

Meish Goldish PreciousLife47@aol.com
on Purim 2007

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

I am outraged and upset by the hanging of Haman that took place in Persia.

The execution was disgraceful and possibly illegal. The Persian government should have shown Haman much more respect. Any ordinary citizen would deserve respect, let alone Persia's second-in-command.

As if Haman's undignified hanging weren't bad enough, the public hanging of his 10 sons was embarrassing overkill.

I shudder to think what the nations of the world will think of such a murderous act and of those who perpetrated it.

A Concerned Reader

BARAK OBAMA REVEALS PLAN

WASHINGTON--Barak Obama, the Democratic Senator from Illinois and a U.S. presidential candidate, announced his future plans yesterday.

"I hope to become the next President of the United States," Obama said at a press conference held at the Washington Mall.

"However," he noted, "if I don't win, then I will run for President of Israel."

Asked why he would run in Israel, Obama replied, "I think they will need a new president soon. And since Israelis read from right to left, my name would become Obama Barak. That's a prestigious Israeli name, in the fine tradition of Ehud Barak."

The senator conceded that he might not win the Israeli election, either.

"In that case," Obama noted, "I have a Plan C. I'll run for President of Iraq. I'll simply change my name to Osama Barak. I'll be a shoo-in."

SYNAGOGUE IDENTITY THEFTS

BROOKLYN--Dozens of congregants at an Orthodox synagogue in Boro Park recently discovered a rash of identity thefts that occurred in their house of worship over the past six months.

"It's outrageous," said Rabbi Mayer Culpa, spiritual leader of Congregation Luvda Shtupya. "People come here for spiritual comfort, and instead they get ripped off."

According to a police report, several individuals who were not synagogue members approached the sexton, or shul gabbai, at Sabbath services and identified themselves by the stolen Hebrew names. The impostors were subsequently called up to the Torah for blessings, called *aliyahs*.

Congregants discovered the identity thefts only after receiving bills from the shul office.

One synagogue member, Noah Mazel, clutched a handful of invoices.

"Look at this," he sighed. "The shul has charged me for four aliyahs over the past six months. Only I never got them."

Another member, who requested anonymity, said he was billed for nine aliyahs over the past half year.

"It's ridiculous," the man exclaimed. "I was lucky if I got one aliyah a year. Now, someone impersonating me has gotten nine. And worst of all, he pledged over \$5,000 in my name."

Rabbi Culpa said he is unsure how the Hebrew names were stolen.

"Sadly, identity theft isn't a new crime," the rabbi noted. "It goes all the way back to Esau and Jacob in the Bible."

MICHAEL RICHARDS TO BECOME SHUL GABBAI

HOLLYWOOD--Michael Richards, the former "Seinfeld" star whose recent racial rant at the Laugh Factory in Los Angeles landed him in hot

water, announced today that he is giving up comedy to become a shul gabbai.

"My career in comedy is over," Richards said at a Hollywood press conference. "I now plan to work as a shul gabbai. I'll be the guy who tells everyone who's talking during davening to be quiet."

Asked why he chose this new career path, Richards explained, "I've been to shuls before. I think there's entirely too much talking. At my own temple, talking is so bad that I can't get a word in edgewise."

Richards' lawyer, Eliasz Feit, said he believed Richards would make an effective gabbai.

"When he tells you to shut up, believe me, you'll shut up," Feit said.

GIBSON ARRESTED FOR DRUNKENNESS ON PURIM

LOS ANGELES--Mel Gibson, the Hollywood celebrity whose recent drunken tirade included anti-Semitic slurs spoken to a police officer, was arrested for a second time yesterday for drunk driving.

Gibson, 51, appeared in court today and pleaded not guilty.

"It's the holiday of Purim," Gibson told the judge. "On Purim, you're supposed to get so drunk that you don't know the difference between cursing Haman and praising Mordecai. So I cursed Mordecai."

The judge told Gibson that since he isn't Jewish, he had no right to celebrate Purim.

Gibson replied, "I plan to convert. I'm having an open bar mitzvah. And believe me, an open bar is a mitzvah."

An arraignment is scheduled for next month.

NUTUREI KARTA REJECT BIBLICAL PATRIARCH

JERUSALEM--Nuturei Karta, an ultra-Orthodox sect of Jews who reject the legitimacy of the state of Israel, announced this week that it had voted to reject as well Abraham as the primary Jewish patriarch.

"Abraham is a totally inappropriate name for a holy Jewish leader," said Rabbi Gotno Seichel. "Just look at the name Abraham. It has the words 'bra' and 'ham' in it. That's disgusting."

A reporter pointed out to the rabbi that the name Nuturei Karta started with the word "nut."

"That's different," Seichel explained. "A nut is important. Especially when it's at the head of Nuturei Karta."

TRUMP STRIPS QUEEN ESTHER OF CROWN

ATLANTIC CITY--Donald Trump, the billionaire businessman and sponsor of beauty pageants around the world, today announced that he had stripped Queen Esther of her title as Queen of Persia.

Trump explained his decision at a news conference at the Trump Casino Tower Plaza in Atlantic City.

"Esther misrepresented herself," Trump asserted. "She neglected to tell either King Achashverosh or myself that she was Jewish until after becoming queen. That's obviously deception."

Esther attended the conference with Trump and appeared despondent.

"It was all my cousin Mordecai's idea," Esther stated. "He encouraged me to hide my Jewish identity. It's not fair for the Donald to make me suffer."

Asked if he might change his mind about rescinding Esther's crown, Trump said he would consider it.

"Esther is hotter than Ivana and Marla put together," Trump declared. "If anyone deserves a second chance, it's Esther."

Esther immediately broke into tears and mouthed the words "thank you" to Trump.

JIMMY CARTER CHANGES LAST NAME

ATLANTA--Former President Jimmy Carter announced today that he has legally changed the spelling of his last name from Carter to Qaerdar.

"Qaerdar is really the correct historical family surname," the former president explained at a news conference at his home in Plains, Georgia.

Carter, author of the controversial book *Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid*, said that the new name spelling had nothing to do with his perceived sympathies toward Arabs.

"It's not like I'm Al Qaeda," he stated. "I'm Jimmy Qaerdar."

NEW YESHIVA TO OPEN

BROOKLYN—Rabbis today announced the opening of a new yeshiva on Ocean Parkway in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn.

The school is called the Mirror Yeshiva.

"The Mirror will be a seminary for serious self-reflection," said its dean, Rabbi Ashmira Silver.

"The entire yeshiva is made of mirrors--the walls, doors, ceiling, floors, the works," he explained. "Our goal is to give every student an enhanced self-image."

The rabbi noted that the learning hall, or *beis medrash*, is comprised entirely of mirrors.

"Each student will sit in front of a mirror and thereby acquire a study partner who is always on the same page as himself," Rabbi Silver said.

The yeshiva, slated to open in September, was founded by Jewish philanthropists Ima and Ura Narcissist.

SHIMON PERES WEDS ROSIE PEREZ

JERUSALEM--In a surprise that caught both Israel and the United States off guard, former Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Hollywood actress/choreographer Rosie Perez announced yesterday that they were married in a private ceremony last week.

"Shimon is my guy," said Perez, gazing admiringly at her new husband. "He's just so Peres-idential."

"And my Rosie is so Perez-tigious," joked the Israeli, stroking his wife's hair.

Peres and Perez said they first met several months ago backstage before both were to appear on "Meet the Press."

"They should have called it 'Meet the Peres,'" Rosie joked.

The former prime minister said that some of his family was upset about the mixed marriage.

"I am Jewish, and Rosie is Perez-byterian," said Peres. "But this isn't about the Peres-ervation of religion. It's about love."

The couple plans to honeymoon in a sanitarium.

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GOLDEN CALF WINS ON "AMERICAN IDOL"

HOLLYWOOD--The Golden Calf, also known by the Hebrew name Egel Hazahav, won the highly-coveted top prize on the popular television show "American Idol."

"I knew I could do it," said Calf, who celebrated after the show at the Hollywood Wax Moo-seum.

"I had already won first prize on 'Israeli Idol' and 'Egyptian Idol,'" Calf explained. "I knew if I made it into the Top 24 on 'American Idol,' I'd win that, too."

Asked to assess the show's judges, Calf laughed.

"That Paula Abdul is as crazy as Korach," he chuckled. "Simon Cowell reminded me of Pharaoh. The other guy was decent, though."

And what does the winning Golden Calf now plan to do?

"I want to pursue a career in moo-sic," Calf said. "I'm coming out with my first album, called 'How High the Mooooooon.' After that, who knows? Maybe I'll star in a major Hollywood moo-vie."

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**Cannot be kashered for Passover. The Vaad Hakashrus of the Five Towns requires the purchase of separate Pesach dishes (both

milchig and fleishig required).

BRIEF HEADLINES

Giuliani Changes Name to Jewliani

Caters to New York Voters

Bill Clinton to Head AMIT Women

Thought It Was "I Meet Women"

Rabbis Ban Mezuzah Costumes for Purim

"Cheap way to get kissed" they claim

McGreevy's Big Mistake:

Entering the Golan

"Sorry I put him on my staff," says ex-gov

MOVIES

Snacks on a Plane--Jews try to slip water bottles past airport security

Little Miss Shushan--Saga of Queen Esther

The Seaparted--Moses splits the waters

Horat--Sacha Baron Cohen, posing as a dyslexic, misspells 'Torah'

Getters from Iwo Jima--Jewish divorcees on a Pacific island

Notes on a Sandal--Beach bum collides with Wailing Wall

Breaking and Centering--Zayde tries to fit the middle matzah into an afikomen bag

Phylactery Girls--Women's prayer group

Because I Said Go--God orders Moses to lead the Jews out of Egypt

Ladle Children--Bubbie teaches her grandkids

how to make chicken soup

The Devil Wears Peyos--Hasidic kids dress for Purim

Dreamgoys--Pharaoh, his baker, and wine steward have strange visions

Deliver Us from Avel--Yakkety mourner bores shiva callers

Children of Amen--Youth minyan

Aleph Dog--Alta cocker spaniel dances the canine hora at his Bark Mitzvah

Sepharim Fall--Yeshiva's bookcase topples

Acoptolipto--Mel Gibson mouths off to police officer

Kvetch and Release--Unhappy couple gets a get

Author and the Invisible--God writes the Torah

The God Shepherd--Moses leads his people

Charlotte's Reb--Spider converts to Judaism

Curse of the Golden Flour--Rabbis invalidate egg matzah for Passover

Hoppy Feet--Davening at a Carlebach minyan

Night at the Mausoleum--Lubavitchers visit the Rebbe

Ruchy Balboa--Rocky's frum sister

Pan's Ladyrinse--Housewife kashers a pot

Musaf and Lyrics--Chazan makes up tunes on the bima

Hallah Ball Rising--Wife cooks for Shabbos

THEATER

The Lousy Chaperone--Parent hosts party for yeshiva teens who get drunk

A Charoses Line--Gold's introduces a new Passover product

Mary Poppies--Nanny teaches children how to bake hamantashan

Prelude to a Pish--Jewish man turns on his bathroom faucet

Torazan--Jungle hero has bar mitzvah

Jake Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Boro Park--Recalcitrant husband hides from agunah wife

King Leer--President Katsav accused of sex crimes

25 Answers from a Jewish Mother--Child asks his *ima* a question