



Congregation Ohr Torah

Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi

Russell Adler- President

Parshas Vayikra

Candlelighting: 5:37 PM
Mincha: 5:45 PM
Shacharis: 7:45, 9 & 9:15 AM
Rabbi Hoffman's Shiur after Hashkama
Z'man Krias Shma (G'RA): 9:14 AM
Rabbi Luban's Sotah Shiur : 4:40pm
Mincha: 1:30 & 5:30 PM
Shalosh Seudos Speaker: Danny Rosenblatt
Maariv: 6:40 PM

PLEASE NOTE: Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 AM Sunday

Weekday Shacharis:

Sunday 7:15, 8 & 9 AM
Mon.. 6:17, 7:05 & 8 AM
Earliest Talis and Tefillin: 6:24

Tues, Wed., & Fri. 6:30, 7:10 & 8 AM
Thurs (Taanis Esther) SEE BOX
Earliest Talis and Tefillin: 6:20

Weekday Mincha/ Maariv: 6:45 PM

Weekday Maariv 10:10 PM

NOTE END OF 7:30 MAARIV MINYAN FOR SEASON

Rabbi Luban's Sheilos U'teshuvos Shiur: Monday 9:10 PM

Tuesday Tehillim: 9:50 PM

Wednesday Night Kolloel Learning: 8-10:10 PM

DAF YOMI SCHEDULE for Daylight Savings Time:

Friday - After Kabbolas Shabbos
 Shabbos – One hour before Mincha (no Shiur at 8:15 or after Hashkama)
 Sunday- After 8 AM Shacharis
 Monday – Thursday: after Zman Maariv

KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP

Kiddush sponsorship is available for March 15th, 22nd & 29th and April 5th. To sponsor a Kiddush or reserve the Kiddush room, please contact Mel Barenholtz in person, or by phone or email: mbarenh@yahoo.com.

To sponsor a Shalosh Seudos, please contact Moshe Wiesel.

OHRTORAH NEWSLETTER

To subscribe to these Announcements, please see the Ohr Torah website: www.ohrtorah.net

BUILDING DEDICATION OPPORTUNITIES

Contact Moshe Schneider at 732-618-4702 or at 8848 (cell), reenagreenspan@yahoo.com or Gene Wasserman 732-397-0130 or genew@compugene.com or mschneider19@yahoo.com.

TREE OF LIFE and/or YAHRZEIT PLAQUES

To dedicate a Yahrzeit Plaque or a Leaf for the Lobby EitzChayim Tree, please contact Moish Nat by sending a detailed fax with all dedicatory wording to 732-759-8558. For more info, call Moish at 732-759-8070 during work days or 732-572-4132 in the evening.

SEFORIM DEDICATIONS

Book/Seforim Dedications of all types are available contact Barry Siegel siegeldad@optonline.net.

HOUSEKEEPING

For housekeeping issues and inquiries contact Lou Smith at ludeeju@gmail.com or 732-572-5633.

OHRTORAH YOUTH PROGRAM EVENTS

Children can register for events on Ohr Torah's website "ohrtorah.net" or by calling Mayer Berg at 732-572-3429.

REFUAH SHLEIMAH LEARNING

Please see the Ohr Torah website, www.ohrtorah.net, for the various schedules of learning as a Z'chus for a RefuahShleimah for members of our shul and community.

FUNERAL/ SHIVA ANNOUNCEMENTS

6 Adar II 5774

For funeral and Shiva email and phone mail announcements contact Reena Greenspan 732-828-5642 (home) 732-678-8848 (cell), reenagreenspan@yahoo.com or Gene Wasserman 732-397-0130 or genew@compugene.com

E-MAIL LIST

To get on the Ohr Torah e-mail list, please contact Gene Wasserman at genew@compugene.com.

MAZEL TOV

...to Riki and Robert Kreitman on the engagement of their daughter Elana to Michael Kahn of Jerusalem, Israel (and Chicago). Mazel tov to Henry & Sheila Schanzer, Claire Kreitman and the entire Schanzer, Kahn, and Kreitman families.
 ...to Riki and Robert Kreitman who will receive the Keter Shem Tov award from Yeshivat Torat Shraga this Sunday, March 9th.

... to Rifky and Jack Atkin on the engagement of their son, Tzvi, to Gratzia Rose of Far Rockaway, NY. Mazel Tov to her parents, Shulamit and Chaim Katz, and to Tzvi's grandmother, Mrs. Ethel Roth.
 ...to Mina and Larry Tiefenbrunn on the Semicha of Rabbi Avi Tiefenbrunn. Semicha from Bais Medrash Govoha, Lakewood Yeshiva. Mazel Tov as well to Avi's wife, Naomi, and to the Tiefenbrunn and Sarfaty families who are here this Shabbos to celebrate this event.

HASHKAMA KIDDUSH

Kiddush after Hashkama Minyan is sponsored by the Tiefenbrunn family.

KIDDUSH

Kiddush is co-sponsored by the following families:

- Lynn and Marc Hanfling
- Joanne and Payam Hanian
- Sruly and Alisa Hercman
- Sheila and Henry Schanzer
- Lisa and Barry Schanzer
- Michelle and Robert Schanzer
- Debbie and Moshe Schneider
- Lorraine and Ira Spiler
- Susan and Morris Wiesel

SHALOSH SEUDOS

Shalosh Seudos is co-sponsored by the following families:

- Lynn and Marc Hanfling
- Joanne and Payam Hanian
- Sruly and Alisa Hercman
- Sheila and Henry Schanzer
- Lisa and Barry Schanzer
- Michelle and Robert Schanzer
- Debbie and Moshe Schneider
- Lorraine and Ira Spiler
- Susan and Morris Wiesel

BNEI AKIVA

Bnei Akiva this week will be at 4:35 PM.

March 8, 2014

RABBI MEIR GOLDWICHT TO SPEAK THIS SHABBOS

This Shabbos, March 8, our Shul will have the honor of having the Drasha be delivered by Rabbi Meir Goldwicht, a popular and beloved Maggid Shiur at Yeshiva University and throughout the Jewish community. Rabbi Goldwicht, a prominent Israeli scholar, educator, and a Rosh Yeshiva of Yeshiva University's Mazer School of Talmudic Studies, is the head of the new Stone Beit Medrash Program. Rabbi Goldwicht joined YU as a Rosh Yeshiva at Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (RIETS) and the Mazer Yeshiva Program. He received Semicha from the renowned rabbinic authorities Rabbi Zalman Nehemia Goldberg in 1980, and HaRav HaGaon Betzallel Zolti Zt"l chief Rabbi of Jerusalem, and Rabbi Ovadyah Yosef Zt"l, HaRav Roshi of Israel. Rabbi Goldwicht has been a Ram at Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh, and has given Shiurim extensively at Stern College, all over the metropolitan area, and in Israel.

TAANIS ESTHER SCHEDULE

Thursday March 13

Fast Starts: 6:01 AM
 Shacharis: 6:13, 6:55 and 8:00 AM
 Mincha/ Maariv: 6:30 PM
 Fast Ends: 7:52 PM

PURIM SCHEDULE

Maariv Motzei Shabbos (March 15): 7:50 PM
Purim preparation such as donning costumes should not begin until Shabbos ends. We have allowed ample time to go home after Maariv, recite Havdalah, don costumes and then return to Shul for Megillah reading.
Megillah: 8:45 (promptly) & 10:15 PM
Shacharis (Sunday): 7, 8 & 9 AM
Women's Megillah: 10:00 AM
Mincha: 12:45 and 4:30 PM
Maariv: 7:30, 10:10 PM

YAHRTZEIT DATABASE

Ohr Torah will be developing a database of Yahrzeits of relatives of both our male and female members for the purpose of sending reminder notifications and assisting the Gabbaim. An email with a form for this purpose will be circulated soon and paper copies will be available for completion in Shul on Purim. The form will contain space for up to 3 relatives but members are encouraged to complete additional forms, if necessary. For additional information, contact Ralph Dessau, Charlie Gershbaum or Moshe Schneider.

REMINDER: The emergency Defibrillator is mounted on the wall in the hallway. PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR MORE OHRTORAH INFORMATION

NEW SHUL POLICY

In response to concerns raised by members regarding the decorum during the Rabbi's Drasha, the Board voted unanimously that the doors to the sanctuary should be locked during the Rabbi's Drasha to prevent entry until the Drasha is completed. We invite suggestions, at the March 25 membership meeting, as to the best way to implement this policy.

SHUL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

There will be a general membership meeting on March 25 at 8:30 PM with the following agenda:

1. President's Report
2. 2014 Budget
3. House Committee Report
4. Youth Committee Report
5. Rental Committee - New Rental Contract
6. Closure of doors during Rabbi's Drasha

SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA

Congregation Ohr Torah is pleased to welcome our guests who are joining us this Shabbos as part of Shabbat Across America taking place at almost 500 locations across North America. We are also pleased to welcome Rutgers students who are part of the Rutgers Jewish Experience Shabbaton. We thank you all for joining us and hope that you have a wonderful Shabbos in the Edison/Highland Park community. Please let us know if there's anything we can do to make your stay more comfortable.

SHAIMOS

The annual Ohr Torah Shaimos collection will take place on Sunday, March 23, 9:30 AM – Mincha. Thank you to Barry Siegel for coordinating this effort once again this year.

OT YOUTH EVENTS FOR MARCH

-On Sunday March 9th at 3:15 PM, Ohr Torah will be going by school bus from the Shul to the Big Apple Circus located in a heated tent adjacent to TD Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater, NJ. We will return to the Shul at 7:30 PM. This program is for children and parents. All children six and under must be accompanied by an adult. The all-new show entitled "Luminocity" includes acrobats, wire-walkers, performers on a double trapeze, jugglers the Big Apple Circus Band and many more surprises!

Cost is \$28 per person including transportation for all reservations made by Motzei Shabbat March 8. On the day of the event, the price goes up to \$35 per person. Let the OT Youth Program entertain your children while you prepare for Purim. You can make reservations by sending an email to Mayer Berg at

marcberg@verizon.net <mailto:marcberg@verizon.net>. Please include names and phone numbers for all attendees.

Additionally, you can pay via paypal using youth@ohrtorah.net <mailto:youth@ohrtorah.net> or checks can be dropped off at

the home of Mayer Berg @15 Edgemount Rd in Edison. This promises to be a blast!

-On Motzei Shabbat March 15th, Ohr Torah has a grand celebration planned for Purim night. It will be a magical evening as the Magic of Marco will be entertaining our children starting at 8:30PM during Megillah reading upstairs. After Megillah reading, come downstairs to the Kiddush Room where we will have lively music, a face painter, caricaturist, strolling magic, great food, music from the Avi Maza Orchestra and more.

CONDOLENCES

We are very sorry to announce the passing of the mother of Miriam Sultan, a longtime resident of our community before making Aliyah. Miriam will be sitting shiva at the home of David Schwartz, 3 Victorian Lane Brookville, Long Island, on Motzei Shabbos and all day Sunday until 7pm.

May you be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Yerushalayim.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BREAKFAST RECEPTION

Our community will be honored to host a breakfast reception in honor of the Vaad L'Hatzolas Nidchei Yisroel, an organization that has done and continues to do amazing work with Yidden in Russia and abroad. Sunday, March 9, at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Hesh Granek, 495 Harrison Street, HP. The reception will be graced by the Nasi of the Vaad, HoRav R' Matisyahu Salomon, Shlita, who will address the gathering starting at 10:15 AM.

LAST MISHMAR OF THE SEASON

Mishmar at RPRY is at 8:00 PM this week. It is the last Mishmar of the season. Thanks to all for their help in publicizing this.

RETIREE LUNCH & LEARN

The next retiree lunch and learn program is scheduled for Tuesday, March 25, at 12 noon. The program will include a light buffet lunch followed by a showing of the video *Orchestra of Exile*. The video depicts the founding of what evolved into the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. Dr. Mark Kligman, a Professor of Jewish Musicology, will introduce the video and offer comments immediately following it. There is a charge of \$10 per person to help defray the cost of the luncheon. Please write or call Bella at blerner18@optonline.net 732-317-1786 or Marcia at ppheffer@verizon.net 732-572-5998, or Mildred 732 572-1712 to register your intention to attend.

NORPAC MISSION

Join us on our annual Mission to Washington event to support the U.S.-Israel relationship on Wednesday, April 30, 2014. On a single-day trip you will meet with Members of Congress and their staff, and share your concerns with them about foreign aid to Israel, Iran sanctions, security cooperation, and more. Help us make a difference once again! Buses leave for Washington from our area at 6:30 AM and return between 9-10 PM. There will be briefings on the bus. All meals will be provided. Register now for the early bird discount: www.norpac.net or call (201) 788-5133 Adults - \$125, Students - \$75 (must be over 12. Those under 18 must be accompanied by a

parent or legal guardian). Contact Marc Hanfling docdad@aol.com for more info.

YESHIVAS MORDECHAI HATZADIK FATHER & SON LEARNING IS BACK!

Come join over 60,000 fathers and sons worldwide in learning Torah this Purim. The learning will take place at the Agudah on Purim from 12:45 - 1:45 followed by Mincha. All boys who attend will receive a FREE prize as well as being entered into a raffle with a chance to win some fabulous prizes including an electric scooter! All are welcome to come in costumes. Yeshivas Mordechai Hatzadik is an independent project and is not affiliated with any particular Shul or school. All of Klal Yisroel are welcome to join!

AHAVAS ACHIM UNIVERSITY

1) Visit from YU Rosh Yeshiva Rav Meir Goldwicht this Shabbat. In honor of Yeshiva University's upcoming Chag Hasemichah, the Highland Park/Edison community is hosting YU Rosh Yeshiva Rav Meir Goldwicht this Shabbat. Rav Goldwicht will deliver a special pre-Purim shiur at Ahavas Achim at 4:30 on Shabbat afternoon. Please join us for "Hadas Zu Esther: Sense of Smell in the Megillah."

2) Shiur on Amalek and Conversion Tuesday night, March 11. Ahavas Achim University presents a special pre-Purim shiur this Tuesday, March 11, 8 pm. in the Beit Midrash. The guest lecturer will be Rabbi Yaakov Feit, who will discuss "If You Can't Beat 'Em Join 'Em: Can an Amalekite Convert?" Rabbi Feit is a member of the Judaic Studies Faculty at the Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy and Rae Kushner Yeshiva High School and is the administrator of the Beit Din for Geirus of the Rabbinical Council of Bergen County.

ANNUAL PURIM COSTUME GEMACH

We are very pleased to announce that OE's 7th Annual Purim Costume Gemach will be open this year on Sundays March 2 (1pm to 5 pm) and March 9th (10am to 2pm) at Ohav Emeth Pick up a "New to You" costume or donate your gently used costumes. Many accessories as well. Suggested \$5 donation per costume borrowed. Call or email Shari Gordon at (732) 572-9192 - sharigordon2000@yahoo.com

CHILDREN'S FUND IN MEMORY OF DINA

EISNER

Newly designed beautiful Purim Shalach Manos cards are available for \$3.00 each from the Children's Fund in Memory of Dina Eisner. All proceeds from the sale enable The Children's Fund to help subsidize needed services for many local children. To obtain cards, please contact: Tova Josefovitz - (732) 572-9432, Shoshana Diskind (732) 572-7755, Janice Lustiger (732) 819-4919 or e-mail request to: childrensfundhp@gmail.com

WINE AND CHEESE TASTING 1

Congregation Ohav Emeth invites you to a unique opportunity to taste award-winning wines from Israel's Shomron region. Tura Estate Winery will be presenting their wines on March 8th at 8:30 PM at OE. Tura Estate Winery is located in Rechelim (near Ariel) with its vineyards on Har HaBrochah (Har Gerizim). All wines are certified OU-Kosher for Passover and are non-mevushal which enhances the taste of the wines. You will be able to order wines in time to have them for Purim and Pesach. In addition, OU kosher for Passover olive oil from their olive trees in Shiloh will be available.

WINE AND CHEESE TASTING 2

Sunday, March 9th at 7pm: Cong Etz Ahaim will hold its annual Wine and Cheese Tasting featuring

Royal Wines sommelier Zvi Bornstein. We will have a selection of Chalav Yisrael cheeses. Etz Ahaim is located at 230 Denison Street in Highland Park. For reservations and more info please visit www.etzahaim.org/tasting. \$25 per person/\$40 per couple at the door.

OE GUEST SPEAKER

Rabbi Yitzchak Etshalom will be speaking at OE on the topic of "Esther's Brilliant Plan: The Megillah and Psych 101", this Sunday, March 9th at 9:30 AM. Special Sponsor's Breakfast with Rabbi Etshalom will be from 8:45AM - 9:20AM. Rabbi Etshalom is a dynamic and exciting educator in the LA community. Sponsorships of \$36-\$100 include admission and breakfast. Suggested donation of \$10 per person or \$20 per family for the lecture only. Please contact Steve Deutsch at forsang@juno.com with any questions or for Sponsorship.

CHOL HAMOED PESACH SESAME STREET LIVE:

The PTA of the Chai Early Childhood Center in East Brunswick's annual fundraiser: Order your tickets for "Sesame Live" at the State Theater in New Brunswick. The show is Thursday, April 17 at 10:30am of Chol Hamoed Pesach

Tickets are \$18 (note kids under 1-year-old get a FREE LAP VOUCHER). To order tickets, contact Elie Salomon at [732-325-9626](tel:732-325-9626) or at eliesalomon@gmail.com. Act fast as the sooner you order, the better your seats. Checks can be made out to "Chabad of East Brunswick."

WE WILL ONLY BE TAKING ORDERS UNTIL MARCH 30th.

ACTT

The ACTT (Achieving Change Through Torah) program helps individuals succeed in making meaningful and lasting changes in their lives. The source book for the entire year is: Step by Step compiled by Rabbi Dovid Weinberger. See the ACTT web-site, www.actt613.org, for the current Learning Schedule (Modules page) and for all the event audio presentations. For more info, e-mail info@actt613.org or call Phil Rosen ([732-572-8762](tel:732-572-8762)).

RUTGERS HILLEL ALUMNI RECEPTION

Rutgers Jewish Alumni are invited to a reception sponsored by the Rutgers Hillel Alumni Association on Saturday, March 8th at 8pm at the home of Leslie and Josh Ostrin, 221 Riverview Ave, Highland Park, NJ 08904. Catch up with old friends, taste Israeli craft beer from Malka Brewery, and learn more about what's happening on campus. Space is limited. RSVP by Monday March 3rd. Couvert is \$10. To RSVP for the event, visit <http://www.rutgershillel.org/alumni-parents/alumni-association/> Questions? Email Michal at rutgershillelalumni@gmail.com or call Hana at 732-545-2407. All food and beverages served will be kosher parve.

BIKUR CHOLIM SEEKS MEGILLAH READERS

Bikur Cholim is looking for men who are able to read the Megillah on Purim for people who are in the hospital or home-bound. Anyone who is able to do this can send email to volunteers@bikurcholimrv.org or contact Ronnie Shilcrat on my cell phone ([732-690-7193](tel:732-690-7193)).

NCSY

No Oneg this week. - Challahfest- every other Thursday! From 7:30-9!! Come learn all about the beautiful mitzvah of baking challah and then have fun shaping and braiding your very own challah - Boys learning with Yoni and Adam every Thursday night from 9-9:45!! Check out the Facebook page or contact Yoni Sherman or Adam Baruch for more info regarding location.

-- Bible & BBQ every Tuesday at Park Place from 7:30-9 Hang out with friends, enjoy free dinner, and learn awesome Torah!! -- March 7-8 Shabbos In Shushan Friday night dinner, and melave Malka Sign up at newjersey.ncsy.com

LEARN ABOUT AND UNDERSTAND THE AGUNAH PROBLEM

Join us at the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale to hear Rabbi Steven Exler give the Shabbat morning drasha, this Shabbat, March 8th, titled: "*Gittin, Get Refusal and Understanding the Pre- and Post-Nuptial Agreement.*" We will follow up that Shabbat afternoon with a Mock Trial demonstrating the Halakhic issues surrounding get and agunah – between Mincha and Maariv. The Hebrew Institute of Riverdale – The Bayit is located at 3700 Henry Hudson Parkway, Bronx, NY 10463. To learn more go to www.thebayit.org or call [718-796-4730](tel:718-796-4730).

Be Part of the Solution – Do Your Part to Stand Up for Agunot: The most powerful activist step we can each take to end the problem of agunot (chained women) in our community is to sign a Halakhic pre- and post-nuptial agreement which facilitates the timely giving of a get if a marriage terminates. The Hebrew Institute of Riverdale – The Bayit, located at 3700 Henry Hudson Parkway, Bronx, NY will be holding a Post-Nup Signing Ceremony and Celebration on Sunday night, Mar. 30th. To learn more and/or sign up go to www.thebayit.org/pn or call [718-796-4730](tel:718-796-4730).

SIGN UP TO RUN WITH TEAM CNJKIDS

On Sunday, May 18, 2014, join TEAM CNJKIDS for A Run in the Park-Highland Park 5k. To sign up go to www.cnjkids.org and click on the TEAM CNJKIDS link and begin to get sponsors to help mitigate future tuition increases at local Jewish K-8 day schools.

Local Participant in Jerusalem Marathon

Chaim Reiss is running in the Jerusalem Half Marathon on behalf of SHALVA on March 21, 2014. SHALVA is an organization that provides support for mentally and physically challenged children and their families in Israel. Chaim is running as part of the team from Rae Kushner Yeshiva High School. All money raised goes directly to SHALVA. To donate go to: http://www.run4shalva.org/view_profile.php?id=891. If you prefer, you may send a check payable to SHALVA to 401 Grant Avenue, Highland Park, NJ 08904. Please write Chaim Reiss in the memo section. Thank you

TAGLIT-BIRTHRIGHT ISRAEL

Registration for this FREE spring or summer trip to Israel opens at 10 am for all applicants. With Shorashim and JNF you experience the awesome adventure of Israel from the inside, through the eyes and hearts of Israeli peers. Travel for 10 days

with Israeli friends and staff who share the beauty, excitement and complexities of their country with you. This trip is a gift from Taglit-Birthright Israel. For more info or to sign up, visit israelwithisraelis.com.

KIDNEY RECEIVED!

I want to thank the community for your tefillos and concern. Chasdei Hashem, our friend Tzvi received a kidney last week and is B"Y on the mend. Please do keep Tzvi ben Frimmet in your Tefillos for a refuah sheleimah. May we celebrate Smachot together! Thank you, Dr. Alan Singer

CLOTHING DRIVE

Clothing Drive: Congregation Ahavas Yisrael needs children's clothing which are in excellent condition for its annual children's clothing drive. Please drop off clothing at: Rivka Jaffe: 16 Price Drive, Edison, NJ or at Ida Scheiner: 238 Harrison Ave., Highland Park, NJ. The clothing drive committee also requests for volunteers to help set up and/or manage the drive (chessed hours will be allotted).

To volunteer for this important community event please contact: Ida Scheiner (732) 247-3073. All are welcome to "shop" at Congregation Ahavas Yisrael on Sun. March 30 for children's clothing (sizes infant- XL). Donations are optional. Collecting Sheitels: Keren Kol Kallah - established to provide orphan and destitute kallahs in Israel with essential needs. Donated custom sheitels, some brand-new, some gently worn, are sold to women in Israel who would not otherwise have the funds to buy a quality wig. All the money raised at the sale goes towards a hachnasas kallah fund which helps needy brides in Eretz Yisrael. Sheitels can be dropped off by Aviva, 16 Edgemount Road, Edison. For more info, please see contact Aviva Siegel ([732-572-4408](tel:732-572-4408)) siegelmom@optonline.net

FOR WOMEN

-CAKE POP DECORATING CLASS WITH THE CAKE POP SHOPEE FOR THE LADIES OF HIGHLAND PARK

Do your cake pops look like your toddlers art project? Need help coming up with creative decorating ideas? Cake Pop Shoppee will teach you the skills you need to show off your hidden creativity! Join us in a cake pop decorating class which will also serve as a fundraiser for the youth department at Ahavas Achim. THIS Saturday night, March 8th from 8-9:30pm. \$25 covers cost of cake pop decorating lesson, plus 5 cake pops per person to decorate and munch on. Have a great time with your friends while helping the youth department of AA do its great work. Please RSVP to aaYouth100@gmail.com.

-The Women's AMEN Group meets weekly on Sundays at 9:30 AM in a downstairs classroom at Congregation Ohr Torah. The group meets in the zechus of a refuah sheleimah for Menachem Mordechai ben Ophira and other Cholim in the community.

-Tiferes, a Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation program for women, will meet THIS Motzai Shabbos, March 8 at 8:45 PM at the home of Aviva Siegel, 16 Edgemount Rd, Edison. An inspirational DVD will be shown: "Behind the Mask". Speakers: Rabbi Yisroel Reisman and Mrs. Tzipy Caton. Weekly teleconferences with topics such as shalom bayis and parenting are also available to Tiferes members.

Current teleconference: "Building Healthy Self-Esteem". Speaker: Mrs. Tammie Karmel. For more

information or to become a member, please contact Aviva siegelmom@optonline.net. The Highland Park / Edison group of Tiferes is zecher l'nishmas Malka bas Shalom.

-The Women's Learning Initiative can conduct a women's Torah class in your home. For more information on how to initiate a class, please call [908-208-7144](tel:908-208-7144).

-Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class: Mon. night, March 10 from 7:30 PM – 8:00 PM at the home of Ellen Smith, 407 North Eighth Ave., Edison. For more info, please call Ellen [201-410-1893](tel:201-410-1893) or [732-777-6787](tel:732-777-6787).

-Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class: Monday, March 10 at 9AM at the home of Rikki Samel, 427 Dennison St, HP.

-SemPlus shiur for post seminary girls on Wed, March 12 at the Aguda, upstairs classroom. For more info, please call [908-420-0253](tel:908-420-0253).

-Rabbi Bassous: class for women on the sefer, "The Six Constant Mitzvos" by Rabbi Yitzchak Berkowitz class on Sunday, March 9 at Cong. Etz Ahaim, 230 Dennison St, Highland Park 10–11 AM.

-Rebbitzen Eichenstein's classes for women: Tefillah class on Sunday, March 9 at

10AM at Aguda shule; No class on Monday, March 10. For more info, please contact Aviva Siegel at [732-572-4408](tel:732-572-4408) siegelmom@optonline.net, Ricki Stern [732-828-6939](tel:732-828-6939) rickistern@yahoo.com.

PARK MIKVAH

The Edison/Highland Park Mikvah will be open STARTING THIS SUNDAY NIGHT, DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME, Sunday-Thursday 9-11pm and Saturday nights, March 15 and March 22, 9-11pm. Sunday night, March 16, the mikvah will be open from 9-11pm. Friday nights are by APPOINTMENT ONLY, and should be made before Thursday at 8:30pm. You must arrive and leave during regular hours or there is an additional \$20 fee. For info regarding inclement weather hours, or to schedule an appointment, please call 732-249-2411.

KEYLIM MIKVAH HOURS OF OPERATION

Ohr Torah Keylim Mikvah hours are, officially, 7:15 – 9:45 AM on Sunday mornings. Additionally, the Keylim Mikvah can be used when the Shul is open during Minyan hours. The Shul is locked (for security purposes) during non-Minyan hours. If you need special access, please speak to a Shul Gabbai. Please leave the area clean and neat.

LOCAL ERUV

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

Parshas Tzav

Candlelighting
Mincha

6:45 PM DST
6:55 PM DST

Ohr Torah can 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. Please submit all announcements by 7 PM Wednesday. **PLEASE NOTE:** Please make sure that you leave a contact/callback name and phone # in case here is a question regarding the item you wish to be printed, otherwise it may not be included.

Sof Davar

by Moshe Sherman

R. Moshe Weinberger (1854-1940)

One of the more intriguing, strong minded and contentious individuals who lived in America during the massive wave of Eastern European immigrants, in the latter decades of the 1800s and early decades of the 20th century was Rabbi Moshe Weinberger. Born in 1854 in Hungary, Moshe Weinberger studied with several distinguished Hungarian rabbis, including R. Samuel Ehrenfeld, R. Elazar Loew and R. Meir Perles. Arriving in the United States in 1880, he had difficulty finding a rabbinic position, and engaged in various types of business to earn a livelihood.

In 1887, Weinberger published ha-Yehudim v'ha-Yahadut be-New York, a controversial critique of Jewish life in America. Written in Hebrew,* the book was directed to his brethren in Europe. Weinberger scorned American society as materialistic, lacking in appropriate family values and a spiritual danger to observant Jews. He cautioned his former countrymen in Europe about the poor standards of kashruth and Jewish education, and dismissed the low level of talmud knowledge of rabbis serving American congregations. He chided Jews for luring chazanim with inflated salaries to fill synagogue pews, and he regarded as wasteful the magnificent synagogue buildings some Jews felt compelled to build.

Weinberger nonetheless remained in America, and three years after publication of his strongly worded book, he accepted a rabbinic position at Congregation B'nai Israel Anshei Ungarn in Scranton, Pennsylvania. In 1893, he became rabbi at Congregation Ohev Shalom in Philadelphia, and two years later returned to New York to become rabbi of Beth Hamidrash Hagadol Anshei Ungarn, on the Lower East Side.

The year that Weinberger returned to New York (1895) he tried to establish what would have become America's first yeshiva. After devoting many hours toward the development of a curriculum and trying to raise funds for the institution, the project collapsed, and the yeshiva, which was to be called Or Ha-Hayyim, never opened.

Weinberger's relationship with his congregants at the Beth Hamidrash Hagadol Anshei Ungarn became increasingly divisive. While Weinberger was devoted to scholarly interests, publishing his derashot, and articles on halacha, his congregants felt that he neglected the needs of the shul and its congregants. Tension between the rabbi and his opponents came to an ugly climax in 1906. Prior to Pesach of that year, Rabbi Weinberger had opened a matzah business to supplement his income. Many of his congregants were incensed that the rabbi would again focus attention on his own needs, rather than, what they regarded, as the interests of the shul. On the last day of Pesach 1906, undisciplined shouting erupted during the rabbi's sermon, which led to physical violence in shul. The police were called to quell the disturbance. Weinberger resigned from his rabbinic position, placed a ban on the shul, and published a treatise rebuking his former congregants.

Rabbi Weinberger spent the rest of his life operating a matzah baking business. In 1916, Aron Streit became his partner. Initially, they prepared only hand baked matzah, at the Weinberger & Streit Matzoh Baking Co. on Pitt Street. In 1925, Weinberger, Aron Streit and one of his sons opened a machine bakery on Rivington Street. The business eventually grew into the well known Streits Inc. which, remarkably, still stands to this day, as it has since 1925, in four low-rise tenement buildings on Rivington Street. While other matzah companies have sold their interest to larger corporations, Streits Inc. remains a family business operated by Aron Streit's granddaughters and great grandsons. Incidentally, there is a soon to be released a documentary scheduled at several film festivals titled *Streits: Matzo and the American Dream*.

As for Rabbi Moshe Weinberger, he died on June 13, 1940, in Brooklyn, New York. He is buried not far from the grave of Rabbi Jacob Joseph, former "Chief Rabbi" of New York.

Ha-Yehudim ve-ha-Yahadut b'New York was translated into English by Jonathan Sarna under the title *People Walk on Their Heads: Jews and Judaism in New York* (New York: 1982).