

## Torah Tidbits from Rabbi Larry Moldo

The modern State of Israel will be 67 this week. The Jewish people, descended from the ancient Israelites, will be about 4500 years old, give or take a century. Both are worth celebrating. On Wednesday, remember the fallen who have helped preserve this modern protector of the Jews. On Thursday, have a slice of birthday cake (or a special birthday carrot).

Always remember that we are supposed to disagree on tactics and strategy. The bottom line remains the same - a place where people can live without fear and be proud of being part of the Jewish nation. No matter which side of any disagreement you might be on, always double check the history of an event before using it in an argument. Growing up, while they taught us when each of the wars was and what to call it, they forgot to mention that the 1956 war involved pre-emptive strikes. When people today talk about Jewish villages on the land that Jordan had control of between 1948 and 1967, they sometimes forget that the original purpose by the left-wing parties was to help integrate that area into Israel by creating closer ties between Jews and Arabs.

So, relax and celebrate. We can always argue next week.