

Thank you to **Barry Novack & Annie Baum** for sponsoring this week's Tefilla Notebook in memory of Barry's mother **Jean Novack, Sheyndal bat Menachem Mendel a"h**, whose yahrzeit was on 5 Av

Tefilla Notebook

11 Av • Parshat Va'etchanan • Shabbat Nachamu

July 31 - August 1, 2020

Stephen Rothman, President

Rabbi Pini Dunner, Senior Rabbi

Nati Bar-Am, Chazan

9261 Alden Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210

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SHABBAT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, JULY 31

6:30pm KABBALAT SHABBAT
IN SHUL & VIA ZOOM
7:36pm CANDLELIGHTING

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

8:39pm SHABBAT ENDS
9:05pm HAVDALAH VIA ZOOM

WEEKDAY DAVENING TIMES

Sunday 8:00am & 7:30pm

Mon - Friday 7:00am & 7:30pm

We are continuing to stream via zoom.

<https://zoom.us/j/226829899>

Guidelines for Praying at home:

When davening at home, it is best to daven at the same time that you would have davened when in shul. Although you cannot *hear* the krias Hatorah, you should still read the torah portion and haftorah aloud, using the tunes if you know them.

Stone Chumash (Artscroll)

Va'etchanan p. 958

Haftora Va'etchanan p. 1196

MAZEL TOV

Rabbi Alan & Sandy
Kalinsky

on the Bat Mitzvah of their
granddaughter **Shira**.

Mazel Tov to parents **Rabbi
Dr Yosef and Elisheva
Kalinsky**

Those who are going to be
attending our in-person
minyanim **must pre-register**.

Services are open to
MEMBERS ONLY at this
time. Space is limited.

**ALL services are being
held at a private residence
tennis court in Beverly
Hills.**

Dearest Members and Friends,

According to the world's most eminent epidemiologists, until an effective treatment for COVID-19 or reliable vaccines to prevent infection are available, we should all be wearing facemasks and maintaining a six-foot distance between each other in any kind of gathering. As if this is not enough to convince us, Goldman Sachs, one of the world's largest investment banks, recently mounted a detailed investigation of data from states and countries with tight lockdown restrictions versus those with more lenient recommendations, and on the basis of its findings has estimated that mandating masks in the United States would prevent the loss of 5% (\$1 trillion) of national income.

And yet, despite this push from both medical and financial experts, many individuals still strenuously object to any kind of government intervention to combat the coronavirus pandemic by mandating masks. As far as they are concerned the United States is a "free country", and any enforced regulations regarding mask-wearing infringes on their individual liberty. Demands for normal pre-COVID day-to-day life to reopen are increasing, and even the White House press secretary Kayleigh McEnany noted that mask wearing should be "the personal choice of any individual."

At the heart of these objections to mask-wearing regulations is the notion of individual liberty, and the idea that the United States was founded on the basis of freedom for an individual to make life-choices without intervention from some remote authoritarian body that is assumed to be unconcerned with his or her best interests. Commonly known as "fundamental rights", this deeply rooted view has resulted in the belief that each of one of us is entitled to live out our lives without any kind of government intrusion.

But truthfully – as has been proven countless times over the years – life is not quite so simple, and individual liberties must always be balanced against the need for public order, national security, and the preservation of morality, among many other things. And of course we must also respect other people's rights and needs even if doing so infringes on our own ability to do whatever we want, whenever we want to.

In fact, the only aspect of our lives truly free of government intervention is the freedom of thought, conscience and opinion. Otherwise we are all subject to numerous restrictions and regulations, an idea most famously enshrined in Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.'s opinion in the 1919 Schenck v. United States SCOTUS ruling which established that not all free speech is protected under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. Or as he put it, although "falsely shouting fire in a theatre and causing a panic" could be construed as the type of "free speech" to which we are entitled under the constitution, as doing so is dangerous and could lead to multiple deaths, it is not and cannot be protected by the constitution or the ideal of "fundamental rights".

Our concern and consideration for others must always take precedence over our own rights as individuals. And those whose duty it is to govern over society must therefore take the collective consequences of everyone exercising their individual liberties into careful consideration and create boundaries and regulations to protect us all from individuals who could put us in danger by insisting that their individual freedoms are more important than our safety.

In Parshat Va'etchanan the Torah instructs us to affix a parchment scroll with certain scriptural verses onto our doorposts (Deut. 6:9). We refer to this scroll as a "mezuzah". Usually, a mitzva is defined by the object that is used to perform that mitzva – for example: sukkah, matza, shofar, tefillin. But rather curiously, for this mitzva that is not the case. The word "mezuzah" means "doorpost", while the scroll itself seems to have no name of its own. The Talmud teaches that when we move out of a home we have lived in, we must always leave our mezuzot on the doorposts (Bava Metzia 102a). The gemara there stresses how important this requirement is, but fails to explain why. Elsewhere, we see that when Naomi tried to dissuade Ruth from embracing Judaism, one of the things she mentioned was that Judaism requires its adherents to observe the mitzva of mezuzah (Ruth Rabbah 2:22). Apparently this was an attempt to put Ruth off from becoming Jewish. But why would Ruth have balked at this seemingly inconsequential mitzva? The midrash does not explain.

As it turns out, the mitzva of mezuzah fundamentally defines who we are as a people of faith. Modernity in particular has resulted in the conviction that every person has the right to their own privacy, and to do as he or she pleases, with no authority that should be allowed to dictate what they may do, and certainly not behind closed doors. Many people assert this individual entitlement by placing a name-sign on their door. But by placing a mezuzah on our doorposts, we attach God's name to our home, and to ourselves, acknowledging that our individuality only goes so far, and in reality we must always be ready to submit our independence to God and to His will.

Naomi knew that Ruth came from a society which valued individual rights over any kind of submission to a common good. Ruth needed to be told that if she were to become a Jew this would no longer be the case, and Naomi knew it might be the toughest of all the expectations required of her. This ideal is also evident when we leave a mezuzah or mezuzot behind at a home we have lived in. By doing so we declare that no place is free of God or His expectations of us, even our own private home. It may have been ours to use for a while, but ultimately "the world and everything in it belongs to God" (Ps. 24:1)

The scroll we put on our doorposts epitomizes our collective duty to the world, and this is beautifully symbolized in the fact that the scroll in question does not even have its own name, rather it is identified by the doorpost of the door of the house to which it is affixed, a house that ultimately represents God's world, and not our own private space.

When it comes to our duties to society-at-large and to God, we are compelled to abandon our insistence on individual rights and liberties, and instead we must give way to the greater good. And while individuality is certainly important, it must never come at the expense of other people's health and safety.

Praying for your safety and health, and for only good news, with God's help. and Shabbat Shalom! *Rabbi Pini Dunner*

Sisterhood Corner

July

As we listen to the Haftorah reading of Isaiah on Shabbat Nachamu may we find consolation together.

Our next Ladies Night In will be held August 10th.

Flyer & official announcement coming soon!

Shabbat Shalom,
Cecile & Ruthie
Sisterhood Co-Presidents

Thank you to those who joined us for Eicha- in person and on Zoom.
We hope it was as meaningful for you as it was for us.



Julie Boyer
Victor Cohenca
Ethan Fialkov
Elie Gindi
Reuben Grabel
Amy Kestenbaum
Roberta Kimmel
Ittai Louie
Simon Rubinstein

SPONSOR A CLASS



Honor the memory of a loved one, or celebrate a simcha by sponsoring one of our zoom classes. We will mention the sponsorship beforehand and in any class materials.

If interested, email mkramer@yinh.org

Happy Anniversary

Michael & Ariella
Novack
Behrouz & Nora
Soroudi

YAHRTZEITS

Sylvia Varon
Sara bat Yehoshua a"h
Mother of
Sam Varon
Yahrtzeit— 12 Av

Aliza Elhiani
Aliza bat Masoud a"h
Mother of
Simon Elhiani
Yahrtzeit— 15 Av

Moshe Chaim Kohanbash
Father of
Farid Kohanbash
Yahrtzeit— 16 Av

CLASS SCHEDULE WEEK OF AUGUST 2 – AUGUST 8

THE ZOOM CODE FOR ALL CLASSES IS 310 276 7650

The log-in link is <https://zoom.us/j/3102767650>

| DATE | TIME | TOPIC |
|--------------------|---------|--|
| Sunday August 2 | 8:30pm | Tzurva MeRabanan with Chazzan Nati Baram |
| Tuesday August 4 | 12:00pm | Tanach Shiur with Chazzan Nati Baram |
| Wednesday August 5 | 11:00am | Parsha Shiur with Rabbi Dunner |
| Wednesday August 5 | 1:00pm | Pirkei Avot with Rabbi Pini Dunner |
| Thursday August 6 | 12:00pm | Shiur with Chazzan Nati Baram |
| Friday August 7 | 6:30pm | Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat |
| Saturday August 8 | 9:05pm | Havdalah |



How do you say **THANK YOU?**

BEVERLY HILLS POLICE OFFICERS BENEVOLENT FUND

Can you imagine going to work and wondering if you'll survive the day to see your family that night? Most people can't. But, in Law Enforcement, this is a fact of life.

2020 has been a year full of challenges and our Beverly Hills Police have been there for us all. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the state of California has issued guidelines which unfortunately, will prevent the Beverly Hills Police Officers Benevolent Fund from holding the annual Black & White Gala in October. Our Police Officers will truly miss seeing their wonderful supporters in person this year. However, the need remains essential to support our First Responders. Funds raised support the BHPOBF Scholarship Fund and Medical Trust Fund.

Beverly Hills is known worldwide as one of the safest communities in which to live and work. Police Officers are an integral part of our community, proudly protecting Beverly Hills 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Last year, the BHPD received 38,160 calls for service and answered with the incredible response time of 2.4 minutes. Our Police Officers are dedicated professionals who serve the residents and businesses of the City of Beverly Hills with courage and honor.

During these unprecedented times, please show your support for the Beverly Hills Police by donating generously.

Your support is more important than ever.

 DONATE ONLINE AT: WWW.BHPOA.ORG 

Donations of \$500 & above include a 2021 Beverly Hills Police Supporter Decal

Name: _____ Company: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Enclosed is my check for: \$ _____

Please charge my credit card for: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to:
Beverly Hills Police Officers Benevolent Fund
City of Beverly Hills Solicitation Permit on File

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Billing Zip: _____ Authorized Signature: _____

PLEASE SEE REVERSE FOR NEW SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

BEVERLY HILLS POLICE

2020 SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

- Chief's Black & White Package.....\$25,000**
Private Dinner for 6 with Chief of Police
(Date and location to be determined)
Name listed on 2020 Patrons Plaque prominently displayed at BHPD
Virtual Ad Journal Cover
 - Captain's Diamond Package.....\$15,000**
Private Dinner for 4 with BHPOA President
(Date and location to be determined)
Name listed on 2020 Patrons Plaque prominently displayed at BHPD
Diamond Ad in Virtual Ad Journal
 - Lieutenant's Platinum Package.....\$8,000**
Name listed on 2020 Patrons Plaque prominently displayed at BHPD
Platinum Ad in Virtual Ad Journal
 - Sergeant's Gold Package.....\$5,500**
Name listed on 2020 Patrons Plaque prominently displayed at BHPD
Gold Ad in Virtual Ad Journal
 - Detective's Silver Package.....\$3,500**
Name listed on 2020 Patrons Plaque prominently displayed at BHPD
Silver Ad in Virtual Ad Journal
 - 2021 Supporter Decal.....\$500**
 - "Thank You" Sponsor.....\$375**
Name listed on "Thank You" page in Virtual Ad Journal
- I wish to make a tax-deductible donation of \$ _____

Donations of \$500 & above include a 2021 Beverly Hills Police Supporter Decal

Email Completed Form to: gala@bhpoa.org or
Purchase Online: <https://bhpoa.ejoinme.org/gala>

VIRTUAL AD JOURNAL

Our Virtual Ad Journal will be on our website from November 2020 until our 2021 Gala.

- Cover(s).....\$10,000
- Diamond.....\$7,500
- Platinum.....\$5,000
- Gold.....\$2,500
- Silver.....\$1,500
- Bronze.....\$1,000
- Black/White.....\$500

Send Artwork to: journal@bhpoa.org

AD SPECIFICATIONS

8" wide x 5" high | 300 dpi | Full Color | PDF or JPG

If you would like us to design your ad,
please email journal@bhpoa.org.

Virtual Ad Copy Deadline: October 30, 2020