



Congregation Ohr Torah

Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi

Allen Kessel - President

Parshas Mikeitz – Shabbos Chanukah

30 Kislev 5769

December 27, 2008

Candlelighting: 4:19PM
Mincha: 3PM & 4:25PM
Note earlier Mincha for those who daven before candlelighting
Shacharis: 7:45 and 9:00AM
Rabbi Hoffman's Pesachim Shiur- After Hashkama
Z'man Krias Shma (G'RA): 9:39AM
Early Mincha: 1:30 PM
Rabbi Luban's Shiur in Megillah cancelled next two weeks
Mincha: 4:15 PM
Shalosh Seudos speaker: Robert Kreitman
Maariv: 5:25 PM
Weekday Shacharis:
Sun (Rosh Chod, Chanukah) 7:00, 8 & 9AM
Mon (Zos Chan.) 6:15*, 7:05, 8 & 9AM**
Tue., Wed & Fri 6:30, 7:10 & 8 AM
Thur 7:15, 8 & 9AM
**Note earliest Talis and Tefillin 6:23*
***Extra 9AM minyan as most schools are off*
Weekday Mincha/ Maariv: 4:30 PM
Weekday Maariv 7:30 PM and 10:10 PM
Monday evening, 9:10 in Bais Medrash, Rabbi Luban's shiur in She'eilos Uteshuvos (responsa) Tuesday Tehillim 9:50 PM
WINTER SCHEDULE FOR DAF YOMI
 Monday-Thursday after 7:30pm Maariv, Friday-after Maariv, Shabbos-After Hashkama and also at 8:15am, Sunday-after 8am Shacharis.

TORAH TAPE LIBRARY WINTER HOURS

The torah tape library will be open on Sundays from 10:00 AM until after maariv. It **will not** be open when there is a simcha in the OT kiddush room. The weekday hours are Monday - Thursday, 7:15 PM - 8:15 PM.

SHALOSH SEUDOS

...is being sponsored by Robert and Riki Kreitman l'zecher nishmat Robert's grandmother, Esther Baileh bas R Meir Boruch HaKohen, a"h.

YEAR END STATEMENTS

End of Year account statements were recently mailed. Please make sure to remit your payments before the end of December to qualify for a tax deduction in 2008. Thank you all again for your continued support.

MAZEL TOV

...to Barbara and Fred Glatter on the marriage, this Sunday, of their daughter Tova to Bayruch Goldwasser of Toronto.
 ...to the 2008 Ohr Torah youth Group Raffle winners. David & Chana Moss, Alan & Dorene Weitz, Avi & Cheryl Willinger. Thanks to all the Raffle buyers for supporting the youth program. Thanks to Lyndon Goldsmith, Barry Siegel and Charlie Gershbaum for selling the tickets.

PARNESS GOOD-BYE SHALOSH SEUDOT

Smadar and Jerry Parness & family are soon moving away to Pittsburgh. We would like to have a Good-Bye Shalosh Seudot for them and acknowledge their 19 years of Shul & community work in Edison. We are asking for sponsors to make this a fitting Shalosh Seudot send-off for them on Shabbat Vayigash, January 3. Sponsorships are \$25 per family. To sponsor, please inform Joel Adler, Barry Siegel, or Josh Caplan.

CHANUKAH TISH

This Friday night at 8 P.M., there will be a special tish in the shul for Shabbos Chanukah. Men of all ages, from high school through adult, are invited to attend for great food, lively singing, Divrei Torah and a surprise guest speaker. For further information see Mordechai Paretzky.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Rabbi Shimoni of Judaica Gallery for providing the Chanukah Nerot to the Shul.

MISSING RAINCOAT

Lost at Mincha time on December 13 - Black Ralph Lauren men's raincoat with a detachable wool collar size 48 long. Please call Mike Eserner at 732-985-1002.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLOOD DONORS NEEDED

Blood Donations needed: A member of our community, who is being treated for cancer, has been receiving regular blood transfusions at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick, and will continue to need them for the foreseeable future. We have been asked to assist in ensuring that an adequate supply of O+ blood is available, especially through the winter holidays when the blood supply typically runs quite low. Donations may be made at the Blood Center, 4th Floor, Clinical Academic Building 125 Paterson Street, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901, (732) 235-8100 (reservations preferred, although walk-ins are welcome).

ROSEN FAMILY SPONSORS BLOOD DRIVE

The Rosen family is pleased to announce its next blood drive will be on Sunday January 11, 2009. It will take place from 9:30-3:00 at our home, 120 Highland Ave. HP. Babysitting and hot cookies will be available (as always). Please call 732-393-1018 or email to ira_rosen@yahoo.com to reserve a donation slot. Walk-ins are also welcome.

HIGHLAND PARK COMMUNITY KOLLEL BREAKFAST

The Highland Park Community Kollel is pleased to announce that its Inaugural Breakfast will be held on January 4, 2009 from 9:30-11:00 A.M. at Cong. Ohr Torah. Although admission to the breakfast is free, reservations are required via the RSVP card received in the mail. Come down to the breakfast immediately after the 9:00 AM minyan, and learn about the Kollel firsthand. Please see Phil Pfeffer or Arnie Lustiger for more information.

RJJ LADIES LUNCHEON

Rabbi Jacob Joseph School cordially invites you to their Annual Ladies Luncheon honoring Mrs. Esther Komet Sunday, January 18th 12:00 Noon to be held at Congregation Ohr Torah.

ACTT

Save the date: Motzei Shabbos, Feb 21, 2009 - next Community Wide event. More details to follow. To volunteer or for more info on ACTT, e-mail info@actt613.org, see the ACTT web-site: www.actt613.org.

RABBI HOFFMAN'S SHIUR

Rabbi Yisroel Hoffman's Choshen Mishpat Hilchos Dayanim shiur Takes place Wednesday nights at the Agudah at 8:30 pm. To download previous shiurim, please visit <http://csisol.com/shiurim.aspx>

RPRY MISHMAR PROGRAM

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

AHAVAS ACHIM UNIVERSITY

AA University and the Torah Conferencing Network present Rabbi Yissocher Frand, every Thursday at 9pm, live via satellite from Baltimore. AA University also shows Rabbi Yisroel Reisman's shiur which takes place Saturday Night Navi shiur :Admission: \$5.

WOMEN'S AMEN GROUP

The women's ongoing weekly tefillah and tehillim "Amen group" will meet this Sunday, Dec 28 from 9:30 until 10am at the home of Rebecca Rivkin, 1 Opatut Court, Edison. All women and girls are

BARUCH HABA

Ohr Torah would like to welcome newcomers, 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 Jan. 3rd & 24th and Feb. 14th, 21st & 28th. 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 Natby 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.

HOUSEKEEPING

For housekeeping issues and inquiries contact Lou Smith at ludeeju@gmail.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.

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

invited to join. It should be in the zechus of a refuah shleimah for Menachem Mordechai ben Ophira. For more info please call E.J. at 732-985-2118 or e mail EJPartyworks@aol.com

WOMEN'S GROUP FORMING

Looking for women to say Shir Hashirim (in your own home) Friday night after licht bentchen and/or baking challah on Thursday nights or Fridays (hafrasha should be done Thursday night after dark or Friday) as a zechus of a refuah shleimah for Menachem Mordechai ben Ophira. Remember to please say a tefillah for Menachem Mordechai when you do the hafrasha AND when the dough is being kneaded. It could be your own personal tefillah or tehillim. If you would like to be included in either one or both of these segullahs, please call E.J. at 732-985-2118 or e mail EJPartyworks@aol.com.

HACHNASAT KALLAH

Hachnasat kallah is a very powerful mitzvah and can be a special merit for a choleh. I am specifically collecting money for hachnasat kallah as a merit for a refuah shleimah for Menachem Mordechai ben Ophira (Mordechai Gottlieb). Simchat Zion was formed to cover the cost of weddings for needy orphans in Eretz Yisroel. The cost of sponsoring an entire wedding is \$3600. The goal is to raise money to sponsor an orphan's wedding. To partake in this great mitzvah, please send a donation as soon as possible. For more info, please see www.Simchattzion.com. Tax deductible checks payable to Simchat Zion should be sent to Aviva Siegel, 16 Edgemount Rd, Edison, NJ 08817. siegelmom@optonline.net 732-572-4408

Men's Yom Iyun

AA University presents our first ever Men's Yom Iyun on Thursday, Jan 1, 2009, sponsored by the AA Men's Club. This will be a wonderful morning featuring a sumptuous brunch buffet and intense training in Nusach Hatefillah. The Nusach Seminar, with Yeshiva University's Belz School of Music, will teach YOU how to lead the Shabbat services. Featuring Cantor Bernard Beer, Dir of the Belz School, and other cantors, the seminar will offer intensive training in proper tunes, pronunciations, and nusach patterns for Shabbat prayers, from Kabbalat Shabbat through Mussaf. Admission \$25 The deadline for reg. is Dec 29.

CHUG IVRIT TO MEET

The next meeting of Chug Ivrit (Hebrew speaking club) for intermediate to advanced speakers will be on Sunday, Jan. 18, at 11am, at the home of Cheryl Amdur, 89 Lexington Ave., Edison. We chat in Hebrew and read a short Hebrew article or story. Chug Ivrit is sponsored by the Raritan Valley Chapter of Hadassah. It is free and open to both men and women. For more info, contact: Rachel Weintraub at rachel@weintraubworld.net or 732-819-9298.

RPRY COOKBOOK DEBUTS

The RPRY PTA is excited to announce the upcoming arrival of their extraordinary cookbook, Culinary Temptations. It is a unique collection of kosher recipes that will surely tempt your palate. This cookbook makes a perfect Chanukah gift For more info contact Michele Meiner (732) 819-8292 or Ida Scheiner (732)247-3063.

ORTHODOX FORUM

The Orthodox Forum presents their next lecture on Motzei Shabbat, Jan 10, 2009 at 8pm at Cong Etz

Ahaim - 230 Denison Street, Highland Park, NJ. Topic: The State of Modern Orthodoxy. The guest speaker will be Rabbi Dr. Barry Freundel of Keshet Israel in Washington DC. He is a noted professor and lecturer and has taught seminars on Government ethics on Capitol Hill and on medical ethics at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and served on the Theological Commission of the Human Genome Project. Rabbi Freundel is the author of Contemporary Orthodox Judaism's Response to Modernity as well as many scholarly articles and publications.

SENIOR NCSY NEWS

This Motzei Shabbat, Dec 27th, we will be going to Bridgewater Sports Arena for laser tag and ice skating! We will meet at the rink, (1425 Frontier Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807) at 7PM. The event will be \$15 for laser tag, ice skating and skate rental. Call if you need a ride. Also, if there are a few parents that would be able to drive as well, it would be a huge help. Please let us know. Avi Eserner (732) 718-4786 or Jordana Goldberg (718) 926-8195

VISITING RAV

Hagaon Harav Yisroel Meir Druck, shilta, long-time close talmid of Hagaon Harav Chaim Kanievsky, shlita, founder and Rosh Hayeshiva of Yeshiva Tiferes Yisroel in Givat Shaul, Yerushalayim and Rav of the Romema, Yerushalayim community, will be visiting Edison/Highland Park from Thursday, Jan 1st through Motzei Shabbos, Jan 3rd, and will deliver shiurim/sichos in Hebrew throughout his stay. The tentative schedule of shiurim is as follows:

- Cong Ohr Torah, Thursday Jan 1st (immediately following Mincha/Maariv)
- Cong Ohav Emeth, Friday, Jan 2nd (following 8AM Shacharis minyan)
- Cong Ohav Emeth, Shabbos Parshas Vayigash, January 3rd (7:50AM minyan and 8:45AM minyan)
- Cong Agudas Yisroel, Shabbos Parshas Vayigash, Jan 3rd (Shalosh Seudos)

In addition, the entire community is invited to hear the Rav at an Oneg Shabbos at the home of Rifky and Jack Atkin, 16 Hamlin Rd, on Friday, Jan 2nd at 9PM. The Rav will also be available throughout his stay for private consultation and Brachos by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, please call 732-777-0933 after Dec 29th between 6:30PM and 10:30PM. Donations to help support Yeshivas Tiferes Yisroel are greatly appreciated.

JR NCSY ONEG

For anything having to do with Jr. NCSY, please contact Chana Lustiger at 908-209-1820 or Tzvi Hametz at 732-991-2252

ISRAELI ARTIST DISPLAY

The Israeli-American artist, Ellen Miller Braun will be displaying her unique micro-calligraphy art work, right here in Highland Park, for one night only. There will be a special Chanukah sale - Purchase 2 prints, receive a third as a gift. To see Ellen's work, visit her website - <http://www.nishmati.co.il/> Ellen will be at the home of Leora Bar-Lev in Highland Park, from 6pm until 9pm, on Sunday, Dec. 28. For more info, please contact Leora at ramaz.alumni@gmail.com or at (732) 589-8108.

MAZAL SHIDDUCH GROUP

Please email Sharon at Shcl18@aol.com to request a form and to find out the location.

KEYLIM MIKVAH HOURS OF OPERATION

The OT Keylim Mikvah will be open Sunday Mornings from 9AM to 12 Noon. Please make sure to leave the area clean and neat.

BIKUR CHOLIM HEALTH FAIR RESCHEDULED

The Bikur Cholim Health Fair, cosponsored with St. Peters, is being rescheduled to March 15th, 1PM-5PM at RPRY. More info will follow. Any questions, please call 732-985-4501.

PARK MIKVAH

The Edison/Highland Park Mikvah is open from 8:30 to 10:30pm. FRIDAY NIGHTS are by APPOINTMENT ONLY. Call 732-249-2411, Fee \$15. OUT OF HOURS an ADDITIONAL \$20 fee.

EMPLOYMENT NETWORK RARITAN VALLEY

Our next job networking session will be on Wednesday, Jan. 14th at Cong Ahavas Achim in HP. This free session is an effective way to learn job search strategies, hear about job leads, and share ideas, resources and info. Be prepared to present a 20-30 second elevator pitch summary and bring about 15 copies of your resume. Informal networking begins at 7:30pm; the program begins at 8 pm and ends at 10 pm. For more info, go to www.ENRV.org, or contact Bob Lansey at ENRV@verizon.net or 732-819-8651.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Active Zionist Orthodox cong seeks same dynamic individual or couple for part time youth director position. Must be college grad with previous youth exp. Supervisory position requires strong organizational skills; Shabbat and holiday attendance in Highland Park. Competitive salary. Fax resume to (732)-247-6739 or email imalevenst@verizon.net attention Debra L.

REBBITZEN EICHENSTEIN'S CLASSES FOR WOMEN

Rebbitzin Eichenstein will not be having classes, Sunday, Dec 28 and Monday, Dec 29. For more info, please contact Aviva Siegel at siegelmom@optonline.net or Ricki Stern 732-828-6939 rickistern@yahoo.com or Atara Degani 732-306-5727 or 732-937-6823.

MIRI COHEN'S PARSHA CLASS

Mrs. Miri Cohen's ladies Parsha class will meet Wednesday morning, Dec 31 at 9:15AM at the home of Lynn Hanfling, 47 Leslie St., Edison. For more info, please call Azriella Jaffe 732-985-7613.

LOCAL ERUV

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

Parshas Vayigash

- Candlelighting 4:24 PM
- Mincha/ Kabolos Shabbos 4:30 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.

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