



# Congregation Ohr Torah

## Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

**Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi**

**Allen Kessel - President**

Parshas Bo

6 Shevat 5769

January 31, 2009

<b>Candlelighting:</b>	<b>4:55PM</b>
<b>Mincha:</b>	<b>5:05PM</b>
<b>Shacharis:</b>	<b>7:45 and 9:00AM</b>
<i>Rabbi Hoffman's Pesachim Shiur- After Hashkama</i>	
<b>Z'man Krias Shma (G'RA):</b>	<b>9:39AM</b>
<b>Early Mincha:</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
<i>Rabbi Luban's Shiur in Megillah 4:00 PM</i>	
<b>Mincha:</b>	<b>4:50 PM</b>
<i>Shalosh Seudos speaker: Avi Tobias</i>	
<b>Maariv:</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>
<b>Weekday Shacharis:</b>	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>7:15, 8 &amp; 9AM</b>
<b>Mon &amp; Thur</b>	<b>6:20, 7:05, 8 AM</b>
<i>Note earliest Talis and Tefillin: 6:16 AM</i>	
<b>Tue, Wed &amp; Fri</b>	<b>6:30, 7:10 &amp; 8 AM</b>
<b>Weekday Mincha/ Maariv: 5:00 PM</b>	
<b>Weekday Maariv 7:30 PM and 10:10 PM</b>	
<i>Monday evening, 9:10 in Bais Medrash, Rabbi Luban's shiur in She'eilos Uteshuvos (responsa) Tuesday Tehillim 9:50 PM</i>	
<b>WINTER SCHEDULE FOR DAF YOMI</b>	
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 Jan. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:siegeldad@optonline.net) or 732-572-4408.

### HOUSEKEEPING

For housekeeping issues and inquiries contact Lou Smith at [luddeju@gmail.com](mailto:luddeju@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.

### MAZEL TOV

...to Avi Tobias and Rebecca Pastor on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Josh, this Shabbos. Mazel Tov to his brother's Judah and Shmuel, grandparents Mr. & Mrs Mel Tobias, Mr. & Mrs. Ken Berthold and Mr. & Mrs. Frank Pastor, and all of the aunts, uncles and cousins that traveled to be here this Shabbos.

...to Shelly Schoenfeld and Matt Holland on the birth of a daughter Nina Talia.

...to Janice and Arnie Lustiger on the birth of a son to their children Shevi and Noam Lustiger. Mazel Tov to the grandparents Risa & Chaim Gross, to the great-grandmother Edith Baldinger, to aunt and uncle Barbara and Alan Lustiger and to the entire Lustiger and Gross families. The Shalom Zachor IY'H will take place at 8:00 PM Friday night at the Lustiger home, 401 N. 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.

...to Rachele and Peter Kassai on the birth of a son to their children Susie and Shragi Kassai.

...to Rabbi Moishe & Menucha Birnbaum on the birth to a daughter.

### KIDDUSH & SHALOSH SEUDOS

Both Kiddush and Shalosh Seudos are being sponsored by Avi Tobias in honor of Josh's Bar Mitzvah.

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **ACTION ALERT: Call Congress Now, Save Jewish Day Schools and Yeshivas Millions**

*A message from the OU and Agudath Israel of America:* The Congressional leadership has chosen to appropriate \$14 billion for 'green' school modernization and repair projects as part of an \$825 billion stimulus bill to help jump start the economy. This 'green' funding is designed to serve the dual purpose of upgrading the nation's schools into appropriate learning environments that ultimately save money and immediately put people to work. Despite a concerted effort to demonstrate an equal spending need in America's non-public schools, the U.S. Congress has chosen exclusion. If every yeshiva and day school parent calls their Senator and Congressman, there will be tens of thousands of calls. The number to call the U.S. Congress is **(202) 225-3121**. Ask to be connected to the office of Congressman Frank Pallone and Senator Frank Lautenberg and simply say that you are calling to ask the senator or congressman to **"Include the nation's non-public schools in the economic stimulus package."** If you reach a voicemail message, please do not hang up! Stay on the line and leave a message after the tone. Congressional offices track exactly how many people call on each issue and every single call makes a difference. Please! We need your help to achieve equal treatment of non-public schools.

### NORPAC

Concerned about Israel's safety and security? Do something about it: NORPAC Mission to Washington May 20, 2009 Buses leave for Washington 6:15 am Buses return between 9-10 pm. There will be briefings on each bus. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be provided and all meals are glatt kosher. Early registration discounts are offered for registration completed on or before March 10th – rates will be \$75 for students and \$125 for adults. After 3/10, rates will be \$125 for students and \$175 for adults. Visa or MasterCard accepted. Refund requests must be received in writing by May 5, 2009. Must be 12 years of age or older to attend. Those under 18 MUST be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian. Contact: H. Atlas, Allen Kessel, Barry Wolf, Marc Hanfling [dccdad@aol.com](mailto:dccdad@aol.com). Don't be left out! Register at [www.norpac.net](http://www.norpac.net) or call 201-788-5133.

### MEET, GREET AND DIALOGUE WITH YU PRESIDENT RICHARD JOEL

The Orthodox Forum of Edison/Highland Park Winter 5769 Series Motzei Shabbat, February 7, 2009, 7:30 pm Cong. Ohr Torah . Richard Joel President, Yeshiva University Session Chair: Rabbi Ronald Schwarzberg *Higher Education Anchored in Sacred Values* Next Orthodox Forum: Rabbi Marc Angel, Rabbi Emeritus of Cong. Shearith Israel, discusses *Leadership Issues and Ideological Tensions within Orthodoxy* on Motzei Shabbat, March 7, 2009 at Cong. Ahavas Achim. The Orthodox Forum gladly accepts season sponsorships (\$200 recommended). Please send your tax deductible check, made out to Congregation Ohr Torah Gemach Fund, to Henry Lerner, 1 Celler Road, Edison, NJ 08817.

### 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. 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).

### 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](mailto:info@actt613.org), see the ACTT web-site: [www.actt613.org](http://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

### EMUNAH OF AMERICA

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

Emunah of America- Achva Chapter presents an ART AUCTION **this Saturday Evening**, January 31, 2009 at Cong. Ohr Torah 48 Edgemount Road, Edison, New Jersey Sponsors: Includes dinner and admission for two Sponsor-\$36, Friend-\$50, Patron-\$75, Benefactor-\$100 Sponsor-for one admission-\$18 General Admission-\$5.00. Sponsors' Dinner Buffet 8PM, General Admission: 8:30 PM, Auction: 9PM. Coffee and Cake will be served. Door Prize, Free Catalog, Raffle. For info call Sharon Hirt: 732-777-0462.

### **AHAVAS ACHIM UNIVERSITY**

Ahavas Achim University invites you to a fascinating Genealogy Seminar on Sunday, February 8, 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Gary Mokotoff help uncover your family origins! Topics covered will include: Getting Started in Jewish Genealogy, Jewish Genealogy on the Internet, The Changing Face of Central and Eastern Europe, and Holocaust Research. Admission is \$5. Please register by February 1. Please call 732-247-0532 for more information.

### **THE ZOO RABBI**

Ahavas Achim University invites you to experience the wild side of Torah with THE ZOO RABBI, Rabbi Natan Slifkin, on Shabbat, February 20-21. On Friday night there will be a catered Seudah (by reservation only: Adults/\$20, Children under 12/\$10, please call 732-247-0532 by February 17 to reserve your seat). At 8:15 p.m. Rabbi Slifkin will deliver his first lecture on "Dinosaurs and the Age of the Universe." On Shabbat morning, the second lecture before Mussaf in the Main Sanctuary will discuss "The Animal Kingdom in Jewish Thought." On Shabbat afternoon at 4:30 p.m., there will be an Oneg for Teens Only with the Zoo Rabbi featuring a question and answer session and a talk on "Mythical Creatures in Judaism." At 5:20 p.m., Mincha will be followed by Seudah Shlishit and a final lecture: "Man and Beast: Our Relationships With Animals."

The fun continues on Sunday, February 22, when Ahavas Achim University and Ahavas Achim Youth Department invite your entire family to TOUR THE TURTLE BACK ZOO WITH THE ZOO RABBI, Rabbi Natan Slifkin. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Turtle Back Zoo in West Orange. For \$10/person (under 2 free) Please call (732)247-0532 by February 17 to reserve your spot on the tour.

### **MAZAL SHIDDUCH GROUP**

Please email Sharon at [Shcd18@aol.com](mailto:Shcd18@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**

Our next job networking session will be on Wednesday, February 11th 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 10pm. Guest speaker: Joel Paul, President of Joel H. Paul and Associates - a nationally recognized executive search firm, will conduct a dialog about searching for the next step in your career. For more info, go to [www.ENRV.org](http://www.ENRV.org), or contact Bob Lansey at [ENRV@verizon.net](mailto:ENRV@verizon.net).

### **BIKUR CHOLIM OF RARITAN VALLEY**

Bikur Cholim of Raritan Valley Annual Event will take place on February 8th at 6pm. The guest speaker will be Rabbi Jay Yaacov Schwartz, M.A., LM.S.W. He is the founder and director of Kanfey Shemesh- The Jewish Family Wellness Center which is a non profit organization providing strengthening of faith and healing for Jewish individuals and families. The event will take place this year at a new location, Pines Manor, 2085 Route 27 in Edison. Please make every effort to attend and support this worthy community organization. Send in your reservations now!!! For more info or if you did not receive an invitation, please contact Fran Leitman 732-572-9545 or Gila Miodownik 732-565-0744.

### **JR NCSY INFO**

WINTER REGIONAL is coming up!!!! This year's convention is going to be in West Orange, NJ, at Cong. AABJ&D on February 6-7. The Early Bird cost is \$60 before January 27 go to [www.njncsy.com](http://www.njncsy.com) to sign up! The bus will be leaving from RPRY at 2 PM on Friday, Feb. 6 and will be returning Motzei Shabbos at a round 1 AM. The cost of the bus is \$15. -Order forms will be going out in the mail for sweatshirts, please return them as soon as possible. The cost of the sweatshirts will be \$26, and the sizes are Youth Small, Medium, Large and

Adult Small, Medium, Large. If you do not have an order form, please drop off a check with your child's name, school, grade and which size you want as soon as possible. No orders can be processed without payment.

-On February 15, Jr. NCSY will be going bowling at Stelton Lanes. NCSYers should begin to collect sponsors who will give 10 cents for every pin knocked down.

-Want to stay updated with Jr. NCSY? Join our mailing list! Updates go out as often as we get them, so please email [jrnscsyhp@gmail.com](mailto:jrnscsyhp@gmail.com) with your child's name, grade and school. 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

### **REBBITZEN EICHENSTEIN'S CLASSES FOR WOMEN**

Rebbitzin Eichenstein will be having her Navi class on Sefer Tehillim, Sunday morning, February 1 at 10AM at Cong. Agudath Israel. The Parsha and Sefer Tomer Devorah classes will not be held on Monday evening, February 2. Classes are for women only. For more info, please contact Aviva Siegel at [siegelmom@optonline.net](mailto:siegelmom@optonline.net), Ricki Stern 732-828-6939 [rickistern@yahoo.com](mailto:rickistern@yahoo.com), or Atara Degani 732-306-5727 or 732-937-6823.

### **MIRI COHEN'S PARSHA CLASS**

Mrs. Miri Cohen will not be having class this Wed, Feb 4, 2009. For more info, please call Azriella Jaffe 732-985-7613.

### **LOCAL ERUV**

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

### **Parshas Bo**

- Candlelighting 5:04 PM
- Mincha/ Kabbolas Shabbos 5:10 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**

### **Tannaim and Amoraim: R. Eliezer ben Hyrcanus**

Whenever the name R. Eliezer appears in the *gemara* it refers to R. Eliezer b. Hyrcanus. He was the student of the illustrious R. Yochanan ben Zaccai. In his youth he was an exceptional student. It is related that on a very rainy day the *bet havaad* – the chief tribunal - chose not to meet. The children, gleefully probably, decided to convene their own *bet havaad*, imitating their elders. As it turned out all of them, R. Eliezer among them, became great scholars. R. Eliezer had a tough personality and often refused to bow to the majority viewpoint as expressed by his colleagues. As an example, after the *churban bayit sheni* the sanhedrin wanted to set high standards of religious practice. R. Eliezer refused to join them. This greatly upset his colleagues and it began a series of events that led to his estrangement from his colleagues and eventually to his excommunication. Even after a famous incident recorded in the *genara* when, miraculously, a carob tree, a stream of water and the walls of the *bet medrash* indicated support for his view his former friends would not take him back. He never returned to Yavneh again. An *agada* relates that R. Eliezer was once walking in the market place when a woman, cleaning her home, dumped a pile of garbage on his head. He saw this as a good sign. Quoting the passage *me-ashpot yorim evyon* (from the trash heap he lifts the destitute) he felt he would now be taken back by his friends. It was not to be. The estrangement was complete. It is further related that his wife believed that if R. Eliezer would perform *nefilat apayim* in the *davening* some evil would befall her brother Rabban Gamliel. Daily she watched her husband and prevented him from *nefilat apayim*. One day she believed it was *rosh chodesh* when *tachanun* is said. So she let down her guard. She was mistaken, however. It was an ordinary day and her husband performed *nefilat apayim*. On that day, it was said, Rabban Gamliel passed from this world. It was only after his passing that R. Eliezer b. Hyrcanus received the honors due to him in his lifetime. R. Yehoshua, his good friend but often his opponent in *halacha*, eulogized him saying: "This stone upon which R. Eliezer sat is comparable to Mt Sinai..."

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