

THE REPORTER

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Rededication of TBE window to take place Aug. 19

By Reporter staff

The first rededication of the stained glass windows rescued from the former Temple Beth El of Endicott building will take place

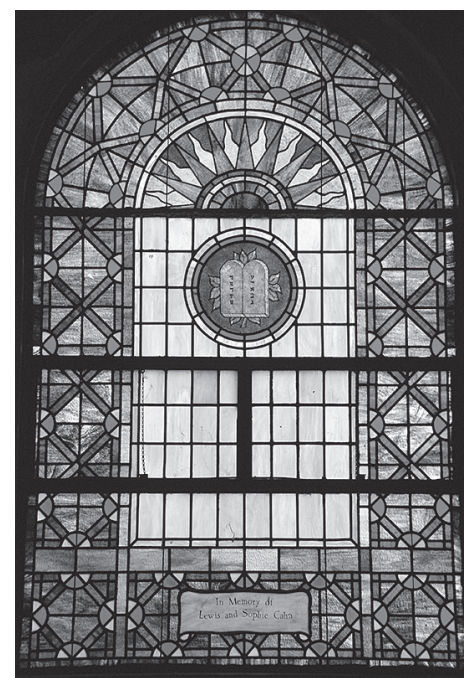
on Sunday, August 19, at 11:30 am, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 200 Jefferson Ave., Endicott. There will be a reception following the rededication.

"I'm very excited that the first of the large stained glass windows is being rededicated," said Sima Auerbach, executive director of the Federation. "We'd hoped that the windows would remain in this area and this shows we have succeeded in keeping local history local."

The window serves as a way to commemorate a connection between the church and the temple. When the church building was destroyed in a fire in 1952, the temple invited St. Paul's to hold services in the synagogue until its new building was ready. Plaques were later hung in both buildings in recognition of the friendship between the two congregations.

The window the church will display is dedicated to the memory of Lewis and Sophie Cahn, which seemed appropriate to one of their great-grandchildren, Rabbi Rachel Esserman. "The window is dedicated to my mom's mother's parents," Esserman said. "My grandparents were so proud of the synagogue's connection to the church. My grandfather would point to the plaque, which hung outside the sanctuary, and tell the story of the connection between the two congregations. I'm sure both of my grandparents would be thrilled to know this window will help commemorate that connection."

Auerbach is also pleased the connection will be recognized. "Anyone who



The Cahn window

talks to me knows that Jewish stories of this area are my passion," she said. "So many people have spoken about how special the Endicott Jewish community was to them and what wonderful memories they have of those days. It's just marvelous that the legacy of Temple Beth El will live on."

"GI Jews" to be shown at TC, JCC Friendship Club

The television show "GI Jews" will be shown at two different locations during August. A discussion will follow the program. On Wednesday, August 15, from 7-9 pm, the viewing will take place at Temple Concord, 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton. An additional showing will be held during two JCC Friendship Club meetings, at the Jewish Community Center, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, on Wednesdays, August 22 and 29, from 1:30-3 pm. The discussion will be led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell. Those interested in attending are asked to call the temple at 723-7355 or the JCC at 724-2417.

"PBS produced a marvelous program this spring, 'GI Jews,' about the 550,000 Jewish men and women who served in World War II in our armed forces," said Goldman-Wartell. "The program left a lasting impression with me, so I purchased it to offer others the opportunity to see the program and talk

about it, even if they missed the television showing. This program will show in one sitting on August 15 and in two parts on the Wednesday afternoons at the JCC. Come either time and join in a discussion following the film."

Parade magazine called the show "fascinating," "moving," "funny and full of history and pathos." Newsday noted that these service men and women "seem like so many other veterans who have spoken on countless other documentaries over the years. But as Jews, their role was uniquely perilous, especially if they were captured in the European theater. They also had to stare down anti-Semitism from the boot camp to the battlefield. Many of the veterans on this program can recall some searing incident of bigotry—a wayward comment, a brutal gesture, or in one instance, a Dear John letter from a GI breaking up with his girlfriend, also in the service, after he found out she was Jewish."

Hillel at Ithaca College participates in international fellowship

Hillel at Ithaca College has joined 20 college campuses across the United States and Canada in hosting a Springboard Innovation Fellow. The Springboard Fellowship was launched in 2016 by Hillel International to train young Jewish professionals in "highly-valued skillsets" and place them at local Hillel campuses for two years. The participation of Hillel at Ithaca College in this program is said to showcase just one sign of the continuing growth within the campus Jewish community. Currently, it is estimated that approximately 1,000 undergraduate students at Ithaca College are Jewish.

As the Innovation Fellow for Hillel at IC, Austin Reid said he seeks to engage students

who may be under-involved in Jewish life on campus. Some specific groups Reid hopes to engage with include LGBTQ+ Jews, Jewish athletes and inter-faith students.

"I feel incredibly lucky to have been hired by Hillel at Ithaca College, and I am excited to help further the growth and development of Jewish student life here on the South Hill," explained Reid. "I am especially excited to work with so many passionate students who are already doing so many great things at IC! I also hope that through my role more people in the wider Ithaca community can be made aware of the quality student programming being done at Hillel. This is a job where I feel like I am

truly making a difference!"

Innovation Fellows are trained in "Design Thinking" methodology to spark new ideas, to connect with students and to infuse creativity into Jewish life on campus. Reid plans to help facilitate several different types of programs, including a monthly series highlighting the histories and traditions of Jewish communities from around the world. "The goal with this monthly program is really to showcase that Judaism is a global faith which has thrived in many different regions. Judaism is one of the most diverse faiths in the world, but this diversity is sometimes overlooked," he said.

Reid is a graduate of Capital University

in Columbus, OH, where he majored in history and political science. During his time at Capital, Reid re-established an organized Jewish community on his campus and engaged in interfaith activities.

The Springboard Fellowship is a re-imagining of the Steinhart Jewish Campus Service Corps Fellowship, which Hillel ran from 1994-2008 and trained a generation of emerging Jewish communal leaders through their roles in Jewish student engagement.

For more information about Jewish student life at Ithaca College, contact Lauren Goldberg, executive director of Hillel at Ithaca College, at lgoldberg2@ithaca.edu.

Israel Scouts spent a day at Camp JCC



The members of an Israel Scouts Friendship Caravan spent the day at Camp JCC on July 19. (See page 3 for more Israel Scout photos and page 7 for more Camp JCC photos.)

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Beneath the surface: The untold story of Americans unearthing Israeli archaeology

By Maayan Jaffe-Hoffman

(JNS) – Can archaeology bring biblical history to life? According to historian and Deputy Minister Michael Oren, it depends who you ask.

Speaking at a June 10 Jerusalem event celebrating the opening of the “Seals of Isaiah and King Hezekiah Discovered” exhibit at the Armstrong International Cultural Foundation in Oklahoma, as well as 50 years of archaeological collaboration between the Armstrong Foundation and Israel, Oren said that in Jerusalem, archaeology serves as a tool for proving the Jewish people’s roots in the land. “By digging down into the earth of the holy land and finding our answers in there, we established our roots here



Eilat Mazar at the Ophel site (Photo courtesy of Eilat Mazar)

and showed... we’re not interlopers or migrants, we’re not survivors of the Holocaust that Europe dumped here,” as even Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas claimed as recently as a month ago. “We are indigenous people.”

Archaeology, said Oren, is key to “our validity, legitimacy and security... Archaeology is not just about revealing the past. It is about acquiring the present and ensuring our future.”

Oren said this notion rings especially true with the most recent findings of Hebrew University biblical archaeologist Eilat Mazar: The seals of Hezekiah and Isaiah.

In a rare public speech, Mazar explained the significance of the 2,700-year-old royal seal impression of King Hezekiah and the purported seal of the Jewish prophet Isaiah, both foundational pieces of the Oklahoma exhibit. The seals were found 10 feet away from each other in the same layer of soil in 2009 and are dated to the eighth century. The Hezekiah seal, upon which it is written, “Belonging to Hezekiah [son of] Ahaz, King of Judah,” is the only seal impression belonging to an Israelite or Judean king ever found in a controlled scientific excavation.

It took several years for Mazar to complete her studies of the findings. The seal of Isaiah was only reported this year because Mazar and her team had difficulty interpreting it.

There continues to be debate as to whether the seal really belonged to the prophet, but Armstrong Foundation founder Gerald Flurry said he believes there’s no question about it. He said the seal dates to precisely the time the prophet was alive in Jerusalem; it was found near the royal Ophel area, where Isaiah served. Hezekiah and Isaiah are mentioned together in the same biblical verses 16 times. “Let the stones of Hezekiah and Isaiah speak,” said Flurry. “They have a thundery voice of hope.”

The June 10 event was the first time the seals were open to the media. They were on display via live video from the Armstrong Auditorium in the city of Edmond, OK.

The partnership between the Armstrong Foundation and Mazar goes back 50 years, to Mazar’s grandfather, archaeologist Benjamin Mazar, who was commissioned by Israel in 1968 to run Hebrew University’s archaeological dig near the Temple Mount. At that time, Herbert Armstrong, an ambassador of the Worldwide Church of God, and Mazar came into contact.

According to Brad Macdonald, curator of the “Seals of Isaiah and King Hezekiah Discovered” exhibit, Armstrong



Herbert W. Armstrong college students dug on Ophel in 2018. (Photo courtesy of Eilat Mazar)

and Benjamin Mazar struck up a friendship, and Armstrong started sending students to volunteer on the excavation. Ultimately, hundreds volunteered and the excavations were supported by Armstrong financially for almost 10 years.

When Armstrong died in 1986, his successors abandoned his legacy until, in 1989, Gerald Flurry, an Ambassador graduate and Worldwide Church of God minister, opened the Philadelphia Church of God to continue Armstrong’s legacy. In 1996, he established the Armstrong’s Ambassador International Cultural Foundation and then Herbert Armstrong College.

Flurry got in touch with Mazar in 2005 after she started digging in the City of David. In 2006, Flurry sent two college students. Macdonald said it went so well that since then, more than 50 have been sent by Armstrong College to Jerusalem to work on Mazar’s excavations. The students comprised most of the laborers on Mazar’s most recent dig, which was also fully funded by the foundation.

Together, Mazar and the students unearthed evidence of King David’s palace, King Solomon’s royal quarters, the governor Nehemiah’s wall, the seals of two Judean princes mentioned in Jeremiah 37, and most recently, the golden Menorah Medallion and bronze coins.

Mazar said she remembers when the students supported her grandfather’s work. “I was 10 or 11 at the time, and I used to go into the field and talk to them, which helped me learn English,” she said. “They were so enthusiastic, really amazing – just like they are now when they come to my excavations. Nothing has changed.” Mazar called Armstrong’s students Israel’s best archaeological collaborators no one knows about. See “Archeology” on page 4

Opinion

In My Own Words

Amnesty

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

A few years ago, I received a Facebook friend request from someone I knew in grade school. When I mentioned it to my mom, she jokingly wondered why I said yes. According to her, I’d stopped playing with this person after she told me that I killed Christ. I replied that the person in question made that remark when we were in grade school and I thought there should be a statute of limitation on stupid comments we make when we’re that young.

Think back: Most of us have said something stupid or biased about a subject we were too young to really understand. We were repeating comments we’d heard from family members or parroting our teachers or accepting society’s judgments without thinking about what they really meant. We – hopefully – understand more as we get older and realize the opinions we once held were wrong or misguided. I really don’t want to be held responsible for something I said when I was 8 or 10 or 15 or even 25 years old. It would be a poor reflection on myself as a human being if I haven’t learned to be more thoughtful and understanding as the years passed.

So I think we should be given amnesty for remarks that were said when we were too young to truly understand

what they meant – particularly if they’ve publically acknowledged they no longer agree with those comments. I’ve seen the Facebook page of the person who made the Christ comment to me and I know she doesn’t think like that anymore. The comment was just part of her Catholic education and it’s obvious that she’s matured and learned to think for herself since then.

Fortunately, she and I grew up in an age where our every thought wasn’t posted online. Our stupid statements floated away into the ether or were only remembered by a few people. Unfortunately, for those growing up today, some of their comments may remain on the Internet forever. In the past several months, I’ve seen everyone from football players to movie directors being castigated or fired for something they said years ago when they were young and stupid, and for which some have previously apologized.

We also need to remember what was once considered funny may not be considered funny now. When I was growing up, making fun of drunks or pretending to be drunk – just think of Red Skelton or Dean Martin – was considered humorous. That’s not true anymore. Making fun of minority groups used to *not* get you censured. Now

it does. So, should these people be punished for the comments they made years ago, especially if they now admit what they said was wrong?

I’m not talking about adults who post comments when they are drunk or who apologize because people are upset, but don’t seem to realize that something they wrote was wrong or offensive. I’m talking about those too young to truly understand what they said. We have to allow people a learning curve – to realize that unformed teenagers can change and hopefully become mature adults who understand why their comments were wrong. Should they be fired or refused jobs because of what they said five, 10 or 15 years ago? If youthful offenders – those who commit actual crimes – can have their record swept clean, why not do the same for these folks?

I admit I have a vested interest in my desire to offer people amnesty. I know there are things we do or say today that people in the future will find horrific. I hope they will understand that we were products of our time and be kind to us. We should show some of the same kindness to our contemporaries: Don’t hold people responsible today for the foolishness of their youth if they are now wiser.



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Israel Scouts visited Camp JCC, entertained community



Israel Scouts participated in a number of activities with JCC campers.



Israel Scouts led a number of activities with JCC campers.



Israel Scouts gave an evening performance for community members at the JCC on July 19.



Part of the crowd at the Israel Scouts' evening performance at the Jewish Community Center for community members.

Blood drive at TC on Aug. 9

Temple Concord will host a Red Cross blood drive on Thursday, August 9, from 10 am-2 pm. "The Red Cross and our local hospitals are in desperate need of donations of all blood types," said organizers of the drive. "They are down to a one-day supply. Please help if you can. Reservations are requested, but walk-ins will also be welcome."

To sign up either call the Red Cross at 1-800-733-2767

or go to www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time. View the Temple Concord sign-up for August 9 by sorting using the zip code 13905 on the left side of the screen and scrolling down until the Temple Concord listing appears. Then choose a donation time.

Eligibility requirements for donors can be found at www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/how-to-donate/eligibility-requirements.html#.

Jewish Music and Cultural Festival in Syracuse on Aug. 5

By Vicki Feldman

The annual Jewish Music and Cultural Festival will take place on Sunday, August 5, at the Sam Pomeranz Jewish Community Center, 5655 Thompson Rd., Syracuse. Beginning at noon, Farah will perform on the Price Chopper Stage, followed by two-time Grammy nominees The Pop Ups, with entertainment for families and children of all ages at about 1:30 pm. Other groups that will perform include the Susan Watts Jewish Music Ensemble at 3 pm and the Keyna Hora Klezmer Band at 4:30 pm.

There will also be activities and games for children

provided by the JCC during the afternoon in and around the Kids Tent, along with face painting, PJ Library® activities and the Robert Rogers Puppet Theater. In addition, there will be representatives from area Jewish community organizations. Kosher refreshments will be available.

For more information about the schedule, bands, food and activities, visit the festival website syracusejewishfestival.org.



L-r: Abby Pietras and Mikenna Nolan were among the JCC campers receiving stickers from the Israel Scouts.

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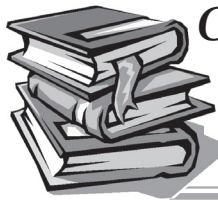
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Off the Shelf

Are Jews funny?

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

Do five books make a trend? In the past several years, I've reviewed books that discuss Jewish jokes. While the jokes might be funny, the majority of the authors use a scholarly approach to the subject. My reviews featured "Life Is Like A Glass of Tea: Studies of Classic Jewish Jokes" by Richard Raskin and "Let There Be Laughter: A Treasury of Great Jewish Humor and What It All Means" by Michael Krasny (www.thereporter.org/Article.aspx?aID=4501), Jeremy Dauber's "Jewish Comedy: A Serious History" (www.thereporter.org/Article.aspx?aID=4892) and "No Joke: Making Jewish Humor" by Ruth R. Wisse (www.thereporter.org/Article.aspx?aID=3200). The author of this last book feels that Jewish humor – particularly the self-mocking kind – is dangerous to Jewish survival, although none of the others came to that conclusion. After those (mostly) serious works, it was a pleasure to read "The Jewish Joke: A Short History – With Punchlines" by Devorah Baum (Pegasus Books).

This slender volume (less than 200 pages) is jam-packed with great jokes. Although Baum, a lecturer at the University of Southampton and an affiliate of the Parkes Institute for the Study of Jewish/non-Jewish Relations, analyzes the jokes, she does so with such a light touch that readers can't be blamed for focusing more on the humor than on the commentary. What strikes Baum as worth noting is that usually "jokes don't tend to travel all that well. And a lot of things that once seemed funny no longer are. Yet, Jewish jokes, or at least a fair few

of them, have had astonishing staying power."

Baum suggests that the first Jewish jokes can be found in the Hebrew Bible. According to the Zohar, a book of Jewish mysticism, the "biggest joke" in the Bible concerns the binding of Isaac. When at the last minute an angel tells Abraham not to sacrifice his son, but rather a ram caught in the bushes, the author compares this to "a classic switcheroo. And boy oh boy, Abraham fell for that one. The God of the Jews is clearly a prankster of the highest order. He's the God who laughs hard when, as the old joke goes, you tell Him your plans."

For Baum, one of the joys of Jewish jokes is that they show there is more than one way to view the world. For example, some humor relies on the fact that it can be difficult to tell the difference between a blessing and a curse. This is shown in a joke about Jewish soldiers: "Two Jewish POWs are about to be shot. Suddenly the order comes to hang them instead. One smiles at the other: 'You see? They are running out of bullets.'" This is also true of the women who complain about the quality of food at a resort (or cruise ship or hotel, depending on who is telling the joke), but, after saying how awful it is, note that the portions are way too small. Or the mother who gives her son two ties for his birthday and then, when he wears one, worries that he doesn't like the other tie.

Baum does discuss some of the more problematic aspects of joking, for example, how humor is used when talking about the Holocaust and whether jokes about Jewish misbehavior

are antisemitic. Her opinion changes depending on who is telling the joke: someone Jewish, which makes it OK to joke about peculiarities and misdeeds, or someone who mislabels the whole community due to the behavior of a few people. The author uses a Jerry Seinfeld episode – one where his dentist converts to Judaism in order to be able to tell jokes – as an example of how people consider Jews to be funny, but don't realize that Jewish humor isn't always portable.

In "The Jewish Joke," Baum quotes everyone from Franz Kafka to Woody Allen. She notes the similarity between living as a Jew and being a comedian in an attempt to explain why Jewish humor exists: "Both know what it is to perform in front of hostile crowds, always with the aim of trying to get the audience on their side. Both have felt the need to constantly adapt their acts and find a quick-fire response for the latest hecklers. And both recognize the fatal consequences of not being approved of." Baum suggests it may be no coincidence that when an audience doesn't laugh, the comedian is said to have died.

What makes "The Jewish Joke" such fun to read is that Baum has a wonderful sense of humor. For example, a footnote at the end of her first chapter reads, "The jokes I've included in this book belong to two categories: those that illustrate the arguments of the essays and those [like the one quoted above] that have no obvious place in the essay but were too good to leave out." Love Jewish jokes? Then this is the perfect book for you.

Archeology.....

Continued from page 2

Because the Herbert Armstrong College students helped Mazar uncover both the Hezekiah and Isaiah seals, the foundation was granted the honor of hosting the artifacts' world premiere, said Macdonald. The exhibit will be open in Oklahoma until August 19 and then the artifacts will return to Israel.

Flurry said the exhibit is the "story of repentance, redemption and national salvation. It is the story of how God, through a remarkable king-prophet alliance, saved a city and its people from terrorism, war and conquest. It is the ultimate story of hope."

Macdonald said the archaeological exhibition will illuminate how Jerusalem avoided annihilation at the hands of the Assyrian army at the end of the eighth century BCE. He said



The Isaiah Bulla. (Photo courtesy of Eilat Mazar)

he hopes the exhibit will "bring biblical history to life and connect people to their roots, allowing the past to empower the future." He also noted that for him, these findings



The Hezekiah Bulla (Photo courtesy of Eilat Mazar)

are among a long list of artifacts found that directly relate to the Bible and prove to him its

validity. "In archaeology, there is all kinds of evidence the Bible is true," said Macdonald.

Mazar said she's not quick to jump to conclusions. While one might consider the Bible a historical source, she said that when an archaeologist starts digging, "you must put aside what you think you know because when the artifacts are found, they will teach you what you need to know. You cannot force your own ideas on them."

Still, her team found Hezekiah's seal. And she said, "You cannot argue with that."

Mazar added that "the result of my work is that such a huge percentage of the Bible turns out to be accurately described. The power of archaeology is that you have tangible evidence."

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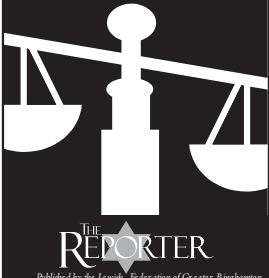
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5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

Notice of Formation of Howe Auction, LLC

Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/10/2018. Office location: Broome Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 1729 Vestal Parkway W, Vestal, NY 13850. Purpose: any lawful activities.

DC Reclaimed LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 6/28/2018. Cty: Broome. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to 1097 Castle Creek Rd., Castle Creek, NY 13744. General Purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: Monroe Street Endicott Phase 2, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was July 12, 2018. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: Ryan M. Mead, 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The

purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

Notice of formation of Limited Liability Company (LLC) Name: R B Services Rental LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on April 26, 2018. Office location: Broome County, SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: 39 Hazel St; Binghamton, NY 13905. Purpose: to engage in any lawful activity governed by the New York LLC Law.

Notice of Formation of PEMworks LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/09/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 28 Terrace Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Something with Eggs LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 7/18/2018. Cty: Broome. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to John Bedolis, 215 W. 78th St., Apt. 3C, NY, NY 10024. General Purpose.

Notice of formation of 265 Main St, LLC. The Articles of Organization were filed with the NYS Secretary of State (NYSSS) on July 25, 2018. Office and principal business location: Broome County at 19 Oneonta Street, Binghamton, NY 13903. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 19 Oneonta Street, Binghamton, NY 13903. Purpose: Any lawful Purpose.

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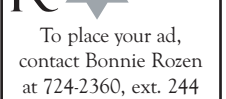
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Israel gets set to land first spacecraft on the moon

By Israel Kasnett

(JNS) – “Houston, the Eagle has landed” will soon be a common refrain for Israelis.

While entrepreneur Elon Musk sent one of his Tesla cars into space last year on top of his SpaceX rocket, this year, Musk will help deliver Israel’s first unmanned lunar spacecraft atop a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket, where it will assume a course that will take it to its final destination: the moon.

At a press conference at defense contractor Israel Aerospace Industries’ facility on July 10, Israeli nonprofit company SpaceIL announced its intention to send Israel’s first unmanned spacecraft into orbit in December and, two months later, land it on the lunar surface. Israel would then join the exclusive club of nations that has accomplished this feat since the 1960s, becoming the fourth nation to land a craft on the moon after Russia, the United States and China.

Ido Anteby, chief executive of SpaceIL, outlined the schedule. He explained that SpaceIL will test the spacecraft through October, and in November, the company will deliver it to the Cape Canaveral launch site in Florida. The launch date is set for December; two months later, on February 13, the spacecraft is expected to land on the moon.

“It’s a very compact spacecraft,” says Anteby. “We worked together with the IAI team and SpaceIL team on very sophisticated engineering to get [it] all the way to the moon.”

SpaceIL is backed by a number of donors, including U.S. casino magnate Sheldon Adelson, the Schusterman Family Foundation and South African-born billionaire entrepreneur Morris Kahn.

Kahn said costs associated with the program hover around \$95 million. He emphasized that he will underwrite any gaps in funding, saying “this project will not stop, will not have any problem, because of money.” He also called on the Israeli government to follow through with its pledge to fund 10 percent of the project.

“When the rocket goes into orbit,” Kahn said, “I think we will all remember where we were when Israel landed on the moon. ...Space is going to be very important to the future.”

Speaking to JNS, Kahn said, “I think this will give us a sense of tremendous pride. ... I think this will have an impact on future generations.”

According to SpaceIL, once the spacecraft disengages from the launch rocket, it will begin orbiting Earth in continuously larger elliptical orbits. This long and complex course will

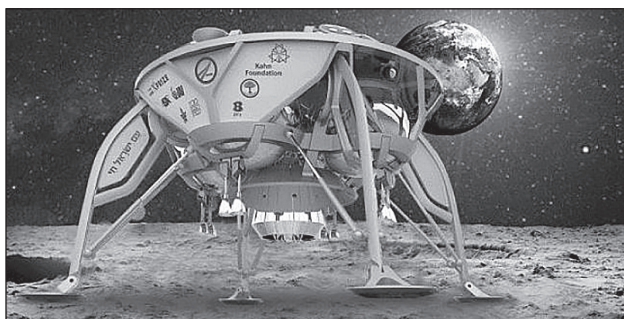


Illustration of the SpaceIL lunar space craft.

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JTA

Ruth Bader Ginsburg plans to spend five more years on Supreme Court

Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg says she hopes to remain on the court for another five years. “I’m now 85,” Ginsburg said, according to CNN. “My senior colleague, Justice John Paul Stevens, he stepped down when he was 90, so think I have about at least five more years.” Ginsburg made the statement on July 29 in New York during a discussion following a production of “The Originalist,” a play about the late Justice Antonin Scalia. When asked in October at an event sponsored by Equal Justice Works in Arlington, VA, if she was contemplating retirement, Ginsburg said, “As long as I can do the job full steam, I will do it,” CNN reported. Ginsburg, who this year is marking her 25th anniversary on the Supreme Court, has hired law clerks for the next two terms, taking her at least through 2020. Asked on July 29 by “The Originalist” director Molly Smith what keeps her “hopeful,” Ginsburg quoted her late husband, Marty. “My dear spouse would say that the true symbol of the United States is not the bald eagle – it is the pendulum. And when it goes very far in one direction, you can count on its swinging back,” she said. Ginsburg has survived colon and pancreatic cancer while serving on the court.

Israel denies entry to 90 Turks who wanted to tour Islamic holy sites

Israeli denied entry to 90 Turkish citizens, who wanted to visit Muslim holy sites, particularly in Jerusalem, on July 29 when they arrived at Ben-Gurion Airport, saying their group visa was not valid. Turkish officials told Hadashot that the Israeli authorities told them that the group’s entry had been refused “for security reasons.” “According to the Immigration Authority, an Israeli (travel) agent forged the group visa,” the Foreign Ministry said in a statement. “He was notified in advance that he would need to place a deposit for the group or it wouldn’t be allowed in. To bypass the Turkish airline’s ban on passengers without permits, he falsified the group visa.”

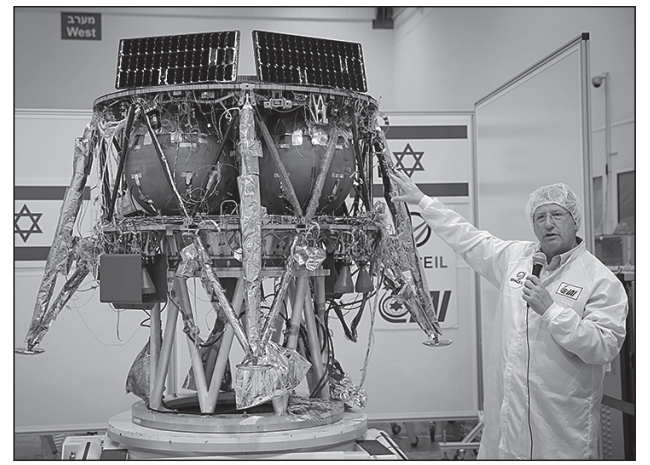
allow the spacecraft to reach the moon with minimal fuel consumption. At a certain stage in its orbit, the spacecraft will reach a point that is near the moon. It will then ignite its engines and reduce its speed to allow the moon’s gravity to pull it in, and will begin orbiting it. The entire journey, from launch to landing, is expected to last about eight weeks.

In addition to taking photos on the surface of the moon, the spacecraft will measure its magnetic field at the landing site, using a magnetometer installed on it. The measurements are intended for research conducted at the Weizmann Institute of Science-UCLA.

Once it completes its mission, the spacecraft will remain on the moon, displaying the flag of the state of Israel.

SpaceIL’s spacecraft is not only small – it measures 2 meters-by-1.5 meters and weighs 600 kilograms (1,323 pounds) – but also significantly less expensive than those usually launched into deep space. This will be the smallest spacecraft to land on the moon to date.

That’s one small achievement for the world, but one giant leap for Israel.



Offer Doron, head of IAI’s MBT Space Division, spoke near the SpaceIL team’s spacecraft during a press conference at the Israel Aerospace facility in Yahud on July 10. (Photo by Flash90)

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Ekev, Deuteronomy 7:12 -11:25

Teach your children

RIVKAH SLONIM, EDUCATION DIRECTOR, CHABAD OF BINGHAMTON

At the conclusion of this week's *parasha* we find the second portion of the *Shema*, which begins with the word *v'hoya*. The *Shema*, as is well known, is the most fundamental of all Jewish prayers. It is the first words of liturgy taught to a young child and the last holy words uttered before death.

Within this prayer we find a recurring emphasis on education, Jewish education to be exact.

"Teach your children to speak of them [Torah], when you are at home, when traveling on the road, when you lie down and when you get up" (Deuteronomy 35:18). Commenting on this verse Rashi, the foremost expositor of the Bible, states: From the time a child begins to speak, teach (the child) Torah *tziva lanu Moshe*... about, and from, the Torah that Moses commanded us.

The verse teaches us how imperative it is that Torah education be a part of a child's life from the most tender age. Yet, the truly important message is this: Jewish education is not meant to be merely one facet of a child's life. When you are home, when you are traveling... it must be an all

pervasive experience. When you lie down and when you get up... the child should live and breathe it!

Untenable? Not if we will it.

Let's start with the basics. Less than one-third of Jewish children in contemporary America – in an age and political climate most supportive of religious expression – receive any type of Jewish instruction. As Jewish parents, concerned leaders and laypersons we must ask ourselves some simple questions: If we do not provide our children with the opportunity to learn of their rich heritage, who will recall our glorious history? Who will quote the scriptures? Who will chant the prayers? Who will sing the melodies? Who will be the light unto the nations?

Simply stated: What, if any, kind of Jewish identity will our children have?

Clearly, Jewish education needs to be our prime concern. Of late, thinking Jews have been concerned with the future of American Jewry. The truth is that all the terms being bandied about – continuity, community, commitment – all

flow from another C word: *chinuch*, the uniquely Jewish term that connotes an all pervasive educational experience, where the Torah is not a subject, it is life!

When computers first burst onto the scene the Rebbe, of blessed memory, commented: "What is new about the computer? You walk into a room and you see familiar machines: a typewriter, a tape recorder, a television, of course, a calculator, but none of these are new. Unseen, however, beneath the floors and behind the walls, are cables connecting all these machines so that they work together as one. There is a technology that allows them to all speak the same language, thereby transforming them from many ordinary machines into a single powerful computer. So, too, in life, each activity, each sphere can remain unconnected; a mess of fragments. Or there can be found purpose and meaning through which all converges and releases enormous power."

True education means finding that purpose and meaning, that connective tissue.

See "Teach" on page 8

Congregational Notes

Beth David Synagogue

Affiliation: Orthodox Union
 Rabbi: Zev Silber
 Address: 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905
 Phone: 722-1793
 Rabbi's Office: 722-7514
 Fax: 722-7121
 Office hours: Mon. closed; Tues. 10 am-1 pm; Wed. closed; Thurs. 9 am-1 pm; Fri. 10 am-1 pm
 Beth David e-mail address: bethdavid@stny.rr.com
 Rabbi's e-mail: rabbisilber@stny.rr.com
 Website: www.bethdavid.org
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/bethdavidbinghamton
 Shabbat Services:
 Friday, Aug. 3 7:15 pm
 Shabbat, Aug. 4 9 am
 Mincha after the kiddush
 Maariv 7:50 pm
 Weekday Services:
 Mornings:
 Sun., Aug. 5 8:30 am
 Mon.-Fri., Aug. 6-Aug. 10 7 am
 Evenings:
 Sun.-Thurs., Aug. 5-9 7:55 pm
 Fri., Aug. 10 7:15 pm
 Classes: Rabbi Zev Silber will hold his weekly Talmud class every Tuesday evening after services.

Norwich Jewish Center

Orientation: Inclusive
 Rabbi: Dena Bodian
 Address: 72 South Broad St., Norwich, NY 13815
 Contact: Guilia Greenberg, 336-1523
 Purpose: To maintain a Jewish identity and meet the needs of the Jewish community in the area.
 Adult Ed.: Saturday morning study is held at 10 am. Call for more information and to confirm.

Rohr Chabad Center

Affiliation: Chabad-Lubavitch
 Rabbi: Aaron Slonim, E-mail: aslonim@binghamton.edu
 Address: 420 Murray Hill Rd., Vestal, NY 13850
 Phone: 797-0015, Fax: 797-0095
 Website: www.Chabadofbinghamton.com
 Chabad on the West Side
 Rabbi: Zalman Chein, E-mail: zchein@JewishBU.com
 Address: 27 Bennet Ave., Binghamton, NY 13905
 Phone: 722-3252
 Regular service times: Daily 7:30 am, Friday evening 6 pm, Shabbat morning 9:30 am, Maariv and Havdalah one hour after candle-lighting time, Sundays 9:30 am.
 Linking Hearts for youngsters with special needs: This program connects Jewish special-needs children and teenagers, ages 5-14, who have mental, physical and/or functional disabilities, with student volunteers who will visit participating youngsters weekly in their homes.
 To join the mailing list, for up-to-date information on adult education offerings or to arrange for a private tutorial, for details concerning the Judaica shop and resource center, or for assistance through the Piaker Free Loan Society or Raff Maasim Tovim Foundation, call Chabad's office at 797-0015.

Congregation Tikkun v'Or

Affiliation: Union for Reform Judaism
 Address: PO Box 3981, Ithaca, NY 14852; 2550 Triphammer Rd. (corner of Triphammer and Burdick Hill), Lansing, NY
 Phone: 607-256-1471, E-mail: info@tikkunvor.org
 Website: www.tikkunvor.org
 Presidents: Miranda Phillips and Shawn Murphy
 Rabbi: Brian Walt
 Religious School Director/Admin. Coordinator: Naomi Wilensky
 Services: Fridays at 7:30 pm unless otherwise noted. Family services and Tot Shabbat once a month at 6:30 pm. Call for weekly schedules.
 Religious School: Preschool through seventh-grade classes meet on Sunday mornings. Sixth-grade Hebrew and seventh-grade b'nai mitzvah classes meet on Wednesday afternoons. Adult Ed: Mini courses throughout the year. Adult Hebrew offered regularly. Call the office for details.

Temple Concord

Affiliation: Union for Reform Judaism
 Rabbi: Barbara Goldman-Wartell
 Address: 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905
 Office hours: Tues.-Fri., 10 am-2 pm
 Phone: 723-7355
 Fax: 723-0785
 Office e-mail: TempleConcordbinghamton@gmail.com
 Website: www.templeconcord.com
 Regular service times: Friday, 8 pm; Saturday, 10:35 am, when religious school is in session.
 Hebrew school: Hebrew school meets at 5:15 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the school year unless otherwise noted.
 On Friday, August 3, at 8 pm, there will be Shabbat evening services with Visual Tefillah led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell.
 On Saturday, August 4, at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study.
 On Tuesday, August 7, at 10:30 am, the Tuesday Morning Book Club will meet in the library.
 On Thursday, August 9, from 10 am-2 pm, there will be a blood drive in the social hall; at 7 pm, iEngage will meet at Temple Israel.
 On Friday, August 10, at 6:30 pm, there will be a Chai Five Reception; at 8 pm, Shabbat Rosh Chodesh services will be led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell.
 On Saturday, August 11, at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study.

Temple Beth El of Oneonta

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
 Rabbi: Molly Karp
 Address: 83 Chestnut St., Oneonta, NY 13820
 Mailing address: P.O. Box 383, Oneonta, NY 13820
 Phone: 607-432-5522, E-mail: TBEOneonta@gmail.com
 Website: www.templebetheloneonta.org
 Regular service times: visit the temple website for days of services and times
 Religious School/Education: Religious school, for grades kindergarten through bar/bat mitzvah, meets Sunday mornings. Rabbi Karp conducts services and holds classes in Torah, beginning Hebrew and Maimonides.
 For schedules of services, classes and events, see the website.

Temple Beth-El of Ithaca

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
 Rabbi: Scott L. Glass
 Address: 402 North Tioga St. (the corner of Court and Tioga streets), Ithaca, NY 14850-4292
 Phone: 273-5775
 E-mail: rabbi@tbeithaca.org and secretary@tbeithaca.org
 Website: www.tbeithaca.org
 President: Jerry Davis
 Sisterhood President: Julie Paige
 Director of Education: Rabbi Suzanne Brody
 Administrative Assistant: Jane Griffith
 Services: Friday 8 pm; Saturday 10 am, unless otherwise announced. Weekday morning minyan 7:30 am (9 am on Sundays and legal holidays).
 Religious School/Education: September-May: Classes meet on Sunday, 9 am-12:30 pm and Wednesday afternoons, 3:45-5:45 pm. The Midrashah (eighth-grade and high school) classes will meet at times designated by their respective teachers.
 Adult Ed.: Numerous weekly courses, several semester-long courses and a variety of mini-courses and lectures are offered throughout the year. Call the temple office for more details.
 On Sunday, August 19, from 10 am-noon, Keif B'Kayitz (Summertime Fun) will be held at Ithaca Children's Garden. The event is free and open to all children, teens and their families.

Friday, August 3, light candles 8:01 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, August 4 9:01 pm
 Friday, August 10, light candles 7:52 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, August 11 8:52 pm

Temple Israel

Orientation: Conservative
 Rabbi: Geoffrey Brown
 Address: 4737 Deerfield Pl., Vestal, NY 13850
 Phone: 723-7461 and 231-3746
 Office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 am-4 pm; Fri. 8 am-3 pm
 E-mail: titammy@stny.twcbc.com
 Website: www.templeisraelvestal.org
 Service Schedule: Tuesday, 5:30 pm; Friday, 5:30 pm; Saturday, 9:30 am
 On Saturday, August 4, at 9:30 am, services will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. The Torah portion will be Deuteronomy 7:12-11:25. The haftarah will be Isaiah 49:14-51:3.
 On Thursday, August 9, at 7 pm, iEngage will meet at Temple Israel.
 On Friday, August 10, at 6:30 pm, Shabbat on the Road will be held at Vestal Park Nursing Home on Sheedy Road, Vestal.
 On Sunday, August 12, from 2-5 pm, there will be the temple picnic. The cost is \$10 per person, children 13 years and under are free.
 On Saturday, August 18, at 4 pm, there will be the bat mitzvah of Cara Miller.

Penn-York Jewish Community

President-Treasurer-Secretary: Harvey Chernosky, 570-265-3869
 B'nai B'rith: William H. Seigel Lodge
 Purpose: To promote Jewish identity through religious, cultural, educational and social activities in the Southern Tier of New York and the Northern Tier of Pennsylvania, including Waverly, NY; Sayre, Athens and Towanda, PA, and surrounding communities.

Kol Haverim

Affiliation: Society for Humanistic Judaism
 Address: P.O. Box 4972, Ithaca, NY 14852-4972
 Phone: 607-277-3345
 E-mail: info@kolhaverim.net
 Website: www.kolhaverim.net
 Chairwoman: Abby Cohn
 Kol Haverim: The Finger Lakes Community for Humanistic Judaism, is an Ithaca-based organization that brings people together to explore and celebrate Jewish identity, history, culture and ethics within a secular, humanistic framework. KH is part of an international movement for Secular Humanistic Judaism and is affiliated with the Society for Humanistic Judaism, a national association with over 30 member communities and congregations around the country. Established in the spring of 1999, it offers celebrations of Jewish holidays, monthly Shabbat pot-lucks, adult education, a twice-monthly Cultural School for children, and a bar and bat mitzvah program.
 KH welcomes all individuals and families, including those from mixed religious backgrounds, who wish to strengthen the Jewish experience in their lives and provide their children with a Jewish identity and experience.

Temple Brith Sholom

Affiliation: Unaffiliated
 Address: P.O. Box 572, 117 Madison St., Cortland, NY 13045
 Phone: 607-756-7181
 President: Louis Wilson, louiswilson1995@yahoo.com
 Service leaders: Lay leadership
 Shabbat services: Either Friday evening at 7:30 pm or Saturday at 10 am from Rosh Hashanah to Shavuot. Holiday services are also held. Check the weekly e-mail for upcoming services. Contact the president to get on the e-mail list.
 Religious School: Students are educated on an individual basis. Temple Brith Sholom is a small egalitarian congregation serving the greater Cortland community. Congregants span the gamut of observance and services are largely dependent on the service leader. The Friday night siddur is "Likrat Shabbat," while the Saturday morning siddur is "Gates of Prayer." The community extends a warm welcome to the Jewish student population of SUNY Cortland, as well as the residents of local adult residences.

Jewish Community Center

Fun in the sun at Camp JCC



A game of Twister took place on the JCC's lawn during the all camp party on July 20.



The Camp JCC TLC teens and their three counselors made it to the summit of Wright Peak, the 16th highest peak in the Adirondacks, on July 18.



Maccabee and Osem campers visited the Wild Animal Park in Syracuse on July 17.



L-r: During Time Warp Week at Camp JCC, Kristen Coyle, Sophia Moreno and Autumn Calegari dressed for the 1950s.



L-r: Alivia Andrews, Adriana Wenban and Abby Pietras posed during Time Warp Week's '80s Day at Camp JCC.



Atleft: Sabra Kand Sabra 1 campers went blueberry picking on July 18 during week three of Camp JCC.



Children participated in a swim lesson at Camp JCC.

Pickleball adult intro clinic at JCC

By Paige Bartholomew

The JCC will be holding two Pickleball intro clinics aimed at adults this summer. The clinics will be held on Tuesday, August 14, and Thursday, August 16, with a session for beginners from 5-6:30 pm and an intermediate session from 6:30-8:30 pm. Pre-registration is encouraged. The clinics are priced at \$10 for members of the Center and \$15 for non-members; price is per session. The entire community is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Pickleball is a fast-growing sport, having first been developed in 1965. The activity combines elements from badminton, tennis and table tennis – players play on a badminton doubles court with a lowered net, using composite paddles and whiffle balls. The sport offers a “friendly and competitive atmosphere” and is a lower impact sport for

those looking to participate in a physical group activity.

The Pickleball clinics will be taught by Zurano Tubo, an IPTPA certified teaching professional and USAPA ambassador. Tubo has been teaching and playing Pickleball locally and statewide for years, and has won more than 20 gold and silver medals in the sport, most recently at the fourth annual New York State Pickleball Classic in Buffalo. His primary venue is at the Boys and Girls Club of Western Broome in Endicott, where he first learned the sport. In the fall, he will be running a Pickleball class at the JCC, his newest venue. Details about the class will be released with the JCC Fall Guide.

For more information about the Pickleball clinics, JCC Fitness programming, or the JCC, contact the JCC office at 724-2417.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Catholic Church in Israel calls on Christians to protest Nationality Law

The Latin Patriarchate in Jerusalem, which represents the Roman Catholic Church in Israel, issued a statement on July 30 blasting Israel's new Nationality Law and called upon followers to protest it. The Church seemed to take particular issue with the lack of mention of Arab Israelis – only referring to “Palestinian citizens of Israel” – saying they “are flagrantly excluded from the law. ... The Christian citizens of Israel have the same concerns as any other non-Jewish communities with respect to this law,” the organization said in a statement. “They call upon all citizens of the state of Israel who still believe in the basic concept of equality among citizens of the same nation, to voice their objection to this law and the dangers emanating thereof to the future of this country.” The Nationality Law makes Arabic a “special status” language, but not the official language of Israel, which is Hebrew. It also recognizes Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, codifies the Jewish calendar as the state's official calendar, and recognizes Independence Day and Jewish holidays as official national holidays, but does not impinge on the rights of minorities to use their own languages, calendars, or celebrate their own holidays.

New poll shows majority of Israelis support the new Nationality Law

A new poll by the Walla news website shows that most Israelis support the Nationality Law, with 58 percent agreeing with the current language and 34 percent opposed to it. While 85 percent of those who call themselves right-wing voters support the law, so do 19 percent of left-wing voters and 49 percent of centrist voters. While in political parties Bayit Yehudi, Likud, Shas, United Torah Judaism, Kulanu, and Yesh Atid, the law is met primarily with support, a whopping 71 percent of Zionist Union voters, 89 percent of Meretz voters and 100 percent of Joint List (Arab parties) voters oppose the law. The poll also showed that even more Israeli voters would choose Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's Likud Party than prior to the controversy over the new law. According to the July 30 results, Likud, which currently has 30 seats, would rise to 33. Yair Lapid's Yesh Atid Party would rise by the most seats, from 11 seats to 19. Yet the most dramatic change would occur for the Zionist Union Party, which would plummet from 24 seats down to 12.

U.N. exhibit shows fire damage in Israel from incendiary kites and balloons

An exhibition featured at the U.N. headquarters in New York the week of July 30 will show viewers the damage that Gazan terror kites and flammable balloons have caused inside Israel. An initiative of Yesh Atid Party Knesset member Haim Jelin, the former head of the Eshkol Regional Council, the exhibit contains before and after photos of nature reserves, fields and agricultural lands before and after being attacked by Gazans, who have launched hundreds of flying arson weapons into Israel. The collection was curated by photographer Udi Israel, and displayed for ambassadors and diplomats from around the world. “The destructive fire terrorism not only threatens the lives of Israeli citizens, but destroys the entire ecological system in the south and causes irrevocable environmental damage,” said Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations Danny Danon, who submitted an official complaint three weeks ago to Amina J. Mohammed, the current deputy secretary-general of the United Nations and a former minister of environment of Nigeria, asking her to condemn Hamas' ecological terrorism, which has burned approximately 7,400 acres (or 11.5 square miles) of agricultural lands.

Banning Israeli girl, Tunisia may lose right to host world chess tournaments

Tunisia may lose the right to host world chess championships after refusing to grant a visa to Israel's 7-year-old chess champion for the 2019 World Schools Chess Championship. Tunisia has no diplomatic ties with Israel and will not make an exception to authorize a little Israeli girl, Liel Levitan – the European School Individual Chess champion in her age group – to enter the country for the upcoming World Chess Federation (or FIDE) tournament. If Levitan does not attend the tournament, she and the other Israeli contestants will be disqualified from the tournament. FIDE Secretary Poline Tsedenova told the JPost that the organization has requested “an urgent explanation from the Tunisian Chess Federation” and demanded guarantees that the 2019 World Schools Championship would include Israelis – or else Tunisia would not be hosting the event.

Teach.Continued from page 6

True education reaches deep inside a person empowering him to use the information he learns; to be more productive from within. True education means a commitment to a greater good and value than one's own desires. True education means coming upon a truth from which all radiates and toward which all is channeled: the Torah which Moses taught us. The prayer *v'hoya* exhorts us to make this our goal and concludes with God's promise and the consequence of our actions: “In order that they will be many, your years and the years of your children on the soil that God swore to your forefathers to give them, as the years of heaven on earth” (Deuteronomy 11:21). May we be so blessed.

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