



# CONGREGATION OHR TORAH Weekly Newsletter

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

**Sh'lach**

26 Sivan - 2 Tammuz, 5779 June 29 - July 5, 2019

Rabbi Marc Spivak, President David Goldstein

## Schedule 06/28 – 07/05

### Friday (06/28)

Shacharit	6:10am
Mincha/Maariv	7:00pm
Light Candles	7:10pm
Candle-Lighting B'zman	8:14pm
Shkia	8:32pm

### Shabbat Mevarchim (06/29)

Shacharit	9:00am
Latest Shema	9:14am
SAY SHEMA BEFORE COMING TO SHUL	
Mincha	8:10pm
Maariv	9:17pm
Shabbat ends	9:24pm

### Sunday - Thursday (06/30 - 07/04)

Shacharit Sun	8:15am
Shacharit Mon	6:00am
Shacharit Tue	6:10am
Shacharit Wed	5:50am

### ROSH CHODESH

Shacharit Thu	8:15am
ROSH CHODESH / INDEPENDENCE DAY	
Mincha/Maariv Sun-Thu	8:20pm

### Friday (07/05)

Shacharit	6:10am
Mincha	7:00pm
Candle-Lighting	7:10pm
Candle-Lighting B'zman	8:13pm
Shkia	8:31pm

Eruv Hotline: (973) 736-1407 x6

### UPCOMING:

Fast 17th of Tammuz Sun	Jul 21
Rosh Chodesh Av Fri	Aug 2
Tisha B'av Observed Sun	Aug 11
Tu B'Av Fri	Aug 16



**SHABBAT KIDDUSH** is in celebration of Shabbat Mevarchim and a Birthday / Anniversary Kiddush. Ruth and Mark Grebenau: In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of granddaughter Baila Grebenau and Barry Schwartz in honor of Roberta Schwartz and Amanda Schwartz's birthdays.

**SEUDAH SH'LISHIT** is sponsored by the Shul.

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

**MISHNA B'RURA CLASS** with Rabbi Grosberg will be held this Shabbat after Mincha.

**RABBI SPIVAK'S WEEKLY CLASS** will meet this Wednesday at 7:30pm in the Beit Midrash.

**SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:** Next Shabbat, July 6<sup>th</sup>, Yosef Condiotti, the Manager of First Station in Jerusalem, is scheduled to be our guest speaker at Seudat Shelishi. Yosef is also the founder of the Young Forum of Jerusalem which is led by Mayor Moshe Lion. Yosef will speak about how businesses became communities in Israel.

**HELP KEEP OHR TORAH CLEAN:** Please return Siddurim and Chumashim to the shelves in the lobby after davening and remove any tissues or papers around your seat in the Sanctuary. And please do not take food out of the Kiddush Room into other parts of the Shul. We also ask that you tell your children not to run in the Sanctuary as this disturbs the worshippers. Thank you.

## Sisterhood Events and Donations

**THE CINDY TURKELTAUB GROSBERG WOMEN'S LIBRARY** is available for all Ohr Torah members. It's a wonderful place to find books on many subjects that relate to us as Jewish women. There are books on family dynamics, halachot, the Jewish woman in society, and so much more. All books are free for the taking on an honor basis. Simply borrow what you like and return it at your leisure. All Women's Library books are marked with a green decal on the spine in the Beit Midrash. Please avail yourself of this wonderful resource. Remember to email the names of any books that you borrowed to [rsharret@hotmail.com](mailto:rsharret@hotmail.com).

### Sisterhood Tribute Fund:

**Sefer Fund:** In honor of Elaine and Seymour Woods on the marriage of their son Steven by Arlene and Sam Kaye

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)

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



### Recap of June's Membership Meeting

- Following the vote at the winter general membership meeting, we signed Rabbi Spivak to a new contract and look forward to continuing to learn from and be inspired by him.
- Building housekeeping continues to be worked on. We changed the way we approach this last fall and continue to tweak how it gets done. We are currently looking for a volunteer from the membership to head up this effort. If anyone is interested in further discussion about what we're looking for please reach out to Jay or me.
- We've added the moderately successful Birthday/Anniversary Kiddush which we've tried to hold monthly on Shabbos Mevorchim when there's not a sponsored kiddush.
- We debuted our next generation website using a vendor called *ShulCloud*, a company that hosts many shul websites and has built-in functionality for things such as credit card payments and some level of bookkeeping that we were previously using a combination of tools for. We will soon be opening it up to members to create their own accounts which would enable you to manage your membership details, such as the names of those in your families, credit card information, etc. Marc Goldberg has been working on a pilot program for this before rolling it out to the whole membership. We have a limited number of seats in the pilot program. If anyone here is interested in participating, please reach out to Marc or David.
- We had a nice run of events over the fall and winter

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

**WhatsApp Ohr Torah General Announcements:** To join this important announcement group, sign up at <http://congregationohrtorah.org/whatsapp>

on your mobile phone (install WhatsApp first), tap the "Join Chat" button. Alternatively, you can email Anna at ([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.

**HELP US MAKE A MINYAN** by joining a WhatsApp group for alerts when the shul needs help making a minyan. This group has been very successful in its mission, but we can always use more help. If you would like to be added to the group, please go to the following site:

<http://congregationohrtorah.org/minyanwhatsapp>

on your mobile phone with WhatsApp already installed and tap the "Join Chat" button. Alternatively, you can email either Bruce Schlanger, [Bruce.Schlanger@gmail.com](mailto:Bruce.Schlanger@gmail.com), or David Goldstein [davesmail@golddave.com](mailto:davesmail@golddave.com) with the phone number you

## Yahrzeits June 29 - July 5

- 27 SIVAN:** Ethan Kra for his First Wife, Malka bat Yehuda, Mady Kra, on Sunday, June 30.
- 27 SIVAN:** Jack Rosen for his Father, Shalom ben Yaakov Meir Ha'Co-han, Stanley Rosen, on Sunday, June 30.
- 28 SIVAN:** Arlene Kaye for her Brother, Yaacov ben Hillel ha Levi, Jack Panitch, on Monday, July 1.
- 28 SIVAN:** Nancy Perl for her Father, Boruch ben Schmu-el, Bernard Storch, on Monday, July 1.
- 28 SIVAN:** Yoav Rosenblat for his Father, Mordechai ben Yitzchak Elazar, Mordechai Rosenblat, on Monday, July 1.
- 28 SIVAN:** Bernard Schanzer for his Cousin, Yitzchak Leib ben Baruch, Jack Shapiro, on Monday, July 1.
- 28 SIVAN:** Raisa Sverdlov for Gershon's Mother, Alexandre bat Levi Yitzchak, Alexandre Sverdlova, on Monday, July 1.
- 29 SIVAN:** Bea Kallus and Marc & Larry Kallus for her Husband and their Father, Chaim Yehuda ben Avraham, Lou Kallus, on Tuesday, July 2.
- 29 SIVAN:** Stephen Flatow for his Father, Gedalia Avrum ben Shmuel Mordechai, Gilbert Flatow, on Tuesday, July 2.
- 30 SIVAN:** Howard Katuna for his Father, Moshe ben Yisrael, on Wednesday, July 3.
- 30 SIVAN:** Carrie Rosenblat for her Mother, Yentel Leah bat Shmuel Elazar, Jody Greenberg, on Wednesday, July 3.
- 30 SIVAN:** Jonathan Weber for his Mother, Sarah bat Eliezer, Sylvia Weber, on Wednesday, July 3.
- 30 SIVAN:** Deborah Weintraub for her Father, Tzvi ben Avraham, Harry Meth, on Wednesday, July 3.
- 1 TAMMUZ:** Elihu Feldman for his Sister, Leah bat Reb Chaim, Linda Basch, on Thursday, July 4.

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

**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:** Anna Chosak [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, Anna Chosak

**Shiva Assistance:** Rabbi Robert Grosberg, Judy Carmeli, Stuart Rosenblum

**Building Committee:** Arnold Barton

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

**Monthly Calendar:** Elia Weixelbaum

**Newsletter:** all submissions must be emailed by Wed., 4:00PM to:

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

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

**Scheduling Calendar:** Anna Chosak, 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 Balser [Youth@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:Youth@congregationohrtorah.org)

**Newsletter Advertising:** Howard Charish

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



**Edward Shapiro**

## TORAH THOUGHT:

### Sh'lach - A Spy Caper

*Edward Shapiro: Harvard Ph.D.; Professor of History Emeritus, Seton Hall University; author of We are Many: Reflections on American Jewish History and Identity, Crown Heights: Blacks, Jews, and the Brooklyn Riot of 1991, and A Time for Healing: American Jewry Since World War II, and editor of Yiddish in America: Essays on Yiddish Culture in the Golden Land.*

At the exact time I was asked to write this D'var Torah, I was preparing a lecture on the occasion of the diamond anniversary of D-Day, the invasion of France on June 6, 1944 by American, British, and Canadian forces. In preparation, I was reading David Kahn's fat book Hitler's Spies in order to understand how the invasion looked "from the other side of the hill." Just like everyone else, including the family of Anne Frank cooped up in a secret apartment in Amsterdam, the Germans were anticipating an invasion, but they were in the dark about when and where it would occur.

On this occasion, as on many other occasions, including the German invasion of the Soviet Union on June 22, 1941 and the Allied invasion of North Africa on November 8, 1942, German intelligence was woeful and far inferior to that of Great Britain and the United States. The Germans thought the invasion would occur near the French port of Calais and not at Normandy, and they believed that horrible weather precluded any possibility of it occurring in early June. The Germans did not realize that all their spies in England were being controlled by the British, and that the information they were receiving was precisely what the Allies wanted them to believe. In addition, the Germans lacked any knowledge of a weather front in the North Atlantic which was bringing calming water and clear skies for June 6. As a result, the Germans were taken by complete surprise, the invasion was a monumental success, and the victory of the Allies was now inevitable.

This led me to thinking about another disastrous intelligence operation, the story of the spies recounted in this week's parsha. The mission of the spies was to bring back an accurate picture of the land, its produce, fortifications, and residents. But, with the exception of Joshua and Caleb, they ignored their instructions and, as a result, the Israelites had to wander in the desert for forty years, one year for each day of the spying mission. The spies failed to follow the advice of Joe Friday in "Dragnet," the popular television show of the 1950s: "just the facts" he would ask the witnesses to a crime, just stick to the facts and let me interpret them. Instead of sticking to the facts, the spies added analysis to their report, and this went beyond their paygrade.

One word in the Bible encapsulates the spies' error. After mentioning that the land flowed with milk and honey, they

said "but" the people "dwelling in the land is powerful, the cities are very greatly fortified, and we also saw there the offspring of the giant." (33/27-28) The use of the word "but" obviously implied that it would be a grievous error to cross into the land. And a few sentences later the spies proclaimed that the Israelites appeared to be "grasshoppers" in the eyes of the natives. How could the spies possibly know how the Nephilim perceived them? This was pure conjecture on their part. They had been ordered to bring back news of the Promised Land, not to speculate whether entering the land was feasible or not. Their editorializing demoralized their listeners, spread fear and panic, undermined the authority of Moses, and contributed to the revolt described in next week's Torah reading.

Also, can one think of any other intelligence operation in which the names of the spies, their ancestry, and their tribes were broadcast beforehand (13/4-15)? Furthermore, Moses was instructed by God that each of the twelve tribes should be represented on the mission, and as a result it had too many people. Compare this with the later spying operation ordered by Joshua which involved only two persons. Thus we have a spy operation in which there was no secrecy, too many participants, a lack of clarity among the spies as to their mission, and a selection process shaped by political considerations. The mission was doomed from the start, and we should not be surprised by its results.

There are many lessons in the story of the spies: be clear as to one's role in life and not go beyond it (this is particularly apt advice for Jewish husbands); be concise in speaking and don't babble on regarding unfamiliar matters; trust that your leaders know something you don't, although, as we well know, this might not always be case; leaders must be clear in communicating their instructions; realize that words have consequences and do not use them frivolously; don't assume that you know what others are thinking; when selecting people for various tasks make sure they are suitable and do not allow extraneous considerations to shape the decision-making process; know in advance the possible consequences of advice that is uncalled for and possibly erroneous; and be modest in predicting the future. No one can truly know what lies ahead.

**Shabbat Shalom. Edward Shapiro**

*Over the course of the next few months, we will 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**





RETURN OF THE TWELVE SPIES.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

including regular Sisterhood events, a Men's Club breakfast, escape room, Chanukkah carnival and a presentation from Jonah Ottensosser. We also had our first Purim night event which we plan on building on next year.

- Building security for Shabbos and Yom Tov mornings has been improved with volunteers helping the security guards. There are some more improvements in the works for security that will include training for current volunteers as well as anyone interested in being part of the security rotation. More information will be forthcoming as details are ironed out.

- As you may have heard David mention on Shabbos, we have worked with the West Orange Eruv to integrate their fundraising with our membership billing. The Eruv is looking to stop reaching out directly to members of the Jewish community for funding and have worked with shuls in the neighborhood to collect funds via an optional donation added to membership. Whether you pay your membership online or use the paper form, you will see an option to add \$54 that will be earmarked for the Eruv. (The online form opts in to this donation by default.) The Eruv is something we all take advantage of so it would be great if we could get 100% participation.

- Due to the increased costs related to running a the shul, membership dues will be raised to \$765 per family and \$395 per single. This is the first raise in dues in several years.

David Goldstein

ADVERTISE IN THE OHR TORAH  
NEWSLETTER AND REACH  
HUNDREDS OF JEWISH FAMILIES IN  
ESSEX COUNTY



**SMILE TIME:** Late one afternoon, the Air Force folks out at Area 51 were very surprised to see a Cessna landing at their "secret" base. They immediately impounded the aircraft and hauled the pilot into an interrogation room. The pilot's story was that he took off from Vegas, got lost, and spotted the Base just as he was about to run out of fuel. The Air Force started a full FBI background check on the pilot and held him overnight during the investigation. By the next day, they were finally convinced that the pilot really was lost and wasn't a spy. They gassed up his airplane, gave him a terrifying "you-did-not-see-a-base" briefing, complete with threats of spending the rest of his life in prison, told him Vegas was that-a-way on such-and-such a heading, and sent him on his way. The day after that though, to the total disbelief of the Air Force, the same Cessna showed up again. Once again, the MP's surrounded the plane... Only this time there were two people in the plane. The same pilot jumped out and said, "Do anything you want to me, but my wife is in the plane and you have to tell her where I was last night!"





**STUNNING!** 50 Mullarkey Drive in the Woodlands. Fantastic Aspen with upgraded kitchen, bathrooms and HVAC system! Only \$489,000.



**TOTALLY UPDATED!** 3 Dockery Drive. Close to AABJ&D. 3 bedroom ranch, 3 full baths. Fenced off backyard with deck. Finished Basement. Move in condition. Only \$499,000.



**NEW LISTING!** 41 Buckingham. Very close to NYC transportation and AABJ&D. Totally renovated. Magnificent kitchen. Fully finished Basement. Only \$399,000

**EXCLUSIVE LISTINGS IN AND AROUND THE ERUV BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. CALL RENEE FOR DETAILS**

**Just in! 2 Harper Street, West Orange** rental \$4,450 a month. Gorgeous 5 bedroom colonial. Won't last long. Walk to shul!

**Ask about Woodlands Condos which will be new to the market shortly!**



**43 NICHOLAS**  
JUST SOLD!



**31 LAKEVIEW**  
JUST SOLD!

**OPENING SOON!**  
**479 VALLEY STREET**  
**MAPLEWOOD.**  
**LEASING 20 UNITS IN**  
**BRAND NEW**  
**APARTMENT BUILDING.**



**2 PLEASANT**  
**VALLEY ROAD**  
RENTED IN ONE HOUR!



**3 HARRIET ST.**  
SOLD IN ONE DAY  
AND OVER THE ASKING  
PRICE!



SALES ASSOCIATES

**WE**  
**ARE**  
**EFFECTIVE!**

**Are you or someone you know looking to buy or sell? Give us a call!**

Berkshire Hathaway Home Services New Jersey Properties,  
79 S. Livingston Avenue, Livingston, NJ 07039



**30 SHREWSBURY**  
UNDER CONTRACT!



© 2017 BHHS Affiliates, LLC. An independently owned and operated franchisee of BHHS Affiliates, LLC. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices and the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices symbol are registered service marks of HomeServices of America, Inc.® Equal Housing Opportunity. Information not verified or guaranteed. If your home is currently listed with a Broker, this is not intended as a solicitation.