



# CONGREGATION OHR TORAH Weekly Newsletter

270 Pleasant Valley Way ☐ PO Box 6169 ☐ West Orange, NJ 07052

**VAYESHEV** 23 - 29 Kislev, 5780 December 21 - 28, 2019

Rabbi Marc Spivak, President David Goldstein, Rabbinic Intern Matt Lubin

**SHABBAT KIDDUSH:** Be prepared to air your grievances! It's the Ohr Torah annual Festivus Kiddush. Everyone is invited! Although we no longer have the Shabbat Mevarchim Kiddush, the Grebenau family has made a contribution toward honoring their two granddaughters who have birthdays during Tevet. **SEUDAH SH'LISHIT** is sponsored by Dr. Mark Grebenau in commemoration of his grandfather's yahrtzeit, Mordechai ben Kalonimus, Max Grebenau for whom he is named.

To sponsor a Shabbat Kiddush or Seudah Sh'lishit at the Shul, please contact Tami Puder at [office@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:office@congregationohrtorah.org).

**MISHNA B'RURA CLASS** with Rabbi Grosberg after Shabbat Mincha will be held this week in the Beit Midrash.

**RABBI SPIVAK'S WEEKLY CLASS** will meet this Wednesday evening at 7:45pm following Maariv.

**LEARN CPR: Sunday January 5, 2020, 9:15AM-12:15PM** at Congregation Ohr Torah, 270 Pleasant Valley Way, West Orange. "HeartSaver Class" led by Lisa Ashur, RN, and certified CPR instructor by the American Heart Association. Be prepared for emergencies and learn CPR, how to use an automated external defibrillator (AED), and basic first aid and Heimlich maneuver for adults, children and infants. Upon successful completion, participants receive a course completion card, valid for two years. Course includes first aid instruction book, and hands on experience with mannequins to practice CPR. Cost: \$65.00. Open to adults aged 18+. Group size limited to 12. Must RSVP by December 26<sup>th</sup>. Call or email Deborah Druce at 973-609-6339 or at [deborahdruce@gmail.com](mailto:deborahdruce@gmail.com). Bring a check payable to the "American Heart Association" to the class. Sponsored by the Ohr Torah Sisterhood.

**FESTIVUS FOR THE REST OF US** has arrived. This is a fun Kiddush this Shabbat featuring good food (including thirst-inducing pretzels and soup for you and everyone), and more Seinfeld references than you can shake a stick at. Retroactive sponsorship \$36, \$54, \$72 and \$90 levels are accepted. Your sponsorship will ensure that this event continues its success. The event is free for the congregation to attend. A Congregation Ohr Torah Men's Club event. To make your donation go to: <https://www.congregationohrtorah.org/festivus>

**CHANUKAH ON ICE:** Bring your skates, or rent them there. There will be refreshments so you don't need to bring your latkes. Saturday, Motzei Shabbat, December 28th at 6:30pm. Clary Anderson Arena in Montclair. See page 5.

**FOR SENIORS: Together on Tuesdays. Tuesday, December 24, 2019, 12:15-2:15pm** Chanukah Party. 12:15-1:00pm festive luncheon in the auditorium. 1:00-2:15PM-"A Yiddish Songfest" presented by Lloyd Kishinsky. Audio-visual presentation of well-known Yiddish singers of yesteryear and today. Enjoy listening and singing

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## Schedule 12/20 - 12/27

### Friday (12/20)

Shacharit	6:10am
Light Candles	4:13pm
Mincha	4:20pm
Shkia	4:31pm

### Shabbat (12/21) Mevarchim

Shacharit	9:00am
Latest Shema	9:36am
Mincha	4:05pm
Maariv	5:12pm
Shabbat ends	5:19pm

### 1st Night of Hanukkah—Sun Evening

### Sunday - Thursday (12/22 - 12/26)

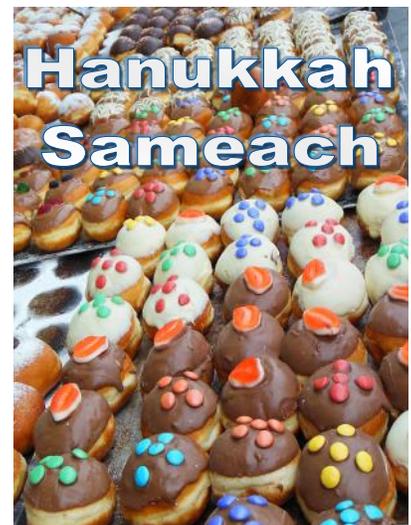
Shacharit Sun/Wed	8:15am
Shacharit Mon/Tue/Thu	5:55am
Mincha/Maariv Su/Tu/We	4:20pm
<b>No Mincha Service Mon/Thu</b>	
Maariv Only Mon/Thu	7:30pm

### Friday (12/27)

Shacharit	5:55am
<b>Mincha</b>	<b>4:15pm</b>
Light Candles	4:17pm
Shkia	4:35pm

### Eruv Hotline:

(973) 736-1407 x6



## Sisterhood Events and Donations

### Sisterhood Tribute Fund:

Please consider making a donation to honor or in memory of someone in any of the following categories. Tributes—\$5; Sefer Fund—\$10; Youth Fund—\$18; Siddur or Machzor—\$40; Chumash—\$60. For more information, please contact Debbie Druce [deborahdruce@gmail.com](mailto:deborahdruce@gmail.com)

## Yahrzeits December 21 - December 27

- 23 KISLEV:** Jonathan Weber for his Sister, Shandel bat Yaakov Mordechai, Jill Weber Campell, on Shabbat, December 21.
- 23 KISLEV:** Zev Weiner for his Mother, Bayla Leah bat Chaim Dovid, Bernice Weiner, on Shabbat, December 21.
- 24 KISLEV:** Steven Schwartz for his Father, Yaakov Eliezer ben Natan Netta, Jay L. Schwartz, on Sunday, December 22.
- 24 KISLEV:** Bertha Sharret for her Grandfather, Chaim Nachum ben Shmuel, Nachum Lifshitz, on Sunday, December 22.
- 25 KISLEV:** Noah Kalter for his Father, Yoseph ben David HaCohen, on Monday, December 23.
- 26 KISLEV:** Deborah Druce for her Grandmother, Chana bat Yekutiel, Anna Greisman, on Tuesday, December 24.
- 26 KISLEV:** Jayne Sayovitz for her Mother, Mindel bat Eliyahu, Mildred Shields, on Tuesday, December 24.
- 27 KISLEV:** Margot Freedman for her Mother, Genendel Leah bat Avraham HaCohen, Gilda Stanway, on Wednesday, December 25.
- 27 KISLEV:** Mark Grebenau for his Grandfather, Mordechai ben Kalonimus, Max Grebenau, on Wednesday, December 25.
- 29 KISLEV:** Sam Goldfischer for his Uncle, Yaakov ben Yosef Ha'Levi, Jack Goldfischer, on Friday, December 27.
- 29 KISLEV:** Jayne Sayovitz for her Father, Chaim ben Feivish, Hy Shields, on Friday, December 27.
- 29 KISLEV:** Howard Spear for his Brother, Yitzchak ben Chaim, Arthur Spear, on Friday, December 27.
- 29 KISLEV:** Davida Stadtmauer for her Father, Yaakov Zvi ben Tuvia Izaak, Jack Block, on Friday, December 27.

For changes/corrections to this list, please contact Elia Weixelbaum or send an e-mail to : [ShabbatNewsletter@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:ShabbatNewsletter@congregationohrtorah.org)

### CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

along. Share good memories. Cost: members-\$5.00, guests-\$8.00. RSVP by Sunday December 22. Call 973-736-1407 x 240. **Tuesday, December 31, 2019**- No meeting. At AABJ&D Sephardic Wing. In case of inclement weather and the possibility of cancelling a program, call (973) 736-1407 x240. and listen for the recorded message.

**JKHA TOUR:** Join the Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy at an Informational Session for Early Childhood and Lower School on Monday, December 23rd at 9:15 am. Take a tour of our state-of-the-art facilities, meet our administrators, experience our classrooms in action, and learn how our values define the JKHA difference. Pre-register at [www.jkha.org/jkhainfosession](http://www.jkha.org/jkhainfosession). Contact Allison Lyons at [alyons@jkha.org](mailto:alyons@jkha.org) or 862-437-8050 for more information.

**OT SECURITY:** Thank you to our security volunteers this week who stepped up to keep us all safe. **We need volunteers for December.** Even if you've never volunteered in the past, please try it out! Sign up by sending Dov Chelst an email message at [dncchelst@gmail.com](mailto:dncchelst@gmail.com) and he can tell you what is required.

**SPONSOR A KIDDUSH:** There is often a need for sponsors for the Shabbat Kiddush. It will provide much more than the very basic elementary Kiddush for our congregants, which is often followed by a Seudah Sh'lishit that consists of little more than challah (kindly donated by the West Orange Bake Shop), pretzels and chips. If you would like to honor someone or to remember a loved one, you have the opportunity to do so, just navigate to : <https://www.congregationohrtorah.org/kiddush>

**FESTIVUS RETURNS**  
**to OHR TORAH**

**THIS SHABBAT**  
**DECEMBER 21**

**A KIDDUSH FOR**



**THE REST OF US**

**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:** Items for the Newsletter must be submitted **before 4:00pm on the Wednesday before publication.** Anything submitted after that time will be considered for the following issue.

Email to: [shabbatnewsletter@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:shabbatnewsletter@congregationohrtorah.org)

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Rabbi Marc Spivak** [rabbi@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:rabbi@congregationohrtorah.org)

**Office:** Tami Puder [office@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:office@congregationohrtorah.org)

**Board:** [board@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:board@congregationohrtorah.org)

**Men's Club President:** Larry Freedman, [larry@18thstory.com](mailto:larry@18thstory.com)

**Sisterhood President:** Bertha Sharret, [rsharret@hotmail.com](mailto:rsharret@hotmail.com)

**Chesed:** Rabbi Spivak, Tami Puder

**Shiva Assistance:** Rabbi Robert Grosberg

**Shiva Meals:** Gail Bukiet

**Building Committee:** Arnold Barton

**Subscription Requests:** [listserv@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:listserv@congregationohrtorah.org)

**Monthly Calendar:** Elia Weixelbaum

**Newsletter:** [ShabbatNewsletter@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:ShabbatNewsletter@congregationohrtorah.org)

**Reading Torah:** Avi Klein, [otlaining@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:otlaining@congregationohrtorah.org)

**Scheduling Calendar:** Tami Puder, e-mail to

[Schedule@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:Schedule@congregationohrtorah.org)

**Tributes/Siddurim/Chumashim/Machzorim Donations:** Debbie Druce

**Bookplate Design-Bar, Bat Mitzvah Inscriptions:** Debbie Druce

**Yahrtzeit/Tree of Life Plaques:** Jack Rosen

**Youth Committee:** Leron Thumim and Chavi Trenk (co-chairs)

[leron.Thumim@gmail.com](mailto:leron.Thumim@gmail.com) and [ebtrenk@gmail.com](mailto:ebtrenk@gmail.com)

**Youth Director:** Rivky Balsler [Youth@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:Youth@congregationohrtorah.org)

**Newsletter Advertising:** Howard Charish

[advertising@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:advertising@congregationohrtorah.org)

INSERT CANDLES FROM THE RIGHT, BUT LIGHT FIRST FROM THE LEFT



SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> Night December 22<sup>nd</sup>



MONDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> Night December 23<sup>rd</sup>



TUESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> Night December 24<sup>th</sup>



WEDNESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> Night December 25<sup>th</sup>



THURSDAY 5<sup>th</sup> Night December 26<sup>th</sup>



FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> Night December 27<sup>th</sup>  
Light before Shabbat Candles



SATURDAY 7<sup>th</sup> Night December 28<sup>th</sup>



SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup> Night December 29<sup>th</sup>

## HANUKKAH BLESSINGS OVER THE MENORAH

ברוך אתה יי א-להינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו להדליק נר של חנוכה.

ברוך אתה יי א-להינו מלך העולם, שעשה נסים לאבותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה.

On the first night of Hanukkah recite:

ברוך אתה יי א-להינו מלך העולם, שהחיינו וקיימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה.

After Lighting the Candles recite:

הנרות הללו אנחנו מדליקים על הנסים ועל הנפלאות ועל התשועות ועל המלחמות, שעשית לאבותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה, על ידי כהניך הקדושים. וכל שמונת ימי חנוכה הנרות הללו קדש הם, ואין לנו רשות להשתמש בהם, אלא לראותם בלבד, כדי להודות ולהלל לשמך הגדול על נסיה ועל נפלאותיה ועל ישועתך.

### Are the Graves of the Maccabees really the Graves of the Maccabees?



It's a bit more complex than the age-old question of "Who's buried in Grant's Tomb?" On the outskirts of the very modern town of Modi'in is a tourist site known as קברות המכבים "The Graves of the Maccabees". In addition to holes in the ground purported to be the actual burial places of our Hanukkah heroes, the site contains a memorial to those in the Modi'in area who lost their lives in Israel's wars against the Arabs. But who is really buried there?

Every day, six days a week, buses bring amazed visitors to gape at the stone remains. Some longtime local residents of the area believe the Maccabees are really interned there and base this on ancient lore, but some archeologists from the Israeli Antiquities Authority think otherwise, especially Amit Re'em who excavated the area in 2006. He believes there are bodies that were buried there, but they were not our Hasmonean heroes, but Christians and Pagans.

So where were Judah and his band of fighters actually buried? Not far from the current tourist spot is the Yohanan Ha-Gardi Ruins. It too is accessible to tourists, but doesn't have the signs off Highway 443 directing you to it as does the former. Back about a century and a half ago, scholars found very ornate burial rooms. Are these the repository for the bodies of Judah and his tribe of fighters as described by Roman-era historian Josephus? Many modern scholars say it is but Re'em doubts this theory too. However, to locals, it is often called Qubur el-Yehud or "Tombs of the Jews." Excavations done in 2015 have lent some credence to the idea to further bolster Ha-Gardi as the real place, but the jury is still out.



**Raizy & Nikki  
Goldberg**

**TORAH THOUGHT:**

**Vayeshev: Hate and Jealousy**

*The Dvar Torah this week was a joint effort between Raizy and Nikki Goldberg. Raizy Goldberg is currently a teacher at AABJ&D and previously served as a youth leader and director at Congregation Ohr Torah. Nikki Goldberg is currently a student teacher at Bais Yaakov Academy Brooklyn and PS396K in Brooklyn. Nikki has also served as a youth leader. Over the past 18 plus years they have volunteered for other things at Ohr Torah as well, including helping their Abba in the kitchen.*

In this week’s Parsha we read all about Yosef and his brothers. Yosef had two dreams. The first dream Yosef had was that he and his brothers were binding grain into sheaves. Yosef’s sheave arose and the sheaves of his brothers bowed down to it. The second dream Yosef had was that the sun, moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to him. After the second dream, it says “and his brothers were jealous of him.” (Beraishit 37:11).

As we all know, jealousy is an overpowering emotion. It can make you bitter and resentful of even the people closest to you in life. As we see with Yosef’s brothers, they let their jealousy overpower their good sense.

The Baal Shem Tov tells the following parable. There were once two neighbors who lived very different lives. One was a learned man who only had to work a few hours a day to support his family, the rest of his time was spent learning. His neighbor’s work would consume his whole day leaving no time for Torah learning. Each morning as they would pass each other they would share a look. The learned man would look onto his neighbor with contempt while the poor laborer would sigh thinking, “He is rushing to learn while I am off to work.” When the time came and both men went up to Shamayim, an advocate angel placed the learned man’s many virtues of Torah learning, davening, etc. on one side. The prosecuting angel placed the looks of contempt he gave his neighbor. That look outweighed all of the learning and davening he ever did. When it was his neighbor’s turn, the prosecuting angel loaded his side of the scale with the man’s spiritually void life. The advocating angel put that one sigh on his side. That one sigh outweighed the emptiness of learning.

This story, along with the story of Yosef and his brothers, shows us the importance of not allowing jealousy to override our choices. The brothers and the learned neighbor let their jealousy and contempt destroy all of

the good things that they accomplished in life. However, the neighbor who instead of being jealous looked at his neighbor as someone to strive to emulate. He took something that could be the epitome of negativity and changed it into something to aspire to be. From this we could learn that with all of the hate and jealousy in the world that we live in today, instead of internalizing our jealousy, we should change it to be like the neighbor who turned his jealousy into something positive. No matter who the person is, there is always some personality trait they have that we should strive for.

**Shabbat Shalom.**

A regular feature of the newsletter is to have different people write a D'var Torah for the newsletter. The goal is to hear words of Torah from other Ohr Torah members and learn a little about who they are. I encourage everyone to participate. Please email me at [Rabbi@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:Rabbi@congregationohrtorah.org) if you would like to volunteer to share your ideas with us. Torah unites our nation. We are really excited about this project and I hope it will strengthen our bonds as a community. **Rabbi Marc Spivak**

 **YOU CAN BE A  
'HEART-SAVER'**  
**Sunday Jan. 5th 9:15am**

**CERTIFIED CPR INSTRUCTION FROM THE  
AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION**

**Be prepared for emergencies and learn CPR,  
how to use an automated external  
defibrillator (AED), and basic first aid and  
Heimlich maneuver for adults, children and  
infants. Class size limited to 12.**

**\$65** includes materials and course  
completion certificate



**RSVP by December 26th.  
Call or email Deborah Druce at 973-609-6339 or  
deborahdruce@gmail.com**

**SPONSORED BY THE OHR TORAH SISTERHOOD**

Must be at least 18 years old to attend. Bring check  
payable to “American Heart Association” to the course.

**CONGREGATION OHR TORAH  
270 PLEASANT VALLEY WAY, W.O.**

## - AROUND OUR TOWN -

**OHR TORAH YOUTH TO SING AT FESTIVUS:** There will be a new feature to this year's Festivus Kiddush this Shabbat at Ohr Torah. The youngsters of our Shul will perform Hanukkah songs following the morning services. You won't want to miss it.

**CHANUKAH ON ICE:** Or is that Hanukkah on Ice, or maybe Hanukah on Ice? Whichever way you spell it, it looks like it will be the best of the best this year. Bring your skates, or rent them there. There will be refreshments so you don't need to bring your latkes. Saturday, Motzei Shabbat, December 28th at 6:30pm. Clary Anderson Arena in Montclair.



**SMILE TIME:** What's the difference between Hanukkah and a dragon? One lasts for eight nights, the other sometimes ate knights.



**WHATS APP GROUPS:** General Announcements: To join the Ohr Torah General Announcements group, go to <http://congregationohrtorah.org/whatsapp>. on your mobile phone (be sure WhatsApp is installed first) and tap the "Join Chat" button. Alternatively, email Tami ([office@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:office@congregationohrtorah.org)) or David Goldstein ([davesmail@golddave.com](mailto:davesmail@golddave.com)) with the phone number you use with WhatsApp and they will add you to the group.

**MINYAN HELP:** Help us make a minyan by joining the WhatsApp group for alerts when the shul needs help. To join this group, please go to: <http://congregationohrtorah.org/minyanwhatsapp> (be sure WhatsApp is installed first) and tap the "Join Chat" button. Alternatively, you can email Bruce Schlanger ([Bruce.Schlanger@gmail.com](mailto:Bruce.Schlanger@gmail.com)) or email David Goldstein ([davesmail@golddave.com](mailto:davesmail@golddave.com)) with the phone number you use with WhatsApp and they will add you to the group.

**SENDING IN A CHECK FOR A PAYMENT TO OHR TORAH?** Assist us in our record keeping by writing on the memo line or include a note about the reason for the check. Also, remember that mail should always be sent to PO Box 6169, West Orange, NJ 07052, and not to 270 Pleasant Valley Way. Thank you!

If you davened at Ohr Torah on Rosh Hashanna and/or Yom Kippur, please take a moment to provide your feedback in our Yomim Noraim Survey at <https://congregationohrtorah.org/survey>. Results of the survey will help us plan for improvements next year.

# Ohr Torah

## CHANUKAH ON ICE

*Shul, Youth, Sisterhood, and Mens club Event*

**PRIVATE SKATING RINK!**  
Ugly Chanukah Sweater Contest  
Refreshments, Prizes, and More!  
Fun for the whole family!

Member: \$ 10 Per child, \$12 Per Adult  
Non-Member: \$12 per child, \$15 Per Adult  
\$5 entrance fee for Non-skaters

**Saturday Night December 28th 2019**  
**6:30PM-8:00PM**  
**CLARY ANDERSON ARENA**  
41 Chestnut St. Montclair NJ 07042  
RSVP @ [Youth@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:Youth@congregationohrtorah.org)

יקבעו שמכת ימי חנוכה להודות ולהלל

CONGREGATION AABJ&D PRESENTS

# CHANUKAH WITH MIAMI

YEARCHMIEL BEGUN THE MIAMI BOYS CHOIR

SHIRANU ORCHESTRA

ALSO STARRING DOVID PEARLMAN

**2ND NIGHT OF CHANUKAH**  
**MONDAY DECEMBER 23, 7:15PM**

**JKHA/ARYHS AUDITORIUM**  
110 SOUTH ORANGE AVE, LIVINGSTON, NJ

LEGO LIGHTING THEATER SEATING WITH STRIKE SOUND

TICKETS: [AABJD.ORG/MIAMI](http://AABJD.ORG/MIAMI) EMAIL: [MIAMI@AABJD.ORG](mailto:MIAMI@AABJD.ORG)

ROWS 1 - 4, \$75 • ROWS 5 - 8, \$54 • ROWS 9 - 24, \$25  
30 MIN. FROM TERNECK/FREE PARKING

CORPORATE & INDIVIDUAL SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE. EMAIL FOR DETAILS.