

# Ha Shavuah B' Sha'arey Israel

November 12 – November 19, 2009

25 Cheshvan – 2 Kislev 5770



Candle lighting time 5:17 pm  
Friday November 13

Friday Evening Kabbalat Shabbat Services begin at 6:15 pm  
Saturday morning Shabbat Services begin at 10:30 am

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## Parashat Chaye Sarah (Commentary on Page 5)

Annual (Gen. 23:1-25:18): (Etz Hayim, p. 127)

Triennial (Gen. 24:53-25:18): (Etz Hayim, p. 137)

Haftarah: (Etz Hayim, p. 143)

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**We would like to extend our condolences to ~**

Larry Elowitz and his family on the passing of his sister, Elaine Dribbon

**Best Wishes for a Speedy Recovery to:**

Art Besser, Elaine Dreizin, Mel Haskins, Fran Kirsh, Paul Kruger and Viola Schwartz

**Mazel Tov!!**

To Rosalind Adelstone who is celebrating her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on Sunday

**We wish a Happy Birthday this week to:**

David Kent, Laurette Vaughan, Rosalind Adelstone, Paul Kross, Allison Yarrow, Steve Mizrahi, Amitai Ilan, Eric Lipson and Doris Rabinowitz

**We wish a Happy Anniversary this week to:**

Jennifer & Chip Koplin and Libby & Morris Cohen

**This week we remember the Yahrzeit of:**

Aaron Torch, Maurice Dayan, Samuel Chanim, Rena Cain Cohen, Florence Elowitz, Irving Wolf, Irving Levin, Louis Haskins

## Tefilat Lev Shaleyem one hour service this Saturday at 10:30 AM

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The Challot and Bagels at the Publix supermarket on Tom Hill Senior Boulevard are now Kosher Pareve. They can be served at either a meat or dairy meal.

The new Bakery Manager, Sheila, was very happy to do the extra work to make this happen. When you pick up the bagels or challah, please thank them so they know their efforts are appreciated.

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The Thursday Morning Minyan on Thanksgiving Day

November 26 will be at 9:00 AM

What a great way to begin a day of giving thanks for all we have.

See you there!



***Movie Night***  
***Sunday ~ November 15***  
***4:30 PM***

**Please join us for Movie Night at Terri and David Frolich's home. Bring a covered dish and we'll have great food, a wonderful movie and time to catch up with friends.**

The movie is a 1975 America drama film entitled "**The Man in the Glass Booth**".

The plot was inspired by actual events surrounding the kidnapping and trial of Adolf Eichmann. Maximilian Schell plays the lead character and was nominated for an Academy Award for his performance.

For more information please contact Stephanie Kross - [skross@cox.net](mailto:skross@cox.net)

Win some cash!! – Much better chances than the  
lottery – and much closer than Vegas.....

**Joint Fundraising  
Reverse Raffle**

Temple Beth Israel and  
Congregation Sha'arey Israel

**Saturday, November 21, 2009**

**7:00 PM**

Idle Hour Country Club  
Heavy Hors' D'oeuvres – Cash Bar

**1<sup>st</sup> prize - \$5,000**

**2<sup>nd</sup> prize - \$3,000**

**3<sup>rd</sup> prize - \$2,000**

**\$100 per ticket**

For tickets – see Scott Bayme, Chip Koplín, Jack Krapf,  
Beth Cohen, Alan Goldman or David Frolich  
You need not be present to win!!

## Dr. Lawrence A. Haskins Memorial Trust

In 1980 Gertie and Harry Haskins established a memorial trust in memory of their son Lawrence, a Periodontist, born and raised in Macon. Dr. Haskins died at the age of 34, leaving a wife and two young daughters. The purpose of the trust, as endowed, is “to perpetuate and enhance Jewish education for CSI students.”

**Given the ever-increasing cost of Jewish education, camp, and activities, the scholarship award has been raised to \$2,000.** It was the fondest hope of the benefactors that their generosity would further our young congregants’ knowledge of Judaism, and enhance their commitment to our religion and to the Jewish people.

The award is designated for young people between the ages of 10 and 20 and has three requirements: (1) potential recipients must have attended religious school at Sha’arey Israel for at least one full year, and (2) achieved scholastic excellence. (3) The application process requires a letter of recommendation from a congregant familiar with the nominee’s character and academic achievement.

Recipients will be selected by the Haskins Memorial Trust Committee, which also must approve the use of the funds. There is no limit to the number of recipients in a calendar year.

The scholarship can be used to defray the cost of attending a Jewish camp, conference, seminar or convention sponsored by a Jewish organization with which Sha’arey Israel is affiliated. Additionally, recipients may use the award to attend a Jewish studies course in the United States, Israel, or anywhere in the world at an accredited institution.

Dates to remember regarding the Haskins Memorial Trust:

1. Nominations for the award must be received by December 31, 2009.
2. Decisions will be made by January 15, 2010. A letter of award notification will be sent to each recipient.
3. If payment has not been made to the camp or educational institution, payment will be sent directly to the camp or school. If the family has completed payment, payment will be sent directly to the family, with proof of payment.
4. The Haskins Memorial Trust Award will be presented to each recipient at closing religious school exercises in May.
5. Each recipient will be asked to speak briefly on his/her camp or educational experience at opening religious school exercises in the fall and at a Shabbat service. Guidelines will be provided.

Parents and congregants, please encourage our young people to apply for this generous scholarship. If I can answer any questions about the fund or application process, please contact me.

Jami Gaudet  
Haskins Memorial Trust Chair

**Congregation Sha'arey Israel  
is hosting a BLOOD DRIVE**



**Tuesday - December 22  
1:30 pm - 6:30 pm**

Please call or email ~  
Marty Koplin: 474-5477  
[5martyk@cox.net](mailto:5martyk@cox.net)

An American Red Cross Donor Recruitment Representative,  
Sochetra Kong, will speak about the great need for blood  
donations at our dinner this Friday evening.



There is now a CSI Recycling Bin in the Kitchen. It is a black plastic waste bin with a swinging lid, and has a 51 L. capacity. It is labeled for thoroughly rinsed out recyclable GLASS, METAL, and PLASTICS # 1 & #2. Laura Ilan will take it to Macon Iron once a week when she takes out the CSI's paper recycling. This is now a part of the CSI Social Action Committee's efforts to be a positive force in our community.



## *The CSI Gift Shop*

*for all your gift needs*

Weddings - Housewarming Gifts

Birthdays - Anniversaries - B'nai Mitzvahs

**Everything you need for Chanukah!**



**20% OFF SALE ON ALL JEWELRY**

**Don't forget the CSI Cookbook - makes a great gift!**

*Free gift wrapping and local delivery.*

*Contact Terri Frolich or Deborah Adler any time.*

## **Chaye Sarah**

Genesis 23:1-25:18

*In this Torah portion, Sarah dies at the age of 127. Abraham searches for a place to bury her and settles on Machpelah. Abraham searches for a wife for his son, Isaac. Abraham sends his servant to find a wife for Isaac. The servant meets Rebekah at a well, where she provides water for him and his camels. Abraham marries Keturah, and has six more sons. He then dies at the age of 175.*

**Valuing Kindness** - Abraham and Rebecca, known for their kindness, are strong role models for us. *This week's Torah commentary is by Bernie Kimberg, who is the Chief Operating Officer at Westchester Jewish Community Services in New York.*

This week's Torah portion tells us of three significant events: the death of Sarah, the finding of a wife for Abraham's son Isaac, and the death of Abraham. Each of these events is deserving of study and comment: We are taught how Abraham deals with the burial of his beloved wife and how he prepares for his own death.

The Torah tells us: "Abraham breathed his last and died well up in years, old and satisfied." Abraham was able to die content, knowing that he had made arrangements for Isaac, and that he had "tied up loose ends" by making peace with his other son, Ishmael, and Ishmael's mother, Hagar.

### Seeking a Wife for Isaac

The section of this week's portion that I want to analyze speaks about Abraham, and how even as he is grief-stricken by the loss of Sarah, he is determined to find a suitable wife for his Isaac. He gives this responsibility to his most loyal servant, Eliezer, assuring him that God will guide him in finding Isaac's wife-to-be.

And so Eliezer, determined not to choose just any woman to be the wife of Isaac, asked God for a sign that would indicate when the right woman had appeared. Eliezer took 10 of Abraham's camels and went to the town of Haran. He planned to wait by a well, where the women of the town would come to draw water. Eliezer would ask for water for only himself and not the camels. But the woman worthy of becoming Isaac's wife would - of her own accord - also ask about giving water to the camels.

Thus, we see that Eliezer was first and foremost looking for a woman of outstanding character, a woman of great kindness and sensitivity. Eliezer was not interested in finding a wealthy girl for Isaac nor did he make great beauty one of the criteria. He was determined to find a woman with a big heart, fitting to be the matriarch of Israel.

### Rebekah's Character

Rebekah came to the well and Eliezer asked for water for himself. Rebekah was pleased to help, and various commentators emphasize her expressions of ultimate kindness. According to the Midrash, Rebekah was even kind enough to lower the jug to Eliezer's mouth so he would not need to expend any effort to drink.

Furthermore, after giving Eliezer water, Rebekah, without being asked and without asking, went to draw water for the camels. Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, a renowned halakhic scholar (scholar of Jewish law), explained that Rebekah was so kind that it was second nature for her to take care of other's needs. It was obvious to her that the camels needed water and she saw no need to discuss it.

The commentary states that ten camels would consume at least 140 gallons of water. This would be a very strenuous undertaking for Rebekah--made more remarkable by the way she chose to do this task.

### The Theme of Kindness

The Kedushat Levi suggests that Rebekah consciously chose not to give water to the camels one by one, for she would not want to choose which one to give first and cause the others to wait. Rather, Rebekah chose to keep running to the well, drawing water, and pouring the water into the trough, so that all the camels could drink at once. Physically, this was a much more demanding way to provide water for the camels.

These acts of supreme kindness, acts of giving more than was asked of her, were enough to satisfy Eliezer that God had intervened and showed him Isaac's future bride and the mother of the People of Israel.

The word hesed, which means kindness, is repeated throughout this portion. Abraham is known for his great kindness. It was this characteristic that he valued most and wanted passed on in his family.

I would hope that on this Shabbat, we would rededicate ourselves to "acts of kindness" toward our family, friends, strangers, and especially each other. Let's practice "random acts of kindness," without being asked and by expecting nothing in return. It will make a difference.

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**For other commentaries on this week's Torah portion check out these sites:**

[Aish.com](http://Aish.com)

[ISJL Taste of Torah](http://ISJL Taste of Torah)

[JTS](http://JTS)

[MyJewishLearning.com](http://MyJewishLearning.com)

[USCJ Torah Sparks](http://USCJ Torah Sparks)

**Contact information:**

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- Ways & Means* - Scott Bayme - [scottbayme@kaybeeofmacon.com](mailto:scottbayme@kaybeeofmacon.com)

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**Quick links:**

- [CSI Macon Online](#)
- [United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism \(USCJ\)](#)
- [JTS Podcast - this week's Parsha](#)
- [Audio Siddur](#)
- [Jewish Telegraphic Agency \(JTA\)](#)
- [Israeli News Broadcast – in English](#)
- [The Jewish Ethicist](#)
- [Synagogue 3000](#)
- [Learn through USCJ online](#)
- [The William Breman Jewish Heritage Museum](#)
- [United Jewish Communities \(UJC\)](#)
- [American Jewish University](#)

**For the children (or the young at heart):**

- [Torah Portion Coloring Pages](#)
- [Babaganews Torah Parasha of the week movie](#)