



Congregation Ohr Torah

Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi

Allen Kessel - President

Parshas Ki Tisa

17 Adar I 5768

February 23, 2008

Candlelighting:	5:22PM
Mincha & Kabbolas Shabbos:	5:30PM
Shacharis:	7:45 & 9:00 AM
<i>Rabbi Hoffman's Gemara Avoda Zara Shiur – after Hashkama</i>	
Z'man Krias Shma (G'RA):	9:26AM
Early Mincha:	1:30 PM
<i>Rabbi Luban's Gemara Yoma Shiur: 4:30PM</i>	
Mincha:	5:15 PM
<i>Shalosh Seudos Speaker: R. Yechiel Posen</i>	
Maariv:	6:25 PM
Weekday Shacharis:	
Sun	7:15, 8 & 9 AM
Mon. & Thurs.:	6:20, 7:05, 8 AM
Tue., Wed, & Fri.:	6:30, 7:10 & 8AM
Weekday Mincha/ Maariv:	5:30 PM
Weekday Maariv:	7:30 & 10:10 PM
<i>Tuesday Tehillim 9:50 PM</i>	
<i>Rabbi Luban's Halachic Responsa Shiur: 9:10 PM Monday.</i>	
WINTER DAF YOMI SCHEDULE	
Monday – Thur: After 7:30 Maariv, Fri: After Maariv, Shabbos: 8:15 AM or after Hashkama	
Minyan, Sunday: After 8 AM Shacharis	

BARUCH HABAH

Ohr Torah would like to welcome new comers, visitors and guests who are joining us. If our President, Allen Kessel or Rabbi Yaakov Luban does not get a chance to welcome you personally, please come up and introduce yourself.

KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP

Kiddush sponsorship is available for:
March 1st & 22nd. 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.

OHR TORAH NEWSLETTER

To subscribe to these Announcements, please email info@ohrtorah.net and request to be added to the distribution.

BUILDING DEDICATION OPPORTUNITIES

Contact Moshe Schneider at 732-618-4702 or at mschneider19@yahoo.com

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.

SEFORIM DEDICATIONS

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

RITUAL COMMITTEE

If you have any Ritual Committee issues or questions that need to be addressed, please E_mail Rabbi Israel Poleyeff <rispol@optonline.net>

HOUSEKEEPING

For housekeeping issues and inquiries contact Lou Smith at louis.w.smith@verizon.com or 732-572-5633.

OHR TORAH YOUTH PROGRAM EVENTS

Children can register for events on Ohr Torah's website "ohrtorah.net" or by calling Mayer Berg at 732-572-3429.

MAZEL TOV

...to Ricki and Moish Nat upon the birth of a daughter to their children Ophie and Batya Nat. Mazel Tov to Aunt Keren, Uncles Elan and Eitan, to the Great Grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Shmuel Kadry, and the entire family.

...to Lynn and Marc Hanfling on the engagement of Rena to Elazar Nadelbach of Woodmere.

TEEN KIDUSH

Teen Kiddush is being sponsored by Karen and Yoel Schwartz in commemoration of the Yahrzeit of Yoel's mother, Naomi Schwartz, Chana Naomi b. Elchanan, a"n.

REQUEST OF THE GABBAIM-KADDISH

The Gabbaim request that all those who recite Kaddish gather around the Bimah to recite each kaddish. This will allow kaddish to be said and answered in unison as befits the sanctity of this most important and meaningful tefillah. Thank you in advance for your kind cooperation.

SEFORIM THAT HAVE BEEN MISSING FOR AWHILE

The following sefarim are missing from the Ohr Torah library, if you know their whereabouts please return or contact Barry Siegel - Thank you

- Artsroll Talmud Daf Yomi Bava Kamma 1 & 2 (volumes 38 & 39)
- Artsroll Saperstein RASHI chumash Shemos

CHAIRPERSON NOMINATIONS

February 19, 2008

The Board has approved the following Committee Chairpersons for the next two years. Please contact them to make suggestions, answer questions or, better yet, join a Committee and improve our collective Shul experience.

Standing Committees

House Committee – Leslie Ney
Membership Committee – Brian Allen
Activities Comm. – Harold (Heshy) Granek
Youth Committee – Lyndon Goldsmith
Food Committee – Moish Wiesel
Ritual Committee – Rabbi Israel Poleyeff
Special Committees

O.T. Website – Evan Orgel
Fundraising – Moshe Schneider
Adult Education – Moshe Sherman and Barbara Kessel
Cemetery – Alan (Boomie) Chopp
Davening – Robert Kreitman and Avi Tobias

SHABBOS MORNING YOUTH PROGRAMS

The Youth Department asks all parents to make sure their children are attending the following Shabbos Morning Programs :
Commencing @ 10:00 AM

Children Grades 1 and below in appropriate classroom downstairs.

Children Grades 2 through 6 with Mayer Berg at the Junior Congregation in the Beis Medrash.

Grades 7 and up through HS and College in the Teen Minyan at RPRY Beis Medrash @ 9:00 AM.

Adult Volunteers are also needed to help supervise. Please see Lyndon Goldsmith to volunteer.

CHUMASH DEDICATION OPPORTUNITY

The teen minyan has outgrown the OT Beis Medrash and now davens in the RPRY Beis Medrash on Shabbos. There is a great need to provide that minyan with proper Chumashim & Siddurim. OT has purchased 100 of the ArtScroll travel size combination Stone Chumash & Siddur. Dedications are available for \$30 per Chumash/Siddur. Please let Barry Siegel (siegeldad@optonline.net), Mayer Berg or Harvey Atlas know if you would like to dedicate these. Thanks for your help. To date 73 of the new Teen Minyan Chumash/Siddurim have been dedicated. Just 27 more to go.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEVELOPMENT OF EDISON STATION AREA

A meeting is scheduled Monday night Feb 25 7PM at the Clarion hotel to discuss the plans for developing the site of the southbound side of the Edison train station. A large tract of land adjacent to the station has recently been purchased by developers and they seek the public's input.

MISHMAR PROGRAM

Mishmar learning program is held at RPRY every Motzei Shabbat, This week @ 7:45

Please bring your own seforim. Cost is \$2.00 which includes, pizza, donuts, prizes and raffles.

BIKUR CHOLIM ANNUAL DINNER

The Bikur Cholim of Raritan Valley Annual Dinner is Sunday March 2nd at 6:00 pm at the Holiday Inn Raritan Center. The guest speaker is Rabbi Dr. Aaron Glatt, a noted author and lecturer on medical halachik issues. He authored recently a sefer titled "Visiting the Sick: A Halachik and Medical Guide- With Down to Earth Advice." Couvert is \$36 per person. Please mail your reservations to Marcia Freedman 7 Marshall Drive Edison, NJ 08817.

RJJ DINNER

Please Reserve **Sunday, April 6, 2008** Rabbi Jacob Joseph School Annual Dinner at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center, Edison. We will be paying tribute to Rav Yechiel Drillman and our honorees will be Mr. and Mrs. Arnie Lustiger.

CHUG IVRIT

The next Chug Ivrit (Hebrew Speaking Club) for intermediate to advanced Hebrew speakers will

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

meet on Sunday, March 23, at 11:00 a.m. at a Highland Park area home. They chat in Hebrew and read a short Hebrew story or article. They sometimes play Hebrew scrabble or do a Hebrew crossword puzzle. Chug Ivrit is sponsored by the Raritan Valley Chapter of Hadassah. It is free and open to both men and women.

Hadassah membership is not required in order to attend. For location and more info. contact Rachel Weintraub atrachel@weintraubworld.net or 732-819-9298.

ACTT ORGANIZATION

Come hear Rabbi Jay Yaacov Schwartz, M.A., LMSW, Rabbinical Liaison at Metropolitan Jewish Health System and South Nassau Communities Hospital, speak about Building Bitachon – Insights and Inspiration on Saturday night, March 1, 2008 at 9:15 PM at Congregation Ohr Torah. This community-wide event is sponsored by the ACTT organization (Achieving Change through Torah). Admission is free. *Sponsors at \$36, \$50, and \$100 are needed.* Please write your check to "Congregation Ohr Torah Rabbi's Discretionary Fund", earmarked "ACTT sponsor", and mail to ACTT; 48 Edgemount Road; Edison, NJ 08817.

Thank you. 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: www.actt613.org, e-mail: info@actt613.org.

ROSEN FAMILY ORGANIZES BLOOD DRIVE

The Rosen family is pleased to announce our next blood drive on Sunday, February 24 at 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM. 120 Highland Ave., HP. Babysitting and hot chocolate chip cookies will be available. Please contact Heidi or Ira at 732-393-1018 for more info or to reserve a donation slot (preferred, but not required).

NORPAC UPDATE

Participate in the NORPAC Mission to Wash DC, Wed. May 21st Buses leave for Washington at 6:15 am from Edison and Highland Park, NJ. Buses return between 9-10 PM. There will be briefings on each bus. Shachrit davening will be at 5:45 am in OT and AA. There will be a minyan for mincha and maariv on the way home. Three meals will be provided. Early registration discounts are offered for registration *completed* on or before Friday, March 14th – rates are \$75 for students and \$125 for adults. After March 14, rates will be \$125 for students and \$175 for adults. Visa or MasterCard accepted. Participants must be 12 years of age or older to attend. Those **under 18** MUST be accompanied by their parent or legal

Sof davar...

by Rabbi Israel Poleyeff, research by Racheil Schlusser and Jacquelyn Schechter Great rabbis of the past: R. Meir Baal Hanes

Most of us are familiar with the tin pushkas in most homes into which money was put every *erev shabbos* in support of R. Meir baal haNess. This practice, begun in the beginning of the 18th century, was used to support the poor of Eretz Yisroel and had the added benefit of being a *segulah* for those who were in imminent danger or those who sought help in finding lost objects. But just who was this R. Meir and what *ness* did he perform? A great many people say that he was (mistakenly, according to the Hebrew encyclopedia "Otsar Yisroel") the famous *tanna* R. Meir who appears in the *gemara* numerous times. A fantastic story is related about R. Meir in Avodah Zorah 18a,b which may account for the *ness*. A second opinion suggests that the Meir in question was a Meir ben Yaakov Kazin who left for Eretz Yisroel together with R. Yechiel of Paris. What qualifies him as a baal haNess is unclear. Still another viewpoint identifies R. Meir as the Meir b. Yitzchak who was the author of Akdamus, the poem/prayer recited on Shavuot. He had a reputation in some circles as a "*melumad benissim*", someone well versed in miracles. Finally there is a comment in the Sefer Gelilos that identifies R. Meir as a R. Meir Baal Seder haDoros. Whoever he was, he was laid to rest on the banks of Lake Kinneret near Tiveria, where two *batei medrash* have been established, one ashkenazi and one sefardi. His burial place has become a pilgrimage spot (similar to Meron) on 14 Iyar, when many come seeking answers to their desperate requests, After all these years the tin *pushkas* for R. Meir baal haNess still grace many homes, the proceeds of which still help the poor of Eretz Yisroel.

guardian. Full Refunds available, requests must be received *in writing* at mailing@norpac.net by May 5, 2008 Register online at www.NORPAC.net or by phone at 201-788-5133. For more info contact Barry Wolf, Harvey Atlas, Elie Borger or Marc Hanfling (docdad@aol.com).

AHAVAS ACHIM INFORMATION

WEDNESDAYS AT 8:00 P.M. - 3 FREE LECTURES YOU'LL NEVER FORGET!

1. The Vision of the End of Days according to the great medieval philosopher and poet Rabbi Yehuda Halevy introduced with a movie about his life story.....February 27
 2. The world was created in a Purposeful Way Rambam Maimonides Great codifier and Philosopher.....March 5
 3. The Creation of Light according to a novel explanation of the Midrash.....March 12
- Dr. Meir Buzaglo is a lecturer in the Department of Philosophy at the Hebrew University. He received a B.S. in Mathematics, Physics and Philosophy of Science ("Cum Laude") an M.S. in Mathematics ("Cum Laude") and a Ph.D. in Philosophy from the Hebrew University.

RJJ HALACHA SERIES

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

WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP

Welcome to the third shiur of the Faigie Reinitz z"l Memorial Women's Study Group... Please join the women of the Highland Park and Edison communities for an insightful shiur... "Keeping it Real" Raising Children to Appreciate Judaism in an Enticing Secular World

Speaker: Rabbi Motti Miller
When: Tuesday, March 4, 2008
Time: 8:30 PM
Where: The Heideman's
19 Ryan Road, Edison

Admission is free, but we want to make sure you have a seat! Please email sschoenfeld@physicianspractice.com with your name to register. We will be collecting names for a refuah shelaimah list that will be read at the beginning of the shiur, and it will be for the healthy recovery of those individuals that we learn this evening. If you have anyone you would like added to this list, please email their names along with your registration. Please pass this on to anyone who may be interested...we are in the process of building our email database. This program is made possible through an endowment by the Pfeffer and Reinitz families in memory of Faigie Reinitz, z"l.

REBBITZEN EICHENSTEIN'S WOMEN'S NAVI CLASSES

Rebbitz Eichenstein will be having her Navi class on Megillas Eichah, Sunday morning, Feb 24 at 10AM at Cong. Agudath Israel (the new building) and Parsha class, Monday evening, Feb 25 at 8PM at Cong. Ohr Torah. Classes are for women only. For more information, please contact Aviva Siegel at siegelmom@optonline.net or Ricki Stern 732-828-6939 rickistern@yahoo.com

MRS. MIRI COHEN'S LADIES PARSHA CLASS

Mrs. Miri Cohen's ladies Parsha class will meet Tuesday morning, February 26 at 9:15AM at the home of Lynn Hanfling, 47 Leslie St., Edison. For more info, please contact Azriella Jaffe 732-985-7613. Mrs. Miri Cohen's ladies Parsha class will also meet on Wednesday morning, Feb 27 at 9AM at the home of Mrs. Cohen, 115 South 8th Avenue Highland Park. For more info, please contact Chana Weinstein 732-572-0471.

WOMEN & GIRLS DANCE CLASSES

A new session of Israeli and Simcha dance classes is starting. Separate classes for women and girls. For more information, please call Rikki Samel at 732-249-5116.

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.

EMPLOYMENT NETWORK OF RARITAN VALLEY

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

LOCAL ERUV

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

Parshas Vayakhel

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| • Candlelighting | 5:30 PM |
| • Mincha | 5:40PM |

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.