



Congregation Ohr Torah

Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi

Russell Adler- President

Parshas Vayikra/ Hachodesh

1 Nisan

March 21, 2015

Candlelighting:	6:51 PM
Mincha:	7:00 PM
Shacharis:	7:45, 9:00 & 9:15 AM
<i>Rabbi Hoffman's Shiur after Hashkama</i>	
Sof Z'man Krias Shma (G'RA):	10:02AM
<i>Rabbi Luban's Sotah Shiur – 5:50 PM</i>	
Mincha:	1:45 & 6:40 PM
<i>Note 5 minutes earlier Mincha time to accommodate Shalosh Seudos speaker</i>	
<i>Shalosh Seudos Speaker: Dr. David Luchins, Professor of Political Science, Touro College</i>	
<i>Topic: Crisis in US-Israel relations - critical, convenient or contrived?</i>	
Maariv:	7:55 PM
Shabbos Ends:	7:53 PM
Weekday Shacharis:	
Sun.	7:15, 8 & 9 AM
Mon. & Thur:	6:20, 7:05, & 8 AM
Tue, Wed & Fri.	6:30, 7:10 & 8 AM
Weekday Mincha/ Maariv:	7:00PM
<i>R. Luban's Sheilos Utshuvos Shiur- Monday 9:10 PM</i>	
<i>Rabbi Sauer's Daf Yomi Iyun Shiur – Sunday after 7:15 Shacharis</i>	
<i>Rabbi Billowitz' Halacha Shiur – Sunday after 8 AM Shacharis</i>	
<i>Tuesday Night Tehillim – 9:50- 10:10 PM</i>	
<i>Kollel Learning: Weds. 8-10:10 PM</i>	
<i>TNL – THURS. NIGHT LIVE: Chabura about Parsha and contemporary issues. 9:00 pm at the YFM.</i>	
Weekday Maariv	10:10 PM
Daf Yomi Schedule for Daylight Savings	
Time:	
Monday - Thursday-after Z'man maariv	
Friday-after Kabolos Shabbos & Maariv	
Shabbos -One hour before Mincha	
Sunday -After 8 am shacharis	

KIDDUSH

Kiddush this week is being sponsored by Naomi and Josh Caplan in honor of their children, Ariel and Ariella Caplan, who are making Aliyah this week. Tzetchem l'shalom! To sponsor a Kiddush or reserve the Kiddush room, please contact Mel Barenholtz by email: mbarenh@yahoo.com. Kiddush sponsorship is available March 21st, April 18th and 25th.

SHALOSH SEUDOS

Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by Susie and Moish Wiesel in memory of Susie's sister Judy Lefkovits, Sarah Basha bas Yitzchok, A"H.

SEFORIM DONATIONS

Thanks to the following for their generous Seforim donations:

- Rena & Jeff Klein in honor of the Bar Mitzva of Shalom Lefkowitz
- Michael & Penny Kaplan in memory of Jeff Silber's mother Laurel (Lolly) Silber Z"L
- Michael & Toby Eleff in honor of the Siegel family

- Barry & Hinda Herman in memory of Barry's mother Helen Herman Z"L
- Peter & Rachele Kassai in memory of Peter's father Meyer Kassai (Klein) Z"L
- Rebecca & Israel Rivkin in honor of Asaf Shmuel
- Rosa and Brian Katz in memory of Rosa's father Benjamin Chodosh Z"L

MAZEL TOV

... to Lorraine and Abe Schwartzbard on the birth of a daughter to their children Debra and Dovi Popowitz of Bergenfield, NJ ...The community is invited to a Shalom Zachor at 8:30pm hosted by Ari and Sara Welner (39 Edgemount Road) in honor of the birth of their nephew- born to Seth and Bethany Mandel.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING-CHAZZON VOTE

The membership vote on the Chazzon is scheduled for Sunday, March 22. The March 22 meeting will not be a formal meeting with discussion but an opportunity for members in good standing to come to the Shul to complete the ballot for submission. If you are not sure if you are in good standing, please contact Brian Allen prior to the vote. Per the Shul Constitution, members must come to the Shul to vote with the only exception being a spouse who has signed a written proxy.

To best enhance the chances for a robust turnout, ballots can be submitted either 8:45-10:15 AM Sunday morning or after Maariv Sunday evening (approximately 7:30) until 8:30 PM. Members will select their choice from the candidates. The ballot will include name, photo and the compensation for each candidate which will all be in the \$7,000-12,000 range discussed at the most recent membership meeting. The names will be listed in the order that each candidate came to the Shul. If the winner does not appear on a majority of the ballots, there will be a run-off of the top two candidates. Voting for the run-off would occur on Tuesday evening, March 24, from 8:30-9:45PM with an additional opportunity for those who can't make Tuesday evening to be held Wednesday evening, March 25, from 8:30-9:45PM. Links to recordings for all the candidates are available on the Shul website and we suggest that you listen, particularly for candidates that you did not hear when they came for Shabbos. We strongly encourage all members to participate in the vote.

If you have any questions, please speak with Russell Adler or Billy Gewirtz

TORAH DEDICATION

The Schanzer/Kreitman/Dennis family invites the entire Congregation to participate in a Torah Dedication to take place IY"H this Sunday, March 22, 2014 at 3PM, at Congregation Ohr Torah. Dessert buffet to follow. All are welcome.

HAMAKOM YENACHEM

The entire shul mourns the passing of our dear friend and member, David Kornfeld A"H. The family will sit Shiva until Thursday morning, March 26, at the Kornfeld residence, 106 N. 6th Ave., Highland Park New Jersey. Shacharis will be 8:00 AM and Mincha followed by Maariv at 7:00PM.

TAANIS BECHORIM SIYUM

The 9:00 AM minyan is looking for someone to make the Taanis Bechorim Siyum. If available, please contact Israel Rivkin/Barry Siegel.

TEENAGE PESACH SHIUR

We will have an exciting Pesach Shiur for teenagers on Sunday March 29th at 7pm in OT. For more info please contact Neer Even Hen.

MECHIRAS CHOMETZ

Rabbi Luban is available for Mechiras Chomtzetz.

THANK YOU FROM SILBER FAMILY

The Silber family would like to thank the community for all their kindness following the passing of our mother, Laurel (Lolly) Silber (Laya Devora bat Harav Chaim Tzvi). We have set up a website to complete a siyum mishnayot in her memory. Any help would be appreciated. Please sign-up at: <http://www.lzechernishmas.com/signup.php?id=4948>

OHR TORAH SISTERHOOD PRE-PESACH BOUTIQUE

Tuesday, March 24th- 6:30 PM - 10PM
20 Celler Rd, Edison, NJ

Featuring:

- Hedy's Hats
- Anita's Tablecloths and More
- Alan's Ties and Cufflinks
- Ricki's Incredible Creations
- Lois's It's A Girl Thing

B'NEI AKIVA

Bnei Akiva this week will start at 5:30pm .

YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION AT OHR TORAH

Ohr Torah will be commemorating Yom HaShoah on Wednesday night, April 15, at 8:00 PM. Brothers Henry and Bernie Schanzer will be speaking about their

REMINDER: The emergency Defibrillators are located on the wall in the upstairs hallway and on the wall in the downstairs entry hallway. HATZOLAH OF EDISON: 732-640-5545

experiences as children during the Shoah. For information, please contact Neer Even-Hen or Susie Wolf.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

NORPAC MISSION

NORPAC's Mission to Washington is an annual event where we bring close to a thousand citizen activists to Washington, DC, in order to advocate for a stronger U.S.-Israel relationship with Members of Congress.

Join us on Wednesday, May 13. 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. 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 : www.norpac.net or call (201) 788-5133. Adults - \$175, Students - \$125 (must be over 12. Those under 18 must be accompanied by Parent or legal guardian). Contact Marc Hanfling doddad@aol.com, Barry Wolf, Yosef Schreiber, Charles Gershbaum for more info.

THE 2ND ANNUAL RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY POLAND PILGRIMAGE

Join us this July 12-20, 2015 with Rabbi Shraga Gross for an uplifting, inspiring and unforgettable journey through hundreds of years of Jewish history and heritage. We will visit the cities of Warsaw, Krakow, Lodz and Lublin as well as the Chassidic centers of Gur and Lezajsk. We will also tell the story of the Shoah visiting Auschwitz, Majdanek, Belzec, and other moving and significant sites.

We wish to preserve the intimacy of this experience and so space will be limited. There will also be an opportunity to personalize the itinerary if requests are received early enough.

For more info about this incredible journey contact: Nitza Adler at: (732) 670 4649 or email morahnitza28@gmail.com Rivka Adler at rivkaadler@yahoo.com, Mel Barenholtz at mbarenh@yahoo.com or Renee Griboff at renee.griboff@gmail.com

THE HOWARD L. BEYER MEMORIAL FUND

The family of our dear friend and Highland Park resident Howard L. Beyer, Z"L has created The Howard L. Beyer Memorial Fund at ELEM/Youth and Distress in Israel, connecting Howard's dedication to issues of troubled youth and his abiding commitment to Israel. ELEM/Youth in Distress in Israel is the country's leading nonprofit organization serving 20,000 troubled young people and an additional 100,000 youth who use ELEM online annually. These teens face tremendous challenges including domestic violence, drug and alcohol addiction, neglect, bullying, homelessness and prostitution. ELEM's programs, located in 40 cities, provide a safe space for Israeli youth. All gifts in Howard's memory will be acknowledged both by ELEM and the Beyer family. Participate at www.ELEM.org or to ELEM at 270 Madison Ave., NY, NY 10016

PRE-PESACH SHIUR

Rabbi Yisroel Weiss will be giving a Pre Pesach Shiur at Khal Chassidim on Thursday night March 26 at 8:30 P.M. The topic will be "Why is this night different? Make it different and make a difference". The Shiur is being sponsored by Eddie and Sharon Lowinger in memory of Eddie's mother Sara Bas Leah. Refreshments will be served.

ACTT

Next ACTT Event: On Sunday, April 19th at 8PM at Cong Ohr Torah, come hear Mr. Charlie Harary, Esq., a world renowned motivational speaker talk about "Gratitude: The Secret to Jewish Success". This is an ACTT (Achieving Change Through Torah) booster event for the Hakaras HaTov 3 module, start date: March 8th. The Artsroll source book, "Let There Be Rain - making Gratitude a part of our lives" is available at a discount from the Judaica Gallery. Admission for all is free and donations are welcome. More info, e-mail info@actt613.org, see www.actt613.org, or call Phil Rosen (732) 572-8762.

BIKUR CHOLIM:

-Save the date! Bikur Cholim annual event will be held Sunday, April 19th at the Pines Manor at 9:30 AM. Guest speaker Rabbi Y Y Rubinstein. Details to follow.

- Bikur Cholim is seeking volunteers to visit Ms. Helen Zuberman, Ms. Mollie Reuben and Ms. Esther Tucker at the Regency nursing home on DeMott Lane. If you are able to help out, please call Rahel Baruh at 732-672-4673 or email rbaruh@yahoo.com. Tizku l'mitzvot!

-The Bikur Cholim Transportation Committee coordinates rides to and from medical appointments. The coordinator matches requesters with an available driver. Each coordinator serves for two weeks at a time. This is a great way for somebody who doesn't drive to help the Transportation Committee. Of course, more drivers are always welcome as well. To volunteer, contact the Bikur Cholim hotline at (732) 572-7181 or fill out the volunteer form on the website bikurcholimrv.org.

OE YOUTH DEPT CRAYOLA TRIP

Please join the OE Youth Dept on a trip to the Crayola Experience (formerly known as the Crayola Factory) on Sunday, March 29th (the Sunday before Pesach). This event is for children 4-12 years old. The bus will leave from OE at 9:30 am and return at approx 4:30 pm. The cost is \$25 per child registered by March 22nd, and \$35 per child registered from March 23rd-March 29th. Please RSVP at oechildren@gmail.com or (732) 247-3038 to reserve your spot

PRE PESACH SPORTS

ACADEMY YOUTH EVENT!

Send your kids ages 3-15* to AA SPORTS ACADEMY while you prepare for Pesach! Join the Youth Dept for sports, obstacle courses, races, and lots of fun on Sunday, March 29 from 10am.-1 pm. at NEW YORK SPORTS CLUB in E Brunswick. Advance registration: \$15; Walk-ins: \$18. Event includes pizza lunch. RSVP to Miriam at aayouth100@gmail.com.

*Must be potky trained.

PARK PLACE RESTAURANT

Park Place will be open during Chol Hamoed.

JOIN TEAM CNJKIDS

FOR A RUN IN THE PARK

Join TEAM CNJKIDS and run in the HIGHLAND PARK 5k on Sunday, 5/3/15. To sign up, go to <http://runinthepark.org/register/> and register for the race. If you register before 4/18/15 the entry fee will be \$25. Then e-mail cnjkids@gmail.com with your name, t-shirt size, that you wish to be a member of TEAM CNJKIDS, and that you will commit to raising \$50 for CNJKIDS.

RPRY

RPRY new student registration is now available online at www.rpry.org. For all incoming Early

Childhood Learning Center students, our 3:25-6pm extended day program, PM Playmates, is available for a reduced fee of \$250 until March 31, 2015 (regular fee \$1,350). For more info, or to learn more about other early bird registration fees, contact our Admissions Coordr, Chedva Gross, at [732-572-5052](tel:732-572-5052) x223 or cgross@rpry.org.

JFS NEWS AND EVENTS

JRecovery - a group free support group to help Jews and their families and friends with addiction and recovery issues meets every Monday at the JFS Milltown office, 32 Ford Ave., 2nd Floor, 7:30-8:30PM

The JFS Passover Feinsein Challenge is underway. JFS is still looking for Passover (non-expired) food donations to be brought to the Gola warehouse (19 Cotters Lane) in E Brunswick on March 22, 9AM- 11AM, and volunteers to drive to deliver Passover food to families in need throughout the county. The delivery date is March 29 at the Gola warehouse, 9AM. Interested volunteers are asked to call the agency, [732-777-1940](tel:732-777-1940).

NETIVOT MONTESSORI NEWS

Winter speaker series. The next speaker is Rabbi Eli Mansour THIS Sunday, Mar. 22 @ 8PM. Topic: The Four Sons: Raising Parents - Go to www.mynetivot.com for more info. Netivot school tour for prospective families - Tues, April 21 @ 9:15AM. Please call [732-985-4626](tel:732-985-4626) or mynetivot.com to reserve a space. We look forward to meeting you!

ATTN SINGLES: Registration is now open!

A Weekend Bash(eirt): a modern orthodox singles shabbaton is ready to accept your registration for a wonderful Shabbos here in Edison/Highland Park. Find your basheirt in a relaxed, fun environment without having to travel far. Shabbos #1: May 8-9th singles ages 25-35 Shabbos #2: June 12-13th singles ages 35-50 Shabbos #3: Sept 11-12th singles ages 50 + Please visit our website to register and learn about the event: aweekendbasheirt.com. Questions? Lea at aweekendbasheirt@gmail.com.

FOR WOMEN

-Rabbi Bassous: Women's class on Sunday morning at 10AM at Cong. Etz Ahaim. Book that is being studied: Battle Plan by Rebbetzin Tziporah Heller and Sara Yocheved Rigler.

-SemPlus shiur for post seminary girls - For more info on Wednesday night class, please call [732-841-1885](tel:732-841-1885).

The following classes resume after Pesach:

-Mrs. Leah Drillman's *Shimiras Haloshon* class

-Mrs. Miri Cohen's *Parsha* class

-Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women

-Rabbi Weiss's Wednesday night shiur on the *Parsha* will resume after Pesach, I'YH, on April 15th.

-Tiferes, a Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation program for women: Weekly teleconferences with topics such as shalom bayis and parenting are available to Tiferes members. Current series: "Seven Blessings Seven Secrets - Still Building a Home on Sheva Brachos" with Mrs. Miriam Jaffe. For more info 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

-Bikur Cholim OWLS (Overnight Women Labor Support): If you are an expectant mother and don't have coverage with a family member or a friend to stay with your kids when it is time to go

to the hospital, Bikur Cholim offers a complimentary service. Volunteers come stay with your kids during the night. Please note that this service is only provided for maternity situations. Please call at least 3 weeks before the due date, if not sooner, to be able to make the necessary arrangements. For more info on receiving this service or to find out about becoming a volunteer, please contact Rikki at 732-249-5116. Thank you.

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

-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 Rd, Edison. For more info, please see contact Aviva Siegel (732) 572-4408 siegelmom@optonline.net

PARK MIKVAH

The Highland Park Mikvah hours for daylight savings time: Sun –Thur evenings from 9PM – 11PM; Friday nights by appointment only. Saturday night: March 28: 9:15 – 11PM; April 3-4: by appointment only; April 5: 9:15 – 11; April 9-

10: by appointment only; April 11: 9:30 – 11. Please arrive with enough time to be out before closing time. For more info, call 732-249-2411 or email hpmikvah@gmail.com.

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

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

BUILDING DEDICATION OPPORTUNITIES
Contact Moshe Schneider at 732-618-4702.

TREE OF LIFE / 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 732-759-8558. 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.

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.

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: 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

YAHRZEIT DATABASE: To register a family member in the Yahrzeit data base, please follow this link <http://www.tinyurl.com/ot613> or speak with Ralph Dessau or Gene Wasserman.

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

Parshas Tzav

Candlelighting	6:58 PM
Mincha	7:05 PM

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 there is a question regarding the item you wish to be printed, otherwise it may not be included.

Sof Davar

Sherman

by Moshe

R. Tuviah Geffen (1870-1970)

Along with baseball and apple pie, nothing is more American than Coca Cola, it is after all, 'the real thing.' The long and storied history of Coca Cola includes Lithuanian born Rabbi Tuviah Geffen, one of the select few who came to know the closely guarded secret ingredients of Coke, and the one who, quite literally, changed Coca Cola ingredients to become kosher.

Born in Kovno in 1870, Tuviah Geffen studied at the yeshiva in Grodno, and later received semicha from R. Zvi Hirsch Rabinowitz of Kovno, and Rabbi Moshe Danishevsky of the Slobodka yeshiva. Following a series of violent anti-semitic episodes, including the notorious Kishinev pogrom in 1903, Geffen emigrated to the United States.

At first, he worked at a Lower East Side sweatshop, and then as a part time rabbi on Division Street. But this arrangement was insufficient to support his family. In 1906, at the request of his mentor, Rabbi Zvi H. Rabinowitz, Geffen traveled to Canton, Ohio, to raise funds for Kovno's Kollel. The Canton congregation immediately invited Geffen to become their rabbi, and in 1907, he moved from New York to Ohio. But due to the cold Ohio climate, Geffen was advised by his physicians to move south, and in 1910, he left Canton for Atlanta, Georgia. For decades, Geffen would come to have a significant impact on Jewish life in Atlanta, where he remained until his death. His leadership in all realms of Jewish life was formidable, including head of the Atlanta branch head of Mizrachi, the religious Zionist movement, and chair of the Southern Agudath ha-Rabbonim, where he was widely acknowledged as the halakhic authority of Atlanta.

Living in Atlanta near Coca-Cola company headquarters, he received many inquiries from rabbonim across the United States, whether or not Coca-Cola was kosher. Coca-Cola was founded in Columbus, Georgia, in 1885, as coca wine. When Prohibition laws began limiting alcoholic beverages, Coca Cola needed to develop a carbonated, non alcoholic version of its coca wine. Incidentally, the original mixture of Coca Cola had nine milligrams of cocaine. The cocaine was removed in 1903. As a marketing technique, the formula of Coca Cola was secret, known only to a few senior executives. But the company agreed to provide Rabbi Geffen with the closely guarded Coca Cola formula.

Geffen determined that one of the ingredients, glycerin, was produced from the tallow of non-kosher beef. He convinced the company to substitute it with a vegetable derivative. He also discovered that one of the ingredients contained a grain substance, which would have rendered Coca Cola *chametz* on Pesach. Again, he worked with company chemists to alter the Coke formula with sugar beet, to ensure that there was no grain derivative. In 1935, Rabbi Geffen wrote a teshuva/responsum outlining the issues, and announcing that Coca Cola was kosher and could be used during Pesach, as well. *(Please check the slots at the entrance to the shul, where I placed an English translation of Rabbi Geffen's teshuva on the kashrut of Coca Cola.)*

Rabbi Geffen died in Atlanta in 1970, at the age of 99. He was survived by four sons and four daughters. At present, there are several distinguished descendants, who are grandchildren and great grandchildren of Rabbi Tuviah Geffen.