



Congregation Ohr Torah

Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi

Allen Kessel - President

Parshas Toldot

2 Kislev 5769

December 29, 2008

ANNUAL OHR TORAH DINNER

This year's Shul Dinner will take place on Sunday December 14, 2008. Mazel Tov to Fay and David Moskovic, the Guests of Honor, and Shelley Schoenfeld and Matthew Holland, this year's Service Awardees. Invitations have been mailed. Please return your response cards and ads by Nov 30.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

There will be a General Membership Meeting on December 16, 2008 at 8:00PM. Agendas will be mailed shortly.

KIDDUSH

Kiddush this shabbat is sponsored by Barry and Miryam Arnow in honor of the first yahtzeit of Barry's sister Fruma bas Zalman Meir

SHABBAT CHEVRON

WITH RAV SIMCHA HOCHBAUM

On Shabbos morning, December 6, Rav Simcha Hochbaum will be a scholar in-residence at OT. Rav Simcha Hochbaum was a long time student and *musmach* of Reb Shlomo Carlebach, z"l. Before making aliya, he was the Rabbi of The Eldridge Street Synagogue in New York City and a Judaic Studies instructor at Bi-Cultural Day School in Stamford CT. Rav Simcha now resides in the Avraham Avinu neighborhood of Chevron and teaches at Reishit Yeshiva in Beit Shemesh and the Tiferet Center in Ramat Beit Shemesh. In addition to his educational activities, he is the Director of Tourism for the Hebron Fund, and gives spiritual and insightful tours of Chevron, the Old City of Jerusalem, the Kotel Tunnels as well as neighborhoods throughout Yehuda and Shomron. In addition, please join Rav Simcha Motzai Shabbos for a very inspiring Melavah Malaka with divreh torah, stories and singing in the main shul starting at 7:00 pm.

OHR TORAH YOUTH EVENT

Calling all sports enthusiasts! Come to Ohr Torah at 6PM sharp on Saturday night December 20th as we head via coach bus to the NJ Nets state of the art practice training facility for one hour of playing time followed by the NJ Nets vs Miami Heat basketball game. All tickets for this event are \$45. Snacks and drinks will be provided. This evening has been designated by the NJ Nets as Jewish Family night and there will be a kosher stand available at the Izod center. There are only 50 seats available. First come first serve! You can sign up at our Shul website ohrtorah.net or by calling Mayer Berg @ (732) 572-3429.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACTT

ACTT says THANK YOU! Thank you to all the sponsors and attendees for making the ACTT Nov 22nd event with Rabbi Gedaliah Jaffe, for our current module, Judging Favorably - Module 3, so successful and meaningful! 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, or call Jonathan Abrahams (732) 220-2946, Wendy Bar (732) 220-8765, Joe Friedman (732) 732-985-8014, Alice Gordon (732) 985-6848, Michael Lafond (732) 432-9860, Phil Rosen (732) 572-8762, or Aviva Siegel (732) 572-4408.

RPRY SCHOLARSHIP BREAKFAST

Please help support Yeshiva education for local families in need. The difficult financial times have adversely affected the ability of many community members to manage the costs of Yeshiva Education. Despite the increased need, RPRY remains committed to offering a Yeshiva education to every Jewish child, irrespective of financial means. While OT has always responded generously to this campaign, the challenging economic situation means your help would be as valuable as ever and would be deeply appreciated. The campaign culminates in a breakfast at RPRY on December 21 honoring Rabbi Eliyahu Hirsch with the teacher excellence award. As the breakfast has been donated, all funds go directly to support scholarships and keep tuition more affordable. Please respond generously and feel free to speak with Russell Adler, Josh Caplan or Michael Kaplan with any questions.

ORTHODOX FORUM

The Orthodox Forum presents Mr. Julius Berman, past president of the Orthodox Union and former chairman of the President's Conference, Motzei Shabbos December 13 at 8 PM. He will be discussing: *Issues in Diversity and Community Policy: Personal Reflections*. The event will take place at OT, and is chaired by Dr. William Gewirtz. Admission to all Orthodox Forum presentations are free.

INAUGURAL ALUMNI DAY AT RPRY

First annual Alumni Sports Day at RPRY for this Shabbat? We are asking for RPRY alumni to come and play hockey and basketball (we have a separate game for men and women) this Sunday, Nov. 30th at the RPRY gym. We are asking for a \$18 donation to participate.

RABBI HOFFMAN'S SHIURIM

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 refreshes

HACHNASAT KALLAH

Menachem Mordechai ben Ophira (Mordechai Gottlieb) is currently seriously ill. It is important to do whatever we can to provide him with merit for a refuah shelaimah. Although there are no guarantees of which particular mitzvah is the one that may provide the merit, 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 shelaimah for Menachem Mordechai ben Ophira. 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.

Candlelighting:	4:14PM
Mincha:	4:20PM
Shacharis:	7:45 and 9:00AM
Rabbi Hoffman's Pesachim Shiur- After Hashkama	
Z'man Krias Shma (G'RA):	9:23AM
Early Mincha:	1:30 PM
Rabbi Luban's Shiur in Megillah at 3:15PM	
Mincha:	4:05 PM
Shalosh Seudos speaker: R. Shraga Silverberg	
Maariv:	5:15 PM
Weekday Shacharis:	
Sun	7:15, 8 & 9AM
Mon & Thur	6:20, 7:05 & 8AM
Tue., Wed & Fri	6:30, 7:10 & 8 AM
Weekday Mincha/ Maariv:	4:20 PM
Weekday Maariv	7:30 PM and 10:10 PM
Add Vesain Tal Umatar Thursday Night December 4	
<i>Monday evening, 9:10 in Bais Medrash, Rabbi Luban's shiur in She'eilos Uteshuvos (responsa)</i>	
<i>Tuesday Tehillim 9:50 PM</i>	
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.	

BARUCH HABAH

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 December 13th, 20th & 27th. To sponsor a Kiddush or reserve the Kiddush room, please contact Mel Barenholtz in person, by phone or email: 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 Chazzon's shulchan.
PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR MORE OHR TORAH INFORMATION**

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 Tzion should be sent to Aviva Siegel, 16 Edgemount Rd, Edison, NJ 08817. Thank you, Aviva Siegel siegelmom@optonline.net 732-572-4408.

ERUV VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Looking for a volunteer to check the eruv in the Donaldson Park area – see Israel Rivkin or call at 732-572-0184

BLOOD DRIVE

The Rosen family is pleased to announce that our next blood drive will be held on Sunday, Nov 30 from 9:30AM to 3PM. The Bloodmobile will be at our home, 120 Highland Ave., HP. Hot cookies will be served, babysitting is available, and each donor should be receiving 2 Nets tickets. Please contact Heidi, Ira or Natasha for further info, or to schedule a donation slot (walk-ins welcome too).

AHAVAS ACHIM UNIVERSITY

AA University and the Torah Conferencing Network present Rabbi Yissocher Frand, every Thursday at 9pm, live via satellite from Baltimore. Join the most popular shiur in the country, broadcast to the AA Beis Medrash every week, for halakhic insights into the parsha and a meaningful dvar Torah at the end. After the Yomim Tovim, Rabbi Yisroel Reisman's Saturday Night Navi shiur resumes. Admission: \$5.

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.

HIGHLAND PARK SCHOOL BUDGET

Interested in Learning More About the Highland Park Public Schools Budget? Please join members of the Board of Education Monday Dec 1, 2008 @7:30PM at Middle School Cafeteria. Here you will have the opportunity to learn more about state mandates, the role of the local board, the state board, and the state in setting school curriculum and budget. Regular Board meetings are advertised at <http://www.highlandpark.k12.nj.us/board/0809monthlycalendar.html>

On December 11, 2008 @7:30PM and January 15, 2009 @7:30PM Please join the Highland Park Public Schools Budget Task Force in its regular meetings. Its agenda includes outreach and education on the challenges of the school budget.

<http://sites.google.com/site/hpbudgettaskforce>

WEEKLY WOMENS GROUP: AMEN

The women's weekly tefillah and tehilim "Amen group" will meet this Sunday Nov 30 from 9:30 until 10am at the home of Fay Moskovic, 22 Brookfall Rd. All women and girls are 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 be part of a group of 40 saying Shir Hashirim Friday night after licht bentchen and/or baking challah Thursday nights or Fridays in the zechus of a refuah shleimah for Menachem Mordechai ben Ophira. If you would like to be included in one or both of these segullahs, please contact E.J. Berman at EJPartyworks@aol.com or call 732-985-2118.

AA Yom Iyun

All women and girls are invited to Ahavas Achim University's annual Women's Yom Iyun on Thursday, Dec 25, sponsored by AA Sisterhood Entitled "Discovering Hava Shapiro" and

featuring Professor Wendy Zierler, this is an opportunity to enjoy a morning of learning meeting a little-known woman from our recent past, while the kids are safely in school. Admission is \$12 (Free for AAU Sponsors: Dean, Torah Builder, President) and the registration deadline is Monday, Dec 22.

Hava Shapiro was a pioneering Hebrew woman writer from Slavuta, Ukraine. She was the first woman to publish a Hebrew diary and the first woman to write about women's issues as they pertain to Hebrew literature and criticism. Her family printed the first Tanya, and a blood libel accusation was made against her relatives. Learn about her life, read her words, and enjoy a morning of scholarship with the Ahavas Achim Sisterhood.

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. This Yom Iyun is for current and prospective baalei tefillah and is open to all men and boys. 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. Included in the program will be:

1. Detailed study of the siddur and traditional melodies
2. How to choose melodies for congregational singing
3. How to choose melodies based on the words of the tefillah and standard nusach
4. A map of all nuschaot for Shabbat will be provided to all participants
5. All participants will receive a CD of the Shabbat service for practice The schedule will be:

Admission \$25 (Free for AAU Sponsors Dean, Torah Builder, President) and the deadline for registration is Dec 29.

CLOTHING DRIVE

In order to arrange a date with Yad Leah for clothes collection, they require assurance that we can cover the cost of packing, shipping & trucking the clothing. To that end we are looking for a few individuals to cover the trucking costs of \$300 and will request donations of at least \$18 with each clothing donation. If you can assist with the cost of trucking, please contact Mordy Brill (mordb@msn.com).

MRS. MIRI COHENS WOMEN'S PARSHA CLASSES

Mrs. Miri Cohen's ladies Parsha class will meet Wednesday morning, Dec 3 at 9:15AM at the home of Lynn Hanfling, 47 Leslie St., Edison. For more info, please call Azriella Jaffe 732-985-7613.

RPRY COOKBOOK DEBUTS

The RPRY PTA is excited to announce the upcoming arrival of their extraordinary cookbook, Culinary Temptations. Culinary Temptations is a unique collection of kosher recipes that will surely tempt your palate. This cookbook will make a perfect Chanukkah gift for grandmothers, mothers, sisters, aunts, daughters and all balabustas and chefs. For more info contact Michele Meiner (732) 819-8292 or Ida Scheiner (732)247-3063.

CHANUKAH BOUTIQUE

Ahavas Yisrael will be having a Chanukah Extravaganza on Motzoi Shabbat, Saturday, December 6th, starting at 7:30 p.m. There will be vendors selling hand-crafted decorative accessories & Judaica, Lia Sophia jewelry, Discovery toys, Tupperware, etc. The event will be at Ahavas Yisrael 1587 Rt. 27, Edison. For more info, call Mara Margolin 732-777-1589

SENIOR NCSY EVENTS

This year, regional will be held from December 4th-7th at the newly renovated Berkley Carteret Hotel in Asbury Park. Latte and learning is back!! Come to Starbucks on Rt. 18 (Mid-State mall) every Wednesday night at 7:30 for good conversation,

great friends, oh yeah, and FREE coffee! We hope to see everyone there each week! Avi Esermer (732) 718-4786 Jordana Goldberg (718) 926-8195

JR NCSY ONEG

Jr NCSY is having their first Oneg of the year. This shabbat at Chana Lustiger's house 8 Price Drive All Jr. NCSYers welcome. Bring your friends and their friends and their imaginary friends. We would also like to announce the Regional Lock In at Fun Time America, a night filled with fun, friends, and plenty of food. Did I mention lazer tag?? Motzie shabbat December 20 until Sunday the 21. For more info please contact Tzvi Hametz or Chana Lustiger. We are also looking for sponsors or partial sponsors for our Chanukah Chaggiah if anyone would like to be involved please contact us.

REBBITZEN EICHENSTEIN'S CLASSES

Rebbitzen Eichenstein will be having her Navi class on Sefer Tehillim, Sunday morning, Nov 30 at 10AM at Cong. Agudath Israel. The Parsha and Sefer Tomer Devorah classes will not be held on Monday evening, Dec 1. Classes are for women only. For more info, please contact Aviva Siegel at siegelmom@optonline.net, Ricki Stern 732-828-6939 rickistern@yahoo.com or Atara Degani 732-306-5727 or 732-937-6823.

MAZAL SHIDDUCH GROUP

Please email Sharon at ShCL18@aol.com to find out location of next meeting & to request form.

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.

PARK MIKVAH

The Edison/Highland Park Mikvah is open from 8:30 to 10:30. FRIDAY NIGHTS are by APPOINTMENT ONLY. Call 7332-249-2411. Fee \$15. OUT OF HOURS-ADDITIONAL \$20 fee.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Rabbi Jacob Joseph School Seeks experienced Full Time secretary. Computer knowledge essential. Call 732-985-6533 or fax 732-985-6553

EMPLOYMENT NETWORK RARITAN VALLEY

Looking for a job because you are concerned about job security or you are out of work? Attend our job networking session on Wednesday, Dec 10th at Cong Ahavas Achim in Highland Park. This free session is an effective way to learn job search strategies, hear about job leads, and share ideas, resources and information. Be prepared to present a 20-30 second elevator pitch summary and bring about 15 copies of your resume. Informal networking begins at 7:30 pm; the program begins at 8pm and ends at 10 pm. For more info, go to www.ENRV.org, or contact Bob Lansley at ENRV@verizon.net or 732-819-8651.

LOCAL ERUV

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

Parshas Vayetzei

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| • Candlelighting | 4:12 PM |
| • Mincha/ Kabolos Shabbos | 4:20PM |

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.



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