



# Congregation Ohr Torah

## Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

**Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi**

**Allen Kessel - President**

*Parshas Shemot*

21 Tevet 5769

January 17, 2009

<b>Candlelighting:</b>	<b>4:38PM</b>
<b>Mincha:</b>	<b>4:45PM</b>
<b>Shacharis:</b>	<b>7:45 and 9:00AM</b>
<b>Rabbi Hoffman's Pesachim Shiur- After Hashkama</b>	
<b>Z'man Krias Shma (G'RA):</b>	<b>9:43AM</b>
<b>Early Mincha:</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
<b>Rabbi Luban's Shiur in Megillah 3:45 PM</b>	
<b>Mincha:</b>	<b>4:35 PM</b>
<b>Shalosh Seudos speaker: Josh Rapps</b>	
<b>Maariv:</b>	<b>5:45 PM</b>
<b>Weekday Shacharis:</b>	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>7:15, 8 &amp; 9AM</b>
<b>Mon</b>	<b>6:17, 7:05, 8 &amp; 9AM</b>
<b>Tue, Wed &amp; Fri</b>	<b>6:30, 7:10 &amp; 8 AM</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>6:17, 7:05, 8AM</b>
<i>Note earliest Talis and Tefillin 6:18</i>	
<b>Weekday Mincha/ Maariv:</b>	<b>4:45 PM</b>
<b>Weekday Maariv</b>	<b>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)</i>	
<i>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.	

**CONTINUED TEHILLIM**  
Tehillim has been scheduled all next week on behalf of Israeli soldiers and citizens in light of the Gaza war. Tehillim times are:  
*Monday, Wednesday & Thursday:*  
after 10:10 PM Maariv  
*Tuesday:* 9:50 PM

**STREET PARKING ON EDMOUNT ROAD**  
1. When parking on Edgemount Road, please do not block curbside mailboxes. Please allow 6 feet of clearance for the curbside mailboxes. This will allow for mail delivery by the postal vehicle which must have the space to approach the street mailbox. Please be considerate of our neighbors' need to receive their mail without any inconvenience from poorly parked cars.  
2. To maintain a good relationship with a neighbor, it is critical that no one park in front of 44 Edgemount Road (next door to Yoel and Karen Schwartz) over Shabbos.

**MAZEL TOV**  
...to Shaena & Shimon Jakubovic on the birth of a son to their children Batya & Menachem Jakubovic.  
...to Denise and Irwin Hametz on the engagement of their daughter Tova to Ari Abramovitz of Houston and Israel.

**KIDDUSH**  
Kiddush is being sponsored by Mira and Mark Epstein to commemorate the Yahrzeit of Mark's father R' Nachman b'r Yitzchak HaLevi z'l.

**SHALOSH SEUDOS**  
Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by Debbie and Moshe Schneider in memory of the Yahrzeit of Debbie's father Mr. Emanuel Libin, Imanuel ben Shimon A"H.

**2009 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY**  
The Ohr Torah 2009 Membership Directory is in the process of being prepared. All current directory information, including children's names and email addresses, will be brought forward to the new directory. Please submit all changes and/or additions to names, titles, address, phone, children's names, and email addresses to:  
[memberdirectory@ohrtorah.net](mailto:memberdirectory@ohrtorah.net).  
NOTE: Children's names and up to a total of two email addresses not currently listed will be included only if an emailed request is received at the address above. The phone tree email list will not be used for this publication.

**OHR TORAH SISTERHOOD:**  
The Ohr Torah Sisterhood is conducting an Activity Interest Survey to gauge interest in

proposed events for this coming year. Ladies, please take the time to complete this brief survey and return it to Shelley Schoenfeld so that the sisterhood has your preferences in mind when coordinating events. The survey can be taken by navigating to the Ohr Torah Website: <http://www.ohrtorah.net>, or, by completing the survey that was mailed to each of the women in our congregation.

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**REQUEST CLEMENCY FOR JONATHAN POLLARD**  
Please take a moment to call the White House comment line at: 202-456-1111 9AM to 5PM Eastern Standard Time (or try 202-456-1414 if the other line is busy) (in Israel, 077-566-4305 4PM to midnight) and urge President Bush to grant clemency to Jonathan Pollard, before Mr. Bush's presidency ends. If you cannot get through to a live operator, you may leave a message. There is just a week left before the inauguration of the president-elect and this is the time when sitting presidents frequently grant pardons. We have heard that most of the calls requesting Mr. Pollard's release are from the tri-State region, indicating to the White House that this is a regional, and not a national issue. For such reason, we urge you to ask your friends and relatives who live outside New York, New Jersey and Connecticut to place calls on his behalf, as well. THERE ARE ONLY DAYS LEFT!

**NORPAC**  
Save the date: 2009 NORPAC Washington mission will take place May 20,

**THE ORTHODOX FORUM**  
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

**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. 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 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](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.

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

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 HOFFMANS 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 Navi shiur which takes place Saturday Night: Admission: \$5.

#### **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](mailto:rachel@weintraubworld.net) or 732-819-9298.

#### **RPRY COOKBOOK DEBUTS**

RPRY PTA is pleased to announce that their new cookbook, Culinary Temptations is here! Please contact Michele Weiner 732-819-8292 or Ida Scheiner at 732-247-3073 to arrange to pick up a copy. Cost per cookbook is \$25.00.

#### **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

#### **MAZAL SHIDDUCH GROUP**

Please email Sharon at [Shcl18@aol.com](mailto:Shcl18@aol.com) to request a form and to find out the location.

#### **KEYLIM MIKVAH HOURS OF OPERATION**

**Sof davar...**

### **Tannaim and Amoraim: R. Elazar ben Arach**

The life of R. Elazar ben Arach presents us with a curious enigma. He was a second generation *tanna* who was a student of the illustrious Yochanan ben Zaccai. He was among his very best students as evidenced by the fact that his rebbi described him (in *pirkei avos*) as a *maayan hamitgaber* – a spring growing stronger and stronger. Abba Shaul even added that on a balance scale R. Elazar b. Arach would outweigh all the other scholars combined. So great was his scholarship that he was one of the very few who was able to analyze and interpret the *maaseh hamerkavah* – the enigmatic events of Ezekiel's vision of heavenly chariots and other mystical entities. With the passing of R. Yochanan ben Zaccai R. Elazar's life took a curious turn. He did not join his colleagues and return to Yavneh. Instead he followed the advice of his wife and left for Emmaus, a place of bath houses and frivolity. Alone and far from his friends and colleagues he gradually forgot all that he had learned explaining, perhaps, why such a great scholar left so little of his pronouncements in the talmud. One *agada* even goes so far as to say that he even forgot *kriat haTorah* and could not read the passage *hachodesh hazeh lochem* correctly. Some use him as the perfect example of what happens to someone who leaves a *makom torah* for a location devoid of Torah life. But yet another *agada* has Eliyahu haNavi coming to him and restoring all his lost knowledge. R. Elazar ben Arach, a life lived on two differing ends of society.

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**

For info, go to [www.ENRV.org](http://www.ENRV.org), or contact Bob Lansey at [ENRV@verizon.net](mailto:ENRV@verizon.net) or 732-819-8651.

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

HOLD THE DATE!!!!

Bikur Cholim of Raritan Valley Annual Event will take place on Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. The guest speaker will be Rabbi Jay Yaacov Schwartz, M.A. L.M.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 watch your mail for invitations and make every effort to attend and support this worthy community organization.

#### **SHIUR FOR WOMEN**

Irgun Shiurai Torah will be presenting a women's shiur reviewing the halochos of Tahara sHamishpocha Wed. Jan.28 at Cong Ohav Emeth AT 8pm. The speaker will be Mrs. Debbie Selegut of Passaic.? For more info. please contact Lynn Hanfling 732-777-0225

#### **SIMPLY TSFAT CONCERT**

MiShenichnas Adar Marbim B'simcha! When Adar begins we must increase our joy! Congregation Ahavas Yisrael invites the entire community to receive an injection of simcha with Simply Tsfat. The concert will be on Rosh Chodesh Adar, February 24th at 7:30 @ Ahavas Achim 216 S. 1st Ave.Highland Park, NJ. Tickets for the concert are \$15 Adults, \$12 Children, and Family Admission \$36. Sponsorships are welcome and encouraged. For more info please contact Alec Cohen (732) 317 -1784. We look forward to seeing you there!

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

Rebbitzin Eichenstein will be having her Navi class on Sefer Tehillim, Sunday morning, January 18 at 10:00 AM at Cong. Agudath Israel. The Parsha and Sefer Tomer Devorah classes will not be held on Monday evening, January 19. Classes are for women only. For more information, 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's ladies Parsha class will meet Wednesday morning, January 21 at 9:15 AM at the home of Lynn Hanfling, 47 Leslie St., Edison. For more info, please call Azriella Jaffe 732-985-7613.

#### **WOMEN'S GROUPS**

ATTENTION ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS:

The women's ongoing weekly tefillah and tehillim "Amen group" will meet Sunday, January 18, 25 and February 1 and 8 from 9:30 until 10:00 am at the home of Shoshana Diskind, 5 Opatut Court, Edison. All women and girls are invited to join. It should be in the zechus of a refuah shleimah for Menachem Mordechai ben Ophira.

Looking for women to say Shir Hashirim (in your own home) this Friday night after licht bentchen. Please contact E.J. Berman at [EJPartyworks@aol.com](mailto:EJPartyworks@aol.com).

If you would like to be included in a challah baking segullah for this coming Shabbos on Thursday night or Friday (hafrasha should be done Thursday night after dark or Friday) please contact Zehavit @ [zehavit.mandelbaum@gmail.com](mailto:zehavit.mandelbaum@gmail.com) or call 516-295-2611 or 516-984-3366. It should be 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 tehillim.

#### **LOCAL ERUV**

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

#### **Parshas Va-eira**

• Candlelighting	4:47 PM
• Mincha/ Kabbolas Shabbos	5:00 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.