

Meish Goldish [PreciousLife47@aol.com](mailto:PreciousLife47@aol.com)  
on Purim 2008

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## MOVIES

**No Country for Ten Men--**Tiny Jewish community can't get a minyan

**127 Dresses--**Women pack for Passover hotels

**American Bangster--**Co-founder of Bangitout gets married

**Jewno--**Anti-Semitism in a small town

**The Bucket Lust--**Shnorrers hit 10 shuls in under 30 minutes

**Atonement--**Yom Kippur cantor has a terrible voice

**Swiney Godd--**Jews build the Golden Calf

**1 Month, 3 Weeks, and 1 Day--**Jews count the days till Shavuot

**Unchanted--**Early minyan rushes through services

**Beema Movie--**Cantor is attacked by wasps

**Into the Wind--**Chulent kiddush

**The Born Ultimatum--**Jewish babies are circumcised

**The Diving Belle and the Butterfly Stroke--**Swimmer does laps in the mikveh

**Before the Gabbai Knows You're Dead--**Shul sends out yahrtzeit reminders

**The Counter Fitters--**Orthodox men shop for

Borsolinos

**Lady Chatterbox--**Yenta gabs incessantly

**The Fruit Debaters--**Rabbis argue over shmitta rules

**Oy a Legend--**Documentary about Jewish celebrities

**The Bite Runner--**Wedding crasher fills up on shmorg

**Shul's Gold--**Synagogue with wealthy donors

**Parsleypolis--**Passover seder in Iran

**Untasteable--**Shul serves bad kiddush

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## THEATER

**August: Sullivan Country--**Jews invade the Catskills for the summer

**Gruss--**Musical about Jewish philanthropists

**Hair Pray--**Kallahs hope for a good sheytl

**In the Tights--**Yeshiva girls observe strict dress code

**Is He Still Dead?--**Lubavitchers mourn Rebbe's passing

**Jersey Goys--**Gentile singers become a big hit

**Illegally Blonde--**Sheytl sellers use yellow Indian hair

**Merry Poppies--**Baker makes hamantashen with smiley faces

**Roll 'n' Roll**--Mother bakes challah for Shabbos

**Hamalot**--King Arthur's knights eat treif

**Shabbos in the Park with George**--Breakaway minyan forms

**The Ladle Mermaid**--Ariel makes matzo ball soup for passing sailors

**The Seafare**--Fish menus during the nine days

**Young Lichtenstein**--Talmudic prodigy

**Crimes of the Fart**--Chulent kiddush

**Cry-Bubby**--Musical about a sentimental grandmother

**Come Back, Little Shiva**--Mourner loses both parents in one month

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(QUICK HEADLINES)

**KOLLEL BOYS GO ON STRIKE;  
THREATEN TO WORK IF DEMANDS  
AREN'T MET**

**GAYS AND SHMITTA:  
WHICH FRUITS AND NUTS MAY BE  
EATEN?**

**MATISYAHU LEAVES LUBAVITCH TO BE  
CHOCOLATE DRINK SPOKESPERSON;  
CHANGES NAME TO MATISYOO-HOO**

**FANCY SYNAGOGUE HOSTS  
HOT KIDDUSH LEVANA**

**JEW CONVERTS TO ISLAM,  
CHANGES NAME TO MOSQUE-OWITZ**

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## **BEATLES TO SING IN ISRAEL**

TEL AVIV--The Israeli government announced today that the Beatles, the music quartet that first took the world by storm in the 1960s, will visit Israel in May to help the nation celebrate its 60th birthday.

Government spokesperson Al Chait said that Israel made a "regrettable error" in 1964 when it denied permission for the wildly-popular singing group to enter the country to perform for its teenagers.

"We thought their name was the Bittuls," Chait explained, "which in Hebrew carries a negative connotation."

The two surviving members of the original "Fab Four," Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr, said they look forward to their visit in Israel.

"We hope to perform some of our songs in Hebrew," McCartney announced, "although it's a challenge. 'Hello, hello, I don't know why you say goodbye, I say hello' definitely loses in translation as 'Shalom, shalom, I don't know why you say shalom, I say shalom.'"

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## **RABBI ARRESTED IN MONEY LAUNDERING SCAM**

BROOKLYN--Federal authorities announced on Tuesday the arrest of Rabbi Iluv Gelt, known among his Chasidic followers as the Stinka Rebbe, for heading an illegal international money-laundering operation.

U.S. Attorney General Eliasz Feit said the arrest took place at the Stinka Laundromat and Yeshiva, owned by Rabbi Gelt.

Government prosecutors continue to investigate the extent of the operation, which one attorney described as "dirty as sin."

Feit explained how the laundering worked. "Basically, a Stinka adherent would make a donation by check for one million dollars or more. Then, privately, the rebbe would return most of the money to the donor, while retaining ten percent for tithing and detergent."

The case is scheduled to go to trial in May.

"It's ironic," Feit added, "that despite all the rabbi's laundering, he remained a Stinka."

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## ISRAEL AT 60: A MEDICAL REPORT

JERUSALEM--The state of Israel, which turns 60 years old this May, recently underwent a comprehensive medical examination at Hadassah Hospital.

Yesterday, doctors at the Jerusalem hospital made public the results of the physical checkup.

Dr. Ben Dover and Dr. Turnan Koff, co-directors of the medical facility, announced that Israel suffers from several serious ailments, including clogged arteries of its main highways and roads.

... Medical tests further indicate that Israel suffers from Alzheimer's disease, as it tends to forget what happens each time it gives up land for peace.

On a positive note, doctors said that Israel has a big, strong heart that enables the nation to continue to help needy people everywhere.

The doctors recommended that Israel follow an aggressive exercise program that includes pushing its luck, bending over backwards, stretching its limits, and jumping to conclusions.

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## SHALOM BAYIS, 78, DIES

NEW YORK--Shalom Bayis, a widely-known and beloved individual in the New York area famous for his sincere efforts to accommodate his family, died

today at the age of 78.

A family neighbor, Billy Neder, said that Bayis suffered a heart attack during a sudden, vitriolic argument with his wife.

"I think he just couldn't take it anymore and snapped," said Neder. "Shalom always gave in to his wife and kids for the sake of peace in the house. I guess all that pent-up aggravation finally caught up with him."

Neder said the Bayis widow plans a private funeral service and requests that no visitors come to the home during *shiva*, the traditional seven-day mourning period.

"If Shalom were alive, he would surely accede to her request," Neder explained, "even though he would no doubt disagree with it."

Neder added that friends of Bayis have established a memorial fund where contributions can be sent, called Alav HaShalom Bayis.

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## ELECTRIC CARS IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV--Israel made history this week by becoming the first country to mass-produce electric cars for its populace.

"Electric cars are the wave of the future," announced Otto Moe Beale, Israel's Minister of Transportation.

Beale explained that electric cars would enable Israelis to conserve gas and oil, two resources sorely in demand in this tiny nation of 6 million people.

Electric-powered vehicles have been widely embraced by Israeli consumers. However, many rabbis here debate whether the cars are permitted according to halacha, or Jewish law.

"Shabbat becomes a huge problem," said Rabbi Longa Payuss, Israel's Chief Rabbi of Transportation.

Other rabbis in Israel approve of the cars, maintaining that they are no different than Shabbos

elevators used in Orthodox hotels and apartment buildings.

The chief rabbi noted that many drivers had installed timers in their cars in order to drive them on the Sabbath.

"It may be permitted technically," Payuss explained, "but it's certainly not within the spirit of Shabbat."

Other rabbis disagree.

"You can use an electric car on Shabbat, if you let a goy drive you," said Rabbi Lou Pohl, spiritual head of The Shil Shul in Beit Sheemoosh.

Pohl explained that a Jew may be chauffeured on Shabbat, provided he does not tell the driver directly where to go.

He noted, "It's appropriate to say, 'Gee, it sure would be nice if we were on Ben Yehudah Street right now.'"

Asked where the electric cars would be parked on the Sabbath, Rabbi Pohl replied, "They'll be parked where all cars in Israel are parked--in Eilat."

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## **PALESTINIAN COMEDIAN BOMBS**

LOS ANGELES--Mahmoud Youngman, a 23-year-old Palestinian entertainer who claims to be related to the late comedian Henny Youngman, received a poor reception in his American debut at a Los Angeles comedy club this week.

"He really bombed," said club owner Jack Mehoff. "He died on stage."

Youngman, who has a rapid, machine gun-fire delivery, denies that his performance was a failure.

"I killed," he claimed after his 10 o'clock show on Thursday night. "The audience was dying of laughter. I had them in stitches."

Many club patrons disagreed.

"He stank," said Lane D. Parsha, a tourist who was in the audience. "All the guy kept saying was, 'Take my life, please.'"

Mehoff said he had no plans to bring back the comedian for future club dates.

"To have him return would be suicide for me," Mehoff said.

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## **ISRAEL EXPANDS BASEBALL LEAGUE**

SDEROT--In an effort to take citizens' minds off the daily attacks by its belligerent neighbors, the Israeli government announced today that it would add several new teams to the Israeli Baseball League, which had a promising debut last year.

New teams will include the Sderot Rockets, the West Bank Bombers, and the Shomron Bullets.

League Commissioner Ron D. Baysiz said he hoped the expanded league will cause baseball fever to spread across the country.

Baysiz said he would like all Israeli citizens to attend games, including the ultra-Orthodox haredi population, which traditionally shuns secular sports.

"We plan to emphasize the religious aspects of baseball," Baysiz said. "From now on, stealing bases will be considered a sin punishable by lashes. And we've added a sacrifice fly rule that requires players to bring the fly to Jerusalem as an offering to the High Priest."

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## **HAMAS LAUNCHES NEW KIDDIE TV SHOW**

RAFAH—Hamis, the Palestinian terrorist organization bent on the destruction of Israel, today began broadcasting a television show that aims to teach Arab children to hate all Jews and Israelis.

The program is called "Hate All Jews and Israelis."

The show's central character is a tall, fluffy bunny named The Rabbitsen. Throughout the program, the bunny urges young viewers to "Kill me! Kill the Rabbitsen!"

Other characters include the Chief Rabbit of

Israel, who is married to The Rabbitsen.

Abraham Foxyman, director of the Anti-Defecation League, called the Arab TV program "rabbit pellets" and said it had no business being on the air.

"It makes Sesame Street look like, well, Sesame Street," Foxyman declared at a news conference held after the program's debut. "In an ideal world, this show would be cancelled immediately. Unfortunately, anti-Semitic bunnies like The Rabbitsen will keep going and going and going."

Islamic terrorists in India said they plan to air a similar children's show there next month, titled "Mister Rajah's Neighborhood."

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## **FLATBUSH GETS NINTH ERUV**

BROOKLYN--The section of Brooklyn known as Flatbush set a record this week by establishing its ninth *eruv*--a wire that encompasses the entire neighborhood in order to allow religious Jews to carry in public on the Sabbath.

"This additional eruv makes us even holier than before," said Rabbi Al Checkum, popularly known in the Flatbush community as the Eruv Rav.

"Jerusalem has only three eruvim," Rabbi Checkum noted, "while Flatbush now has nine. I think that settles the question of which area is holier."

The rabbi admitted that some observant Jews in Flatbush did not recognize the validity of any of the nine eruvim.

"They prefer wireless," he quipped.

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## **DYSLEXIC EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

WASHINGTON D.C.--American and Israeli

government officials announced today the establishment of an innovative exchange program involving dyslexic citizens of each country.

American dyslexics, who read from right to left, will reside in Israel for one year to learn Hebrew.

In exchange, Israeli dyslexics, who read from left to right, will travel to the United States to learn English.

"No one will feel awkward," said program director I.C. Beckwords. "It's a radical approach to learning."

If the new program succeeds, officials say, the two governments plan to inaugurate a second exchange program that involves mentally-retarded adults.

"Members of Congress and the Knesset will trade places," Beckwords said.

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## **HAMAS RECOGNIZES ISRAEL**

GAZA CITY--In an unprecedented move, the Palestinian terrorist organization Hamas announced yesterday that it finally recognizes Israel as a state.

"This is so embarrassing," said Hamas spokesperson Iman Idyat. "Israel grew so much since her birth in 1948. We honestly didn't realize who she was. Just look at how big she's gotten."

Idyat explained that Israel's features had changed considerably over the years--another reason for Hamas' failure to recognize her.

"See how green her southern region is now!" Idyat exclaimed. "Israel has really blossomed. Believe me, she didn't look like this 60 years ago. Honestly, you can't blame us for not recognizing her as a state."

Asked how this new recognition of Israel would change Hamas policy toward the Jewish state, Idyat replied, "Oh, nothing will change. It's just that now we know who we're picking on."

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## RABBIS BAN SYNAGOGUE SINGING

NEW YORK--Following their recent cancellation of a Lipa Schmeltzer concert at Madison Square Garden in New York City, 33 fervently Orthodox rabbis have now issued a global ban on music of any kind in synagogue.

According to the new restriction, cantors will no longer be allowed to chant the prayers with melody, and congregants will not be allowed to sing.

Rabbi Susa Yekess said the new ban had been imposed because "music is the root of all evil."

"When our precious youth hear music, they go wild," the rabbi explained at a news conference yesterday. "It's not appropriate at a public concert, and certainly not in a holy shul."

The 33 rabbis issued a written proclamation that spells out the exact terms of the ban.

"Anyone inside a synagogue must recite all prayers in a spoken tone of voice only," the edict states. "Anyone caught singing will be subject to expulsion from the synagogue."

The music ban also applies to any religious ceremony conducted off the synagogue premises, including weddings and bar mitzvahs.

Asked if dancing at a wedding would still be allowed, Rabbi Yekess said, "Of course, as long as there is no music or singing."

Many in the Jewish community now fear that the extremist rabbis will next ban singing in the privacy of one's own home.

Asked if the new prohibition included singing in the shower, Rabbi Yekess replied, "Shower?"

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## SYNAGOGUE IDENTITY THEFTS

BROOKLYN--Congregants at an Orthodox synagogue in Boro Park recently discovered a rash of identity thefts that transpired over the past six months.

"It's outrageous," said Rabbi Mayer Kulpa, 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 gabbai during Sabbath services and identified themselves by the stolen Hebrew names.

The impostors were subsequently called to the Torah for blessings called *aliyahs*.

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

One shul 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 synagogue member, who requested anonymity, said he was billed for nine aliyahs in 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 Kulpa said he is not sure 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."

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