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Page 109


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Page 5




Page 21



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CANDLE LIGHTING
September 27 - 6:26 PM
September 29 - 6:22 PM
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See Luach, Page 26

Features Index,
See Page 15



Four Soldiers by Chava Roth (courtesy of Avi Polinsky: YourArts.com, Instagram.com/avipolinskyart)

FROM THE EDITOR

Bibi And Trump

BY LARRY GORDON

Their political opponents do not just want to score victories over them in fair and democratic elections. Their goal in both the case of Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu and President Donald Trump is to run them out of office with the long-term goal of getting them convicted of crimes and sentenced to jail sometime soon.

This is the new political game. You do not just disagree with your opponent's or the incumbent's politics, but declare that he or she is a miscreant, a scoundrel, and a criminal. Is the person who ultimately replaces them any better, as effective, or as competent? Are they honest and knowledgeable? Well, we can always deal with those matters later. The key right now is just one thing—they've got to go.

Continued on Page 24

HALACHIC MUSINGS

Shofar For All

BY RABBI YAIR HOFFMAN

Rosh Hashanah is coming, the day of judgement for the entire world. Jews and gentiles are all judged on this day. The Talmud (*Rosh Hashanah* 16a) tells us, "All pass in front of Him in judgement like sheep..."

All Jews are commanded in the 613 *mitzvos*. Yet the overwhelming majority of Jews are not Torah-observant. According to a 2013 survey of the Pewforum, 90 percent of American Jews are not observant. They do not

Continued on Page 27

Are You In Or Out?

BY MALKIE HIRSCH

About a month after Moshe passed, my friend's sister reached out to me to see if I'd be interested in meeting with a well-known rabbi and speaker in the Brooklyn area. At that point, I was brimming with raw emotion; I could barely contain myself and I knew I had to go speak to someone who might have some insight on how to deal with the overwhelming feelings of sadness, panic, and fear of the future for myself and my children.

Continued on Page 29

WISHING YOU ALL AN ELEVATED NEW YEAR



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DAPHNE STERN, ESQ.
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

Page 116

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Page 48

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Page 37

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Page 29

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Page 28

WIEDER
ORTHODONTICS

Page 6

to invest and manage funds responsibly and successfully at that age. A possible solution would be to hold the money in trust for the child. The trust could specify the ages that a child receives partial payouts, and set forth the circumstances in which the trustee may make distributions for that child's benefit (education, health needs, to buy a home, etc.) during the term of the trust. Similarly, a person may wish to create a trust under his will for any young children or grandchildren. Other reasons to hold a child or grandchild's share in trust is to provide protection against a child's creditors, particularly if the child is a professional and could be the subject of a malpractice lawsuit, or to safeguard these amounts in case of divorce.

There are other important reasons to create trusts. If a family has a child with special needs, a trust is essential to avoid jeopardizing government benefits. Charitable goals can be effectuated with trust arrangements. Various techniques for reducing estate taxes may be implemented through the use of trusts. A trust can help a person achieve his goals, minimize taxes, and protect his family. The process does not have to be complicated, but the consequences can be far-reaching. ■

Daphne Stern, Esq., is an attorney practicing in Woodmere. She specializes in the area of wills, trusts, estate planning, and estate administration. Daphne can be reached at 516-295-0962 or by e-mail at dmstern@verizon.net.

HAZON CALLS ON JEWS TO TAKE 5 STEPS THIS HIGH HOLIDAY SEASON TO REDUCE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Hazon, the Jewish Lab for Sustainability, is marking the Jewish Year of 5780 as the year of "Environmental *Teshuvah*" and imploring Jews to use the forthcoming High Holiday period to launch personal initiatives to change their environmental behavior. The group is offering five tips everyone can take as they sit at holiday tables and consume what is commonly considered excessive amounts of food.

"For many Jews, the High Holidays are the Super Bowl of gluttony. There is more food on the table than a normal person can and should consume, and much of it will ultimately go to waste. If each of us takes on just one change, collectively, we will make a big difference on the world stage," said Hazon Founder and CEO Nigel Savage. "During the High Holidays we focus on *teshuvah* for our actions and our hope is that the Jewish community will do the same when it comes to the environment."

Hazon offers the following tips for a sustainable new year:

Eat a plant-rich diet. Commit to eating less industrial meat—red meat, poultry, and seafood—as well as less dairy and eggs. The Worldwatch Institute's research indicates that animal

agriculture is responsible for at least 51-percent of greenhouse gas emissions worldwide. Everyone is starting from a different place, so "less" is different for everyone. Any amount of reduction is a step in the right direction.

Waste less food. Buy only what you need and eat leftovers. Create an "eat me first" section in your fridge for food that's running out of time. "Best by," "sell by," and other dates are not expiration dates; trust your senses to tell you whether food is still safe to eat. Be creative with your meals over the holidays and look to repurpose leftovers so that you're minimizing waste.

Get to know and buy from local farmers. Give local farmers your money (in exchange, of course, for delicious food!). Sukkot is the harvest festival so invite your favorite farmer into your *sukkah* for a meal and ask them how the harvest is going.

Reduce packaging, especially plastic. Pay attention to how your food is packaged and aim for less packaging overall and for better packaging. Avoid plastics, especially single-use. Buy in bulk. Bring your own reusable bags when you go shopping—small ones for bulk products and produce, and large

ones for all the groceries. Support companies that strive to reduce the amount of packaging they use and incorporate recycled content into their packaging.

Choose good honey. This year, dip your apples in delicious, raw honey produced by a small-scale beekeeper. Pollinators, including bees, are critical to our food system and are facing increasing environmental challenges to their well-being, with honeybees in particular experiencing severe population declines. Supporting local and small-scale beekeepers improves the health of pollinators.

Founded in 2000, Hazon is the largest faith-based environmental organization in the U.S. The organization has created a comprehensive program to inspire, activate, educate, and support the Jewish community's commitment to mitigating climate change. The Hazon Seal of Sustainability guides Jewish organizations and their members to become healthier and more sustainable. For more information, visit Hazon.org. ■

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