



The Yizraelite 2202 – No Date: 4.4.25

Kibbutz Yizrael



Reut's Editorial: Another week passes, and another holiday break from school begins next week. The hostages are not here and not even on their way. News chases news, and denials come in the form of "persecution," "deep state," "court..." and for some reason, one single lawyer defends all the king's men. The question arises, who pays his salary? Amidst this, there's the appointment of a new head of the Shin Bet and the cancellation of that appointment, followed by the announcement of another. In all this flood of information, anger, and the feeling of humiliation at what is happening in our country, our concern and hopes are directed towards the hostages in Gaza. 🇮🇱🕊️

Shabbat Shalom!



THANK YOU: We would like to thank Naomi Levin for organising help to clear out the attic at our Mum's (of blessed memory), house. Two willing young guys arrived, climbed up and cleared it out. A huge thank you to Uriah Blass and Yotam Darom for their willingness to help and the excellent work they did.

Biff Markham-Oren and Judy Pezaro



**Congratulations to Hedva and David Shaharabani
on the birth of their grandson.**

Great-grandson for Yaffa, a son for Shachar and Hadar.

Congratulations to the entire Shaharabani family, the Elul family, and Hadar's family.

**Wishing you an abundance of goodness, joy, health,
and lots and lots of love.**



**Congratulations to Tzruya and Gili
on the birth of their daughter - Tamar,**

Sister to Noam and Netta.

Best wishes to Hila and Avner and to the entire extended family.

Wishing you abundance of goodness, joy, health, and lots and lots of love

**Community Management Meeting
Sunday, April 6, 2025, 5:30 PM**

Agenda:

1. Information and miscellaneous
2. Summary of the pilot for the "Combined Model" Erev Shabbat dinner
3. Presentation and approval of the examination process by the Education Council regarding accommodation in the Chevra Bogeret (Process Team invited)
4. Work Procedure + Outside Workers' Procedure (Human Resources Management invited)
5. Toast

Asefa
Monday, 7/4/25, 20:30 in the Moadon

Agenda:

1. Election of two public representatives
for the Holdings Board - Candidates:
Niv Edelstein
Nir Segal
Tamir Blass
2. Care Procedure (Nohal Siud)



THANK YOU from Neomi Amit (Neomis)



Aviva, Margalit, Ilana Peleg, Jenny, Barry, Orit, Derek, Irit Shemesh, and Haimke,

Now, in light of the publication of the results in the newsletter, I want to express a huge thank you for the help, perseverance, loyalty, and friendship. Without you, this wouldn't have happened.

I am very proud that we, a group of retirees, have been maintaining this place for 8 years. We have been through a lot—pandemics, wars, upheavals, changes, staff turnover—but you have always been by my side. We have established and maintained a remarkable place, whose name is recognised throughout the valley and even across Israel.

I wish us all good health and many more years of joint endeavours.

I love you all very much, Naomi

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Asefa Report – 30.3.25

Date: 30.3.25

Participants: 36 Members

Chairperson: Shlomo Cohen

Secretary: Eddie Solow

Agenda: Participation of Kibbutz Yizrael in Protest Activities

- Limor Griman, the kibbutz secretary, presented the topic:

With the worsening political crisis, the return to fighting, the failure to return hostages, and the intensification of steps to promote the judicial revolution, there is a call from various organisations and members of the community for the kibbutz to take a stand and actively participate in protest actions. The kibbutz movement has requested participation in protest shifts in front of the Prime Minister's residence, and many kibbutzim have already responded. In addition, the Secretary-General of the Kibbutz Movement, Lior Simcha, announced that the kibbutzim would join a strike if one eventuates. The community management decided to convene an urgent asefa to make decisions regarding the kibbutz's participation in various protest actions. We seek guidelines and legitimacy from the asefa to act on behalf of the kibbutz.

- Several possible actions were presented as ideas from members:
 - Establishing an action headquarters to coordinate all activities and serve as a contact point for those wanting to participate.
 - Sending a letter to the regional council head calling for participation in any future general strike.
 - Shutting down the kibbutz across all sectors in the event of a general strike in the economy.
 - Fundraising from kibbutz members to create a significant contribution from the kibbutz.
 - Participating in various protest activities—demonstrations, protest shifts in front of the Prime Minister's residence, sales booth for hostage families, presence at the Hostage Square, volunteering in the Gaza perimeter and northern kibbutzim.
- During the discussion, participants agreed that the first and most important action is to establish an action headquarters to consolidate all proposals, synchronise activities, initiate events, and publicise them to the community.
- It was agreed that the two main areas of focus would be the return of hostages and the preservation of democracy.
- Part of the discussion revolved around the question of funding for protest activities—on the one hand, the community budget is already under strain, and there is no room for additional expenses so travel costs, etc, should be borne by the members participating. On the other hand, if the goal is to increase the number of kibbutz members participating in the protests, financial considerations should be secondary, and it would be right to invest money to help participants. In this regard, it was proposed to transfer the responsibility to the community management to find a budget source for the action **headquarters' activities and bring it to the asefa for approval.**

At the end of the discussion, a vote was held on 4 items. Voting results:

1. Establishment of an action headquarters to coordinate, initiate, and synchronise activities supporting the families of hostages and protests to preserve democracy – For (84), Against (16), Abstentions (5)
2. The asefa authorises the kibbutz management to send a letter to the regional council calling for participation in the general strike – For (85), Against (15), Abstentions (5)
3. In the event of a general strike in the economy – the kibbutz will join the strike. The extent of the shutdown will be determined by the Community Management – For (85), Against (19), Abstentions (1)
4. The asefa instructs the Community Management to find a budget source for participation in the action headquarters' activities and to approve it at the asefa – For (58), Against (38), Abstentions (9)

Limor Griman



Cleaning up the house for Pesach?



Please return library books to the return box at the entrance.

Thank you

P.S. Reminder: Please do not leave books that do not belong to the library in this box, or anywhere at the library entrance!



Pesach Spring Fair



**Combination of stalls from businesses from the Northern Border
and our own “Startups”**

TUESDAY 8.4.25

Maytronics Campus

(Water Technologies Building)

Northern Businesses:

Wine Avivim

Cheeses and Dips

Kfar Blum Jeweller

Druze Cuisine

Our own Businesses:

Gifts for family and home

Plants

Ceramics

Cakes and Biscuits

Flower arrangements

Hostages Stall

H.R. Management Meeting Summary - 30.3.2025

Participants: Rochele Matalon, Peter Pezaro, Shlomo Cohen, Erez Peleg, Limor Griman, Eddie Solow, Irit Shemesh, Navot Assaf, Ilan Sadur, Kinneret Govrin.

Invited: Hila Alterlevi, Yaniv Shapira, Yifat Assaf.

Development of Future Leadership

The meeting addressed the need to develop future management among our younger members, a topic defined as a strategic goal in the work plan of H.R. for 2025. The aim is to identify and train members from within the kibbutz for key management positions, while strengthening their connection to the kibbutz.

1. Background and Rationale:

There is a real need to build a management pipeline from within the kibbutz, as there are currently not enough members willing and prepared to take on managerial roles in a structured manner. The current situation is characterised by filling positions on the basis of the luck of who's available and willing.

2. Main Objective:

To identify members, provide managerial skills, and promote personal empowerment in order to expand the management structure within the kibbutz.

3. Sub-Objectives:

- Develop human capital and personal empowerment.
- Provide tools for developing managerial capabilities.
- Familiarise members with the kibbutz's structure and work processes.
- Strengthen involvement in community activities.

4. Challenges:

Positions are becoming more professional and require more learning time. It is essential to understand the internal and external difficulties preventing members from taking on roles.

Stages of the Process:

1. Discussion of the model and authorisation of the search team (Tzevet Itur) to address the topic.
2. Formation of a model tailored to Kibbutz Yizrael.
3. Public engagement and initiation of the process.
4. Implementation of the model in 2025-2026.

Process Details:

- Approval of the model and authorisation of the search team.
- Mapping core roles in the kibbutz and defining requirements.
- Distribution of a preliminary questionnaire to candidates to gather relevant information.
- Conducting meetings with candidates and connecting them to potential roles.

- Building a personalised training program.

Success Measure:

- A list of members interested in fulfilling positions.
- Connecting members to roles.
- Integration of members into circles of action and influence.

Open Discussion:

- This process should be viewed as dynamic and ongoing.
- It is essential to pursue the process despite anticipated challenges.
- Consider mechanisms that ensure members retain their jobs after completing their roles.
- Identify factors preventing members from taking on roles.

Decision:

The proposed model for developing a collective management pipeline was approved, and it was decided to proceed with the process through the search team.

Information will be communicated to the Management Division and the public through regular updates.

Summarised by: Kinneret Govrin



Demography Cluster Update

Young Generation:

- On Sunday, March 30, the Absorption Committee held a Zoom meeting for the young generation where they explained the current absorption process and the rights and responsibilities of the young adults. The goal was to provide information early on, not just for those considering absorption soon, but also for those not thinking about it at the moment.
- Following the asefa's approval of the new procedure regarding budget deviations for members, the committee will prepare a tailored procedure for the young generation.
- On April 11, 2025, Friday at 13:00, there will be a Kabbalat Shabbat for young adults at the kibbutz pub. This time, Irit Mor will be invited to give a workshop on "Proper Financial Management."
- The committee appreciates the contribution of the young adults in organising and producing the Purim party for the kibbutz. The committee encourages social involvement, responsibility, and initiative from the youth regarding community life in the kibbutz.
- Alon and Ma'ayan Matalon, along with their one-year-old daughter, Yarden, will arrive in the summer and will live in the **Riviot**.

- The new building will be ready for occupancy in the coming days. The building contains a total of 9 rooms—7 on the upper floor and 2 on the lower floor. Each floor has one reinforced room.
- The Committee is discussing housing for the young generation in the coming years, considering the influx of large classes in the upcoming years (53 young adults over the next four years):
 - 2025 – 10
 - 2026 – 13
 - 2027 – 10
 - 2028 – 20
 - This means that starting from 2024, all new youth entering will live in pairs rather than individually. In this situation, without additional construction or more rooms for the youth, by 2028 it may not be certain that there will be enough rooms for the "Shibolim" class. The committee, with assistance from other sources, is working on finding a solution.

Absorption:

- Currently, 9 families are in the absorption process: Serrano, Greenshpon, Broadhurst, Meir, Vitelson, Rosilio, Segal, Lavi, and Nisani.
- On Friday, March 28, a seminar for new members took place at Maytronics, where Idan Zelas presented Yizrael Holdings, and kibbutz members working at Maytronics showcased the factory.
- In May, Anya Lutyens (Liron's wife) will enter the absorption process. Anya has completed all assessments and is currently working as a marketing manager at Maytronics. Nofar Dolinko is Anya's liaison from the committee, and Alita and Einan Grosser are the accompanying family.
- This coming summer, 2025, two families are expected to join the kibbutz. They have successfully passed all screening stages:
 - Ariel and Tamara Schleicher from Kibbutz Re'im, with children Omer (6, starting first grade) and Dan (3, starting kindergarten).
 - Yaniv and Diana Shorer from Kibbutz Mefalsim, with children Alma (10, starting fifth grade), Yam (8, starting third grade), and Amit (6, starting first grade).

Both families will move into available apartments in the centre of the kibbutz—Shorer into the apartment previously occupied by the Kagan family and Schleicher into the apartment that Gal and Yonatan Vitelson, will vacate after their move to the apartment above Dina Weinbaum.

With their arrival, we will reach a total of 3 families absorbed this summer, out of a target of 4 families set by the kibbutz asefa. The two families arriving this summer are from the south and experienced the events of October 7 and we will need to show

tolerance and flexibility to help them acclimatise smoothly into our community. We hope that this absorption will provide them with a new warm home to somewhat fill the immense void and loss of everything they have known until now.

Reactions from the families after receiving the notification: "I'm so excited and happy; I can't express how much this means to us to find a home again and start new lives. The opportunity you are giving us is truly a gift, and we are deeply grateful." "We couldn't have asked for a more joyful and emotional message than the one we received this morning. We are so thrilled and excited that you have given us the chance to be part of your community and kibbutz. At such a complex moment in our lives, you opened your hearts and provided us with the opportunity and certainty we so desperately need. A huge thank you—we promise to bring all our positive energy and abilities to contribute to the community and kibbutz. Thank you so much."

- In addition to the two families, Yogev and Stavit Price—a young couple from Tel Aviv, without children—are also expected to arrive this summer. They have successfully passed all screening stages and will live in a small apartment in the young adults' housing area.
- **Accompanying Families:** We are looking for families from the kibbutz willing to volunteer as accompanying families, a vital role that will help the new families integrate into our community. The accompanying family provides a warm, supportive home for the newcomers and helps them get to know the unique social and cultural fabric of the kibbutz. Their role is to be a welcoming and safe point of contact for any questions or concerns while encouraging the new family's active participation in various community activities. Families interested in participating in the absorption process and becoming accompanying families for one of the three families arriving this summer are invited to contact one of the committee coordinators. The success of the absorption depends on all of us—this is a community mission of the highest priority.
- The absorption process for summer 2026 is progressing as planned. Over the past three months, the committee and a team of volunteer interviewers completed interviews with 18 candidate couples. A big thank you to the volunteer interviewers for their commitment. After this stage, the committee convened to discuss the results of external and internal assessments and decided to advance to the next stage with 14 candidate couples. In the next stage, candidates will submit medical information to the kibbutz clinic and will be referred for financial assessment at BDO. The goal is to select 6 families from the candidate group for absorption in summer 2026.
- Meanwhile, the committee has already begun working since the start of the year to find candidates for summer 2027. So far, 3 introductory meetings

have been held for interested individuals, with another planned for Sunday, April 6.

Housing:

- Yonatan and Gal Vitelson will move into a 76 square metre apartment above Dina Weinbaum. The apartment is currently under renovation.
- The tender for the apartment of the late Nis and the adjacent one has concluded, and the Vitelson family, Shulamit and Shai, are set to move into this apartment after renovations.
- The committee is currently working on a long-term housing plan, aimed at facilitating necessary transitions for members/newcomers from young adult housing and accommodating the incoming families.

Demographic Growth: In April, the cluster will discuss and refine the demographic plan prepared for 2030. On April 21, 2025, the plan will be presented for discussion and approval by the community administration, and on April 28, 2025, it will be up for discussion and approval by the asefa.

Best regards,

Demography Cluster: Aviva Beutler, Eviatar Assaf, Uri Gilad, Adi Ilan, Karen Brustein-Ayalon, Ranit Levy, Rafi Baum, Rafi Ben Bassat, Sarit Laviv, Ishai Levy.

Explanation of the Discussion on “Alternatives Regarding Communal Living in the Chevra Bogeret Rooms.

For decades, the kibbutz has implemented an educational policy that allows and encourages the youth of the kibbutz to stay in rooms outside their parents' home (the Chevra Bogeret rooms), under the responsibility of the educational system. The system is a right granted to teenagers in grades 11-12, contingent upon signing a "charter" and a discussion involving parents, teenagers, and counsellors. This discussion and charter define the conditions that allow the realisation of this right.

Staying in these rooms, separate from their parents' home, during adolescence is a significant educational event that comes with advantages, challenges, and difficulties. In recent years, many complexities have arisen regarding the ability to ensure the safety of the teenagers staying in the Chevra Bogeret, cooperation between parents and the educational staff, and more. Alongside these complexities, voices have emerged from the community calling to examine the continuation of this arrangement.

The Education Council has decided to thoroughly explore this topic in collaboration with the public and the Community Management, so that we can ultimately make a decision regarding the accommodation arrangement in the Chevra Bogeret rooms.

In fact, a decision to examine the topic was made about a year and a half ago, shortly before the war began. At that time, a dedicated team was established to address the issue from within the Education Council. However, due to the war and the temporary departure of the youth from the rooms, the Education Council decided at that time to freeze the process and not to pursue it while the youth were not in the rooms. We believe it is appropriate to revisit this topic significantly in the near future.

It is important to note that the focus of this discussion is public, not personal, meaning that the discussion does not address whether it is right for any individual to enter the rooms, as that is a personal and family matter. The discussion we wish to raise here pertains to general questions, with the desire for a broad educational perspective, and will involve all relevant parties—parents, educational staff, the youth, and forums related to the education system and the kibbutz. The focus will be on educational and ethical questions.

The central question at the heart of this discussion is: Is it right for the kibbutz and the education system to support and enable the continued accommodation of boys and girls outside their parents' homes in the chevra bogeret?

Following that—if the answer is yes, under what conditions could such an arrangement be appropriate for this year and the coming years? If alternative options are chosen, what are their implications for the educational activity model in Yizrael and its goals?

What level of responsibility do we expect from youth counsellors and the education system? What is the responsibility of the parents? What are the "boundaries of responsibility" of the education system?

In essence, the discussion centres on significant public educational issues. We know that decisions on these matters have implications for personal relationships within families, housing situations, and household economics. We do not disregard these implications, and these aspects will be addressed in the process, but they are not at the core of the examination. The heart of the examination process is educational in a broad public context.

In the Education Council, we believe it is important to hear as wide a range of voices from the public as possible, and we hope that this diversity will help us formulate better alternatives for the benefit of the youth and the community.

As published last week in the newsletter, the process will include discussions with the Community Management, open dialogue circles for the public, lectures and learning about the topic, discussions with the youth, information gathering, and the formulation of alternatives—ultimately leading to a decision on the matter.

Public dialogue circles will take place on two occasions to allow for broad public participation:

- The first dialogue circle will be held on Thursday, April 17, at 20:00 in the Moadon.
- The second dialogue circle will be held on Friday, April 18, at 08:30 in the Moadon.

We hope for fruitful collaboration from the public. Feel free to reach out to us—the team coordinating the topic and discussion (from the Education Council): Ori Ayalon, Nir Ba'or, and Adi Ilan.

Notes From the Music School



Sing a Song – The Way to Improve Your Health

1. **Sing to Reduce Stress:** A 2017 study measured cortisol levels in saliva before and after participants sang a song. (Cortisol is the stress hormone - Ed) The study found a decrease in cortisol after singing, indicating relaxation. However, it's noted that cortisol only decreases when participants sang alone or in a group, rather than in high-pressure situations, like performing solo on stage.
2. **Singing Stimulates Antibody Response:** Evidence suggests that singing can increase Immunoglobulin A, an antibody released to fight inflammation.
3. **Singing Increases Pain Threshold:** While singing, the body releases endorphins, hormones that promote positive feelings and can even alter pain sensations. A 2012 study found that singing, drumming, and dancing in a group triggered hormonal releases that simply listening to music does not.
4. **Singing Improves Lung Function:** It involves deep breathing and focused use of respiratory muscles, which helps strengthen those muscles.
5. **Singing Enhances Memory in Dementia Patients:** Individuals with Alzheimer's and dementia experience gradual memory loss. Studies showed that they could remember songs and lyrics better than unrelated words. Many discovered that familiar songs brought back memories, with some spontaneously singing songs from their youth.
6. **Singing Helps Improve Speech Abilities:** For many years, scientists have recognised the impact of singing on individuals with neurological conditions such as autism, Parkinson's disease, aphasia (after a stroke), and stuttering.

In summary, there are immense benefits for those who sing regularly. No special equipment or conditions are needed. Just sing: in the shower, while driving, at work, or walking. Evidence suggests the benefits of singing are amplified when done in a group,

such as a choir, based on the assumption that group activity contributes to mental health.

Final Note: National mourning and moral disintegration in society lead many of us to experience difficult moods, even depression. We cope in various ways, through protests, volunteering, and sometimes completely avoiding news. Based on readings on the topic, it's recommended for everyone to sing every day, even for a short time. If possible, dance as well. It's beneficial to surround ourselves with music, attend concerts, especially wonderful productions like last week's show at the Music School featuring childhood songs. The audience joyfully joined in community singing. Listening to music, tapping your foot, or humming quietly, everything helps.

Last Remark: Singing in the shower always sounds good.

Ideas taken from an article by Rebecca Joy Stanborough, MFA, and the Harvard Journal of Health. Maida Nechustan

In a Tortured, Split land, all Suffer

A Poem by Des Kahn, Resident of Sydney Australia. Ex member of Yizrael and Garin Hod.

The poem appears in the latest addition of Kaleidoscope Magazine. Thank you, Des, for allowing us to publish your poem - Ed.

Des writes: I spent more than 17 years of my life in Israel. Firstly, as a Six Day War volunteer in 1967 and then, from 1970 I lived, worked, raised children and served in a frontline unit, firstly in the regular army and then as a reservist when needed to help defend the people I loved and the country I lived in (Golan Heights 1973, Lebanon 1982). Many of my closest friends still live there. They are like-minded and actively try to preserve the rapidly receding values and character of the state of Israel. October 7 sent them, as it did most members of Jewish communities around the world into discombobulated shock. My Israeli friends, enshrouded in trauma, live in fear for their grandchildren now serving in Gaza, on the Northern border and in the West Bank. They believe in democracy and protest against the insidious efforts of the current government to undermine it. They believe in the supreme value of human life and are out on the hustings protesting against the government's abandonment of the remaining living hostages. Sadly however, many of them, like most Israelis I have spoken with since that terrible Saturday in October last year, find it increasingly difficult to find compassion for the women and children of Gaza who also bear the brunt of this conflict. The poem below expresses my increasing moments of despair at the cruelty inflicted by both sides.

In a tortured, split land, all suffer

*A man can make mistakes,
but only an idiot persists
in his error
Marcus Tullius Cicero*

1
They spent decades
building lives of
bounty and meaning
only to lose it all
on an October day of
fateful surprise horror

Now...

Many,
are interred in
the soil they tilled

Some,
mouldering in dank
underground tunnels
survive ... just!
mere pawns
in a cruel chess game
where checkmate's a
rapidly receding option

Others,
bewildered
languish on
wound-burning
salt flats of a
dead sea itself
rapidly receding

2
Across a rusty fence
blinding sand grains
smother the sky
Sirocco blown or
exploded into being,
they curtail
human breath

Red and white
gingham keffiyehs,
powerless to protect

Huddled in rubble
women wail and
orphans kick balls
in attempts to
regain childhood lost—
deferring for a moment
a lifelong trauma
that may not survive the
next phantom payload

Refugees born into a
refugee lineage with
no place to hide
no place to live

3

The dusty gusts
impervious to the
sovereign claims of
limping lives both
sides of the divide
move the dunes
despite man-made
demarcation

Stench lines the trench

And then...!?

Avenge!? ... Revenge!? ...

I'm right!
You're wrong!
I need you to
lie down
and die
so I can live
in full
blinkered
catastrophe

4

My narrative,
written in ink—
is true and just

Your lies,
written in blood—
infertility's dust

When will *We-all*
see how in your
destruction I
destroy myself

When will *We-all*
roll up the fence
to curtail the
cruelty continuum
of this tortured
fractured land
bathed in the
tenuous torment of
personalities split

Des Kahn. Sunday 15 September 2024,



Programme for 06/04/25– 10/04/25

Daily 08:30 – 12:00 – coffee, cake, chats, board games

Sunday 06 April

10:00 Armchair Lecture with Galia Shemi

Monday 07 April

10:00 Quizzes and Brain Games with Galia

Tuesday 08 April

09:00 Tiyul in the surrounding area

09:00 Holistic treatments with Shlomit Fink – appointments by arrangement with Shlomit

10:00 Activities with our primary school children.

17:00 To welcome Pesach – we will raise a glass and make a toast.

Wednesday 09 April

09:00 Making kadaif with Ramzia and Majda

10:00 – 12:00 The ceramics studio is open with instruction from Miki

10:00 Movie screening with Galia

Thursday 10 April

09:30 A visit from “Flora” for Pesach

09:30 HaNogariah – carpentry workshop with Noga Harpaz

17:15 Chair exercises with Michal Sha’anan

English is Fun – with Rahel

CURSES!

Usually, we laugh about them! But, perhaps sometimes there is a good reason for believing.

The Curse of Tosca

Curse: Nasty things happen to actors during performances of this opera.

Origin: Unknown, but productions have been plagued with problems at least as far back as the 1920's.

Among its victims:

- During a production at the Met in the 1920's, the knife with which Tosca “murdered” Scarpia at the end of Act II, failed to retract. Singer Antonio Scotti was stabbed.

- In 1965, at Covent Gardens, Maria Callas' hair caught fire while she was singing the title role. It had to be put out by quick thinking Tito Gobbi, who was playing Scarpia.
- In a production in Rome in 1965, Gionni Raimondi's face was scorched during the firing squad scene.
- In 1993, Elisabeth Knighton Printy jumped off the wrong side of the stage in St. Paul, Minnesota, and plunged more than 9 meters to the ground, breaking both her legs

Status: On going...

- Last reported incident was in 1995, when Fabio Armiliatu, starring in a Roman production, was hit in the leg by debris from blanks fired in the execution scene. He was taken off in a stretcher. Two weeks later he returned to the stage; he fell and broke his other leg in two places while standing in the wings at the end of the first act.

OOPS FALSE ALARM!

ANIMAL CRACKERS

Background: On May 17, 2006, an employee at the Wal-Mart Superstore in Enterprise Alabama, found a suspicious-looking box in the parking lot. Police were called. Taking no chances, they roped off the area, then called the bomb squad at Fort Benning, Georgia.

False Alarm: A few hours later, their Ordnance Explosive Detachment arrived by helicopter. They x-rayed the package and determined that it contained suspicious looking wires. The store and surroundings were evacuated. Then the package was blown up. It contained a dead armadillo.

BRITISH FARCE

Background: According to the Fotan Times: "A suspicious looking cardboard box was found outside a Territorial Army centre in Bristol, England."

False Alarm: The TA called the police, who in turn called an Army bomb disposal unit, who blew up the box – to find it full of leaflets on how to deal with suspicious-looking packages.

A LIQUOR PROBLEM

Background: A security personnel at Pan American Airlines suspected that either maintenance crew or flight attendants were stealing miniature liquor bottles, which cost 35c. apiece, from planes. So, they attached a clock device to the liquor cabinet to record the times of the alleged thefts.

False Alarm: While airborne, a flight attendant heard the ticking and thought it was a bomb. She alerted the captain, who re-routed the plane to the nearest airport, where passengers were quickly evacuated by emergency exits. The unscheduled landing cost Pan Am \$15,000.

DIAL B FOR BOMB

Background: A Royal Jordanian Airlines plane en-route to Chicago was forced to land in Iceland when it received a bomb threat.

False Alarm: It turned out that the culprit was a Chicago woman who was trying to keep her mother-in-law, a passenger on the plane, from visiting her.

.....

A bee has 5,000 nostrils. It can smell an apple tree from 2 miles.

Rather than sell the first story he wrote, Charles Dickens traded it for a bag of marbles.

A brown bear can run faster than a horse at full gallop.

Human beings have 46 chromosomes. Goldfish have 96.

The world's first recorded tonsillectomy was performed in the year 1000 B.C.

The word *hussy* originally meant "housekeeper".

Kilo for kilo, spiders, flies and grasshoppers all contain more protein than beef.

The Netherlands used to be known as the United States.....MORE NEXT WEEK

Credits:

Editor of Hebrew Newsletter: Reut Shaliv

Translated and edited by: Eddie Solow

Proofread by: Biff Markham-Oren

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Disclaimer 1: The Editor and translator does his best to provide an accurate reflection of the Hebrew Alon. Please be warned that it is not a direct translation. The original Hebrew text is the official version. This is of particular importance when it comes to decisions and procedures! Not all the material published in the Hebrew newsletter appears in “The Yizraelite”. Considerations of length, readers’ interest and the Editor’s ability to grapple with the subject matter, determine what is included.

Disclaimer 2: “English is Fun”: At the request of the author, this column is not proofread or edited in any way. Content and format are at the discretion of the author.

Note: The readers are encouraged to submit for inclusion “letters to the editor”, photos and material that does not appear in the Hebrew Alon.
