



Congregation Ohr Torah

Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi

Jeff Klein- President

Rabbi Sariel Malitzky – Assistant Rabbi

Parshas Noach

4 Cheshvani 5777

November 5, 2016

Candlelighting: 5:32PM
Mincha: 5:40 PM
Shacharis: 7:45, 9 & 9:15 AM
Rabbi Hoffman's Halacha B'iyun Shiur after Hashkama
Sof Z'man Krias Shma (GR"A): 10:06AM
Rabbi Luban's Taanis Shiur – 4:35 PM
Rabbi Malitzky's Mishnayos Shiur for 6-8 grade boys – 4:55 PM

Mincha: 1:45 & 5:25PM
Shalosh Seudos Speaker: Rabbi Menachem Nissel
Maariv: 6:35 PM
Shabbos Ends: 6:39 PM
MOVE CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR

Weekday Shacharis:
Sun 7:15, 8 & 9AM
Mon & Thur: 6:20, 7:05, 8AM
Tues, Weds., Fri: 6:30, 7:10, 8AM
Weekday Mincha/ Maariv: 4:30PM
Late Maariv: 7:30 & 10:10 PM

Note start of 7:30 Maariv
Rabbi Luban's Monday night shiur at 9:10PM begins this week.
Daf Yomi Iyun Shiur with Rabbi Sauer After 7:15 Sunday Shacharis Gemara with Rabbi Malitzky –
Night Seder: 7:45- 9 PM (Mon), 9-10:10 PM (Wed)
Chabura: 9:40-10:10 PM (Wed)
Tuesday Night Tehillim – 9:50- 10:10 PM
Weds. Night Kollal Night Seder: 8 -10:10 PM

Daf Yomi
Mon-Thurs after 7:30 Maariv
Friday nite –after Maariv
Shabbos-8:15 am & after Hashkama
Sunday-after 8 am Shacharis

KIDDUSH

Kiddush this week is being sponsored by David Hanfling and Family to commemorate the Yahrzeit of David's father, Abraham Hanfling, Avrohom ben Naftali A"H.

YFM KIDDUSH

YFM Kiddush this week is sponsored by Marnin and Shira Goldberg in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Marnin's parents, Elaine and Richard Goldberg.

SHALOSH SEUDOS

Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by:
-Bonnie and Motty Schwartz in memory of the Yahrzeit of Motty's father Yaakov ben Mayer Tzvi Halevi A"H.
-Janice and Arnie Lustiger in memory of Janice's father Leonard Baldinger (Aryeh Leib Ben Avrohom Pinchas A"H) and her uncle Aaron Goldman (Aharon Shimshon ben Yosef Baruch A"H).

THURSDAY NIGHT LEARNING

TNL (Thursday night learning) with Rabbi Malitzky. 9:15-10:10 in YFM room
Cholent, refreshments, and Chaburah entitled: Welcome and Good Riddance?! - Understanding the Bizarre Hospitality of the (Fri. night) Shalom Aleichem song.

MAZEL TOV

... to Shayna and Craig Prupis on the birth of a granddaughter to their children Ruchail and David Feldman.
Mazel to the aunts and uncles and the entire Prupis and Feldman families.

MORDECHAI SHAPIRO AT OT NOVEMBER 26

Ohr Torah is pleased to welcome internationally renowned singer Mordechai Shapiro as our guest chazzan in residence on Shabbos, Nov 26th (Thanksgiving weekend). From his debut with the Miami Boys Choir in 1997 where he was the star soloist in the song "Rachem" sung with Yaakov Shwekey, to his current album "Kol HaDerech", Mordechai Shapiro has continued to inspire crowds worldwide with his music. Please join us and enjoy a beautiful davening as well as a special Oneg to take place at the home of Michie & Sari Klerer.

KIDDUSH/ SHALOSH SEUDOS

SPONSOR AND SPEAKER LIST MISSING
The Kiddush/ Shalosh Seudos Sponsor and Speaker Kiddush List is missing from the Beis Medrash. If it is not found, it will take many hours to reconstruct, and originally scheduled sponsors and speakers may lose their opportunity. If you originally signed up, please sign up again on the replacement list in the Beis Medrash. If you know of the whereabouts of the original list, please contact Arnie Lustiger or Moshe Schneider.

MESORAH NJ SHABBATON WITH RABBI MENACHEM NISSEL

Ohr Torah will be hosting the young professionals of Mesorah New Jersey this Shabbos, with guest lecturer, Rabbi Menachem Nissel.
Rabbi Nissel will speak to the Congregation Friday evening, Shabbos morning and at Shalosh Seudos.
The community is invited to join Mesorah for dessert on Friday night at 8:30pm in the social hall, and to hear Rabbi Nissel's talk on "Life is a Highway" on the essentials of emunah.
Originally from England, Rabbi Nissel has lectured throughout the world on topics of Jewish philosophy, and possesses the unique ability to translate lofty concepts into everyday terms, infused with a healthy dose of British humor. He currently teaches at several Yeshivas and Seminaries in Jerusalem, and is a senior lecturer at Ner Leelef (Jewish Leadership Training) and NCSY.

Sponsorships of any level are available, please contact Rabbi Lewis (ylewis@mesorahnj.com) or Moshe Wiesel (mwiesel@aristacare.com) for details.

VOTE! VOTE!

Tuesday, Novemebr 8, polls open 6:00 AM – 8:00 PM. Please vote – local politicians have an eye on our community turn-out. Any questions concerning local candidates, contact Israel Rivkin. Please Vote!

HASHAVAS AVEIDA

A blue Artsroll Rosh Hashana Machzor with the name Mindal (in Hebrew) on the front was found in the Shul. If it is yours or you know the owner, please see Barry Siegel.

OT SEFORIM DONATIONS

Thanks to the following for their generous Seforim donations:
-Honey & Max Wisotsky in honor of Michelle & Robert Schanzer
-Peter & Rachelle Kassai in memory of William (Billy) Bogner Z"l
-Peter & Rachelle Kassai in memory of Aryeh Zinkin Z"l
-Moshe & Susan Wiesel in memory of Allan Kaye and Bonnie Borck's father Martin Kaye Z"l
-Rena & Jeff Klein in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Yehoshua Greenman
-Honey & Max Wisotsky in memory of Alan Borck's brother Lonnie Borck Z"l
-Edward & Sharon Lowinger in memory of Sharon's father Meyer Cooperberg Z"l

RETIREE LUNCH AND LEARN:

THE JEWISH AMERICANS PART 2 - FROM EARLY 1900'S UNTIL 1950

Part 2 of this amazing series spans the years from the early 1900's when Hank Greenberg played for Detroit. It is the story of Irving Berlin and the rise of the quota system for entrance to many universities. It is the story of Louis Brandeis and the establishment of the Jewish State. It is the story of Henry Ford and the rise of Hitler. Of course it wouldn't be complete without a look at our Jewish Catskills. So much more is covered. It is fascinating. Dvar Torah by Gene Wasserman. Because of the film's length we will not have a speaker so the film will begin at 12:45 to ensure that it will be over no later than 2:45. The program is open to all retirees in the community and offers a wonderful opportunity to socialize with each other in a meaningful way. There is a charge of \$10pp to help defray cost of the meal. Date: Tues, Nov 15th Location: Cong Ohr Torah Time: 12 Noon RSVP Please reply at least 2 days prior to the program. Bella 732-317-1786

REMINDER: Emergency Defibrillators are located on the upstairs wall hallway & the entry hallway downstairs. Please note the location of the new First Aid Kits mounted on the wall below/above each Defibrillator.

CHEVRA HATZOLAH OF MIDDLESEX COUNTY 732-456-6666

blerner18@optonline.net, Mildred 732 572-1712, or Marcia ppheffer@verizon.net 732 572-5998 avi@eretzhachaim.org, 718-437-2200, ext.104

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS
YACHAD FOR KIDS AND MOMS
THIS SUNDAY

YACHAD will be hosting two exciting events this Sunday, Nov 6th. All mainstream and special needs kids ages 7 and up are invited to join them at Ohr Torah from 12:00-2PM for music, movement and improv fun with Fresh Theater Arts! Then YACHAD would like to treat all moms of special needs kids to a Moms' Night Out with sushi making and dinner at Sushiana from 5PM-7PM. Come relax, network, share ideas, learn about Yachad programming and have your voice heard regarding programming that you'd like to see. For info, email Bracha Avraham at avrahamb@ou.org or call 718-440-0099

PURCHASING A HOME IN ISRAEL

Considering Buying a Home in Israel? Sunday morning, Nov 6 at 10am in Ohr Torah Gedalia Borvick, of myisraelhome.com, will discuss *New Construction or Existing Homes: The Pros and Cons of Both*. He will also discuss Ramat Baka, a new Jerusalem project.

TOMCHEI SHABBOS

Tomchei Shabbos would like to thank our supporters for their generosity over the Yom Tov season. Thanks to your generosity, Tomchei Shabbos was able to provide hundreds of meals to needy families in our community who cannot afford even the basic necessities for Shabbos and YomTov. Tomchei Shabbos provides meals weekly throughout the year. Help us give the gift of Shabbos or Yomtov to families in need. Donations may be sent to Tomchei Shabbos of Middlesex County, c/o Cong. Ohr Torah, 48 Edgemount Road, Edison, NJ 08817.

ORTHODOX FORUM OF HP/EDISON

The Orthodox Forum of HP/Edison is preparing an exciting lineup for the 5777 season. We are working to sweeten your year by bringing outstanding scholars to our community. Here are just a few:

- Rabbi Shaul Robinson, Senior Rabbi of LSS
- Rabbi Shmuel Silber, Rabbis Suburban Orthodox Cong. Baltimore, MD
- David Raab, VP, Touro College

Donations of any amount are appreciated. Please consider becoming a season supporter for \$200 or an announced event sponsor for \$500. Please send your tax deductible check, made out to Cong Ohr Torah Gemach Fund, to: Henry Lerner, 1 Celler Road, Edison, NJ 08817

email hpedisonorthodoxforum@gmail.com or visit our website: www.orthodoxjewishforum.org

12TH ANNUAL IDF TRIBUTE DINNER

Join us in paying tribute to the IDF soldiers and the Lone soldiers of our community Monday, Nov 21st Sheraton Parsippany Hotel 199 Smith Rd, Parsippany, NJ For more info contact David Moskovic 732-580-1052

RPRY PEACE OF MIND DINNER

-Join the Israeli combat unit for a community Shabbat dinner. This dinner is part of the week long Peace of Mind program hosted by the Edison/HP Jewish community. Fri - Nov 11th Services 4:30pm, Dinner 6pm RPRY \$50.pp or \$150.00 per family. Mail checks made out to RPRY to Sharon Hirt, 10 Olden Rd, Edison, NJ 08817 . Contact Sharon Hirt hirt.sharon@gmail.com or 732-777-0462

-As a thank you to all our donors we are having a fun Saturday night, Nov 12th at the Highland Park High School featuring Radio Raconteur Show and comedian Joel Chasnoff. Join us at 8pm and stay

for a dessert reception. Free to all. Please RSVP to levenhen@yahoo.com

ANNUAL MTJ MELAVE MALKA

The annual Mesivta Tifereth Jerisalem Melave Malka will be held Motzei Shabbos Nov 12 at *PM at Ohav Emeth. Guests of honor are Rabbi and Mrs. Eli Akerman who will receive the Distinguished Alumnus Award. Hagaon Harav Reuven Feinstein Shlit"a will be guest speaker. Please call Shimon Jakubovic for info and reservations at 732-246-1037.

RPRY RECIPE SWAP

Join RPRY's Annual Recipe Swap Nov16th at 7:30pm at the Hercman home (9 Ryan Rd, Edison). This year's theme is Soup and Salad. To participate, email a (pareve or meat) recipe to ntbaum@gmail.com by 11/11 and then bring a delicious sample to the event for all to taste! Everyone will receive a copy of all recipes! Cost is \$20 (\$15 for RPRY+ members). We will also be raffling off a 6 qt Instapot! tickets cost \$5 for 1 or \$10 for 3 tickets. Even if you can't attend, you can purchase raffle tickets! Contact rpryplus@rpry.org

JEC LOWER SCHOOL DIVISION NEWS:

-JEC's Lower School Div is excited to introduce the Musical Mommy & Me Program "Bugle Babies". Open to mummies and their little ones ages 6 mo-3yrs Tuesdays, from Nov 1st for 12 sessions. 1st is free! For more info please visit the JEC's Facebook at [Facebook.com/TheJEC](https://www.facebook.com/TheJEC) or call school office. You do not have to be a member or have other children attending the JEC to participate!

-The JEC Lower Div will host an educational evening for parents on Bullying and the differences between conflict and bullying by renowned expert Dr. Norm Blumenthal. Monday evening, Nov 7 in the main JEC shul, 330 Elmora Ave Elizabeth at 8pm. A Q&A and refreshments will follow. -It is Open House season at the JEC and each of our three fabulous divisions will be hosting their respective Open Houses this November : The JEC Lower School, serving nursery through 6th grade at the JEC on Wed, Nov 16 at 7:15 pm, come and here what all the excitement is about.

-Rav Teitz Mesivta Academy will host its Open House for prospective 8th graders and their parents Wed, Nov 9 at 7:15, JEC main campus. -Bruria High School will host its open house for prospective 8th graders and their parents on Sun, Nov 13 at 9:30 am.

For more info and to pre-register for any open houses, please visit TheJEC.org.

YESHIVA UNIV. HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS

Yeshiva University High School for Boys (MTA) cordially invites all prospective parents and students to our Open House on Sunday, Nov 13th. Registration begins at 9am; Program will begin in the historic Lamport Auditorium at 9:30 am. The Open House will take place on our Manhattan campus, 2540 Amsterdam Ave, New York, NY. Complimentary parking will be available in Yeshiva University Lot E, located on Amsterdam Ave. between 182nd and 183rd streets. Pre-register at www.yuhsb.org/openhouse. For more info, please contact our Dir of Admissions, Avi Matanky, amatanky@yuhsb.org or call (212) 960-5400 x6676. Applications are now being accepted at www.yuhsb.org/apply!

CAMP MOSHAVA PARLOR MEETING

Please join us for a Camp Moshava parlor meeting at the home of Sara and Ari Welner, 39 Edgemount Rd., Edison, on Monday night, Nov 7th 7:30pm. Alan Silverman will be there to answer your questions. You will receive a \$50 family discount for attending the meeting.

MAYANOT OPEN HOUSE

All 8th grade girls and their parents are invited to join us at the Ma'ayanot Open House:

Sunday, November 6, 2016
Registration & breakfast: 9 am
Program: 9:30 am

Lunch: 12 noon

Pre-register at www.maayanot.org

Nina Bieler, Director of Admissions: 201-833-4307
x255.admissions@maayanot.org

TABC OPEN HOUSE

Torah Academy of Bergen County (TABC) cordially invites all prospective parents and students to our Open House on Sun, Nov 6th. Registration and breakfast begin 9:15; Program and Academic Fair 10am-1pm. The Open House takes place at TABC, 1600 Queen Anne Rd, Teaneck. Pre-register at tabc.org-openhouse-registration. For further info, contact Donna.hoenig@tabc.org or call 201-837-7696. Applications are now being accepted - fill out online tabc.org-online-application.

HADASSAH -MITZVAH OF LOVE

On Sunday, Nov 13 Hadassah's annual Mitzvah of Love event which will be held at Cong Ohr Torah 11am. Cost is \$50 covert plus a donation toward the purchase of 4 wall mounted patient room computers with mouse, keyboard, display and barcode reader for the Hadassah Hospital. For more info contact honeywisotsky@outlook.com.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Sun Nov 20th, our next community blood drive is from 9AM to 3PM, at Ahavas Achim, 216 S. First Ave., HP. Donors can be young as 16 (with parental permission and meeting weight req). For info, please contact Ira Rosen at 732-393-1018 or ira_rosen@yahoo.com.

GENEALOGY CLUB OF CENTRAL JERSEY

Genealogy Club of Central Jersey (GCCJ) meets Thurs Nov 10TH, 7pm AA, 216 South 1st Ave., in HP. Please note that until further notice, meetings will be held on the 2nd floor of the Building. The room where we meet can be reached by stairways or by an elevator near the rear (parking lot side) Meeting room is at front (1st Ave) end of the building. Club has been in operation for a year, and appears to be fulfilling the purpose for which it was started -- namely to provide a venue for exchanging info on genealogical topics. In order to keep the club alive and healthy, the time has come for us to do a bit of planning and to create structure. We will therefore devote this month's meeting to organizational matters. These include: Comments on pros and cons of the club's operation until now; Suggestions how the club can be improved, future activities; Establishing a standing advisory committee to guide the club's activities. It is of utmost importance that you attend this meeting to provide input. Between now and meeting Nov 10, please give some thought about these matters.

BIKUR CHOLIM

-New hospitality room at RWJ Univ Hospital located on main floor. Go through main entrance and bear left towards gift shop. Turn right through the double doors. Follow hall and turn right. The room is located opposite the surgical intensive care unit. It is fully stocked with food and other items you might need. There is a microwave, urn, sink, table & chairs, as well as two reclining chairs. For inquiries, call helpline at 732-572-7181.

- HOMEBOUND VISITATION: Seeking adults and 11th graders and older who would be interested in volunteering to visit homebound people in our community. For more info, please call Bikur Cholim at 732-572-7181.

- NURSING HOME VISITATION: Seeking volunteers to visit at the Regency nursing home on DeMott Lane in Somerset. For more info, please

call Rahel Baruh at [732-672-4673](tel:732-672-4673) or email rbaruh@yahoo.com

- WEBSITE: bikurcholimrv.com. The website provides info regarding Bikur Cholim services, including how to access our local hospitals on Shabbat, how to borrow medical equipment, and how to get prescription medication on Shabbat. -Bikur Cholim OWLS (Overnight Women Labor Support): A complimentary service for maternity situations whereby volunteers will come to stay with your kids during the night. For more info on receiving this service or becoming a volunteer, please contact Rikki at [732-249-5116](tel:732-249-5116). Thank you.

TEAM AY 2016

Team AY 2016 – Completed Navy Half Marathon in Wash, DC on Sept 18, 2016. We ran in memory of Hallel-Yaffa Ariel, our 13 year old sister who was tragically murdered while sleeping in her Israeli home, and to show our support for the US Armed Forces. A portion of the funds raised will be donated to the IDF's Lone Soldier Center www.lonesoldiercenter.com in memory of Miss Ariel. If you have not yet redeemed your pledge, or still want to make a contribution, please visit this URL or send a check to Cong AY, 1587 Rt 27, Edison, NJ 08817. <https://www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/barch-jacobi/team-ay>

DAVID JACOBI CHARITY BIKE RIDE

David Jacobi / ALYN Israel Hospital Charity Bike Ride. For the second year in a row, David will be participating in the Wheels of Love charity bike ride to benefit the ALYN Hospital, Israel's only pediatric and adolescent rehab facility. The hospital receives very limited government funding and needs our support. Please consider making a donation to this worthwhile cause. Here is the URL to David's page for US contributions to the Wheels of Love (WOL) campaign that ends on race day, 11/6/2016.

CLASSES FOR WOMEN

-**Shabbos Nov 5th 4PM:** AI Women's Learning Program is pleased to announce this month's shiur: Shira Elbaz will speak on topic "Chevron, Mearat Hamachpela and the Concept of Connection" at home of Debbie and Lorne Schachter 233 Highland Ave Edison. All women & girls high school age+ are invited.

-**Motzei Shabbos Nov 5th 9PM:** Tiferes DVD for women: "POSITIV" EYES" Nurturing the real view of your kids and yourself. Speakers: Rabbi Dov Brezak & Mrs. Chana Werdyger. At the Siegel house. Weekly teleconferences w/topics such as shalom bayis and parenting avail to Tiferes members. Contact Aviva siegelmom@optonline.net The HP/Edison group of Tiferes is zecher l'nishmas Malka bas Shalom.

-**Sun Nov 6th 10AM:** Rabbi Bassous: Women's class at Cong. Etz Ahaim. Class based upon the book, "Happiness" by Rabbi Zelig Pliskin.

-**Sun Nov 6th 11AM:** Rebbitzten Eichenstein's Tefillah class for women at the Aguda Shul.

-**Mon Nov 7th 8PM:** Rebbitzten Eichenstein's Parsha Class at OT. Info for either contact Aviva Siegel 732-572-4408 / Siegelmom@optonline.net

-**Tues Nov 8th 9:30AM:** Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class for women at home of Tzippy Rieder, 6 Cliff St. Edison (off of Brookhill Av, past Stone St) More info call 732-966-6503

-**Wed Nov 9th 1PM:** AA Univ Rabbi Miodownik leads exploration of "Sefer Yehoshua" All Women welcome

-**Shabbos Nov 12th 8PM:** 14th annual Yahrzeit of Rochel Imeinu video: "Tefillah: The Ultimate Connection" with awesome stories of yeshuos through tefillah. Featured speakers are Rabbi Paysach Krohn, Rebbitzeh Tzipporah Heller, and Rebbitzten Tehilla Jaeger at the Orani residence, 292 North 5th Ave, HP. For women only. Sponsorships welcome. All proceeds to Aniyei Eretz Yisrael. For info, Tzippy Rieder [718-541-4710](tel:718-541-4710). -SemPlus evening shiur for post seminary girls: Call hotline to confirm at 732-966-6503.

AY'S WOMEN'S TALENT SHOW SEEKING PARTICIPANTS

Calling all female performers! Do you sing? Dance? Juggle? Do magic? Play an instrument? Are you a comedian? Ever wished that you could perform for a crowd? AY's annual Melave Malka presents Edison/HP's Got Talent! Join us for a special evening of amazing talent from the women in our community. Enjoy various performances, by women, for women. All while getting a chance to spend time with friends and enjoy dinner together. Save the date: Motzei Shabbos, Dec 3rd at 8pm. All women in the community college age and up are invited. To register to attend, easy sign up at AYedison.org or contact Rivka Jaffe at [732-762-0490](tel:732-762-0490). To sign up to perform, email Sisterhood@AYedison.org or Devorah Lockspeiser adlock12@gmail.com

PARK MIKVAH HOURS

Park Mikvah hours Sun –Thur evenings: through Nov 6th – March 8th: 8PM–10:30PM
Friday nights by appt only.
Motzai Shabbos Nov 5th: 8:30- 10:30PM
Nov 12, 19, 26: 7:30–10PM. Please arrive with enough time to be out before closing time. *We are excited to announce that Park Mikvah will be undergoing renovations! We are looking forward to our new "state of the art" mikvah! Please check the mikvah website and/or call our phone message, before coming, for any updates as to when the mikvah will be closing.* If you have not received our recent mailing, email

hpmikvah@gmail.com or [732-249-2411](tel:732-249-2411).

OHR TORAH NEWSLETTER: To subscribe to these Announcements, go to www.ohrtorah.net

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

KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP: To sponsor Kiddush or reserve the Kiddush room, please contact Mel Barenholtz by email: mbarenh@yahoo.com.

SHALOSH SEUDOS SPONSORSHIP: To sponsor Shalosh Seudos, contact Moshe Wiesel.

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

TREE OF LIFE / YAHRZEIT PLAQUES: To dedicate a Yahrzeit Plaque or Leaf for the Lobby Eitz Chayim Tree, contact Moish Nat by sending detailed fax with all dedicatory wording to 732-759-8558. For more info, call Moish at 732-759-807 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 call 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 Refuah Shleimah

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 database, go to ohrtorah.net and click "Register for OT Yahrzeit Notification" or speak with Ralph Dessau or Gene Wasserman.

LOCAL ERUV: Call 732-247-ERUV for status

Parshas Lech Lecha

Candlelighting:	4:25PM
Mincha:	4:35PM

Ohr Torah can be found at <http://www.ohrtorah.net>. You can join the email list for Weekly Announcements. Announcements should be sent to announcements@ohrtorah.net. Please submit all announcements by 7PM Wed. Please make sure that you leave a contact/callback name and phone number.

Raphael Mordechai Barishansky (1866-1950)

Raphael Barishansky was born in 1864 in Lipnishok, Lithuania (currently, Lipnizki, Belarus). After studying at yeshivas in Aishishok, Mir and Kovno, where he received semicha from R. Isaac Elchanan Spektor, communal rabbi of Kovno, Barishansky moved to Bialystok to study with Rabbi Shmuel Mohilever, who later granted him an additional semicha ordination. Under the influence of R. Shmuel Mohilever, one of the leading exponents of religious Zionism, Barishansky remained an ardent proponent of religious Zionism for the duration of his life.

In 1893, Barishansky was appointed rabbi of a large synagogue in Homel (or Gomel) Belarus, where he served for almost 30 years. At Homel, he was known as an excellent orator and had a reputation for encouraging young, nonobservant Jews to commit themselves to Jewish practice. He was also active on behalf of Jewish soldiers in the Russian army, arranging for kosher provisions and assisting them in the celebration of Jewish holidays. But it was his commitment to the promotion of religious Zionism which occasionally brought him into conflict with others. He attended several World Zionist congresses, including the notable Sixth Congress, where he broke ranks with his friend and colleague, R. Yitzchak Yaakov Reines, voicing his opposition to Herzl's compromise with the British, known as the Uganda Plan. When a branch of Mizrachi was formed in Homel, Barishansky forcefully defended the ideology of religious Zionism in the wake of communal dissension. In particular, his support of Zionism brought him into conflict with the sizable constituency of Lubavitch hasidim who resided in Homel, and generally opposed the Zionist movement. In 1912, Barishansky published an article in *Hatsefira*, a leading Hebrew language periodical in Poland, criticizing the prominent German rabbi, Solomon Breuer, for his anti-Zionist remarks at the founding conference of the Agudath Israel in Kattowitz.

Following World War I, the Czar was executed and communism took hold in Russia. In the early 1920's, Barishansky was arrested and sentenced to two years imprisonment for anti-Communist sentiments following a confrontation with several Russian-Jewish Communists, whom Barishansky had publicly berated for closing Jewish schools and working to discredit Zionism. With the help of several Zionist friends, he was released after serving about seven months in prison. But his troubles with the Soviet Communist authorities did not end. R. Barishansky and other prominent Jewish rabbis in Homel were placed on trial for undermining the State court system by advising Jews to bypass State courts in favor of litigating their conflicts in a Jewish beit din. An autobiographical memoir of Barishansky's trial in 1920s may be found in the Yiddish newspaper, *Morgen Zhurnal*/November 19, 1923, later reprinted in A. A. Gershuni, *Yahadut b'Russia ha-Sovietit* (Jerusalem, 1961).

At that time, Rav Barishansky was being considered for the post of Chief Rabbi of Jaffa in Palestine. Given his devotion to religious Zionism, he might have considered the offer but circumstances proved otherwise. Instead, he chose to flee Homel for the United States, arriving in New York in February 1924.

The economic and religious deterioration of Jewry following the Communist revolution led to a debate among world Jewish leaders as to whether financial resources should be extended to rescue Jews from Russia, or funds sent to Russia to enhance their condition within the new Soviet borders. Barishansky, who chose to flee because of persecution, opposed any effort that would keep Jews under the Soviet regime. Even Jewish Communists, he maintained, were set on suppressing the Jewish religion and were instigating additional anti-religious campaigns during Jewish holidays.

In America, Barishansky accepted a rabbinic position at the Torat Moshe Talmud Torah in the Bronx, and not surprisingly became active in the American Mizrachi movement. In 1927, Barishansky left New York to become rabbi of a union of several shuls in Washington, D.C. In August, 1933, he was elected by a consortium of more than thirty synagogues in Philadelphia to become rabbi of a newly established entity called Jewish Community of Philadelphia-Adas Israel.

A frequent contributor to Jewish newspapers on contemporary topics of American Jewish life and issues confronting the Zionist movement, Barishansky supported the introduction of Hebrew as the official language of Palestine and advocated the abolition of the death penalty and the public maintenance of Shabbat in a future state of Israel.

Rav Barishansky's *yahrzeit* will occur this month. He died on 29 Cheshvan, November 9, 1950. He is buried at Old Mount Carmel Cemetery, Glendale, New York. His son, Shalom, published posthumously a collection of his father's writings.