



# Congregation Ohr Torah

## Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

**Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi**

**Allen Kessel - President**

*Parshas Vayeshev*

21 Kislev 5768

December 1, 2007

<b>Candlelighting:</b>	<b>4:12PM</b>
<b>Mincha &amp; Kabbolas Shabbos:</b>	<b>4:20PM</b>
<b>Shacharis:</b>	<b>7:45 &amp; 9:00 AM</b>
<i>Rabbi Hoffman's Gemara Avoda Zara Shiur – after hashkama</i>	
<b>Z'man Krias Shma (G'RA):</b>	<b>9:23AM</b>
<b>Early Mincha:</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
<i>Rabbi Luban's Gemara Yoma Shiur 3:20 PM</i>	
<b>Mincha:</b>	<b>4:05 PM</b>
<i>Shalosh Seudos Speaker: Avi Tobias</i>	
<b>Maariv:</b>	<b>5:15PM</b>
<b>Weekday Shacharis:</b>	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>7:15, 8 &amp; 9 AM</b>
<b>Mon:</b>	<b>6:20, 7:05 &amp; 8AM</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>6:30, 7:10 &amp; 8AM</b>
<b>Wed-Fri (Chanukah)</b>	<b>6:15, 7:05 &amp; 8AM</b>
<b>Weekday Mincha/ Maariv:</b>	<b>4:20 PM</b>
<i>Wed. night 12/5- start saying V'sein Tal U'matar</i>	
<b>Weekday Maariv:</b>	<b>7:30 &amp; 10:10 PM</b>
<i>Tuesday Tehillim 9:50 PM</i>	
<i>Rabbi Luban's Halachic Responsa Shiur: 9:10 PM on Monday. TOPIC: Vesain Tal U'matar</i>	
<b>WINTER DAF YOMI SCHEDULE</b>	
<b>Monday – Thur: After 7:30 Maariv, Fri: After Maariv, Shabbos: 8:15 AM or after Hashkama</b>	
<b>Minyan, Sunday: After 8 AM Shacharis</b>	

### KIDDUSH

Kiddush is sponsored by Shimon and Shaena Jakobovic in honor of their grandchildren and children, Jordana, Deborah, Basie, and Menachem.

### TEEN KIDDUSH

This weeks teen kiddush sponsor is the Kluger family.  
*The Ohr Torah Teen Minyan tries to have a Teen Kiddush every week. However, sponsors are needed to make this happen. If you would like to sponsor a teen kiddush, please contact Mayer Berg at [mberg@optonline.net](mailto:mberg@optonline.net).*

### TEEN MINYAN CHUMASH/SIDDUR CAMPAIGN

To date 39 of the new Teen Minyan Chumashim/Siddurim have ben dedicated, just 61 more to go.

### MAZEL TOV

...to Ruchie and Jerry Aloof (who have recently made Aliyah) on the engagement of Shaynde to Yochi Klein, son of Rabbi & Mrs. Chaim Yehuda Klein of Jerusalem

### OHR TORAH ELECTIONS

Shul elections are scheduled for Wednesday night, December 12<sup>th</sup>, between 8:00 PM and 10:00 PM at the Shul. You have received a mailing with a cover letter and 1 copy of the ballot. You may vote by casting a vote on the night of the election, by absentee ballot, or as a proxy for your spouse on the night of the election. Please see the cover letter for detailed instructions. In addition, a copy of the cover letter and ballot is available for printing on the OT web site.

### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

There will be a General Membership Meeting on Tuesday December 18<sup>th</sup> @ 8PM. Agendas have been mailed.

### OHR TORAH YOUTH PROGRAM EVENTS

On Sunday morning Dec 2nd Ohr Torah will head to New Jersey Paintball in Butler, NJ (Grades 8, High School, College and Dads) for an exciting half day of paintball. This event, for boys only, will meet at OT at 6:15 AM for Shacharit followed by a 6:45 AM departure for the paintball facility. We have reduced the price for kids (in Grades 8, High School and College) to only \$30; dads price remains the same at \$60. The cost per attendee includes the following: R/T Bus transportation from the Shul, 4 hours of playing time on private courses w/350 paintballs per participant, all safety equipment provided and a BBQ lunch afterwards. We will return to the Shul at approximately 1:45 PM. Advance reservations are required.

On Sunday evening December 23rd Ohr Torah will take a NJ Transit train to New York City to the NY Rangers vs Ottawa Senators hockey game (Grades 3 - 8). We will be meeting at the Edison Train Station starting at 5:20 PM...train departs at 5:38 PM! We will return back to the Edison Train Station

at 10:45 PM. The cost is \$40 and ONLY 20 seats available...first come first serve! Snacks will be provided. Advance reservations are required. Children can register for these events on Ohr Torah's website "ohrtorah.net" or by calling Mayer Berg at 732-572-3429.

### OHR TORAH ANNUAL DINNER

Congregation Ohr Torah's annual dinner this year will be honoring Rabbi Israel and Mrs. Alizah Poleyeff & Mr. Yosef and Dr. Marsha Schreiber. The dinner will take place at the Somerset Marriott Hotel on December 16, at 5:00 PM. Please return your response cards with your Journal ads.

### 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 during December. Please contact Barry Siegel, Charlie Gershbaum, Lyndon Goldsmith or Meir Berg to purchase tickets. All proceeds support the OT Youth programs.

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### MESIVTHA TIFERETH JERUSALEM MELAVE MALKA

The annual Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem Melave Malka will be held **this Motzei Shabbat**, December 1, 2007, 8:45 PM at Ohav Emeth. The Guest of Honor is Rabbi Joshua Rapps who will receive the Kesser Shem Tov Award. Hagaon Harav Reuven Feinstein, Shlit'a, will be the guest speaker.

#### RPRY SCHOLARSHIP BREAKFAST

The RPRY Scholarship Campaign is under way. Please help provide a quality Jewish education for every Jewish child in our community, regardless of financial means. All funds raised go directly to scholarships within our community! The campaign culminates in a breakfast on December 23 honoring Mrs. Sari Shalmon with the Teacher Excellence Award. Any questions, please feel free to speak directly with OT co-captains, Russell Adler, Elie Borger or Michael Kaplan.

#### RPRY MISHMAR PROGRAM

Mishmar learning program is held at RPRY every Motzei Shabbat, This week @ 7:00. Please bring your own seforim. Cost is \$2.00 which includes, pizza, donuts, prizes and raffles.

#### LAST CALL FOR TAPES FOR THE RARITAN VALLEY TORAH TAPE LIBRARY

The reorganization of the tape library is progressing well. Larry Greenspan asks that anyone with tapes that may belong to the library please contact him at 732-828-5642 home, or 732-501-5455 cell. He will be happy to arrange pick up of the tapes.

#### RJJ LUNCHEON

RJJ announces that its Annual Ladies Luncheon will be dedicated to the memory of Rose Goldsmith, A"H. The guest of honor is Irene Siegelman. The luncheon will take place on Sunday, December 16, 12 Noon at Congregation

### 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 SPONSORSHIP

Kiddush sponsorship is available for: Dec 8th & 22nd and Jan. 5th, & 12th. To sponsor a Kiddush or reserve the Kiddush room, please contact Mel Barenholtz in person, by phone or email: [mbarenh@yahoo.com](mailto:mbarenh@yahoo.com). To sponsor a Shalosh Seudos, please contact Moshe Wiesel

### OHR TORAH NEWSLETTER

To subscribe to the Weekly Announcements by email, please email [info@ohrtorah.net](mailto: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 more info. Call Moish at 732-442-5751 during work days or 732- 572-4132 in the evening.

### RITUAL COMMITTEE

If you have any Ritual Committee issues or questions that need to be addressed at the next Ritual Committee meeting, please E\_mail Rabbi Israel Poleyeff <[rispol@optonline.net](mailto:rispol@optonline.net)>

### SEFORIM DEDICATIONS

Book/Seforim Dedications of all types are available by contacting Barry Siegel at [siegeldad@optonline.net](mailto:siegeldad@optonline.net) or 732-572-4408.

### HOUSEKEEPING

For Housekeeping Issues & Inquiries contact Louis Smith at [louis.w.smith@verizon.com](mailto:louis.w.smith@verizon.com) or 732-572-5633

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

Ohr Torah. All women in the community are invited to attend. For more info, please call RJJ Yeshiva (732) 985-6533.

### **PREVENTING AND DEALING WITH WEIGHT PROBLEMS**

Learn tools that will end, once and for all, your constant struggle with dieting, body image and general food mishagas!! This is a national problem and Jewish people are not excluded in the statistics! Over 37% of our children are overweight!!! Be at RPRY on the 6th of Jan. for the first part of the series.

### **RJJ HALACHA SERIES**

Halachos of Shabbos by Rabbi Zvi Goldman on 9:15 AM Sundays at RJJ, 1 Plainfield Rd.

### **JR NCSY EVENTS**

We are in the process of ordering "REALLY COOL" Chapter Sweatshirts & Sweatpants. Order forms recently went out in the mail. The cost is \$22 for Sweatshirts & \$18 for Sweatpants the deadline to order is November 29. If you have not received an order form please email [RFS424@aol.com](mailto:RFS424@aol.com) & we will be glad to send you one.

### **CONCERT IN HIGHLAND PARK**

On Motzei Shabbos Chanuka, December 8, 2007 @ 8 PM there will be a concert at Highland Park High School starring acclaimed Jewish music star, Eitan Katz. All proceeds from ticket sales will be going to Bikur Cholim of Raritan Valley. Tickets are now available for purchase online at either [www.eitankatz.com](http://www.eitankatz.com) or [www.hpconcert.com](http://www.hpconcert.com). This concert will sell out so please buy your tickets early. Receipts for your donation will be available at the concert.

### **WOMEN'S POST CHANUKA PACKAGE PARTY**

The Neshei Aguda would like to invite the women of our community to a post-Chanuka package party, Saturday night, Dec 22, 7:30 PM at the home of Ruchie Krauss, 1721 Central Avenue, Highland Park (in the triangle). Women are encouraged to bring a wrapped gift valued at \$10 or below. The gifts will then be auctioned off. For more info, please call Rikki Samel 732-249-5116.

### **WOMEN'S DANCE CLASSES**

Rikki Samel is forming dance classes for adult women, beginners and intermediate levels, Tuesday evenings, 8:00 PM - 8:45 PM. For more info, please call Rikki Samel 732-249-5116.

### **ACTT SAYS THANK YOU!**

Thank you to all the sponsors and attendees for making the ACTT November 17th event with Rabbi Miodownik so successful and meaningful! Please save Saturday night, January 5, 2008 for the Community-Wide gathering and Shmiras HaLashon Module 2 kickoff event. The featured speaker will be Rabbi Yaakov Wasser, Moreh D'Asra of Young

Israel of East Brunswick. The event will be at Congregation Ohav Emeth. For more info, please see the ACTT web-site: [www.actt613.org](http://www.actt613.org) or call (732) 993-5376.

### **MOSSAD HARAV KOOK**

R. Shizgal of Mossad Harav Kook will be at our home 15 Celler Road on Tuesday Dec. 11 at 8:30PM. This again provides an opportunity to assist the work of the institution and its objective: publishing seforim and making them more widely available. Their work in publishing Rishonim, their popular editions of the Daat Mikra Tanach series and the Rambam LeAm and numerous other seforim is legendary. R. Shizgal always has interesting insight into the growth of edited editions of important seforim and their recent decision to publish a limited number of seforim of more general interest. **Please RSVP to [wgewirtz@att.net](mailto:wgewirtz@att.net)**. Bill and Debbie Gewirtz

### **RABBI TWERSKI TO SPEAK**

On Sunday, December 2, 2007, Khal Chasidim of Highland Park will present an evening with acclaimed scholar and author, Dr. Abraham J. Twerski. Dr. Twerski will be discussing his most recent publication "Happiness and the Human Spirit." The lecture will take place at 7:30 pm in the RPRY Bais Medrish. The lecture is provided as a community service and is free of charge.

### **ORTHODOX FORUM OF HIGHLAND PARK**

The Orthodox Forum of Edison/Highland Park announces the second event of the 5768 series, Motzei Shabbat, Dec 15, 2007, 8PM at Cong Ohav Emeth. The guest speaker is Rabbi David Zwiebel, executive vice president for government and public affairs for Agudath Israel of America, a national Orthodox Jewish organization. His topic will be "Separation of Church & State 'is it good for the Jews?'" What role should government play in: -promoting religious freedom? -supporting religious education? -regulating religious institutions? -accommodating religious practices? -intervening in religious problems?

Dr. Marc Hanfling will chair the evening. Rabbi Zwiebel also serves as Agudath Israel's general counsel. For more information on this event, or to sponsor the Orthodox Forum, contact Joel Paul at [JHPaul@earthlink.net](mailto:JHPaul@earthlink.net).

### **BIKUR CHOLIM FORMING MINYAN**

Bikur Cholim is attempting to compile a list of men who may be available to participate in minyanim at the local area hospitals on an "as needed" basis. In addition, it could also be helpful for minyanim at a shiva home, rachmana letzlan, especially on short days during the winter months. Anyone who can be available for tefillos either during the week (winter or summer seasons) or who may be available to walk to RWJ Hospital on a Shabbos or Yom Tov to make a minyan should either contact

Larry Greenspan at 732-828-5642 (home) or 732-501-5455 (cell) or Mordy Brill either by e-mail ([mordb@msn.com](mailto:mordb@msn.com)) or by phone at 732-819-8351.

### **REBBITZEN EICHENSTEIN'S CLASSES**

Rebbitzin Eichenstein will have her Navi class on Megillas Esther, Sunday Dec 2 at 10AM at Cong. Agudath Israel and Parsha class, Monday evening, Dec 3 at 8PM at Cong. Ohr Torah. Classes are for women only. For more info, please contact Aviva Siegel at [siegelmom@optonline.net](mailto:siegelmom@optonline.net) or Ricki Stern 732-828-6939 [rickistern@yahoo.com](mailto:rickistern@yahoo.com)

### **WOMENS PARSHA CLASS**

Mrs. Miri Cohen's ladies Parsha class will meet Tuesday morning, Dec 4 at 9:15AM at the home of Lynn Hanfling, 47 Leslie St., Edison. For more info, please contact Azriella Jaffe 732-985-7613.

### **PARK MIKVAH**

Highland Park/Edison Mikvah hours are Saturday-Thursday, 8:30-10:30pm. Friday nights are by appointment only (732-249-2411). Fee is \$15. Out of hours: an ADDITIONAL \$20 fee.

### **RPRY COOKBOOK COMMITTEE**

The RPRY Cookbook committee is seeking much needed recipes for their cookbook. Please forward any recipes to [RPRYcookbook@aol.com](mailto:RPRYcookbook@aol.com) or mail to Michele Minor, 484 Lincoln Avenue, Highland Park, NJ 08904 or the recipes can be dropped off at RPRY.

### **MAZAL SHIDDUCH MEETING**

The next Mazal Shidduch group meeting will be held on December 18, 2007 at 8:30 PM. Please R.S.V.P to [SHCL18@aol.com](mailto:SHCL18@aol.com) and write "Mazal" in the subject area to receive a form and to find out location. All observant levels are welcome to be submitted.

### **EMPLOYMENT NETWORK OF RARITAN VALLEY**

For info, go to [www.ENRV.org](http://www.ENRV.org), or contact Bob Lansley at [ENRV@verizon.net](mailto:ENRV@verizon.net) or 732-819-8651.

### **LOCAL ERUV**

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

### **Parshas Miketz**

- |                  |         |
|------------------|---------|
| • Candlelighting | 4:12 PM |
| • Mincha         | 4:20 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](mailto:webmaster@ohrtorah.net) Announcements should be sent to [announcements@ohrtorah.net](mailto: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 Henry Lerner**

### **A not so strange minhag: Kloppin Hoshanos**

Everyone does it, yet I suspect few if any really know why they do it. This ritual, as everyone also knows, is performed on Hoshanah Rabbah near the conclusion of the *hoshanos tefilos* and is accompanied by the recitation of the phrase *kol mevasser mevasser veomer* ("a voice brings news, brings news saying...") expressing hope for the speedy coming of the *moshiach*. The *gemara* in Sukkah (44b) mentions that a person came before R. Elazar ben Zadok with *aravos* and performed "*chavit chavit*" with it. Rashi interprets *chavit* as 'waving' (as with the *lulav*), not striking. So where does this *minhag* of striking the ground come from and what is it supposed to connote? Merely to say that it is a *minhag neviim* (as the *gemara* itself does) is not sufficient. What reason would the *neviim* have for instituting this rather odd *minhag*? The earliest known mention of striking the ground with the *aravos* is found in the Zohar which also mentions that exactly five *aravos* are taken for the ceremony. The practice of some people to beat the *aravos* until there are no leaves remaining is folk custom and has no basis in *halacha*. Mention is made in the *Yavetz siddur* that with each *klop* of the *hoshanos* the person states that it should result in the calming of the divine attitude (whatever that means). So what IS the function of this *minhag*? An informal discussion in our *shul* during the weeks following Hoshanah Rabbah elicited some esoteric, some outlandish and some convoluted reasons which satisfied no one. But if you have a plausible reason we'd like to hear it. Talk to Harvey Atlas.

**PLEASE HELP KEEP THE SHUL NEAT...PLEASE RETURN SIDDURIM & CHUMASHIM TO THE REAR OF THE SANCTUARY AFTER DAVENING.**

**Thanks to the following for their generous Seforim donations:**

- Mayer & Bracha Berg in memory of Lyndon Goldsmith's mother Rose Goldsmith Z"L
- Mayer & Bracha Berg in memory of Barry Siegel's father Irving Mazer Z"L
- Moshe & Rachel Stern in honor of Zahava Miriam Stern
- Moshe & Rachel Stern in honor of Elana Michal Stern
- Barry & Aviva Siegel in memory of Lyndon Goldsmith's mother Rose Goldsmith Z"L
- Barry & Aviva Siegel in memory of Barry's father Irving Mazer Z"L
- Randi & Elliot Ostrove their children Jakey & Sophie
- Ralph & Rochelle Dessau in memory of Rochelle's parents Irving and Florence Rubinstein Z"L
- Yoel & Karen Schwartz in honor of Barry Siegel
- Ira & Ellen Smith in memory of Barry's father Irving Mazer Z"L
- Anonymous in honor of Ami & Bracha Avraham
- Michael & Penny Kaplan in memory of Lynn Rappaport's mother Bertha Turitz Z"L
- Michael & Penny Kaplan in memory of Lyndon Goldsmith's mother Rose Goldsmith Z"L
- Michael & Penny Kaplan in memory of Rebecca Rivkin's parents Rabbi & Rebbitzen Chaim Yaakov & Yehudis Bulka Z"L
- Michael & Penny Kaplan in memory of Barry's father Irving Mazer Z"L
- Michael & Penny Kaplan in memory of Moshe Wiesel's father Yehosua Wisel Z"L
- Michael & Penny Kaplan in memory of Judy Tannenbaum's father Rabbi Jack Pianko Z"L
- Michael & Penny Kaplan in memory of in memory of Jay/Jerald's mother Claire Blum Z"L
- Michael & Penny Kaplan in memory of Gerald Weisfogel's father Rabbi Alex Weisfogel Z"L
- Michael & Penny Kaplan in memory of Linda Moed Cohen's mother Molly Moed Z"L
- Michael & Penny Kaplan in memory of Jerry Belsh's mother Pearl Belsh Z"L
- Greg and Sari Sholom in honor of Ami & Bracha Avraham
- Greg and Sari Sholom in honor of their children, Avi, Rachel and Ezra
- Greg and Sari Sholom in memory of Israel and Alice Sholom Z"L
- Greg and Sari Sholom in memory of Al and Evelyn Levy Z"L
- Greg and Sari Sholom in memory of Rose Roifer Z"L
- Greg and Sari Sholom in memory of William and Esther Kalomeer Z"L
- Greg and Sari Sholom in memory of John Sholom Z"L
- Greg and Sari Sholom in memory of Fanny Golin Z"L
- Greg and Sari Sholom in memory of Joseph Roifer Z"L
- Greg and Sari Sholom in memory of Dr. Bernhard Berman Z"L
- Susan & Leibe Haller and family In memory of Leibe's mother Madeline Haller Z"L
- Susan & Leibe Haller and family In memory of Susan's father Abe Malin Z"L
- Susan & Leibe Haller and family in honor of Rabbi & Rebetzin Luban and family
- Haller children in honor of their parents
- Susan & Morris Wiesel in memory of Barry Siegel's father Irving Mazer Z"L
- Susan & Morris Wiesel in memory of Lyndon Goldsmith's mother Rose Goldsmith Z"L