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Have any questions?
call 703-537-3034
e-mail - ShiriR@jccnv.org

Israel update

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

JCCNY-ISRAEL TODAY

DID YOU KNOW??

Three cool facts you never knew about the Israeli film industry:

- In 2001 it was settled that the Israeli movie industry will get 58 million shekels every year from the state. On the other hand, a medium Hollywood movie cost \$130 million dollars.
- In 2005 the Israeli actress, Hana Laslo, got a prize at the "Cannes" festival (in Europe) for her role in "Free Zone".
- The first Israeli movie was "Oded Hanoded" (in 1932). It tells the story of Oded, a child, who's lost on a school trip. The movie shows beautiful scenes of Israel.



Community is our middle name.

8900 Little River Tpk
Fairfax, VA 22031
703-323-0880

ISRAEL—SPORTS. CULTURE.

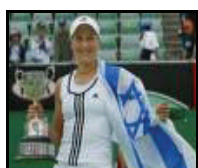
SPORTS

Shahar Pe'er - Israeli Tennis Star in Quarter-Final of U.S. Open

Shahar Pe'er became the first Israeli woman tennis player to reach the US Open quarter finals when she won her fourth-round match against Agnieszka Redwanska, 6-4, 6-1, before a capacity crowd in New York.

Seeded 18th, 20-year-old Pe'er is enjoying the best season of her career. She reached the Australian Open quarter finals, losing in three sets to eventual champion Serena Williams. Made it to the fourth round of the French Open, the third round of Wimbledon, and the fourth round in the 2006 Open. She won three tournaments at lower levels of the WTA

Tour last year.



CULTURE

Israeli film "The Band's Visit" lights up the crowd at Telluride

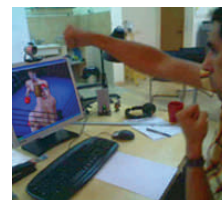
The film, starring Saleh Bakri, Ronit Elkabetz and Sason Gabay, tells the story of a small Egyptian police orchestra that comes to Israel in the early '90s to play a concert in the opening ceremony of an Arab culture center located in the central city of Petah Tikva. But due to a snafu, the band—left at the border—on its own, find their way to Beitha Tikva, a fictional small town in the Negev. In May, the film, won the 'Coup de Coeur du Jury'. *The Band's Visit* also won the prestigious Fipresci award given by the International Federation of Film Critics, and the Cinefil award given by cinematography students. As a result, the film was acquired by Sony Pictures Classics in Cannes, and is slated to be shown in 35 US cities later this year.

TECHNOLOGY

Israeli startup aims to bring virtual reality into our homes

XTR - Extreme Reality, a south Tel Aviv startup has developed a technology that allows a user's three-dimensional body movements to be translated onto the computer in real time. When you run, throw a punch, or mimic the moves of tennis, so does the animated character in the game.

This is the first time anyone has managed to translate the movement of a person into a three-dimension space using only software and a single camera.



 **THE Jewish**
FEDERATION OF GREATER
WASHINGTON
Partner Agency

“hazanhanim” (the paratrooper...) on the Western Wall in Jerusalem (Israel’s capital city), after its release in the Six Days

War



The declaration of Israel. In the center—the first prime minister of Israel—David Ben Gurion

CITIES OF ISRAEL...

Dreaming of visiting Tel Aviv? Want to know where Jerusalem is located?

Well, if you’ve always dreamed of going to Israel and seeing the beautiful sites it offers, this column will take you there..

This week let’s take a journey to... Holon!

It has been over 60 years since settlers founded the very first neighborhoods on the sandy soil which later became the city of Holon. Today, with a population of 180,000, Holon is a flourishing and beautiful city, among

the largest in Israel.

The city is lively and has many educational establishments, cultural and sports centers, unique public parks and gardens, modern shopping centers, high-rise buildings and one of the largest industrial zones in the country.

Educational Establishments:

- 153 Kindergartens of which 12 are for special education
- 30 Elementary schools
- Five Specialty schools

- Nine six-year High Schools, each with a Junior High. One school is for girls only.
- One Religious High School for boys
- One Democratic school (K to seventh grade)
- Eight Community centers.
- Sport centers
- Libraries (including one musical library)
- Holon Academic Institute of Technology
- Hankin College
- Three-year High Schools (3) , one private High School.



PERSONALITY OF THE WEEK!!

Hebrew: דָּוִד בֶּן-גּוּרִיּוֹן

David Ben-Gurion

The first prime minister of Israel was born in Poland in 1886 and came to Israel 20 years later, in 1906.

Ben-Gurion's passion for

Zionism, which began early in life, culminated in his instrumental role in the founding of the state of Israel.

On May 14, 1948, Ben Gurion declared the establishment of Israel and read the declaration of independence. On that same day, right after the declaration, the Arabs started the

Independence War.

Ben-Gurion helped build the state institutions and oversaw the absorption of vast numbers of Jews from all over the world.

Upon retiring from political life in 1970, he moved to Sde Boker where he lived until his death.

Posthumously, Ben-Gurion was named one of *Time Magazine* 's 100 Most Important People of the Century.

"ISRAEL—SO SMALL.. SO SMART.."



Israel is a country the size of New Jersey but look at her following achievements...

✓ Israel holds more patents per person than do citizens of any other nation.

5.8.1948— Israel was established. It was Friday, 4 pm, in Tel Aviv.

- ✓ ICQ – the technology for AOL Instant Messenger was developed in 1996 by a team of four young Israelis.
- ✓ Israel has the third largest number of companies traded on Wall Street after U.S.A and Canada.
- ✓ Israeli's Given Imaging company developed a video camera so small it fits inside a pill, which you can swallow. The camera helps doctors diagnose digestive tract diseases.

- ✓ The first PC anti virus in the world was developed in 1979 in Israel.
- ✓ Israel has more museums per capita than any other country.
- ✓ Israel is one of the eight countries in the world capable of launching their own satellites into space.
- ✓ Israel holds the largest concentration of high- tech industries in the world .In relation to its population.

"Mangal" Story...

"Yesterday I went with some friends of mine and we did "al haesh" . It was really funny because Dan forgot to bring the "mangal".. So we had to go and buy one, and finally we were able to start "lemangel".

"MANGAL" - THE ISRAELI VERSION....

We all know that knowing a language is not just knowing the letters and the main words...

The idioms and the slang are sometimes just as important to learn...

So in this corner you'll get an opportunity to widen your knowledge with....

Hebrew slang...

This issue—slang words for barbecue things....

"al haesh" = on the fire.

Meaning when you want to go and have a barbecue, so you will say—we are going to

"al haesh".

"mangal" = outdoor grill.

Meaning—this is the thing you will put the meat on.

"Did you put the meat on the mangal?"

Lemangel = to do the "mangal".

Meaning—this is the action of doing the mangal. You will say—

"Are you starting lemangel soon? We're hungry."





FIVE FACTS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE

HEBREW LANGUAGE:

**Want to know more?
Have any questions?**

**Shiri Rahamim
Community Shlichah**



**Jewish Community Center
of Northern VA
8900 Little River Turnpike Fairfax, VA**

**Main: 703-323-0880
Direct: 703-537-3034
ShiriR@jccnv.org**

**Israel update—because you want to be
in the know...**

- ✓ In the Hebrew language (“safa” - שפה) there are 75,000 words. In the English language there are 750,000 words...
- ✓ Hebrew (Ivrit - עברית) is a Semitic language of the Afro-Asiatic language family spoken by more than seven million people in Israel and Jewish communities around the world.
- ✓ In 1913 Hebrew was announced as the formal teaching language in Jewish schools in Israel.
- ✓ In 1948 Hebrew was used as the formal language of Israel.
- ✓ Hebrew was the language of our fathers in the bible .

TODAY BEFORE....

During our history, we have lots of dates that symbolize something or have a special event that occurred on them.

EVENTS IN ISRAEL/JEWISH HISTORY

This week:

9.15

1935 - Nuremberg Laws deprive German Jews of citizenship.

1935 - Nazi Germany adopts a new national flag with the swastika.

9.17

1978 - The Camp David Accords were signed by Israel and Egypt.

9.18

1943 - World War II: The Jews of Minsk are massacred at Sobibór.

9.19

Israel first satellite, “ofek” is launched into space

9.20

The bones of Herzl's kids are brought to Israel.

FAMOUS JEWISH BIRTHDAYS

9.16

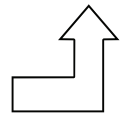
1890—Avigdor Hameiri— a Hebrew writer and poet.

1975—Gal Fridman - an Israeli surfer, the first Israeli who ever won a gold medal in the Olympic games.

9.17

1918—Chaim Herzog, the sixth president of Israel.

1969—Koby Oz—an Israel singer and writer, the soloist of an Israeli band—”Tipex”



9.20

1890—Rahel Bluwstein Sela—was a Hebrew lyric poet of the Zionist settlement years

1978—Sarit Hadad— an Israeli singer.

This program is under written by Jane & Scott Brown, and by Irene & Ed Kaplan

In addition to: Michelle (Cookie) & Nelson Blitz, Tanya & Steve Bodzin, Renee & Phil Dondes, Susie & Michael Gelman, Marilyn & Michael Hausfeld, Jewish Youth Philanthropy Institute, Sherri & Howard Kohr, Bunny & Peter Latkin, Connie & Al Pesachowitz, Carol Gordon & Steve Rosenthal, Jaqui & Mort Rubenstein, Joan & Don Sacarob, Maureen & Bob Shapiro, Deanna & Larry Shuman, Debbie & Mark Weber, Deborah & David Yaffe.