



Congregation Ohr Torah

Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi

Allen Kessel - President

Parsha Noach

1 Cheshvan 5768

October 13, 2007

Candlelighting:	6:04PM
Mincha & Kabbolas Shabbos:	6:10PM
Shacharis:	7:45 & 9:00 AM
<i>Rabbi Hoffman's Gemara Avoda Zara Shiur – After Hashkama</i>	
Z'man Krias Shma (G'RA):	9:54AM
Early Mincha:	1:45 PM
<i>Rabbi Luban's Gemara Yoma Shiur 5:10 pm</i>	
Mincha:	5:55 PM
<i>Shalosh Seudos Speaker: R. Dov Greer</i>	
Maariv:	7:05 PM
Weekday Shacharis:	
Sun	7:15, 8 & 9 AM
Mon & Thur:	6:20, 7:05 & 8AM
Tues. Wed. & Fri	6:30, 7:10 & 8AM
Weekday Mincha/ Maariv:	6:05 PM
Late Maariv:	10:10 PM
<i>Preceded by Tehillim at 10 PM</i>	
<i>Rabbi Luban's Halachic Responsa Shiur: 9:10 PM on Monday</i>	
Topic: Can I shower on a three day Yom Tov?	

KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP

Kiddush sponsorship is available for October 20th, November 3rd, 10th & 24th and December 1st & 8th.

To sponsor a Kiddush or reserve the Kiddush room, please contact Mel Barenholtz in person, by phone or email: mbarenh@yahoo.com.

To sponsor a Shalosh Seudos, please contact Moshe Wiesel

LOCAL ERUV

Please call 732-247-ERUV for status of the Eruv.

OHR TORAH NEWSLETTER

To subscribe to the Weekly Announcements by email, please send an email to info@ohrtorah.net and request to be added to the distribution list.

TREE OF LIFE and/or YAHRZEIT PLAQUES

To dedicate a Yahrzeit Plaque or a Leaf for the Lobby Eitz Chayim Tree, please contact Moish Nat by sending a detailed fax with all dedicatory wording to 732-442-8022. For inquiries and more info. Call Moish at 732-442-5751 during work days or 732- 572-4132 in the evening.

BARUCH HABAH

Ohr Torah would like to warmly welcome newcomers, visitors and guests who are joining us for Shabbat. If our President, Allen Kessel or Rabbi Yaakov Luban does not get a chance to welcome you personally, please come up and introduce yourself. We would like to greet and meet you!

KIDDUSH

This week's Kiddush is being sponsored by David Hanfling and Family to commemorate the Yahrzeit of David's father, Abraham Hanfling (Avrohom ben Naftoli), A"H.

MAZEL TOV

...to Anna and Charles Plittman on the birth of a granddaughter to their children, Dina and Judah Miller. Mazel Tov as well to brother Eli, sister Rachaeli, Sherrie and Josh Miller of Jerusalem Israel, Aunt Bracha and Uncle Mayer and to the entire mishpacha.

...Mina and Larry Tiefenbrunn and the Tiefenbrunn family on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Aryeh. Mazel Tov to Aryeh's grandmother, Mrs. Deborah Tiefenbrunn. The Bar Mitzvah will take place at the Hashkama Minyan.

...to Dr. & Mrs. Michael Eleff on the birth of a grandson to their children Eli & Tybbe Eleff. The Shalom Zachor will take place at the Eleff home, 20 Edgemount Road, Edison, starting at 8:45 p.m.

YASHER KOACH

Yasher Koach to the following who helped make our Simchas Torah Kiddush such a success:

- Russell, Yair and Ariel Adler
- Arthur Atlas
- JJ Brander
- Mordechai Goldblatt
- David and Marion Kornfeld
- Janice Lustiger
- David Moskovic
- Gedalia Reiss
- Allan Weitz
- Barry Wolf

A special thank you to Izzy and Rebecca Rivkin for the kiddie goodie bags and flags.

Chaim and Miriam Tarlow were accidentally left off the Simchat Torah sponsors list. Thank you for your sponsorship. (If anyone else was left off the list, please see Leslie Ney).

OHR TORAH ANNUAL DINNER

We are pleased to announce that this year's honorees at the December 16th Ohr Torah Annual Dinner will be: Rabbi and Mrs. Israel and Alizah Poleyeff, Guests of Honor; and Mr. Yosef and Dr.

Marsha Schreiber, Service Awardees. Mazel Tov to both couples on this well deserved honor.

SHALOSH SEUDOS

Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by Susan and Moshe Wiesel to commemorate the Yahrzeit of Moish's father Yehoshuah ben Menachem Zev, Z"L.

OHR TORAH CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Children can register for events at Ohr Torah's website ohrtorah.net. Any questions? Contact Mayer Berg @ (732) 572-3429 .

OHR TORAH ANNUAL YOUTH RAFFLE

Please help support Ohr Torah's youth groups by purchasing raffle ticket(s). The cost of the tickets are one for \$36, two for \$70, or 3 for \$100. The drawing will be held at the annual Shul dinner in December. Please contact Barry Siegel, Charlie Gerschbaum, Lyndon Goldsmith or Meir Berg to purchase tickets. All proceeds support the OT Youth programs.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIKUR CHOLIM

Bikur Cholim of Raritan Valley is proud to participate in the annual American Cancer Society's Making Strides against Breast Cancer walk. The 5 mile walk will take place on Sunday, October 21, 2007. Registration at 8 AM; Event starts at 8:45 AM, rain or shine. Location -Woodbridge Center Mall Registration / sponsor forms can be picked up at Glatt 27, Jerusalem Pizza, Judaica Gallery, Lachmeinu, Mei Garden or Trio Gifts. Checks can be made out to the American Cancer Society. If interested in participating and/or sponsoring, please call Bobbi Engel (732) 819-7842.

ACTT

The ACTT organization (Achieving Change Through Torah) is sponsoring an inspirational evening, Saturday night, November 17, 2007 at 8:30 PM at Congregation Etz Chaim for the Judging Favorably Module 2 Kickoff event. Rabbi Steven Miodownik, Moreh D'Asra, Congregation Ahavas Achim, will be the featured speaker. Admission is free and the entire community is encouraged to attend. Sponsors are welcome. For more info, call Jonathan Abrahams (732) 220-2946, Wendy Bar (732) 220-8765, Joe Friedman (732) 732-985-8014, Michael Lafond (732) 432-9860, Phil Rosen (732) 572-8762, or Aviva Siegel (732) 572-4408. Web-site

REMINDER: The emergency Defibrillator is in the Beis Medrash Chazzon's shulchan. PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR MORE OHR TORAH INFORMATION

www.actt613.org, e-mail info@actt613.org, or call (732) 993-5376.

RPRY PTA PRESENTS SAFETY COURSE

The RPRY P.T.A. is presenting "STRANGER DANGER", a self defense course taught by community leader, Vinnie Guarino. The course will be offered for mothers and daughters Sunday, Oct.21, 9:30-11:00 a.m. at RPRY and for fathers and sons Sunday, Oct.28, 9:30-11:00 a.m. at RPRY. Cost is \$30 for parent and child(ren) per course. For reservations or more information, please contact Sari Shalom 732-246-7808 or Cindy Baruch 732-572-7686.

NEFESH BNEFESH

Nefesh B'Nefesh Presents Rabbi Yehoshua Fass, Founder & Executive Director of Nefesh B'Nefesh, who will speak on the subject of "Israel & The Diaspora - Our State, Our Statement, Our Destiny" on Tuesday October 16th @ 8:00 PM at Congregation Ohav Emeth, 415 Raritan Avenue, Highland Park. Co-sponsored by Congregation Ahavas Achim.

JR NCSY EVENTS

Banner Night" for the Highland Park Shabbaton will be Saturday Night, October 20, from 8:15-9:30 PM at Ohav Emeth (OE). There will be Ice Cream and Nosh served, come help make the chapter banner and learn the chapter song. The cost of this event will be \$7.

SAVE THE DATE: Our First Shabbaton is scheduled for Oct 26-27 in Highland Park @ OE. Applications will be mailed out shortly. Signup is also available online at www.njncsy.com.

If you would like to sponsor an event or drop-in-zone, please contact Moshe or Phili. Also if you have not signed up for membership yet, you can sign up online at www.njncsy.com Membership is mandatory to attend any shabbaton but not an event. For more info please call Phili Hernandez at 609-647-6842 or Moshe Stern at 732-777-1325 or check us out online at www.njncsy.com

CUB SCOUT MEETING

If you have any questions about Cub Scouts in general, please feel free to call Lawrence Margolin, Pack CubMaster, at 732-777-1589.

KEYLIM MIKVAH

The keylim mikvah is open Sundays 10-11:30AM. To volunteer please contact Dov or Sherry Chelst at 732-545-8867 or email DNCHLST@yahoo.com to schedule yourself or a family member.

PARK MIKVAH

The Edison/Highland Park Mikvah will have NEW hours, starting Sunday night, NOVEMBER 4. Saturday -Thursday evenings: 8:30pm -10:30pm. Friday nights by appt only. Call 732-249-2411. Fee is \$15. OUT OF HOURS: an ADDITIONAL \$20 fee.

REBBITZEN EICHENSTEIN'S CLASSES

Rebbitzten Eichenstein will be resuming her weekly classes for women: Navi class on Megillas Esther, Sunday morning, Oct 14 at 10AM at Cong. Agudath Israel and Parsha class, Monday evening, Oct 15 at 8PM at Cong. Ohr Torah. For more info, please contact Aviva Siegel at siegelmom@optonline.net or Ricki Stern 732-828-6939 rickistern@yahoo.com

OVER 40 SINGLES SHABBATON

You're Invited to... Spend a Shabbat in Highland Park, New Jersey. Please join Sharon Zavodnick, Chaye Kohl and other singles (over 40) on Shabbat Parshat Vayeirah October 26 - 27, 2007/ 14 - 15 Cheshvan 5768 at Cong Ahavas Achim 216 South First Avenue.

Friday night and Shabbat we will be eating at the Shul. Shabbat afternoon we will join the shul for Seudah Shlishit. Cost: \$ 90 Optional: Motzaei Shabbat event: Comedy club or Karaoke, additional cost. Home hospitality can be arranged. Or you can make a reservation at the Hyatt in New Brunswick (a fifteen minute walk from Ahavas Achim). Hyatt phone number: 732-873-1234 or 800-633-7313.

Any Questions? Sharon Zavodnick - e-mail: shayna0821@aol.com Phone: 732-828-4438 Chaye Kohl - e-mail: Chayekohl@aol.com Phone: 917-439-5039 To join us please write a check for \$90, made out to: Cong. Ahavas Achim, Mail it to: Chaye Kohl/ 30 South Adelaide Ave. # 6G / Highland Park, NJ 08904. Checks should be received no later than October 12. Please indicate if you will need housing. We regret that we are unable to accommodate children.

AHAVAS ACHIM UNIVERSITY

Ahavas Achim University presents two of the most popular shiurim in the country via

satellite every week in the Beit Midrash. On Saturday nights, Rabbi Yisroel Reisman delivers his Navi class in Brooklyn, but you can enjoy it in Highland Park (in October at 9:00 p.m., Nov. 3 at 8:30 p.m., rest of Nov. and Dec. at 7:30 p.m.). On Thursday nights at 9:00 p.m., Rabbi Yissocher Frand delivers his Parshat Hashavuah class in Baltimore, broadcast straight to us. Admission is \$5/person.

SENIOR NCSY

For more info or questions call Avi Eserner - 732-718-4786 Zehava Singer - 732-421-4559

MAZAL SHIDDUCH MEETING

For information on location and to request a form please contact Sharon at SHCL18@aol.com (mailto:SHCL18@aol.com) and write "MAZAL" in the subject area.

SHIDDUCH MEETING

Please call Debbie Schaulewicz at (732) 390-8760 or Leah Weinberger at (732) 613-8797

EMPLOYMENT NETWORK OF RARITAN VALLEY

For info, go to www.ENRV.org, or contact Bob Lansey at ENRV@verizon.net or 732-819-8651.

Parshas Lech-Lecha

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|------------------|---------|
| • Candlelighting | 5:54 PM |
| • Mincha | 6:00 PM |

VISIT OHR TORAH ON THE WEB!

Ohr Torah can now be found on the internet at <http://www.ohrtorah.net> You can join the email list for Weekly Announcements. Any ideas and comments about the site can be sent to webmaster@ohrtorah.net Announcements should be sent to announcements@ohrtorah.net Submit all announcements by 7 PM Wednesday. **TELEPHONE:** Call 732-777-6840, press Newsletter option (spell all names) **PLEASE NOTE:** Please make sure that you leave a contact/callback name and phone # in case there is a question regarding the item you wish to be printed, otherwise it may not be included.

Sof davar

**by Rabbi Israel Poleyeff
Research by Leor Jerushalmy**

Contemporary Jewish History: Rosh Hashanah in Baghdad

(based on a report by Yochi Dreazen, reporter for the Wall Street Journal)

Rosh Hashanah 5768 (2007) was approaching in war torn Baghdad but preparations for the Yamim Noraim proceeded nonetheless with the full cooperation of the military. An area on the base was designated as a *shul*, and a succah was already built just outside the chapel. Jewish service personnel were given permission to take 3 days off to observe the yom tov. Forty people attended. Among them was a full colonel, a Jewish grandmother who was in Baghdad to assist in interrogating terrorist suspects, a *tzitzis*-wearing GI who blew the shofar, a few converts and a fascinating female sergeant. She discovered she was Jewish just before entering the army and has become fully religious. She also learned *shechitah* and buys and shechts chickens when the need arises. When she leaves the army she plans to marry a religious Israeli soldier. The services were led by Chaplain Andrew Solomon and were fully orthodox, with only some of the *piyutim* being left out. Rabbi Shulman and his wife back home also prepared festive meals for those who attended. They included wine (a special exception to the army rule of no alcohol), pomegranates for *shehechianu*, gefilte fish, steak and chicken and... Zomick's chalah! All of it completely kosher. But perhaps more than the *davening* itself was the knowledge that these services were taking place in a country which was once the home of perhaps the largest and most vibrant Jewish community. It was here that the Talmud was created, but the community has since steadily deteriorated to where there are now just six Jews left in all of Iraq. When they pass away Jewish life will cease to exist, the end to a once proud and vibrant Jewish community. But for three days in September Judaism was alive. Hebrew was heard, songs were sung, *teffilot* were chanted, the *shofar* was sounded, *kiddish* was recited...