



CONGREGATION OHR TORAH Weekly Newsletter

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

Emor 13 - 19 Iyyar, 5779 May 18 - 24, 2019

Rabbi Marc Spivak, President David Goldstein, Rabbinic Intern Shlomo David

Schedule 05/18 – 05/24

Friday (05/17)

Mincha/Maariv	7:00pm
Early Candle-Lighting	7:10pm
Light Shabbat Candles	7:51pm
Shkia	8:09pm

Shabbat (05/18)

Shacharit	9:00am
Latest Shema	9:15am
SAY SHEMA BEFORE COMING TO SHUL	
Shacharit Teen Minyan	9:45am
Mincha	7:45pm
Maariv	8:51pm
Shabbat ends	8:58pm

Sunday - Thursday (05/19 - 05/23)

Shacharit Sun	8:15am
Shacharit Mon/Thu	6:00am
Shacharit Tue/Wed	6:10am
Mincha/Maariv Sun-Thu	8:00pm

Friday (05/24)

Shacharit	6:10am
Mincha	7:00pm
Early Candle-Lighting	7:10pm
Candle-Lighting	7:57pm
Shkia	8:15pm

Eruv Hotline: (973) 736-1407 x6

UPCOMING:

Rosh Chodesh Sivan	Tue	June 4
Shavuot	Sun/Mon	Jun 9, 10



This
Thursday is
Lag B'Omer!

COUNTING THE OMER



Friday Evening	May 17 th	28
Saturday Evening	May 18 th	29
Sunday Evening	May 19 th	30
Monday Evening	May 20 th	31
Tuesday Evening	May 21 st	32
Wednesday Evening	May 22 nd	33
Thursday Evening	May 23 rd	34
Friday Evening	May 24 th	35

SHABBAT KIDDUSH and **SEUDAH SH'LISHIT** are sponsored by the Shul.

To sponsor a Shabbat Kiddush or Seudah Sh'lisheit at the Shul, please contact Anna Chosak at office@congregationohrtorah.org.

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

RABBI SPIVAK'S WEEKLY CLASS will meet this Wednesday after Maariv in the Beit Midrash.

KABBALAH CLASS: Ed Croman's Kabbalah class scheduled for Thursday, May 16 has been rescheduled for Thursday, June 13th at 7:30pm in the Beit Midrash. It will be the final class of the season. The class scheduled for May 30th remains as scheduled.

UPDATE FROM ISRAEL: Last week we reported that Karen Berger & Elia Weixelbaum were celebrating the birth of a grandson to their daughter and son-in-law in Israel. The child of Adina & Netanel Kestenbaum has been named Chaggai Zev.

ICE SKATING: Last chance for tickets - Sunday, noon, May 19th, for the Second Annual Ohr Torah Ice Skating Event. Last year's event was extremely popular. Make your reservations now. See the ad on page 4.

KASHRUT NOTICE: Please be advised that with the introduction of dairy products on their pareve lines, some Joy Cone products are now certified STAR-D Dairy and will be labeled STAR-D. The STAR-D Dairy symbol appearing on the labels of: Sugar Cones, Waffle Cones, Waffle Bowls and Pretzel Cones, is an indication that they were produced on Dairy Non-Cholov Yisroel equipment. The formulas for these products have not changed. Joy brand Cake Cones and Gluten Free Cake Cones will remain STAR-K certified Pareve.

TOGETHER ON TUESDAY: The Felice Blank Senior Program at Congregation AABJ&D, Sephardic Wing, Tuesday, May 21, 1pm: "*Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean*" by Janice Michaelis. Tuesday, May 28, "*D-Day June 6, 1944; In Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary*" by Dr. Ed Shapiro.

"ON THE MAP": May 21st at 7:00pm at the JCC Metrowest. The movie tells the against-all-odds story of Maccabi Tel Aviv's 1977 European Championship, which took place at a time when the Middle East was still reeling from the 1973 Yom Kippur War, the 1972 Olympic massacre at Munich, and the 1976 hijacking of an Air France flight from Tel Aviv. Post screening discussion with Tal Brody. Tickets are adults - \$11; Children 18 & under - free, and free for NJJFF '19 Sponsors. A VIP Meet and Greet with Israel's "Mr. Basketball" Tal Brody, who grew up in Trenton, NJ, made Aliyah to Israel, and led the team to victory, starts at 6pm - \$10 extra. For more information and to purchase tickets:

<https://jccmetrowest.org/event/njiff-extra-on-the-map/>.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Sisterhood Events and Donations

CINDY TURKELTAUB GROSBERG WOMEN'S PIRKEI AVOT STUDY: Women and girls welcome. Sabbath May 18, Perek Gimel-Janice Michaelis, "Ben Franklin and Pirkei Avot" This Shabbat May 11 at 5:15-6:00PM in the Beit Midrash.

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

CONTINUED ON FROM PAGE ONE

OHR TORAH ANNUAL BBQ: Sunday, May 26th at 4:00 at the home of Rabbi Spivak on Cunningham Drive. Rain date: Monday, May 27th. If you can assist, please call (973) 731-1982. See the ad on page 4.

HOLOCAUST DOCUMENTARY: The Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy will be screening the student-produced Holocaust documentary "Names, Not Numbers" on Wednesday, May 29 at 7pm at the school, 110 South Orange Avenue, Livingston, NJ. The JKHA eighth graders interviewed Holocaust survivors, preserving their stories for posterity. The students researched, filmed, and edited the survivors' stories. Their finished product will be screened along with a documentary following the students throughout the year-long process. Admission is free and open to the community. One of the people interviewed in the Kushner "Names Not Numbers" documentary is our own Dr. Sam Kaye. Questions? Contact sbohbot@jkha.org

ANNUAL GOLDSTEIN/SHAPIRO LECTURE: Professor and Author Marc Shapiro will be speaking between Mincha and Maariv on Shabbat June 1ST. The topic: "The Philosophy of Rav Kook: Is It Still Relevant?" Everyone is welcome.

CELEBRATE a Birthday or an Anniversary at one of our monthly Shabbatot of Mevarchim HaChodesh. If you, or a family member, or a friend are celebrating a birthday or anniversary during a particular month, you can co-sponsor a kiddush in their honor for just \$36 per occasion. Contact Anna, at office@congregationohrtorah.org, or call the office, 973-669-7320 ext. 1. Sign up for sponsorship by the Tuesday night preceding the Shabbat Mevarchim Kiddush so we can list the sponsors in the Weekly Newsletter. The next Birthday/Anniversary Kiddush is June 8th for the month of Sivan. It is being delayed one week due to a scheduled Bar Mitzvah. You must sign up by June 1st.

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) or David Goldstein (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, or David Goldstein davesmail@golddave.com with the phone number you use with WhatsApp and they will add you to the group.

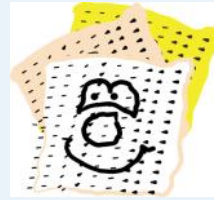
Yahrzeits May 18 - 24

13 IYAR: Chava bat Pinchas, Eve Heyman, on Shabbat, May 18.

18 IYAR: Irwin Krasna for his Sister, Sarah Rivka bat Asher Zeleg, on Thursday, May 23.

19 IYAR: Debra Spivak for her Father, Akiva ben Avraham, Clifton Price, on Friday, May 24.

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



This Sunday
is Pesach Sheni !



SMILE TIME: Two schnorers are hungry. One of them gets a great idea to crash a simcha and they head towards the Wilshire Grand Hotel where a big catered party was taking place. With all those guests it was going to be easy to get a nice meal and fill their stomachs. Upon entering, the Maitre D' asks, "Which side of the family are you from?" "From the Kallah!," improvises one of the schnorers. "Are you sure you are from the side of the Kallah?" the catering hall employee replies. "Yes, absolutely! We are first cousins with her," says the second schnorer. To which the Maitre D' tells them, "Very interesting, this is Yossi Schwartz's Bar Mitzvah!"

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

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rabbi Marc Spivak rabbi@congregationohrtorah.org

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Board: board@congregationohrtorah.org

Men's Club President: Larry Freedman, larry@18thstory.com

Sisterhood President: Bertha Sharret, 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

Monthly Calendar: Elia Weixelbaum

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

ShabbatNewsletter@congregationohrtorah.org

Reading Torah: Avi Klein, otlaining@congregationohrtorah.org

Scheduling Calendar: Anna Chosak, e-mail to

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 and ebtrenk@gmail.com

Youth Director: Rivky Balser Youth@congregationohrtorah.org

Newsletter Advertising: Howard Charish

advertising@congregationohrtorah.org

EMOR: THE ROLE OF THE KOHANIM



The Katz Family

Ari Katz is the Managing Partner of Sperling Dermatology, a dermatology practice founded by his wife, Dr. Shari Sperling. Ari and Shari reside in West Orange, NJ with their 3 children.

As a Kohen, I wanted to focus on a very relevant topic in this week's Parsha- one which teaches my son, Kobe, and me an important lesson and can help others understand the role of Kohanim in today's world. I would like to thank my mother Amy Katz for sharing this Dvar Torah with our family a few years ago.

Parshat Emor begins:

וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֶל־מֹשֶׁה אֱמַר אֶל־הַכֹּהֲנִים בְּנֵי אַהֲרֹן וְאָמַרְתָּ אֲלֵהֶם לִבְנֹשׁ לֹא־יִטְמָא בְּעַמִּי

Hashem spoke to Moshe: Speak to the Kohanim, the sons of Aaron, and say to them: Let none [of you] defile himself for a dead person among his people.

Meforshim are troubled by two unusual uses of language in this pasuk: first, the redundant use of the word **אמר** and second, the flipped phrase **הַכֹּהֲנִים בְּנֵי אַהֲרֹן** everywhere else it is written as **בְּנֵי אַהֲרֹן הַכֹּהֲנִים**.

Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch explains that the verbs **דבר** and **אמר** each represent different types of communication. He defines **דבר** as "the concise expression of a thought" or in the case of the Torah, a concise expression of a law, while **אמר** appeals to the heart and mind of the other person and is a "complete explanation and development of a thought." In other words, **דבר** is about telling someone something with the understanding that they will do it, as the law given to us in the Torah She'bichtav (the written Torah). **אמר** on the other hand necessitates explanation and understanding. It involves interpretation and can be described as the law that comes to us in **תורה שבעל פה** (the Oral Torah).

So what is the significance of the double use of the word **אמר** or as Rav Hirsch eloquently asks: "Why is it that the whole sentence moves in **אמירה**. He suggests that there must be a message to the Kohanim beyond what is being said. What is that message? That the kehunah is a legacy passed down at birth from father to son, and originating at Aharon. "...let them always be conscious of the fact that their priesthood is not due to any special qualities of their own, but it is only thanks to their birth." Jewish priesthood is a mission which is

imposed at birth; for its accomplishment one has to be born and brought up so that this mission fills the whole life...just as they are to regard themselves as Kohanim only because they are B'nai Aharon, so are they to see in their children, the future Kohanim, and bring them up in the duties... of their tribe. This is why the Torah says **הַכֹּהֲנִים בְּנֵי אַהֲרֹן** to make clear that the Kohanim are who they are by virtue of being the descendants of Aharon.

Rabbi Moshe Feinstein also addresses the question of the double use of the word **אמר**. He differentiates the language of **דיבור** from the language of **אמירה** based on a Gemara in Makkot which explains that when introducing most *mitzvot* the Torah uses **דיבור** connoting strong, firm speech, as opposed to **אמירה** which is a softer speaking tone, to send the message that we are obligated in mitzvot. Here the Torah uses the softer language of **אמירה** because the Kohanim have a more restricted lifestyle than other Jews and their life can seem burdensome. By employing the double language of **אמר** Hashem was emphasizing that the Kohen should not feel burdened by these extra prohibitions rather he should be happy with his special status. "The Kohen should view these restrictions as soft 'amiras' and not as harsh 'dibur' and be overjoyed at being singled out for these commandments."

The end of the *brachach* which the kohanim recite before Duchening, reads: *Asher kidishanu bmitzvotav v'tzivanu l'varech et Amo Yisrael "B'Ahava"* - Hashem commanded us to bless B'nei Yisrael "with love". I believe this word, *B'Ahava*, serves as the perfect bridge between the message above, and the message I am trying to convey to my son Kobe. That while the responsibilities and restrictions of a Kohen can sometimes feel limiting and burdensome, that Hashem bestowed this special status upon us *B'Ahava*, and that we too should embrace this blessing upon us *with love* and appreciate how lucky we are to be Kohanim, while also recognizing the immense and serious responsibility it bestows upon us to truly bless the kahal "b'ahava", with love in our hearts and our hands. Shabbat Shalom! **Ari Katz**

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 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



LAG B'OMER

Thursday, May 23rd, 2019

Lag B'Omer, ל"ג בעומר, is a minor holiday celebrating two things. The first according to the Talmud, is when a plague which killed 24,000 of Rabbi Akiva's disciples came to an end. The prohibiting against cutting hair, listening to music, and holding celebrations during the first days of the Omer are lifted. While Ashkenazi Jews cease the prohibitions on this day, Sephardic Jews will keep them in place until the 34th day of the Omer.

Only five of Rabbi Akiva's students survived. One of them was Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai who went on to become the greatest teacher of Torah in his generation and authored the Jewish text of mysticism, the *Zohar*.

We also celebrate the yahrzeit of Rabbi Shimon Ben Yochai on Lag B'Omer. He requested the day be one of celebration, not mourning as his revelation of secrets of Kabbalah on his dying day brought light into the world. We celebrate with bonfires and picnics. Tradition tells us that daylight was extended on this holiday until the famous Rabbi finished his final teachings.

Pesach Sheni

Sunday, May 19th, 2019

Pesach Sheni, or the Second Passover, the 14th of the month of Iyyar, is a day for those who were ritually impure because they came into contact with a dead body to bring the Passover offering as mentioned in the book of Bamidbar. Many people have a custom of eating Matzah on that day, however, they don't clean their homes of all Chametz as they do prior to Pesach. Tachanun is not said.

Please join the Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy for the premiere screening of our eighth grade students' documentary

NAMES, NOT NUMBERS:®

A Movie in the Making®

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29
7:00 PM

JKHA eighth-grade students filmed the stories of Holocaust survivors. In preserving the voices of testimony for the next generation, they found their own perspectives on the Shoah forever changed.

Morris Gliklich	Sonia Samuels	Paulette Dorfaufer	Samuel Kaye
Helen Herman	Edith Farben	Rachel Rabinowitz	Dov Landau

FREE ADMISSION

Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy • Epstein-Stein Auditorium
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WE CAN'T SIT BY SILENTLY.

ANTI-SEMITISM in America is increasing at an alarming rate.
There are newly elected members of Congress that are **ANTI ISRAEL**.
BDS is sweeping across our country to **ISOLATE AND ECONOMICALLY STRANGLE ISRAEL**.

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE ON OUR MISSION TO WASHINGTON D.C.

Meet in person with members of Congress and their staff



TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2019

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Additional Information and Registration at NORPAC.net or call 201.788.5133

Special Early Registration Rates until April 1
Adults: \$135 • Students/Young Professionals (Under 30): \$75

REGISTER TODAY!

CONGREGATION OHR TORAH ICE SKATING SUNDAY MAY 19TH 2019

SHUL MEMBERS
\$10 PER ADULT, \$5 PER CHILD
NON-MEMBERS
\$12 PER ADULT, \$10 PER CHILD

JOIN US FOR OUR 2ND ANNUAL
FAMILY SKATING EVENT!
A Private Rink Just for Us!

12:00PM- 1:45PM

CLARY ANDERSON ARENA

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HOSTED BY THE YOUTH, SISTERHOOD, AND
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* Skate rentals included

* Bring your own Lunch

* This is not a drop off
event. All children must
be supervised



WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!

Rsvp at Youth@congregationohrtorah.org

Ohr Torah Annual BBQ

Join us for an afternoon of
food and fun

**Sunday, May 26, at
4:00pm**

(Rain date: Monday, May 27th at 4pm)



Spivak backyard
23 Cunningham Drive

If you are available to assist,
please contact: (973) 731-1982

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YAAKOV
of CLIFTON
...where chinuch is cheshek go hand in hand

13

Annual Dinner

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2019
The Brightstone

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ANONYMOUS
DONOR

**EVERY
DOLLAR
WILL BE
MATCHED!**



Honoring

Debra and Jay Goldberg
GUESTS OF HONOR

Rabbi Yehuda Leib Selengut
AVODAS HAKODESH AWARD

Mrs. Jennifer Lowy
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS AND SUBMIT YOUR JOURNAL AD:
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