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JCRC 2017 Fall Lecture

Left Vs. Right: The Battle for Israel's Soul

Is the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians a tragic dispute over land, part of a global battle against Islamist terror, or both?

Two well-known Jewish journalists — one on the political right, the other on the left — will debate that question and others about the future of Israel, for the JCRC Fall Lecture as part of our Israel @ 70 festivities on Sunday, October 15.

It is universally accepted that if you get two Jews in the same room, you're going to hear three opinions. At the same time, though, the Talmud records numerous disagreements between the sages Shammai and Hillel, describing them as disagreements for the sake of heaven. Jews with dramatically different points of view have some core disagree-



ments. That can make for a lot of heat. But thankfully, it can also make for a lot of generative, rewarding conversations.

Unfortunately, these recent years, we often find the topic of

Israel has become one of the most contentious discussions happening in American Jewish communities. To come together as a Jewish community, particularly around Israel, we have to be able to talk about it — even the most challenging questions and issues that divide the Jewish community about Israel.

On Sunday, October 15, the polarizing topic of Israel and U.S. relations will move from newsprint to podium when two well-known journalists debate the current internal and external challenges facing the State of Israel.

From the left, the event will feature J.J. Goldberg, editor-atlarge of *Forward* and former U.S. bureau chief of *The Jerusalem Report*.

From the right will be Jonathan S. Tobin, award-winning opinion editor of the Jewish News Service.

This unique event offers the opportunity to hear two internationally respected journalists from opposite sides of the political spectrum carry out a frank discussion on the Jewish homeland. They will demonstrate how you can express diverse opinions in a civil and constructive manner, while identifying areas where there is common ground. These gentleman may reinforce your beliefs or open up a whole new perspective for you, regardless of where you fall – left or right.

The program will take place on Sunday, October 15, 7 PM in the Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts in Shalom Park. The event is free and open the public but RSVPs are requested. Charlotte-JCRC@jewishcharlotte.org. A dessert reception will follow the program. ❖



Israel @ 70 Ancient Beauty. Modern Spirit.

Join us as we mark 70 years of statehood by exploring Israel's extraordinary people, culture, history, and politics. Speakers, performers, artists, and celebrations will showcase the complexity and diversity of contemporary Israel in a series of programs designed to entertain, educate, and inspire. We look forward to celebrating Israel's 70th birthday with you.

See page 4 for an Israel @ 70 event snapshot.









Local Jewish Veteran Group to Premier Film on WWII Vets

Jewish War Veteran Post 765, based in Charlotte, is pleased to announce the premier of *Jewish American Soldiers, Stories from World War II* on Sunday, November 12 at 3 PM. The film, produced and directed by Full Scale Productions of Charlotte, and funded in large part by the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, will be shown at the Regal Ballantyne Theater, located in South

Charlotte.

A project three years in the making, the film scope, originally conceived to capture stories from five to seven veterans, will feature interviews of 12 Jewish veterans from the Charlotte area, who were born both inside and outside the United States, and spotlights their experience as Jews serving in all aspects of World War II.

This film is part of the Char-

lotte Jewish Film Festival's "Fall Flicks" event. There will be no charge for the event, but tickets are required. For more information, please go to charlottejewishfilm.com or see our ad on page 27. We look forward to hosting you at this exciting event, so please mark your calendars and make plans to attend. ❖



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