



Congregation Ohr Torah

Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi

Robert Kreitman - President

Parshas Va'era

25 Tevet 5774

December 28, 2013

Candlelighting: 4:19 PM
Mincha: 4:30 PM
Shacharis: 7:45, 9:00 & 9:15 AM
Rabbi Hoffman's Shiur after Hashkama
Z'man Krias Shma (G'RA): 9:39 AM
Rabbi Luban's Sotah Shiur : 3:25 PM
Mincha: 1:30 & 4:15 PM
Shalosh Seudos Speaker: Dr. David Luchins
Maariv: 5:25 PM
Weekday Shacharis:
Sunday 7:15, 8 & 9 AM
Mon 6:17, 7:05, 8 AM
Earliest Tallis/Tefillin on Mon. is 6:21
Tues. & Fri. 6:30, 7:05, 8 AM
Wed. (January 1) 7:15, 8 & 9 AM
Thurs. (Rosh Chodesh) 6:15, 7:05 & 8 AM
Earliest Tallis/Tefillin on Thurs. is 6:22
Weekday Mincha/ Maariv: 4:30 PM
Weekday Maariv 7:30 & 10:10 PM
Rabbi Luban's Sheilos U'teshuvos Shiur:
 9:10 PM Monday
 , Tuesday Tehillim: 9:50 PM
 Wednesday Night Kolle Learning: 8-10:10 PM
DAF YOMI SCHEDULE FOR WINTER:
 Shabbos Morning – 8:15 AM and/ or after Hashkama. Sunday: After 8 AM Shacharis
 Monday – Thursday: after 7:30 Maariv

KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP

Kiddush sponsorship is available for January 18th & 25th and February 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd. 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.

OHR TORAH 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.

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

E-MAIL LIST

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

MAZEL TOV

... to Miriam Ravitz on the birth of a grandson. Mazel Tov to the parents, Rabbi Shmueli and Devorah Ravitz of Beiter, Israel, to the brothers and sisters, and to the entire Ravitz family.

...to Rhona and Michael Eserner on the birth of a daughter to their children Avi and Abby Eserner. Mazel Tov to grandparents Larry and Karen Mandel and to great-grandparents Sylvia Leskowitz, Rosalie Mandel, Sydney and Charlotte Krupnik, and to the Leskowitz and Welner families.

...to Mina and Larry Tiefenbrunn on the birth of a son to their children, Avi and Naomi Tiefenbrunn.

...to Marcia and Andrew Freedman on the birth of a son to their children, Yitzzy and Shani Horowitz. Mazel Tov as well, to the big sister and brother - Dede and Tani.

KIDDUSH

Kiddush this week is being co-sponsored by Sheila and Henry Schanzer in honor of the Congregation's successful Israel Bond Appeal, and by Riki and Robert Kreitman in honor of the entire Congregation and the Board of Directors on this, Robert's last Shabbos as President of OT.

SHALOSH SEUDOS

Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by Sharon and Eddie Lowinger to commemorate the Yahrzeit of Eddie's father, R. Yisroel Chaim ben Nachum Halevi A"H, and by Janice and Arnie Lustiger to commemorate the Yahrzeit of Arnie's father, R. Shmuel ben Aharon Halevi A"H.

OHR TORAH ELECTION RESULTS

-President: Russell Adler
 -Vice Presidents: Jeff Klein, David Moss, Leslie Ney and Moshe Sherman
 -Recording Secretary: Judah Elbaum
 -Corresponding Secretary: Evan Orgel
 -Treasurer: Seymour Kessel
 -Financial Secretary: Brian Allen
 -Gabbaim: Joel Adler, Larry Greenman, Michie Klerer
 -Sisterhood: Lani Kaye, Susie Wolf
 -Members at Large:
 Charyn Atlas
 Mel Barenholtz
 David Callen
 Nir Even-Hen
 Charlie Gershbaum
 Gershon Klavan
 Roseanne Koenigson
 Ira Krumholtz
 Elie Salomon
 Shelley Schoenfeld

Jeff Slepoy
 Lou Smith
 Jonas Waizer
 Eli Wiesel
 Max Wisotsky

THANK YOU

A special thank you to Joshua Caplan and Hillel Raymon for working so diligently on the election this past week.

BNEI AKIVA

Bnei Akiva starts at 3:45pm this week.
OHR TORAH ANNUAL YOUTH RAFFLE
 Please help support Ohr Torah's youth groups by purchasing raffle ticket(s). The cost of the tickets are one for \$36, two for \$70, or 3 for \$100. The drawing will be held at the annual Shul dinner on February 9th. Please contact Jeff Klein, Robert Krietman or Meir Berg to purchase tickets. All proceeds support the OT Youth programs.

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome new members:

-David and Shifra Zelingher

BLOOD DONATION NEEDED

A dear member of our community, Harvey Paretzky, is in need of type O blood donations. If you are able to donate blood, please call Lynn Hanfling 732-777-0225 or email docdad@aol.com or Fran Leitman 732-572-9545 or email frleitman@optonline.net for more details.

POLAND PILGRIMAGE

OT is excited to announce its First Community Poland Pilgrimage Journey, July 20-28. The intensive 7 day journey will focus on the rich life and heritage of Polish Jewry as well as very meaningful visits to the major sites of the Shoah. Join Rabbi Luban and other community members on this memorable journey. For more details contact Nitza Adler at 732-819-9294 or email at morahnitza28@gmail.com or Rachelle Stern at 732-247-0766 rachelle_stern@yahoo.com

YOUTH PROGRAM

On Motzei Shabbat Dec 28th starting at 6:45 PM until 8:00 PM Cong Ohr Torah will host a girls dance program for grades 1 thru 5. We welcome back Marla Rottenstreich who will lead your girls in Zumba and Line Dancing with lively music and other surprises. In addition we will have a selection of frozen yogurts and toppings to choose from. The cost for all this fun is just \$12 per child in advance or \$15 at the door.

To register, please email Mayer Berg at marcberg@verizon.net with the names and ages of the children who will be in attendance. You can pay via Paypal using

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

youth@ohrtorah.net or checks can be dropped off at the home of Mayer Berg.

MEN'S SHIUR

Irgun Shiurei Torah presents a two part Shiur reviewing the halochos of Taharas Hamishpacha. It will be given by Rabbi Luban at Cong. Ohr Torah Jan.7 and Jan.14 at 8:30 PM. All married men are welcome.

2014 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The 2014 Membership Directory is in the process of being prepared. All current directory information, including children's names and email addresses, will be brought forward to the new directory. Please submit all changes and/or additions to names, titles, address, phone, children's names (including sons/daughters-in-law), and email addresses to memberdirectory@ohrtorah.net.

For members who have joined in the past year, please email the above address with your preferred titles (Mr., Mrs., Dr., Rabbi, Hon., etc.) as this information was not collected on the membership form.

NOTE: Children's names and up to two email addresses not currently listed will be included only if an emailed request is received at the address above. The phone tree email list will not be used for this publication.

SEFORIM DONATIONS

Thanks to the following for their generous Seforim donations:

- Edward & Sharon Lowinger in memory of Jay and Jerry Blum's father Melvin Blum Z"L
- Edward & Sharon Lowinger in memory of Alan Kluger's father Max Kluger Z"L
- Saul & Rebecca Wasserman in memory of Saul's mother Frances Wasserman Z"L

HASHAVAS AVEIDA

A large sum of money was recently found locally in a garment that was donated to a charitable organization. Inquiries should be directed to Rabbi Luban at [732-236-1382](tel:732-236-1382).

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOFER AVAILABLE

The sofer will be at Judaica Gallery, 300 Raritan Avenue, this Sunday, Dec 29 and is available for checking *tefillin* and *mezuzot*.

Store hours are 10am - 5pm. Walk-ins are welcome but, if possible, please call [732-828-7722](tel:732-828-7722), and let us know you are coming!

ACTT

(Achieving Change Through Torah) program, now in its 8th year, 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)).

SPECIAL NEEDS BASKETBALL GROUP

Torah Links of East Brunswick is looking to start a basketball group for children with special needs. For more info please contact Rabbi Mayer Erps at Merps@torahlinks.org

HELP RTMA SAVE LIVES!

Donate Blood on

Thursday, December 26

1pm-7pm

The Jewish Educational Center

330 Elmora Avenue, Elizabeth NJ 07208

"THE AGUNAH CRISIS: HOW WE GOT HERE, AND WHAT WE CAN/NEED TO DO ABOUT IT"

January 1st - יום עיון at AY: Rabbi Asher Bush will be speaking about: "The Agunah Crisis: How we got here, and what we can/need to do about it!"

Davening at 8:15 am followed by a breakfast.

Sponsorships for this event are available.

Rabbi Asher Bush is the rav of Cong Ahavas Yisrael in Wesley Hills, NY and is a longtime member of the faculty at Frisch Yeshiva High School. He is the author of Responsa Sho'el B'Shlomo and serves as the Chairman of the Va'ad Halacha of the Rabbinical Council of America.

OHAV EMETH

Ateret Cohanim / Jerusalem Chai at OE

You are cordially invited to a Special Presentation in Support of Our Jerusalem at Congregation Ohav

Emeth, 415 Raritan Avenue in Highland Park on

Sunday February 23rd at 7:30 PM. Program will

feature Guest Speaker, Shoshana Hikind,

Executive Vice President, American Friends of

Ateret Cohanim. American Friends of Ateret

Cohanim / Jerusalem Chai is working to rebuild

and rejuvenate Jerusalem for future generations.

Please join us and show your support for this

unique organization at the forefront in the battle

for our Jerusalem. Donations made payable to

"American Friends of Ateret Cohanim" may be

mailed to Cong Ohav Emeth, 415 Raritan Avenue,

Highland Park, NJ 08904. For more info on this very

worthy organization, please

visit jerusalemchai.org.

KULANU C'ECHAD

Kulanu C'Echad is an organization geared for

children with special needs and those in a secular

school setting during the day to receive a Jewish

education and social experience with other Jewish

children. We will be offering weekly Judaic studies

classes at Congregation Ohr Torah, Sundays, 10-

11:30; We will be offering weekly social skills at

Cong Ohav Emeth, Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30. Cost: \$50

per a month for each set of classes, or \$75 per a

month for both. For More info Contact Us:

KulanuCEchad@yahoo.com or Dana Lerner: 732-

725-1956 or Leah Kurtz: 732-261-3356.

SEXUAL ABUSE: HOW CAN WE PREVENT IT AND WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE REPORT IT?

The Orthodox Forum of Highland Park/Edison is

presenting an exceptional panel of professionals

who can provide unique insights on a topic which

has been in the news all too much of late. Our

panel of experts, each of whom has over 20 years

of experience in the field will speak on Sat

evening, Jan 11 at 8pm at Cong Ohr Torah, 48

Edgemount Rd, Edison. The program is free of

charge. The Orthodox Forum gladly accepts

season sponsorships, as well as program

sponsorships. For more info visit the orthodox

forum website at www.orthodoxjewishforum.org.

KOLLEL BREAKFAST

Please note that the 6th Annual Breakfast on

behalf of the HP Community Kollel will IY"H take

place at Cong Ohr Torah Sunday Morning, Dec

29th at 9:30am. Dr. Barry Schanzer will be

chairing this year's Annual Community Breakfast.

The Kollel will be honoring Drs. Jeff and Lee Ann

Schein. The Kollel will as well be bestowing

the *Ohev Torah Award* upon Mr. Mitchell

Rottenstreich. The Guest Speaker will be Rabbi

Yosef Eichenstein, Rosh HaYeshiva of RJJ, Edison.

We look forward to greeting you there.

RPRY MISHMAR PROGRAM

Mishmar learning program is held at RPRY every

Motzei Shabbat @ 7:00 Please bring your own

seforim.

AUCTION/CASINO NIGHT @ AHAVAS

ACHIM, DEC 28TH

Congregation Ahavas Achim invites community

members to join us for a fun-filled Goods &

Services Auction/Casino Night at the shul

on Saturday December 28th, starting at 8:00 pm.

Admission is \$25 per person and includes \$20 in

casino chips and refreshments. Advance ticket

sales offer discounts such as \$60 in auction script

for \$50 or \$125 in auction script for \$100. For

more information, call 732.247.0532 or

email secretary@ahavasachim.org

JFVS SEEKS INTERESTED PARTICIPANTS

Jewish Family and Vocational Service of Middlesex

County (JFVS) is exploring the possibility of

starting a Jewish Twelve Step Program.

Individuals, interested in discussing this program

and the possibility of starting this in Middlesex

County, are invited to a Jewish Recovery Task

Force Meeting on Monday, Jan 27 at 7:30 at the

JFVS office in Milltown, 32 Ford Ave, 2nd Floor.

For more info or to RSVP, call [732-777-1940](tel:732-777-1940).

EMUNAH EVENT

Sharon Heyden will be hosting a cooking class in

her Highland Park home Sunday, Jan 12, 2014 @

7:30 pm. Please make your reservations by

emailing Pauline Mykoff paulmyk@aol.com

FOR WOMEN

- Rebbitzin Eichenstein's classes for women: No

class on Sunday, Dec.29; Parsha class on Monday,

Dec. 30 at 8:00 PM at Congregation Ohr Torah.

For more info, please contact Aviva Siegel at 732-

572-4408 siegelmom@optonline.net, Ricki Stern

732-828-6939 rickistern@yahoo.com.

- 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.

-Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class: Monday, Dec. 30

at 9:00 AM at the home of Rikki Samel, 427

Dennison Street, Highland Park.

-Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class:

Monday night, Dec. 30 from 7:30 to 8:15 PM at

the home of Ellen Smith, 407 North Eighth Ave.,

Edison. For more info, please call Ellen at 201-410-

1893 or 732-777-6787.

-SemPlus shiur for post seminary girls: please call

for status of class on Jan. 1: 908-420-0253.

Join women of all ages from the Highland

Park/Edison community and beyond as we learn

together at Rabbi Bassous's Sunday morning

classes. We meet at Cong. Etz Ahaim, 230

Dennison Street, Highland Park 10-11 AM. We

are now learning from the book "The Six Constant

Mitzvos" by Rabbi Yitzchak Berkowitz. Join us at

the class and start the year in a spiritually-ch

community. arged way!

- Tiferes, a Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation

program for women, will meet Motzai Shabbos,

January 11 at 8:15 PM at the home of Aviva Siegel, 16 Edgemount Road, Edison. An inspirational DVD will be shown. Weekly teleconferences with topics such as shalom bayis and parenting are also available to Tiferes members. Upcoming teleconferences: Diffusing Disappointments and Delighting in Differences; Speaker: Mrs. Seryl Berman. For more information or to become a member, please contact Aviva sieglmom@optonline.net or Debbie Schneider 732-572-4713. The Highland Park / Edison group of Tiferes is zecher l'nishmas Malka bas Shalom. -Highland Park Edison Connects Women's Potluck Melave Malka
 Highland Park Edison Connects invites you to join us for an evening of fun, food, and socializing (with a unique twist!) on Motzai Shabbos, Febr8th, at 7:30 pm, at the home of Sharon and Yosef Golubchik (1514 Parker Rd, HP.) For more info, to participate in the potluck, or to RSVP, please email Rachelle_Stern@yahoo.com or call Rikki Samel at (732) 249-5116. Please also be sure to search in Yahoo Groups for "Highland Park Edison Connects" so you can stay connected to all that is happening in our community on a weekly basis! We look forward to seeing you there!
 -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 sieglmom@optonline.net
 - WEDNESDAY MORNING SHIUR FOR WOMEN AA University presents a new shiur for women by Rabbi Miodownik on "Exploring the Siddur." Wed. from 10:30-11:15 am. in the Beit Midrash.

KIDNEY NEEDED

My close friend, Jewish Male (52) father of 2, is in desperate need of a kidney (Type O blood). Please respond via the Renewal Organization at R652@renewal.org. Please have Tzvi ben Frimmet in your Tefilos for a Refuah Shleimah.

PARK MIKVAH

The Edison/Highland Park Mikvah will be open Sun-Thurs 8:30 to 10:30pm, and Sat nights 7:30 to 10:pm. Fri nights are BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. You must arrive and leave during regular Mikvah hours. Fee is \$20. OUT OF HOURS: additional \$20. For more info 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 Bo	
Candlelighting	4:25PM
Mincha	4:35 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 here is a question regarding the item you wish to be printed, otherwise it may not be included.

Sof Davar

by Moshe Sherman

Shalom Elchanan Jaffe (1858-1923)

Last time I mentioned that in 1900, Rabbi Jacob Joseph had a second, debilitating stroke, which left him incapacitated, until his death in 1902. Since the Beth Hamedrash Hagadol urgently required rabbinic leadership, they turned to Rabbi Shalom Elchanan Jaffe to serve as their new rabbi. Born in a small town near Vilna in 1858, Jaffe was sent, at the age of 14, to the famous Volozhin yeshiva, where Rabbi Naphtali Zvi Yehuda Berlin (NETZIV) presided as rosh yeshiva. Following semicha from Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Spektor and the NETZIV, Jaffe served in several European towns as communal rav before accepting an invitation, in 1887, to become rabbi of Congregation Sheerith Sfard, in St. Louis, Missouri. While in St. Louis, he designated himself as Chief Rabbi, using the title 'av beit din' which stirred a good measure of disagreement. Two years later, in 1889, he returned to his hometown, Vabalninkas to serve as their communal rabbi. But in 1891, he returned for a second time to St. Louis, to serve as rabbi of another shul, Beth Hamedrosh Hagadol. (not to be confused with the N.Y shul of the same name). About two years later, another rav, Zacharia Yoseph Rosenfeld came to St. Louis to head Congregation Sheerith Sfard. A period of mutual antagonism and controversy ensued best illustrated by two disputes. During this period, Rabbi Jaffe spearheaded the construction of a *mikveh*, of which the kashruth was challenged by Rabbi Rosenfeld. Meanwhile Rabbi Rosenfeld approved and supervised an *eruv* in St. Louis, of which the kashruth was criticized by Rabbi Jaffe. Several treatises were published by both rabbis detailing their position on these matters. There were additional halachic disagreements, including the proper spelling of the name "St. Louis" in religious documents, such as a *ketuba* or *get*.

In 1897, Shalom Elchanan Jaffe left St. Louis for a shul in Brooklyn. Five years later he became rabbi of Beth Hamedrash Hagadol on the Lower East Side. That same year, 1902, Jaffe joined numerous other rabbis in founding the Agudath ha-Rabbonim. He later served as president of the Agudath ha-Rabbonim, the leading federation of Orthodox rabbis, at that time. He was also an active supporter of the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary in New York, and instrumental in obtaining the political support of the Agudath ha-Rabbonim for the RIETS yeshiva.

As rabbi of the prestigious Beth Hamedrash Hagadol Jaffe emerged as an influential figure in the kosher supervision of New York slaughterhouses and butcher stores, a position which allowed him to determine the qualifications of rabbinic supervisors and shoctim and which also entailed substantial financial benefit. This powerful position at times made Jaffe a target for criticism by those, such as Rabbi Gabriel Zev (Velvel) Margolis, who harshly disapproved of the standards of the New York kashruth industry. While Rabbis Jaffe and Margolis remained lifelong foes, Jaffe retained the confidence and support of the great majority of his colleagues.

Jaffe published several books and articles, including *Pri Eshel*, a commentary on Yevamot, and *Shoel k'Inyan*, teshuvot on matters of contemporary halacha. His personal papers include several unpublished manuscripts and correspondence with leading European rabbis.

Jaffe was 65 years old, when he died at Beth Israel Hospital, New York on November 15, 1923, leaving a wife and six children.