Dvar Israel 20.10- Nir

Shabbat Shalom!

This week I chose to use this opportunity to share something that you might have not known about me: I am a huge NERD! I am a technology geek. I’ve liked to disassemble electronic devices for fun since I was a little boy. My majors in high school were computer science and Physics. I also read all of the Harry Potter books twice.

But one of the things that makes me a true nerd is the fact that I really like history, and it's something that isn’t very popular for someone my age… So today I decided to tell you about some historical events that happened this week.

On Tuesday, 132 years ago, David Ben Gurion was born. Ben Gurion was an extraordinary leader of the early Jewish Pioneers before the establishment of Israel. He was Israel's first Prime Minister and believed in the unity of the people of the new state and founded the IDF as a framework for that.

On that day, 32 years ago, Ron Arad, an Israeli pilot, was abducted during a mission in Lebanon, after his plane was damaged by a bomb that exploded prematurely. Throughout the years, Israel picked up many leads about his fate, but unfortunately his story remains unclear.

On Sunday, it was 92 years since the publishing of a very successful children's book, that’s right, I'm talking about no other than Winnie The Pooh!

On Monday, it was the 70-year anniversary of operation "Yoav"- one of the most important parts of the Israel’s War of Independence. The operation succeeded in opening the way to the Negev and releasing the siege that was on Be’ersheva.

On Thursday, it was 62 years since Hana Levin, a former IDF officer and a women’s rights activist, became the mayor of Rishon Letzion, and the first female mayor in Israel!

On October 24th, it is going to be 45 years since the end of the Yom Kippur War. The war surprised Israel and resulted in major losses, in both sides. Both of my grandfathers fought in that war. My father's uncle, Yoram, was about to end his service when he was called to the front line. He was killed in an operation in Sinai.

On October 26th, it will be 24 years since the Israel- Jordan Peace Treaty was signed. This important agreement led to a lot of co-operation between the two states, and finally ended the war between the two.

Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's prime minister at that time, was a person of peace, and unfortunately, he was assassinated by a person that did not believe in his way. Tomorrow it will be the 23rd anniversary for his death, and I invite you to see the bulletin board that Lian and I made in his honor.

And to conclude, today is 45 years since the famous Sydney Opera House was inaugurated by Queen Elizabeth!

I was excited to share these facts with you because I absolutely love history. I have always enjoyed learning the stories of people, places and cultures. Sometimes I’m just curious! Come find me during Kiddush, and let’s talk history!

Thank you and shabbat shalom!