



Congregation Ohr Torah

Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi

Russell Adler- President

Parshas Bo

3 Shevat 5774

January 4, 2014

Candlelighting: 4:25 PM
Mincha: 4:35PM
Shacharis: 7:45, 9:00 & 9:15 AM
Rabbi Hoffman's Shiur after Hashkama
Z'man Krias Shma (G'RA): 9:42 AM
Rabbi Luban's Sotah Shiur : 3:30PM
Mincha: 1:30 & 4:20 PM
Shalosh Seudos Speaker: Arnie Lustiger
Maariv: 5:30 PM
Weekday Shacharis:
Sunday 7:15, 8 & 9 AM
Mon. & Thurs. 6:17, 7:05, 8 AM
Earliest Tallis/Tefillin on Mon.& Thurs. is 6:23
Tues,Wed., & Fri. 6:30, 7:05, 8 AM
Weekday Mincha/ Maariv: 4:35 PM
Weekday Maariv 7:30 & 10:10 PM

Rabbi Luban's Sheilos U'teshuvos Shiur:

Cancelled next two weeks

Tuesday Tehillim: 9:50 PM

Wednesday Night Kollel 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 25th and February 1st, 8th, & 15th. 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 E.J. Solomon and the Berman and Honigsfeld families on the birth of Yechezkel Dov (Dovi) to Jakey and Dahlia Honigsfeld Berman of Kew Garden Hills.

... to Ricki and Moish Nat upon the birth of a son to their children Ophie and Batya Nat. Mazel Tov to Batya's parents Shmuel and Rivki Schneid, to the great grand parents Shmuel and Sara Kadry of Bnei Brak, to all the aunts uncles, cousins and the entire family.

...to Lori and Jonathan Caplan on the engagement of their son Joey to Emily Strulowitz, daughter of Danny Strulowitz and Esther Lakind. Mazel Tov to Joey's grandparents, Philip and Iola Caplan, and to his uncle and aunt, Joshua and Naomi Caplan.

...to Lorraine and Abe Schwartzbard and the entire Schwartzbard family on the engagement of their daughter Rachel to Yisrael Feld of Teaneck. Mazel Tov to Yisrael's parents Rochel and Alan Feld and the entire Feld family.

...to Susanne and Shai Simcha on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Sammy.

HASHKAMA KIDDUSH

Kiddush at the Hashkama *Minyan* is being sponsored by Batsheva Schreiber in honor of Bayrish Schreiber being this year's *Chosson Torah*.

We would also like to acknowledge the completion of *Shloshim* for the Schreiber Family and extend appreciation to the community for the extraordinary show of Achdus and support during a very difficult time. The *Neshama* of Yissochor Bayrish ben Yehudah Yeshaya Halevi should have an *Aliyah*.

KIDDUSH

In a gesture of friendship and support upon hearing about the trouble with the food warmers at Shul last week, Mr. and Mrs. Wiesel of Glatt 27 wish to donate a hot Kiddush this week to the Shul and invite the entire community (even though the broken food warmers were not supplied by Glatt 27). Glatt 27 appreciates the community's patronage and wishes everyone a good Shabbos.

SHALOSH SEUDOS

Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by Miriam and Michael Rabinowitz in memory of the Yahrzeit of Michael's father Dovid ben Gedalyahu Halevi, A"H.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Shoham and Marisa Filhart
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, Meir Berg or Charlie Gershbaum to purchase tickets. All proceeds support the OT Youth programs.

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

MEN'S SHIUR

Irgun Shiurei Torah presents a two part shiur reviewing the halochos of Taharas Hamishpacha. It will 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.

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

LUNCH AND LEARN

Adapted by Arnold Perl from his 1953 Off-Broadway play, *The World of Sholom Aleichem* was first broadcast on December 14, 1959 on the dramatic anthology series *The Play of the Week*. This compilation of three different plays was based on the stories of Sholom Aleichem; the famed writer known as the Yiddish Mark Twain. The first play "A Tale of Chelm," features Zero Mostel as a befuddled religious teacher and Nancy Walker as his exasperated wife in a lighthearted tale of a man trying to buy a goat in a town of fools.

"Bontsche Schweig" takes place in heaven where the newly deceased Bontsche (Jack Gifford) has arrived for judgement. After an angel (Lee Grant) tells the story of his life of strife, Bontsche is offered paradise, only to stun the heavenly court with an extraordinarily modest request.

In the final play "The High School," a Jewish merchant (Morris Carnovsky) is cajoled by his wife (Gertrude Berg) to help prepare their teenage son for high school in spite of quotas designed to limit the number of Jewish students.

Tuesday, January 14, 2014 at 12:00 noon at OT. The program will include a light lunch followed by an introduction to Sholom Aleichem given by Dr. Moshe Sherman, Teacher of Jewish history at Touro U. It is open to all retirees in the community.

There will be a charge of \$10 per person to help defray the cost of the meal. RSVP to Bella blerner18@optonline.net 732 317-1786, Mildred 732 572-1712, or Marcia ppheffer@verizon.net 732 572-5998.

If you have not responded and have plans on attending the luncheon please reply so the correct amount of food can be ordered.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR :

NORPAC MISSION to WASHINGTON
Wed. April 30, 2014

RPRY STRATEGIC PLANNING TOWN HALL

To parents (past and present) of RPRY children, grandparents, parents-to-be, members of the Edison, Highland Park and East Brunswick community. The RPRY Strategic Planning Committee Town Hall Update will be held on Sunday January 5, 2014, from 7:00pm - 8:30pm. At this important meeting you will hear from members of the Strategic Planning Committee in terms of the general progress, but more importantly, from the chair-people of each of our four strategic committees, on their progress to goals, what has already happened, what is next and still planned for the future. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible, in the Beit Midrash at RPRY.

SUSHIHANA SUPPORTS CNJKIDS

Sushihana will donate 18% of the profits it makes on the first Tuesday of every month in 2014 between 5 and 6 PM to CNJKIDS. Dine out at Sushihana on Tuesday, January 7, 2014, between 5 and 6 PM, and support Jewish K-8 day school education!

COMMUNITY INVITED TO KHAL CHASSIDIM

The community (men, women and children) is invited to a Tu B'Shevat fruit tasting at Rabbi Horowitz's shtieble, Wednesday, Jan 15, following 7:30 maariv. Enjoy exotic fruits from around the world, zemiros, and divrei Torah.

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

SPECIAL NEEDS BASKETBALL GROUP

Torah Links of East Brunswick is looking to start a fun and exciting basketball program for Jewish children with special needs. Children would be paired up with an older 'buddy' to learn some skills and have fun. For more info please contact Rabbi Mayer Erps at: [732.613.1613](tel:732.613.1613) or merps@torahlinks.org

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

As many are aware YU is facing a great budget deficit. I am interested in hosting a parlor meeting for those who have gained so much from YU. If interested in helping and attending please contact me. We must save YU.

Rabbi Dr. Bernhard Rosenberg (ben)

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Yachad, The National Jewish Council for Disabilities seeks part time employee for its Middlesex Chapter. The Middlesex chapter co-sponsored by The Jewish Federation of Middlesex County provides Inclusion programs for individuals with special needs and offers support groups for parents. Responsibilities include outreach in community and working closely with Yachad staff to promote growth of chapter. Salary based on experience. For more information please contact Chani Herrmann at Herrmann@ou.org or call [201.833.1349](tel:201.833.1349).

OHAV EMETH

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. Donations made payable to "American Friends of Ateret Cohanim" may be mailed to Cong Ohav Emeth, 415 Raritan Avenue, Highland Park, NJ 08904. 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 Ohev 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 Saturday 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.

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

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 Ave, Highland Park, NJ 08904. Please write Chaim Reiss in the memo section. Thank you!

NCSY CHAPTER NEWS

- 1 We would like to invite all the NCSYers grade 9-12, to our home for Friday night onegs! Please be aware of the TIME CHANGE! It will be from 7:30-9:30!
2. 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!!
3. Boys learning with Yoni and Adam every Thursday night from 9-9:45!! Check out the Facebook page or contact Yoni Sherman or Adam Barouk for more info regarding location.
4. Bible & BBQ every Tuesday at Park Place from 7:30-9 Hang out with friends, enjoy free dinner, and learn awesome Torah!!
5. January 10th, Parshat Beshalach, We invite all ncsyers to come join us for a Friday Night Carlebach minyan and Friday night dinner! RSVP at nj.ncsy.org
6. Summer programs are filling up FAST!! Check out all the hot summer programs NCSY has

to offer!! There is a program for everyone! Check out newjersey.ncsy.org.

FOR WOMEN

-Rebbitzen Eichenstein's classes for women Tefillah class on Sunday, Jan. 5 at 10 AM at Aguda shule; Parsha class on Monday, Jan. 6 at 8 PM at Cong Ohr Torah. 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.

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

-Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class: Monday, Jan. 6 at 9 AM at the home of Ricki Samel, 427 Dennison St, Highland Park.

- Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimiras Haloshon class: Monday night, Jan. 6 from 7:30 to 8:00 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 on Wed, Jan. 8 at the Aguda, upstairs classroom. For more info, please call [908-420-0253](tel: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 St, 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-charged way!

-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 shelaimah for Menachem

Mordechai ben Ophira and other Cholim in the community.

-Tiferes, a Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation program for women, will meet Motzai Shabbos, Jan 11 at 8:15 PM at the home of Aviva Siegel, 16 Edgemount Rd, Edison. An inspirational DVD will be shown. Title: Emunah: Our One Safe Harbor. Speakers: Rabbi YY Rubinstein and Mrs. Chani Feldbrand. Weekly teleconferences with topics such as shalom bayis and parenting are also available to Tiferes members. Upcoming teleconferences: "Our Children's Questions – What Are They Really Asking? Are We Prepared With theAnswers?" and "Surviving your Teens and Enjoying Them Too"; Speaker: Rabbi Daniel Mechanic. 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.

-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, Feb 8th, 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 Ricki Samel at [732-249-5116](tel: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!

- 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 Beshalach	
Candlelighting	4:32PM
Mincha	4:45 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

Harry Fischel (1865-1948)

In telling the lively story of the Beth Hamedrash Hagodol, I cannot neglect to mention Harry Fischel, who served as an officer of the shul, for many years. Born in 1865 in Lithuania, Yisroel Aaron Fischel was 20 years old when he arrived in New York, alone and penniless. He worked at odd jobs and engaged in some unsuccessful business ventures before his first break occurred, when a friend offered him a chance to remodel his house. He quickly developed knowledge of construction, and with considerable entrepreneurial skill began building fashionable apartment complexes on Fifth Avenue and Park Avenue. In time, he extended his portfolio of real estate holdings to Manhattan's Lower East Side. By the age of 40, Fischel had amassed enormous wealth.

Fischel became a dedicated supporter of many communal organizations, including the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, the National Jewish Welfare Board, the Hebrew Free Loan Society and the American Jewish Committee. Primarily, he was an indefatigable benefactor for Orthodox institutions, including the Uptown Talmud Torah, and the Central Relief Committee. Dissatisfied with the two largest orphanages, the Hebrew Orphan Asylum and Hebrew Sheltering and Guardian Society, which did not provide religious instruction to the children, Fischel established an orphanage under Orthodox auspices.

There were many troubling stories of immigrants stranded at the Ellis Island immigration facility with no place to eat. Fischel proposed that a kosher kitchen be constructed to accommodate the often hungry and ragged immigrants. With a committee of supporters, he met with President Taft and Commerce Secretary Nagel urging the government to build a kosher facility at Ellis Island. The President agreed and a kosher kitchen was established under the auspices of the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society.

Until the 1890's, religious instruction at Talmud Torahs and yeshivas was available only for men. No opportunity for Jewish education was available for women. Fischel encouraged the Machzikei Talmud Torah on the Lower East Side to initiate a program for girls, and in 1893, New York's first Talmud Torah school was founded for women. Reportedly, Fischel personally hired and paid the salaries of the instructors.

In February 1902, Harry Fischel paid \$200,000 for a piece of land at the south corner of Grand and Chrystie Street, with the intention of building a theatre for Yiddish performances. A year later, in 1903, the Grand Theater opened its doors, New York's first theater built exclusively for Yiddish productions.

A close friend and confidant of Rabbi Dr. Dov Revel, Fischel played a leading role in the merger of Yeshiva Etz Chaim and the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (RIETS) during the second decade of the 1900's. In 1920 Fischel headed a committee to purchase a five-story building on East Broadway which became the home of RIETS until the construction of the stately building in Washington Heights which still stands to this day. While RIETS recently built a new beit midrash, what is now referred to as the 'old beit midrash' still has a plaque that reads the Harry Fischel Study Hall, in his memory.

An ardent religious Zionist, Fischel made several trips to Israel and donated funds to charitable institutions in what was then, British controlled Palestine. Incidentally, he financed the construction of a residence and shul for the first Chief Rabbi of Palestine, R. Abraham Isaac Kook.

Fischel spent the last year of his life in Jerusalem, where he died at the age of 83, a few months before Israel's independence, on January, 1948, survived by his wife and four daughters.