

August 2017

Dear Friend of Israel,

As you may know, **UNESCO, once a reputable UN humanitarian organization, has just decided that Hebron is not the cradle of Jewish civilization nor the home and burial place of our ancestors, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca and Jacob and Leah.** They have recognized this holy and vital Jewish city as a national heritage site of the Palestinians, that quasi-nation that was invented in the 1960's as a hostile response to the establishment of the State of Israel. This comes just as we are celebrating 50 years since the liberation of Hebron and its return to Jewish hands. If this were not so infuriating it would be laughable because of its absurdity.

**Prime Minister Netanyahu responded to this absurdity in a wonderful way, pledging to divest from the UN and instead invest in a Jewish heritage museum in Hebron.** I hope he goes through with that promise quickly! CFOIC Heartland has been supporting the lovely Land of Judah Museum in Kiryat Arba for years, a treasure trove of archaeological finds that demonstrate our ancient claim to Hebron. If the Government of Israel were to come alongside us and upgrade this museum, what a blessing that would be. I will keep you posted!

Another item that I wanted to share with you: **I just got an emergency message from Nofei Nehemiah, one of the smallest communities in Samaria that we have been supporting. A few months ago, they had asked us to raise funds for emergency equipment, surveillance cameras and similar items to help protect their very vulnerable residents.** And we have put that need on our website and shared it with friends and supporters. But they texted me the other day to say that this need had become more urgent than ever before--an Arab had managed to infiltrate the community and was not caught until he was already inside. After questioning the Arab, it became clear that he did not mean any harm and he was free to go. But this incident really scared the people of Nofei Nehemiah. **What if someone had come in with terrorist intentions? Without cameras, they have no way of tracking this and keeping their residents safe. We had already selected Nofei Nehemiah as our featured community in this newest edition of Nahala, which I have enclosed with this letter.** Little did we know how vital that project would become just before we posted it to you. If you can help us, I would be so grateful.

Yes, there is never a dull moment in Israel. Thank you for following the news, our news and our stories, so closely and so faithfully. **I will do my best to continue to keep you informed and I hope you will let me know when there is something you can do for us or some information that you need from me.** When we work together, we can accomplish so much. Many blessings to you.

Sincerely,



Sondra Oster Baras  
Director, Israel Office

***P.S. Enclosed is our biannual newsletter, Nahala, the emergency needs for Nofei Nehemia are featured on the front page. Your donation today will ensure that every one is protected in Nofei Nechemia. You can donate online by going to our website, [www.cfoic.com](http://www.cfoic.com) or by using the enclosed response coupon. Every donation that is earmarked for Nofei Nehemia will go directly to the community. Thank you for standing with the people of Judea and Samaria!***