

From Meish Goldish <PreciousLife47@aol.com>

**Selected Purim Shtuss from Meish Goldish**

**Purim 2013**

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**BLOOMBERG LIMITS SEDER PORTIONS**

NEW YORK—Following his recent ban on soda containers over 16 ounces, Mayor Michael Bloomberg has announced that he now intends to place similar limits on wine and matzo consumption at Passover seders.

“Everyone knows that Jews struggle with obesity,” the mayor declared at a news conference yesterday at Gracie Mansion, “so why aggravate the problem by drinking four whole cups of wine and eating three large sheets of matzo at a single meal?”

Noting that the Passover foods are a Jewish tradition dating back thousands of years, the mayor said, “That may be so, but look at the health problems they create. You eat all that unleavened bread, and your system is bound to get backed up. It’s no wonder Moses was pleading, ‘Let my people go.’”

Bloomberg added, “No one needs that much wine at a meal, either. And, shamefully, the biggest offender is a Jewish icon—the prophet Elijah. On seder night, he goes from house to house drinking. Who does he think he is, some frat boy? It’s the wrong kind of message to be sending to impressionable Jewish children on Passover.”

Several Jewish organizations have already filed lawsuits in Brooklyn courts, claiming that the mayor’s new proposal infringes upon their religious rights. Rabbi Chaim Dovid Zwieback, legal counsel for Agooda Israel and author of the book *When Abbada Things Happen to Agooda People*, said, “Instead of downsizing seder foods, the mayor

should be increasing them, like donating his nuts to make more *charoses*.”

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**NYC IMPOSES STRICTER BRIS REGULATIONS**

NEW YORK—The New York City Board of Health, which last September voted to require mohels to obtain advance consent from parents before performing circumcision that involves direct suction of a baby’s organ, has now made its rules even more stringent.

Starting next month, a mohel will not be allowed to perform the controversial procedure known as *m’tzitza b’peh* without first obtaining written consent from the baby himself.

“It’s the child who undergoes the risk,” explained Dr. Lane D. Parsha, director of the Board of Health. “So it’s only fair that it’s the child who should give the mohel the green light.”

When asked how a baby could sign a consent form at the tender age of eight days old, Dr. Parsha responded, “If the child is unable write his name at that point, then the circumcision will have to be postponed until he can at least sign with an X.”..

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**BROOKLYN NAMED HOLIEST JEWISH CITY**

BROOKLYN—For the first time in recent history, the borough of Brooklyn, New York, has surpassed Jerusalem, Israel, as “The Holiest Jewish City on Earth,” according to the World Jewish Federation,

Federation officials, who annually rank cities around the world for their degree of Jewish religious observance, explained that in the past year,

Brooklyn initiated several practices that make it “indisputably the holiest land on the planet.”

As an example, in the district of Boro Park, several synagogues now offer women’s prayer groups for men only. In addition, stores that sell television satellite dishes now require customers to buy two sets of dishes, plus two other sets for use during Passover.

In Flatbush, public unisex bathrooms now have separate entrances for men and women.

Another indication of high religious observance is in Williamsburg toy stores, which sell dolls designed to inculcate in young Jewish girls the importance of covering their hair after marriage. The dolls, called Tichel Me Elmo, come with a kerchief wrapped around a Muppet’s head.

Another big-selling doll in Williamsburg--this one for young Jewish boys--is the Kollel Doll. You wind it up and it doesn’t work.

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### **ISRAEL APPLIES FOR U.S. MEDICARE**

JERUSALEM—The State of Israel, which will turn 65 years old on May 14, plans to apply for Medicare, the U.S. national social insurance program, according to Chaim Weizguy, head of Israel’s Health and Welfare Agency.

Weizguy announced that Israel wants to join Medicare in order to qualify for badly-needed economic surgery that would then be paid for by the U.S. government.

Israel’s surgical operations, Weizguy said, would include tightening the budget, cutting government spending, raising taxes, lifting a sagging bottom line on exported goods, trimming fat from welfare programs, and performing a nip and tuck of moneys allocated to Jewish religious schools.

In addition, the Israeli army would undergo a chemical peel to better protect itself in the event of biological warfare.

Critics of the proposed plan argue that it is wrong for Israel to join Medicare, especially at a time when the U.S. itself is in dire economic straits, with many American economists still worried about the nation going over the fiscal cliff.

Weizguy said that to avoid criticism, Israel would apply for Medicare under an assumed name such as Syria or Iraq, which already receive millions of dollars annually in American aid.

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### **PRESIDENT ENDORSES GAY SYNAGOGUES**

WASHINGTON, D.C.—President Baruch O. Bauma, head of The White House Synagogue (commonly known as The White Shul) in downtown Washington, D.C., announced today that he was in favor of gays and lesbians in his congregation being granted the same rights currently enjoyed by all other members.

“The gays and lesbians have set forth their agenda: We’re here, we’re queer, we want an aliyah,” said Bauma, “and quite frankly, I agree with them.”

“At least in our shul, when they come out of the closet, they’re carrying a siddur and Chumash that they took from the closet shelves,” the president noted.

The White Shul is a house of worship that is famous for welcoming oppressed minorities into its fold. In 1965, it became the first synagogue to officially accept a group of black hats during their struggle for equal rights.

Even earlier, in 1920, the progressive congregation became the first in the country to give women members the right to vote.

Recently, the shul revised its constitution to grant rights to individuals whose sexual preference includes both males and females. “We call it our bi-laws,” Bauma said.

He added, “Our synagogue is a rainbow, just like the one that appeared to Noah after the flood. Our membership has all the colors of Joseph’s famous coat.”

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### SYNAGOGUE WORKER ADMITS DOPING

BRONX—The *gabbai*, or sexton, of a synagogue in the Bronx admitted today in court that he provided steroids and other performance-enhancing drugs to shul members who were called to the Torah to perform *hagbah*--the lifting of the scroll.

The *gabbai*, Lanceman Armstrong, said that he had been supplying the drugs for the past five years.

“It began one Shabbos morning when I couldn’t find anyone willing to lift the Torah,” Armstrong confessed under oath. “It’s a big, heavy item that requires raising and unraveling to display at least three columns of text. Everyone I asked was afraid they would drop it, and dropping a Torah means the entire congregation must fast for forty days. I happened to have a few extra steroids from last week’s kiddush in my suit pocket, so I offered a pill to one guy if he would do *hagbah*. He told me, ‘Ordinarily I don’t believe in taking the Law into my own hands, but in this case I’ll make an exception.’ And that’s how it all started.”

Judge Bill E. Neder sentenced Armstrong to six months’ probation for doping synagogue members, but did not impose a sentence on any of those individuals who actually took the performance-enhancing drugs.

Armstrong said he had learned an important lesson from the experience. “Don’t get stuck being

the guy to assign *hagbah*,” he said. “Better to give out *galilah*—tying up the Torah after it’s been lifted and lowered. *Galilah* is easy. Buckle up for safety. It’s the Law.”

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### AT THE MOVIES

**Zero Dork Thirty**—Loser Jewish single can’t get a date

**Less Miserable**—Loser Jewish single finally gets a date

**Shabbos Lainings Praybook**—Siddur and Chumash combined into one volume

**Lincoln Drinkin’**—President hosts a Purim party at the White House

**Agunah Unchained**—Separated woman succeeds in obtaining a religious divorce

**The Hunger Gains**—Jews fast on Yom Kippur to win forgiveness for their sins

**Cargo**—Jews pack for their summer in the Catskills

**This Is 49**—Rabbi counts the days of the omer

**The Gelt Trip**—Boy celebrates his bar mitzvah

**The Rabbi: An Unexpected Journey**—A synagogue fires its spiritual leader without warning

### IN THE THEATER

**Fiddler on a Hot Tin Roof**—Itzhak Perlman burns his feet at an outdoor summer concert

**Nice Get If You Can Work It**—Wife convinces spouse to give her a Jewish divorce

**Shmoozies**—Congregants talk during the prayer service

**Snoozies**—Congregants sleep during the rabbi's sermon

**Ani**--New Israeli immigrant learns how to say "I" in an ulpan course

**Kinky Roots**—Wigmaker struggles to match hair colors for a *sheytl*

**Who's Afraid of Virgin Wool?**—Talis manufacturer makes prayer shawls for young women

**Manischewitz on Broadway**—Barry Manilow has a seder on stage

**Ruchie and Peshi and Bashi and Shprintz**—Roll call at a Bais Yaakov school in Boro Park

**Rabbi Man: Turn Off the Congregants**—Synagogue's spiritual leader is disliked

**Old Jews Selling Jokes**—I should pay you to make me laugh? Now that's funny!

**My Name Is Asher Yatzar**—Jewish man greets strangers in the bathroom

**Peter and the Starwatcher**—Mohel waits for Shabbos to end