



## Women and Conservative Jewish Practice Is Subject of Temple Israel TILL Discussion

An expert on Jewish law and women, Israeli Rabbi Miriam Berkowitz, will be the next speaker to be featured by Temple Israel's adult education program, Temple Israel Lifelong Learning, or TILL.

Rabbi Berkowitz will discuss the Jewish laws about whether women should be required to wear *tallit* when called to the Torah when she speaks at Temple Israel on Thursday, November 12, at 8:15 P.M. in the Blue Room.

Now that egalitarianism is prevalent within Conservative congregations, questions have been asked concerning women and Jewish law. Rabbi Berkowitz is a specialist in this area and will cover related topics in her talk, titled "Jewish Law on the Horizon: Women, Honors and Tallit."

"This topic is of interest," said TILL Chair Rebecca Friedman-Charry, "because Temple Israel has always been at the forefront of the Conservative Movement. With this discussion we have an opportunity to know first-hand and immediately about the inner workings of our movement."

Rabbi Berkowitz is writing a Responsum on the subject, to be evaluated and voted on by the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards. During her presentation at Temple Israel she will share the relevant Torah and Rabbinic sources and explain how those sources are being interpreted in Conservative Judaism. An earlier Responsum she prepared, which was accepted by the committee, covered contraception and interpreting the laws of family purity. Rabbi Berkowitz is also the author of "Taking the Plunge: A Practical and Spiritual Guide to the Mikveh."

The organization Rabbi Berkowitz started is a pioneer in providing pastoral care to families and individuals in Israel, assisting them with how to cope with the transitions of aging, illness, death and grief, as well as in identifying areas of joy and growth. It places trained professional chaplains in healthcare settings such as hospi-

tals, hospices, and palliative care and retirement homes—something not done in Israel before the founding of Kashouvot.

As assistant rabbi at the Park Avenue Synagogue, Rabbi Berkowitz founded the Bikkur Holim Group and brought her pastoral approach to hospital visits and life-cycle events. Her chaplaincy experience began with an internship in Clinical Pastoral Education at Lenox Hill Hospital in an interfaith program for clergy students.

She expanded her chaplaincy skills with practical work at the French Hospital in Jerusalem in Oncology and Chronic Care Departments and has been a chaplain there ever since. She was one of the first Israelis to be certified as an Israeli spiritual caregiver.

She co-founded Kashouvot in 2010 to place spiritual caregivers in healthcare settings, educate the general public about the role of chaplaincy, and advance the professionalization and recognition of the field. She currently directs Kashouvot's pastoral services, staff development, and institutional advancement.

"Rabbi Berkowitz spoke at Temple Israel last year at a TILL sponsored program," Ms. Friedman-Charry said. "She was impressed by the congregation and its interest in cutting-edge Jewish issues, and expressed a desire to return. Our congregation has shown a strong interest in her work and her views and we are delighted to learn about the inner workings of the Conservative Movement from her."

### *Taking Prayer Outside*



Seventh grade Waxman High School students in the T'filah Enrichment Program took advantage of a beautiful day recently when they brought their prayer to the lawn outside the Youth House.

## I and My iPhone

By Rabbi Dr. Abraham B. Eckstein

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Rabbi Abraham B. Eckstein, who joins the congregation each year for the High Holy Days, spoke about his new iPhone during his sermon. This Voice Guest Column contains excerpts from his comments.

A new year has arrived. The New Year cards are piling up and so are the phone calls with good wishes. Have you noticed that different people have distinctive greetings? One friend of mine always begins with, "Hi," while another inquires, "How are you feeling?" My response is, "How much time

*We text, we email,  
we twitter and tweet,  
but we don't speak.*

have you got for me to review my medical history?" Yet another begins, "What's new?" My response is, "At my age and stage I want nothing new. Keep things the way they are." But we all know that's not possible. There is a new date, new inventions, new crisis, and new domestic problems every day.

My thoughtful children had a dilemma last year. It was a memorable birthday for me, the 70th anniversary of my *Bar Mitzvah*, and they wanted to buy me something

special, something new. And they did! I now have an iPhone 6. For a person who was content with a cute little phone with a tiny cover that needed charging every four days, I now have entered the 21st century.

I must confess that it is an ingenious device. I still haven't mastered all the icons and apps, but I love that I don't need to dial anymore. I say, "Call Miriam, home," and my bidding is done. I can even text her without pushing buttons.

Using the iPhone these past few months, I learned three things that have a message for each one of us on these High Holy Days. As you know, on Yom Kippur we have a lengthy list in our confessional, *Al Chait*. Today I add three new sins and we need to beat our breasts for each one.

First, these phones should come with a warning label similar to that found on cigarettes. "Caution: Use of this phone can be hazardous to your health—your physical health, your social and spiritual well-being."

It's no surprise to learn of the increased

—Continued on page 4

FROM THE RABBI

## Our Response to the Situation in Israel

By Rabbi Howard Stecker

The recent Palestinian attacks on Israelis have brought renewed violence to Israel, leaving the families of innocent victims like Naama and Eitam Henkin to bury and mourn their loved ones. Along with the physical attacks, Palestinian leaders, buttressed by the support of several Arab countries, continue to launch an offensive against the historical Jewish narrative of the land of Israel, most recently through a proposed United Nations resolution that disregards any Jewish connection to the Temple Mount.

I recently spoke to our congregation about the importance of channeling the legacies of the Biblical Sarah and Abraham in our response to the current crisis. Sarah, who worried about Ishmael's poor treatment of her son Isaac, was focused on protecting the physical and emotional well being of her child. Her legacy is the impulse to protect. Abraham, father of Ishmael as well as Isaac, yearned for the well-being of both. His leg-

acy, regarding his sons as well as those outside his family, is the impulse to reach out.

The current crisis calls in large measure for the protective impulse of mother Sarah. Practically, that means that we should be inquiring regularly about the safety and

*...the legacy of  
Sarah and Abraham  
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security of family and friends and Israel. We should make plans to visit Israel. We should express our disapproval of international resolutions or journalistic coverage that we deem inaccurate. We should gather in rallies like the one that was held recently in Great Neck to demonstrate our support and love for the State of Israel. We should

—Continued on page 5

## Our Community

By Rob Panzer

As we look towards the future, one of the questions we all have to ask is: "how does Temple Israel fit in with the larger Great Neck community?" Is it important that we co-sponsor events and programs that benefit people, in addition to our members? Will this serve to enhance our congregation, as well as the community at large?

As a partial answer to some of these questions, here are a few community organizations and programs that currently use our facilities:

*...how does  
Temple Israel  
fit in with the larger  
Great Neck community?*

- The Gahalet School—This is a school that has existed at Temple Israel for more than 20 years. It was designed as a complementary afternoon school for Israeli families and children of Hebrew-speaking households.

- Great Neck Public Library—As construction continues on the Main Branch of the library we have been pleased to host Wiggles and Giggles, an interactive program for parents and children from ages two to four.

- The Sid Jacobson JCC—This year the JCC has brought us the Friendship Circle. This program provides a structured, stimulating environment that encourages social, cognitive, and physical stimulation through a variety of activities for individuals with Alzheimer's Disease, dementia, Parkinson's Disease, and other degenerative illnesses.

- Yeshivat Ohr Haim—This kindergarten through grade four program is comprised of mostly Great Neck residents whose parents are seeking a day-school education for their children. This school is renting the Waxman Youth House during hours when it is unused.

As you can see, the programs going on in our synagogue are varied. They represent some of the ways by which we are attempting to meet the needs of our community. We look forward to other opportunities that will allow us to fulfill other needs.

As always, I can be reached at <robpanzer18@gmail.com>.

**CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES**  
Friday, October 30.....5:36 P.M.  
Friday, November 6.....4:28 P.M.



## IN MEMORIAM

Temple Israel extends condolences  
to the families of:

**RUTH ADISE**

esteemed member of Temple Israel

**FRIEDA ROSENZEWEIG**

sister of Rachel Hersonsky

May their memories be for a blessing.

## DAILY MINYAN TIMES

*Attend the Daily Minyan!*

Mon. & Thur.	6:45 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Tues. & Wed.	7:00 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Fri., Oct. 30	7:00 A.M.	5:45 P.M.
Fri., Nov. 6	7:00 A.M.	4:30 P.M.
Sat., Oct. 31	9:00 A.M.	5:15 P.M.
Sat., Nov. 7	9:00 A.M.	4:10 P.M.
Sunday	8:15 A.M.	8:00 P.M.

Sisterhood Asks...

# "ARE WE REALLY HEALTHY?"

A new series  
about your health

**Wed., Nov. 4**

8 P.M. - Blue Room

**Topic:** Toxins - The Hidden  
Dangers In Our Homes

**Speaker:** Laura Weinberg  
President, Great Neck  
Breast Cancer Coalition

**Thurs., March 17**

8 P.M. - Blue Room

**Topic:** Being Jewish,  
Being Healthy

**Speaker:** Dr. S. Shields  
Author, Lecturer, Nutritionist

**For Further Information:**

Gloria DeLott: 466-5690

Rona Lupkin: 482-0049

Karen Ashkenase:  
487-3048

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT TEMPLE ISRAEL

Oct.	31	Shabbat Talk: "Judaism and Superstition" With Rabbi Abraham B. Eckstein	12:45 P.M.
Nov.	1	Family B'nai Mitzvah Workshop Led by Cantor Frieder	9:30 A.M.
	1	Shalom Club Dinner Meeting	6:30 P.M.
	2	Waxman Youth House Midnight Run	6:30 P.M.
	2	Congregational Meeting	8:15 P.M.
	4	Sisterhood Program: "Are We Really Healthy?" Sponsored by Sisterhood	8:00 P.M.
	8	TILL Presents "The People vs. Abraham"	7:00 P.M.
	9	Sisterhood Board Meeting	10:00 A.M.
	10	Sisterhood Lunch and Read	Noon
	12	TILL Program: "Jewish Law on the Horizon: Women, Honors and Tallit" featuring Rabbi Miriam Berkowitz	8:15 P.M.
	15	Blood Drive Sponsored by the Men's Club	8:30 A.M.
	16	Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs Regional Dinner Meeting	7:15 P.M.
	19	Board of Trustees Meeting	8:15 P.M.
	22	Cantor Frieder's Fall Concert	
	22	Temple Israel Singles Connection Program: "Love with a Plan"	2:00 P.M.
Dec.	7	Sisterhood Board Meeting	10:00 A.M.
	13	Congregational Hanukkah Party	5:00 P.M.

## Temple Israel Commemorates Kristallnacht

with

**Marion  
Blumenthal  
Lazan**

author of

**Four Perfect Pebbles**

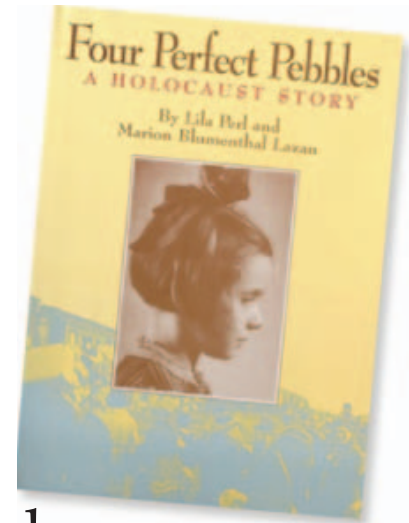
*A Holocaust Story*

Marion Blumenthal Lazan  
will share her personal story  
as a child survivor of the Holocaust—  
A story of courage, hope and the will to survive.

**Sunday, November 8**

**10:30 A.M. • Blue Room**

Books will be available for purchase and signing for \$5  
Sponsored by the Temple Israel Religious School  
and the Shoah Remembrance Committee



# Voice Guest Column: I and My iPhone

—Continued from page 2

number of automobile accidents because of these phones. People text while they drive, answer the phone to retrieve a message and make calls. The unbridled use of the phone spells disaster. I see women pushing baby carriages, crossing the street oblivious to traffic and peering down at the phone in their hands. The phone is hazardous to our safety. “*Al Chait.*”

But it goes beyond that. The cell phone is destroying social relationships, destroying conversation, and harming personal interactions with others. We don’t speak

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to each other. We text, we email, we twitter and tweet, but we don’t speak. Instead, we push buttons on an inanimate object.

We are concerned about our young people becoming addicted to alcohol or drugs. Start to worry about how they are already addicted to their smart phone. I assure you, if you took away their phone for a week they would panic and have severe withdrawal symptoms.

Recently I went into a local restaurant to eat dinner. Shortly thereafter a family—father, mother, and two high school daughters—entered. May I describe the scene? Father and mother studying the menu and the girls are on the phone texting their friends the uplifting news that they are in the restaurant.

When we cut off conversation and interaction with others and with family, part of our humanity is destroyed. “*Al Chait.*”

I read a tragic news story of a young woman, Faigy Mayer, 30 years old. She was brought up in an ultra-strict Hassidic family. As an adolescent she turned away from that orthodox lifestyle. Her parents feared she might influence her younger siblings and it would be an embarrassment for the family to have a child who was not observant, so they sent her away, cut off from the family. They had nothing to do with her for the last 15 years. She never saw her parents, her brothers and sisters, uncles and aunts, never was invited to a wedding or a *Bar Mitzvah*.

Last month she went up to a restaurant on the 23rd floor of a Manhattan building,

climbed over a ledge, and jumped off.

We need to communicate with each other, face to face. Speak to each other, hug and kiss and cry together. Fortunately our tradition provides the solution to this problem. It is called *Shabbat*.

I know in this congregation we have families that insist and demand that the family come together Friday nights. Your children may find excuses. You must insist. You are strengthening the family ties and the bonds of love and the beauty of *Shabbat*. And the rule must be no cell phones on for those three or four hours. You come together as a Jewish family, recite *Kiddush*, *Ha Motzi*, *Birkat Ha Mazon*. Remember, the iPhone comes with blessings, and with curses.

The second thing my iPhone sensitized me to was the little warning alert that pops up periodically. It reads, “You only have 20 percent or 10 percent left. Time to recharge.” In our lives we could use such an alarming warning advising us that we need to recharge our personal batteries. Many of us are down to 20 percent or 10 percent of living as a Jew. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur come and hopefully we get fully charged. But no charge can last for a year until next Rosh Hashanah.

What we do here on the *bimah*—the cantor, the *ba’al Koreh*, the shofar blower, the rabbi – is to help us connect to our tradition and recharge our batteries.

We come together, with fellow Jews, we hear music that stirs your *neshamah*, your soul, we hear words of Torah and inspiration, we recall memories of our childhood and our parents and grandparents. There is a stirring within us to make this New Year a better one, richer and different, to do *mitzvot*, to be a role model for our children, to be a 100 percent Jew and *Mentch*, not just getting along at 20 percent.

Are we living up to our potential? Examine our hearts, souls and lifestyle. Are we living up to our potential or are we content with 20 percent?

We have to learn to not be contented with being a 20 percent husband or wife or father or mother or sister or brother.

If we have grown estranged from family members, reach out. From time to time I officiate at funerals where I don’t know the family. I meet, say, with a daughter. Who are the children? Grandchildren? I take their names. I then say, “Did your mother have any brothers or sisters?” “She has a brother but don’t mention him. They haven’t spoken in years and he won’t come to the funeral.” My heart sinks when I hear this.

*Al Chait* for only living at 20 percent or 10 percent of relationship with others. We have a New Year that reminds us that we need to function at 100 percent as Jews, as

family members. Recharge your batteries!

Have a dream, set a goal, don’t wait for some magical moment to change yourself. Start today. *Hayom*. If not now, when?

The third thing I learned from my iPhone is that it is incorrectly called a “smart phone.” These phones are neither smart nor dullards. They are simply all the libraries of the world at our fingertips. They hold the key to all recorded knowledge – facts, statistics, maps, charts, diagrams, recordings, everything is there. But there is vital information that is not there.

If a friend of mine is sitting *shiva* in Albany and I am thinking of traveling there, the phone can tell me the most direct route there from my house. It informs me of any construction, any accidents, even if there is a police car down the road. It knows the temperature in Albany today and tomorrow. It lists the kosher restaurants in the Albany area and so on. I can go to Pandora and listen to Vivaldi and Beethoven and John Denver as I drive. The phone is magical.

But you know what it cannot tell me: whether I have an obligation to make that long trip for a *shiva* call and do a *mitzvah*.

The iPhone can tell me if I’m heading North or South. But I need a different compass, a moral one, to inform me if I am progressing in the right direction, leading a good and moral life. In order to know what is right and what is wrong, we need a different phone, a spiritual smart phone. Fortunately, we have it. It is our Torah, which

*The phone  
is hazardous  
to our safety.*

indicates the way to a life of blessing and goodness.

The iPhone is a marvel. It will open up all vistas, but there are sites that are harmful. They can entice us and expose us to danger. How tragic when I read of some innocent adolescent girl who is entrapped by some man who takes advantage of her naiveté and gullibility—sometimes with tragic results.

The world in which we live today is not a religious one. It is not a world which emphasizes right and wrong. My older daughter often categorizes me as being judgmental. I plead guilty. I do judge whether something is right or wrong, good or evil, and I can do it because my studies and upbringing told me what is good and what is bad.

Let me describe ethics today. A man comes into the Rabbi’s study all worked up.

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# Why Add Spirituality to Programming?

By Danny Mishkin

Dr. Lisa Miller of Columbia University writes in her book, *"The Spiritual Child,"* "The research shows that children who have a positive, active relationship to spirituality are: 40 percent less likely to use and abuse substances, 60 percent less likely to be depressed as teenagers, 80 percent less likely to have dangerous or unprotected

*I see religion meeting spirituality in beautiful ways.*

sex, and are more likely to have positive markers for thriving and high levels of academic success."

Spirituality has often been a hokey word in Jewish communities, yet the research shows that spirituality is exactly what our community needs. Anecdotally, I have seen teens with abnormal stress levels walk through my doors for the last four years. Research shows that substance use and abuse is rising among teens. What we are supposed to do here at Temple Israel should be the best response to these issues.

However, religious education is not the same as spiritual education. To paraphrase Dr. Miller, one can have religious education without spirituality, and one can have spirituality without religion. It is our responsibility to infuse our programs with both religious and spiritual relevance. The difference, as Dr. Miller put it, is

## Our Response to the Situation in Israel

—Continued from page 2

support communal initiatives like the purchase of an ambulance for Magen David Adom.

The legacy of Mother Sarah urges us to respond concretely to current physical and emotional attacks on our people. We must do so consistently and unapologetically.

Difficult though it may be during periods of violence such as this, we also must remember the legacy of Abraham who understood his charge to become a blessing for all the families of the earth. Practically, that means that we should continue to advocate for a diplomatic response to the conflict even as we support Israel's right to defend her citizens from attack. It means that we should support grassroots efforts to bring Jews and Muslims together in peaceful collaboration and dialogue.

The legacy of Father Abraham urges us to find ways to reach out that do not compromise our security or our legitimacy.

At the Great Neck rally this past Sunday, the community stood together in support of Israel. Synagogues of all denominations and backgrounds were represented as spiritual and political leaders addressed the crowd. Spontaneous dancing broke out in joyous celebration of the Jewish homeland. We sang "Am Yisrael Hai," "The People of Israel Live." And we sang "Lo Yisa Goy el Goy Herev," "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation."

Especially during challenging times such as this, the legacy of Sarah and Abraham must live on through us.

that spiritual education demands that the participant have personal ownership of their practice and that it connect to a transcendent relationship with another person, a higher power, or your natural surroundings.

I think of the most powerful programs I have been involved with at Temple Israel, and I see religion meeting spirituality in beautiful ways. Our sixth grade family retreat has services outside in nature, deep discussions to foster stronger relationships, and a connection to our sense of community as a higher power. The *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* Workshops include inter-generational conversations about our relationship with God, challenging sixth and seventh graders and their parents to deeply think about their personal relationship with a higher power. Most recently, we had a *Sababa Shabbat* for all ages at the Youth House. We saw participants pray by repeating Jewish mantras that can guide their life. A few of us shared our mantras, and it bonded us.

There are many ways to be spiritual, and for us Judaism will be the path we take to a more spiritual life. However, I fear that our society has forced us to live in a spiritual desert filled with competition over caring, rushing over reflection, and materialism over relationship. It is up to our community to help our teens survive and thrive this spiritual wilderness by providing water (pure joy), shelter (emotionally safe space), fire (passion and purpose), and food (caring for the basic needs of our community).

## B'NAI/B'NOT MITZVAH IN OUR TEMPLE ISRAEL FAMILY



**Jared Astrof**

Jared Astrof will be celebrating his *Bar Mitzvah* on November 7. He is the son of Jackie Einstein Astrof and Josh Astrof and the grandson of Temple Israel members Irene and Fred Einstein. He has a brother, Zachary, 10 and is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. He enjoys playing baseball, running, swimming and is on his school's cross country and swim teams. Jared also enjoys solving Rubik's cubes. He is currently attending the Waxman High School and celebrated his *Bar Mitzvah* in Israel this past summer.



**Jake Sedaghat**

Jake Aaron Sedaghat will be called to the Torah as a *Bar Mitzvah* on November 14. He is the son of Debbie and Alfred Sedaghat and has two brothers, Justin, 20, and Eric, 17. Jake is an eighth grade honor student at Great Neck North Middle School. He is the captain of his soccer team. Jake is currently attending the Waxman High School and visited Israel this past summer with his family to celebrate his *Bar Mitzvah*. He looks forward to going back in the near future.

## MAZAL TOV TO . . .

- **Sarah and Bruce Rothstein** on the birth of their grandson, Dov Benjamin Rothstein.
- **Ossie and Doug Spector** on the engagement of their son, Daniel, to Stephanie Weinberg.
- **Joan Schussheim** on the *Bar Mitzvah* of her grandson, Benjamin Ari Schussheim.



**TORAH RESTORATION FUND***In honor of:*

Wally Kopelowitz's special  
birthday  
Karen Lewkowitz-Miller  
and Monte Miller

**YIZKOR FUND***Contribution:*

Maxine Vogel

**CANTOR FRIEDER'S  
DISCRETIONARY FUND***In memory of:*

Joseph E. Shahmoon  
Linda and Josh Young  
Carol and Marc  
Seidenberg

**ISRAEL SOLIDARITY FUND***In honor of:*

The engagement of Allison  
Lopatkin, daughter of Susan  
and Robert Lopatkin, to  
Gregory Wood  
The birth of Violet Rosalie  
Kardon, granddaughter of  
Ronnie and Marc Katz  
Rebecca and Sassan  
Sassouni

*In memory of:*

Pearl Langsner  
Brenda and Lance Greiff

**TEMPLE ISRAEL FUND***In appreciation of:*

Receiving a High Holy Day  
honor  
Hannah Berman

*In honor of:*

Muriel Geller's special  
birthday  
Eva Yarett  
Lorraine Aaron  
Micky and Allan  
Greenblatt

*In memory of:*

Doris Rivilis  
Micky and Allan  
Greenblatt  
Bela and Mel Schoenfeld  
Pearl Langsner  
Simone and Robert  
Kahen  
Joseph E. Shahmoon  
Yvonne Shahmoon  
Max Salit  
Malcolm Salit  
Giselle Szanto  
Anne Hirsh  
Jerome Seiler  
Harriet Seiler  
Myron Cooper  
Seymour Geller  
Sandra Geller and Evan  
Cooper  
Irving Yares  
Joan Schusheim  
Mildred J. Freud  
Joan A. Weinberg  
Toby Feuer  
Susan Abrahams

# From Generation to Generation



## Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

Bertha Schwartz  
Paul Schwartz  
Pearl Billig Eisenstein  
Melvin Eisenstein  
Rachel Gal  
Gita Rose  
Marvin Kurfurst  
Susan Tillem  
Abraham Goldberg  
Teddy Goldberg  
Rita Wolf Emanuel  
David Emanuel  
Linda B. Emanuel  
Joseph Puro  
Hilda Puro  
Nathan Puro  
Carol Puro  
Sandy Rosen  
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Adrienne Wilson  
Adam Wilson  
Sean Wilson  
Victory Azizolah  
Roya Emrani  
Jean Rothbaum  
Hal Rothbaum  
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Jeffrey Bernstein  
Beatrice Feder  
Jane Dellsy  
Anna Paul  
Arlene Paul Caitung  
Felicia Lustig  
Ilana Gillman  
Gillian Cohen  
Myra Nochomovitz  
Shirley Nochomovitz  
William Litner  
Paul Litner

**WAXMAN HIGH SCHOOL AND  
YOUTH HOUSE FUND***In honor of:*

The engagement of Daniel  
Spector, son of Ossie and  
Doug Spector, to Stephanie  
Weinberg  
Moji and Omid  
Pourmoradi

*In memory of:*

Pearl Langsner  
Kirk Schloss  
Elise and Richard  
Kestenbaum  
Joseph E. Shahmoon  
Moji and Omid  
Pourmoradi

**DAILY MINYAN FUND***In honor of:*

Kate Sazer, daughter-in-law of  
Lois and Gary Sazer  
Simhat Torah honorees,  
Rebecca Friedman-Charry,  
Keyvan Frouzan and David  
Scherr  
The birth of Violet Rosalie  
Kardon, granddaughter of  
Ronnie and Marc Katz  
Alise Kreditor, Jeffrey  
Englander and family  
The engagement of Jillian  
R. Zuller, daughter of Dana  
and Michael Zuller, to  
Andrew Herzog  
Randi Zuller

*In memory of:*

Pearl Langsner  
Lily Salzman  
Alise Kreditor, Jeffrey  
Englander and family

*For the recovery of:*

Gary Sazer  
Alise Kreditor, Jeffrey  
Englander and family

**SAMUEL BARON MUSIC FUND***On the occasion of:*

The engagement of Allison  
Lopatkin, daughter of Susan  
and Robert Lopatkin, to  
Gregory Wood  
Elise and Richard  
Kestenbaum

*In memory of:*

Beverly Goldman  
Cheryl Eisberg Moin and  
Seth Moin

**PRAYER BOOK FUND***In memory of:*

Mildred Kleinhaus  
Barbara Choit  
Jean Rothbaum  
David Rothbaum  
Paul Rothbaum  
Joseph R. Block  
Celia Block  
Laurie Frankel  
Pearl Langsner  
Barbara and Harvey  
Choit  
Doris Rivilis  
Diane and Edward  
Satran

**SHOAH REMEMBRANCE FUND***In memory of:*

Benjamin Itzkowitz  
Doris Rivilis  
Lori and Peter  
Oppenheimer

**ADULT EDUCATION FUND***In honor of:*

Wally Kopelowitz's special  
birthday  
Cheryl Eisberg Moin and  
Seth Moin

*In memory of:*

Pearl Langsner  
Cheryl Eisberg Moin and  
Seth Moin

**MEN'S CLUB FUND***In memory of:*

Pearl Langsner  
Carolyn and Larry  
Liebling  
Susan and Hal  
Rothbaum

**RUTH AND RABBI MORDECAI  
WAXMAN MEMORIAL FUND***In memory of:*

Pearl Langsner  
Laura and Manny  
Bardash

**USHERS FUND***In memory of:*

Pearl Langsner  
Nancy and Sid  
Freedman  
Keyvan Frouzan

**AESH TAMID FUND***In honor of:*

Allan Greenblatt's 85th  
birthday  
Beverly Sternlieb

**BEN ZION ALTMAN SENIOR  
MITSVA FUND***In memory of:*

Beverly Goldman  
Bela and Mel Schoenfeld

**RABBI SCHWEBER'S  
DISCRETIONARY FUND***In honor of:*

Rabbi Schweber  
Steven Friedman and  
Lana Kalickstein

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND***In honor of:*

Simhat Torah honoree  
David Scherr  
Susan and Arden Smith

*In memory of:*

Pearl Langsner  
Susan and Arden Smith

**SHALOM CLUB LIBRARY  
SHELF FUND***In memory of:*

Rae Putterman  
Mickey Putterman

# Guest Column: I and My iPhone

—Continued from page 5

“Rabbi, I need your advice on a serious ethical matter.” “Relax Moishe, what’s the problem?” “A customer just left my store and in stead of handing me a ten dollar bill he gave me a hundred.” The Rabbi looked at him. “No question, you must return it.” “No, no, “Moishe went on, “You misunderstand. My question is, do I tell my partner or not?”

We have a Torah, a Talmud, a Midrash, Rabbinic scholars—they are our moral smart phones. These values are part and parcel of Judaism.

The Israel Defense Forces have a special unit that carries no weapons and is admired by all. They receive specialized training and equipment so they can offer immediate aid after a bombing, an earthquake, a building collapse. They are “search and rescue” soldiers on 24-hour alert. But what makes them a Jewish army is that they offer their services to all neighboring countries that have had a catastrophe. When the tsunami hit, Israel was among the first to respond. In Nepal and Haiti, the IDF was first to set up field hospitals, special sound equipment to hear any noise inside a buried apartment house. Even now, they put up a field hospital at the northernmost part of Israel abutting the Syrian border so that those injured in the fighting could walk over the border and be treated. That is what a moral compass is. That is what it is to be a Jewish State.

We need to beat *Al Chait* for not using our ethical Jewish smart phone to guide us in life. A new year, a new beginning, a new challenge, a new opportunity for change. We acknowledge our shortcomings, *Al Chait* for the sin of enabling our smart phone to cut us off from one another. *Al Chait* for living our lives on only 20 percent of our ability or potential. And finally, *Al Chait* for not using our spiritual smartphones, our Torah and tradition, to guide us.

Let this coming year be filled with blessing, good health and *shalom*.

## Jews & The News

A discussion of issues  
of the day with  
Rabbi Howard Stecker.

Discuss local and  
international news items  
of particular interest  
to the American  
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Photographers: Robert Lopatkin, Ofra Panzer, Milton Putterman

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Web: www.TIGN.org

Published bi-weekly by Temple Israel of Great Neck, New York, from mid-August to mid-June. Periodicals postage paid at Great Neck, NY. Postmaster: Send address changes to Temple Israel Voice at address above. Publication No. USPS 078-740. Subscription \$5.00 per annum.

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## D'VAR TORAH

By Rabbi Marim D. Charry

### Vayera

Saturday, October 31

In this portion, Abraham is informed by angels that he and Sarah will have a son and that the wicked cities of Sodom (where Lot lives) and Gomorrah are to be destroyed, Abraham argues with God about justice and God agrees to spare the cities if there are at least ten righteous men among them. Lot turns out to be the only righteous man and the cities are destroyed, but Lot and his family are saved. Sarah gives birth to the long-awaited son, Isaac, and demands that Abraham expel Hagar and her son, Ishmael. God further tests Abraham's faith through the near sacrifice of Isaac. These incidents serve to illustrate Abraham's expanding concept of God and also reveal his human failings.

### Hayyey Sarah

Saturday, November 7

We conclude the cycle of Abraham and Sarah stories, Sarah dies at the age of 127, and Abraham purchases a burial site, the Cave of Machpelah in Hebron, from the local Hittite inhabitants in this portion. This cave becomes the burial place for the patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and their wives, Sarah, Rebekah, and Leah. As Abraham faces the prospect of his own death, he arranges a marriage for Isaac by sending his chief servant back to the family homeland to negotiate for the hand of a family member. When the servant returns with Rebekah, Isaac installs her in Sarah's tent and marries her, and in their love he finds comfort after his mother's death. Thus, God's plan of history unfolds through a series of commonplace and natural events.

*Worship With Your Family  
At Temple Israel  
This Shabbat!*

## SABBATH SERVICES

Friday, October 30

Evening Service 5:45 P.M.

Saturday, October 31

Morning Service 9:00 A.M.

Weekly Portion: *Vayera*

Genesis 18:1 - 22:24; *Haftarah*: II Kings 4:1 - 37

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Jacqueline Harounian,  
Sima Taid, Lori Oppenheimer and Hal Rothbaum

*Bar Mitzvah*

ALEXIS HEDVAT

daughter of Katrin and Faramarz Hedvat

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

*Shabbat Talk* - "Judaism and Superstition" 12:45 P.M.

*Minhah* 5:15 P.M.

*Ma'ariv* 6:20 P.M.

*Havdalah* 6:35 P.M.

Friday, November 6

Evening Service 4:30 P.M.

Saturday, November 7

Morning Service 9:00 A.M.

Weekly Portion: *Hayyey Sarah*

Genesis 23:1 - 25:18; *Haftarah*: I Kings 1:1 - 31

*Bar Mitzvah*

JARED ASTROF

son of Jackie Einstein Astrof and Josh Astrof

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Robert Panzer,

Toby Katz, Keyvan Frouzan and Leonard Seskin

Unlocking and Enriching Jewish Prayer 10:30 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

*Minhah* 4:10 P.M.

*Ma'ariv* 5:12 P.M.

*Havdalah* 5:27 P.M.