



CONGREGATION OHR TORAH Weekly Newsletter

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

LECH LECHA

11 –17 Cheshvan, 5780

November 9 - 15, 2019

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

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

To sponsor a Shabbat Kiddush or Seudah Sh'lishit at the Shul, please contact Tami Puder at office@congregationohrtorah.org.

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

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

ED CROMAN'S KABBALAH CLASS: The next class in the Fall session is Thursday, 7:30 - 9:30pm, November 21st in the Beit Midrash and concludes next month on Thursday, December 5th.

מזל טוב: Barbara and David Bortniker are delighted to announce that their daughter and her husband, Aviva and Elliot Feldman were blessed with the birth of a baby girl, Lyla Eden, on November 1st.

JEC OPEN HOUSE: Explore the Proud Legacy and Vibrant Future. JEC Boys' High School (RTMA), Tuesday, November 12 at 6:30pm. 330 Elmora Avenue in Elizabeth.

RKYHS OPEN HOUSE: Rae Kushner Yeshiva High School invites all 8th graders and their parents to join us at our Open House on Motzei Shabbat, November 16th at 7:30 pm. Experience RKYHS during an inspirational evening as we highlight the vast opportunities for students, demonstrate our values, and define our difference. Come see the dynamic and innovative academic and Judaic programs, first-rate educational initiatives and co-curricular opportunities. Registration begins at 7:30pm followed by the program at 8:00pm. Please register at www.rkyhs.org/RKYHSEOpenHouse. For more information, please contact Allison Lyons at alyons@rkyhs.org or (862) 437-8050.

NINTH GRADE PREVIEW: The Rae Kushner Yeshiva High School in Livingston, NJ invites prospective 9th grade students and parents to join them at a community informational meeting at the home of Nilli and Andrew Yolin on Wednesday, November 20th at 8:00pm. Come hear about the dynamic and innovative academic program and Judaic offerings, forward-thinking educational initiatives, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

FROZEN

ON BROADWAY
See page 6

LEARN TO KNIT

FREE WORKSHOP
See page 4

YOUR NUTRITION

INTERACTIVE TALK
See page 6

Schedule 11/08 – 11/15

Friday (11/08)

Shacharit	6:10am
Light Candles	4:27pm
Mincha	4:30pm
Shkia	4:45pm

Shabbat (11/9)

Shacharit	9:00am
Latest Shema	9:08am
SAY SHEMA BEFORE COMING TO SHUL	
Mincha	4:15pm
Maariv	5:21pm
Shabbat ends	5:28pm

Sunday - Thursday (11/10 - 11/14)

Shacharit Sun	8:15am
Shacharit Mon/Thu	6:00am
Shacharit Tue/Wed	6:10am
Mincha/Maariv Sun	4:30pm
Maariv Mon-Thu	7:30pm

Friday (11/15)

Shacharit	6:10am
Light Candles	4:20pm
Mincha	4:25pm
Shkia	4:38pm

Eruv Hotline:

(973) 736-1407 x6



Sisterhood Events and Donations

SAVE THE DATE: Ohr Torah Sisterhood's Annual Membership Brunch will be on Sunday morning, **December 8th**. Our guest speaker this year is nutritionist Michelle Routhenstein. Flyer and details to follow in the coming weeks.

LEARN TO KNIT: Sunday November 17 at 10:00 am. Free workshop. See ad on page 4 for more information.

Sisterhood Tribute Fund:

Chumash: In memory of Natalie Weiss, beloved mother of Marcia Feldman by the Feldman and Weiss Families.

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

Yahrzeits November 09 - 15

11 CHESHVAN: Murray Laulicht for his Mother, Esther Chaya bat Yaa-kov Hachohen, Esther Laulicht, on Shabbat, November 9.

12 CHESHVAN: Bob Eagle for his Grandmother, Tobah bat Moshe, Toby Eagle, on Sunday, November 10.

13 CHESHVAN: Raisa Sverdlov for her Husband, Gershon ben Aleksei, Gershon Sverdlov, on Monday, November 11.

15 CHESHVAN: Deborah Druce for her Grandfather, Chaim ben Tzvi, Hyman Greisman, on Wednesday, November 13.

16 CHESHVAN: Harvey Okin for his Father, Moshe ben Yosef, Melvin Okin, on Thursday, November 14.

17 CHESHVAN: Mortimer Cohen for his Daughter, Yosifa Masha bat Mordechai Yonah Hachohen, Judith Cohen, on Friday, November 15.

17 CHESHVAN: Bob Eagle for his Grandfather, Avrohom ben Usher Zelig, Abraham Friedman, on Friday, November 15.

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

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

supportive faculty and co-curricular opportunities offered in a warm environment where every child matters. For questions, please email Allison Lyons, Director of Admissions at alyons@rkyhs.org or call (862) 437-8050.

BRURIAH OPEN HOUSE: Please join us at the Open House on Sunday, November 17th at 9:30am at Bruriah High School, 35 North Avenue, Elizabeth. Come and see why Bruriah is such a special place. We look forward to greeting you personally! To register visit

<https://bruriah.org/bruriah>.



Culprits of the Nuremberg Trials

presented by Dr. William Reszelbach

Tuesday, November 12th at 1 PM

Dr. Reszelbach will be discussing who these men were, how they fit into the Nazi regime, and whether or not they faced justice after Germany's defeat in the Second World War.



West Orange Public Library
46 Mt. Pleasant Ave, West Orange, NJ 07052
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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@congregationohratorah.org

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rabbi Marc Spivak rabi@congregationohratorah.org

Office: Tami Puder office@congregationohratorah.org

Board: board@congregationohratorah.org

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

Sisterhood President: Bertha Sharret, rsharret@hotmail.com

Chesed: Rabbi Spivak, Tami Puder

Shiva Assistance: Rabbi Robert Grosberg

Shiva Meals: Gail Bukiet

Building Committee: Arnold Barton

Subscription Requests: listserv@congregationohratorah.org

Monthly Calendar: Elia Weixelbaum

Newsletter: ShabbatNewsletter@congregationohratorah.org

Reading Torah: Avi Klein, otlaining@congregationohratorah.org

Scheduling Calendar: Tami Puder, e-mail to

Schedule@congregationohratorah.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@congregationohratorah.org

Newsletter Advertising: Howard Charish

advertising@congregationohratorah.org



Yehuda Dov Reiss

TORAH THOUGHT:

Lech Lecha: Dust to Spears

Yehuda Dov Reiss is a first-year student at Yeshiva University, currently attending Rav Schachter's shiur, and a member of the 6-year semicha program. He is an alumnus of Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh and Fasman Yeshiva High School (Skokie). Yehuda enjoys writing and teaching, passionate about Jewish education, and writes a weekly Dvar Torah sheet, United We Stand (subscribe at unityparsha@gmail.com). His grandparents are Howard and Renee Spear.

In this week's Parsha, we're introduced to Avram/Avraham, the Father of the Jewish nation. He is told by G_d to travel to the Land of Canaan. His nephew, Lot, travels with him. However, after quarrels between Avram and Lot's shepherds, they realize it's best to part ways, and Lot moves to the city of Sodom. Shortly thereafter, a war breaks out and four kingdoms vanquish five other kingdoms, including Sodom. The four victorious kings plunder Sodom and kidnap Lot and his possessions. Avram is informed of this, and immediately acts. He gathers the people of his house, 318 men, and wages war against the four mighty kings, vanquishing them and saving Lot.

How did Avram defeat four mighty kingdoms, fighting against thousands upon thousands of people on his own? There is a cryptic Pasuk in Yeshayahu (41:2) which the Midrash explains provides the answer: Avram threw dirt and pebbles at the armies, and the dirt and pebbles miraculously turned into swords and arrows which devastated them.

This Midrash is made famous by the story in the Gemara (Taanis 21a) of Nachum Ish Gam Zu. He was entrusted by the Jewish people with delivering a tribute to the Roman Emperor, a chest filled with precious jewels. Along the way, Nachum stopped at an inn. While he was sleeping, the people there stole his jewels and filled his chest with dirt so he wouldn't immediately detect the difference. Indeed, he did not discover the switch until he gave the chest to the king, who was furious and wanted to kill all the Jews. Despite the impossible circumstances, Nachum said Gam Zu LiTova and trusted in G_d. Eliyahu HaNavi appeared, disguised as one of the king's officers, and suggested that maybe the dirt Nachum brought was the same dirt Avraham used which transformed into swords and arrows. The Emperor agreed to test it in an area his army has been trying to conquer but failed to up till now, and sure enough, the dirt did the trick. The king awarded Nachum much honor and gave him a generous helping of precious jewels from his storehouse. On the way back, Nachum stopped at the same inn. Incredulous as to why the King honored him so much, the people of the inn figured their dirt had some special quality and dug it all up. They presented it to the king, but it turned out to just be normal dirt, and they were all killed.

Why was Nachum Ish Gamzu's salvation manifest through the exact same miracle that was done for Avraham? Of all the ways Nachum's story could have gone, why is it so distinctly parallel?

Perhaps we can understand this by looking deeper into the

circumstances and motivations of both Avraham and Nachum. Both were in an extremely tight situation, where their fellow was at stake, in Avraham's case, he had to rescue Lot, and presumably, Nachum's tribute to the Emperor was of dire importance to the welfare of the Jewish people. At the same time, to pursue the necessary steps to reach their goal, they had to cope with circumstances that seemed insurmountable. However, all they wanted to do was help their fellow man, and this was the only way. What more could they do but try their best and turn to G_d? After all, G_d put them in the impossible situation that they found themselves, so clearly, He would help.

Avraham and Nachum both teach us a crucial attitude when it comes to helping and influencing our fellow man, no matter how difficult or even impossible the challenge may seem, we can succeed because G_d will help. Sometimes a Chessed project seems too overwhelming, and other times people don't seem like the type receptive to advice or too independent to accept help, and sometimes it seems like if we make a fuss we'll just look like fools, but if something needs to be done, then it could very well be G_d telling us we need to do it. And when we take the first step, acknowledging that fact, we can be sure that G_d will take care of the rest. **Shabbat Shalom.**

Thanks to the following sponsors of the Ohr Torah Simchat Torah Luncheon

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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@congregationohrortorah.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

LEARN TO KNIT

FREE WORKSHOP



Sunday November 17 at 10:00am

At the home of:

Nancy Perl

52 Cummings Circle

in the Woodlands

Light refreshments

You will be provided with needles and yarn.

RSVP to knittingnachus@aol.com

Sponsored by the Ohr Torah Sisterhood

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. 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.

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!



SMILE TIME: With all the texting lingo going around with abbreviations like "LOL" and "OMG" and "BTW" – The Rabbi asks a young lady if she would be going to shul this Shabbat, and she replies "JFK." "JFK? What does that mean?" the Rabbi asks. To which she answers, "Just for Kiddush."

AROUND OUR TOWN

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS: (MTA): Join their Open House on Sunday, November 10th, 9:30 am to learn more about our warm, personalized, and inspiring approach to Torah, academic, and extra-curricular programs. To RSVP, please visit yuhsb.org/openhouse. Questions? Contact Rabbi Yoni Stone at 646-994-0441 or ystone@yuhsb.org.

COMEDY AT KUSHNER: The annual Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy/Rae Kushner Yeshiva High School ATID SOCIETY Event will be on Sunday, November 24. This year, the ATID SOCIETY will present the stand-up comedy of MODI, voted one of the "Top 10 comedians in NYC" by *Hollywood Reporter & Backstage*. The performance will take place at JKHA/RKYHS, 110 South Orange Avenue in Livingston, at 7:30 PM and will be followed by a deluxe dessert reception. A pre-concert dinner reception for all members of the ATID SOCIETY will take place at 6:00 PM. Please visit www.jkha.org/atid to purchase tickets and join the ATID SOCIETY. For more information, please contact: slevinson@jkha.org or 862-437-8001.



Please join us for
STRICTLY BUSINESS 2019

Friday, November 15, 2019
Nosh and Networking 7:30 a.m.
Program 8:30–10:00 a.m.

The Wilshire Grand Hotel
350 Pleasant Valley Way, West Orange

Tickets: **\$75.00/person**
Table Sponsorships and Corporate Sponsorships are also available.
For more information, please visit jvsnj.org/event/strictlybusiness2019 or call 862-704-2262.



Featuring Special Guest Speaker:
THE HONORABLE JACOB J. "JACK" LEW
76th United States Secretary of the Treasury (2013-17)

"The Global Economy and Geopolitical Forces: A Look Ahead"

The Honorable Jacob J. "Jack" Lew serves as a partner at the private equity firm Lindsay Goldberg and is a visiting professor of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University. As U.S. Secretary of the Treasury, he helped shape policies that drove the longest economic recovery in American history and oversaw all aspects of international and domestic fiscal policy, including issues related to financial regulation, global sanctions regimes, tax policy, debt management, and trade.

Secretary Lew's appearance made possible thanks to the generosity of the Kosloski Family Foundation in memory of Helene Kosloski.

EVENT COMMITTEE

Fotini Altieri
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80 SULLIVAN DRIVE

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UNDER CONTRACT!
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78 CUMMINGS CIRCLE

Just closed for \$385,000. Now available for rent beginning Jan. 1. \$3,600/mo. Upgraded kitchen, finished basement with full bath.

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The Spear Team
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Congregation Ohr Torah Invites You To!

FROZEN On Broadway

Limited Spots Available RSVP on the Shul Website
<https://www.congregationohrtorah.org/frozen>

DATE:
 DECEMBER 8TH 2019

TIME: 1pm START TIME

WHERE: ST JAMES THEATER
 246 @ 44TH ST. IN MANHATTAN

PRICE: \$75.50 PER TICKET

QUESTIONS: KARENBARRO@YAHOO.COM

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OHR TORAH SISTERHOOD MEMBERSHIP BRUNCH



Interactive talk about Nutrition & health for your family


with

MICHELLE ROUTHENSTEIN, MS RD CDE CDN
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DEC 8 • 10:00 AM

AT OHR TORAH
 270 PLEASANT VALLEY WAY
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THE ATID SOCIETY

Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy/Rae Kushner Yeshiva High School
 PRESENTS

THE STAND-UP COMEDY OF MODI

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Sunday, November 24, 2019 • 26 Cheshvan 5780
7:30pm

Dr. Morris Epstein—Bernard Stein Auditorium
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 110 South Orange Avenue, Livingston, New Jersey

For ticket and sponsorship information: www.jkha.org/ATID

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ATID SOCIETY chairs: Bat Sheva and Murray Halpern



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Keynote Speaker:
David J. Lieberman, Ph.D.
 From Simcha to Sasson:
 Harnessing the joy of Sukkos
 towards the rest of the year.

Dr. Lieberman is an award-winning author and internationally recognized leader in the fields of human behavior and interpersonal relationships. His twelve books, which have been translated into 26 languages and include two New York Times bestsellers, have sold millions of copies worldwide.

Eli Beer
 World-renowned Singer

Mike Fine
 NYC comedian

Kovea itim/from professionals (Modern Orthodox to Yeshivish) are invited to a Shabbos filled with fun, Hishtadlus, and Tachlis.

The event will be run in a respectful and tznius forum, catered to singles who may not feel comfortable attending other events due to hashkafic concerns.

Registration Fee: \$30
Full Weekend: \$425
Early Bird Rate: \$325

November 15th-17th
Princeton Doubletree (New Jersey)

Recommended ages:
 Women 27-42 • Men 30-45

For more info or to sign up, please visit www.theshadchanit.com/shabbos or email events@theshadchanit.com

This event is flu nishmas
 Rabbi Shmuel Yudel ben Binyomin Yaskov (Pleschman), zt"l