



Congregation Ohr Torah

Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi

Allen Kessel - President

Parshas Vayishlach

16 Kislev 5769

December 13, 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.

RABBI BERZON IN EDISON

Ohr Torah welcomes Rabbi Azarya Berzon, Rosh Yeshiva of Yeshiva Mevaseret Zion and Michlelet Mevaseret Yerushalayim (MMY), who is spending this Shabbos in Edison, with his students. A Friday evening oneg for Mevaseret Zion alumni, prospective students and their parents will be held at Danny and Zeldia Wildmans, 66 Hamlin Rd. at 8pm. Rabbi Berzon will be speaking at OT on Shabbat morning and again following shalosh seudos.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

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

KIDDUSH

Kiddush this week is sponsored by Marcia and Paul Pheffer in commemoration of the Yahrzeit of Paul's mother, Bella bat Aidel, Z"L.

SHALOSH SEUDOS

Shalosh Seudas is sponsored by Rivka and Joel Adler to commemorate the Yahrzeit of Joel's mother Rachel Rivka bas Azriel Hirsch Z"L.

MAZEL TOV

...to Deena and Gershon Klavan on the birth of a son. The Bris will IY'H take place this Shabbos, at the Hashkama Minyan.

...to Zena and Ushie Freundlich on the birth of a daughter to their children Shira and Yonatan Wiesen. Mazel to big sister Leora, great-grandparents Mrs. Shirley Streifler and Mr and Mrs. Sigmund Freundlich, and to the entire Freundlich and Wiesen families.

... to Miriam and Shlomo Ziegler on the celebration of Sheva Brachos this Shabbos for their children Atara and Jonatan Ziegler.

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.

WELCOME

Congregation Ohr Torah welcomes the following new members:

- Rabbi and Mrs. Dani and Chaya Davis
- Rabbi and Mrs. Shraga and Fraidl Silberberg
- Mr. and Mrs. Martin and Elisha Klein
- Mr. and Dr. Avi and Lauren Maza

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.

THANK YOU

My family and I would like to sincerely thank the community for their warmth and generosity during the Shiva and Shloshim of my father, Leon Smith, Z"L. May we only know smachot.

Ira Smith and Family

SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE

Friday night 8:00 pm Dec. 19
Seudah Shlishis Dec 20

Rabbi Dr. David Fohrman teaches Biblical themes as an adjunct professor at Johns Hopkins University and is also a Yeshiva University faculty member. He served for seven years as a Senior Editor/Writer for the Artscroll Talmud. He received his M.A. in the History of Ideas from Johns Hopkins University and doctorate in Talmudic law from the Ner Israel Rabbinical College. His weekly classes in the Five Towns are standing-room-only. He is a much requested speaker, including as part of Gateways, and serves as a teacher trainer for Torah U'Mesorah. His new book is entitled, *The Beast that Crouches at the Door: Adam & Eve, Cain & Abel, and Beyond*. Charismatic, insightful, a master of text, Rabbi Fohrman will speak at Ohr Torah twice: Friday night 8:00 pm: "Twelve Brothers, A Coat and a Pit: Understanding the Sale of Joseph" Seudah Shlishis 4:45: "Stories they never taught you in high school: Understanding Yehudah and Tamar." Don't miss this wonderful opportunity.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 at 9:30 A.M. at Cong. Ohr Torah. A formal invitation will be in the mail soon. They look forward to personally greet you at the breakfast.

Candlelighting: 4:13PM
Mincha: 4:20PM
Shacharis: 7:45 and 9:00AM
Rabbi Hoffman's Pesachim Shiur- After Hashkama
Z'man Krias Shma (G'RA): 9:32AM
Early Mincha: 1:30 PM
Rabbi Luban's Shiur in Megillah at 3:15PM
Mincha: 4:00 PM
Please note: Mincha is earlier to accommodate guest speaker.
Following Shalosh Seudos we will return to the shul for the Dvar Torah.
Shalosh Seudos speaker: R. Azarya Berzon
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
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.

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 December 20th & 27th and January 3rd & 24th. 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 siegelbada@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

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, 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.

RPRY OPEN HOUSE

RPRY is having an Open House on Thursday Dec. 25th at the Edison campus as well as the Young Israel of East Brunswick. Any questions please call Honey at 732-572-5052

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 Dec 13 at 8PM. 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.

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 raffles

COMMUNITY ONEG

All high school girls in the community are invited to an oneg titled "Decisions, Decisions" with Mrs. Karen Hochhauser on Friday night, December 12th. Formerly of Edison, Mrs. Hochhauser lives in Beit Shemesh and teaches at Tiferet and Machon Maayan. The oneg will take place at the home of Debbie and Alex Diamant, 3 Opatut Court, at 8:30. Following the program Karen will introduce the Touray International Beit Midrash Experience, a unique summer program in Israel for North American high school girls. For more information about Touray IBME, please visit www.youngisrael.org/touray.

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

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.

EMUNAH'S SPECTACULAR CHANUKAH EVENT!!!

Join us in our first TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENT WITH A SURPRISE "SPIN" UNLIMITED BUY-INS Or GOOD OLD FASHION BINGO WITH GREAT PRIZES !!! 50/50 RAFFLE Come socialize with friends and have some fun while helping raise money for needy children in Israel. As an optional extra to help support Emunah we are asking for your participation in some additional Chanukah fun we are going to have a Mystery Auction. Please bring a wrapped gift and indicate if for Men ,Women or Neutral And who knows what you'll leave with. Just another chance to raise more money for the needy Emunah Children in Israel (minimum gift should be \$10.00) Taking Place At Ephraim and Gila Gerzbergs New Home 459 Lincoln Avenue, DECEMBER 20th at 8PM AWESOME PRIZES AND TREATS. Donation per person: \$ 25.00 RSVP: Sue Redlich 732-558-4917

CHULENT CONTEST

In the spirit of "Krav Sakinin", the Men's Club of Cong Ahavas Achim is pleased to announce it's 3rd Annual Battle Chulent, which will take place at AA Stadium (aka, the shul social hall) on Friday evening, Jan 2nd starting at 8PM. The chefs' entrance fee is \$36, which will include a new crock pot, and the knowledge that they were brave enough to face the public with their culinary skills. Admission is \$5 in advance, \$8 without a reservation. Event sponsors are also welcome. Sponsors of \$180 will receive admission for four to the event, their name in the event program, our gratitude, and the opportunity to help select the beer. To reserve a chef or attendee space, discuss sponsorship (and beer), or for more info, please contact Ira Rosen at battlechulent@yahoo.com or 732-393-1018.

WOMEN'S GROUP FORMING

The women's ongoing weekly tefillah and tehilim "Amen group" will meet this Sunday Dec 14 from 9:30 until 10am at the home of Fay Moskovic, 22 Brookfall Road. 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) in the 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 tehilim. 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.

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. Admission is \$12 (Free for AAU Sponsors: Dean, Torah Builder, President) and the registration deadline is Monday, Dec 22.

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

CHANUKAH OPEN HOUSE

Our local Jewish Community Relations Council is sponsoring a Chanukah Open House on Dec 16th, at 7:30PM at the offices of the Jewish Federation of Greater Middlesex County, 230 Old Bridge Turnpike, South River. Come meet with the JCRC leadership, listen to the following speakers discuss current events which affect all of us: Andi Milens, Assoc. exec. Dir. of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, Andrew Silow-Carroll, editor-in-chief of the New Jersey Jewish News, and Jac Toporek, Exec. Director of the NJ State Association of Federations. There will also be music and refreshments. RSVP: Andrea Lockhart at 732-432-7711 x18 or alockhart@jf-gmc.org. All attendees are encouraged to bring donations of food (cans, boxes) for the Jewish Family and Vocational Service Food Bank, which is in dire need of supplies.

THE MAN WITH THE TRUCK

"The Man With The Truck" is coming to the YST Preschool on Monday December 15 at the Yeshiva Shaarei Tzion Preschool building, 425 Cleveland Avenue (right off of Madison, last building on the left). Tzitzis, Robes, Boys, Girls and Baby Clothes, Kippot, Men's Shirts, Linens, Towels, and more. He will be open from 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm. For more info, call the YST Preschool at 732-819-7083.

CHUG IVRIT TO MEET

The next meeting of Chug Ivrit (Hebrew speaking club) for intermediate to advanced speakers will be on Sunday, Dec 14, at 11am, at a Highland Park area home. This month, we will watch a U-Tube video of a famous Israeli satirical song from the 1970's entitled "Mechakim Lemashiach" and then read the song and discuss it's meaning. Chug Ivrit is sponsored by the Raritan Valley Chapter of Hadassah. It is free and open to both men and women. You do not have to be a member of Hadassah to join us. For location and more info,

contact: Rachel Weintraub at 732-819-9298 or rachel@weintraubworld.net

CLOTHING DRIVE

A Yad Leah clothing drive will Be'ezras Hashem take place on Sunday December 21st at Congregation Ohav Emeth (O.E.), main entrance on Dennison Ave. in parking lot, from 9:30AM until 12:30PM. Please donate clothing in good wearable condition only. Shoes only in new or like new condition. Linens, towels, tablecloths, handbags, cosmetics & hair accessories are also accepted in good condition. Bring all in tied garbage bags. Yad Leah will distribute to over 15 communities throughout Israel. We kindly request that a monetary donation (\$18 or more to American Friends of Yad Leah) be made to help defray shipping costs. Receipts will be provided by Yad Leah for the money & clothing (&/or miscellaneous items) contributions.

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.

JR NCSY ONEG

This Shabbos, Dec 13, Jr. NCSY will be having a special oneg for 6th and 7th graders only! The oneg will take place at the Gerszberg home at 45 Lincoln Ave, Highland Park, NJ at 2:45 PM until mincha at OT. Our beloved heads Elana and Aaron will be there so make sure that you come! It going to be awesome! On Dec 20-21, Jr. NCSY is having it's REGIONAL LOCK-IN at FuntimeAmerica! Unlimited rides, unlimited laser tag, and unlimited food ALL NIGHT LONG! This is going to be the event of th year, so sign up now! To sign up go to <http://www.njncsy.com> and fill out the form online. Buses will be leaving from RPRY at 11:30 PM on Motzei Shabbos and will be returning at 8AM Sunday morning. The cost of the bus is \$15, and can be paid in cash or check on the day of the Lock-In.

Get excited for Chanukah! Jr. NCSY will be having our very own, unbelievable, fantastic, stupendous Chanukah Chaggigah featuring the GREAT MENORAH BUILD-OFF! Start coming up with the craziest, wackiest designs for YOUR menorah to submit it to our contest! The chaggigah will take place on Dec. 24 at Ahavas Achim from 7:30-10:30...more details to follow! Just start concocting menorah designs--as long as it's kosher and functional (no ice cream menorahs, sorry!) we want to see it! Start designing an GET EXCITED! Any questions on any of the above announcements or 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, Sunday, December 28, 2008. Ellen brings her artwork of biblical scenes and more, directly from the hills of the Shomron. This is your chance to meet the artist, and pick up a Chanukah present or two. 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, 2008 (2 Tevet - 8th candle of Chanukah). For more info, please contact Leora at ramaz.alumni@gmail.com or at (732) 589-8108. Chag Orim Sameach!! See you then!

MAZAL SHIDDUCH GROUP

The Mazal Shidduch group will hold its next meeting on December 16, 2008 at 8:30 PM. Please email Sharon at Shc18@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.

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

Looking for a job because you are concerned about job security or you are out of work? Attend our job networking session on Wednesday, December 10th at Congregation 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 8 pm and ends at 10 pm. For more information, go to www.ENRV.org, or contact Bob Lansey at ENRV@verizon.net or 732-819-8651.

MIRI COHEN'S PARSHA CLASS

Mrs. Miri Cohen's ladies Parsha class will meet Wednesday morning, December 17 at 9:15 AM at the home of Lynn Hanfling, 47 Leslie St., Edison. For more information, please call Azriella Jaffe 732-985-7613

BIKUR CHOLIM HEALTH FAIR

The Bikur Cholim Health Fair, cosponsored with St. Peters, is being postponed. More information will follow. Any questions, please call 732-985-4501.

LOCAL ERUV

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

Parshas Vayeshev

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|----------------------------|---------|
| • Candlelighting | 4:15 PM |
| • Mincha/ Kabbolas Shabbos | 4:25PM |

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.