

The Gernalnik Gazette

Chanuka Fun

By: Tzippy

I didn't really plan on writing about this but I really must clarify Coby's article for him. On Tuesday night, the third night of Chanuka, I got a call from Leiah (I finally got THAT right) Jaffe. Yoni was at their house and he told her he had never played dreidel. Now, while that isn't exactly true, we certainly have never played Jaffe-style dreidel. So she invited us to join them. I was supposed to walk with **Caryn Gale** but I decided to go anyway. On this night of Chanuka, the kids all got a variety of candy for a treat. They used it as ante for a wild driel game. Moms put in money starting with very small denominations and working our way up (and down, and up, and down....) and kids used their candy. It was really a lot of fun and at the end there was some serious trading going on. All in all, I'd have to say the best, most fun game of dreidel I've ever played.

Candy-Dreidel- Day

By: Coby

We were going to the Jaffe's house because we wanted to play sivivon (dreidel). When we were walking there, me and my mom thought that they started without us but we got there and they weren't playing yet. Soon we started to play but Joey went home to get more candy money. We started to play and I went first. The first time I got a gimmel and I got all of it so I put in more stuff I didn't like. I got a lot of gimmels. I had a very, very good time. It was really, really super duper fun.

Happy Birthday!

David Gilor - January 2nd

Xev Gittler - January 6th

Happy Anniversary

David and Shira Gilor

HAPPY CHANUKA ALL!

From A to Z

By: Riki

Week N - Ninth Birthday (Going Out)

On Thursday, I went out for lunch, with my mom, Coby, Oshra, and her mom, Shira to a restaurant called "Ristretto". Oshra and I ordered spaghetti and Coby ordered pizza. We all shared an order of french fries. Shira and my mom ordered onion soup. My mom got mushroom quiche for her main meal and Shira got some kind of fettuccini with mushrooms and sauce. We each got drinks from soda bottles except for Shira and my mom who got hot chocolate with a ton of whipped cream for dessert. Oshra and Shira shared and Coby and I shared with my mom. After lunch, we went to our new house and looked at (and chose) a few paint colors. Then Oshra came over and we had ice cream for dessert. I had a really good time. Too bad **Steven Gale** couldn't come.

StoryTime

Not So Little Red Riding Hood (The Slightly Jewish Edition)

By: Yoni

Once upon a time there was a girl named little red riding hood. She was 18 and owned a pistol (for future reference). One day she decided to go visit her grandmother who lit Chanukah candles. So she took her menorah and went to her grandmother's house. On the way, she met mister cow. She was hungry so she slaughtered mister cow and had steak that night with **Eli Gale**.

When she got to her grandmothers house she saw her grandmother had been eaten by MISTER TURKEY. She quickly drew her pistol from her shoe and shot MISTER TURKEY and saved her grandmother. Then they lit candles and put landmines in the yard in case MISTER TURKEY's friends and relatives wanted revenge. Then they went to bed. THE END



Four important things happened this week. First, on Sunday night I was at someone in my classes Bar Mitzvah. It was very nice. There was a barbeque with steak, hotdogs and chicken, followed by dancing, more dancing, speeches, dancing, and dancing. At the end they gave out sefarim (Hebrew books) out to every family, though I don't know what it is about. I came home 11-11:30.

The second thing is that I haven't had school since Monday because of Chanukah.

Third, on Tuesday night we played dreidel at the Jaffes'. All the kids (except for Riki who was at Oshra's house) (me, Yoni, Coby, and the six Jaffe children) played, as well as the two mothers. The kids got candy bags that we bet with, while the adults gave money. The adults didn't take back their money unless there was no other choice, and they split the candy they got at the end. The game ended when Leiah ran out of money. My mom rotated between 10 agurot - 1 shekel, while Leiah gave from 10 agurot-10 shekels. Then Yesterday (Wednesday) night we went bowling with the "G" crew. That's the Gernalniks, Gilors, and **Gales**. The Jaffes where leaving just as we arrived. I was very excited, as I usually go bowling once every two years or so. Obviously I am not the best player. I played one game without bumpers with Amiad G, **Leya G**, and **Mira G**. I was relieved to find out that **Leya G** and **Mira G** were only a little better than me. Amiad G. happened to be better than most of the adults. After that I played a game of bumper-bowling with Coby G, Oshra G, Riki G, and Dvir G. Then I played one last game with Coby G, Elishama G, Mira G, and Dvir G. All in all I had an excellent week.

Joke Time



A wealthy man, Steven Gale, decided to go on a photo safari in Africa, taking his faithful aged poodle, Cuddles along for the company.

One day the poodle started chasing butterflies and before long, Cuddles discovered she was lost. Wandering about, she noticed a leopard heading rapidly in her direction with the intention of having lunch.

The old poodle thought, "Oh, oh! I'm in deep doggy doo now!" Noticing some bones on the ground close by, she immediately settled down to chew on the bones with her back to the approaching cat. Just as the leopard was about to leap, the old poodle exclaimed loudly, "Boy, that was one delicious leopard! I wonder if there are any more around here."

Hearing this, the young leopard halted his attack in mid-strike, a look of terror came over him and he skulked away into the trees. "Whew," said the leopard "That was close! That old poodle nearly had me!"

Meanwhile, a monkey who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree figured he could put this knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the leopard. So off he went, but the old poodle saw him heading after the leopard with great speed and figured that something must be up. The monkey soon caught up with the leopard, spilled the beans and struck a deal for himself with the leopard. The young leopard was furious at being made a fool of and said, "Here, monkey hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine!"

Now, the old poodle saw the leopard coming with the monkey on his back and thought, "What am I going to do now?" but instead of running, the dog sat down with her back to her attackers, pretending she hadn't seen them yet, and just when they get close enough to hear, the old poodle said, "Where's that monkey? I sent him off an hour ago to bring me another leopard!"



Sergio's Folly

After sitting in the bank from 9:00 am until 1:15 pm on Monday morning, Tzippy and I finally got the mortgage on our house. We had to wait that long because we had to sign a ton of papers (just like in the States) and we were missing some final documents that our lawyer had. We also had to get some more information from the seller and we had to get him to fax some papers over as well. We called our lawyer and he came to the bank with the documents and spent the final 1.5 hours with us until everything was set.

While we were sitting there, our lawyer and the banker were trying to convince us how much better the banking system was here than in the States. They seemed to have a problem with the concept of buying checks from a third party. Here in Israel, the only source of checks for your account is at your bank - at your specific branch. They couldn't understand how a non-bank company could print your information on checks. They were also trying to convince us that the way the banks work here is better. For those who don't know, the way banks work here is the way they used to work in the states 30 years ago. You get charged for every line item that appears on your statement, whether it is a deposit, a withdrawal, a check, or using an ATM. They even charge you extra (above the line item fee) for making a large deposit in cash. If you don't want to get charged on a line item basis, the bank has different programs where you pay different monthly fees and get a certain amount of line items for "free". That's why everyone in Israel uses their bank credit card for everything. The charges show up as a single line item in your statement. Banks here also don't mail out the checks or the bank ATM/credit cards you ordered. You have to order them and then go back a week or two later to pick them up. In the states, most banks have electronic bill payment available. You can have a company deduct the amount of your bill from your bank account or you can pay the bill from our account by logging in and specifying an amount for an electronic transfer or check. You can even set up recurring payments and have an amount paid monthly or quarterly automatically. Here your only choice is to save the bill automatically deducted from your account by the company (another line item).

The only thing that seems to work better here than in the states is that it seems like your money is available faster. We deposited a large amount of money yesterday and instead

of having to wait up to five working days for the money to clear, we got a call from our banker this morning asking if we wanted to move some of the money to interest bearing accounts. Somehow, by taking out our mortgage, we earned the right to a personal banker that lets us skip the teller for certain transactions by going directly to him. Finally, the freebies that you can get in any bank in the states, like pens, are reserved for special occasions here. This week, we got a mini-tool kit as a present from the bank manager for being such great customers (ie: owing them a lot of money). We also got free pens from our carpenter for paying him. To Mr. Stormy Wind: Please notice that neither your name nor your wife's appear anywhere in my article.

House Update

By: Tzippy

Hey! We FINALLY got our mortgage! All I have to say is Thank goodness THAT is done. Ok. So they finished putting down the floor except the bathroom. The air conditioner guy was here all week as was the spackler and the painter. The painter is priming even before the spackler is finished. It's strange but the job is moving so I can't complain. I also finally settled on a house color. I'm not thrilled but I was driving my contractor crazy with indecision so I just picked the best of the previous choices. I also think I decided on all paint colors and I guess now we move on to stain colors and knobs. One more decision and my brain might burst. Stay tuned.

NEW house and kids pictures available at

<http://geralnik.shutterfly.com>

password: Israel.

SAVE THE DATE!

April 29th and May 3rd 2006

Joey's Bar Mitzvah

Any and all submissions should be sent to
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