

Temple Israel of Riverhead Bulletin

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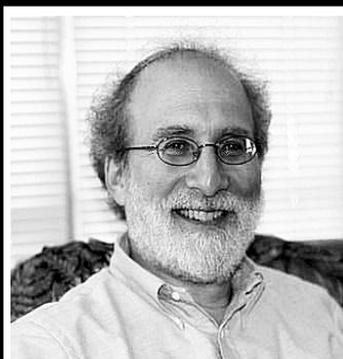
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RABBI'S REFLECTIONS

Israel at 76 Still is Here to Stay

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Rabbi Michael Rascoe

This story dates back to the early days of the State of Israel: A US businessperson happened upon an Israeli moving huge rocks by hand from the Jerusalem hills. For a bit the tourist watched him labor under a hot sun, sweat drenching his shirt. Finally, the businessperson said to the laborer, "You know, I wouldn't do that for one million dollars." The worker paused his labor and replied, "Neither would I."

This was the attitude in the early days, both pre- and post-statehood. They worked the Holy Land that Mark Twain in *Innocents Abroad* thought was the most God-forsaken place he'd ever seen, with its swamps and malaria, desert and wasteland, and wretched, sick, impoverished people who could hardly scratch a living from the soil.

What he didn't understand was that Jews had few places to go except home, where many already lived, in rotten conditions like everyone else in that sparsely-populated place that clearly was not The Holy Land by looks.

(Rabbi—continued on page 2)

What he didn't understand was that things were in the wrong place at the wrong time, and that the Zionists understood that only hard work would change the Land. Only human labor would correct the Land's imbalance, and let everyone thrive. While the secular Zionists didn't care about the Holy part of the Land, Rav Kook correctly saw that only through human effort could the Land and its people thrive and make it holy. Both understood that this would benefit everyone. They had a vision of a better place, and sacrificed to build it into an economic, cultural, and spiritual place. They also strove to become a country like every other one. And they were determined to keep it this way. Which of course means that it is flawed, as most Israelis recognize, because we as human beings are flawed. And the inhabitants lost many lives to achieve what they did.

Jews can't go anywhere else, despite what's happening now. Much sweat and death accompanied it then, and now. This may be why Israelis are still resilient and happy, especially compared to the USA,

despite everything happening. Not an auspicious 76th birthday this May, but it is what it is. Despite Hamas, Hezbollah, Houthis, ISIS, BDS, Iran, Roger Waters, Neo-Nazis, leftists and rightists, Israel still is here to stay.

PS: In Talmud class, we've been studying how to dispose of holy objects. Certain things, like Torah scrolls, have to be "hidden" (or buried) and their sale can't be used for anything less holy; money raised for building, or from selling, a synagogue can only be used for a synagogue. These are exceptions, even for a Torah scroll or money raised to build a synagogue—to redeem captives and to help the poor. While donations help, better to buy Israeli products to support Israel. One should also know that anything that sounds too simple, usually is, which is exactly what Israel's opponents sell. Please note that I'm not saying everything Israel does is right or can't be criticized, but do so from knowledge, with love; and don't treat Israel differently than any other country of the world.
Happy Birthday, Israel.

**In Memory of
Segal**

From Siegel



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Holocaust

Remembrance Day Program:

Sunday, May 5th, 1:00 PM

*What are we teaching our students
about the Holocaust??*

In-person and via Zoom.
Contact the Temple office for the Zoom link.
Followed by refreshments in the social hall
This is a free event. Kindly RSVP

Shavuot

Services are in-person,
or
online via Zoom



Led by Rabbi Michael Rascoe

Learning Session:

Tuesday evening, June 11, 9:00 PM
details to be announced

Services:

Wednesday, June 12, 9:30 AM
Thursday, June 13, 9:30 AM., including Yizkor

Dear Temple Family and Friends:

This will mark the fourth year that we will be participating in the Yom HaShoah Yellow Candle Program, after a 3 year COVID break. We hope that you will join with the other members of Temple Israel of Riverhead and your family on Sunday May 5th, erev Yom HaShoah, and light this candle. We light the candle in our homes in memory of the victims of the Holocaust.

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 homes 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 that you and your family will participate on Sunday evening, May 5, 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 _____

City, State, ZIP _____

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.

**Join Us on Friday
May 24, 2024
At 5:30 PM**



**Memorial Day Weekend
BBQ**



and

Raffle Fundraiser



GET LUCKY!



**\$5,000* Cash
Raffle**

Drawing at 7:00 PM

\$100 per ticket.

**Sponsored by Len Wasserman & Abigail Moore
Please contact Jaime Siegel, Richard Israel or
Jim Smith to purchase your tickets.**

***If less than 100 tickets are sold the prize will be
50/50.**



**Holiday Weekend Shabbat BBQ's/Dinners.
Good food, good company,
good times!**

Memorial Day BBQ and Raffle Drawing



Friday, May 24, 2024, 5:30 PM

BBQ sponsored by **Len Wasserman & Abigail Moore**

4th of July Weekend BBQ

Friday, July 5, 2024, 5:30 PM



Labor Day Weekend BBQ and speaker program featuring Brad Kolodny.

Friday, August 30, 2024, 5:30 PM

BBQ & speaker program sponsored by **Nan Rachel & John Peel.**

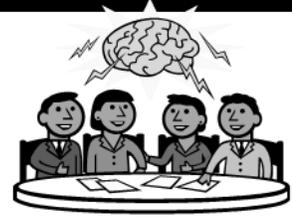
Each BBQ followed by Kaballat Shabbat.



Kindly RSVP if you plan to attend, so we can shop and prepare accordingly.

Sponsors needed: Contact **Jaime Siegel** to sponsor a BBQ/Dinner at \$540 each.

Temple Israel of Riverhead Annual Meeting will be held online via Zoom



Installation of Officers & Trustees.
Come meet our Board, our committee chairs,
and learn about everything that is going on in our temple.
Voice your opinion. Get involved.

Thursday, June 20, 2024, 7:00 PM

Instructions to enter the Zoom meeting
will be included in the mail with your proxy.



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President



With
Rabbi Rascoe

Jewish Philosophy

Join **Rabbi Rascoe** and explore **Jewish Philosophy** via Zoom. Classes will be held at 6 PM on Tuesdays in May and June, except June 11. We will be discussing *Guide for the Perplexed* by Moses Maimonides.

Talmud Classes: *Tractate Megillah*

Rabbi Rascoe's Talmud classes continue, via Zoom, at 6 PM on Wednesdays in May and June, except May 1 and June 12. There is always review, and no advance reading is required. The text can be found at: <https://www.sefaria.org/Megillah.8a?lang=bi>. Attendees receive an introduction to Talmudic logic, thought, and law.

Bible Study: *Starting with Genesis*

Rabbi Rascoe will be holding these classes via Zoom, at 6:30 PM on Thursdays in May and June, except June 13 and 20.

Interfaith Bible Class

The Interfaith Bible Class will meet via Zoom on May 8, from 9:30-11:30 AM. Please contact the Rabbi for information and the link.

Please note: Congregants will receive emailed instructions for attending Rabbi Rascoe's classes via Zoom. Classes may be cancelled when the class decides to take a break, and you may come late or leave early. Contact Rabbi Rascoe for more information.

SAVE THE DATE!

Join us for a special weekend as we celebrate 10 years with Rabbi Michael Rascoe!

Saturday, September 7, 9:30 AM

Shabbat services followed by a special luncheon.

Sunday, September 8, 4:00 PM

Celebratory cocktail party with music, dancing, and libations.

~ Invitation and details to follow ~

Please note: The June bulletin will not be mailed. It will be emailed, and made available on our website.

Reminder: Friday evening services begin at 7 PM. Saturday morning services begin at 9:30 AM. All services are available in-person and via Zoom.

Candle Lighting Times

5/3	7:31 PM
5/10	7:39 PM
5/17	7:45 PM
5/24	7:52 PM
5/31	7:57 PM
6/7	8:02 PM

An Easy Way to Help TI—Go Food Shopping!

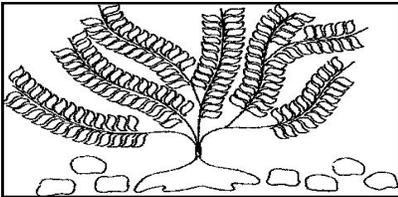
Gift cards are now available for most major supermarkets:

- **ShopRite**
- **Stop & Shop**
- **King Kullen**



Please contact Lorraine Richter (631-553-7635) or the Temple office to arrange a purchase. The total profit from card sales is donated to the general fund each year. Please support this silent fundraiser.

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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Ongoing Silent Fundraisers for Temple Israel

TD Bank: Stop in at the Westhampton Beach branch to find out about all the special offers for TIR members. TD bank will make contributions to TIR based on activity from our members. For details on their Affinity Membership Program, stop in at any branch if you are already a TD Bank customer.

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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We believe to be a good funeral director, you should serve the community in times of growth and happiness as well as times of grief. It's not surprising we've served the Jewish community for over 100 years. How we've served is the surprising part. David Rubin and his entire staff work tirelessly in serving the Jewish community, but then, that's part of our philosophy and tradition.

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Hebrew School



Remaining class dates for the 2023-24 school year:
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.
Dates subject to change.

For information, please contact the Temple Office, or Jaime Siegel at 631-653-3985.



Where to purchase kosher food locally

Justin's Chop Shop, in Westhampton Beach, (631) 288-5532, now carries some kosher meat, poultry, and other items, along with the non-kosher items always in stock.

The Mill Road Cheese Shop, Westhampton Beach, (631) 998-0483, now carries some kosher items.

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

BJ's and **Costco** also have pareve cookies in their bakeries.

Our Judaica Shop

If you need Shabbat or holiday items for yourself, or for a gift, you will find them right in the Temple. Our Judaica Shop boasts a large inventory of beautiful items, many of them displayed in the Social Hall's glass cases. Kiddush cups, glass platters, Shabbat-to-go, kipot, Seder and matzoh plates, menorahs, children's books and toys, cookbooks, and candlesticks are all there. Contact Carole Jones at the TIR office, 631-727-3191, with any requests.



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TODAH RABAH!

Donations to Temple Israel of Riverhead

In memory of Marcia Besserman—aunt of Amy Csorny.

In memory of Richard Katz—Stanley Hagler.

Thank you for the shiva for my father, Richard Katz —Rebecca Hagler.

Thank you, Jaime—Stanley Hagler.

Yahrzeit for Pauline & Isaac Israel—grandparents of Isaac Israel.

Yahrzeit for Dora Weiss-grandmother of Stanley Hagler.

Yahrzeit for Mildred Tockman—mother of Michael Tockman.

Yahrzeit for Marcia & David Schulman & Leona & Gerson Kaiserman—parents of
Cynthia & Jeffrey Schulman.

Yahrzeit for Ted Alpert—father of Cynthia Alpert.

Yahrzeit for David Levinton—son of Richard Levinton.

Yahrzeit for Carra—daughter of Nella & James Hahn.

Yahrzeit for Pauline Fivel—mother of Sylvia Hagler.

Yellow Candle Program

Dr. & Mrs. Martin Van Dyne

Harriet Willing

Y A H R Z E I T S

*We remember these lives on the approaching anniversary of their passing.
May their memories be a blessing.*

May

Nissan/Iyar 5784

5/1	Rosenblatt, Bernard	Nissan 23	5/18	Leavitt, Theodore	Iyar 10
5/1	Schmalz, Paul	Nissan 23	5/18	Slaw, Helen Cohen	Iyar 10
5/2	Anker, Douglas Jay	Nissan 24	5/20	Krasnow, Marc	Iyar 12
5/2	Catania, Elizabeth	Nissan 24	5/20	Spector, Walter	Iyar 12
5/2	Frank, Sidney	Nissan 24	5/21	Damante, Risa Lynne	Iyar 13
5/2	Lefkowitz, Ruth	Nissan 24	5/21	Hyman-Auerbach, Estelle	Iyar 13
5/2	Mathews, Sophie	Nissan 24	5/22	Salpeter, Mildred	Iyar 14
5/2	Segal, Meyer	Nissan 24	5/23	Goldstein, Hyman	Iyar 15
5/2	Shaw, Jerry	Nissan 24	5/24	Alpert, Lena	Iyar 16
5/3	Fivel, Pauline	Nissan 25	5/24	Brander, Anna	Iyar 16
5/3	Goldman, Sheppard	Nissan 25	5/24	Goldstein, Harry	Iyar 16
5/4	Brown, Walter	Nissan 26	5/24	Levy, Lawrence	Iyar 16
5/4	Feldman, Pauline Ann	Nissan 26	5/24	Richter, Jacqueline	Iyar 16
5/5	Korosteshevsky, Gershon	Nissan 27	5/24	Yurman, Nathan	Iyar 16
5/6	Klein, Kenneth Martin	Nissan 28	5/25	Gusky, Sheldon	Iyar 17
5/7	Levine, Essie	Nissan 29	5/25	Jaeger, Benjamin	Iyar 17
5/7	Mottus, Dora	Nissan 29	5/25	Kallman, Irving	Iyar 17
5/7	Sandberg, Gertrude	Nissan 29	5/25	Sanders, Murray	Iyar 17
5/8	Perkal, Samuel	Nissan 30	5/26	Frank, Conrad	Iyar 18
5/8	Schulman, Marcia	Nissan 30	5/26	Weiss, Nathan	Iyar 18
5/8	Stein, Harriet	Nissan 30	5/27	Bartick, Jerry	Iyar 19
5/10	Feldman, Pauline	Iyar 2	5/27	Tockman, Mildred	Iyar 19
5/10	Maruna, Gregory	Iyar 2	5/28	Feiler, Lillian	Iyar 20
5/10	Squires, Witty	Iyar 2	5/28	Gerber, Kate	Iyar 20
5/11	Schneider, Sheila	Iyar 3	5/29	Ettinger, Sara	Iyar 21
5/12	Rosen, Albert	Iyar 4	5/30	Brander, Irving	Iyar 22
5/12	Spitzer, Sam	Iyar 4	5/30	Joseph, Reuben	Iyar 22
5/13	Berk, Arthur	Iyar 5	5/30	Leon, Sophie	Iyar 22
5/14	Rascoe, David	Iyar 6	5/30	Warner, Arthur	Iyar 22
5/15	Spitzer, Jessie	Iyar 7	5/30	White, Jacob	Iyar 22
5/15	Thompson, William	Iyar 7	5/31	Thompson, Irwin	Iyar 23
5/16	Shinder, Israel Louis	Iyar 8	6/2	Bartick, Mildred	Iyar 25
5/17	Cohen, Jerry Joseph	Iyar 9	6/2	Korus, Fannie	Iyar 25
5/17	Knopfler, Malvine	Iyar 9	6/2	Polaniecki, Jacob	Iyar 25
5/18	Finkelstein, Essie	Iyar 10			



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and a Mitzvah for your congregation!
Contact the temple office for details.

May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 4:15 PM Hebrew School;	2 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	3 7:00 PM Services and Oneg Shabbat	4 9:30 AM Services
5 1 PM Yom HaShoah Program	6	7 6 PM Class: Jewish Philosophy (Zoom); 7 PM Board Meeting	8 9:30 AM Inter-faith Bible Class; 4:15 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	9 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	10 7:00 PM Services and Oneg Shabbat	11 9:30 AM Services
12	13	14 6 PM Class: Jewish Philosophy (Zoom)	15 4:15 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	16 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	17 7:00 PM Services and Oneg Shabbat	18 9:30 AM Services
19 Bulletin Deadline	20	21 6 PM Class: Jewish Philosophy (Zoom)	22 4:15 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	23 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	24 5:30 Memorial Day Weekend BBQ; 7:00 PM Raffale Drawing followed by Services	25 9:30 AM Services
26	27	28 6 PM Class: Jewish Philosophy (Zoom)	29 4:15 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	30 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	31 7:00 PM Services and Oneg Shabbat	

June 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9:30 AM Services
2	3 7 PM Board Meeting	4 6 PM Class: Jewish Philosophy (Zoom)	5 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	6 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	7 7:00 PM Services and Oneg Shabbat	8 9:30 AM Services
9	10	11 9 PM Shavuot Learning Session	12 9:30 AM Shavuot Services	13 9:30 AM Shavuot Services including Yizkor	14 7:00 PM Services and Oneg Shabbat	15 9:30 AM Services
16	17	18 6 PM Class: Jewish Philosophy (Zoom)	19 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	20 Temple Annual Meeting 7 PM (Zoom)	21 7:00 PM Services and Oneg Shabbat	22 9:30 AM Services
23	24	25 6 PM Class: Jewish Philosophy (Zoom)	26 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	27 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	28 7:00 PM Services and Oneg Shabbat	29 9:30 AM Services
30						

For Information:		
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Cemetery	Lisa Israel	727-5500 x10
Custodian Contact	Jaime Siegel	631-653-3985
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Fundraising	Jaime Siegel	631-653-3985
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Judaica Shop	Carole Jones	631-727-3191
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	631-727-3191 631-653-9028

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1st Vice President Barbara Smith
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TEMPLE ISRAEL OF RIVERHEAD is affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism



CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

May 5	Yom HaShoah Program
May 24	BBQ and Raffle
June 11	Shavuot
June 20	TIR Annual Meeting
Many adult classes are being offered with Rabbi Rascoe. See inside for details.	