



Congregation Ohr Torah

Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi

Allen Kessel - President

Parshas Vayakhel-Pekudei - Hachodesh

25 Adar 5769

March 21, 2009

Candlelighting: 6:52PM
Mincha: 7:00PM
Shacharis: 7:45 and 9:00AM
Rabbi Hoffman's Pesachim Shiur- After Hashkama
Z'man Krias Shma (G'RA): 10:02AM
Early Mincha: 1:45 PM
Rabbi Luban's Shiur in Megillah 5:45 PM
Mincha: 6:35 PM
NOTE EARLIER TIME TO ACCOMMODATE KEL MALEH'S FOR NISSAN
Shalosh Seudos speaker: Sammy Belsh
Maariv: 7:55 PM
Weekday Shacharis:
Sun 7:15, 8 & 9AM
Mon 6:20, 7:05, 8 AM
Tue, Wed, Fri 6:30, 7:10, 8 AM
Thurs. (Rosh Chodesh) 6:10, 7:05, 8 AM
Weekday Mincha/ Maariv: 7:00 PM
Weekday Maariv 10:10 PM
Monday evening, 9:10 in Bais Medrash, Rabbi Luban's shiur in She'eilos Uteshuvos (respona) Tuesday Tehillim 9:50 PM
DAF YOMI
 Monday -Thursday- after maariv
 Friday - after kabolos shabbos.
 If there are two minyanim, after the first minyan.
 Shabbos - one hour before mincha
 Sunday- after 8 am shacharis.

BARUCH HABAH

Ohr Torah would like to welcome newcomers, visitors and guests who are joining us. If our President, Allen Kessel or Rabbi Yaakov Luban does not get a chance to welcome you personally, please come up and introduce yourself.

KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP

Kiddush sponsorship is available for Mar. 28th, April 18th & May 2nd. To sponsor a Kiddush or reserve the Kiddush room, please contact Mel Barenholtz in person, by phone or email: 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 and request to be added to the distribution.

BUILDING DEDICATION OPPORTUNITIES

Contact Moshe Schneider at 732-618-4702 or at mschneider19@yahoo.com

TREE OF LIFE and/or YAHRZEIT PLAQUES

To dedicate a Yahrzeit Plaque or a Leaf for the Lobby Eitz Chayim Tree, please contact Moish Nat by sending a detailed fax with all dedicatory wording to 732-442-8022. For more info. Call Moish at 732-442-5751 during work days or 732-572-4132 in the evening.

SEFORIM DEDICATIONS

Book/Seforim Dedications of all types are available by contacting Barry Siegel at siegeldad@optonline.net or 732-572-4408.

HOUSEKEEPING

For housekeeping issues and inquiries contact Lou Smith at 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.

MECHIRAS CHOMETZ

Rabbi Luban will be available for selling Chometz beginning this Sunday.

HASHKAMA KIDDUSH

Hashkama Kiddush is sponsored by Karen and Yoel Schwartz in honor of Josh's Bar Mitzvah.

MAIN MINYAN KIDDUSH

Kiddush is sponsored by Shoshana and Ted Diskind to commemorate the Yahrzeit of Ted's mother Sarah Miriam bas R. Aharon Yosef Halevy Z"L.

OPEN LETTER TO SHUL COMMUNITY:

The news is filled with reports about the deepening recession in the U.S. and rising unemployment rates. Our community is certainly not insulated from the recession and too many of our neighbors are victims of job cuts and some are now struggling with maintaining their critical needs, such as food, heat, and maintaining a roof over their head. Unfortunately, it is anticipated that the economic problems may even get worse before they get better.

In light of this growing crisis, our community rabbinic leadership and a number of concerned lay people have joined forces to raise significant sums during Chodesh Adar/March from the community to assist struggling families with food, utilities, medical insurance, and other basic needs. Fund distribution is being coordinated by Vaad Harabonim of Raritan Valley in consultation with lay leadership on a confidential basis.

Our fundraising campaign Ohr Torah is in the final stage. We hope you can join us and participate in the fundraising effort.

Please respond generously. Now is the time to make your pledge. Donations are tax deductible. Checks marked Ohr Torah-Community Chesed Fund may be mailed or given to Michael Samel, Yoel Schwartz, Robert Kreitman, Joel Paul or Rabbi Yaakov Luban. We thank you for your generosity and kindness.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The next General Membership Meeting will take place Tuesday, March 24th at 8:00PM. Agendas have been mailed.

RABBI'S SHABBOS DRASHA

In order to achieve greater decorum during the Rabbi's Shabbos Drasha, the Board has determined that both the Front and Rear Doors to the Shul will be locked during the Rabbi's weekly presentation. This action will

prevent any entry into the Shul but will still allow anyone to exit the Shul. Immediately after the Drasha's completion, the back doors will be unlocked and operate normally.

MAZEL TOV

...to Karen and Yoel Schwartz on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Josh. Mazel Tov to Josh's siblings, Arie, Naama, and Adina, and to Josh's grandparents, Diane and Maurice Kessler, and Irving Schwartz.

...to Celia and Paul Minkin on the birth of a son to their children Esther and Shmulie Sitko.

... to Esther and Jonathan Rosenberg on the marriage this past week of their daughter Shoshana to Shmuel Mermelstein.

...to Rabbi and Mrs. Yaakov Luban on being honored at the Yeshivas Ohavei Torah annual dinner this Sunday.

MISSING BEIS MEDRASH

LIBRARY BOOKS

The 3rd volume (Vayikrah) of the Netivot Shalom and the book *Tales out of Shul* are missing from the Beis Medrash. Please check if, inadvertently, someone took them home and return them ASAP.

BIRCAS HACHAMAH

Let the Sun Brighten Up Your Saturday Night.

Everyone is invited to a special DVD presentation on Bircas Hachamah this Motzai Shabbos at OT . The presentation starts at 9:15PM. The DVD lasts approximately 90 minutes.

Bircas Hachamah is recited once every 28 years. The Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation has produced a DVD on the topic with 2 well known speakers. The speakers are Rabbi Avraham Chaim Feuer and Rabbi Pesach Krohn. The recommended donation is \$5 per person with a maximum of \$25 per family. No one will be turned away for financial reasons.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMERGENCY PARNOSAH INNITIATIVE - Employment Network of Raritan Valley

* If you know of any job openings, please e-mail the information to enrv@verizon.net and rkreitman@sidley.com. Jobs can be professional, part-time, or temporary.

* If you are looking for a job and need assistance with your resume, interviewing or networking, contact enrv@verizon.net and go to www.enrv.org and sign up to receive job postings.

COMMUNITY-WIDE

YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION

In conjunction with area synagogues, the Jewish Federation is honored to sponsor a community-

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

wide Yom Hashoah commemoration on the evening of APRIL 21 in the ballroom of the E Brunswick Jewish Center . Please mark this important date on your calendars – and plan to actively participate with your friends and family. For the exhibit before the program starts: We'd be delighted if you can share your family's experiences with the community - We are seeking articles, photos, and memorabilia from Ashkenazi, Sephardi, and Mizrahi Jewish communities and families (from around the world) before and immediately after the Holocaust. Please send ONLY COPIES of pictures or documents to: Jewish Federation of Greater Middlesex County, 230 Old Bridge Turnpike, South River, NJ 08882 Submissions should be accompanied by: date, name(s), and a brief description (2 to 4 sentences) of the item's location/situation Original Submissions WILL NOT be returned. Join us in the OPENING MEMORIAL CANDLELIGHTING CEREMONY: Community members, Holocaust survivors, 2nd generation and their families are invited to light candles at the commemoration's opening Youth groups and students warmly welcome. Please call Gabriela Sadote Sleppin at 732-432-7711, ext. 23 or email gsadote@jfgmc.org (mailto:gsadote@jfgmc.org) for info.

NORPAC

Concerned about Israel's safety and security? Do something about it: Meet with Congress during the NORPAC Mission to Washington - May 20, 2009. Help make a difference in the American/Israeli alliance! Buses leave for Washington from our area 6:15 am; Buses return between 9-10 pm. There will be briefings on each bus. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be provided and all meals are glatt kosher. Rates are now \$125 for students and \$175 for adults. Visa or MasterCard accepted. Full refund up to May 5. Must be 12 years of age or older to attend. Those under 18 MUST be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian. For more information, please speak with H. Atlas, Allen Kessel, Elie Borger, Barry Wolf, Marc Hanfling docdad@aol.com . Don't be left out! Register at www.norpac.net or call 201-788-5133.

DONATE TO FOOD PANTRY

Looking for a place to give your leftover shaloch manos? Are you trying to get rid of your chametz? We will gladly collect the food to be sent to a food pantry in Deal. Closed packages only; no homemade goods. Drop off location: Just put in one of the bins on the Bodlander porch, 134 North 10th Ave, Highland Park. For more info, please call Nitza Bodlander (732) 339-0908.

YESHIVA OZ LAMELECH

Rav Azarya Berzon, well known to many as the Rosh Yeshiva of Sha'arei Mevaseret Zion, has established a new yeshiva in Jerusalem - Yeshiva Oz LaMelech (YOM). While a number of Yeshivos in E"Y have invited talmidim to join their post-college Kollel programs, YOM is being geared specifically to address the needs of a post-college talmid.

Many young men choose to take a year off after college before going on to graduate school or entering into the work force. This presents a great opportunity for them to recharge their spiritual batteries strengthen their commitment to Torah learning, so that Torah study will be an ongoing part of their lives, while simultaneously enhancing their marketability to prospective employers. The goal of the YOM is to build

a closely-knit *chabura* of talmidim working together to grow in Torah and Yiras Shamayim. For further information please write to ozlamelech@gmail.com or call 718-689-1099.

YESHIVAT NETIVOT MONTESSORI: "A GLIMPSE OF UPPER ELEMENTARY"

Netivot continues to grow! Join us for a preview of the Upper Elementary program, opening in the fall of 2009. This session will explain how the curriculum continues from Lower to Upper Elementary, providing a rigorous academic experience at the appropriate developmental level for nine to twelve year-olds. We will provide a general overview of the nine to twelve scope and sequence, highlighting certain curricular areas and demonstrating how they extend and develop from one level to the next. This session is recommended for all intrigued parents. Location: Netivot Lower Elementary, 33 Lakeview Blvd., Edison Tue, March 24, 8pm.

HAT SHOW

Hedys Hats will be doing a hat show at the home of Gila and Ephraim Gerszberg 459 Lincoln Ave on Wednesday March 25th at 8pm.

VISITING SOFER AT JUDAICA GALLERY

The Sofer will be at Judaica Gallery, 300 Raritan Avenue, this Sunday March 22, 2009. Those who need to check their mezuzot and tefillin should come down. If you know you are coming, please call to let us know, at 732-828-7722 but drop-ins are welcome. Store hours are 10am to 5pm.

CHUG IVRIT CLUB

The next meeting of Chug Ivrit (Hebrew speaking club) for intermediate to advanced speakers will be on Sunday, March 22, at 10am, (Please note new earlier time) at the home of Justin & Susan Hornstein, 701 S. 2nd Ave., Highland Park . 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. You do not have to be a member of Hadassah to join us. For more information, contact: Rachel Weintraub at rachel@weintraubworld.net or 732-819-9298.

BLOOD DONORS NEEDED

Blood Donations needed: A member of our community, who is being treated for cancer, has been receiving regular blood transfusions at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick, and will continue to need them for the foreseeable future. We have been asked to assist in ensuring that an adequate supply of O+ blood is available. Donations may be made at the Blood Center, 4th Floor, Clinical Academic Building 125 Paterson Street, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901, (732) 235-8100 (reservations preferred, although walk-ins are welcome).

RABBI HOFFMAN'S SHIUR

Rabbi Yisroel Hoffman's Choshen Mishpat Hilchos Dayanim shiur takes place Wednesday nights at the Agudah at 8:30 pm. To download previous shiurim, please visit <http://csisol.com/shiurim.aspx>

MAZAL SHIDDUCH GROUP

Please email Sharon at Shci18@aol.com to request a form and to find out the location.

KEYLIM MIKVAH HOURS OF OPERATION

The OT Keylim Mikvah will be open Sunday Mornings from 9AM to 12 Noon. Please make sure to leave the area clean and neat.

PARK MIKVAH

The Edison/Highland Park mikvah is open from 8:30 to 10:30pm. FRIDAY NIGHTS are by

APPOINTMENT ONLY. Call 732-249-2411. Fee \$15. OUT OF HOURS an ADDITIONAL \$20 fee.

Important Beginning Sunday night, March 8th, Sun-Thur nights, hours are 9-11pm. Saturday nights in March, the mikvah opens at 9pm.

ATTENTION ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME AND PLACE FOR AMEN GROUP

Women's 'Amen' group will continue to meet Sunday, March 22 at 9:45 AM at Congregation Ohr Torah in Edison. All women and girls are invited to join. The format of the group is to recite 'Amen' to the series of 15 Brachot, page 18 Artscroll Siddur for a total of 100 brachot. We read 5 Tehillim, 'MeShebayrach' for the Cholim, the Chofetz Chaim for the day and the prayer for the Members of the Israel Defense Force. Please note the group prays in the 'Zechus' of Menachem Mordechai Ben Ophira, Fruma Sarah Bas Devorah Rachel, and the other Cholim on community lists and individual's requests.

Looking for women to say Shir Hashirim (*in your own home*) this Friday night after light bentchen. Please contact E.J. Berman at 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 E.J. at the above e mail address. 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.

RUTGERS HILLEL NEEDS SEFORIM

The Jewish community at Rutgers Hillel needs Sefarim to support the expanding Jewish community on campus. We are looking for any Sefarim, Hebrew and English, used or new, to help provide for the learning needs of the community, including a new open Beit Midrash program on Mon. nights. If you wish, you can dedicate the Sefer in the honor or memory of the person you choose. To arrange a pick-up or drop-off, please call Sammy Sacks: (732) 735-3848.

REBBETZIN EICHENSTEIN'S NAVI CLASS

Rebbitzin Eichenstein will be having her Navi class on Sefer Tehillim, Sunday morning, March 22 at 10AM at Cong. Agudath Israel. This will be the last class until after Pesach. The Monday evening Parsha class will resume after Pesach. Classes are for women only. For more information, please contact Aviva Siegel at siegelmom@optonline.net, Ricki Stern 732-828-6939 rickistern@yahoo.com.

Project S.A.R.A.H.

Stop Abusive Relationships At Home Save the Date - Thursday evening, May 7, 2009 "Your Role When There Is A Suspected Case of Child Sexual Abuse" A Statewide Conference for Rabbis & School Administrators. YM-YWHA 199 Scoles Ave. Clifton, NJ 07012 Watch for upcoming invitation. Dinner at 6:30 pm

MIRI COHEN'S PARSHA CLASS

Mrs. Miri Cohen's ladies Parsha class will meet Wednesday morning, March 25 at 9:15AM at the home of Rosa Katz, 132 North 8th Avenue, Highland Park. For more info, please call Azriella Jaffe 732-985-7613.

PRE-PESACH SUIT SALE

Italian made wool suits and designer suits (normally \$500-\$795) for \$150, boys' suits, men's

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

white shirts, silk ties, trench coats, dress shoes, boys' Perry Ellis white shirts, ties. - all at great prices! Motzei Shabbos, Mar 21 and Mar 28 from 9 PM - 11 PM and Sundays, March 22 and 29 from 10 AM - 10 PM at 8 Price Dr Edison. For more info, call 732-432-7008 or 732-819-0791. Checks & all major credit cards accepted. All proceeds to Yeshiva Tiferes Naftoli of Central NJ.

JR NCSY INFO

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

questions on any of the above announcements or anything having to do with Jr. NCSY, please contact Chana Lustiger at 908-209-1820 or Tzvi Hametz at 732-991-2252 night

LOCAL ERUV

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

Parshas Vayikra

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|---------------------------|---------|
| • Candlelighting | 6:59 PM |
| • Mincha/ Kabolos Shabbos | 7:05 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 Announcements should be sent to 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.