters and international mailings serve conventional adoptive families as well as prospective parents, single parents, grandparents, intermarried couples, interracial/international families, and those with biological children.

Stars of David was founded in 1984. It is a grassroots organization with board members and chapters across the United States and abroad and publishes the newsletter, Star Tracks.

**Kindergarten Program at BEKI**

The kindergarten program of the United Hebrew School will be held again at BEKI this coming school year. Last year’s program was a tremendous success. To find out more about the program call Abi Gewirtz at 389-2108.

**Cast Away Sins**

Through Tashlikh we express our desire to be free from sin and our continuing hope that we will be forgiven for past misdeeds. On the afternoon of the first day of Rosh Hashanana, Tuesday, 6 September, we will meet at 5:45PM at the Edgewood Bridge and recite prayers while “casting” our sins (represented as bread crumbs) into the water. We read from the book of Micah: “You will cast (tashlikh) all your sins into the depth of the sea.”

By performing tashlikh we signify our hope that God will overlook our failings during the past year and grant us favor in the year to come. Tashlikh is for people of all ages.
**Mourning Workshop**

What helped you when you were mourning? What do you do during a shiva call? What are the requirements for Jewish burial? How do you arrange a funeral?

The answers to these and other questions on dying, death, and mourning will be examined in an evening workshop lead by James Shure, a Jewish Funeral Home Director with Rabbi Tilsen on Thursday evening 13 October at 7:30 PM in the BEKI Library.

All are invited to participate. Mark your calendar right now.

Due to such an overwhelming inpouring of sympathy extended to the family of the late Millie and Lenny Stein, they have asked the synagogue to extend their greatful appreciation. Your loving compassion at such a tragic time in their lives is very comforting.

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**Family Caregiver Workshop**

Are you a family care giver? Family members caring for aged and disabled relatives face many challenges. The Family Caregiver Workshop will address your needs for education, support, and community resources to help maintain a family member at home or in seeking a nursing home placement.

The program is presented by the Consultation Center & BEKI in our library beginning Thursday evening 20 October. To register call 389-2108.

---

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---

September 1994
## Non-Holiday Service Times
- **Sunday**: 9:00 am.
- **Monday - Friday**: 7:00 am.
- **Saturday - Thursday**: 5:45 pm.

## September 1994

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28 Elul</td>
<td>29 Elul</td>
<td>1 Tishrei</td>
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<td>5 Tishrei</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am. Cemetery Memorial - Hamden</td>
<td>9:00 am. Labor Day Morning Service</td>
<td>1 Rosh Ha-Shanah. 6:00 am. Morning Service</td>
<td>2 Rosh Ha-Shanah. 6:00 am. Morning Service</td>
<td>3 Tzom-Gedalia. Fast-Day</td>
<td>4 Tishrei</td>
<td>5 Tishrei</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 am. Cemetery Memorial - West Haven</td>
<td>7:00 pm. Rosh Hashanah Evening Service</td>
<td>7:00 pm. Evening Service</td>
<td>7:00 pm. Evening Service</td>
<td>5:45 pm. Mincha Service</td>
<td>5:45 pm. Cemetery Memorial</td>
<td>9:15 am. Va-Yelech</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:45 am. Rashi Study Group</td>
<td>7:45 am. Rashi Study Group</td>
<td>1 Mincha Service 6:30 pm. Kol Nidre Service 6:45 pm.</td>
<td>9:00 am. Yom Kippur Morning Service with Yizkor</td>
<td>10 Tishrei</td>
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<td>6:45 pm.</td>
<td>5:30 pm. Mincha &amp; Neilah Service 7:42 pm. Final Shofar</td>
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<td>7:45 am. Rashi Study Group</td>
<td>9:00 am. Festival Morning Service 6:00 pm. Festival Evening Service</td>
<td>1 Sukkot. 9:00 am. Festival Morning Service 6:00 pm. Festival Evening Service</td>
<td>2 Sukkot. 9:00 am. Festival Morning Service 6:00 pm. Festival Evening Service</td>
<td>17 Tishrei</td>
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<td>6:45 pm.</td>
<td>7:03 pm.</td>
<td>5:45 pm. Mincha Service</td>
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<td>27 Elul</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 am. Hoshana Rabba Morning</td>
<td>7:00 am. Hoshana Rabba Morning</td>
<td>9:00 am. Festival Morning Service with Yizkor. 7:00 pm. Simchat Torah</td>
<td>9:00 am. Simchat Torah Morning Service</td>
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<td>9:00 am. Simchat Torah Morning Service</td>
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<td>6:00 pm. Festival Evening Service</td>
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### September 1994
- **25 Elul**: Quabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 pm. Late Evening Service 6:00 pm.
- **26 Elul**: Rosh Hashanah Evening Service 7:06 pm.
- **27 Elul**: Nitzavim Services 9:15 am. Learners' Minyan & Children's Havura 10:45 am. Mincha 5:45 pm.

### Take Time Out for God and for Yourself
- Attend Weekday Minyan

### Related Services
- **28 Elul**: Cemetery Memorial - Hamden
- **29 Elul**: Cemetery Memorial - West Haven
- **2 Tishrei**: Cemetery Memorial - Hamden
- **3 Tishrei**: Cemetery Memorial - West Haven
Men's Club News

The High Holidays are here and we start the New Year so “early” that we don’t have time to report in detail our plans, programs and projects for 1994-95. But we can say that the Men’s Club will have the synagogue sukkah up and ready on September 18th for the s’khakh (the greenery) for the roof, and the decorating by our young people. Before that, our ushering teams will help to prepare the sanctuary for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur and then help to make the services run smoothly.

Our regular series of monthly Sunday morning breakfasts will start in October. Date, speaker, and topic will be announced in this column and in our monthly flier.

We report with deepest sorrow and a profound sense of loss the tragic death of Leonard Stein who was killed with his beloved wife Mildred in a motoring accident in July. Lenny was for many years my right hand as co-president. They are sorely missed. May their memory be as a blessing for us all.

Shalom,
Saul Bell, President

Rwanda Response

Tax-deductible contributions to aid Rwandan refugees can be made out to United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism—Rwandan Relief Fund, Rapaport House, 155 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010.

Extra-Kosher Food

“I buy all my groceries with Mimi & Mikki’s food certificates,” says Rabbi Tilsen. “With each purchase, the stores make a small contribution to the shul. Food bought with these certificates is extra-kosher.”

BEKI’s College Students

BEKI’s Youth Commission will maintain contact with our college students. You can help by providing the BEKI office with the names and addresses of all those who are in college.

Please write or call the shul.
The Hebrew School Endowment Fund

Original Donors to the Hebrew School Endowment Fund

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Ezra and George Alexander
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in memory of Rose Scheber
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The Goodwin Charitable Foundation
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Mr. & Mrs. Walter Kahn
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Morris M. Levine Foundation
Mrs. Philip Lipkin

Mr. Robert Levine in honor of mother's birthday
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Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Miller

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Nuh in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary
Mr. & Mrs. Morris Oppenheim
Mr. George Posner in blessed memory of wife,
Leah (Lee) E. Posener and the Posner Family
Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Proctor

Mr. & Mrs. Murray Ratosh in memory of parents
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Rifkin
Mr. Steven Ronai in memory of father, Joseph Ronai,
and in behalf of my good friend and mentor, William Gitlitz
Miss Dorothy Ryter in memory of her sister, Pearl
Mr. & Mrs. David Sagerman
Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Savin
Rita and Aminadav Sela
Dorothy and Bob Share
Mr. & Mrs. Milton Smirnoff
Dr. Franz Tuteur in memory of Ruth Tuteur and Ernest Seligsohn
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Volain
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Weinstein
Mona Zitomer in memory of husband, Joseph Zitomer

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Gloria Cohen
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Steve Wizner
Bernard Volain

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In Honor of Ben Liveten by Mrs. Edward Horwitz & family.
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In Memory of Joseph (Bucky) Weiner by Mrs. Edward Horwitz & family.
In Honor of Rose Dworski by Nancy & Irving Miller.

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In Memory of Inga Haas by Ken & Linda Buckman.
In Memory of Henrietta Cohen by Helen & Richy Ross.
In Memory of Henrietta Cohen by Cheryl, Norman & Matthew Buchbinder.
Wishing a Speedy Recovery to Barbara Cusshen by Bea & Milton Smirnoff.
In Memory of Morris Sweetkind by Bea & Milton Smirnoff.
Wishing a Speedy Recovery to Esther Alexander by Bea & Milton Smirnoff.
Wishing a Speedy Recovery to Marvin Pizer by Henry Rothchild.
In Memory of Mr. Siegel by Sam & Harriet Kantrowitz.
In Memory of Henry R. Hoffman by Donna Hoffman.
In Honor of Bea & Milton Smirnoff by Doris & David Sagerman.
In Honor of Bea & Milton Smirnoff by Lois Smirnoff.
In Honor of Bea & Milton Smirnoff by Ruth & Ted Mendelson.
In Honor of Bea & Milton Smirnoff by Thelma Parker.
In Honor of Bea & Milton Smirnoff by Eli & Estelle Rumanoff.
In Honor of Bea & Milton Smirnoff by Samuel & Norma Rifkin.
In Memory of Mahlee Abeshouse by Harriet Borrack.
In Honor of Abe Goldstein by Harriet Borrack.
Wishing a Speedy Recovery to the father of Lori Weinstein by Bea & Milton Smirnoff.
From Don Award.

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Proctor Family in appreciation.
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In Memory of Millie & Lenny Stein by Marcia & Kenneth Steele.

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In Memory of Bessie & Irene Botwinick Krauss by Jack & Sylvia Botwinick.
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by Olga Bernardoni.
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by Fred & Bernice Gillman.
by Irma Riskin.
by Janet & Jay Brown.
by Steve & Rachel Wizner.
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by Grace Geisinger.
by Jack & Mollie Nuhit.
by David & Joan Locklin.
by Marc & Susan Weis.
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by Ruth & Sherman Zudekoff, Elizabeth Hamburger.
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by Irma Hamburger.
by John & Henrietta Connelly.
by Muriel Kaltman.

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**TORAH FUND (6/24/94 thru 7/31/94)**

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**Mazal Tov**

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To Rabbi & Mrs. Steven Kane by Violet & Charlie Ludwig.
To Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Ratner by Inge, Lenny & Gary Fish.
To Mrs. Anita Oles by Grace Geisinger.
To Mr. & Mrs. Milton Smirnoff by Mimi Kahn.

**Rejoicing With You**

To Mr. & Mrs. Harry Kaplan by Ceel & Arnold Lerner.
To Elizabeth Pollock by Ceel & Arnold Lerner.
To Mr. & Mrs. Milton Smirnoff by Mikki Ratner.

**On This Joyous Occasion**

To Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Ratner by Rose & George Feen.
To Mr. & Mrs. Milton Smirnoff by Rose & George Feen.

**Especially For You**

To Jay Brown by Hyla Greenberg.
To Lester Margolis by Rose & George Feen.
To Milton Smirnoff by Rose & George Feen.
To Rose Pergament by Rose & George Feen.
To Barbara Cushen by Rose & George Feen.

**Get Well**

To Lester Margolis by Violet & Charlie Ludwig, Harriet & Sam Kantrowitz.
To Sophie Peretzman by Mae & Herb Etkind.
To Milton Smirnoff by Harriet & Sam Kantrowitz, Inge & Lenny Fish, Mae & Herb Etkind.
To Marvin Pizer by Rose & George Feen, Violet & Charlie Ludwig.
To Ida Karas by Rose & George Feen.
To Rose Pergament by Grace Geisinger, Violet & Charlie Ludwig.
To Barbara Cushen by Violet & Charlie Ludwig, Bertha Fleischer.
To Leonard Wolf by Shirley & Ed Mattler.

**Sympathy**

To Kaye Family by Mikki Ratner.
To Mrs. Roz Kaye by Charlotte & Max Teitelman, Adele Tyson.
To Karp Family by Lillian Levine.
To Mrs. Maurice Kaye by Evelyn & Ernie Fiedler.
To Sol Peretzman & Family by Mae & Herb Etkind, Rose & George Feen, Irving Weinstein, Eileen Lambe, Eunice & Louis Rogoff.
To Judith Gottesman by Violet & Charlie Ludwig.
To Ortner Family by Tess & Herb Galvin.
To Stein & Goldberg Families by Marion & Abe Goldstein & Hyla Greenberg, Helen & Moe Miller, Ada & Abe Fish, Estelle & Ted Bloom, Mae & Herb Etkind, Gladys Lipkin.
To Mr. & Mrs. Milton Caplan by Ada & Abe Fish.
To Mrs. Marlene Avidon by Ada & Abe Fish.
To Ida & Marilyn Rosenbaum by Laura & Jack Yakerson.
To Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Rosenbaum by Laura & Jack Yakerson.
To Stein Family by Laura & Jack Yakerson.

---

**REFUA SHELEMA**

We ask God's mercy and care for those recently or currently ill:

**Barbara Cushen**
**Ida Karas**
**Darryl Kuperstock**
**Rose Pergament**
**Marvin Pizer**
**Moishe Schnitman**

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September 1994
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<th>Shabbat &amp; Holidays</th>
<th>begin at candle lighting:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 2–26 Elul—Shabbat</td>
<td>7:06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 5–29 Elul—Rosh HaShanah A</td>
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<td>Sept. 6–1 Tishri—Rosh HaShana B</td>
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<td>Sept. 9–4 Tishri—Shabbat</td>
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<td>Sept. 14–9 Tishri—Yom Kippur</td>
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<td>Sept. 16–11 Tishri—Shabbat</td>
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<td>Sept. 19–15 Tishri—Sukkot A</td>
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<td>Sept. 20–16 Tishri—Sukkot B</td>
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<td>Sept. 23–18 Tishri—Shabbat</td>
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<td>Sept. 26–21 Tishri—Shemini Atzeret</td>
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<td>Sept. 27–22 Tishri—Simkhat Torah</td>
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<td>Sept. 30–25 Tishri—Shabbat</td>
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**BEKI Bulletin**

The newsletter is published monthly by Congregation Beth El–Keser Israel for the benefit of its members. Congregation Beth El–Keser Israel is affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

To contribute articles or for inquiries regarding membership, donations, advertising, or special activities, call the Synagogue office (203) 389-2108, or write to 85 Harrison Street, New Haven, CT 06515.

**BEKI Bulletin © 1994 Congregation Beth El–Keser Israel.**

A Message from Rabbi Tilsen and Dear Rabbi © Jon-Jay Tilsen.

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Editor Rabbi Jon-Jay Tilsen
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DATED MATERIAL