



Jewish Pavilion volunteers Alexandra George (l) and Jennifer Simon visited with Helen Hosid at Village on the Green Health Center.

Students enrich their summer as volunteers with the Jewish Pavilion

By Lisa Levine

When Lake Brantley High School incoming juniors Jennifer Simon and Alexandra George were looking for a place to volunteer this summer to fulfill the Bright Futures scholarship requirement of 100 hours of community service, their Internet search of local organizations brought them to The Jewish Pavilion.

They knew it would be a perfect fit, Simon said. Both of them have grand-

parents that they enjoy spending time with, and they were impressed with the mission of the organization and wanted to help.

"I didn't know it existed, but now since we do I think it is a great opportunity to spread the word about the organization," said Simon.

The pair have been best friends for about 3 years. An important part of their contribution as volunteers has been visiting elderly Jewish residents of

local nursing or rehabilitation facilities. They've played cards and had an ice cream social at Savannah Court and have made individual visits at Village on the Green's Health Center.

And they've made some very friendly connections with the seniors they've met. "It's so nice to see them smiling, and to just be there, and make their day," said Simon.

Pavilion on page 14A

A conversation with a school board contender

By Christine DeSouza

Cade Resnick is a dreamer and visionary in the classroom and the community. "I see what I think would be amazing. If I can get other people on board with me, then we can do that!"

He has spent 16 years as a well-grounded economics and psychology high school teacher and served as a Winter Springs city commissioner. This combination of vision-

ary, community service and teacher has a lot of impact on his students, and he hopes to make this impact on all the students and community in Seminole County schools in his bid for a seat on the Seminole County School Board District 1.

Resnick's motto is "Preparing today's kids for tomorrow's opportunities!" It isn't just a motto for him, it is what he practices every day in the classroom, his home and community.

Not a traditional teacher, he focuses on teaching his students important life lessons in fun ways that they can use beyond the classroom, and he listens to his students. "Kids are amazing thinkers. They come up with all kinds of ideas," he shared with Heritage.

Listening to students is extremely important to Resnick. Listening is how he builds relationships with the students, knows their concerns and issues. It's how to know what's going on in the school.

Heather Doyle, an elementary school teacher, is hopeful to have another teacher on the school board (former teacher Abby Sanchez is a school board member for District 3). "We need his voice at the county level to be a voice for students and teachers," said Doyle. "He understands the



Cade Resnick

needs of students and teachers in the moment."

Doyle's daughter was in his AP psychology class two years ago. "She adores him," said Doyle. "He went above and beyond in mentorship. He is an adult his students trust for guidance."

Class size is an issue Resnick would like to address. Every teacher agrees it is easier to teach fewer kids. It's hard to listen to all the students if the classroom size is 30-35 students.

"An example is this," he stated, "If I'm talking one-on-one, I am building a relationship. If I present it to five people, it's a good conversation; 10 people, it's a talk; if I

have a group of 20-25, then I'm talking to five and 20 students are doing something else. There is no relationship. As the class size gets bigger the ability to know students—be involved in their lives—is harder to do."

Resnick's solution to overcrowded classrooms is to cap the size to 25 for high school, 22 for middle school and 18 for elementary school at the end of the school year, and staff the school for the number of students before the start of the new school year. "Planning for 32 to 35, that's where the problem is," he stated.

Another issue close to Resnick's heart is teaching to the test. The way the school system is currently, teachers teach to the test in order to keep their jobs.

Resnick would like to eliminate testing. He is already in partnerships with the State of Florida and the legislature in improving statewide testing.

He would like to see the IOWA Assessment test reinstated. This test, given to kindergarteners—eighth graders in Iowa and other states, is used for guidance, to see where the students are.

"We need to have these conversations. If there is no real data [from the tests] showing

Resnick on page 15A

US quits Human Rights Council



Reuters / Toya Sarno Jordan

US Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announcing US withdrawal from the UN Human Rights Council.

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA)—The Trump administration has withdrawn the United States from the U.N. Human Rights Council because of its bias against Israel.

Nikki Haley, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, and Mike Pompeo, the secretary of state, jointly announced the pullout on June 19.

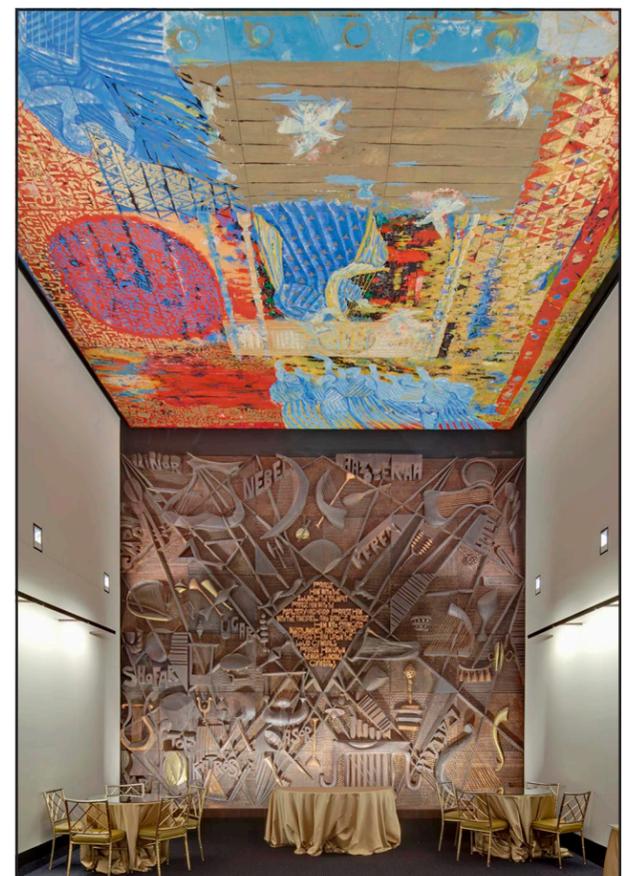
"The Human Rights Council is an exercise in shameless hypocrisy," Pompeo told the media at the State Department.

"For too long, the human rights council has been a protector of human rights abusers and a cesspool of political bias," said Haley.

Haley said the decision came after her "good faith"

UN on page 13A

Kennedy Center Israel room



Alain Jaramillo

A view of the ceiling of the Israeli lounge.

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA)—It's like finding out that the White House has a mikvah in its basement and no one knows about it.

Up an elegant stairway next to the concert hall at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing

Arts is the "Concert Lounge dedicated by the State of Israel." It's a delicate, quiet

Kennedy on page 14A



Experiencing Israel on its 70th anniversary

By Joe Goldovitz

Just a few weeks ago Lynn and I, together with a group of 39 people from Congregation Sinai and Temple Israel, had the pleasure of being in Israel for the 70th anniversary of the proclamation of the independence of the Jewish state. Yom Ha Zikaron (Remembrance Day) began for our group the evening of April 17 with a gathering of many thousands of Israelis at Rabin Square in Tel Aviv. El Maale Rachamim and Kaddish were said along with music selections appropri-

ate for the occasion being performed and televised throughout the country. Sirens sounded in every city and town at 8 p.m. and 11 a.m. When the sirens were sounded everyone stopped their activities, cars pulled to the side of the street and people stood still for a few minutes to remember the sacrifice made by Jewish IDF soldiers from 1948 to the present. We also attended a memorial service the following day at Latrun; an armored corps museum between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. Again the mood was

somber and respectful. Later that day our group entered Jerusalem and made our way to the Western Wall where many of us experienced the site for the first time. Needless to say it was a very moving time.

As evening fell the mood changed almost magically from somber to celebratory as the nation passed from Remembrance Day to Yom Ha'atzmaut (Independence Day). People poured into the streets to celebrate as if we were at Mardi Gras in New Orleans. A number of musical performance stages

were built for the occasion throughout Jerusalem, one of them being just outside our hotel. On that stage was a large wall of speakers and the party began at approximately 9 p.m., lasting until about 3 a.m. We did not get much sleep that night.

I could go on, but one of the most moving events was when we gathered in the synagogue at Yad Vashem after touring the museum. A representative of the

museum met our group to receive a donation from our synagogue, Congregation Sinai and from Temple Israel of DeLand. The representative spoke for a few minutes and then received our gifts. We then took the opportunity to pray as we were in a synagogue and it seemed the right moment.

Lynn and I have been to Israel many times in many different ways in the last 20 years. This trip was extra

special not only because of the 70th anniversary of the Independence of Israel, but because of our fellow congregants travelling with us. We thank you for a most special and meaningful trip to our Jewish Homeland. May God bless each of us abundantly.

Join our next trip to Israel in March of 2019. Call for information. 386-668-4558.

Joe Goldovitz is the spiritual leader at Congregation Sinai.

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CARDINAL MONUMENTS

Upcoming events at the Holocaust Center



Race & Law

On Sunday, July 10, the Holocaust Center presents a program titled Race & Law, from 6 p.m.-8 p.m. at the Holocaust Center.

Hitler believed that as a group, Jews were racially inferior to the Aryan people. It was this belief that led to the development and implementation of the Nuremberg laws. What constitutes race? Are we as different as we believe? How are race and law connected today? Join us for this discussion as we explore the intersection of race and law in Nazi Germany and the lessons it holds for today.

To register to attend, visit <http://www.holocaustedu.org/events/all/race-law/>

Book Club: "The Room on Rue Amelie"

July 15, from 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m., the Holocaust Center Book Club will discuss "The Room on Rue Amelie."

"More than seventy years ago, countless ordinary citizens in Occupied Europe stood up to the Nazis by becoming members of Resistance networks, designed to smuggle at-risk people to safety. In international bestselling novelist Kristin Harmel's *The Room on Rue Amelie*, out now from Gallery Books (Simon & Schuster), we meet one such crusader, Ruby Benoit, an American woman in Paris who helps save downed Allied pilots and also pro-

tests her beloved next-door neighbor, a Jewish teen named Charlotte. Join us as we discuss *Ruby and The Room on Rue Amelie*, an epic love story that Publishers Weekly says "hammers home the message that each person has a unique opportunity to stand against injustice. This is a celebration of those, like Ruby, who found the courage to face life head-on."

To register and to purchase the book, please visit <http://www.holocaustedu.org/events/all/book-club-the-room-on-rue-amelie/>

Both events are free and open to the public. Registration is requested and early arrival is advised.

Discussion on school textbooks with Laurie Cardoza-Moore

A video about our freedoms followed by a talk by Laurie Cardoza-Moore, founder of Proclaiming Justice to the Nations, will be presented by People Promoting Peace and held at Fellowship Church in Winter Springs on July 9 from 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

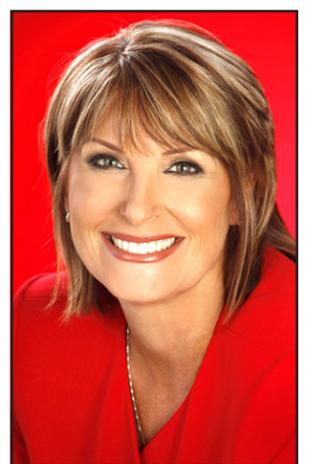
Cardoza-Moore is a tireless advocate through her role as a special envoy to the United Nations for human rights and anti-Semitism on behalf of 44 million Christians to her leadership in statehouses through PJTN's anti-Semitism Awareness Resolution. She is on the frontlines of battle for the ideological, social, moral and religious mind of this generation.

A homeschooling mother of five, Cardoza-Moore discovered her children's textbooks were laced with anti-Semitic, anti-Christian and anti-American content. The revelation of the early seeds of indoctrination of America's children began her quest to

bring awareness and change through every avenue she could reach: legislative, media, advocacy, and ultimately the development of PJTN programs and documentaries that are shared to educate on a mass level.

As host of the weekly TV series "Focus On Israel," which early in 2018 joined the Daystar Television Network's global broadcasting family, Cardoza-Moore's message is faithful to PJTN's core mandate of educating Christians on their biblical responsibility to support Israel and the Jews.

Cardoza-Moore has been appointed, awarded and recognized by her peers for her leadership, including The President's Council of National Religious Broadcasters, the "Top 100 People Positively Impacting Israel" by *Algemeiner* newspaper; an honorary doctorate degree in theology from the Latin University of Theology; and



Laurie Cardoza-Moore

the "Friend of Israel Award" by The Center for Jewish Awareness. She has also been instrumental in bringing attention to state governments about BDS.

Fellowship Church is located at 5340 Red Bug Lake Road in Winter Springs. For information about the event, contact Mike at 407-617-0919.

Charles Krauthammer:

'How dreams of peace led to Israel's biggest mistake'

(JTA)—On June 10, 2002, Charles Krauthammer delivered the Distinguished Rennert Lecture upon receiving the Guardian of Zion Award from Bar-Ilan University's Ingeborg Rennert Center for Jerusalem Studies. Below is an excerpt from the lecture titled "He Tarries: Jewish Messianism and the Oslo Peace." Krauthammer died on June 21, 2018.

In the 1990s, America slept and Israel dreamed.

The United States awoke on Sept. 11, 2001. Israel awoke in September 2000.

Like the left and like the reverie that we had in the United States, secular messianism was intoxicated with the idea that history had changed from a history based on military and political conflict to one in which the ground rules were set by markets and technology. This was the infatuation with globalization as the great leveler and the abolisher of things like politics, war and international conflict. This kind of geo-economics was widely accepted in the early post-Cold War era.

It was Sept. 11th that abolished that illusion. It taught us in America there are enemies, they are ideological, they care nothing for economics and they will use whatever

military power they have as a means to achieve their ideological ends. This is the old history, perhaps the oldest history of all, the war of one God against another. No new history, no break in history, no redemption from history.

The other source of this secular messianism in the Israeli context was the success of the European Union, which was seen as a model for peace in the Middle East. There was talk of Israel, Palestinian and Jordan becoming a new Benelux, with common markets, open borders, friendship and harmony.

Indeed, if you look at the Oslo Accords, of course there is page upon page of all of these ideas of cooperation on economics, on technology, on environment, all which in retrospect appear absurd. And indeed, this entire idea of the Benelux on the Jordan looks insane in retrospect, but I believe that it was insane from the very beginning, when it was first proposed 10 years ago.

There are such obvious differences between the European situation and the Middle Eastern one. First is that the period of harmony, integration and commodity among the Europeans happened

only after the utter and total defeat of one party. It did not come from long negotiations between France and Germany at Camp David, compromising their differences over the 20th century. It came from the utter destruction of Germany and the rebuilding of a new Europe after that surrender and accommodation.

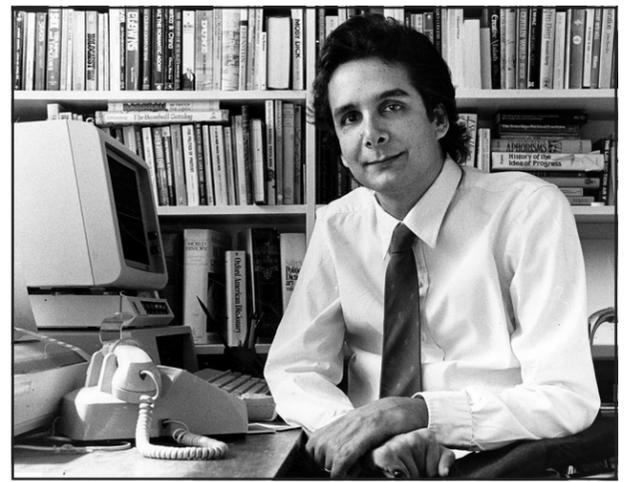
These conditions do not apply in the Middle East. The only way that that kind of peace will come definitely is the peace not of the brave but of the grave, and that means a peace that would be established with the defeat of Israel and its eradication. There is no way that Israel can utterly defeat the Arabs the way the Allies defeated Germany and Japan in the Second World War. So that the idea of some kind of harmonious Middle Eastern Union drawing on the European mantle is drawn from a totally false historical analogy, one that is based on surrender and accommodation that could not happen in this Middle Eastern context unless we are looking at the world through the eyes of Hamas and Hezbollah.

Secondly, the Middle East is still a collagen of religious fanaticism, economic back-

wards and political tyranny. It is nothing more than a mirage to transpose the situation in Europe with the harmony that came after half a millennium of conflict and in conditions of modernity to transpose those conditions to the Middle East, with a conflict as much younger and the political culture infinitely less mature. In this context, to look at the savage religious and secular conflicts going on throughout the Middle East and to believe that the most virulent of these, the conflict with Israel, can find the kind of harmonious coexistence that exists in Europe, can only be called messianic.

Now this is not to say that the only impulse underlying Oslo was messianic. There was a messianic left and there was a realistic left, if you like. The realists saw Oslo as a pragmatic way out of Israel dilemma. I believe in retrospect, as I believed at the time, that they were utterly mistaken, but at least they were not dreaming.

I think Rabin had a fairly coherent logic behind Oslo. He saw three basic changes in the world having occurred in the '90s, and he thought they would give Israel an opportunity to quickly settle



Ray Lustig/The Washington Post via Getty Images

Charles Krauthammer in his office in Washington, D.C., March 16, 1985.

the Palestinian dispute and to concentrate on the larger disputes coming in the longer run from the periphery, from the missiles and the weapons of mass destruction that would soon be in the hands of Iran, Iraq, Libya and others.

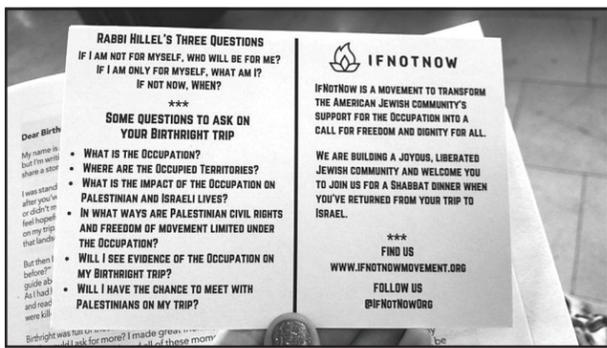
And the three events he saw were: First, the collapse of the Soviet Union, which deprived the rejectionist Arabs of the great superpower sponsor and source of economic, military and diplomatic assistance. Second was the victory of the United States in the Gulf War and the establishment of

American hegemony in the region. Third was the terminal condition of the PLO. Arafat had again, as always, chosen the wrong side in war, was cut off by Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, ostracized by the United States, lost all of his financial and diplomatic support. The PLO was on its last legs.

Rabin thought he was cleverly exploiting the weakness of the PLO by reviving it, he imagined, just enough so it could make peace with him. With the Soviets gone,

Dreams on page 14A

IfNotNow accosts Taglit Birthright groups at New York airport



Ariel Tidhar

An IfNotNow pamphlet targeting Birthright participants.

By Eliana Rudee

(JNS)—At New York's John F. Kennedy Airport on Monday night, Birthright Fellow and student leader Ariel Tidhar reported that the American Jewish activist group IfNotNow waylaid their group, as well as four other Taglit Birthright

groups trying to check into their flights to Israel.

IfNotNow attempts "to end American Jewish support for the occupation," referring to lands administered by Israel after wars, including eastern Jerusalem.

Tidhar told JNS, "They set up a table with a sign and

snacks, and then they were coming up to participants while we were standing in line. While they were talking to participants, they were video recording and transcribing the conversations, saying 'you should learn the truth about the country you're about to visit' and that 'Birthright goes against Jewish morals.'

"Even though the airport is a public place, it's a total ambush on their end, coming with this sign that says Birthright on it and trying to hand out snacks," maintained Tidhar.

According to the student leader, some of the Taglit Birthright participants were "asking them what are they trying to achieve from this," while another defended the organization's right to "share their side."

"We have to figure it out more with our guide, but I think it's fair to have an open and honest conversation about it," said Tidhar. "I think it's a huge problem in the states now."

According to Yona Schiffmiller, North American liaison at NGO Monitor, which produces and distributes critical analysis and reports on the activities of the international and local NGO networks, "IfNotNow for the last couple of years has spent most of their energy on trying to disrupt the Jewish communal institutions, whether its by hosting protests or sit-ins inside of Jewish communal institutions."

He told JNS, "They have a simplistic narrative that Israel is wholly responsible

for anything bad that happens to the Palestinians, and [that] the American Jewish community is wholly responsible for everything bad that happens to the Palestinians through their support of Israel."

Aviva Slomich, international campus director for CAMERA, a media watchdog group devoted to promoting accurate and balanced coverage of Israel and the Middle East, told JNS, "IfNotNow attacks Israel, making heavily biased statements and facts, distorting the truth and demonizing Israel and the Jewish people."

But Schiffmiller maintained that the assault on Birthright speaks to a more fundamental problem than IfNotNow's attempt to dismantle Jewish communal institutions.

"There is a basic mischaracterization about the embrace of Israel as a part of people's Jewish identity," he told JNS. "You can be highly critical of Israeli government policy, but that doesn't mean you cannot embrace Israel as part of your identity—and that's something that Birthright tries to engender."

"Getting involved in Birthright is very misguided by IfNotNow. It blurs the lines between the legitimate criticism of Israeli policy and trying to prevent people from having a strong pro-Israel identity as a part of who they are," said Schiffmiller.

Neither the Birthright providers nor the Taglit Birthright umbrella organization chose to comment on the incident.

'Bombs would have destroyed buses, cafes,' says battalion commander who raided Hamas terror cell

By Yaakov Lappin

(JNS)—Israel's domestic intelligence agency, the Shin Bet, announced on Sunday that it had broken up a major Hamas terrorist cell that was forming in the West Bank Palestinian city of Nablus.

The Shin Bet described the cell as unusual in its scope and activities. It was plotting major terrorist atrocities, including suicide bombings, planting bombs and gun attacks targeting Israeli cities and smaller communities.

The cell comprised of more than 20 suspected operatives, most of them Hamas members. During counter-terrorist raids to break it

up, large bombs were seized and detonated in controlled explosions by Israeli security forces.

"These devices, had they gone off in a bus, would have destroyed it completely. The same is true of a cafe, of course," said Lt.-Col. (res.) Guy Russo, commander of the 8109 reserve battalion, which took part in a series of counter-terrorist operations against the Hamas cell in Nablus.

The cell planned to target Tel Aviv and Jerusalem with bombings, as well the settlement of Itamar near Nablus, and carry out additional shooting attacks in the northern West Bank,

according to the Shin Bet. Some of the attacks were stopped just before they were scheduled to begin, added the intelligence service.

"We were called up during a time when there was an expectation of incidents because of 'Nakba Day' and the transfer of the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem [on May 14]. As soon as we were called up, we joined efforts by security forces—the Shin Bet, the Israel Police bomb squad and ourselves—to find and expose the Hamas cell," said Russo.

The cell's goal, he explained, was to prepare a number of bombs, and set them off" in Israeli cities.

"There was a considerable number of explosive devices... the scope of damage from these devices [would have been] powerful."

Russo's battalion took part in setting off the bombs in a controlled manner in villages around Nablus. The commander described how the battalion moved Palestinian civilians away from the scene of controlled explosions to prevent injuries, in contrast to Hamas's tactic of hiding the bombs "in the middle of the villages, without concern for harming local civilians."

"As a reserve officer, to see the powerful explosions, [it] strengthened our sense of purpose and our [resolve

to] contribute to the State of Israel," he said.

"This was an organized, professional cell with many explosives that had major destructive power. I don't recall such a cell in recent years that we broke up," the battalion commander said.

The counter-terrorist raids occurred during the highly sensitive month of Ramadan, he said, obligating the army to act with "greater sensitivity." There were some clashes during the arrests in villages around Nablus, but the army dealt with them proportionately, said Russo, and there were no injuries in any of the incidents.

The Shin Bet has detected

and broken up approximately 250 large-scale terrorist cells since the start of 2018 alone, giving an indication of the scale of violence it has spared Israel's cities and civilians.

The latest episode illustrates "the motivation and efforts invested by the Hamas organization in setting up a terrorist infrastructure," the Shin Bet said in statement.

For his part, Russo said the battalion's soldiers—made up of reserve soldiers from a variety of ages and backgrounds—will continue to "be called up to the flag, arrive every year for training and operations, and do their part for national security."

Heads turn away when it comes to the Islamization of Europe

By Melanie Phillips

(JNS)—Once again, Hezbollah flags flew in London last weekend at the Iran-supporting “Al Quds” march in Britain’s capital city.

Hezbollah, the proxy army of the Iranian regime, is responsible for numerous murderous attacks around the world against Jews, Americans and other Western interests.

No matter. The march—an annual London fixture, no less—featured calls for Israel to be wiped from the map, and was led by a man who previously made the deranged claim that “Zionists” were behind an appalling London apartment block fire last year in which more than 70 people died.

In Germany last week, a Jewish teen, 14-year-old Susanna Maria Feldman, was raped and murdered. A failed Iraqi asylum-seeker with a long police record was subsequently arrested by Kurdish authorities in northern Iraq at the request of the German police.

Mass Muslim immigration is taking a terrifying toll across swathes of Europe. A report published in April by Germany’s Federal Criminal Police Office revealed an increase

of nearly 500 percent in migrant sex crimes during the past four years.

In Sweden, the number of gang-related shootings has surged by 43 percent in the last three years and reported rapes by 34 percent in the last 10 years. The police and others say this is due to hugely increased Muslim migration, and that the Swedish legal system is collapsing with Islamist extremists taking over whole areas.

Between 2012 and 2017, Muslim terrorists murdered 250 people in France. In March, four people were killed in the small town of Trèbes.

In the same month, 85-year-old Holocaust survivor Mireille Knoll, who was murdered in her Paris apartment by a Muslim youth, became the 11th French Jew to have been murdered in an Islamist terror attack over the past 12 years. According to official figures, anti-Semitic violence in France increased last year by 26 percent.

Yet throughout Europe, there is a paralysis over attributing this cultural catastrophe to the Islamic world. Yes, it’s important to note that many Muslims refuse to subscribe to this, that millions lead unblemished lives in the

West and that they are themselves targeted by Islamist extremists. But the silence over the specific religious roots of this widespread extremism is contributing to its acceleration.

In Britain, virtually no concern is expressed over the thousands of young white girls targeted by overwhelmingly Pakistani Muslim-heritage rape and pimping gangs. Despite criminal trial after trial of such men, following years of total silence and cover-up, no one questions what this means for British society. A similar silence has descended over the national implications of proven attempts to infiltrate and Islamize some Birmingham schools.

The reason the British government allows the Hezbollah marches is that, farcically, it claims the marchers support its political wing, which it deems legitimate because Hezbollah is involved in the Lebanese government, rather than its terrorist wing, which Britain proscribes.

The fact that Hezbollah has effectively taken Lebanon hostage is disregarded. The fact that it has embedded among southern Lebanon’s civilian population 130,000 missiles pointing at Israel is disregarded.

In lockstep with this refusal to acknowledge that Islamic religious fanaticism is Islamic, anti-Semitism is once more openly stalking Britain and Europe. Put to one side the anti-

Semitism of the left that hides behind hatred of Israel. There is almost total silence over Muslim anti-Semitism and its symbiotic role in Islamist terrorism.

Hezbollah is riddled with Jew-hatred. “If we searched the entire world for a person more cowardly, despicable, weak and feeble in psyche, mind, ideology and religion,” stated its secretary-general Hassan Nasrallah, “we would not find anyone like the Jew. Notice I do not say the Israeli.”

Medieval and Nazi-style anti-Semitic texts and images pour out of the Muslim world. Many if not most Muslim migrants into Europe are bringing with them profound, paranoid and sometimes violent hatred of the Jews.

Yet Britain and Europe treat this as a marginal issue. They don’t get that Jew-hatred is a principal driver of the Islamists’ hatred of the West, which they believe is controlled by the Jews. They don’t get that the Muslim world doesn’t hate the Jews because it hates Israel; it hates Israel because it hates the Jews. And they don’t get that anti-Semitism is the signature motif of an eclipse of reason.

That should rule out treating any leader who subscribes to such lunacy as anything other than a pariah. Yet Britain and Europe continue to insist that the Iranian Supreme

Europe on page 15A

Shipley speaks

No such thing



By Jim Shipley

In my last column I tried to reduce some 5,000 years of our history to less than a thousand words. I apologize for the gaps.

So, now let us turn to the “Palestinians.” If you search history you will find that the land that is today Israel did not have a formal “Nation State” prior to the Israelites coming in from a long desert trek.

There were no “Arabs” living there. The “Arabs” of the time were basically wandering Bedouin nomads. Before Israel, the land was visited by the Phoenicians and Greeks as they built routes for trade (and war). By the time the Jews were done roaming through Egypt for 40 years (where was Waze when we needed it) the land was held by various tribes descended from the Greeks and Phoenicians who settled there.

When the Babylonians put an end to the First Jewish Commonwealth and took the elite of Israel back to Babylon, we lived in exile and took the time to write the Torah as the Rabbis took the oral history and wrote it in Aramaic. We were repatriated by the Persians and slowly the Hebrew language emerged.

So, we had two of the lynch pins of a people: A language and a land. Hebrew has similarities to Aramaic and other languages of the Middle East—It figures. There were no signs of any “organized” Arabian Society. Wandering Bedouin Tribes - absolutely. They traded with various permanent societies and robbed and pillaged some of the same.

Arab Tribes grew and populated most of what was known as “Arabia”. Their language was Arabic. They each had their Kings or Sheiks—But, unlike European Royal Societies, there were no “planned marriages” to further Royal political plans. The Tribes had their customs and their own laws and existed on trade, war and slavery.

Then along came World War One. It involved the French, the English and the Germans. One wonders to this day how WE got sucked in. So, you are asking—what does this have to do with Arabs and so-called Palestinians? Read on.

In a strategy to secure the Middle East and its oil potential, the British govern-

ment sent a young British Diplomat named T.E. Lawrence to Arabia to get the leading figures there: Emir Faisal—head of one of the most important Bedouin tribes and Hussain Bin Ali, the Sharif of Mecca to join the British cause.

Lawrence was to promise them a nation of their own in all of Arabia IF they would help defeat the Germans. For what happened I refer you to the film “Lawrence of Arabia.” If you have not seen it—do.

As you know, the Allies won a pyric victory and never gave the Arabs their nation—just a strip of desert that became Saudi Arabia (and guess where most of the oil turned up?).

BUT: What Faisal and Bin Ali managed to do was to unite the Tribes of the desert into one massive force. For the first time there was peace between the major Tribes of the Desert. So, they intermarried—more wives than husbands, of course.

Today in the scattered kingdoms, dictatorships and open areas of the Middle East you have a common language, Arabic - the first “must have” to become a “People” and various Sects of Islam—but no definitive separations genealogically. So what’s the point? THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A PALESTINIAN. Those who live and lived in what is now Israel were Arabs. Their DNA is shared with Arabs throughout the Middle East.

There are Jews today who can trace their lineage back to the Second Jewish Commonwealth—Pre-Roman Times. THEY have DNA - the Arabs of Israel, Lebanon, Syria, etc. share DNA. They are the descendants of Tribes that roamed the Deserts and never, except for the Egyptians claimed a national heritage.

Until 1964 when Yasser Arafat—a Tunisian or his minions found a name and created the “Palestinian People”.

Were there Arabs throughout the Middle East from biblical times on? Of Course. Did they have ideas of Sovereignty? Nationhood? Not until 1964 when Arafat got an incredible PR idea and began to spread the Big Lie. He did a good job. That does not make it fact. So did Goebbels and Hitler. Arabs? Millions. Palestinian? There is no such thing.

Anti-Semitism at the United Nations can't go ignored

By Jonathan S. Tobin

(JNS)—It was just another day at the office for U.N. officials. As it has done innumerable times in the last 50 years, on June 12, the General Assembly devoted an entire day of debate, procedural wrangling and voting to an effort to condemn Israel. As was the case with almost every previous effort of this kind, it succeeded.

The resolution in this case was one that condemned Israel for the violence in recent weeks along the border with Gaza. It placed the sole blame on Israel, which, it said, used, “excessive, disproportionate and indiscriminate force” against Palestinians who were attempting to destroy the border fence and cross into Israel. For good measure, among a laundry list of anti-Israel talking points, the Jewish state was also blamed for the plight of the people of Gaza and called for the end of the blockade of the strip by both Israel and Egypt.

While it purported to be motivated by sympathy for the Palestinians who died, nowhere in its text was any mention of the fact that the demonstrations have not been peaceful, but were led by armed persons throwing rocks, fire bombs and grenades, and launching incendiaries aimed at burning Israeli fields and forests. Nor did it mention the role of the Hamas terrorist group in organizing an attempt to breach what is, as far as the international community is concerned, an international border. Also left out is the fact that the purpose of this so-called “March of Return,” which has been happening on a weekly basis for months, represents an active attempt to eradicate the Jewish state.

America’s Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley valiantly strove to add a paragraph to the resolution condemning Hamas, but although dozens of countries were ready to support it, a coalition of 100 nations either voted against or abstained on her amendment, causing its defeat. In the end, the unbalanced anti-Israel measure passed with an astonishing 120 votes in favor, 45 abstentions and only eight opposed. The eight who voted no were the United States, Israel, Australia and the four Pacific nations of the Marshall Islands: Micronesia, Nauru, Togo and the Solomon Islands.

But while Haley was applauded for her eloquent denunciation of the resolution, which she rightly declared, the reaction from most friends of Israel was exasperated indifference.

The General Assembly is just a talking shop with no power to enforce its anti-Israel screeds. The same goes for the various other of its agencies, such as the Human Rights Council, which are similarly biased and spend a disproportionate amount of their time scheming against Israel rather than dealing with genuine human-rights crises like, for example, the utter catastrophe in Syria, with 500,000 of its citizens killed in the last seven years. This is deplorable and isn’t made up for by

the humanitarian work done by the United Nations on other issues. But it’s difficult to sustain much anger about it. We’re so used to such bias that every new resolution—whether this one about Gaza or even more dangerous ones like the condemnation of Israel by the Security Council that President Barack Obama orchestrated and then let pass in his last month of office—that it’s hard to separate them from the general din of anti-Zionist prejudice emanating from Turtle Bay or the U.N.’s headquarters in Geneva.

Every now and then, the United States sends an ambassador to New York to stand up against this tide of prejudice. Figures like Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Jeanne Kirkpatrick, John Bolton and now Haley earned a place of honor in the hearts of friends of Israel with their courage and refusal to treat anti-Semitism as normal. But they’ve been the exceptions.

Yet even most of us who care about these issues tend to treat it as mere rhetoric. While this is true, we’re wrong to treat days like June 12 as deplorable though not worth getting all that upset about. While what goes on in the United Nations is, in a sense, just talk, it’s far more dangerous than that.

What we forget about these sessions in hypocrisy is that they give official imprimatur to anti-Semitism. As Obama’s State Department certified, a “rising tide of anti-Semitism” is sweeping across Europe and Southeast Asia. Arab and Islamic hatred for Israel, as well as the conviction of some Western elites that the Jews are the one people on the planet who aren’t entitled to a homeland, drive this trend. If other countries are willing to give Hamas a pass for terror and to bash Israel for defending its border in a way no differently (if not far more humanely) than almost all of the nations condemning it, then that is an act of prejudice against the one Jewish state on the planet.

To note this fact is not to assert that Israel is perfect or above criticism. But when a world body treats attacks on Israel as of no interest and vilifies it for doing what any other nation would do, that is called hate.

The Obama administration treated the United Nations like a sacred multilateral cow. But it’s time for the Trump administration to put even more pressure on the United Nations that it already has done, cutting the U.S. allocations that keep it going and withdrawing from farces like the Human Rights Council.

By regarding everyday hate as ordinary, we are, even if only because of exhaustion and a sense of futility, enabling it. That has to stop. We must never allow ourselves to get used to U.N.-certified Jew-hatred. The United Nations must be made to understand that decent persons won’t tolerate this practice indefinitely without consequences.

Jonathan S. Tobin is editor in chief of JNS—Jewish News Syndicate. Follow him on Twitter at: @jonathans_tobin.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED ON THIS PAGE ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE VIEWS OF HERITAGE MANAGEMENT.

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Do we see the battle?

By Christine DeSouza

Is our civilization worth keeping alive? This sounds like a ridiculous question. Of course it is worth saving we would say. In fact, most of us don't even see the need to protect our civilization. We are nestled in the belief that it will last forever. America is strong, powerful. It is the land of the "free."

In reality, no civilization lasts forever. Where is the Greek or Roman civilization? Actually, the only people who have survived, though they were dispersed from their land for about 2,000 years, are the Jewish people. Once again they have their land, their language, their own form of government, their military—all of which are needed to protect a country.

Gloria Z. Greenfield is passionate about making people aware of the chipping away of our American culture and western civilization. A producer and director of powerful documentaries, her

latest film, "The Fight of Our Lives: Defeating the Ideological War Against the West" shines a light on all the little variances that are happening throughout our country that are turning minds slowly away from what our foundation fathers established. The Zionist Organization of America recently sponsored the showing of this film at Congregation Ohev Shalom. A little over 100 people were in attendance.

As I watched, I was reminded of Nikita Krushchev, who in the early 1960s proclaimed that "We do not have to invade the United States, we will destroy you from within." Most of us remember him pounding his shoe on the table. But his words were prophetic, yet probably forgotten. The term "politically correct," which many think is a good thing now, originated in the Soviet Union. If someone said something that wasn't politically correct, something you weren't allowed to say, you were imprisoned.

Greenfield spend a multi-

tude of hours interviewing university professors, scholars and journalists—spending as much as 90 minutes to three hours talking with each person to create "The Fight of Our Lives." The result is a 60-minute dialogue about what is happening all across the United States on college campuses, in the workplace, in social media, and the news. It's a lot to take in and it isn't good news, although there are glimmers of hope.

Scholars spoke of the change on college campuses. Students are, for the most part, no longer taught how to think, but what to think. An example of how far things have gotten, at the University of Virginia—the school Thomas Jefferson founded—he can't be quoted because he once had slaves. We all have read about the removal of statues of Civil War leaders who are part of our brief history.

Jake Suster, former president of the UCF Knights for Israel and a CAMERA Fellow, attended the viewing and had

this to say of the documentary, "We all really enjoyed it. As college students we felt like this movie was a must watch and that was a huge reason why we would take the time from our summer to come out to the event. At the same time, it's important for us students to keep in mind that we are very fortunate that we don't have the anti-Israel rhetoric that other campuses face like San Fran College. I always made sure our members knew how good we have it here in Orlando, when not too far away you have USF and the toxic environment that Zionists face there and we should never take it for granted. We know that there's always the possibility that UCF could become an anti-Semitic campus for Jewish students and that's why we strive to be as active on campus as possible. This is definitely a film I could see us showing at a future event for our members."

Even in the middle and high schools across America students are taught from questionable textbooks. Religion has played an important part in the history of the world. You can't ignore it. However, there are those who are up in arms that there is not a balance. The topic was brought up in the Q&A after the film.

One side professes there is too much focus on Islam and not any attention given to the role of Judaism and Christianity. In the 10th grade book this is true. However, the "other side" expresses that it isn't as bad as it seems. Judaism and Christianity were the focus of world history back in seventh grade. All three religions are taught, just years apart. The point is, small changes affect children's view of things as they learn. A very good example is the history of the American Indians. What did we all learn about the American Indians? That's another ball of wax that if we begin to melt it, we discover the "white man" isn't so great.

Freedom of speech? Not if it offends someone—and lots of people are easily offended these days.

College campuses also receive large sums of money from China and Islamic countries—all with strings attached. How can freedom of speech survive?

Not all cultures are equal, and yet many embrace multiculturalism. If the next generation doesn't know what the American culture is, they won't be able to defend it.

Do we want our way of life to continue or do we want to globalize? A globalized world

will not bring peace. As much as Holocaust education has been taught throughout the world, it has not contained anti-Semitism. In fact, anti-Semitism is growing as well as persecution of Christians.

"We need to understand that this is a nontraditional war, an ideological war to demoralize the West," said Greenfield. Are we going to see things as they are or as someone wants us to see things? Greenfield referenced the child's story of the emperor's robes. Remember the tale by Hans Christian Andersen? Two weavers make the emperor a new suit of clothes that they say is invisible to those who are unfit for their positions, stupid, or incompetent—while in reality, they make no clothes at all. When the emperor parades before his subjects in his new "clothes", no one dares to say that they do not see any suit of clothes on him for fear that they will be seen as stupid.

Greenfield asked the audience, "Will we say that the emperor has no clothes or be the idiot who keeps quiet?"

If you have an opportunity to see this film, take the time. It might be good to watch it several times because there is so much information to digest.

How Holocaust comparisons are muddying the immigration debate

By Andrew Silow-Carroll (JTA)—Let me start by stating what should be obvious: Holocaust comparisons are lazy and more often than not hysterical. They diminish Nazism and genocide by making them synonyms for "very bad things." You may regard the Trump administration's zero-tolerance stance at the border, and its policy of separating parents and children, as inhumane and un-American. But if you think that's Nazism, you don't know Nazism.

But wow, was Attorney General Jeff Sessions' reply weird when Laura Ingraham asked him about the Nazi comparisons.

Here's the June 18 exchange on Fox News' "The Ingraham Angle":

Ingraham: This is how your opponents, [Attorney] General Sessions, are demagoguing

this issue... Nazi Germany, concentration camps, human rights violations. Laura Bush has weighed in. Michelle Obama, Rosalynn Carter, you've got all of the first ladies, going back to Eleanor Roosevelt, she's apparently weighed in as well. General Sessions, what's going on here?"

Sessions: "Well, it's a real exaggeration, of course. In Nazi Germany, they were keeping the Jews from leaving the country. But this is a serious matter. We need to think it through, be rational and thoughtful about it. We want to allow asylum for people who qualify for it, but people who want economic migration for their personal financial benefit, and what they think is their families' benefit, is not a basis for a claim of asylum. But they can make that claim, we will process it, and I will

review the situation and make a decision."

Let's start with the word "exaggeration." If a wife accuses her husband of adultery, and he replies "You're exaggerating," I'm pretty sure this marriage can't be saved. "Exaggeration" suggests you are overdoing it, but there's, you know, a continuum.

If somebody compared something I did to the Nazis, I hope in outrage I would jump right to the heart of Nazism: "The Nazis' aim was to harness all the power of the state to murdering people and destroying an entire race. Unless you are actually talking about genocide, it's demagoguery to compare any policy with which you disagree to Nazism."

I hope I wouldn't narrowly parse what I and the Nazis do and don't have in common.

ship was formally invited to the opening.

Looking at the other side of the aisle, one can note that there has been a general reduction of anti-Semitic acts during the recent history here up till 2016 when the current Republican administration took over and there was a large uptick in anti-Semitic acts, which many claim are a result of the rhetoric used by the current administration and especially our president. The comments made by our president after the tragic events in Charlottesville when he said both sides, neo-Nazis and counter-protesters, were at fault and include "very fine people," is a good example of why this administration's attitude has added acceptance to certain behaviors that were considered unacceptable until recently. Thus one could equally question why any Jew would support these policies and comments of the current administration.

Edward E. A. Bromberg
Orlando

It gets weirder when you finish Sessions' thought for him after he says "they were keeping [people] from leaving the country." As opposed to what: "We are trying to keep them out"? That's the difference between the Nuremberg Laws and our immigration policy? You can almost hear the thought process as, "Yes, we both had problems with alien populations. But ours is ethically defensible because they aren't our citizens." It's telling that it's the first distinction he can think of.

I don't believe Sessions is soft on Nazism. The problem here is defending what more and more people on both sides of the aisle insist is an indefensible policy. And it's what happens when some members of your own administration insist there is no such policy, others insist it is a necessary policy, others—namely Sessions—defend it on biblical grounds and still others—namely, the president—say they hate the policy but deny their own ability to rescind it. Confused and indefensible policy leads to confused and indefensible thinking and rhetoric.

It also leads opponents to overdo it. A detention center or shelter is not a concentration camp, as upsetting as it

is to see children and adults separated into facilities that include chain-link holding areas. Wikipedia has even included the U.S. Customs and Border Protection facilities on a list of concentration and internment camps. But these centers are troubling and cruel on their own terms. Putting them on the same list as Auschwitz and Sachsenhausen only diverts the conversation—and actually gives the purveyors and defenders of a bad policy, a la Ingraham, the opportunity to claim hurt and insult.

Holocaust analogies also force Jews to become language police over a policy most seem to abhor. Nearly 30 Jewish groups have signed a letter asking the government to suspend its family separation policy, including representatives of all the major Jewish denominations. As author Ijeoma Oluo put it so succinctly on Twitter, "Hey, if Jewish people say that they are uncomfortable with the use of 'concentration camps' to describe the horrific treatment of undocumented immigrants bc it feels like an exploitation of their trauma from genocide, IT'S NOT BECAUSE THEY DON'T CARE ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING."

Exactly.

Responsible Jewish groups guard against loose Holocaust analogies not because they want to claim all the world's suffering for themselves, but because they believe distinctions matter. And they fear that if you can prove that something isn't Nazism, then hey, it might not be all bad. But as Oluo continues, "We don't actually have to invoke the deep trauma of Jewish people in order to point out that separating families is wrong and putting people in cages is wrong. It is outrageous on its own. It should be enough to force us into action on its own."

So Jeff Sessions is right: "[T]his is a serious matter. We need to think it through, be rational and thoughtful about it."

Being rational is putting our immigration policy in proper historical and political perspective. And being serious is listening to your critics and taking responsibility for the actions you and your colleagues have ordered and defended.

Andrew Silow-Carroll is editor in chief of JTA.

The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of JTA or its parent company, 70 Faces Media.

Letters To The Editor

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Please limit letters to 250 words. Send letters to P.O. Box 300742, Fern Park, FL 32730. Or e-mail to news@orlandoheritage.com.

Looking from the 'other side' of the political aisle

Dear Editor:

In the 15 June 2018 letter to the Heritage, Richard H. Gleick comments on the absence of Democrats at the opening of the embassy in Jerusalem and as a result not understanding why any Jew would support the Democratic Party. I would like to point out to Mr. Gleick that many, if not most, Jews and non-Jews, who are strong supporters of Israel,

and who consider Jerusalem the capital of Israel, question from a strategic point of view whether this was the proper time to move the embassy to Jerusalem. To question Chuck Schumer, and others, who have a strong history of supporting Israel on their commitment to Israel based upon attendance at the opening defies logic. If my memory is correct, no one from the Democratic leader-



What's Happening

A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

LIGHT SHABBAT CANDLES AT

JUNE 29
8:09 p.m.
JULY 6
8:09 p.m.

For inclusion in the What's Happening Calendar, copy must be sent on separate sheet and clearly marked for Calendar. Submit copy via: e-mail (news@orlandoheritage.com); mail (P.O. Box 300742, Fern Park, FL 32730-0742); fax (407-831-0507); or drop it by the office (207 O'Brien Rd., Ste. 101, Fern Park) Deadline is Wednesday noon, 10 days prior to publication.

MORNING AND EVENING MINYANS (Call synagogue to confirm time.)

Chabad of South Orlando—Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. and 10 minutes before sunset; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, 8:15 a.m., 407-354-3660.
 Congregation Ahavas Yisrael—Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m., 407-644-2500.
 Congregation Chabad Lubavitch of Greater Daytona—Monday, 8 a.m.; Thursday, 8 a.m., 904-672-9300.
 Congregation Ohev Shalom—Sunday, 9 a.m., 407-298-4650.
 GOBOR Community Minyan at Jewish Academy of Orlando—Monday—Friday, 7:45 a.m.—8:30 a.m.
 Temple Israel—Sunday, 9 a.m., 407-647-3055.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

Ahavas Yisrael—Kabbalat, 30 minutes before sundown.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

Torah Portion—Balak Avot: Chapter 6; Numbers 22:2—25:9; Haftarah: Micah 5:6 - 6:8.
 Cornerstone Hospice—Volunteer training, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at 5655 Orange Ave., Orlando. Lunch and refreshments provided. Info: Diane Andersen, 407-304-2604.

MONDAY, JULY 2

Israeli Folk Dancing— 7:30-8:15 p.m. instruction, 8:15-10 p.m., requests. Cost: Free for JCC members, \$5 nonmembers. Info: 407-645-5933.
 Congregation Beth Am—Mommy and Me class with Cantor Nina Fine, 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. \$7 per family; free for CBA members Info: 407-862-3505.

TUESDAY, JULY 3

JOIN Orlando—Torah Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. No charge. More information email rabbig@joinorlando.org

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4

Temple Israel—Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Neely, noon—1 p.m. A parashat discussion class. Open to the public, no RSVP needed. Info: 407-647-3055.
 SPARK—Lunch and Learn, 12:30 p.m. Join Jewish women and explore the relevance of the weekly Torah portion within modern-day life, with free lunch at 954 S. Orlando Ave., Winter Park. Info: Sarah Gittleston at sgittleston@joinorlando.org

FRIDAY, JULY 6

Ahavas Yisrael—Kabbalat, 30 minutes before sundown.

Trump's peace team will bypass Abbas if necessary

Associated Press

President Donald Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser said in an interview published Sunday that the administration will soon present its Israeli-Palestinian peace plan, with or without input from Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas.

In an interview published in the Arabic language Al-Quds newspaper, Jared Kushner appealed directly to Palestinians and criticized Abbas, who has shunned Washington over its alleged pro-Israel bias, particularly on the fate of Jerusalem, Israel's capital.

The interview came out after a weeklong trip around the region by Kushner and Middle East envoy Jason Greenblatt. The team met with leaders of Israel, Jordan, Qatar, Egypt and Saudi Arabia to discuss the humanitarian situation in Gaza and the administration's proposals for a peace deal.

The Palestinians refused to meet with Kushner, and

its leaders have criticized the Trump negotiating team in recent days.

Senior Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat accused Kushner and Greenblatt on Saturday of trying to topple the Abbas-led autonomy government and dismantle the United Nations aid agency for so-called Palestinian refugees.

On Sunday, Erekat doubled down on his criticism, telling Israel's Channel 10 that the American negotiators are "not neutral" and predicting their peace plan would fail.

Any peace plan would face major obstacles, including the dire humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, internal Palestinian divisions and infighting, and recent cross-border violence between Gaza's Hamas terror organization and Israel.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told his Cabinet on Sunday that he met twice with Kushner and Greenblatt this weekend and discussed "how to solve the humanitar-

ian situation in Gaza without strengthening Hamas."

Palestinians 'scared' of peace plan

Kushner said the plan is "almost done," but offered scant details aside from the promise of economic prosperity. He made no mention of a Palestinian state arising alongside Israel, though he acknowledged that Arab partners support that goal.

Kushner cast doubt on Abbas' ability to make a deal, saying that the Palestinian leadership is "scared we will release our peace plan and the Palestinian people will actually like it" because it would offer them a better life.

"The global community is getting frustrated with Palestinian leadership and not seeing many actions that are constructive toward achieving peace," Kushner said. "There are a lot of sharp statements and condemnations, but no ideas or efforts with prospects of success."

Abbas on page 15A

Quote of the Week

"...the building of Zion would depend on Jewish action, Jewish initiative, Jewish courage. They had to go out and to build a state themselves, and they did."

— Charles Krauthammer, June 10, 2002

Medium puzzle
"Founding Fathers" by Yoni Glatt
 koshercrosswords@gmail.com

Across

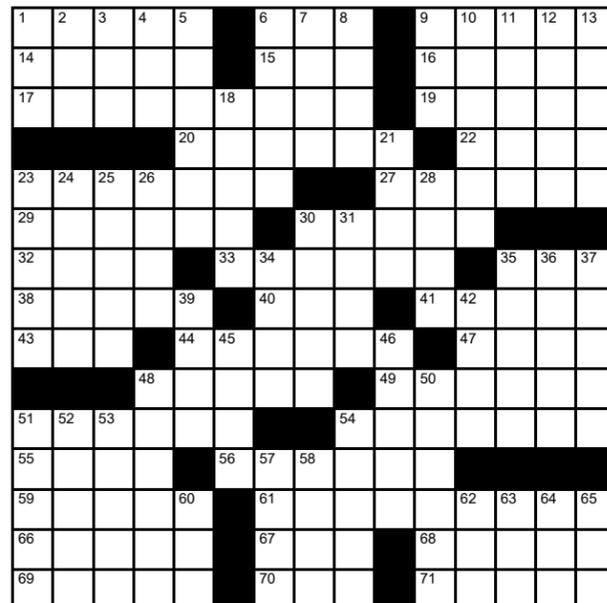
1. He's (still) in charge in the West Bank
6. Coll. whose mascot is the Nittany Lions
9. Gilbert and Hughes
14. Frasier or Niles
15. Not well
16. To be of use
17. Name associated with gravity
19. Pace
20. It finds itself in hot water
22. "Swell!"
23. Yeshiva University's neighborhood
27. Get off the ground
29. The United Nations often seems biased against it
30. It beats a heart, at times
32. Science class, for short
33. Ambassador Avner
35. Squared cracker?
38. Nairobi's land
40. Beer brand certified by Star-K
41. Jewish rapper whose father is the Prime Minister of Belize
43. Sault ___ Marie
44. Thingamajig
47. Wallach and Roth
48. Barnyard honker
49. Birds with showy plumes
51. Way to begin
54. Oscar winner for "Amadeus"
55. Early Palm smartphone
56. ___ and eggs
59. Bird of Celtic lore
61. Mentions knowing (Jacob) Degrom, e.g. ...or a hint to solving this puzzle
66. Teens often care a lot about it
67. Erev
68. Bratislava bucks
69. Palindromic dogma
70. Mich. neighbor
71. He loved Potter's mom

Down

1. Summer coolers, for short
2. ___'at HaOlam (creation of the world)

3. Kind of Mitzvah?
4. Late columnist Landers
5. Be very angry
6. Breads with pockets
7. Messy dresser
8. It parallels the radius
9. Took a load off
10. Locale of Matthew Weiner's hit AMC show
11. Asian noodles
12. Defender of Isr.
13. One driving fast in "Zootopia"
18. How dogs kiss
21. All smiles
23. "American Idol" winner Taylor
24. ___ Chayil (Var.)
25. Hurricane of 2011
26. Like old meat
28. Entry-level legal jobs: Abbr.
30. A sukkah provides it
31. Sneaker cat
34. Those, in Mexico
35. Tippecanoe's partner, in an 1840 campaign

36. "Hotel du Lac" novelist Brookner
37. Like buffalowings, eating-wise
39. Happenings
42. Title for Freud before Doctor
45. Expressions of delight
46. "Philadelphia" director
48. Norman Lear character in two hit sitcoms
50. Group leaders around the Old City
51. Coastal town south of Haifa
52. Set up
53. Aired "I Love Lucy," e.g.
54. Hall of ___ (sports shrines)
57. "___ car!" (game show prize)
58. Kibbutz or Camp
60. Still
62. Seek a seat
63. "... boy ___ girl?"
64. Weasel's sound?
65. Yosemite to Joshua Tree dir.



See answers on page 14A.

"I'm lost without it!"

"It's inexcusable!"

"My week is not complete without it!"

"I can't live without it!"

"How in the world am I supposed to know what's going on?"

These are some of the comments we receive from readers when they miss an issue of *Heritage Florida Jewish News*.

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Social media groups are helping new immigrants navigate life in Israel



LiAmi Lawrence (r) is the founder of the Keep Olim in Israel group.

By Sam Sokol

JERUSALEM (JTA)—Vanessa, a Venezuelan-American olah, or immigrant, had experienced a hard landing in Israel. Faced with persistent financial problems, she had trouble holding on to an apartment.

Turning to the Internet, she found Keep Olim in Israel, an online group dedicated to crowdsourcing solutions for newcomers to the Jewish state. There she found people who were able to help her solve her personal housing crisis. Later, after she underwent surgery, the same group, which boasts 40,000 members, helped arrange for well-wishers to visit during her convalescence.

Chaz Tulin, a 32-year-old freelance computer program-

mer, had similar issues. Not long after Tulin arrived in Israel from Saratoga Springs, New York, his father had a stroke that left him immobile and required full-time care. Sued for his father's medical bills, Tulin lost everything and ended up on the streets. While he eventually posted a request on Keep Olim in Israel for help in finding temporary lodging, for most of his time on the streets he acted as something of a voyeur, following along as other new immigrants poured out their woes on the internet.

"It helped me when I was homeless to see people dealing with hardships in Israel," he said.

Eventually a friend from ulpan, or Hebrew classes, found Tulin on a Tel Aviv sidewalk and brought him to group

founder LiAmi Lawrence, an American immigrant from Los Angeles.

"I had beat-up sneakers that were falling apart and he gave me a pair of his soccer shoes, and I had a long beard at the time and he got me a barber cut," Tulin said. "I think what was the most valuable thing was the moral support from him and others."

As in so many other areas, many immigrants to Israel have migrated online to discuss their problems and search for solutions, leading to the establishment of a plethora of groups dedicated to easing the often difficult and confusing experience of moving to Israel. Groups like Keep Olim in Israel, Ask an Israeli Lawyer, Support an Oleh and Living Financially Smart in Israel have all stepped in to fill the information gap and allow for new immigrants to swap stories, ask each other for ideas and offer help when needed.

The groups are also a window into some of the inevitable challenges of restarting one's life in a foreign country—a topic that has spawned jokes about the meeting of idealism and reality.

Arriving in Israel from Los Angeles in 2014 at the height of a war in Gaza, when missiles were falling across the country, Lawrence was certain that he was making a new start. Despite the conflict, life would be good. The 50-year-old Lawrence



Guests mingling at a Keep Olim in Israel Chanukah event in 2016.

had held many jobs over the years, including model, press agent, radio host and planner of Israeli-themed parties. After being laid off from his latest gig, he decided that what he really wanted to do was move to Israel.

Within less than a year of making aliyah, however, Lawrence found himself with "no job, no money, no hope, no food" and a desire to move back to the U.S. Noticing that many of his friends from ulpan had already left, he turned to Facebook, creating a group and writing a long post detailing his woes. Within two days the group had thousands of members, all "venting and

complaining and screaming and cursing in every language about their aliyah."

Surprised by the response, Lawrence decided to turn the group into a forum for immigrants ("olim" in Hebrew) to share experiences and tips. Around the same time, he connected with Tzvika Graiver, an Israeli attorney several years out of law school who had spent time volunteering for the American aliyah organization Nefesh B'Nefesh. Graiver suggested they create a nonprofit that could leverage the interest of the group's members in assisting other newcomers.

Many of its programs—

including pairing new immigrants with Israeli families for the holidays, providing free legal advice and visiting the sick—have been facilitated by the easy communications afforded by social media. Lawrence and Graiver are especially proud of their role in easing restrictions on transferring foreign drivers licenses to Israel. They recently announced the formation of a small Knesset lobby for olim, headed by opposition member Ksenia Svetlova.

Like Lawrence, Caroline Goldman was prompted to create her group, Support

Israel on page 15A

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How day schools are making Jewish learning fun



Yaakov Nadler

Fourth graders at Yeshivat Noam in Paramus, N.J., play a game involving characters in the biblical story of Joseph.

By Ben Harris

The first time Rabbi Raphael Karlin gave his sixth-grade students a Talmud game, it didn't turn out quite the way he expected.

The challenge was to take a passage of Talmud cut up into six parts and reassemble the components in the correct order. The process required his students at the Jewish Education Center in Elizabeth, New Jersey, to replicate a line of Talmudic argumentation followed by rabbis who lived 2,000 years ago.

On the first round, no one got it right. So Karlin had them look at what their peers had done and try a second time. Again, no dice.

Only on the third iteration did one student finally come up with the proper order. But Karlin wasn't done. He had the students look at their classmates' answers, quiz them about their thinking and try again. Eventually, everyone in the class had settled on one of two answers, one of which was correct.

Then the bell rang. "They didn't want to leave," Karlin recalled. "The kids wouldn't let the other class come in because they wanted to finish. Usually before the bell rings they're ready to go. I had never seen that before."

Karlin was inspired to use games as a teaching tool after participating in the Jewish Day School Collaborative, a project aimed at fostering innovation in Jewish day schools and funded in part

by the Avi Chai Foundation. So far, four cohorts of Jewish educators have completed the project's game-based learning training, which includes a daylong workshop at the Institute of Play, a design studio in New York that creates learning experiences based on the principles of game design.

"I had used games, but always for review, as a summative assessment," Karlin said. "What they emphasized at this one-day seminar was how games can be used as part of the learning process. That really struck me as something I had never thought of before."

The use of games in education is not a new phenomenon, but in recent years it has caught fire. A 2016 survey found that the number of teachers using games and online apps in their classrooms had doubled in six years. At Quest 2 Learn, a New York City public school founded in 2009, the curriculum is entirely based on games developed in partnership with the Institute of Play. The free games created by the nonprofit iCivics, which was founded in 2009 by former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor to promote civic education, are now used annually by 5 million students.

"Not only are hundreds of thousands of teachers—and millions of students—using games in their classrooms, game-based learning now also represents an entire scholarly field," said Emma

Humphries, the chief education officer at iCivics. "Game-based learning has been shown to improve everything from student interest and engagement to higher achievement and a narrowing of achievement gaps."

Games are taking off in Jewish day schools, too. To proponents, the advantages are manifold, from promoting collaboration and problem-solving skills to reducing fear of failure, as students learn organically from their own mistakes much as they improve at video games with repeated play.

But Jewish educators say games have been slower to catch on in Jewish studies.

"The Judaic classroom is further behind," said Alanna Kotler, who oversees the game-based learning initiative for JDS Collaborative. "My general sense is that games are somewhat more accessible to the general studies teachers. There's more openness in general. Judaic studies teachers say, 'It's all text based, we can't do this'"

That's hardly the case in Moshe Rosenberg's classroom at SAR Academy in Riverdale, New York. Rosenberg has gained a reputation among other Jewish gaming enthusiasts as a pioneer in the field. He relies heavily on technological tools to use gaming in the classroom.

One game Rosenberg has found extremely effective is a scavenger hunt inspired by Pokemon Go, a popular augmented reality game in which players encounter images on a screen as if they existed in the real world. Rosenberg's version was designed to teach students about the Jewish value of chesed, or kindness, by leading them to various locations around the school where acts of kindness could be performed. At each location, students scan QR codes to bring up characters on a screen that present them with clues that lead them to the next location.

"Kids are excited about



Yaakov Nadler

Fifth grade students at Yeshivat Noam in Paramus, N.J., play games to review what they learned.

games," Rosenberg said. "Kids aren't afraid of them. Failure is not an issue because every time you mess up a level of the game you are just a step closer to mastering it."

Though much of the explosion in educational games is digital, many are simple variations on older games and don't have anything to do with computers.

Mariel Seta, who teaches Hebrew at several Jewish schools in Los Angeles, got the idea of having her students create their own games after she attended an Institute of Play workshop. Among the games they invented was a variation on musical chairs: Hebrew nouns and verbs were placed on the chairs and the players were divided into groups. One group was allowed to use only the chairs with nouns and the other only those with verbs.

"Playing a game doesn't have to be a really complicated task," Seta said. "You can use something very conventional, a game that you really know, and you can just add and modify and the kids will still learn."

Ariella Fallack, a Judaic studies teacher at Magen David Yeshiva in Brooklyn, had her students create their own board game to

demonstrate their learning and teach their peers. One student made a version of the board game Life to teach the biblical commandment of rebuke. Another created a version of the TV game show "Jeopardy!" A third created a card game to teach the commandment of loving one's friend as one's self.

"It went really, really well," Fallack said. "I've been teaching this material for five years. And that was really the first time that I saw the students take ownership of their learning and really make a connection to it."

Yaakov Nadler, who teaches fourth grade at Yeshivat Noam in Paramus, New Jersey, uses games extensively in his classroom and shares many of his ideas on his blog, hebrew4.blogspot.com. He has had his students play basketball in Hebrew, the card game War in Hebrew and Uno in Hebrew—the latter with a special modification to help students learn different tenses. He has made up games of his own, including one in which students have to act out the feelings of biblical characters in Hebrew while their partners guess the emotions.

"I've been using games to encourage dialogue so that

my students don't just learn the language as the material I'm giving to them, but they have to use the language with each other," Nadler said. "Games give them a defined space to practice the language. If they're learning Bible, they're able to take the material and play a game with it."

Despite the mounting excitement at the potential of games to enhance Jewish education, Rosenberg cautions that excitement and engagement alone are not guarantees that students are mastering the material.

"There's a lot of potential here, and I'm committed to exploring it with my students," Rosenberg said. "But I'm also aware that you have to keep your feet on the ground. You always have to keep on assessing."

This article was sponsored by and produced in partnership with the Avi Chai Foundation, which is committed to the perpetuation of the Jewish people, Judaism and the centrality of the State of Israel to the Jewish people. In North America, the foundation works to advance the Jewish day school and overnight summer camp fields. This article was produced by JTA's native content team.

Syrian handler paid Hamas cell to attack Israeli cities

By Shlomi Diaz

(Israel Hayom via JNS)—A Hamas plan to carry out terrorist attacks in Israeli cities has been thwarted, the Shin Bet security agency revealed on Sunday.

According to available details, Shin Bet agents, in collaboration with the military and police, uncovered terrorist infrastructure they described as "extraordinary in its size and level of activity" operating in the Nablus area in the West Bank.

According to the Shin Bet, the leader of the 20-member cell was paid \$100,000 by a Syrian operative to target major Israeli cities.

The investigation so far has revealed that the cell became operational in October 2017 and remained active until late April, when all 20 suspects were arrested.

According to the Shin Bet, most of the suspects are

Hamas operatives, and some have previous records that include terrorist activities, especially building bombs.

During their interrogation, the suspects revealed that they were tasked with carrying out a number of known terrorist-attack attempts, including a bombing in Tel Aviv, a suicide attack in Jerusalem, an attack in the Samaria community of Itamar, and several shooting attacks across Judea and Samaria.

The cell also enlisted the help of a Palestinian chemistry teacher to manufacture explosives.

The Shin Bet said these attacks were foiled "at the 11th hour."

Security forces who raided the suspects' hideouts seized weapons and explosives, and uncovered information leading to other Hamas terrorist cells, according to the Shin Bet.

"The arrests were carried out smoothly. We surprised them where they least expected it in places where they thought they would be safe. It was a complex operation," a Golani officer who took part in the raid told Israel Hayom.

The Shin Bet identified the cell's leaders as Mutassem Muhammad Salem, 35, and Fares Kamil Zebidi, 33.

Details of the investigation had been under a gag order that was partially lifted on Sunday, when Salem and Zebidi were indicted in a military court.

Salem is accused of acting on the orders of a Nusra Front operative in Syria. The two communicated via the Telegram messaging application, which allows for encrypted communications.

According to the indictment, the Nusra Front operative offered Salem \$100,000 to prepare and detonate an

explosive device in Israel, and he agreed.

"Discovering this cell demonstrates Hamas's efforts to establish terrorist infrastructure in Judea and Samaria, as well as its constant desire to carry out terrorist attacks against Israeli targets in an effort to undermine the relative calm," the Shin Bet said.

Commented on the arrests Sunday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said "the Shin Bet security agency, IDF and the Israel Police have thwarted a Hamas terrorist cell that sought to carry out horrific attacks in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, from Nablus in Judea and Samaria."

"Hamas is trying to attack us both from Gaza and from Judea and Samaria," he said. "This is why we will continue to maintain security control of all areas west of the Jordan River."

Bar Mitzvah

Joshua Glasser

Joshua Glasser was called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on June 2, 2018, at Chabad of Altamonte Springs.

Celebrating this joyous occasion with him were his parents, Mitchell and Tamara Glasser, his sister, Sarah Glasser, residents of Altamonte Springs, and uncles, aunts, and cousins from Florida, New York and New Jersey.

"We join together wishing Mazal Tov to the Glasser family," said Rabbi Mendy Bronstein. "May Joshua continue to bring them much nachas!"





Scene Around

By Gloria Yousha—Call 407-657-9405 or gloriayousha@gmail.com

This report really upset me...

I read this in the World Jewish Congress digest and pass it along to you:

"The World Jewish Congress decried the United Nations Human Rights Council's recent adoption of five resolutions under Agenda Item 7 accusing Israel of human rights abuses and violations of international law in the Golan Heights and Palestinian territories. (I visited the Golan Heights some years ago during the Yom Kippur war.)

"The U.N. Human Rights Council has once again let its biased and obsessive focus on Israel plague its session with its persistence of a standing agenda item dedicated to accusing Israel of wrongdoing and the adoption of a disproportionate number of resolutions containing blatantly one-sided language," said WJC CEO and Executive Vice President, ROBERT SINGER.

Singer praised the states that voted against the various resolutions, chief among them the United States and Australia, which rejected each text, and welcomed the forceful statements against item 7 by both of those countries and the United Kingdom, saying, 'The World Jewish Congress is encouraged by the growing show of support from certain friends and allies of Israel, and urges this council to take heed of the warnings issued as to the discriminatory and biased focus of this agenda item. Those who recognize the unfair nature of this very item should vote against it time and again to strip it of any legitimacy once and for all.'

Particularly 'absurd' among the resolutions, Singer said, was the text blaming Israel for the so-called 'suffering' of Syrian citizens in the Golan Heights. 'Israel has shown nothing but goodwill to both the Syrian Druze residents of northern Israel, who enjoy full and equal Israeli citizenship and civil liberties, as well as to the more than 3,000 wounded civilians treated in Israel since the beginning of the Syrian civil war.

The very content of this resolution is preposterous and absurd. This council would do well to shift this misguided condemnation away from Israel and back to the Syrian government where it belongs.' Singer welcomed the strong opposition shown by European Union States against the Golan resolution, noting the significantly higher number of 14 out of 47 rejections of this text compared to 3 last year.

I salute "Orlando Magazine's Woman of the Year"...
She is NANCY LUDIN! (and I'm not surprised!)
To the 1,500 Jewish residents of about 74 senior living



Nancy Ludin

centers in Central Florida, Ludin helps provide an ongoing connection to their spiritual and cultural roots.

Seniors also enjoy regular visitors, entertainment and special events.

A Jewish Pavilion volunteer herself, Nancy Ludin oversees 400 volunteers, fundraises, and does marketing and event planning for the nonprofit. Ludin also visits the sick and cooks for the homeless through her synagogue.

I love Nancy Ludin. She is a genuine human being, a caring, loving person. Any chance she could run for #46 in 2020? I would surely vote for her!

Another gal I love...

Congratulations to my beautiful granddaughter, LAUREN NICOLE YOUSHA, on graduating from New Trier Township High School recently and being accepted to Vassar College in upstate New York. She is the daughter of Dr. STEVEN YOUSHA and Dr. JESSICA GOLUB of Wilmette, Illinois.

Lauren was a member of the Honor Society, the Illinois State Scholars, Departmental Awards, modern and classical languages and also the water polo team. I am so very proud of her!

Shout Out...

On my birthday last week, my middle son (the psychologist who keeps threatening to Baker Act me) and his terrific wife (also a psychologist) treated me and my friends to dinner at the Outback Restaurant in Winter Park.

Our wonderful waiter, TAYLOR BYRD (also very handsome) and his adorable and loving manager, AMBER CRAPPS (who made sure we were very happy) deserve a shout-out for their excellent service!

(Despite of my advanced age, you made my birthday very special. Thank you.)

Speaking of happy...

"Willy Wonka" will be presented by Camp J Theater on Sunday, July 1st, 2pm-4pm

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One for the road...

Benjy was showing off again. He says to Shlomo, "I've just bought the best hearing aid money can buy. It cost me \$3,000, but it's state of the art so it's worth every penny."

"What kind is it?" asks Shlomo.

"A quarter to twelve," replied Benjy.



Lauren Yousha

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Any volunteers? You are tomorrow's Jewish doers and leaders



More than 150 Limmud volunteers from over 40 communities around the world at a program in Maale Hahamisha, Israel.

By Eli Ovits

(JTA)—“Ethics of the Fathers” includes this bold advice from Rabbi Yishmael: “When we learn in order to act, we become learners, teachers, preservers and doers.”

So many Jewish institutions are asking how they might engage younger people, raise a new generation of leaders and appeal across age groups. How might they advance the Jewish journeys of their volunteers, followers and “users,” and take them further toward greater interest in and commitment to Jewish life?

Limmud, a global network of Jewish learning festivals, set out to find out from its large and growing number of volunteers what works and what doesn't. Granted, we had a favorable cohort: Volunteers make Limmud happen, set strategy, determine the vi-

sion, teach and deal with the multitude of tasks from which Limmud events are built. Even those Limmuds that have paid staff usually draw on a large cohort of volunteers.

Limmud could not exist without volunteers, but we wanted to know how volunteering helped people on their Jewish journeys. What we learned about the benefits of volunteerism could help almost any institution in creating more effective communities.

The British sociologist Keith Kahn-Harris surveyed Limmud volunteers in communities spanning seven countries; conducted two focus groups at Limmud Festival 2017; and held conversations last month in Israel with volunteers from 50 communities across 25 countries at Limmud Connect, Limmud's first global volunteer forum. Ezra Kopelowitz of Research

Success Technologies in Israel was the project adviser.

Here are three initial takeaways from Limmud Impact Study:

Get them while they're young.

It is essential to invest in younger people, including young families. The study affirmed the long-term value of attracting and investing in younger people: 73 percent of volunteers 40 or under agreed that “the Jewish life I live is strongly impacted by my experience at Limmud.” Nearly 50 percent of those under 40 were likely to report a change toward greater Jewish interest and commitment since their first Limmud. The earlier you become involved in Jewish activism through Limmud, the deeper the impact on your life.

Yet we also found that for volunteers of all ages, their commitment and curiosity

grew as they continued on their Limmud journeys. The vast majority of all volunteers surveyed reported positive impacts on their lives.

It is important to recruit younger people, take them a long way and change their Jewish lives. At the same time, the Limmud study also suggests that communities are most successful when they are multigenerational. They should explore ways to promote intergenerational diversity in leadership, team composition and educational opportunities. This promises a richer communal experience for all.

Learning leads to action—and much more.

Jewish learning encourages connections with other Jews and interest in the Jewish community beyond Limmud. Eighty-nine percent of Limmud volunteers who responded agreed that Lim-

ud increased their Jewish knowledge, and 68 percent agreed it exposed them to a wider variety of Jewish traditions. Notably, 65 percent said Limmud led them to a greater engagement with Jewish learning and 62 percent agreed it made them more curious about Jewish life and Judaism.

Learning begets greater curiosity and more learning.

Beyond creating a framework for learning throughout one's lifetime, Limmud also creates opportunities for relationships among an array of people. Indeed, volunteers made new friends (84 percent), met Jews who were different from themselves (82 percent) and deepened a sense of connection to the Jewish people (68 percent).

More than a third of Limmud volunteers reported that Limmud had led them to become more involved in their communities. A full 20 percent reported that involvement in Limmud even led them to set up (alone or with others) a new Jewish initiative. These include launching educational programs, cultural events and new places of prayer.

This is the crux of Rabbi Yishmael's teaching: Learning leads to action—from prompting more learning, to building relationships with other Jews, to getting active in the broader Jewish community, including launching new initiatives.

Volunteers get from what they give.

Limmud volunteers form the foundation of the grassroots, cross-communal organization. Volunteering engenders not just a deep connection to the Jewish people and Jewish learning, it also provides practical tools to take the connection further.

Significant proportions of volunteers reported that Limmud impacted on their career (41 percent), gave them a greater sense of confidence (55 percent) and helped them develop their leadership skills (55 percent). The volunteer

experience offers added value for careers and raising volunteer's leadership profile.

The more the Jewish community invests in leadership skills training and provides leadership opportunities, the deeper the impact on Jewish life. We found that the more senior the leadership level in Limmud, the greater one's Jewish life is impacted. Learning to act and acting to learn creates the preservers and doers that Rabbi Yishmael promises.

Of course, for volunteerism to thrive it requires us to hand over the keys to our community and share leadership opportunities.

The bottom line: There are tangible benefits to volunteering. When your organizations hand over leadership, your activists will be more committed to Jewish life and their Jewish life will be richer. And by eliminating as many barriers to leadership as possible, you make it accessible for people of all ages and backgrounds to excel.

One note of caution from the study, however: Volunteers need support frameworks to avoid burnout. It is essential to anticipate the costs of intense volunteer involvement and plan for ways to encourage succession planning, as well as sharing of systems and best practices.

By providing these kinds of practices and opportunities, Jewish institutions can further education and engagement and inspire communal activism for all ages and backgrounds. By investing in volunteerism and diversity, they will have more engaged Jewish leaders and one more solution to safeguarding Jewish continuity. Rabbi Yishmael would be proud.

Eli Ovits is chief executive of Limmud, which operates in 90 communities spanning 42 countries.

The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of JTA or its parent company, 70 Faces Media.

EU is funding legal proceedings against IDF soldiers, reports watchdog group

By Ariel Kahana

(Israel Hayom via JNS)—The collaboration between the European Union and left-wing groups seeking to undermine Israel and the Israel Defense Forces now includes the funding of legal proceedings against IDF soldiers, a watchdog group revealed last week.

NGO Monitor, which promotes greater transparency among foreign-funded Israeli nongovernmental organizations, claims that the program, to which the European Union has allocated €250,000 (\$290,000), was set up at the request of three left-wing groups and is slated to be in place at least until 2021.

This latest initiative is the brainchild of Yesh Din—Volunteers for Human Rights; Breaking the Silence, an advocacy group dedicated to exposing alleged wrongdoings by the IDF; and Physicians for Human Rights—Israel.

Citing a “culture of impunity among members of Israel's security forces,” the groups claim that the Israeli judiciary is incapable of properly investigating illegal actions against Palestinians when those are committed by IDF soldiers.

“The military justice system allows soldiers to act with almost complete impunity” in cases involving “forced entrances into Palestinian homes,” the groups claim in the petition for E.U. funding.

The Europeans often accuse Israel of allowing its security forces to act with impunity, thus exempting them from accountability for their actions.

The E.U.'s consent to fund such legal action is considered a serious legal threat, as up until now, the international community has accepted the assumption that Israel is capable of investigating itself.

The initiative could, in

fact, compromise Israel internationally, as under the Rome Statute—the treaty that outlines the principles by which the International Criminal Court in The Hague operates—a country's inability to investigate itself is grounds for ICC intervention.

The groups claim the program is necessary so as to “identify and address, through legal and public proceedings, systemic failures in the military administration,” meaning to point a finger at officers and soldiers.

The groups have asked the E.U. for funding to supply Palestinian women with video cameras, so they could document the IDF's security missions, especially arrest raids.

This is necessary “for the purpose of building a database, providing testimony, following up on investigations, filing appeals over their closing, and filing High Court

of Justice petitions on matters of principle and in specific cases,” the funding request explained.

The program “means to keep the issue of Israel and its security forces' impunity on the international agenda, as well as raise international awareness to the systemic impact of the failure to enforce the law on Palestinian communities.”

It further seeks to “challenge the continued violations of human rights resulting from such home invasions, which are often arbitrarily carried out by the Israeli security forces,” the request continued. It makes no mention of the fact that these alleged “invasions” are actually raids carried out as part of the IDF and Shin Bet security agency's counterterrorism efforts.

Shin Bet Director Nedav Argaman revealed last week that these efforts have prevented more than 250 major

terrorist attacks since the beginning of the year.

The program has been set up despite its potential disruption to daily counterterrorism efforts, said NGO Monitor. The funding request does not specifically state that that is what it seeks to do, but the steps it suggests taking appear to aim for that result.

“This is a disturbing step in the way these organizations are working to raise money, especially given the European Union's agreement to fund a project that claims that the Israeli judiciary is dysfunctional,” a statement by NGO Monitor said.

A statement by Breaking the Silence said that “as usual, Israel Hayom is not interested in checking the facts, only in false headlines that serve the political agenda of the government for which it works.”

“Breaking the Silence does not, in any way, seek to prosecute Israeli soldiers and their

identity is protected from those who wish them harm. Anyone trying to describe a different reality at the expense of journalistic integrity, including Israel Hayom, does so at their own risk.”

A statement by Yesh Din said, “This is a biased report that aims to present human rights groups' activities in a false and distorted manner.”

“As we were not given adequate time to respond to this nonsense, we will say only that the attempt to present this initiative as one trying to undermine ongoing IDF activities is utterly baseless, and it is clear anyone in their right mind, including the reporter and his sources, that the truth is light years away from that.”

“The claim that this program allegedly seeks to prosecute Israeli soldiers at the ICC is also a total lie,” the group said.

The European Union was unavailable for comment.

Abbas under pressure by Arab states to 'end Trump boycott'

By Daniel Siryoti and Israel Hayom Staff

(JNS)—Palestinian Authority leader Mahmoud Abbas is reportedly facing substantial pressure to meet with U.S. President Donald Trump's top Middle East advisers this week, despite the rift between Washington and Ramallah.

Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser Jared Kushner, and U.S. Special Representative for International Negotiations Jason Greenblatt, will visit Israel, Egypt and Jordan to discuss the upcoming U.S. peace plan for the region.

Abbas has rejected the United States as a peace broker in the wake of Trump's Dec. 6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital, saying the move proved the America was "grossly biased" towards Israel.

Abbas spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeineh told Palestinian media Sunday that Kushner and Greenblatt's visit is "a waste of time," and that the U.S. peace plan is "doomed to fail."

He claimed that the White House is trying to "separate the Gaza Strip from the West Bank," and repeated that "without the agreement of the Palestinian people and as long as an attempt to circumvent the legitimate Palestinian institutions continues, the meetings are destined to fail."

Despite this, Palestinian officials told Israel Hayom Sunday that officials in Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Jordan, as well as top officials in the Palestinian Authority itself, are pressuring Abbas to meet with the American envoys.

"Discussing the U.S. peace proposal does not obligate the P.A. to anything, but it would be wise to hear the details before rejecting it outright," one Palestinian official said.

Abbas has conditioned any meeting with U.S. officials on Washington rescinding its recognition of Jerusalem as the Israeli capital and canceling its embassy move there.

Arab diplomats said the Palestinian leader is likely to compromise and discuss the new American peace plan, albeit under protest.

"The statements by Abu Mazen [Abbas] and his associates in the Arab and Palestinian media against the Trump administration plan are intended for the Palestinian public's ears," a senior P.A. official told Israel Hayom.

"Abu Mazen doesn't have many options. Eventually, he will have to climb down the tree, compromise and accept the American plan. This is just a proposal, and all the parties have told him that he can't automatically reject it before studying it," the official said.

Another Palestinian official told Israel that the Palestinian Authority is wary of potential punitive action the U.S. may take against Ramallah, especially given Trump's unwavering stance against Iran and North Korea on nuclear weapons, and against the European Union and other U.S. allies on issues such as trade tariffs.

"The Palestinian leadership is preoccupied with a power struggle that is being waged behind the scenes over the post-Abbas era," he said, referring to the ailing 82-year-old leader's refusal to name a successor.

"Officials in the moderate Arab states and in Washington have made it clear to Abbas that rejecting the U.S. peace plan and the continued boycotting of Trump's envoys will come back to bite them, and that this is a strategic mistake given President Trump's hard-line policies and the support he has among the moderate Arab states."

A third P.A. official confirmed that senior Saudi and UAE officials have made it clear to Abbas that they support the American peace plan, and are willing to offer the Palestinians diplomatic and financial guarantees to ensure they return to the negotiating table.

"Abu Mazen has held quite a few conversations with senior officials in Riyadh, Abu Dhabi, Cairo and Amman and he was told, in no uncertain terms, that he has to at least listen to what the American plan includes. He was also assured that he would receive their [the moderate Arab states'] backing for any reservations he might have about the plan," said the official.

"The main message was that the Palestinian Authority had to listen to the American proposal because Abu Mazen is in no position to dictate terms like who he will or won't speak with. He will receive the Arab nations' support as long as his decisions are rational and strategic."

"The direction in which Abu Mazen is leading the P.A. is diplomatic suicide that the Palestinians are likely to regret for generations to come. We have already seen that Trump is not [previous President Barack] Obama. It's high time Abu Mazen understood that as well."

Central Florida Synagogues

Orlando Weekday Morning Minyan (Conservative/Egalitarian), services Monday-Friday 7:45 a.m. (9 a.m.—national holidays); 2nd floor Chapel—Jewish Academy of Orlando; 851 N. Maitland Ave., Maitland. For information call 407-298-4650.

Celebration Jewish Congregation (R), services and holiday schedules shown at www.JewishCelebration.org; 407-566-9792.

Chabad Lubavitch of North Orlando (O), 1701 Markham Woods Road, Longwood, 407-636-5994, www.jewishorlando.com; services: Friday 7:00 p.m.; Saturday at 9:30 a.m.

Chabad of Altamonte Springs (O), 414 Spring Valley Lane, Altamonte Springs, 407-280-0535; www.jewishaltamonte.com.

Chabad of South Orlando (O), 7347 Sand Lake Road, Orlando, 407-354-3660; www.jewishorlando.com; Shabbat services: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. and 10 minutes before sunset; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, 8:15 a.m.

Chabad of the Space & Treasure Coasts (O), 1190 Highway A1A, Satellite Beach, 321-777-2770.

Congregation Ahavas Yisrael/Chabad (O), 708 Lake Howell Rd., Maitland, 407-644-2500; www.chabadorlando.org; services: Sunday, 9 a.m.; Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.; Shabbat services: Friday, 6:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.; Family service, 4th Friday of the month.

Congregation Bet Chaim (R), 181 E. Mitchell Hammock, Oviedo, 407-830-7211; www.betchaim.org; Shabbat services: Friday, 8 p.m.

Congregation Beth Am (C), 3899 Sand Lake Road, Longwood, 407-862-3505; www.congbetham.org; Shabbat services: Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.

Congregation Beth El (C), 2185 Meadowlane Ave., West Melbourne, 321-779-0740; Shabbat services, 1st & 3rd Friday, 8 p.m.; 2nd & 4th Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.

Congregation Beth Emeth (R), 2205 Blue Sapphire Circle, Orlando, 407-222-6393; Shabbat service: monthly, 8 p.m.

Congregation Beth Israel (Rec), Collins Resource Center, Suite 303, 9401 S.R. 200, Ocala, 352-237-8277; bethisraelocala.org; Shabbat service, second Friday of the month, 8 p.m.

Congregation Beth Shalom (R-C), 315 North 13th St., Leesburg, 352-326-3692; www.bethshalomflorida.org; schedule of services on website.

Congregation Beth Shalom (Progressive Conservative), Orange City congregation holds services at 1308 E. Normandy Blvd., Deltona; 386-804-8283; www.mybethshalom.com; Shabbat services: Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.

Congregation B'nai Torah (C), 403 N. Nova Rd., Ormond Beach, 32174, 386-672-1174; www.mybnaitorah.com; Shabbat services: Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.

Congregation Chabad Lubavitch of Greater Daytona (O), 1079 W. Granada Blvd., Ormond Beach, 386-672-9300; Shabbat services Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.

Congregation of Reform Judaism (R), 928 Malone Dr., Orlando, 407-645-0444; www.crorlando.org; Shabbat services, 7 p.m. 1st, 2nd and 3rd Fridays; 6 p.m., 4th and 5th Fridays; Saturday: 10 a.m.

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Congregation Ohev Shalom (C), 613 Concourse Parkway South, Maitland, 407-298-4650; www.ohvshalom.org; Shabbat service, Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.

Congregation Shalom Aleichem (R), 3501 Oak Pointe Blvd., Kissimmee, 407-935-0064; www.shalomaleichem.com; Shabbat service, 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month, 8 p.m.

Congregation Shomer Yisrael (C), 5382 Hoffner Ave., Orlando, 407-227-1258, call for services and holiday schedules.

Congregation Sinai (C/R), 303A N. S.R. 27, Minneola; 352-243-5353; congregation-sinai.org; services: every Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Shabbat Service every Saturday, 10 a.m.

Orlando Torah Center (O), 8591 Banyan Blvd., Orlando; 347-456-6485; Shacharis-Shabbos 9 a.m.; Mon.—Thurs. 6:45 a.m.; Sun. and Legal Holidays 8 a.m.; Mincha/Maariv Please call for times.

Southwest Orlando Jewish Congregation/Ohalei Rivka (C), 11200 S. Apopka-Vineland Rd., Orlando, 407-239-5444; Shabbat service, Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.

Temple Beth El (R), 579 N. Nova Rd., Ormond Beach, 386-677-2484.

Temple Beth Shalom (R), P.O. Box 031233, Winter Haven, 813-324-2882.

Temple Beth Shalom (C), 40 Wellington Drive, Palm Coast, 386-445-3006; Shabbat service, Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.

Temple Beth Shalom (C), 5995 N. Wickham Rd. Melbourne, 321-254-6333; www.mytbs.org; Shabbat services: Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday: 9:30 a.m. Minyan, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.; Thursday, 10:00 a.m.

Temple Beth Shalom (R), 1109 N.E. 8th Ave., Ocala, 352-629-3587; Shabbat services: Friday, 8 p.m.; Torah study: Saturday, 10:00 a.m.

Temple B'nai Darom (R), 49 Banyan Course, Ocala, 352-624-0380; Friday Services 8 p.m.

Temple Israel (C), 50 S. Moss Rd., Winter Springs, 407-647-3055; www.tiflorida.org; Shabbat services: Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday 9:00 a.m.

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Temple Israel of DeLand (R), 1001 E. New York Ave., DeLand, 386-736-1646; www.templeisraelofdeland.org; Friday Shabbat service, 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m. followed by Torah study.

Temple Shalom (formerly New Jewish Congregation) (R), 13563 Country Road 101, Oxford, 352-748-1800; www.templeshalomcentralfl.org; Shabbat services: Friday, 7 p.m.; last Saturday of the month, 9:30 a.m.

Temple Shalom of Deltona (R/C), 1785 Elkcam Blvd., Deltona, 386-789-2202; www.shalomdeltona.org; Shabbat service; Saturday: 10 a.m.

Temple Shir Shalom (R) Services held at Temple Israel, 50 S. Moss Rd., Winter Springs, 407-366-3556, www.templeshirshalom.org; Shabbat services: three Fridays each month, 7:30 p.m.

Traditional Congregation of Mount Dora (T) Mount Dora, 352-735-4774; www.tcomd.org; Shabbat services: Saturday, 9:30 a.m. sharp.

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Psychology association faces pressure to boycott Israel

By Debra Nussbaum Cohen

NEW YORK (JTA)—As its name suggests, relationships are key to members of the International Association of Relational Psychoanalysts and Psychotherapists.

But there is one relationship some members want to sever: the one between the organization and Israel.

At its 2018 conference, held June 14-17 at a Midtown Manhattan hotel, a vocal minority of the association's 2,200 members objected to next year's gathering being held in Tel Aviv, with some pledging to boycott it. The 100 people or so who attended a concurrent meeting in the same hotel titled Voices of Palestine suggested the objections aren't marginal.

To be sure, the IARPP is a relatively small professional organization—it is dwarfed by the American Psychological Association's nearly 116,000 members, for instance—but this marks the first time that boycotting Israel has become an issue outside of academic and church groups and the corporate world, according to people closely observing the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions, or BDS, movement.

Backed by the pro-BDS group Jewish Voice for Peace, objectors and two dozen Palestinian mental health professionals, plus an Israel-based group called Psychoactive, sent letters to IARPP's board asking that the conference location be changed. A petition made the same point.

Some communications asked that the conference be moved to Cyprus or Jordan. Another proposal was that it be held in Nazareth, an Arab city inside Israel proper, or on the border between eastern and western Jerusalem, so the conference would contribute to the Palestinian economy.

The IARPP declined to change the location from Tel Aviv.

"The Board engaged in an open and deliberative process

before deciding to hold the conference in Israel," Steven Kuchuck, IARPP's president, wrote in a recent letter to members. "If we chose our conference locations by judging the political decisions of national governments, we might well have a hard time finding an ideal setting that would fit everyone's preferences and values. To allow our organization to single out one country for a boycott would be to practice the politics of exclusion. Boycotts will not help us fulfill our central mission: promoting values that are integral to the creative development of relational psychoanalysis."

Now those objecting to having a conference in Israel are accusing the relational psychology group of "silencing protests" and "responding like an arm of the Israeli government."

Meeting in Israel is "implicit support of the Israeli government," said Irwin Hoffman, a Chicago psychologist who is also a member of Jewish Voice for Peace. "The contention isn't with every Israeli individual but proximity to dehumanizing I think genocidal behavior which makes it politically destructive for the organization" to meet there.

Hoffman, 75, has not visited Israel since he was in college and will not attend the conference in Tel Aviv. He would not be permitted in Israel, he says, because of his involvement with JVP. Having the conference there "normalizes Israeli business as usual," he said.

"You wouldn't have this meeting next to a concentration camp in Germany," Hoffman said.

The topic of holding the conference in Israel has been heated since it was proposed over a year ago, according to Kuchuck, a psychotherapist and psychoanalyst in New York City.

"We can only have conferences in cities with a lot of IARPP members and active leadership," he said.

Other conferences have

taken place in Australia, Rome and Chile. Kuchuck said only Israel has been controversial.

Lewis Aron, IARPP's founding president and the director of New York University's postdoctoral program in psychotherapy and psychoanalysis, said "there aren't a lot of objections to having it in the U.S. despite the Trump administration's policies."

Kuchuck said Israel's IARPP chapter until recently was the second largest outside the United States with 160 members. Australia's chapter now has 170 members.

The organization's popularity in Israel is rooted by its people's fondness for psychoanalysis and psychoanalytically oriented therapies, said Aron, offering that it was frequently said that immigrants to Israel arrived "from Europe with Marx in one hand and Freud in the other."

"Analysts are active in the media, and a good number have columns and write for the general press," he told JTA. "Analytic books commonly appear in the windows of bookstores."

Israeli accents were heard virtually everywhere at the Roosevelt Hotel conference, which was titled "Hope and Dread: Therapists and Patients in an Uncertain World." Israeli therapists spoke on many of the panel discussions and frequently asked questions as audience members.

The conflict was addressed directly and indirectly in a few of the sessions, including one on Sunday morning titled "Bridging a Sea of Fire." Panelists included American Jewish and Israeli psychotherapists, as well as Manal abu Haq, who works in eastern Jerusalem and Ramla and has written about Israel's founding as the Nakba, or "disaster," and a "stubborn trauma" for Palestinians.

Some IARPP members are refusing to attend next year's conference in an unofficial boycott.

Limor Kaufman, an Israeli therapist living and practicing

in New York, told JTA that she knows colleagues who say they won't go, though they are all engaged in "a productive, open dialogue" about it.

"I don't support a boycott. It alienates the very people who need support, human rights workers and the people in favor of a two state solution," she said.

"Most members of the Israel chapter are very liberal. There is also so much misinformation about the Israel-Palestinian conflict" among those favoring boycott, Kaufman said. "They think Israel is this humongous superpower. It's hard to understand Israel's vulnerability."

Whether there will be a wider official boycott is not yet clear.

"It will depend to a large degree on what our Palestinian colleagues ask of us," said an Israeli therapist in private practice in Tel Aviv who describes herself as an anti-occupation activist and BDS proponent. "We may attend and facilitate workshops on the occupation, or only come to the opening to relay the message from the Palestinian colleagues. This is not yet known."

The therapist did not want to be named, saying it is dangerous to identify as a BDS activist in Israel.

"We want to protest the normalization of the occupation and the increasing violence happening now," she said, referring to the number of Palestinians injured and killed during at times violent demonstrations at Gaza's border with Israel.

The Voices on Palestine meeting held at the same time as the IARPP conference in the same hotel was organized by leaders of the U.S.-Palestine Mental Health Network. It attracted about 100 people, who filled a small conference room and overflowed into the hallway.

"IARPP tried to intimidate us and undermine our effort," said Christine Schmidt, an IARPP member, psycho-



Debra Nussbaum Cohen

Lewis Aron (l), founding IARPP president, and Steven Kuchuck, the current president, at the group's 2018 conference in New York City.

analyst in Brooklyn and an organizer of the parallel gathering. "There is significant interest in talking about Palestinian human rights among IARPP members, and a lot of anger about the censorship and shutdown that have happened" at this year's conference.

"People I know in Palestine have had family members murdered and have been forced to stand naked in the street," said Elizabeth Berger, a child psychiatrist on the steering committee of the U.S.-Palestine Mental Health Network, who also organized the parallel gathering at the IARPP conference.

"These atrocities occur on a policy-based wide scale which is denied," Berger, who is Jewish and not an IARPP member, told JTA. "There's a whole world of clinicians who live in the Middle East and [BDS] activists who will be deprived of participation. It is for this reason that the State of Israel cannot be a platform for scholarly debate."

The idea that those who oppose having the conference in Tel Aviv would not be permitted entry to Israel because of the Israeli government's BDS

blacklist is incorrect, said one expert.

"Everyone's protesting that they'll be barred. But I've had conversations with the ministry on this issue and it's not members, it is leaders" of BDS advocacy groups who would be stopped, said Kenneth Waltzer, executive director of the Academic Engagement Network, an organization of university professors that opposes boycotts of Israel and advocates for academic freedom.

Co-chairs of the Tel Aviv conference next year already are starting to coordinate entry permits for mental health professionals from the West Bank and overseas who want to attend but might otherwise face difficulty, Kuchuck told JTA. There will also be pre-conference opportunities for participants to visit the West Bank and checkpoints and dialogue with Palestinians, he said.

The last time an IARPP conference was held in Israel was a decade ago and included similar activities.

"People went home with a much richer understanding of how complicated the situation there is," Kuchuck said.

Jewish activists are helping families separated at the border

By Ben Sales

(JTA)—When Mary McCabe explains America's immigration courts to children who have been separated from their parents, she tries to make it interactive.

She draws a sketch of a courtroom and asks kids to identify the figures in the room—like the judge or the lawyers—and where they sit. For younger ones, ages 6 or 7, she brings a box of crayons and a sketchpad for doodling. Older kids sometimes play with a toy that drips colored oil into water. Anything to give them a little diversion from her discussing why they are

apart from their parents—and what happens next.

"I'll bring along art supplies that they can use so when we talk, they don't have to stare at me and talk. They can talk while they color," said McCabe, an immigration attorney with HIAS Pennsylvania, an independent Jewish refugee aid organization that's a separate partner of the national agency HIAS.

"Even the older kids, talking about something that's upsetting, they can play with that and it helps them be less upset," she said of the water toy. "If they can play and have something they're fiddling

with, it can be easier to talk sometimes."

HIAS Pennsylvania is one of the Jewish groups actively aiding families that have been separated at the southern U.S. border under a new government policy dictating that every illegal migrant who crosses the United States border will be prosecuted and detained. Since children cannot be prosecuted with adults, they are reclassified as unaccompanied minors and taken away, either to mass children's shelters or foster homes. More than 2,300 children have been separated from their parents, according to The New York Times.

Critics of the policy say forcibly separating parents and children indefinitely is traumatizing and draconian. Government officials—like President Donald Trump and Attorney General Jeff Sessions—say it's a necessary measure to enforce border security.

On Tuesday, Sessions called comparisons of family separation to Nazi actions "a real exaggeration."

McCabe and her colleagues have counseled a dozen separated children now living in a shelter in Pennsylvania about their legal rights, the process of seeking asylum and how they may be able to see their parents again. She has counseled children ranging in age from 6 to 15.

"One 7-year-old girl said, 'My mom can't talk to me, she doesn't have a phone now, she can't talk to me,'" McCabe recalled. "Some of the older ones are also really suffering... They were fleeing gang or domestic violence, and they often came with their parent because their parent was also afraid. A lot of times the older kid is afraid the parent will be deported."

A broad spectrum of Jewish groups have spoken out against the policy, along with many other religious organizations. Some Jews, on the southern border and elsewhere, are working to provide physical or legal assistance to migrants, or to organize other local Jews to speak up.

"Obviously Jews had a history of immigration and of

moving when sometimes they haven't wanted to, and having to find places where they're welcome," Mayor Jonathan Rothschild of Tucson, Arizona, told JTA. His city is 60 miles from the border.

"There's also a moral faith that follows religion," the Jewish lawmaker said. "You can't but have your stomach turned by the stories that we hear."

Last week, 27 Jewish groups—including, in a rare show of unanimity, the leadership of all four major American Jewish religious movements—signed an open letter to Sessions decrying the policy, saying it "undermines the values of our nation and jeopardizes the safety and well-being of thousands of people."

"I haven't seen anything like this in this field since the first executive order came out," said Mark Hetfield, president of the national HIAS organization, referring to the January 2017 travel ban on seven Muslim countries. Nearly all major American Jewish groups opposed that policy as well.



Alma Hernandez, a Mexican-American Jew and daughter of immigrants, is running for the Arizona House of Representatives and founded a progressive Jewish group in Tucson.

Rothschild, a Democrat, said that because family separation is a result of federal policy, there is not much he can do directly as Tucson's mayor to hinder it. But he signed a joint letter this

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Jared Kushner: Abbas might not have the ability to make a peace deal

JERUSALEM (JTA)—In a rare interview with a Palestinian newspaper, Jared Kushner called out Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas for not having “the ability” to make peace with Israel.

“I do question how much President Abbas has the ability to, or is willing to, lean into finishing a deal,” Kushner told Al-Quds on Sunday, according to a transcript released by the U.S. National Security Council. “He has his talking points, which have not changed in the last 25 years. There has been no peace deal achieved in that time. To make a deal, both sides will have to take a leap and meet somewhere between their stated positions. I am not sure President Abbas has the ability to do that.”

Kushner also said that if Abbas is not willing to return to the negotiating table, he and his team of Middle East negotiators will air their proposed peace plan “publicly” and “soon.”

Kushner, who is Jewish and the son-in-law of President Donald Trump, said a peace deal would significantly benefit Palestinians economically.

“Think about the prospects for the Palestinian people over a five- to 20-year horizon if they get massive investments in modern infrastructure, job training and economic stimulus,” he said. “The world is going through a technological industrial revolution and the Palestinian people can be beneficiaries by leapfrogging to be leaders in the next industrial age.”

“The Palestinian people are industrious, well educated and adjacent to the Silicon Valley of the Middle East—Israel. Israel’s prosperity would spill over very quickly to the Palestinians if there is peace.”

The Palestinian Authority’s chief peace negotiator, Saeb Erekat, called the Kushner interview an attempt to “dictate” a peace solution.

“[It] represents a policy of dictation rather than negotiations,” Erekat said in a statement. “It is the Trump Administration that has walked away from the negotiations, from international law and U.N. resolutions.”

Kushner and Jason Greenblatt, the Trump administration’s special envoy to the peace process, held meetings last week with leaders in Arab countries including Egypt, Jordan, Qatar and Saudi Arabia, as well as in Israel, to discuss the peace plan and economic assistance to Gaza.

Abbas has refused to meet with Kushner and other members of the Trump administration, accusing them of bias toward Israel. The P.A. leader cut off all communication with the administration after Trump’s announcement in December that he would move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem. The official move was made last month.

Podcast interview of emotional Roseanne Barr released by Rabbi Shmuley Boteach

(JTA)—Actress Roseanne Barr became emotional and expressed regret for her tweet against a former Obama administration official during a podcast interview with Rabbi Shmuley Boteach.

The interview had taken place two days after ABC canceled her popular show, a reboot of her late 1980s sitcom, over the tweet mocking Valerie Jarrett, a former adviser to President Barack Obama and an African-American. The tweet said the “muslim brotherhood & planet of the apes had a baby=vj.” The actress later deleted the tweet and issued an apology, saying she had made “a bad joke about her politics and her looks.”

Boteach did not release the podcast at the time, saying “I want to give her space to reflect on the recent events and releasing the recording is a decision she will make at the appropriate time.”

He released the podcast early Sunday morning, a day after ABC rehired most of the cast of the rebooted show with reported plans to launch a new show, “The Connors,” about the popular working class family but without the original show’s namesake.

The podcast was aired on SoundCloud, and an edited transcript was posted on Facebook.

During the podcast, Boteach traced his 20-year relationship with Barr, who is Jewish, and noted that she “loves the Torah.”

Barr broke down crying during part of the interview, telling Boteach: “I’m a lot of things, a loud mouth and all that stuff. But I’m not stupid, for God’s sake. I never would have wittingly call any black person and say they are a monkey. I just wouldn’t do that. I didn’t do that. And people think that I did that and it just kills me. I didn’t do that. And if they do think that, I’m just so sorry that I was so unclear and stupid. I’m very sorry. But I don’t think that and I would never do that. I have loved ones who are African-American, and I just can’t stand it. I’ve made a huge error and I told ABC when they called me.”

Barr said she thought Valerie Jarrett was a white woman when she made her comments.

“Of course, no I don’t excuse it. I horribly regret it. Are you kidding? I lost everything, and I regretted it before I lost everything. And I said to God, ‘I am willing to accept whatever consequences this brings because I know I’ve done wrong.’ I’m going to accept what the consequences are, and I do, and I have. But they don’t

ever stop. They don’t accept my apology or explanation. And I’ve made myself a hate magnet. And as a Jew, it’s just horrible. It’s horrible.”

Barr noted during the interview that ABC had asked her to “get off Twitter” when they hired her for the reboot but that she told the network: “I have to tell you right now before we sign any papers that I will never stop defending Israel and the Jewish people. I cannot, if I were to do that, I would rather be dead, I can’t do that. So if you want to hire me, know that. I will never stop.”

Barr tweeted two weeks after the original Jarrett tweet that it was not meant to be racist, but rather was critical of anti-Semitism and the Iran deal.

“Rod Serling wrote Planet of the Apes. It was about anti-semitism. That is what my tweet referred to—the anti-semitism of the Iran deal. Low IQ ppl can think whatever they want,” she tweeted.

Anthony Bourdain did not take drugs before he died

(JTA)—Celebrity chef and writer Anthony Bourdain did not have narcotics in his body when he died.

Bourdain’s death earlier this month at age 61 was ruled a suicide by hanging by French police after his body was found in a hotel bathroom in Kaisersberg, a small French village, where he was working on an upcoming episode of his CNN series “Parts Unknown.”

The New York Times reported over the weekend that a toxicology report showed no drugs were found in his body except a regular dose of a non-narcotic medicine.

Bourdain, who hosted popular food and travel shows on CNN, had been upfront about his use of cocaine, heroin and other drugs, and had filmed a 2014 episode of “Parts Unknown” that

explored the nation’s opioid epidemic, where he talked about his own drug use.

Bourdain received critical acclaim for introducing viewers to often-foreign lands—providing a rough roadmap for adventure—without mocking but instead humanizing and engaging with local culture, implicitly encouraging viewers to do the same.

In 2013, Bourdain traveled to Israel for an episode of “Parts Unknown,” where he explored the culinary traditions of Jews and Arabs and reflected on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. In the show he said his father was Catholic and his mother was Jewish, but that he was raised without religion.

“I’ve never been in a synagogue. I don’t believe in a higher power,” he told viewers. “But that doesn’t make me any less Jewish, I don’t think.”

His mother, Gladys, told The New York Times that she would have the name Tony tattooed on the inside of her wrist as a memorial to her son.

Bourdain’s death came as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released a report saying that suicide rates rose in all but one state between 1999 and 2016, with increases seen across age, gender, race and ethnicity.

After banning Jewish flags last year, Chicago Dyke March displays Palestinian flags

(JTA)—The Chicago Dyke March, a queer pride parade, prominently featured Palestinian flags one year after ejecting marchers waving Jewish flags.

Participants in Sunday’s march can be seen waving Palestinian flags in a video posted by the Windy City Times, a newspaper serving Chicago’s LGBT community. Marchers also waved Mexican, Puerto Rican and rainbow flags, and chanted

“No pride in occupation, no pride in deportation,” according to the newspaper.

The march this year was explicitly “a very pro-Palestinian event,” according to the Windy City Times.

Last year, three women were ejected from the Dyke March for waving rainbow flags emblazoned with Jewish stars. Critics accused the march of anti-Semitism, and one woman at the march wrote on Facebook that “Removing those flags, and the people who marched with it, shows a deep level of ignorance, and yes, it also shows antisemitism masquerading as liberal values.”

One of the ejected women, Laurel Grauer, works for A Wider Bridge, a pro-Israel LGBT group.

“People asked me if I was a Zionist and I said ‘yes, I do care about the State of Israel, but I also believe in a two-state solution and an independent Palestine,’” Grauer said last year. “It’s hard to swallow the idea of inclusion when you are excluding people from that. People are saying ‘You can be gay but not in this way.’ We do not feel welcomed. We do not feel included.”

March organizers said last year in a statement that the women were ejected because they were pro-Israel while the march was explicitly anti-Zionist, and because of the Jewish star flag’s “similarity to the Israeli flag and the flag’s long history of use in pinkwashing efforts.” Pinkwashing is a term used by critics of Israel alleging that the Israeli government touts its pro-LGBT policies in order to distract from its treatment of the Palestinians.

Gretchen Rachel Hammond, the journalist who broke the Jewish flag story for the Windy City Times, was removed from her reporting duties following an outcry over the incident.

UN

From page 1A

effort to reform the body was obstructed by others.

The body “was not worthy of its name,” she said.

The decision split those who, like Haley and Pompeo, said the council’s negative focus on Israel rendered it irrelevant and others, including human rights groups and Jewish lawmakers, who said the U.S. presence was an important voice calling out abuses around the world.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called the departure “courageous.”

“The U.S. decision to leave this prejudiced body is an unequivocal statement that enough is enough,” he said in a statement.

Two human rights advocacy groups with close ties to mainstream Jewish groups, Human Rights First and the Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights, joined a letter sent to Pompeo criticizing the Trump administration for leaving the council.

“Forfeiting the U.S. seat on the U.N. Human Rights Council only serves to empower actors on the council, like Russia and China, that do

not share American values on the preeminence of universal human rights,” said the letter initiated by Freedom House.

In addition to the body’s disproportionate focus on Israel, successive U.S. administrations have objected to the presence of human rights abusers on the council.

Haley, warning earlier this month of the likelihood of a U.S. withdrawal, said the presence of noted abusers was a sticking point.

“Being a member of this council is a privilege, and no country who is a human rights violator should be allowed a seat at the table,” she said.

Current members of the council noted for their oppressive policies include Saudi Arabia, China and Venezuela.

The George W. Bush administration refused to join the council when it was established in 2006 as a successor to the U.N. Commission on Human Rights. Kofi Annan, the secretary-general of the United Nations at the time, pushed for the replacement body in part to address similar concerns about the commission, but the council soon replicated the pattern of emphasizing criticism of Israel and allowing abusers

to join. The U.N. General Assembly selects countries to serve three-year terms on the Human Rights Council.

The Obama administration joined the council, arguing that its presence was a more effective means of defending Israel on the council and of addressing human rights abuses elsewhere.

Some pro-Israel groups have pressed for a U.S. departure from the council because of its excesses. Others have criticized the council but quietly supported a continued U.S. presence to maintain U.S. influence as a counter to the anti-Israel agenda.

The Simon Wiesenthal Center welcomed the departure.

“We applaud Ambassador Haley’s move and urge other democracies should follow the U.S. lead and leave the UNHRC as well,” it said in a statement.

B’nai B’rith International, which like the Wiesenthal Center is a U.N.-recognized nongovernmental organization, did not praise the departure in its statement but said it should serve as a “wake-up call.”

“The United States’ decision to withdraw from the United Nations Human Rights

Council presents the international organization with an important opportunity for dramatic and urgently needed reform, as the steady politicization of the body has rendered it largely irrelevant at best and a destructive actor at worst,” B’nai B’rith said. “Perhaps the U.S. withdrawal from the UNHRC will serve as a wake-up call for all U.N. agencies to begin a process of systemic reform, in order to return the organization to its original mission and principles of equity and fairness.”

Human Rights Watch said the departure was sacrificing an important U.S. voice against abuse in order to defend Israel.

“The Trump administration’s withdrawal from the Human Rights Council is a sad reflection of its one-dimensional human rights policy in which the US defends Israeli abuses from criticism above all else,” it said in a statement. “By walking away, the US is turning its back not just on the UN, but on victims of human rights abuses around the world, including in Syria, Yemen, North Korea and Myanmar. Now other governments will have to redouble their efforts to ensure that the council addresses the world’s

most serious human rights problems.”

“The American Jewish Congress stands firmly behind Secretary Pompeo and Ambassador Nikki Haley’s decision to withdraw from the United Nations Human Rights Council,” said Jack Rosen, president. “This body has a long, hypocritical record of giving cover to totalitarian state sponsors of terrorism while attacking Israel even as the Middle East’s sole democracy defends itself against terrorist assault. The United States’ bold move today demonstrates that it is unwilling to legitimize the illegitimate. The American Jewish Congress hopes that other countries follow the United States as it stands by one of America’s greatest allies while standing up to tyranny and violence.”

At least two Jewish Democrats in the U.S. House of Representatives spoke out against the departure while noting the council’s bias.

“The United Nations Human Rights Council ignores some of the most egregious human rights abuses in the world, and its membership includes notorious human rights violators,” said Rep.

Ted Deutch, D-Fla., the senior Democrat on the House Middle East subcommittee. “The council also wrongly and obsessively focuses on our ally Israel. Unfortunately, none of that will change if we are not at the table to lead the reform efforts.”

Rep. Nita Lowey, D-N.Y., the top Democratic appropriator in the House, said the departure was another example of President Donald Trump’s isolationism.

“By leaving UNHRC, we will not improve its behavior, rather the U.S. will lose its ability to influence the foreign body’s agenda and retreat from its role as a world leader on human rights,” Lowey said in a statement.

Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, the chairwoman of the Middle East subcommittee, praised the decision.

“For far too long, the council has been a platform used by the world’s worst human rights violators to shield themselves from criticism of their abysmal records while attempting to isolate and delegitimize the democratic Jewish State of Israel,” said Ros-Lehtinen, who has long counseled withdrawal from and defunding of the UNHRC.

Pavilion

From page 1A

George was a little nervous just before their first visit. "I didn't know what to expect," she said. But that didn't last long, because everyone they've met has been so happy to see them.

"It's such a pleasure to have the girls around here," said Nanette Tucker when

they returned to visit her at Village on the Green recently. With a day that's filled with physical therapy and other appointments for her care, she said, it's a welcome change to just make time to sit and chat.

Back at The Jewish Pavilion's offices, George and Simon have been answering phones, editing and organizing digital photographs, updating contacts, posting on social media, and helping

with other administrative projects.

They also made centerpieces for an upcoming Rosh Hashanah breakfast that The Jewish Pavilion is sponsoring at the Maitland Chamber of Commerce. "We're really excited, because they look so nice," said George.

With planning in full swing for The Jewish Pavilion's October 28th Gems and Jeans Gala, which will celebrate the organization's

milestone 18th anniversary, George and Simon have visited local businesses that are potential donors for the silent auction and so far have been successful with securing donations of items from First Watch, Broadway Pizza, and Metro Diner.

"It has been wonderful having Jennifer and Alexandra volunteering with us," said Nancy Ludin, executive director of The Jewish Pavilion. "Not only have they

helped out so much around the office, but we were also really lucky to have teens who have been so great with visiting our seniors. They really are able to develop a rapport."

For the two 16-year-olds, this summer of volunteering with The Jewish Pavilion has given them a host of valuable experiences in working for a nonprofit organization that will help them in their school and

extracurricular activities and beyond college to their first jobs.

But it is the experience of connecting and forming relationships with seniors that will remain their fondest memories of this summer.

Jerry, a resident at Savannah Court, was happy to see them during a recent visit. As they were preparing to leave, she called out, "Love you, girls! Can't wait until you come back!"

Kennedy

From page 1A

refuge from Washington that bursts with, well, Israeliness: Paintings and wooden reliefs feature biblical scenes by Israeli artists who were well known in their time.

Forty-seven years after it was inaugurated by Yitzhak Rabin in 1971, the lounge is about to get a makeover.

Mikhail Fridman, a Russian-Israeli philanthropist—the kind that art magazines like to call "oligarch"—is offering \$1.25 million through his investment shop, LetterOne, to renovate the lounge. The Kennedy Center opened up the redesign to a competition. Submissions were closed in January, and the center is now making a decision.

Not that anyone in the Israeli or pro-Israel community here was even aware that one of the most prestigious spaces, the lounge is used for receptions for donors to the National Symphony Orchestra, in one of the capital's most prestigious landmarks is named for the country they love.

"I had forgotten about it," said one leader of an organization known to plan major events in the capital.

"Never heard of it," said another.

And so it went across the pro-Israel spectrum, with a dozen officials saying that maybe they had seen the lounge once, and others saying they weren't even aware of it. (Remarks were mostly not for attribution, even for a topic as unpolitical as an Israeli lounge.)

Israeli Embassy spokespeople did not return a request for comment, but a former staffer recalled that the embassy was surprised by the lounge's existence nine years ago when the Kennedy Center's curators sought information about its artwork.

Step inside the huge double doors and you enter a tiny version, 60 by 20 feet, of the lively, elegant and perhaps dated spaces found in Israeli museums, event halls, government offices and the Knesset.

That's not surprising, considering the architect of the lounge, Raphael Blumenfeld, designed the interior of the Knesset. Shraga Weil, whose painting of biblical scenes spans the lounge's ceiling, sculpted the three main doorways to the Knesset. Nehemiah Azaz's wooden sculpture depicting biblical musical

instruments takes up a wall.

Rabin, the future prime minister who was Israel's ambassador at the time, had an acute understanding of American sensibilities. He perceived the importance to Americans of the Kennedy Center, a modernist, layered white structure that would arise from the Potomac and still beloved among Washingtonians as the capital's wedding cake.

Sarit Arbell was the cultural attache at the Israeli Embassy nine years ago when the center called seeking information about one of the artists.

"I did a little research," she said in an interview. "Rabin arranged it. He was so smart."

The Kennedy Center opened just eight years after President Kennedy's assassination, recalling the idealism of the postwar period during an era riven by the Vietnam War and the Nixon presidency. Plenty of countries donated artwork

to the Kennedy Center, but only three built lounges: the Soviet Union, next to the Opera House; China, next to the Eisenhower Theater; and Israel, next to the concert hall.

Its execution was a project not just of the Israeli government but of the Jewish community.

"The cost of the project is being borne in part by 'Friends of the State of Israel' in the Washington area," JTA reported at the time. Blumenfeld said then it was "the first permanent exhibit of Israeli art outside of a museum."

How did the lounge disappear out of the local Jewish consciousness?

It's not clear, but the officials at pro-Israel groups who knew about the room's existence said it was too small for receptions. It's now used once a month for dinners for donors to the National Symphony Orchestra. On the day a reporter visited, schoolchildren were attend-

ing a concert in the hall, and the lounge was reserved for children with special needs who might need a break.

An actual Russian oligarch, Vladimir Potanin, paid to renovate the Russian lounge a few years ago, and now it appears light and airy: Plush white furniture is set against a massive abstract painting suffused with spring colors, green and blue.

A Kennedy Center spokeswoman told JTA that the Russian lounge previously resembled the Israeli lounge: darker and more solid, the prevailing interior art and architecture of the 1970s. The center would preserve the existing artworks, but Fridman said in a statement that he was looking for something more "dynamic." The existing artwork would be preserved elsewhere in the Kennedy Center, the spokeswoman said. (Silk panels by Ezekiel Kimche were water damaged nine years ago and returned to his family.)

"When I first visited the Kennedy Center last spring, it was full of dynamic, creative energy," Fridman said. "As an Israeli citizen, I thought it was important for the Israeli lounge to project that same dynamism, so that it can reflect modern-day Israeli culture as well as the incredible diversity of the Jewish heritage. We hope this competition can inspire a modern interpretation of the Israeli lounge."

For some, though, it's a stunning discovery, a sudden glimpse into a beloved far-off land.

Jeff Bernstein, a political science professor at Eastern Michigan University touring Washington, made a special trip to the Kennedy Center to get a glimpse and was disappointed to learn the duration of the concert for schoolchildren.

"My son saw it and loved it," he said. "I've heard it's fantastic."

Dreams

From page 3A

with Iraq defeated, with the U.S. ascended, with the PLO weakened, he thought he could make a deal on this basis. He turned out to be hopelessly mistaken, both on the intentions and on the recuperative powers of the PLO once Israel had helped it out of its abyss.

It was one of the great miscalculations in diplomatic history.

Indeed, I believe Oslo will stand as perhaps the most catastrophic, self-inflicted wound by any state in modern history.

But at least in Rabin's mind, as I understood it, it was a calculation. For Peres and his counterpart on the Israeli left, it was a leap of faith. And I mean the word literally, faith.

Chesterton once said that when a man stops believing in God he doesn't believe in nothing, he believes in anything. In the ideologically fevered 20th century, this belief in anything often turned out to be a belief in history, history with a capital H. For the messianic left, Oslo was more than a deal. It was a realization, a ratification of a new era in history.

Rabin's Oslo was pessimistic, peace with fences, separation, divorce wearing its tenuousness. Peres' Oslo was eschatological: Benelux, geo-economics, the abolition of power politics.

Israel, labored under its illusion, did not awake to its reality for seven long years, until reality declared itself in the summer of 2000 at Camp David, when Barak's

astonishingly conciliatory peace offer elicited a Palestinian counteroffer of terrorism and suicide bombing.

This is not to say that peace is impossible; it is only to say that peace will always be contingent. And even that contingent peace will require the demonstration by the Arab side of its willingness, its genuine willingness, to live in acceptance of a Jewish state.

Again, that is not possible. That is what Sadat offered, and he meant it. It is not clear that post-Sadat Egypt means it, although it has lived within the Sadatian parameters at least for reasons of prudence ever since.

But there has never been a Sadat among the Palestinians. And the idea that one can strike a real peace deal with Arafat, in the absence of a Sadat-like acceptance of the Jewish state, is indeed delusional. Until there is a genuine Arab, a genuine Palestinian acceptance of a Jewish state within whatever borders, there will be no end to history, there will only be more and more history.

Bismarck once said of the Balkans that they produce more history than they can consume, and that will be the fate of the Middle East for the foreseeable future.

Let me conclude by dealing with one objection to my characterization of the secular messianism of the Israeli, and I might say American, left. One might ask, "Was not the original Zionist dream itself messianic?" After all, a hundred years ago Zionism itself appeared to be a crazy dream. The idea of the ingath-

ering of the exiles, the reestablishment of the Hebrew language, of Hebrew culture, the settling of the land, the achievement of political independence, appeared all to be, well, messianic.

I would argue precisely the opposite. Zionism is the antithesis of messianism. Zionism argued against waiting in the Diaspora with prayer and fervency for some deus ex machina to come and to rescue the Jews. Zionism rejected the idea of waiting for an outside agent, for a Shabbetai Zvi and a Bar Kochba. Zionism is supremely an ideology of self-reliance, of self-realization. It refuses to depend on others, it postulates no sudden change in the psychology of enemies, it postulates no change in human nature, it postulates no discontinuity in history.

Zionism accepted the world precisely as it was and decided that precisely because the world was as it was, the Jews had no future in the Diaspora and would have to build their future in Zion. Most of all, they understood that the building of Zion would depend on Jewish action, Jewish initiative, Jewish courage. They had to go out and to build a state themselves, and they did.

Oslo, on the other hand, a supreme expression of post-Zionist messianism, was entirely contrary to that spirit. Why? Because of its passivity, its reliance on an almost quasi-religious change of heart among Israel's enemies. It is an acceptance of Israel by people who daily in their propaganda, in their sermons, in their pedagogies,

anatomize the very idea of the Jewish state. It expected a renunciation of terrorism by people who practice, support, and fund and glorify it, and who had been doing that for 20 years, 30 years. It believed in entrusting the security, the safety, perhaps even the very existence of the Jewish state into the hands of sworn enemies.

We have now learned, to our sadness and horror, that one cannot contract out the safety of the Zionist experiment to others, most especially to Arafat and the PLO. That was the premise of Oslo and it has proven to be catastrophic.

I repeat, in the 1990s America slept, and Israel dreamt.

The only good news is that Israel has awoken from that reverie, the most disastrous messianic seduction since Shabbetai Zvi. Shabbetaianism survived nonetheless for centuries; Osloism still has its cultic adherence. But the body of the Jewish people has awoken, let us hope not too late, and once and for all determined never again to succumb to the messianic temptation.

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Charles Krauthammer wrote a weekly political column for *The Washington Post*, was a *Fox News* commentator and appeared regularly on "Special Report with Bret Baier." He died Thursday.

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Resnick

From page 1A

students are learning, can't we just go back to teaching?" he asked.

Another area Resnick sees a need for improvement is preparing students for college when the majority of students are not college bound. More students are career bound and really need skills-based training, he explained.

Although Lyman High School has an engineering program and Seminole High has the health academy, Resnick would like to see these programs offered in all seven Seminole County high schools. He would like to see schools involved in working relationships with outside businesses so students can work in dual enrollment apprenticeship programs in 11th and 12th grade. He sees the possibility of infus-

ing skills training into core curriculum and could bring this into fruition through the creation of local business/school relationships.

Phil Kraprow believes Resnick is a perfect fit for the school board in this dimension. "Cade has a solid background building community at the city level and will continue as a school board member for District 1," he told the Heritage.

Resnick said the business community keeps saying we need apprenticeships, and the way he sees it, once we start to talk about it and now have a platform to say it (the school board), with that platform others will begin to listen.

This is how Resnick thinks. Start by building communication. He gave an example of when he was a Winter Springs city commissioner.

In 2010, when he was elected to the city commission, he wanted to restructure all the park systems. Immediately

the commissioners said they didn't have the money for that. "I'm not asking for money right now," he told them. "Let's start having a conversation. Let's develop a master plan, put it in perspective and see what will happen."

Now, eight years later, of the eight parks, five have been redone, the sixth is almost complete and seven and eight are on the next calendar year. "We didn't raise taxes or anything like that. Just a matter of as money comes in, put it into the project a little at a time," he said.

Let's talk about school safety infrastructure. Resnick sees clear answers to this problem. He is not in favor of arming teachers, but he believes in locking doors after school starts and using one entrance once the school day begins; have two School Resource Officers who walk the campus. "There is no reason to have them if they are sitting

in an office drinking coffee." Visibility can curb a lot of possible problems—including drugs on campus. This includes the principal and teachers being visible and accessible on campus.

Resnick also believes more mental health counselors are needed on campus and much of his reasoning goes back to listening to the students. "We need to prevent as much as we can. Mental health counselors can find out what's going on in kids lives," Resnick shared. And when a student or teacher reports that something is going on with a student it needs to be taken seriously. This includes bullying.

"A lot of times the parents report [bullying] because the child is embarrassed to do so. We need to follow up," Resnick stated and then explained, "What if a parent tells the school and the school says 'ah, it's not that bad...' This invalidates you as a parent

and tells the child 'your issue is not that big of an issue' and now the child thinks 'nobody cares about me.'"

The topic of Islam being taught in 10th grade World History came up. This is an issue that has many parents upset because it appears that there is more emphasis on Islam than Judaism and Christianity.

Resnick explained that teachers have to teach all of the content the state mandates. However, there are different ways to do it. One confusing problem for parents is that Judaism and Christianity are taught in seventh grade, with Islam following in 10th grade, which does make it look like only Islam is being taught. It would be best if all three could be infused continuously, Resnick shared. But as a teacher or a board member, he can't say don't teach this subject because it is a requirement set in place by the state.

What Resnick would like to see is the courses rearranged. Instead of having World History in seventh grade and then nothing about world history until 10th grade, teach world history in eighth and ninth grade so it is a continuous flow of history and will show a balance of the religion instruction.

Resnick is currently not affiliated with any congregation. He was raised in a Jewish family in South Africa and came to the US in 1991 when he was 15. He and his wife, Shawna, and their two children observe Shabbat at home.

Resnick has a lot of experience in the school system, the community and government, and he brings a lot to the table.

Cheering him on, Kaprow said, "On some levels, Cade relates to the challenges and dynamics of being an American Jew in 2018."

Voting for Seminole County school board members is on Aug. 28.

Europe

From page 4A

Leader, who is consumed by a genocidal obsession to wipe out the Jewish people, is someone they can do business with.

In France, the justice system persistently refused to regard as an anti-Semitic attack the murder last year of the elderly Jew Sarah Halimi, who was tortured and thrown from her Paris apartment window by a Muslim despite having vainly reported that she was the victim of his anti-Semitic threats.

In Britain, attacks on Jews by Muslims are disproportionate to their number in the population. The same is true of anti-Semitic comments by members of the Labour Party, which, despite convulsing over the anti-Semitism in its ranks, never makes this point.

Indeed, anyone who brings up Muslim anti-Semitism is accused of Islamophobia. Worse still, this is equated with anti-Semitism—as astonishingly, even by certain British Jewish leaders. Yet the comparison is odious.

Anti-Semitism is based entirely on lies and demonization. It is paranoid and unhinged. It ascribes to the Jews a demonic power to control the world. It treats the Jews in ways applied to no other people, nation or cause.

It therefore has nothing at all in common with Islamophobia, a term constructed by Islamists to silence legitimate criticism of Islam—and of Muslim anti-Semitism.

Yet for so many in the West, the only people whose views are beyond the pale are those

classified as "right-wing," "nativist" or "Islamophobic." This includes those who legitimately and necessarily defend Western culture and oppose Islamization. People demonized by such labelling often defend Israel and the Jewish people far more robustly than so-called anti-fascists who, faced with Islamic cultural encroachment and Muslim anti-Semitism, look the other way.

This does not mean, though, that we should support all in this "populist" tide. Decent people should shun

those who hate all Muslims, or really are neo-Nazis, or are thugs who may hide their contempt for the rule of law behind spurious claims of being martyred for the anti-Islamist cause.

But the threat from such unsavory types is minimal compared to the scale of the threat from Islamization and the desperate battle now underway to defend the West. And the only reason such types are gaining traction at all is that, when it comes to the defense of Western civili-

zation, just about the entire political establishment has given up.

Melanie Phillips, a British journalist, broadcaster and author, writes a column for JNS every two weeks. Currently a columnist for "The Times of London," her personal and political memoir, "Guardian Angel," has been published by Bombardier, which has also published her first novel, "The Legacy," released in April. Her work can be found at her website, www.melaniephillips.com.

Abbas

From page 6A

Palestinian leaders have refused to meet with the

Trump team since the president recognized Jerusalem as Israel's capital in December. Jerusalem is an emotional

issue at the epicenter of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"If President Abbas is willing to come back to the table,

we are ready to engage; if he is not, we will likely air the plan publicly," Kushner said.

Abbas spokesman Nabil

Abu Rudeineh responded to Kushner's interview by restating that American efforts will yield no result if they bypass

the Palestinian leadership and if they are not aimed at an independent Palestinian state with east Jerusalem as its capital.

Israel

From page 7A

an Oleh, following an online interaction.

"I was on Facebook a few years back and there was a man with cancer asking for help... He had no money for food, rent or to get to the hospital," she recalled. "If you took a moment to look at his profile, you could see he was a very sick man. So I asked him for his address and sent him a small check. He called me thanking me in tears.

"Next time I talk a look at his profile [and] he had died," she said. "I would think about him every so often and feel guilty that I did not do more. It was clear to me that some olim do not have any support here in Israel, those who have no family, those who are not part of a community, those who don't quite fit in. So I decided to start the group."

Aside from providing emotional support, the online group has set up collection points for dried goods and toiletries throughout the country and provides supplies to new mothers and struggling olim who ask for help via Facebook.

Other groups have a slightly different focus. Russell Mayer's group Ask an Israeli Lawyer focuses less on the open crowdsourcing of other oleh groups and instead only allows accredited Israeli lawyers to post responses to queries.

Mayer, a graduate of Yeshiva University's Cardozo Law School who practices law in Jerusalem, told JTA that he had been offering free or cheap legal advice for years through Nefesh B'Nefesh and the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel. Eventually he said

he "realized that many of those needing legal advice wouldn't even think to contact those organizations and in many instances wouldn't even know to whom to turn for legal advice"

With some 50 lawyers involved in the group of more than 8,700 members, Mayer estimates that "we have helped approximately 8,000 olim" over the years.

Aside from legal issues, financial issues are also on many immigrants' minds. The concern prompted financial adviser Rifka Lebowitz to create Living Financially Smart in Israel, which allows its members to ask financial questions necessary to ensure a successful move.

"There are 23,000 people in the group. Everywhere I go in any context, people tell me they follow the group and have learned so much, saved

so much, that it's the most useful group on all of Facebook," Lebowitz boasted.

However, some experts, while acknowledging the utility of these online groups, have expressed reservations. Nefesh B'Nefesh, which partners with the quasi-governmental Jewish Agency for Israel in its traditional role of promoting immigration, is understandably protective of Israel's aliyah and absorption establishment.

While social media makes aliyah easier and online communities are "important channels for finding educational options, communities and employment opportunities among other relevant topics for olim," said Marc Rosenberg, director of pre-aliyah for Nefesh B'Nefesh, "it is extremely important that when seeking advice, one should check that the infor-

mation provided is current and being given by professionals in that specific field."

"Additionally, it is necessary to maintain perspective and realize that some comments and anecdotes are individual and don't always reflect general experiences," he said.

Rosenberg added that Nefesh B'Nefesh runs its own online community where discussions are moderated by his organization's professional staff.

Josie Arbel, director of absorption services for the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel, also was somewhat skeptical of the more freewheeling groups.

"The reliability of the information is as good or as weak as the knowledge of the person who responds to your post," she said.

"I think it can be amaz-

ingly helpful in certain situations, but it can also be damaging. It has a place in people's aliyah planning, [but] my concern is for hard information."

There are certain kinds of information that are important enough in aliyah planning to get from an authority," Arbel said. "It's a very democratic thing, but it's not authoritative and if you need to know something that will have real implications for your aliyah, it's not enough. It's not a substitute for a consultation with an expert."

Others, like Vanessa, seemed less concerned about social media's drawbacks than with its benefits.

"I don't have much family here," she said, telling JTA that she felt the fellow olim in her online community will be there "if you need anything."

Border

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month with the mayors of Los Angeles, Houston and Albuquerque, New Mexico, calling the policy "cruel," "morally reprehensible" and "utterly inconsistent with our values of decency and compassion."

Although Arizona as a state has a history of strict immigration legislation, Rothschild says his constituents largely oppose the family separation policy.

"We have a community where so many people have friends, family and relatives

who live on both sides of the border," he said. "In Tucson, the overwhelming consensus is that these are bad policies."

One of Rothschild's constituents is Alma Hernandez, a Mexican-American Jewish woman running this year for the Arizona House of Representatives. Hernandez, 24, who resigned as the coordinator of Tucson's Jewish Community Relations Council to run for office. This year, perceiving a lack of progressive political action from the established Jewish community, she co-founded

the activist group Tucson Jews for Justice, which plans to participate in rallies against the separation policy and other issues.

"These are people who are our neighbors. It's a little frustrating right now," Hernandez said.

Not all local activism in the protection of immigrants involves working against the government. Bob Feinman, a New York City transplant and retired longtime broadcaster on Tucson's Spanish-language radio, is vice chair of Humane Borders, which places water

tanks near the border so that migrants don't die of dehydration after they cross over.

The group works with border security forces to ensure that its tanks can be installed and maintained in the most useful locations. Humane Borders also urges families south of the border not to cross illegally due to the dangers that may await them in the United States—including family separation.

Speaking personally, Feinman said he is "shocked beyond belief" by the policy.

"We can agree to disagree

with them on certain matters and still save lives," he said.

Regarding potential migrants, he added, "We beg and plead with them to talk people out of crossing the border illegally. The stories they get about how easy it is are false. We try to convey to them that it is not worth the risk, whether it's over a regular border crossing or through the desert."

McCabe said that she understands the decision to take the risk to cross the border after hearing stories of the gangs and violence that

threaten families in Central America. While she is not Jewish, she says working for a Jewish organization has made her even more aware of the need to provide a safe haven to families seeking asylum.

"What happened in the 1930s and '40s has had an impact on our asylum system," she said. "That's partly why we have this asylum system. The Jewish community cares that people who are being targeted for persecution have a way to be safe because people died. I feel like I'm just stating the obvious."

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



Eilat Mazar at the Ophel site.

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 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



The Hezekiah Bulla.

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, Oklahoma.

“All kinds of evidence” The partnership between the Armstrong Foundation and Mazar goes back 50 years, to Mazar’s equally well-known grandfather, archaeologist Benjamin Mazar, who was commissioned by Israel in 1968 to run Hebrew University’s massive archaeological dig near the Temple Mount.

At that time, Herbert Armstrong, an ambassador of the



Herbert W. Armstrong college students digging on Ophel in 2018.

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 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.

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 Aug. 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 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 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.”

Major BDS groups have ties to Palestinian terrorist organizations

By Ariel Kahana

(Israel Hayom via JNS)—The Strategic Affairs Ministry on Tuesday named 42 major anti-Israel organizations as having clear ties to Palestinian terrorist groups.

According to the ministry’s data, these groups—part of a network of 300 boycott, divestment and sanctions organizations operating worldwide—have traceable ties to Hamas and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and receive their orders directly from the Palestinian Authority.

This network is directed by the BDS National Committee, which is headed by the co-founder of the global BDS movement Omar Barghouti, who holds permanent Israeli residency status and lives in the northern city of Acre.

The Strategic Affairs Ministry, tasked by the Diplomatic-Security Cabinet with heading Israel’s efforts to counter the

BDS movement and its efforts to delegitimize Israel, has spent the past two years mapping what it calls the “network of hatred.”

The ministry’s data shows that not only do Hamas and the PLFP support BDS activists in theory, their operatives take an active part in BDS initiatives.

The report names, for example, the Al-Haq human rights organization, Defense for Children International—Palestine, and the Al-Dameer Association for Human Rights as being headed by former PFLP operatives.

Al-Haq is chaired by Shawan Jabarin, of Ramallah, who served 13 years in an Israeli prison for being a member of the PLFP’s military wing. Jabarin is a leading figure in the BDS movement’s lawfare campaign against Israel, especially its attempts to pursue legal action against Israeli officials in the International Criminal Court in The Hague.

Other examples include groups such as the Palestinian Return Center, which the ministry says promotes Hamas interests in Europe; and members of the U.K.-based Palestine Solidarity Campaign and Friends of Al-Aqsa group, which the ministry says have neem with Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh, participated in the 2010 Navi Marmara flotilla that sought to breach the maritime blockade on the Gaza Strip, and have recently held a demonstration outside the British Prime Minister’s Office in support of Hamas so-called “March of Return” or Gaza border riot campaign.

Speaking at the biennial GC4I conference in Jerusalem Wednesday, attended by the directors of over 150 pro-Israeli groups, as well as Jewish community heads and activists from around the world dedicated to fighting the BDS movement, Strategic

Affairs Minister Gilad Erdan said much of the anti-Israel group’s momentum is fuel by the Palestinian Authority.

Ramallah is a longtime proponent of anti-Israel boycotts and the National Palestinian Council has officially endorsed the BDS movement during its annual meeting in May.

“We have seen the attempts led by senior Palestinian Authority officials to suspend Israel from FIFA and to promote various ‘blacklists’ at the U.N. Human Rights Council. These campaigns have all been widely promoted by the network of hatred exposed by the Strategic Affairs Ministry,” he said.

Erdan noted that leading world powers such as the United States, Britain, Germany, France, Canada and others, were turning their backs on the BDS movement, adding that in recent years, 25 states in the U.S. have passed laws foiling BDS activities



A Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions protest against Israel in Melbourne, Australia, on June 5, 2010.

after their anti-Semitic and discriminatory nature was exposed.

Erdan further said that the ministry has identified a new BDS trend—calling for trade embargos against the Jewish state, especially with respect to its military industries, saying that BDS activists were lobbying among parliamen-

tarians worldwide to boycott Israeli defense contractors.

“Terrorist organizations and the BDS movement have never been closer, ideologically and operationally. I will continue to lead a counterattack against the perpetrators of the anti-Semitic hate campaign emanating from Gaza and Ramallah.”