



Tefilla Notebook

2 Kislev • Parshat Toldot

Nov 29-30, 2019

Stephen Rothman, President • Rabbi Pini Dunner, Senior Rabbi • Nati Bar-Am, Chazan

9261 Alden Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210

310-276-7650 • office@yinbh.org

SHABBAT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29

4:25pm CANDLELIGHTING
 4:30pm MINCHA/KABBALAT SHABBAT

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30

8:30am RABBI'S GEMARA SHIUR
 9:15am SHACHARIT
 3:45pm PRE MINCHA SHIUR
 4:20pm MINCHA
 4:40pm SEUDAH SHLISHIT
 5:25pm MA' ARIV
 5:29pm SHABBAT ENDS

WEEKDAY DAVENING TIMES

Sun. December 1 8:00am & 4:25pm
 Mon. December 2 6:20am & 4:25pm
 Tue. December 3 6:30am & 4:25pm
 Wed. December 4 6:30am & 4:25pm
 Thu. December 5 6:20am & 4:25pm
 Fri. December 6 6:30am & 4:25pm

YOUTH GROUP SHABBOS SCHEDULE

10:00 Free play, games & books.
 10:40 Snack time, Parsha story & questions
 11:10 Into shul to kiss the Torah
 Circle time - davening, singing, Shabbat songs & games. (Ping pong, foosball, basketball)
 11:30 Kids service ends

MAZEL TOV



Mazel Tov to Tyler Fialkov on his Bar Mitzvah.

Mazel to parents **Howie & Shirin Fialkov** and brother **Ethan**.

Mazel Tov to grandparents **Helen and Jack Shadpour** and **Joseph Fialkov** and **Teddy Fialkov** a"h.

Welcome all guests.

Thank you to **Howie & Shirin Fialkov** for sponsoring kiddush in the lobby.

Dearest Members and Friends,

In 1897, Sigmund Freud wrote to his close friend and confidant, the idiosyncratic German-Jewish otolaryngologist Wilhelm Fliess, inter-alia telling him that "being entirely honest with oneself is a good exercise." This piece of advice, among many others Freud gave Fliess before falling out with him in 1904, might have been lost to posterity had those Freud trusted followed his strict instructions to destroy all their correspondence.



Luckily, Freud's copies of these important letters were saved by his acolyte Princess Marie Bonaparte, who was herself a psychologist, as well as being a great-grandniece of Emperor Napoleon I of France. The importance of the Freud-Fliess correspondence cannot be overstated; the letters chart the development of psychoanalysis in its earliest stages, ideas later expanded upon and formalized by Freud. But the most important detail of Freud's vision of psychoanalysis and its goals is the quote I mentioned earlier about self-honesty being the ultimate aspiration and guarantor of positive mental health. Peeling away every level of detail about one's life only has true value if it leads to a point when one can be "entirely honest with oneself." In other words – not just honest, but "entirely honest."

One of the greatest and most influential figures of modern Jewish history was a rabbinic educator called Nota Hirsch Finkel, better known as the "Alter of Slabodka" Rabbi Nossen Tzvi Finkel. He lived more-or-less contemporaneously with Sigmund Freud, although I doubt he was familiar with the founder of psychoanalysis. And yet, Rav Finkel's educational philosophy seems to have intuitively followed similar lines to Freud; he aimed to get to the essence of each of his students, so that they could maximize their strengths and work on their weaknesses.

Basing himself on the Mussar (Jewish ethics) ideals he had picked up and honed during his youthful studies at Kelm yeshiva, in the late 1800s Rav Finkel founded and quietly led a yeshiva in Slabodka, a nondescript suburb of Kovno, today Kaunas in Lithuania. His fame grew, and many of Slabodka's students went on to become significant religious leaders and educators in the Jewish world.

In 1924, Rav Finkel dramatically announced he was moving his yeshiva from Lithuania to Palestine, and later that year most of the faculty and student body moved to Hebron, where they remained until the horrific Arab massacre of Jews in Hebron in 1929, after which they relocated to Jerusalem, where his yeshiva remains to this day, thriving and successful. Slabodka and Hebron yeshiva graduates include some of the greatest orthodox rabbis of the twentieth century, such as Rabbis Aharon Kotler, Yitzchak Hutner, Yaakov Kamenetzky, and Eleazar Menachem Man Shach, along with countless other influencers and leaders – Ezriel Carlebach, founding editor of both Yediot Ahronot and Maariv newspapers; Professor Saul Lieberman of Jewish Theological Seminary; and Chaim Herzog, sixth President of Israel.

As far as Rav Finkel was concerned, "Gadlut Ha-Adam – a person's greatness – can only ever be achieved through self-awareness, which more-often-than-not requires painful self-honesty. Partial self-awareness is insufficient, as unless you have got to the bottom of who you are, you will never be the greatest version of yourself that you can be. And this ideal is beautifully illustrated by Rav Finkel's insight on Parshat Toldot.

It is immediately evident that Esau is the villain, although the narrative does not offer any hard facts as to why that should be the case. Yes, he was red and hairy at birth, and yes, he was an outdoors guy and a hunter. But why is that bad? Perhaps it is because being a "man of the field" is a rejection of spiritual pursuits. But, to be fair, there are plenty of farmers and hunters who are good people, faithful to God and responsible providers. What makes Esau so bad? Not everyone is cut out to be a spiritual trailblazer. Meanwhile, without much explanation, Jacob leverages Esau to part with his birthright for a mere bowl of lentil soup.

Unusually, Rav Finkel devotes a lot of attention to Esau's personality, analyzing his strengths and weaknesses so that we can better understand why the Torah regards him as such a villain. In discussing Esau, he poses a profound but important question: how did Jacob know Esau was willing to sell his birthright? Esau had returned home to find everyone mourning for Abraham, while Jacob was cooking lentil soup, a traditional mourning food. But Esau was hungry, and all he wanted to do was eat, prompting him to demand "give me that red stuff now."

Rav Finkel notes that whenever anyone prioritizes something material without pausing to reflect, no amount of intervention will help, and it is this weakness that is Esau's hallmark. Self-awareness is all about cultivating one's consciousness to pause before acting. But Esau was totally impulse-driven, a trait that undermined the responsibilities of his birthright. Remarkably, Esau was self-aware enough to realize that he lacked the discipline to be the person his role required of him, and this was how Jacob knew he could negotiate the sale.

But here comes the kicker, a unique insight that only someone of Rav Finkel's profound understanding of human nature can ever reveal. Esau believed his birthright unworthiness was the result of him not being an elevated person – in itself, one might think, a great feat of self-honesty – but at the same time he was not aware that he was a bad person, nor did he recognize any real need for self-improvement. Had he been truly honest with himself, he would have admitted that his "self-honesty" was not actually so honest, and in actual fact he had sold his birthright for instant gratification. But, as it turns out, even when Esau was being honest, he was not being completely honest.

The greatest test of self-awareness is not admitting your weaknesses, because even then you could be using contrived "self-awareness" as a cover to delay facing up to who you actually are. Or, as Freud wrote to Fliess in 1897, it is not being self-honest that is crucial, it is being "entirely" self-honest.

Wishing you Shabbat Shalom, and a great week ahead, *Rabbi Pini Dunner*

Sisterhood Corner

December

It's time to Lego Up!

You have until December 16th to drop off unwrapped Lego sets to YINBH for the annual Chanukah Toy Drive.

Let's fill up that box.

All Legos donated are given to Chai Lifeline Children before Chanukah

Shabbat Shalom,

Cecile & Ruthie
Sisterhood Co-Presidents

EXPLORING HALACHA

Join Nati Baram every Shabbat afternoon 35 minutes before mincha as he explores an interesting topic of Jewish law with the aid of ancient and contemporary texts.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Joel Aronowitz
Michael Baum
Rachel Broidy
Judith Lampert
Shervin Louie
Isaac Meier

ISRAEL HEADLINES

Each week, YINBH Beverly Hills Synagogue produces a weekly bulletin titled "Israel Headlines." You can find them on the tables in shul every Shabbat. The idea behind this is to make us aware of current events in Israel. Sponsorship for Israel Headlines is available for \$100 per issue. If you are interested in sponsoring a weekly bulletin please email israelheadlines@gmail.com

YAHRTZEITS

Ivan Rosenfeld
Shlomo ben Moshe a"h
Brother of
Robert Rosenfeld
Yahrtzeit— 2 Kislev

Helen Deutsch
Ruchel Leah bat Yitzchak Isaac a"h
Mother of
Galina Samuel
Yahrtzeit— 4 Kislev

Esther Nissel
Esther Malka bat HaRav Zeev a"h
Mother of
Mr. Raphy Nissel
Yahrtzeit— 6 Kislev

Celia Factor Laks
Tzila bat Hillel a"h
Mother of
Hillel Laks
Yahrtzeit— 8 Kislev

Joseph Schnitzer
Yosef ben Avraham Chaim z"l
Father of
Avrumie Schnitzer
Yahrtzeit— 8 Kislev

If you have observed a yahrtzeit, or had a Birthday or Anniversary that was not listed in the Tefilla Notebook, please let us know so we can update our records.
Email office@yinbh.org

PAUL FEDER Z"l GEMARA

לע"נ פנחס אליהו בן שמשון הלוי
Join Rabbi Dunner for his Gemara shiur on Shabbat mornings 45 minutes before Shacharit.

WEEKLY PARSHA SHIUR

Join Rabbi Dunner each Wednesday morning at 9am for the weekly ladies Parsha Shiur as he explores the weekly Torah portion through the eyes of the classic commentators. The class will meet next on Wednesday, December 4th 2019 at 9:00am



Thank you to everyone who donated to the clothing drive. The clothes are now on their way to needy families in Israel.



If you would like to join the Mincha/Maariv WhatsApp Group, please send a message to the Rabbi on Whatsapp at 310-499-3407

STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS
HARKHAM HILLEL HEBREW ACADEMY
THE 72ND ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP GALA

Join us AS WE CELEBRATE OUR Community Giants AT THE BEVERLY HILTON HOTEL
HARKHAM HILLEL HEBREW ACADEMY
Thursday 12.19.2019

Honorees:
ERNIE GOLDBERGER
RABBI ELI BRONER

Harkham Hillel Hebrew Academy 72nd Annual Scholarship Gala celebrating our community giant, **Ernie Goldberger** and community educator **Rabbi Eli Broner**. Thursday December, 19th at the Beverly Hilton. To RSVP and Submit Digital Journal Ads please visit: www.Hillelhebrew.org/banquet



MENACHEM BEGIN DOCUMENTARY INFORMATION EVENING

Join us for this special event as **Herzl Makov**, CEO of the Begin Heritage Center in Jerusalem, presents his thrilling account of the **Attack of the Osirak Nuclear Reactor, and the Leadership Values of Menachem Begin**. Joining Mr. Makov will be **Rob Schwartz**, Executive Producer, who will share insights into his vision for the upcoming **Menachem Begin Documentary**.

Be among the first to see the new film trailer and get a taste of what is in store for this timely and important film on the life and times of **Menachem Begin**, the creation of the State of Israel and the dedication of a true leader.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH | 5:00PM
YOUNG ISRAEL OF BEVERLY HILLS
9261 ALDEN DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210



Herzl Makov has been the CEO of the Menachem Begin Heritage Center for the last 15 years. Mr. Makov served as the Chief of Staff to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and was a Major in the Israeli Defense Forces where his squadron participated in Operation Opera, which targeted the Iraqi nuclear reactor in Osirak during Menachem Begin's time as Prime Minister.



Friends of ELNET (European Leadership Network) invites you to our

Annual Gala
honoring

SHERYL AND DAVID WIENER

Positive Changes in Europe-Israel Relations

with guest speakers

AMBASSADOR RON PROSOR

former Israeli Ambassador to the UN

DAVID SIEGEL

President Elect, Friends of ELNET

MATTHIJS SCHÜSSLER

Executive Director, ELNET EU & NATO

Wednesday, December 4, 2019 • 6:00pm

Cocktails, Dinner and Program

Couvert \$300 | Dietary Laws Observed | Business Attire

Montage Beverly Hills

225 N Canon Drive | Beverly Hills, 90210

RSVP online at: <https://friendsofelnetdec4.eventbrite.com>
For more information: lagala@felnetus.org or 310-205-0488

ELNET (European Leadership Network) is building Israel advocacy in Europe. The mission is to educate leaders and citizens in Europe about Israel, promote an exchange of ideas between leaders and citizens with Israelis, and increase knowledge about Israel and thereby improve the diplomatic and cultural relations between the entities. In each country, the affiliates raise funds, find and establish relationships with local citizens and leaders, cultivate relationships with them, and invite them to activities, seminars and events in which they are educated about Israel. Each affiliate also hosts delegations of leaders from Israel and Europe, encouraging cultural exchange and exchange of ideas.

ELNET has offices in France, Germany, Poland, Belgium and Israel, and works in Spain and the United Kingdom (UK). ELNET was the initiator and co-sponsor of two landmark summits in Brussels: the first ever NATO-Israel Cooperation Event and the first EU-Israel Strategic Dialogue.

Friends of ELNET (FELNET) is a nonprofit organization that is tax exempt under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3).

www.elnetwork.eu




CHANUKAH SHABBAT DINNER

Friday, December 27th, 2019
Sixth Night of Chanukah
\$45 for adults; \$25 for children



Warm, Casual Kid-friendly Atmosphere







4:15 pm Menorah & Candle Lighting
4:30pm Mincha & Children's Activities
5:15pm Chanukah Shabbat Dinner

For your Child to participate in the Shabbat Service,
email Chazzan Nati Baram at Baramnati@gmail.com

Special Puppet Show Performance:
"Danny & The Dragon"
For kids of all ages

RSVP
\$45 for Adults; \$25 for Children
RSVP at Beverlyhillssynagogue.org or call
the office at 310-276-7650



YINBH Beverly Hills Synagogue
9261 Alden Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

2019 Chanukah Toy Drive



THIS YEAR'S THEME IS LEGO

You are invited to donate Legos to children in need of Chanukah gifts. We welcome Lego sets for all ages and levels!

Please drop off unwrapped Legos Sets by **December 16th** at YINBH.

Kids- Don't forget to write your name, grade, and school to ensure you get a special acknowledgement of your mitzvah.

All toys will be given to Chai Lifeline children before Chanukah.

The YINBH Sisterhood Thanks You!!




Beverly Hills Synagogue
Young Israel of North Beverly Hills
9621 Alden Drive
Beverly Hills 90210



SPEAKERS

- MOSHE BANE
OU National President
- RABBI EFREIM GOLDBERG
- RABBI DEREK GORMAN
- RABBI JONATHAN MUSKAT
- DR. Yael Muskat
- RABBI JOSEPH OZAROWSKI
- RAV HERSHEL SCHACHTER
- RABBI YECHIEL SHAFER
- RABBI AVRAHAM SHMIDMAN
- REBBITZIN DR. ADINA SHMIDMAN
- REBBITZIN JUDI STEINIG
- RABBI STEVEN WEIL
- REBBITZIN Yael WEIL
- RABBI DR. TZVI HERSH WEINREB
- GERI WIENER
- RABBI DR. ZEV WIENER

STEERING COMMITTEE

- SCOTT KRIEGER
OU West Coast President
- SHLOMO FRIED
- STEVEN KIRSCHENBAUM, ESQ.
- ISAAC KLEINMAN
- DR. MICHAEL KLEINMAN
- LOUIS SHAPIRO, ESQ.
- AARON SCHULTZ
- RABBI YAAKOV SIEGEL

For More Information, contact:
yermusd@ou.org or 310.229.9000 ext 201



SCHEDULE

THURSDAY NIGHT, DEC 12
KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Featuring Rabbi Efrim Goldberg
Senior Rabbi, Boca Raton Synagogue
at Adas Torah

FRIDAY MORNING, DEC 13
RABBINIC SHIUR AT LINK KOLLEL
Featuring RAV HERSHEL SCHACHTER
Rosh Kollel – YU/RIETS, Halachic Posek OU Kosher

Faculty Visits to Local Yeshiva High Schools

FRIDAY EVENING, DEC 13
• SHABBAT DINNER – Faculty and Sponsors
• Tisch on Pico at Adas Torah
• Oneg Shabbat Hancock Park and Valley Village

SHABBAT, DEC 14
SCHOLARS-IN-RESIDENCE
at Los Angeles OU Member Synagogues
SHABBAT LUNCH – Faculty and Sponsors

MOTZA'EI SHABBAT, DEC 14
SPONSORS & TRUSTEE SOCIETY EVENT

SUNDAY, DEC 15
"TORAH LOS ANGELES"
at YULA Boys High School, 9760 West Pico Boulevard
• Women's Beit Medrash
• Legel MCLE Seminar
• Rebbetzins Conference
• Exciting Kids Program – Sunday Fun Day

PARTICIPATING SYNAGOGUES

- Adas Torah • Beth Jacob Beverly Hills
- B'Neil David Judea • Calabassas Shul • Link Kollel & Shul
- Pacific Jewish Center • Shaarey Zedek • The Westside Shul
- Westwood Kohila • Westwood Village Synagogue • Yavneh
- Young Israel Century City • Young Israel of North Beverly Hills
- Young Israel of Northridge

**OU TORAH WEEKEND SCHOLAR
DECEMBER 14**

MOISHE BANE

PRESIDENT OU



Moishe Bane became president of the Orthodox Union in January 2017. He is a senior partner and chairman of the Business Restructuring department at the International law firm, Ropes & Gray. Much of his time, however, is dedicated to public service for the American Orthodox community. Past positions he has held in the OU include Chairman of the Board of Governors, Chairman of the Advocacy Team, and National Chairman of NCSY.

In addition to his OU service, Mr. Bane is involved in an array of non-OU kiruv and educational endeavors, and he has written and lectured extensively across the Jewish world. Mr. Bane is also a founding editor of Klal Perspectives, a journal addressing contemporary public policy issues within the American Orthodox community.

**A Kiddush will follow services
Sponsorships available**

**DECEMBER 7TH
OMAR QUDRAT**
FOUNDER, MUSLIM COALITION FOR AMERICA



OMAR'S CAREER IN NATIONAL SECURITY SPANNED SEVERAL YEARS WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. HE SPENT 18 MONTHS IN AFGHANISTAN DURING THE SURGE AS THE COALITION'S DEPUTY CHIEF OF RULE OF LAW AND POLITICAL ADVISOR TO THE NATO AMBASSADOR.

RETURNING FROM AFGHANISTAN, OMAR SERVED AS A COUNTER-TERRORISM PROSECUTOR IN SUPPORT OF THE CAPITAL CASE AGAINST ALLEGED 9/11 MASTERMIND KHALID SHAIKH MOHAMMAD AND FOR ALLEGED CO-CONSPIRATORS FOR THE SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS, THE CAPITAL CASE AGAINST THE ALLEGED MASTERMIND OF THE USS COLE BOMBING, AND THE CASE AGAINST THE ALLEGED OPERATIONAL COMMANDER OF AL QAEDA IN PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN. OMAR HAS PARTICIPATED IN OR LED INVESTIGATIONS OF CAPTURED TERRORIST NETWORK LEADERS AT OVERSEAS LOCATIONS. WHILE DETAILED TO THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT, OMAR WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING FOREIGN PROSECUTIONS OF GUANTANAMO DETAINEES. HE ALSO PARTICIPATED IN OR LED U.S. INTERAGENCY DELEGATIONS OVERSEAS TO NEGOTIATE MATTERS AT THE PRINCIPAL LEVEL.

OMAR WAS A CANDIDATE FOR UNITED STATES CONGRESS LAST CYCLE IN CALIFORNIA'S 52ND DISTRICT (SAN DIEGO). HE WON A SIX-WAY PRIMARY TO SECURE HIS PARTY'S NOMINATION TO BECOME THE FIRST AMERICAN-MUSLIM REPUBLICAN NOMINEE FOR NATIONAL OFFICE. OMAR WAS BORN AND RAISED IN LOS ANGELES. HE THE SON OF IMMIGRANTS FROM AFGHANISTAN.

OMAR IS A RESERVE OFFICER IN THE U.S. ARMY.

MCA
MUSLIM COALITION FOR AMERICA
KIDDUSH LUNCHEON SPONSORED BY
ELLIOTT & ROBIN BROIDY
IN MEMORY OF ELLIOTT'S PARENTS
DOROTHY AND SHERMAN BROIDY



BEVERLY HILLS SYNAGOGUE
YOUNG ISRAEL OF NORTH BEVERLY HILLS

Father & Son
Praying Together

Sunday, December 8th at 8:00am
Sunday Morning Services Followed by Breakfast
Short learning with Rabbi Dwyer
Boys below and above Bar Mitzvah

