



# 1. Bird Flu Outbreak in the Hula Valley

One of the best-known symbols of the Hula Valley are the tens of thousands of cranes that migrate through the region every autumn. This year was defined by a serious outbreak of bird flu that produced shocking images of dead birds throughout the valley. Prof. Ran Nathan and PhD student Sasha Peikarski, from the Institute of Life Sciences, spoke with Yigal Mosko of Channel 12 News about what's driving this outbreak and how we can work to prevent further cranes from dying.

# 2.

## The Beginning of the End?

A new study conducted by Dr. Miguel Frada, from the Interuniversity Institute for Marine Sciences in Eilat, has analyzed the impact of warming waters on a specific form of plankton called coccolithophore which is defined by its single-cell nature and hard shell. The researchers found that over the past forty years there is evidence of a decrease in the number of these organisms in the Eilat bay. The study sheds light on the impact of global warming on the world's oceans and the Eilat region in particular.





# 3.

## Intimacy in the Palace of Pharaoh and Nefertiti

New research, under the direction of Prof. Arlette David from Hebrew University, has uncovered wall engravings from ancient Egypt that display intimate moments from the period of Nefertiti, the Queen of Egypt and Pharaoh Akhenaten. These engravings also provide evidence that he was the monarch who first espoused a monotheistic deity in this ancient kingdom.



# 4. Using AI For Language Development

Moran Mizrachi and Stav Yardeni Zelig, under the direction of Prof. Daphna Shahaf from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, have developed a system that attempts to replicate the human creative process that can automatically substitute Hebrew words in place of the words in other languages. They relied on advanced forms of AI (Artificial Intelligence) to teach the system to integrate basic grammar and language skills so that it could be used as a learning tool. In tribute to the famed “father of modern Hebrew”, the team named their system “Eliezer Bot Yehuda”.





# 5. A New Episode on HUJICAST

**Crossing the Canal with Dr. Danny Golani**  
In this episode, we spoke with Marine Biologist Dr. Danny Golani about how marine species have successfully traversed from the Red Sea to the Mediterranean via the Suez Canal, why there is no way to stop this migration, and how this could be negatively affecting native Israeli fish species.