



**PARK SLOPE JEWISH CENTER**

November 10-18, 2017 | 21-29 Cheshvan 5778  
Parashat Chayei Sarah

Friday, November 10   21 Cheshvan				Parashat Chayei Sarah Saturday, November 11   22 Cheshvan		
Candle Lighting   4:24PM Kabbalat Shabbat with <b>Leora Kling Perkins</b>   6:30PM Shabbat Dinner with Shinshinim   7:00PM				Havurat Shabbat   9:30AM Parashat Hashavua   9:30AM Shacharit   10:00AM Family Torah   10:30AM Book Club   1:30PM <b>Amarya Levy-Mazie's Bat Mitzvah</b> - Mincha   3:30PM		
Sunday November 12 23 Cheshvan	Monday November 13 24 Cheshvan	Tuesday November 14 25 Cheshvan	Wednesday November 15 26 Cheshvan	Thursday November 16 27 Cheshvan	Friday November 17 28 Cheshvan	Saturday November 18 29 Cheshvan
Hebrew School 9:30AM  Rodfei Tzedek Action 12:00PM  Cooking with the Shinshinim 4:00PM		Hebrew School 4:00PM  Roei ben Talula Israeli Speaker 6:45PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM  Hebrew School 4:00PM	Café Ivrit - Mid-Level Hebrew 7:00PM	It's Friday Music Class   10:00AM  Candle Lighting 4:18PM  Kabbalat Shabbat Kulanu   6:30PM	<i>Shabbat Toldot</i>  Havurat Shabbat 9:30AM  Shacharit   10:00AM  <b>Jack Lefkowitz Bar Mitzvah</b>  Tot Shabbat/Mini Minyan 11:15AM  Jr. Congregation 11:15AM  Kishkush Acharei Kiddush 1:00PM  Shabbat Shmooze 1:30PM
<b>Park Slope Jewish Center</b> 1320 Eighth Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11215 (718) 768-1453 Office hours: M-Th 9AM-5PM, F 9AM-2PM www.psjc.org   email: office@psjc.org				Rabbi Carie Carter, PSJC's Rabbi (rabbicarie@psjc.org) Ellen Brickman, President (president@psjc.org) Aileen Heiman, Director of Youth Education (aileen.heiman@psjc.org) Marsha Stanley, Administrator (office@psjc.org) For questions about Accessibility (inclusion@psjc.org)		

**Mazal Tov!**

To **Amarya, Renanit, Steven, Barra** and **Yona** in honor of Amarya's Bat Mitzvah this Shabbat.

**Todah Rabbah**

To **Renanit Levy** and **Steven Mazie** for contributing to the Kiddush Fund this Shabbat in honor of Amarya's Bat Mitzvah.

**Yahrzeits observed 22-28 Cheshvan:**

**Andrew Mark**, father of Marjorie Rothenberg; **Anne Ruth King**, great-aunt of Judith Moskowitz; **Annette Kaplan**, sister of Lynda Kaplan; **Arnold Elfont**, uncle of Adine Schuman Pusey; **Benjamin Carlin**, great-grandfather of Rachel Isaacs; **Bernard Goldstein**, father of Ezra Goldstein; **Bessie Tursky**, grandmother of Marc Korashan; **Honora Gershman**, aunt of Pamela Kaplan; **Jesse Korn**, family friend of Diane Burhenne and Judy Ribnick; **S. Edward Palmer**, father of Alan Palmer; **Sarah Schwartz Rabinowitz**, mother of Richard Rabinowitz; **Stanley Lewis Saffer**, father of Robert Saffer. *May their memories be for a blessing.*

**G'mach, Hevra Kadisha welcome new members** If you are able to cook, deliver meals, visit, attend shiva minyanim, do shmira or tahara for those who have died, and support our members in good and bad times - please contact G'mach and Hevra Kadisha to add your name to the distribution list: gmach@psjc.org or hevrakadisha@psjc.org.



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## Join us for the Capital Campaign Match Challenge!

Go right now to <https://www.jewcer.org/project/save-our-synagogue/>  
We are grateful for every donation and pledge!  
Visit <https://www.psjc.org/capitalcampaign>



### Shabbat Dinner with Shinshinim

Friday, November 10 - 6:30PM | Services

7:30PM | Potluck Dinner and conversation with our Shinshinim

Come and hear from our community's Shinshinim (18 year old Israelis who are here for a year of service). Join us for Kabbalat Shabbat with Leora (our rabbinic intern) and then a potluck dinner and conversation with our Shinshinim.

### Parashat Hashavua

Saturday, November 11 | 9:30AM

Get a brief taste of the week's Torah portion with our Rabbinic Intern, Leora Kling Perkins. It's a great lead in to the Shabbat morning services.

### Book Club: Florence Gordon

Saturday, November 11 | 1:30PM

PSJCers and literature professor David Mikics will lead a discussion about Florence Gordon by Brian Morton.

The title character is a 75 year old Jewish-American Women's Studies professor and author of mostly academic books who becomes an overnight celebrity when her latest book unexpectedly becomes a best seller.

Unfortunately she doesn't get to enjoy her new fame for long as the lives of her son, daughter-in-law, and granddaughter begin to unravel. BPL has seven print copies as well as ebook and audiobook editions.

Inexpensive copies are available from on-line vendors, and an audiobook can be purchased either as a CD or as a digital file.

### Hebrew Cooking with the Shinshinim!

Sunday, November 12 | 4:00PM-6:00PM

Bring your family and join our Shinshinim to learn how to prepare delicious Israeli dishes using Hebrew! Last month we made lots of kinds of Israeli salads. This month we will bake some yummy Israeli desserts! Whether you are fluent or don't know Alef from Bet, this will be a great opportunity to pick up some Kitchen-Hebrew and have a great time cooking with some of our amazing Shinshinim (18 year old Israelis here for a year of service). This experience is **open to all**, but it is **geared toward elementary and middle school aged children and their families**. And it ends with dinner together, eating "the fruits" of our labor. We will also meet December 17; January 28, March 18. A donation of \$5/family/session is requested - just to cover materials. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Rabbi Carter at [rabbicarie@psjc.org](mailto:rabbicarie@psjc.org).

### Faces of Israel: Roei Ben Tolila

Tuesday, November 14, 2017 | 6:45PM

Join IsraelBKLYN for a talk with Roei Ben Tolila. Roei Ben Tolila was seriously wounded while serving in an elite unit in the Israeli military, and had to teach himself how to "become a leader" again, this time from his wheelchair. Listen to his inspiring story as he reminds us that "the choice - to be a leader, rather than to be led - is completely in our minds," and that we have power to lead and live our lives regardless of the difficulties we encounter along the way.

**PSJC runs on community participation.** If you are interested in: **leading Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv Services**, email [freddie.brooks@psjc.org](mailto:freddie.brooks@psjc.org); **leading Shabbat Morning Services**, email Elizabeth Schnur at [davening@psjc.org](mailto:davening@psjc.org); **chanting Haftarah**, email Alan Palmer at [haftarah@psjc.org](mailto:haftarah@psjc.org).



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### **Café Ivrit - Mid-Level Hebrew with our Community Shaliach Noam Willner**

Thursday, November 16 and 30 | 7:00PM

Would you like to practice speaking Hebrew over coffee together with other Brownstone Brooklyn friends? If so, Café Ivrit is the right place for you. The group will discuss different issues in Hebrew and will practice new words and ways to express yourself better in Hebrew. All this in a non-judgmental and safe environment. Perfect for someone who can communicate in Hebrew, but is not yet fluent. To determine if this is the class for you, or to RSVP, please contact Noam at [NoamW@jafi.org](mailto:NoamW@jafi.org).

### **PJ Library Class: It's Friday!**

Friday, November 17 | 10:30AM | \$12 per class

It's Friday! is a series of classes for children 3 and under and their caregivers. Join PSJC Tot Shabbat Leader, Abe, for hands on exploration of Shabbat and holidays. Visit [www.psjc.org/event/its-friday.html](http://www.psjc.org/event/its-friday.html) for more information.

### **Kabbalat Shabbat Kulanu**

Friday, November 17 | 6:30PM

Join us for a musical Shabbat celebration for all ages! Services begin in the sanctuary with Abe. Then we'll head downstairs for a communal dinner. Everyone is welcome! Main Entrees will be provided. RSVPs are not required, but are strongly encouraged. RSVP now [www.psjc.org/event/kabbalat-shabbat-kulanu1.html](http://www.psjc.org/event/kabbalat-shabbat-kulanu1.html). **Please bring a substantial salad/veggie side or dessert to share.** \*\*If you have specific food allergies or needs, please make sure you bring something you can eat, as we are unable to take special food requests for this meal.

### **Kishkush Acharei Kiddush**

Saturday, November 18 | 1:00PM

Are you comfortable speaking Hebrew? Do you want a place to speak with other fluent Hebrew speakers? Join us the third Shabbat of the month after services and kiddush where we will have a Shulchan Ivrit - a table to sit around, drink coffee and talk with one another in Hebrew. Those who aren't sure if they are "fluent" or not are more than welcome to join as well! Perfect for fluent Hebrew Speakers. Contact [Kishkush.at.PSJC@gmail.com](mailto:Kishkush.at.PSJC@gmail.com) for more details.

### **Shabbat Shmooze**

Saturday, November 18 | 1:30PM | Hosted by Freddie Brooks

Shabbat Shmooze is a get-together in the home of a PSJC member. Bring a dairy or pareve potluck dish to share. If anyone would like to host a Shabbat Shmooze on December 16 and in the year 2018, February 17 and April 21 please email Gavrielle Levine with your date of choice. For those participating in the Kishkush Acharei Kiddush first, we look forward to you continuing the conversation at the Shabbat Shmooze afterwards. As usual, the Shabbat Shmooze is a veggie/dairy pot-luck lunch open to the PSJC community.

### **Rosh Chodesh Kislev Minyan**

Sunday, November 19 | 9:00AM

### **It's PSJC Volunteer Day!**

Sunday, November 19 | 1:00PM - 3:30PM

WHAT: PSJC-ers work with Prospect Park Alliance to help maintain and clean up part of Prospect Park  
WHO: Adults and children (over 6). Come on your own or bring a friend, sibling, aunt, uncle, cousin, or neighbor! There will be snacks, schmoozing, and a little bit of Tikkun Olam ... All at the SAME TIME! FUN! FREE! Tools, training, explanations all provided. A rewarding and fun afternoon for all! If you've attended you know these days are a great way to get involved; if you haven't, please feel free to swing by and join the fun. Please email [stevenradwell@gmail.com](mailto:stevenradwell@gmail.com) for more info. Hope you can make it! Pizza will be available for Hebrew School students who wish to participate.

**Got announcements?** Email by Monday 5:00PM ([office@PSJC.org](mailto:office@PSJC.org))



## Parashat Chayei Sarah

Triennial: Genesis 24:10-24:52 | Etz Hayim p.132; Hertz p.83; Plaut p.162

Haftarah: 1 Kings 1:1-31 | Etz Hayim p.142; Hertz p.90; Plaut p.338

In Chapter 24 of this week's parasha, Rivka and Yitzhak first meet:

**61** Then Rivka and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rivka, and went his way. **62** Now Yitzhak had come from the approach of Beer-lahai-roi, and as he was dwelling in the Negev region. **63** And Yitzhak went out to stroll in the field toward evening, and he raised his eyes and saw and look, camels were coming. **64** And Rivka raised her eyes and saw Yitzhak, and she fell from the camel. **65** and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." and she took a veil and covered [her face]. **66** And the servant told Yitzhak all the things that he had done. **67** Add Yitzhak brought her into the tent of Sarah his mother and he took Rivka, and she became his wife; and he loved her, and Yitzhak was comforted after his mother's death.

This love that Yitzhak has for Rivka comes rather quickly, to say the least. They have barely seen each other! This stands in stark contrast to, for instance, the love of Yaakov for Rachel, which takes place after a long period of getting to know each other (Gen 24:18). Stranger still is Rivka's response to seeing Yitzhak: she falls off her camel and covers her face. The key to understanding this meeting may lie in the place from which Yitzhak is coming. In verse 62 we are told that Yitzhak is coming from Beer-lahai-roi, literally 'The Well of the the Living One who Sees.' This is the place where Hagar, several chapters earlier (16:13) was seen by God after having run away from her mistress Sarah. Hagar is overwhelmed by her experience of revelation, but unlike Moses and Avraham she is as excited at having seen God as she is that God saw her. In fact she gives God a new name, El Roi "the God who sees me" and the place becomes know as the place of the one who sees. While the need to be seen by our loved ones and in times of suffering is central to the human experience, if we take a closer look at the Biblical narrative it becomes clear that this was a particular issue for Yitzhak.

The root "to see" (הָאָר) is found twice in the story of the *Akeidah*. At the beginning of the story Avraham lifts his eyes and sees the place from afar (22:4) and towards the end of the story he sees the ram (22:13). What Avraham never sees is his son, Yitzhak. We don't know much about whether Sarah sees her son but the one time we find her seeing, she is looking at Ishmael laughing (or fooling around) (21:9). So Yitzhak's parents never really see him; his father remains focused on the commands of God and his mother seems preoccupied with Hagar and Ishmael and the trouble they are causing her. This type of childhood undoubtedly left Yitzhak wounded and in deep need. Rivka was the first one to lift her eyes and actually see him, and this is why he loved her so quickly; she immediately provided what had always been missing. Why then did Rivka fall and cover herself? Perhaps she was overwhelmed by how much he needed her to see him. The intimacy and vulnerability were too much, so she had to turn away and cover her face. The somewhat tragic end to the story is that while Yitzhak identifies Rivka as a partner who can provide him with what he needs most, he himself never seems to gain the ability to see her or anyone else. In fact he ends his life blind, physically and metaphorically. The Torah's message may be that while we often seek healing in our spouses for past familial wounds, that healing is often only partial. Our pain may be eased, but without deeper work, we may wind up doing the same to others as was done to us.

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by Rabbi Shoshana Cohen, from the "Torah Sparks" series produced by the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem. Rabbi Shoshana Cohen, *Conservative Yeshiva Faculty*, Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem. A Haftarah commentary by Rabbi Mordechai Silverstein found at <http://www.conservativeyeshiva.org/torahsparks/>

**All congregants and visitors** (of all genders) are requested to wear a head covering in the Sanctuary. Cell phones and photography are not permitted in the synagogue during Shabbat. Please also refrain from applause during services. **To request an Aliyah or other honor**, email Rabbi Carter a week in advance (rabbicarie@psjc.org), or notify the usher if you arrive before the Torah Service begins; we honor requests whenever possible. **To usher services**, email Ira Drucker at ira.drucker@psjc.org.