



Rep. Eliot Engel



Sen. Robert Menendez



Sen. Ben Cardin



Sen. Ted Cruz



Sen. Charles Schumer

and Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC), chair of the Education Committee. Chairwoman Foxx spoke of her deep commitment to school-choice policies. Rep. Engel spoke of his commitment to pass bipartisan legislation—like the Taylor Force Act—to put an end to the Palestinian Authority's terrorist stipends.

Orthodox Union delegates then met with their congressional representatives in smaller groups to discuss the policy agenda. After those meetings, the entire group reconvened for a luncheon with U.S. senators.

Sen. Robert Menendez (D-NJ) announced the 98-2 vote that had just occurred in favor of new sanctions on Iran, for which he received a standing ovation.

Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) said the United States must make sure Iran is held accountable for its actions. "They haven't moderated a bit," Schumer said. "They're still exporting terrorism."

Schumer was also among several senators who spoke about the need to pass legislation like the Taylor Force Act, saying: "Abbas has to stop making payments to terrorists and their families, and all elected officials should call them out" for this practice. He further stated he will support legislation like the Taylor Force Act if the Trump administration cannot get the Palestinians to end the stipends.

The ranking Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Sen. Ben Cardin (D-Md.), said: "We're going to find a way to pass the Taylor Force Act."

Making the cause bipartisan, Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas), addressed the OU delegates, noting he was one of the original sponsors of the legislation, and that Congress must take action immediately to stop funding Palestinian terrorism.

Sen. Cruz also spoke about his support to relocate the U.S. Embassy in Israel. "Now is the time to recognize

Jerusalem as the one eternal, indivisible capital of Israel," Cruz said. "It is long past time to move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, where it belongs."

Other senators who spoke during the lunch were Sens. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), Bill Nelson (R-Fl.), John Hoeven (R-N.D.), and Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.), all of whom voiced their strong support for the OU Advocacy's work and their ongoing efforts on behalf of Israel and the Jewish people.

The OU leaders then traveled to the White House. There, they met with Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos to discuss school-choice initiatives; Special Representative for International Negotiations Jason Greenblatt, who spoke about advancing the Israeli-Palestinian peace process; and Deputy Assistant to the President Sebastian Gorka, who provided insights into national-security policy.

Orthodox Union Executive Vice President Allen Fagin stated: "Coming to Washington reminds all of us that we have great strength when we join together and speak with a unified voice in our nation's capital. Our national delegation of leaders deeply appreciated

the many representatives and senators who met with us and will be our partners on our policy priorities. And we were all honored to meet with such senior administration officials—Secretary DeVos, Special Rep. Greenblatt, and Deputy Asst. Gorka."

Orthodox Union Advocacy Center Chairman Jerry Wolasky stated: "I am proud to be among the leaders of the OU Advocacy Center. Meeting with a Cabinet Secretary, top aides to the president, and a score of senators and representatives is a testament to the high regard in which the Orthodox Union is held in Washington. The OU Advocacy Center works intensively—and successfully—to leverage this access into concrete policies that benefit our community and others." ❖

Jewish And Christian Leaders, Legislators Honor Life On Capitol Hill

By Cheyenne Plott

On June 15, dozens of Jewish leaders from Brazil, Mexico, Russia, Israel, and the U.S., along with Christian lead-

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Minyanim in the 5 Towns/Far Rockaway Area

Mincha

- 1:30** 333 Pearsall Avenue, Cedarhurst
Suite 150 (Side Entrance) M-Th
- 1:35** Yeshiva Shor Yashov
Kollel Avreichem
Rabbi Katz's Shul (Congregation Shomer Shabbos)
Maariv is 15 min. after shkiah
- 1:45** Agudath Israel of Long Island
(Sundays & legal holidays)
Yeshiva Gedolah of the 5 Towns
- 2:00** 5 Towns Judaica
- 2:15** Yeshiva of Far Rockaway
- 2:45** Agudath Israel of Long Island
Also 15 minutes before shkiah
Yeshiva Gedolah of the 5 Towns
Young Israel Woodmere
(Halacha shiur 15 min. before)
- 3:00** Judaica Plus

Maariv

- 7:45** Chabad of the 5 Towns
- 8:00** Shaaray Tefila Also 10 minutes before shkiah
- 8:05** Young Israel of North Woodmere
- 8:15** Young Israel of Lawrence Cedarhurst
- 8:30** Bais Medrash of Harborview
- 8:45** Yeshiva of Far Rockaway
Agudas Israel of Long Island
- 9:00** Young Israel of Woodmere
Yeshiva Shor Yashov
- 9:15** Beis Medrash of Woodmere
Shaaray Tefila
Agudas Israel of Long Island
Yeshiva Shor Yashov
Young Israel of Lawrence Cedarhurst
- 9:30** Young Israel of Woodmere
- 9:45** Yeshiva Shor Yashov
Yeshiva Gedolah of the 5 Towns
Kehillas Bais Yehuda Tzvi (S-Th)
- 10:00** Young Israel of Woodmere
Agudas Israel of Long Island
Yeshiva of Far Rockaway
Agudas Achim
- 10:15** Kollel Avreichem
- 10:30** Young Israel of Woodmere
Agudas Israel of Long Island
Yeshiva Gedolah of the 5 Towns
- 11:00** Young Israel of Woodmere
Boston Beis Midrash of Lawrence
- 11:15** Boston Beis Midrash of Lawrence
Kehillas Bais Yehuda (Thursdays)
- 11:30** Boston Beis Midrash of Lawrence
Young Israel of Woodmere
- 12:00** Boston Beis Midrash of Lawrence

During the winter months Young Israel of Woodmere has a marriv minyan every half hour after 6:30, ending with the 11:30 marriv.

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POLITICAL ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 63

ers and legislators, gathered on Capitol Hill in honor of the 40th anniversary of Efrat (www.efrat.org.il/english), an innovative Israeli organization dedicated to

helping Israeli women choose life for their babies. Efrat accomplishes this mission through educating women and the public; easing the emotional pressure through counseling; and providing food, housing, and needed equipment, such as strollers and cribs. While



Book of Life being presented by Woli Stern and his family



Participants on the steps of the U.S. Capitol

the celebration included speeches from U.S. legislators, the main emphasis was to honor the heart and soul of Efrat: President Dr. Eli Schussheim and Mr. Woli Stern, the director (Brazil). The event was coordinated by The Friedlander Group.

When the Israeli Parliament legalized abortion in 1977, Dr. Eli Schussheim, who had chosen to be a surgeon in order to save lives, was deeply grieved that 60,000 pregnancies were being terminated each year. He teamed up with Herschel Feigenbaum, the founder of Efrat and a Holocaust survivor, to seek an increase in the Jewish birthrate by decreasing the number of abortions.

Efrat has saved more than 70,000 lives. In Israel this is the equivalent of saving an entire city.

After an opening prayer for the victims of the recent shooting attack at a Congressional baseball practice, U.S. Representatives Trent Franks (R-AZ), Doug Lamborn (R-CO), Andy Biggs (R-AZ), Louie Gohmert (R-TX), Doug Collins (R-GA), and Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) delivered remarks championing the cause of life and praising Efrat for their successes. "We need more groups like yours," said Rep. Andy Biggs (R-AZ). Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) discussed how fundamental the right to life is, saying "it's hard to figure out how to get to all these other rights [freedom of religion, freedom of speech, etc.] when you don't exist." Many of the legislators echoed what Rep. Trent Franks (R-AZ) articulated: every child "has the image of G-d stamped on his soul."

Among the Jewish and Christian leaders present, Richard Hellman, Founder of the Christians' Israel Public Action Campaign (CIPAC), described the importance of having a thriving Jewish population and that it's "important for Israel to be a Jewish state—free, democratic, respecting the same Judeo-Christian values that we do here in the United States." Joshua London, the co-director of Government Relations for the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA), underscored the significance of a growing Jewish population, saying that Efrat is the "most effective organization at attempting to solve a holy demographic issue."

Dr. Eli Schussheim's eyes danced quietly as he listened to each speaker, and when it was his turn to deliver remarks, he did not hold back. "He roars like a lion" when he speaks of life, concluded Rabbi Abba Cohen, Washington director and executive vice president for Federal Affairs Agudath Israel of America. Dr. Schussheim honored his friend and longtime non-

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U.S. Representative Trent Franks (speaking), Woli Stern, Dr. Eli Schussheim, and Richard Hellman

profit partner, Mr. Woli Stern, who has directly saved more than 6,300 lives. In a powerful moment, Dr. Schussheim presented Mr. Stern with a “Book of Life” listing all the names of the children saved through his efforts, and he tearfully, joyfully noted that many of these children were now having children of their own. Dr. Schussheim grieved the fact that Israel is still losing about 40,000 lives to abortion each year, but he remains hopeful that Efrat will continue to expand their great work as they look to the future.

The event concluded by honoring the generous supporters of Efrat who, along with Dr. Eli Schussheim and Mr. Woli Stern, are the modern-day Miriam, saving the lives of Jewish babies whose mothers think they have no other option.

Rabbi Baruch Valt of Sao Paulo, Brazil, noted, “An orphan nation is a nation without children.” Efrat’s mission is central to ensuring that Israel never becomes an orphan nation. Efrat’s work is not only crucial to maintaining the Jewish State but also a profound example to the rest of the world for how to create a culture of life. ❖

Curran Calls On Mangano To Support Ride-Sharing For Nassau Residents

Commissioner Gregory May of the Nassau County Taxi & Limousine Commission has issued a report to County Executive Ed Mangano urging that Nassau County opt out of the state’s ride-sharing regulations. The TLC Advisory Board is composed mostly of members of the taxi industry, who have been advocating a nearly identical position. In response, Laura Curran, county legislator from District 5, says that rather than following the TLC recommendation, Mangano should be listening residents who overwhelmingly support bringing ride-sharing to Nassau.

According to a statement issued by Curran’s campaign for the office of county executive, Curran said, “If County Executive Mangano follows the TLC recommendation, he’ll once again be taking his cues from the special interests who filled his campaign coffers instead of from the residents he serves, who overwhelmingly support ride-sharing. Instead of benefiting his campaign donors and refusing

to see ride-sharing as a positive economic boon for a county he’s taken into dire financial straits, the county executive should focus on bringing Nassau into the 21st century by allowing more affordable and accessible transportation options for our residents. He

should immediately commit Nassau County to the state’s ride-sharing program and not leave our residents stuck behind the times.”

Ms. Curran committed to keeping Nassau County in the state’s ride-sharing program if elected county executive, citing the need to bolster the county’s economic growth and provide more affordable and convenient transportation options. If Mangano does seek to opt the county out of ride-sharing, Curran is committed to working with a bipartisan coalition of legislators in an effort to defeat the bill at the legislature. Curran has stated unequivocally that she will do everything she can to make sure that ride-sharing companies and their drivers are held to the highest safety standards.

In addition, Governor Cuomo, the New York State Legislature, Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone, the state NAACP chapter, the National Action Network, the Urban League, Island Harvest, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, and numerous groups representing the disabled have all expressed support for ride-sharing. ❖

Hempstead Officials Urge Gillibrand To Support Anti-BDS Proposal

Hempstead Town Supervisor Anthony J. Santino is leading the effort to convince United States Senator Kirsten Gillibrand to sign on to a bipartisan federal proposal that fights back against the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement and its economic warfare against the State of Israel.

Supervisor Santino, Councilman Bruce Blakeman, and Councilman Anthony D’Esposito urged New York’s junior United States senator to cosponsor the bipartisan Combating BDS Act of 2017, designated as S.170. In a recent letter to Gillibrand’s Capitol Hill office, the Hempstead Town leaders said that her cosponsorship of the measure is needed to respond to the dangerous Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement.

“Congress has a distinguished history of defending the Jewish State from attacks like the BDS movement, which seeks to financially and commercially

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