



Temple Israel of Riverhead Bulletin

April 2020
Volume #26

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Issue #3

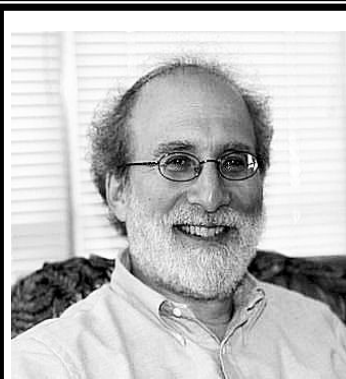
490 Northville Tpke., P.O. Box 1531, Riverhead, New York 11901-0954
Email: TempleIsraelRH@optonline.net
www.TempleIsraelRiverhead.org

Temple Office: (631) 727-3191
Rabbi's Study: (631) 369-5997
Rabbi Michael Rascoe (713) 208-0555

RABBI'S REFLECTIONS:

Rabbis, Doctors, Epidemics, Saving Life, Pesah

<i>In This Issue</i>	
<i>COVID-19 Announcement</i>	3
<i>Passover</i>	4-7
<i>Holiday Weekend BBQs</i>	5
<i>Modified Shabbat Services</i>	7
<i>Yom HaShoah</i>	8, 9
<i>Adult Education</i>	10



Rabbi Michael Rascoe

People tell a story, probably only vaguely true, about Rabbi Israel Lipkin (1810-1883), more popularly known as Rabbi Yisrael Salanter. He founded the Musar Movement (Ethical), and was one of the many well-known Lithuanian rabbis of Vilna.

The story is that during what became known as the second cholera outbreak (there have been 8 in modern times) in 1848, on Yom Kippur afternoon he ended a short sermon by giving everyone permission to eat, and in some versions made the blessing for a roll and ate it. He then told people to stroll outdoors.

The story only appeared decades later, and was not told by anyone there. It is probably exaggerated. More likely, he listened to doctors who either told him that eating would keep strength up (the germ theory, not widely accepted, nor would they know anything about bacteria for an-

(Rabbi—continued on page 2)

other 40 years), or that a walk in the fresh air would mitigate the vapors (the miasma theory, that the disease was transmitted by filth and decay through the air or soil; they didn't understand medicine as we do, but in this case a bit of both helped). He probably just told people that they could eat, and might even have set aside a room where they could eat, and told them to walk.

There are rules that a seriously ill person who either by his/her own treatment plan, or a doctor who prescribed something to keep a person alive, can eat on Yom Kippur. The Salanter extended this to a healthy person on the advice of doctors, to keep people from dying. He, as did many rabbis, understood that in times of epidemics, when large numbers of people died, one could act in ways that one otherwise would never do, and that this did not set a precedent for any lowering of standards, since it applied only to this case during an extreme circumstance.

We talk, as Jews, about *piqu-ah nefesh*, saving life, overriding all. For a sick individual, it's true, with some exceptions. For a whole community, much less so; and in his case, not everyone agreed. They pointed to the fact that many fasted and survived. As I pointed out, there are limits; which I won't go into.

We're in the midst of another pandemic; in some ways this one is unique both positively and negatively. I am

not referring to Ayatollah Khamenei's blessing, but positive in the sense that we know more about this faster than any previous outbreaks, and may be creating a vaccine in record time for something about which we had never known before. The negative is that for all that we know about it biologically, we know little about what it will do and why it does what it does. The Spanish Flu was one of the deadliest pandemics in history, killing about 2.5% of infected people, and infecting perhaps a third of the people. COVID-19 in the early days was about 2% mortality, and may show signs of going down, but it does not compare to the flu, which, while it kills more people per year historically, only has a death rate of 0.1%.

Which means that out of an abundance of caution, we have canceled plenty of things. Stay tuned. If we all do our part, this could be over by Pesah. Alas, since observing Passover is not a matter of life or death, the holiday will still happen, with all of its observances, whether we have services or a seder, or not. Gatherings might need to be limited.

In any case, please observe the precautions of washing thoroughly, disinfecting, social distancing, etc. as these are likely to still to be in effect when this bulletin is published, though hopefully for not much after it.

May you have a happy, healthy, and kasher Pesah.

Dear Temple Israel Family,

March 16, 2019

As has been apparent, the COVID-19 situation has been developing rapidly, and so has our programming. Please check your email for updates as this is the best way to stay current. As you might have noticed, we prepared an email instituting new procedures, and then the situation changed, warranting canceling everything for two weeks. This may be extended or modified depending on circumstances. We will also be posting information on our website.

Please stay healthy and considerate of both yourselves and others as we deal with this evolving problem.

May the Holy One shield us from all that besets us and shelter us in the shadow of His wings. May God guard our comings and goings, heal all who are ill, and protect all who minister to them.

Michael Rascoe, Rabbi
Jaime Siegel, President

Things to do While Stuck Inside due to a Pandemic

1. Complete a puzzle such as jigsaw, sudoku, crossword, Rubik's Cube, etc.
2. Dust off an old musical instrument and practice.
3. Read a good book.
4. Watch a long movie that you've avoided until now.
5. Download Duolingo, or a similar app, and learn a foreign language.
6. Use YouTube to learn something new such as calligraphy.
7. Use Skype or FaceTime to video chat with your long-distance friends.
8. Write a short story or get started on that novel.

For 92 more ideas search for "100 things to do while stuck inside" at www.usatoday.com



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**Best wishes to
Temple Israel
from**

Siegel and Segal



Notes from our Rabbi

Pesah Instructions: If you wish Pesah help, e.g. what food requires rabbinic certification (a *hekhsher*), how to *kasher*, conduct a seder, a minimal list of what to cover, what the seder means, more contemporary readings, formulae to be recited, and other information, contact me.

Bedikat *hametz*. Search for leaven on Tuesday, April 7, after 7:23 PM. The search is important, not whether you find something. Traditionally people set aside *hametz* for children to find by candlelight and sweep onto a wooden spoon using a feather or last Sukkot's *lulav*.

Ta'anit/Siyyum Bekhorim. On the day leading into Pesah, Wednesday, April 8, the firstborn (*bekhorim*) fast (*ta'anit*) to express their gratitude for God's saving them from the tenth plague. But all who are at a *se'udat mitsvah* (a meal accompanying a religious celebration) must eat, so the custom arose to finish a Talmudic tractate (*siyyum*) this morning, so even the firstborn present must break their fast. We do not have one. This year it might only be online.

Mekhirat *Hametz*, kashering, eating. The last time to sell (*mekhirat*) *hametz* (leaven), kasher the kitchen, and eat *hametz* is Wednesday, April 8, at 10:47 AM. A form to utilize my services is on the next page. It is preferred to do it in person, but mail is fine. Please allow time, especially if you mail it to the Temple (we only pick up mail Tuesdays and Fridays by 10 AM), and mail to the house arrives too late on Friday for me to sell it. You may mail or give me the form as soon as you receive it. Please make sure that I have the form delivered by mail by Tuesday, April 7. Please wait until 8:00 PM on Thursday, April 16 for me to buy back the *hametz*.

Bi'ur *Hametz*. The burning/disposal (*bi'ur*) of *hametz* and its nullification formula must be recited by Wednesday, April 8, at 11:47 AM.

Hospitality. Sorry, due to COVID-19, we are not offering any this year.

Appointment of Agent for *M'khairat Hametz*

I/We hereby appoint Rabbi Michael Rascoe to act as my/our agent to sell any hametz (leavened item) that may be found in my/our possession wherever it may be found at home, place of business, car, and/or elsewhere, in accordance with Jewish law. Enclosed is my/our check for \$_____ payable to the "Rabbi's Discretionary Fund" (unless you make a *Ma-ot Hittim* (Passover) donation elsewhere). This year please make sure I have the form delivered by mail by Tuesday April 7.

Please fill out the form completely:

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Announcing Holiday Weekend BBQs

Consider sponsoring one of our upcoming holiday weekend BBQ's:

Memorial Day Weekend	Friday, May 22, 2020
Fourth of July Weekend	Friday, July 3, 2020
Labor Day Weekend	Friday, September 4, 2020

Cost to sponsor a BBQ: \$360





CANCELLED

Community Passover Seder Wednesday, April 8, 2020

It is with deep regret that we are cancelling our annual community Passover Seder, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This decision came after much thought and discussion, and with the utmost care for our temple family and friends. We cannot take a chance of putting anyone at risk. We wish you all a kosher and happy Passover.



Need a Ride to TIR?



Do you find it difficult getting transportation to services and events at Temple Israel, especially at night? If so, please call the office at 727-3191, and we will try to arrange a ride for you.

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Modified Shabbat Services Continue



Join us for shortened Shabbat services
on the 1st Shabbat of the month.

April 4, 2020

May 2, 2020

Services begin promptly at **9:30 AM**, with a minyan, and end at **11:00 AM**,
followed by a Kiddush luncheon.

Passover

Services

Led by Rabbi Rascoe




Thursday, April 9th, 8:30 AM

Friday, April 10th, 8:30 AM

Thursday, April 16th, 8:30 AM, including Yizkor

Kiddush following services



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TERRANCE P. MARTIN
FAX (631) 734-8821

Dear Temple Family and Friends:

This will mark the fourth year that we will participate in the **Yom HaShoah Yellow Candle Program**. We hope you will join other members of Temple Israel of Riverhead on Sunday, April 20th, erev Yom HaShoah, and light this special candle in memory of the victims of the Holocaust; then join us at Temple Israel on Sunday, April 26th, at 2 PM, for a joint program with the East End Jewish Community Council.

The act of kindling this flame, and reading the enclosed meditation, can be a moving ritual to remind us of what happened to our people not so long ago. Placing the candle in your window is a way to help remind the community. This moment can also be an appropriate opportunity to discuss the Holocaust with your children.

The **Yom HaShoah Yellow Candle Program** is a project of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, in cooperation with the Men of Reform Judaism and the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

It is our hope that the observance of Yom HaShoah, centered on the lighting of a Yellow Candle, will become an annual event in your home and in the home of every member of our congregation. Many congregations have already made this commemoration an important day in their Jewish calendar.

We ask that you help underwrite the cost of this project. Funds received over and above our program cost will go directly to support future educational programs in our synagogue, helping to insure the future of our people. We ask that you consider gifts in multiples of \$18. The number 18 is *chai*, Life.

By remembering, by doing our part to insure our future, we celebrate the ongoing life of our people, even as we memorialize those destroyed in the Shoah. We welcome and appreciate your support of our efforts in this commemoration and our on-going education programs.

We hope you and your family will participate in this small but meaningful project. If you have questions, you may call me at 631-653-3985. NEVER FORGET!

Sincerely,

Jaime Siegel, President

Please return this form with your donation to: Temple Israel of Riverhead

Amount Enclosed: ___\$18 ___\$36 ___\$54 ___\$72 ___\$90 ___\$ other

Temple Israel of Riverhead PO Box 1531 Riverhead, NY 11901
Name _____
Address _____

The Yellow Candle™ Program - A History

Over seventy years ago, half of the earth's Jewish population perished at the hands of another Amalek, an Austrian house painter who seized control of Europe and threw the earth into darkness. God's light unto the other nations flickered but did not die. A new, modern Exodus arose from the depths of despair and tragedy. From the ashes of Europe, survivors of the Holocaust, or Shoah, made their way towards new lives. Emigrants dispersed around the world, to the new State of Israel, and to the western hemisphere. In these places, they began to rebuild shattered lives. In the following decades, survivors asked another question: How could Yahrzeits be observed for those victims whose entire families had been wiped out? An idea was born, a special memorial candle with yellow wax, in remembrance of the yellow stars forced upon European Jews in the 1930s.



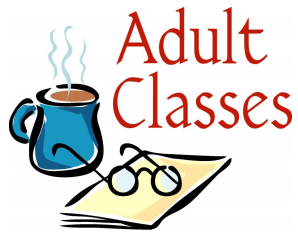
The Yellow Candle™ was created in 1981 by FJMC clubs in Canada, New England, and elsewhere to keep alive the memory of the Six Million who perished in the Shoah. The Candle is modeled after a traditional Jewish memorial Yahrzeit candle that burns for 24 hours during periods of mourning and on the Yahrzeit anniversary of a family member. The candle's yellow wax serves to remind us of the yellow arm band which Jews were forced to wear during the Nazi regime. A photo on the candle container shows young people visiting Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. This reflects the importance of teaching our youth the lessons of the Holocaust and of remembering the Six Million. In addition, the program logo is a yellow Magen David (Star of David) outlined with barbed wire, with the word "Jude" in the middle. This preserves the memory of the armband or cloth patch that Jews were forced to wear in the ghettos of Eastern Europe.

For Jewish people, remembering a victim is a great mitzvah.

Never Forget! Zachor!



Yellow Candle™ is a trademark of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, Inc.



With
Rabbi Rascoe

Talmud Classes

The Talmud classes are the only classes currently being held by Rabbi Rascoe. They will be held at 6 PM on the following Wednesdays: April 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29; and May 6, 13, 20, & 27. The classes will be taught using the Zoom program

Join Zoom Meeting;

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/658072316>

Meeting ID: 658 072 316

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Peninsula Wines and Liquors offers wine at discounted prices, delivered directly to the temple. A percentage of the cost is donated back to us each time you buy. Anyone needing wine or liquor can contact **Jaime Siegel**, or call Peninsula Wines directly at 516-374-0900. Ask for Jim Cari, and be sure to mention Temple Israel.

Donate an old car to Temple Israel for a tax deduction. It's easy—just call (866) 392-4483, or click on the link on our website. Be sure to designate Temple Israel of Riverhead as the recipient.

Plant a Tree in Israel



You can have a tree planted in Israel for a donation of \$18. Contact **Carole Jones** at the TIR office, 631-727-3191. All checks should be made out to Temple Israel of Riverhead, or you can use PayPal from our website.

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Our Judaica Shop

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Phyllis Van Dyne operates the Temple's Shop, acquiring new items several times a year. She will also fill special orders; if you see something you'd like, she can get it for you. Or, if you need ideas for a gift, she will be happy to suggest something in your price range, perfect for your occasion and recipient. For more information and personal service, just call Phyllis at 631-734-7511.

Kosher Food For Our Events



Bagel Patch, in Patchogue, frequently provides the food for our special events. The Best Yet Market on Route 58 carries pareve cookies and cakes. BJ's and Costco also have pareve cookies in their bakeries.

Beach Bakery, in Westhampton Beach, is under kosher supervision.

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TODAH RABAH!

Donations to Temple Israel of Riverhead

In memory of the Goldings—Marlene & James Masi.

Yahrzeit for Charles Marchbein—father of Harvey Marchbein.

Yahrzeit for Pearl Goldsmith—mother of Harvey Goldsmith.

Yahrzeit for Seymour Hollander—father of Ron Hollander.

Yahrzeit for Shirley Elphand—mother of Phyllis Van Dyne.

Yahrzeit for Samuel Levine—grandfather of Elaine Kimpel.

Yahrzeit for Janet Schackman—mother of Elaine Kimpel.

Yahrzeit for Isaac & Pauline Israel—parents of Richard Israel.

Yahrzeit for Dora Weiss—grandmother of Stanley Hagler.

Yahrzeit for Esther Raffe—grandmother of Charles Raffe.

Yahrzeit for Solomon Raffe—father of Charles Raffe.

Yahrzeit for Margaret Lockman—sister of Judith Lockman.

Yahrzeit for Leo Ganz—father of Michael Ganz.

Yahrzeit for Samuel Sanders—father of Arthur Sanders.

Yahrzeit for Ernest Schmalz—brother of Eva Sanders.

Yahrzeit for Ruth Schmalz—mother of Eva Sanders.

Yahrzeit for Sidney Frank—husband of Ruth Frank.

Yellow Candle Program—Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Goldsmith.

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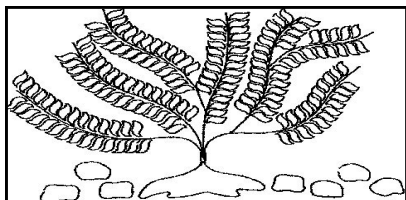
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Leaves on the Tree of Life



An engraved leaf on the lovely Tree of Life which graces our Social Hall is a joyous reminder of a Bat or Bar Mitzvah, an anniversary, a wedding, or a special birthday, and also a fitting tribute to the memory of a loved one. The cost of a leaf is \$180 for members. Please contact **Phyllis VanDyne** at 631-734-7511 for information.

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The Israel Family



SABBATH SERVICES

Friday evenings at 7:00 PM Saturday mornings at 9:30 AM

April 2020

Day	Date	Candle Lighting	Friday Oneg
Friday Evening Saturday Morning	4/3	7:00 PM	<i>Passover kitchen</i>
Friday Evening Saturday Morning	4/10	7:07 PM	Richie Levinton in memory of Uncle Marty & David Levinton
Friday Evening Saturday Morning	4/17	7:15 PM	Mr. & Mrs. Howard Collins
Friday Evening Saturday Morning	4/24	7:22 PM	Mr. & Mrs. Edward Kaplan
Friday Evening Saturday Morning	5/1	7:30 PM	Mr. & Mrs. Jim Csorny

Note: Please check your email and our website for updates before attending any TIR activity.

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YAHREZITS

We remember these lives on the approaching anniversary of their passing.

May their memories be a blessing.

April Nissan/Iyar 5780

4/1	Cohen, Herman	Nissan 7
4/1	Froehlich, Irving	Nissan 8
4/2	Levinton, David Jeffrey	Nissan 8
4/2	Lowenthal, Martin	Nissan 8
4/2	Schulman, David	Nissan 8
4/2	Spitzer, Morris	Nissan 8
4/2	Weixelbaum, Hilda	Nissan 10
4/4	Gradus, Milton	Nissan 11
4/5	Fierro, Louis	Nissan 11
4/5	Hahn, Carra	Nissan 11
4/5	Mainzer, August	Nissan 12
4/6	Gradus, Hilda	Nissan 12
4/6	Siskind, Louis	Nissan 12
4/6	Tepper, Milton	Nissan 13
4/7	Korus, Edward	Nissan 13
4/7	Lustig, Celia	Nissan 13
4/7	Weixelbaum, Jesse	Nissan 14
4/8	Brown, Sarah	Nissan 14
4/8	Nevins, Jenny	Nissan 15
4/9	Chizever, Danny	Nissan 15
4/9	Gradus, Gilda	Nissan 15
4/9	Leon, Samuel	Nissan 15
4/9	Zaglin, Lottie	Nissan 16
4/10	Alpert, Ted	Nissan 16
4/10	Slaw, Harry	Nissan 18
4/12	Silver, Max	Nissan 18
4/12	Warner, Julia	Nissan 19
4/13	Korosteshevsky, Levi	Nissan 20
4/14	Brander, Abraham	Nissan 20
4/14	Edelman, Isidore	Nissan 20
4/14	Golding, Ruth	Nissan 21
4/15	Gattegno, Morris	Nissan 21
4/15	Sanders, Sarah	Nissan 21
4/15	Siskind, Jeannette	Nissan 22
4/16	Coladner, Ida	Nissan 22

4/16	Harding, Bessie	Nissan 22
4/16	Rosenfeld, May	Nissan 23
4/17	Rosenblatt, Bernard	Nissan 23
4/17	Schmalz, Paul	Nissan 24
4/18	Catania, Elizabeth	Nissan 24
4/18	Frank, Sidney	Nissan 24
4/18	Lefkowitz, Ruth	Nissan 24
4/18	Mathews, Sophie	Nissan 24
4/18	Shaw, Jerry	Nissan 25
4/19	Fivel, Pauline	Nissan 25
4/19	Goldman, Sheppard	Nissan 26
4/20	Brown, Walter	Nissan 26
4/20	Feldman, Pauline Ann	Nissan 27
4/21	Korosteshevsky, Gershon	Nissan 28
4/22	Klein, Kenneth Martin	Nissan 29
4/23	Levine, Essie	Nissan 29
4/23	Mottus, Dora	Nissan 29
4/23	Sandberg, Gertrude	Nissan 30
4/24	Perkal, Samuel	Nissan 30
4/24	Stein, Harriet	Iyar 2
4/26	Feldman, Pauline	Iyar 2
4/26	Squires, Witty	Iyar 3
4/27	Schneider, Sheila	Iyar 4
4/28	Rosen, Albert	Iyar 4
4/28	Spitzer, Sam	Iyar 5
4/29	Berk, Arthur	Iyar 7
5/1	Spitzer, Jessie	Iyar 7
5/1	Thompson, William	Iyar 8
5/2	Shinder, Israel Louis	Iyar 9
5/3	Cohen, Jerry Joseph	Iyar 9
5/3	Knopfler, Malvine	Iyar 10
5/4	Finkelstein, Essie	Iyar 10
5/4	Leavitt, Theodore	Iyar 10
5/4	Slaw, Helen Cohen	Iyar 12
5/6	Krasnow, Marc	Iyar 12
5/6	Spector, Walter	Iyar 13

April 2020

Please Note: All events are subject to cancellation.

*Check your email and our website for updates.
www.templeisraelriverhead.org*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6 PM Talmud Class via Zoom	2	3 7:00 PM Services and Oneg Shabbat	4 9:30 AM Modified Shabbat Services
5	6	7	8 7 PM Passover Services	9 8:30 AM Passover Services	10 8:30 AM Passover Services, 7:00 PM Services and Oneg Shabbat	11 9:30 AM Services
12	13	14 Bulletin submissions deadline	15 6 PM Talmud Class via Zoom	16 8:30 AM Passover Services, including Yizkor	17 7:00 PM Services and Oneg Shabbat	18 9:30 AM Services
19	20 Erev Yom HaShoah	21 7 PM Book Discussion, / and Thou ?	22 9:30-11:30 AM Interfaith Bible Class; 6 PM Talmud Class via Zoom	23	24 7:00 PM Services and Oneg Shabbat	25 9:30 AM Services
26 2 PM EEJCC Yom HaShoah program at TIR	27	28	29 6 PM Talmud Class via Zoom	30		

May 2020

Please Note: All events are subject to cancellation.

*Check your email and our website for updates.
www.templeisraelriverhead.org*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3	4	5 7 PM Book Discussion, <i>I and Thou</i> ?	6 6 PM Talmud Class via Zoom	7	8 7:00 PM Services and Oneg Shabbat	9 9:30 AM Services
10	11 7:00 PM Board meeting	12	13 6 PM Talmud Class via Zoom	14 Bulletin submissions deadline	15 7:00 PM Services and Oneg Shabbat	16 9:30 AM Services
17	18	19 7 PM Book Discussion, <i>I and Thou</i> ?	20 6 PM Talmud Class via Zoom	21	22 5:30 Memorial Day Weekend BBQ followed by Kabbalat Shabbat	23 9:30 AM Services
24	25	26	27 6 PM Talmud Class via Zoom	28	29 7:00 PM Services and Oneg Shabbat; Shavuot	30 9:30 AM Services; Shavuot
31						

For Information:		
Advertising and Public Relations	Barbara Smith	631-664-6584
Book Club	Barbara Smith	631-664-6584
Bulletin	Allen Silver asilver9@gmail.com	631-744-7551
Capital Campaign	Richard Israel	727-5500 x11
Cemetery	Lisa Israel	727-5500 x10
Custodian Contact	Jaime Siegel	631-653-3985
Education	Jaime Siegel	631-653-3985
Fundraising	Jaime Siegel	631-653-3985
High Holy Days		
House Manager	Rob Brown	631-298-2608
Judaica Shop	Phyllis Van Dyne	631-734-7511
Membership	Jaime Siegel	631-653-3985
Oneg Shabbat	Barbara Smith	631-664-6584
President	Jaime Siegel	631-653-3985
Programs and Events		
Ritual Committee	Lisa Israel	727-5500 x10
Social Hall	Jaime Siegel	631-653-3985
Special Gifts	Howard Collins	631-779-3042
Temple Office	Carole Jones	631-727-3191
Trees in Israel	Carole Jones	631-727-3191
Tree of Life	Phyllis Van Dyne	631-734-7511
Supermarket Certificates	Carole Jones (Office) Lorraine Richter Lana Anker	631-727-3191 631-653-9028 lana410@aol.com

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Temple Israel of Riverhead
490 Northville Turnpike
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Riverhead, NY 11901

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CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

All events are subject to cancellation due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Note: This issue bulletin will not be sent through the US mail.

It is available on our website.

Please check your email and our website for updates.

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Wednesday Talmud Classes will be held using Zoom Conferencing.

Check your email for announcements about services using Zoom.