Temple Israel of Riverhead Bulletin

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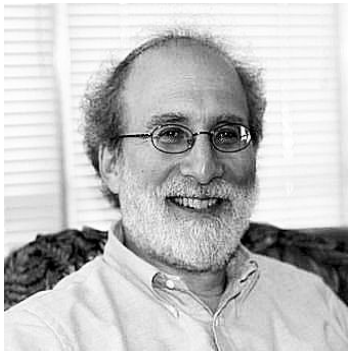
RABBI'S REFLECTIONS

The Dropped Torah Scroll



Rabbi Michael Rascoe

Those who have attended services since Simhat Torah may have noticed that one Sefer Torah (Torah scroll) is still in a white mantle, and we now read from this one and not the usual one. This also coincides with the not-much-publicized buying of a new Sefer Torah.

Someone dropped this Sefer Torah on Simhat Torah while we carried them around on the last hakkafah, circle dancing with the Sifrei Toroah (the Torah scrolls.)

We discussed it at the time, since nobody had seen one drop before. Of course, someone raised the question about fasting for forty days. While well-known, fasting appears in the sources only in the seventeenth century. And, ever since, there is a discussion on whether to do it; and, if so, who fasts, what kind of fast, and for how long.

(Continued on page 2)

(Rabbi—continued from page 1)

Rabbi Hayyim Yosef David Azulai in the eighteenth century ruled that the local rabbi should rule as the rabbi sees fit in this place and time, in order to impress on people that they be careful in the future. Since one rationale for what we do if it is dropped is to atone, hence we fast. Other atoning practices include reciting Psalms, buying the Torah a new mantle, giving extra tzedakah (charity,) learning special passages, and reminding everyone who holds the Sefer Torah and lifts it how to do so and to be careful (Rabbi Mosheh Greenwald, early twentieth century.) Our eight b'nei mitzvah youth were very concerned about this as we prepared.

Over the course of the service, after I summarized the above message, we decided to leave this Torah in its white mantle until next High Holidays so we will remember what happened and take extra care that it not happen again. We further decided that we would read from this Torah for the year instead of the usual one. A number of us pledged to donate extra tzedakah. A few had discussed buying a new Torah that would be much lighter and smaller, yet still easy to read. The Israels promised to start such a campaign. Several of us have already given to it. And, as I noted, this is in addition to what we will be donating for the kitchen campaign, for general Temple use, and other places to which we give tzedakah.

We always greatly honored a Sefer Torah, since it underlies everything we believe. Let us continue to promote this great respect for Torah.

Rabbi announcement:
To my Temple family: I am engaged, to my second ex-wife, Liz. Some of you might have met her at services in August. She will be moving here sometime between January and mid-March. We haven't set a wedding date yet, but it will be soon. We will do something to which the whole congregation is invited, once we decide on a date. She plans on being here for as long as God grants us the years in Riverhead.

Best, Michael

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Winter Shabbat Dinners Continue!

Friday night Shabbat services begin at 5:30 PM,
followed by a community dinner.

Join us for services and dinner.
It is a wonderful evening, and a great way to begin Shabbat.

Thank you to our upcoming sponsors:

•12/2	Leni & Harvey Goldsmith
•12/9	Ned & Caroline Kaplan & Family
•12/16	Alice & Michael Ganz
•12/23	Stanley & Barbara Warshaw
•12/30	Jaime Siegel, in memory of his mother, Pauline Siegel
•1/6/17	Richard & Lisa Israel

Consider sponsoring a Friday night dinner for $180.00,
but whether you are a sponsor, or not, please join us.

Best Wishes From

Segal and Siegel

Contact Meyer or Jaime for
Twin Forks Limo discounts.

TI to trial modified services—shorter, with more English

Temple Israel will be doing three trial runs of a modified Saturday morning Shabbat service, which will be shorter and contain more English.

On the dates listed below, services will begin promptly at **9:30 AM** and end at **11:00 AM**, to be followed by a kiddush luncheon. Join us and give it a try!

January 14, 2017
February 4, 2017
March 18, 2017

For more details see Jaime's letter on page 5.

Sponsor a Speaker at Temple Israel

If you are interested in sponsoring a future Shabbat speaker program, please contact **Jaime Siegel** or **Lorraine Richter.**

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A Message from our President

My dear fellow congregants and friends:

This is my first president's column of my three-year tenure. I am writing to bring everyone up to date on some of the projects on the horizon:

• Shabbat dinners—we are having a banner year of dinners with wonderful attendance. So far, we have averaged over 20 participants on Friday evenings. We still have the following dates available for sponsorship: 1/13/17, 1/20/17, 1/27/17, and 2/10/17 (Tu B'Shevat Seder,) and as always we hope that you will attend and share dinner with our wonderful community. If you have trouble getting to the shul, please feel free to call me and I will arrange transportation to and from. Services begin at 5:30, and dinner is served promptly at 6:30.

• The biggest complaint I receive is about the length of a Shabbat service. The second biggest complaint is that the service contains too much Hebrew. We have scheduled three trial Shabbat morning services, to begin at 9:30 promptly and end by 11 promptly. The idea is that if we have a minyan at 9:30 we can complete the service in 90 minutes. We will also be testing the addition of some English in these services. Obviously, we will be cutting portions of the service, but will be following all the halachic necessities of the Shacharit service. Rabbi Rascoe and members of the ritual committee will be designing these services, and I will personally be following up with attendees to survey opinions. We will also be making an email, phone, and advertising effort to get additional attendees on these special dates. Please mark the following dates on your calendar: 1/14/17, 2/4/17 and 3/18/17.

• We are currently undertaking a drive to update and renovate our kitchen. We have raised money to update the two older bathrooms, and construction will begin this winter. Please consider a gift to help renovate the kitchen—the estimated project cost is $75,000 to $100,0000.

• Before our dear friend and congregant Woody Goldstein passed away, he made a significant financial contribution toward the new rabbi's study. We will celebrate the dedication of the rabbi's study in Woody's honor in the late spring. It will be combined with a reunion weekend—we hope that all who knew Woody will come out and celebrate this very special gift. There will be some surprise guests on hand, so keep your eye on the bulletin for further details.

(Continued on next page)

(President's message from previous page)

• A hearty mazel tov to our teens—Garret Richter, Sam Kaplan, Ariel Kaplan, and Josh Kaplan, on the awards they won at Canstruction Long Island 2016. The kids collected funds to donate over 4,000 cans to the needy of our community, providing over 8,000 well-balanced meals. A giant Y'asher Koach (thank you) to Harley Abrams (team mentor,) and Ellen Lotzky (Canstruction volunteer,) and all who contributed time, energy, and cash! An article in the Long Island Life section of Newsday appeared on 11/13.

As always, it is a pleasure to serve as president, and I wish to thank you all for the honor.

B'shalom,

Jaime

Hanukkah!

Saturday
December 24, 2016
5:30 PM

Community Menorah Lighting

and Sufganiyot
at Riverfront Park.

Temple Israel of Riverhead

The January meeting will be held on
Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 7:30 PM, at Temple Israel.

Sand Devil by Michael Oren
The Innocents Abroad by Mark Twain

The February meeting will be held on
Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 7:30 PM, at Temple Israel.

Wherever You Go by Joan Leegant

There will be coffee and refreshments.

Contact the Temple office with any questions.

Something to Kvell about? Let us know!

Please let us know if you have an event you would like to celebrate: the birth of a child or grandchild, a special graduation, an accomplishment of a close relative, or any of the other joys of life. Email the information to Allen Silver at asilver9@optonline.net.

Kol Nidre Appeal 5777

We continue to need our membership and friends to preserve the health and well-being of our beloved temple. It is a tradition in congregations to establish a Kol Nidre Appeal Fund; at Temple Israel this fund is vital to help supplement the dues and thus cover our operating expenses. Therefore, we ask each one of you, if you have not already donated, to be as generous as possible, in order that our temple may continue to meet the growing needs of the Jewish community.

Please forward your check, payable to Temple Israel Kol Nidre Fund, to: Temple Israel of Riverhead, P.O. Box 1531, Riverhead, NY 11901. You can also pay online using PayPal.

Talmud Classes

Talmud classes continue on the following Wednesdays: December 7, 14, & 21 and January 11, 18, & 25, from 6 to 7:30 PM. Rabbi Rascoe invites you to join the classes-there is always review so no previous attendance is required. Attendees receive an introduction to Talmudic logic, thought, and law.

Interfaith Bible Book-of-the-Month Club

The Interfaith Bible Class will meet on Wednesday, December 14, from 9:30 AM-11:30 AM, at St. Marks Church, 105 Randall Road, Shoreham. The meeting will start with Psalm 8.

Please call Mike Griske (631-849-1744), club President, with any questions.

Canstruction Project—a Huge Success

From left to right: Sam, Garrett, Ariel, and Harley

Four TI teens: **Garret Richter, Sam Kaplan**, **Ariel Kaplan,** and **Josh Kaplan,** under the guidance of team mentor **Harley Abrams** and volunteer **Ellen Lotzky,** won 2 student awards: Most Cantastic (best meal/most cans used,) and Most Cantabulous (jurors' favorite.)

Their menorah creation used over 4,000 cans, and help to provide more than 8,000 meals to the needy.

See our website for more pictures and the article from ***Newsday.***

Plant a Tree in Israel

You can have a tree planted in Israel for a donation of $18. Contact **Sheila Muller,** at PO Box 2433, Aquebogue, NY 11931, 631-722-4711, or suraelka@aol.com. All checks should be made out to Sisterhood, Temple Israel of Riverhead, or you can use PayPal from our website.

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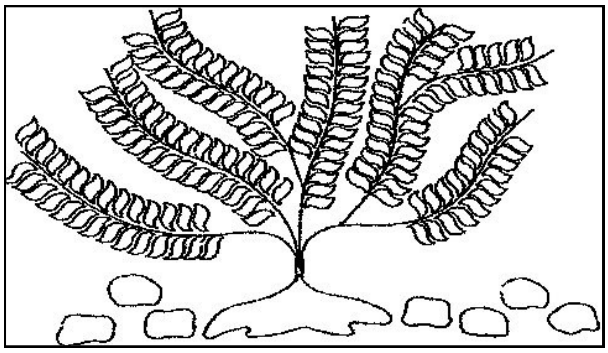
- **King Kullen**.

Please contact Lana Anker (lana410@aol.com,) Lorraine Richter (653-9028,) 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 further information, please contact **Phyllis VanDyne** at 734-7511.

Ongoing Silent Fundraisers for Temple Israel

TD Bank: Stop in at the Westhampton Beach branch to find out about all the special offers for TI members. TD bank will make contributions to TI 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.

Need a Ride to TI?

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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Rosh Hashanah stands for apples and honey,
but now it's Kol Nidre and I'm talking money.
Thank you, thank you, for the chairs downstairs!
This is a synagogue that really cares!
The sanctuary looks so very fine-
you might even say it is divine.
My next idea won't make your wallet melt;
have no doubt, I'm talking gelt.
It's time our kitchen had a re-model.
This is an idea I'm just beginning to coddle-
an upgrade and redo I'm beginning to yell,
a brand new kitchen that will make us kvell!
We just need a little; no need to sweat.
You'll hear from me after Sukkot and Shemini Atzeret!

~Courtesy of Jaime Siegel's Kol Nidre speech~

- -

Let's join together and support the kitchen renovation project.
It certainly needs updating, and we will all reap (we mean eat) the benefits!

I/we would like to help defray the cost of an update for our kitchen

$ _____

Your Name_____

Mail form with payment enclosed to:

Temple Israel of Riverhead
PO Box 1531
Riverhead, NY 11901

TODAH RABAH!

Donations to Temple Israel of Riverhead

Donation—Mr. Lewis Topper.

Donation—Pavel Guller.

Yahrzeit for Douglas Ganz—son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ganz.

Yahrzeit for Samuel Shackman—grandfather of Elaine Kimpel.

Yahrzeit for Marilyn—Mr. and Mrs. Bert Tunick.

Yahrzeit for Alfred Hefter—father of Robert Hefter.

Yahrzeit for Louis Mottus—grandfather of Howard Morgan.

Tree in Israel: in memory of Rose Luski, beloved wife of Abraham Luski—Mr. & Mrs. Donald Orenstein.

Donations for the 5777 Kol Nidre Fund

Gladys & Norman Remler
Leni & Harvey Goldsmith
Gary Siegel
Nella & James Hahn
Ruth Ann & Howard Levine
Ellen Chinsky
Mark Chinsky
Eva & Arthur Sanders
Leonard Wasserman
Lee Ann & Allen Silver

Torah Fund

Mr. & Mrs. James Smith

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 also under kosher supervision.

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.

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.

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YAHRZEITS

We remember these lives on the approaching anniversary of their passing.
May their memories be a blessing.
December Kislev/Tevet 5777

12/1	Collins, Florence	Kislev 1
12/1	Greenberg, Samuel	Kislev 1
12/2	Goldstein, Moe	Kislev 2
12/2	Mask, Lena	Kislev 2
12/2	Moiseff, Joe	Kislev 2
12/4	Arnold, Rubin	Kislev 4
12/4	Scheinberg, Hinda	Kislev 4
12/5	Brander, Louis	Kislev 5
12/5	Gee, Marie	Kislev 5
12/5	Grubman, Ruth	Kislev 5
12/7	Carasso, Solomon	Kislev 7
12/7	Harding, Maurice	Kislev 7
12/7	Siegel, Frances	Kislev 7
12/7	Wimpfheimer, Edda	Kislev 7
12/8	Harris, Edna	Kislev 8
12/8	Sulitzer, Alyse	Kislev 8
12/9	Horowitz, Abraham	Kislev 9
12/10	Hollander, Andrea	Kislev 10
12/10	Lehrer, Joseph	Kislev 10
12/11	Eisenman, Della	Kislev 11
12/12	Hyman, Charles	Kislev 12
12/13	Davidson, David	Kislev 13
12/13	Katz, Rose	Kislev 13
12/13	Sacko, Jennie	Kislev 13
12/13	Starkman, Joseph	Kislev 13
12/14	Karlin, Dotty	Kislev 14
12/14	Willner, Philip	Kislev 14
12/15	Goldstein, Rose	Kislev 15
12/15	Lipetz, Rose	Kislev 15
12/16	Cohen, Todd	Kislev 16
12/16	Cohen, Vicki	Kislev 16
12/17	Maise, Maksha	Kislev 17
12/18	Brown, Francis	Kislev 18
12/19	Benstock, Robert	Kislev 19
12/19	Cohen, Leonard	Kislev 19
12/19	Trepel, Tylda	Kislev 19
12/20	Oppenheimer, Sadie	Kislev 20
12/22	Mendell, Manuel	Kislev 22
12/23	Froehlich, Zackery	Kislev 23
12/23	Wimpfheimer, Herbert	Kislev 23
12/24	Honig, Sylvia	Kislev 24
12/25	Galitzer, Rose	Kislev 25
12/25	Ritigstein, Rose	Kislev 25
12/27	Crowitz, Louis	Kislev 27
12/27	Turkel, William	Kislev 27
12/28	Talsky, Joyce	Kislev 28
12/29	Topal, Louis	Kislev 29
12/30	Lightdale, Sylvia	Tevet 1
12/30	Saffer, Sidney	Tevet 1
12/30	Shapiro, Mildred Louis	Tevet 1
1/2	Dubin, Norman	Tevet 4
1/2	Lazarus, Samuel	Tevet 4
1/2	Lowy, Frederick	Tevet 4
1/2	Raffe, Flora	Tevet 4
1/2	Scheinberg, Henry	Tevet 4
1/2	Senft, Mollie	Tevet 4
1/2	Siegel, Pauline	Tevet 4
1/3	Deutsch, Shirley	Tevet 5
1/3	Frankel, Lena	Tevet 5
1/4	Benstock, Roslyn	Tevet 6
1/4	Levy, Sylvia	Tevet 6
1/4	Richter, Maurice	Tevet 6
1/4	Zuck, Joseph	Tevet 6
1/5	Mathews, Maxwell J.	Tevet 7
1/5	Schackman, Nathaniel	Tevet 7
1/5	Seidner, Sidney	Tevet 7
1/6	Lotzky, Isaac	Tevet 8

Temple Israel of Riverhead Bulletin Advertisement – Order Form

Now is the time to place an ad in the Temple Israel Bulletin We publish 10 times a year, with ads interspersed throughout. They can be business card size, double size, half or full page; carrying your business, merchandising, or personal message. If you like, you may incorporate a discount coupon into your ad. Copies of the Bulletin can be downloaded by selecting the Communications tab from our website at http://www.templeisraelriverhead.org.

Return the completed form below, along with your business card or desired message, and a check. Your ad will be placed for the next 10 consecutive issues of the Bulletin.

If you have any questions, please contact Allen Silver at asilver9@optonline.net, or 631-744-7551.

Thank you for your continued support of Temple Israel of Riverhead.

----------Tear Here----------

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Business Card	$100/year	☐
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Check the appropriate box at the left.

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Contact Person _____

Email Address _____

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A Little Humor

A Jewish man said that when he was growing up, they always had two choices for dinner - Take it or leave it.

A doctor held a stethoscope up to a man's chest. The man asks, "Doc, how do I stand?
The doctor says, "That's what puzzles me!"

SABBATH SERVICES

Friday evenings at 5:30 PM Saturday mornings at 9:30 AM

December 2016

Day	Date	Candle Lighting	Friday Oneg Hosts
Friday Evening Saturday Morning	12/2/16	4:04 PM	Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Goldsmith
Friday Evening Saturday Morning	12/9/16	4:04 PM	Mr. & Mrs. Edward Kaplan
Friday Evening Saturday Morning	12/16/16	4:06 PM	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Ganz
Friday Evening Saturday Morning	12/23/16	4:09 PM	Stanley & Barbara Warshaw
Friday Evening Saturday Morning	12/30/16	4:14 PM	Mr. Jaime Siegel in memory of his mother, Pauline Siegel
Friday Evening Saturday Morning	1/6/17	4:20 PM	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Israel

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421 Montauk Hwy
East Quogue, NY 11942

Phone (631) 653-5888
Fax: (631) 653-7813

December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 5:30 PM Services followed by dinner	3 9:30 AM Services
4 9 AM-12 PM Hebrew School	5	6	7 6-7:30 PM Talmud class	8	9 5:30 PM Services followed by dinner	10 9:30 AM Services
11 9 AM-12 PM Hebrew School	12 7:15 PM Board meeting	13	14 9:30-11:30 AM Book-of-the-Month Club 6-7:30 PM Talmud class	15	16 5:30 PM Services followed by dinner	17 9:30 AM Services
18 9 AM-12 PM Hebrew School/ Hanukkah Breakfast	19	20 Bulletin submissions deadline.	21 6-7:30 PM Talmud class	22	23 5:30 PM Services followed by dinner	24 9:30 AM Services; 5:30 PM Community Menorah Lighting
25 No Hebrew School	26	27	28	29	30 5:30 PM Services followed by dinner	31 9:30 AM Services

January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 No Hebrew School	2	3	4	5	*6* 5:30 PM Services followed by dinner	*7* 9:30 AM Services
8 9 AM-12 PM Hebrew School	9 7:15 PM Board meeting	10	*11* 6-7:30 PM Talmud class; 7:30 PM TI Book Club	12	*13* 5:30 PM Services followed by dinner	*14* 9:30 AM Services-Modified Shabbat Trial
15 No Hebrew School	16	17	*18* 6-7:30 PM Talmud class	19	*20* 5:30 PM Services followed by dinner	*21* 9:30 AM Services
22 9 AM-12 PM Hebrew School	23	24	*25* 6-7:30 PM Talmud class	26	*27* 5:30 PM Services followed by dinner	*28* 9:30 AM Services
29 9 AM-12 PM Hebrew School	30	31				

For Information:		
Advertising and Public Relations	Barbara Smith	664-6584
Book Club		
Bulletin	Allen Silver asilver9@optonline.net	744-7551
Capital Campaign	Richard Israel	727-5500 x11
Cemetery	Lisa Israel	727-5500 x10
Custodian Contact	Jaime Siegel	653-3985
Education	Terri Milligan	924-2953
Fundraising	Jaime Siegel	653-3985
High Holy Days		
House Manager	Rob Brown	298-2608
Judaica Shop	Phyllis Van Dyne	734-7511
Membership	Jaime Siegel	653-3985
Oneg Shabbat	Barbara Smith	664-6584
President	Jaime Siegel	653-3985
Programs and Events		
Ritual Committee	Lisa Israel	727-5500 x10
Social Hall	Jaime Siegel	653-3985
Special Gifts	Howard Collins	779-3042
Temple Office	Carole Jones	727-3191
Trees in Israel	Sheila Muller	722-4711
Tree of Life	Phyllis Van Dyne	734-7511
Supermarket Certificates	Carole Jones (Office) Lorraine Richter Lana Anker	727-3191 653-9028 lana410@aol.com

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Treasurer	Richard Israel
Secretary	Elaine Lissauer

Trustees:

Harley Abrams	Lisa Israel
Robert Brown	Terri Milligan
Rebecca Hagler	Sheila Muller
Melissa Idler	Lorraine Richter

Bulletin Committee:

Elaine Lissauer	Lee Ann Silver
Allen Silver	

Kinder Korner

by Melissa Idler

Ready for a super fun project that also doubles as a yummy snack? Edible dreidels! All you do is dip a Hershey Kiss in peanut butter, stick it onto the bottom of a marshmallow, insert a mini pretzel stick, add Hebrew letters with food coloring (using a toothpick)... and voila... a yummy dreidel snack!

To wish someone a Happy Hanukkah, say "Hanukkah Sameach!" (Happy Hanukkah) or simply "Chag Sameach!" (Happy Holiday.) Or if you want to show off your Hebrew skills, say "Chag Urim Sameach!" (urim means "lights".) ☺

When we think of Hanukkah, we think of our Mensch on the Bench, Menschie! We love Menschie! He writes us poems about Hanukkah and leaves us little gifts around our house. It is super exciting to wake up each morning and see Menschie in crazy places! He has been found hanging upside down from a chandelier, eating dinner in our doll house, and even having a snack in the refrigerator! He always makes us laugh and puts us instantly in a good mood. Maybe Menschie will visit your house, too? Good luck!

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TEMPLE ISRAEL OF RIVERHEAD is affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

***December 24*—Community Menorah Lighting**
***January 11*—T I Book Club**
***December 7, 14, & 21, January 11, 18, & 25*—Talmud Classes**
***December 14*—Interfaith Bible Book Club**
***January 14, February 4, & March 18*—New Trial Shabbat Service**