

WE ARE ONE

June 2026 sivan/tamuz 5786

Free Event
Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Register or sponsor here:





Jewish Federation
of Greater Orange County
Building Our Jewish Community Together

Join us for our

50th

Annual Meeting!

Help Federation partner synagogues & organizations honor their **Volunteers of the Year!**

Sunday, June 7
10 AM
at Kol Yisrael
Newburgh, NY

a light brunch
will be provided

Questions: Call **845-562-7860**
Email: Office@JewishorangeNY.org

Take a **walk down memory lane** from the past 50 years and learn how you can help support Jewish life in Orange County into the next 50 years!



HERITAGE FINANCIAL PARK, 1500 NY-9D, WAPPINGERS FALLS

2026 JEWISH HERITAGE NIGHT!

WITH THE HUDSON VALLEY RENEGADES

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8TH @ 6:35 p.m.

Kosher Food Options Available

Support the Jewish Federations of Orange, Dutchess and Ulster Counties!



Scan the QR code for tickets!



The Jewish Federation
OF GREATER ORANGE COUNTY

845-562-7860 | office@jewishorangeny.org

B"H

"SURVIVING GAZA"

GUEST SPEAKER:
BAR KUPERSHTEIN

738 DAYS:
THE LAST HOSTAGE

Hear firsthand from Bar Kupershtein, one of the last hostages to be freed from the Gaza tunnels, as he shares a powerful story of faith, resilience, & survival.

JUNE 18 | 7:30 PM \$18 ADMISSION

HOLDING STRONG THROUGH FAITH

RSVP REQUIRED CHABADGOSHEN.COM/HOSTAGE (845) 291-0514

CHABAD CENTER 203 MAIN ST. GOSHEN

VIP MEET & GREET: 6:45 PM \$72 PP, COUPLE \$100 SPONSOR \$180

ALL MONEY is being raised directly for Bar's recovery and rehabilitation



Joint event brought to you by Jewish Federation & Chabad Goshen

We invite you to join us, Sunday, June 7th at 10am | Kol Yisrael, 290 North St, Newburgh for our **50th Annual Meeting**. We will be honoring these special individuals who have shown outstanding service in our Synagogues and Organizations.



B'nai Torah Shul, Greenwood Lake:
Marc Appelbaum & Deniz Appelbaum
Congregation Agudas Israel, Newburgh:
Betsy Solomon

Congregation Beth Hillel/WJCC, Walden:
Arthur Carroad
Congregation Eitz Chaim, Monroe:
David Fromowitz & Judy Ronay

Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County, Past Presidents:
Harvey Kallus 2019-2022
Carla Wise 2017-2019
Leslie Green 2015-2017
Abbe Distelburger 2013-2015
Gail Oliver 2011-2013
Jack Berkowitz 2009-2011
Steve Rubinsky 2007-2009
Mark Fink 2005-2007
Raena Korenman 2003-2005
Dr. William Cieplinski 2001-2003
Dr. Joseph Birnbaum z'l 1999-2001

Jewish Federation, Cont.:
Mona Rieger 1997-99
Marsha Sobel 1995-97
Dr. William Cieplinski 1993-95
Andrea Dubroff 1991-93
Richard Levin z'l 1989-91
Harold Levine z'l 1987-89
Norman Hecht z'l 1985-87
Gerald Kreisberg z'l 1983-85
Jack Slobod 1981-83
Chuck Mullin z'l 1979-81
Florence Levine z'l 1977-79
George Handler z'l 1975-77

Jewish Family Services, Orange County:
TBA
Kol Yisrael, Newburgh: *Steve Licker*
Monroe Hadassah: *Maria Rabinowitz*
Monroe Temple Beth-El Sisterhood:
Vicki Kilanowski
Monroe Temple Beth-El:
Paul Joseph & Nina Rubin
Newburgh Jewish Community Center:
Sam Ottenhoff
Temple Beth Jacob, Newburgh:
Reverend Dr. Mary Lou Baumgartner
Temple Beth Jacob Sisterhood:
Stacey Yerger

Temple Beth Shalom, Florida & Monroe
Temple Beth-El: The Mitzvah Moms!
Loryn Sotsky
Melissa Kleinman
Gail Hoffer-Loibl
Joanna Buckley
Elizabeth Frederick
Bethanie Quatrane

(Continued from page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Felicia Gell

Natalie Browne

David Kossar

Temple Beth Shalom Sisterhood: *TBA*

Temple Beth Shalom Men's Club -
Jon Gottlieb

Temple Sinai, Middletown:

Lester Millman

Help Us Celebrate These Wonderful Volunteers!

A Message From Wendy Cedar, Executive Director

I recently attended a Shabbat morning service at Monroe Temple Beth El. It was one of the final few Shabbat morning services that will occur there, as they finalize the sale of their building and begin the process of merging with my synagogue, Temple Beth Shalom in Florida, NY. Rabbi Loeb, the Rabbi Emeritus of Monroe Temple, was invited to speak during the service. (Yes, two Rabbis spoke during one service and somehow, the entire service was under two hours! ;) It was a moving event filled with both joy and sadness.

Yet, isn't that the story of life, especially Jewish life? Full of both joy and sadness? To help with the emotions of facing this big, impending change, Rabbi Loeb pointed out a line in one of the blessings of the morning, "Praised are you Adonai... In Your goodness, You daily renew creation..." He reminded us all that, in effect, change is a natural part of our world; we have the opportunity to 'daily renew creation'.

It is a difficult time in our modern world. Even before October 7th, 2023, traditional synagogue life was in decline. Some communities have seen a slight bump in people wanting to connect during these difficult times, but many, many more "secular" Jews don't see themselves as having a place in the Jewish community based in the old model of regularly attending Shabbat services, volunteering to create and run programs and events, and paying dues to support something they barely use. Chabad has a slightly different model in which those who can, help financially support the community, and the Rabbi, his wife, and their family are part spiritual and community leaders and part small business owners. But still, much of the financial support often winds up coming from the older generation. We have, as a community, perhaps forgotten that all of us, as creations in G-d's image, can, and perhaps should, be comfortable creating something new to sustain Jewish life into the future.

I've told the story before that my mother, who worked for the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) for 32 years considered her work to be "saving the Jewish people" by working as the bookkeeper of the Kutz Camp and ultimately the comptroller of the URJ. Perhaps it is time for more of us to consider it our jobs to save the Jewish people by changing with the times and renewing the creation of community for ourselves and for the next generation - l'dor va'dor.

Are we satisfied with the decline in once thriving communities that have seen the reduction in the number of students enrolled in our religious schools from over 500 county-wide twenty years ago to less than 60, total, today? Are we satisfied with young adults finding their Jewish connection through WhatsApp groups instead of in our existing infrastructure?

(Continued on page 6)



Rabbi's Blog

As I write this, it is Erev Shavuot. In just a few hours, we will be re-living Matan Torah, our receiving of the Torah at Sinai. Just a few weeks ago, we completed reading the book of Vayikra, Leviticus, with the stark and ominous tochacha, the infamous warning which enumerates the curses which will befall us should we not heed the totality of the commandments.

Somehow, the tochacha and the Ten Statements which we read on Shavuot have struck me differently this year. The “Top Ten,” so iconic these days for all the wrong reasons, contain at their core a mandate to balance the care with which we relate to G-d (first half) with the care with which we relate to each other (second half). The bulk of the 613 mitzvot rest upon this foundation. Starting with our fundamental beliefs expressed through unique rituals, Torah teaches us how to construct a society of caring, ethical norms, instructing and guiding civilization in ways which our biblical ancestors could not have conceived on their own. Yet this new way of conceiving of society brings with it an inherent danger—buck the norms and make up your own rules, and chaos will ensue. That’s what the tochacha is all about. Using shockingly graphic imagery, it describes how our sins will be revisited upon us sevenfold, and all that we take for granted or view as sacrosanct in our lives will crumble.



Imagine that. Stop paying attention to our ritual, ethical, moral, societal, or cultural baselines, and all that we hold dear runs the risk of vanishing. A catastrophe of our own making.

Except we don’t have to imagine it. Watch the news, consume online content, read the papers, and what has value these days? Being right and making sure that the whole world knows that the other person is wrong. Breaking or rewriting long-held rules, laws, and traditions to benefit one’s self either through power and influence, bragging rights, financially, or all three. What gives any of us the right to exploit G-d and the “proper” way to pray to the Divine for our own benefit or to the denigration of others? Where in the Torah is the mitzva to withhold assistance or aid from those in need so that more money can be spent on items or pursuits which only benefit the few lucky ones? And worst of all, when the inevitable tragedies do occur—shootings, stabbings, bombings, arson—the narrative is seemingly immediately flooded with rhetoric, often untrue or misleading, which exploits the situation for some homiletical benefit at the expense of those injured, and too often even before they have had a chance to bury their dead.

We were warned.

How about this? Once Shavuot is over, and we’ve received the Torah anew, we have roughly a month until we begin the spiritual preparations for Tisha B’av, the anniversary of the destruction of the Beit Hamikdash (Holy Temple) along with many other calamities our people has endured. The Rabbis teach us that the Destruction occurred due to sin’at chinam, baseless hatred toward one another. Let’s take this brief period to examine how we act, what we say, how we relate to others, and rededicate ourselves to regarding our neighbor as ourselves. Then, once we have practiced tikkun atzmi, self-correction, we can turn to the form of tikkun olam most needed these days. We need to rebuild our ritual, cultural, and social foundation from the bricks which have been cast asunder through our inaction and callous disregard.

I promise you, the heavy lifting will be much easier if we do it together.

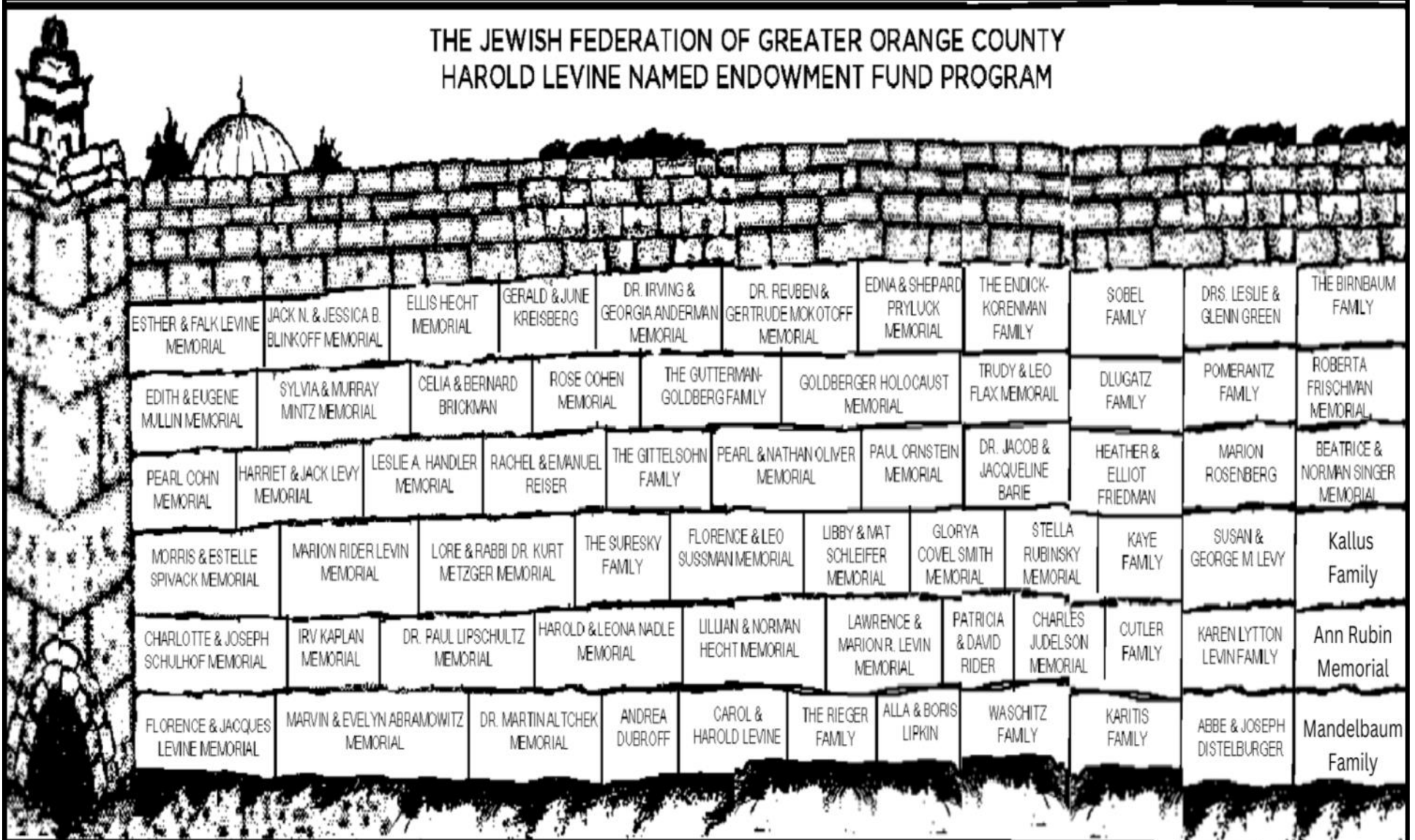
Rabbi/Hazzan David B. Sislen
Temple Sinai, Middletown

The Harold Levine Named Endowment Fund Program

The Harold Levine Endowment Program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County currently has 65 Endowments with a principle of over \$5,000,000. These funds can be established with any amount of money. The interest is reinvested in the funds until they reach a corpus of \$5,000, at which time distributions can be made to named charities.

All endowment funds must designate a minimum of 30% of the interest earned to the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign. Arrange a confidential meeting to make a charitable gift as part of your estate plan. Call the Federation office 845-562-7860 for more information.

Read more here: jewishorangeny.org/donate/endowments





My Tree In Israel

Support an Israeli Farmer and Receive From Their Bounty, Your Own Private-Label: Olive Oil, Kosher Wine or Whisky!

Order: Use the QR Code

- ✦ **Wine (Private Label from Jezreel Valley Winery) July 30 | Delivery Rosh Hashanah**
- ✦ **Wine (Avivim | Located on the northern border) July 30 | Delivery Rosh Hashanah**
- ✦ **Olive Oil | November 30 | Delivery December**
- ✦ **Whiskey | Delivery TBA**

Learn More: Jewishorangeny.org | Need Help Ordering? Call: 845-562-7860.



Choose Your Bottles – Limited Release

- **Rebirth Reserve – Red blend (Cabernet Sauvignon & Petite Syrah), aged 28 months**
- **Avivim Spirit – White blend, aged 6 months**
- **Tkumah Reserve – Red blend (Cabernet Sauvignon, Petite Verdot, Syrah), aged 40 months**

Kosher – Badatz Eda Haredi Shipping & taxes included

Reserve your bottles today – limited quantities available!

Order by June 30th for Rosh Hashanah delivery





A Message From Wendy Cedar, Executive Director, Cont.

(Continued from page 3)

Perhaps it is time for us to take a note from that blessing and consciously renew creation for the sake of a Jewish future. What will that look like? I don't know! But perhaps together, through conversation, "storming, norming, and performing" (a model for achieving high performance), or "argument for the sake of heaven" (Pirkei Avot), we can build a strong bridge to the future for the Orange County, NY Jewish community.

Opportunities abound for your voice to be heard. Contact me if you want to be a part of it.

Wendy Cedar Executive Director

Director@JewishOrangeNY.org | 845.562.7860

We Gratefully Acknowledge Gifts Made To The Jewish Federation Of Greater Orange County By The Following Donors* As Tributes for May '26:

The following gifts were given in loving memory of Past President Joseph Birnbaum. May his Memory be a blessing.

The Crossen-Stolow Family

Marilyn Scherzer/ Randi & Bob Barlow

Marjorie & David Levinson

Veronica Soltys

Manny Piazza Family

The following gifts were given in loving memory of Past President Richard "Dick" Levin. May his Memory be a blessing.

Andrea & Carl Axelrod

Matthew Prokosch

Barbara Ostrander

Ellen & Joseph Rones

A gift was given to PJ Library, In memory of our beloved mothers by Louise and Dean Scher

Your gifts during the 2026 Hudson Valley Gives Day of Giving were double the gifts from 2025! We are so grateful you took the time out of your busy day to support our important work.

WE THANK YOU!

Tamar Anitai

Susan Panse

Sharon Ball

Rowley Family Foundation

Emily Brent

Marjorie Sweet

Wendy Cedar

Loretta Trinco

Sheila Knopp

Barbara Wittner

Doris Kossover

Jeremy Zweig

Jessica Lewis

Gail Oliver

****We apologize for any misspellings. If your name does not appear, please check next month's edition of "We Are One."***



JFS Senior Independence Program

register for the training or for more information about services available for older neighbors throughout Orange County call or email | 845-341-1173
volunteer@jfsorange.org

COUNSELING SERVICES

When life feels overwhelming, our compassionate counseling team offers a safe, confidential space. Explore your thoughts, process emotions, and develop healthy coping strategies.

**Individual & Group Sessions Are Available.*

WE CAN HELP WITH:

- ✓ Stress & Anxiety
- ✓ Depression
- ✓ Life Transitions
- ✓ Personal Growth

...and more!

CONTACT US TODAY TO LEARN MORE

(845) 341-1173 x300

SENIOR INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM
Our Doors Are Open To The Entire Community

VOLUNTEER IN OUR COMMUNITY

Be part of a program that promotes dignity, connection, and independence for our seniors.
Opportunities include Local Transportation, Visits, Wellness Calls, Grocery Shopping and Pantry Assistance, and more.

JOIN OUR VIRTUAL TRAINING

**Pre-approval is required to attend training. Please contact us for an application.*

New Training Dates TBA:
Watch our Weekly E-Blast for Updates on Thursdays!

Alternate training dates are available upon request.

Contact Us!
volunteer@jfsorange.org
 (845) 341-1173 x305

This program was made possible by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Orange County

Jewish Family Service-Support for Holocaust Survivors is collecting the following items (below).

These household items can be dropped off at JFS: 720 Route 17M Middletown, NY 10940 or pick-up can be arranged by calling 845-341-1173 ext. 306 If you would like to make a monetary donation, please go jfsorange.org/donate/donate-online

Household Items:

- ✦ Toilet Paper
- ✦ Paper Towel
- ✦ Garbage Bags
- ✦ Storage bags/new containers of all sizes
- ✦ Paper goods; plates, napkins, cups

- ✦ Cleaning supplies
- ✦ Laundry detergent/softener
- ✦ Bleach
- ✦ Sponges

Personal Care Items:

- ✦ Bar/Liquid Soap
- ✦ Shampoo & Conditioner
- ✦ Moisturizer & Hand Cream
- ✦ Tooth Brushes
- ✦ Personal Care Wipes
- ✦ Store Gift Cards Are Accepted

INAUGURAL GOLF OUTING

About the Tournament
 Proceeds will support JFS Orange, a local non-sectarian 501(c)3 organization that serves older adults, individuals with intellectual & developmental disabilities, caregivers, and families in need by connecting them with essential services.

Date & Place
SEPTEMBER 28, 2026
Town of Walkill Golf Club
 40 Sands Road, Middletown, NY 10941

Schedule
 8:00am Check-In
 9:00am Tee Time
 Shotgun Start

\$150 per golfer
Breakfast & Lunch included!

Deadline to register: September 7, 2026
Deadline to sign up for sponsorship: August 24, 2026

Sponsorship Opportunities

Arnold Palmer Tournament Sponsor \$5,000

- Four complimentary tickets
- Logo & company name included on all promotional materials
- Featured signage at registration and throughout the course

Jack Nicklaus Luncheon Sponsor \$3,000

- Three complimentary tickets
- Featured signage at lunch venue

Tiger Woods Beverage Cart Sponsor \$2,000

- Two complimentary tickets
- Featured signage on beverage cart

Lee Trevino Hole-in-One Sponsor \$1,000

- One complimentary ticket
- Premier signage at hole-in-one hole

Babe Didrikson Zaharias 9th Hole Sponsor \$500

- Signage displayed at 9th hole

Sam Snead Hole Sponsor \$250

- Company name/logo featured on tee sign

JOIN US! To register or sign up for sponsorship, email sutter@jfsorange.org or call (845) 341-1173 x310

Sponsors, please email sutter@jfsorange.org with a .png or .jpg of your company logo.



Reminiscing With Our Past Presidents

Dear Officers, Board, Staff and Supporters of the Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County:

When I received the card announcing the 50th Annual Meeting, I remembered my own participation in the leadership of the Federation in the early 90s. With the passing of Dick Levin z'l, I believe I may be the oldest past president still living.

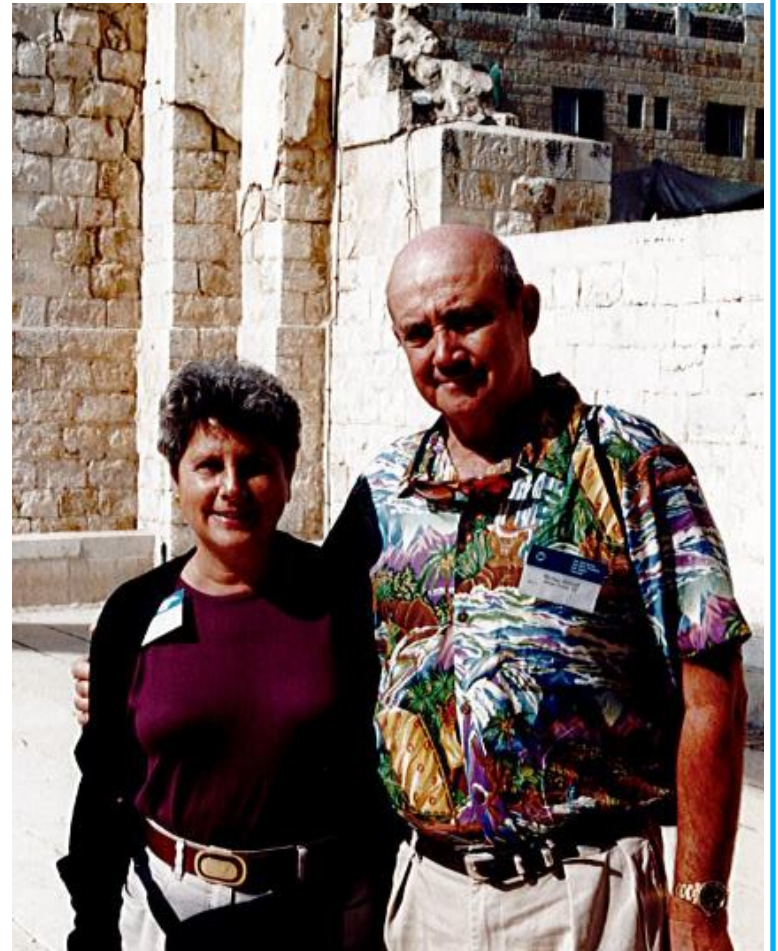
Memory serves to remind me of many fine people from Orange County who also held the position-- Florence z'l and Harold Levine z'l, Norman Hecht z'l, Bill Cieplinski and more. Numerous board members provided the support to bind together the small Jewish communities from ten towns and villages across a county roughly 60 miles East to West and 30 miles North to South.

Georgia Mason was critical to the functioning of the office. Jewish Family Service was created and came to serve all parts of our Federation. Harold Levine's z'l idea of gifting tuition for Jewish summer camp to eligible campers flourished. The needs of our county -wide Jewish Federation have not diminished. If anything, the challenges have increased.

I send my greetings and good wishes to all of you who carry on the tradition -- the responsibility of caring for and representing the Jewish community of Orange County.

Andi Dubroff

Next month we will hear from Past President, Gail Oliver. Stay Tuned!



Stay connected with us through our monthly We Are One and our Weekly We Are One Newsletter E-Blast (sign up by emailing office@jewishorangeny.org or Call 845.562.7860 | provide your email address), or online at Jewishorangeny.org. Follow us on Instagram at [JFedOC_NY](https://www.instagram.com/JFedOC_NY) or Facebook at Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County, NY



Through Federation, You Can Do Good That Goes Everywhere
[DONATE NOW](#)

While you're reading this, your gift is impacting Jewish lives around the world. From North America to Ukraine to Israel and across 70 other countries - your gift impacts lives around the world.

A Publication of the Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County | 292 North St., Newburgh, NY
12550—www.jewishorangeny.org

If you would like a copy of the **We Are One** mailed to you monthly, for a donation of \$36 for the year,
please email Pam: office@jewishorangeny.org
or Call 845-562-7860

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR
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*Try it Before
You Buy It!*

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Martin Hochhauser

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MHochhauser@yahoo.com



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Advertise your business here.
Business card ads: \$10/month or \$100/year.
¼ page(4.5x3.5"): \$15/month or \$150/year.
Purchase for the year, and you will receive 2 free
months for whichever size ad placed.
Call 845-562-7860 or email
office@jewishorangeny.org

Alex Solomon Parents/Grandparents Bereavement Support Group



If you have lost a child or grandchild, no matter what age or when, come to find and share support.

A safe space - no politics, opinions, or controversy. Nondenominational- Open to the entire community.

Sponsored by Congregation Agudas Israel Meeting at the Kol Yisrael Campus 290 North Street, Newburgh, NY 12550

Facilitated by Rabbi Steven Altarescu, Board Certified Chaplain and Counselor


Upcoming Dates:
10:30am-12pm | June 14 | July 12 | August 9
Meeting in the Children's Library

For more information:
AlexSolomonGriefGroup@CongregationAgudasIsrael.org

Study Bible with:

The Rev and the Rav

REVERAND VICTOR SARRAZIN RABBI DAVID SISLEN



This unique opportunity will allow students from different faiths to join together as we explore scripture as one!


FOR ITS INAUGURAL YEAR, REVERAND SARRAZIN AND RABBI SISLEN WILL TEACH AND MODERATE A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF AMOS. CLASSES WILL BE HELD ONLINE, AND THERE IS NO COST TO PARTICIPATE. TEXT WILL BE SHARED, BUT FEEL FREE TO USE YOUR OWN IF YOU DESIRE.

7 PM CLASS DATES ARE:
JUNE 18

TO REGISTER AND RECEIVE THE LINK, PLEASE CONTACT:

RABBI SISLEN:
RABBI@TEMPLESINAIMIDDLETOWN.COM

FATHER SARRAZIN:
SECRETARY.GRACE.EPISCOPAL@GMAIL.COM




Temple Sinai Men's Club invites you to our next Congregational Bar-B-Q to celebrate . . .

AMERICA 250TH BIRTHDAY 1776-2026

SUNDAY, JULY 5TH, 2026
 1:00PM – 5:00PM

Temple Sinai - Rear Parking Lot (Social Hall in case of rain)
 75 Highland Avenue, Middletown, NY

Just \$10.00/Person or \$25.00/Immediate Family

Send Registration to:
 Temple Sinai Men's Club
 75 Highland Avenue
 Middletown, NY 10940



Bagels & Bible




About one hour of reviewing texts from the Weekly Torah reading together with Rashi's commentary in a relaxed give and take forum. It will take place every other Saturday. Led by Lenny/


In Person at 10am | Next Date: May 30

Temple Beth Jacob Presents

Gift of Life Celebration Shabbat

Friday, June 12, 2026, 7:30pm


200 Matches!



Featuring:
 Marilyn Shafir, who received a life-saving bone marrow transplant in 2023. Her donor was identified at a swabbing drive in 2020!

For years, dozens of Temple Beth Jacob volunteers have met at universities, colleges, libraries, churches and synagogues, to hold swabbing drives to hopefully identify potential life-saving matches.

This winter, TBJ's volunteers recorded our 200th match, from which nine donors were identified, and nine lives saved from leukemia and other blood cancers.



Featuring:
 Gail Oliver, who has been participating with Gift of Life for decades, in Newburgh and Florida, and has been honored for her leadership, devotion and vision!

Have YOU been swabbed?

GIFT OF LIFE

GIFT OF LIFE MARROW REGISTRY TOGETHER WE ARE HELPING TO SAVE LIVES! WOO HOO!! Match #205! It's time for another happy dance!!

Gift of Life Marrow Registry believes every person battling blood cancers, and a hundred other diseases, deserves a second chance at life — and we are determined to help make it happen. Many of our donors have been found as a result of the swabbing drives we have held on local college campuses, in fitness centers, and at festivals and events. Visitors to our swabbing tables are able to join the registry on the spot with a quick swipe inside their own cheeks with a cotton swab. Every donor who joins the registry has the potential to save someone's life

If you are available to help out at a donor recruitment drive, even for a couple of hours, please contact Sherrill Lazarus smlazarus@yahoo.com | Gail Oliver gailao777@aol.com, You can request a swabbing kit at home, www.giftoflife.org. Upcoming Swabbing Drives: STAY TUNED!

HAVE AN IDEA?

Jewish In Orange County Micro-Grants

Turn your idea into impact!

Micro-grants fund creative programs that bring our Orange County Jewish community together — building connection, learning, and growth.



APPLY TODAY!
 Scan QR or visit:
jewishorangeny.org/jewish-life/microgrants



May | June Candle Lighting Schedule



May 29:	8:04PM
June 5:	8:09PM
June 12:	8:13PM
June 19:	8:15PM
June 26:	8:16PM

Make an Impact



Support Our Community

Together, we can build something that matters.

- ◆ Contribute your skills in strategy, finance, marketing, community engagement, passion for community
- ◆ Collaborate with a dedicated team committed to real impact
 - ◆ Expand your experience while giving back

You don't need prior board experience - just commitment to our mission and a willingness to engage.

NOW, more than ever, the Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County needs your help. We're looking for passionate, thoughtful leaders to join our Board of Directors.

If you care about strengthening our Jewish community and helping our organization thrive, this is your opportunity to step up and make a difference.

Interested or know someone who would be a great fit? Current applications are open so reach out to us today.

director@jewishorangenyc.com

[Home Page | Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County New York](#)

#BoardRecruitment #NonprofitLeadership #MakeAnImpact #VolunteerLeadership

Supporting Jews today, tomorrow, and always.

As Pesach approaches, Israelis face ongoing missile attacks and displacement. Through Jewish Federations and trusted partners, critical aid and trauma support are reaching those in need. Every dollar counts—please give



Your support makes a difference.

Israel
Under Fire



You are cordially invited to a
Garden Party

May 31, 2026
2pm - 4pm

Temple Beth Shalom

Hosted by the Temple Beth Shalom
&
Monroe Temple Welcoming
Committee

You do not have to bring
anything to attend,
unless you want to.

save
the
date

JCC Outdoor Shabbat - Friday, August 28 | 5:30pm

in the rear of the building. Kosher Dairy Dinner, Live Music, Shabbat Service & Kids Crafts. \$18 per person/\$10 per child/\$50 for family.



Did you know?

June 4th is Holocaust Survivor Day.

Let's honor and celebrate the survivors among us. If you know a survivor, give them a call, share an extra hug, or take them out for coffee. Let them know they are cherished, respected, and deeply treasured.

Share the memories you've made with the survivors in your life. Send your photos to office@jewishorangenyc.org and please include names. We would love to celebrate them too.



Sisterhood Rosh Chodesh

Thursday, June 11 | 6pm
at the home of Carol Packer



Sisterhood Book Club Thursday, July 23 | 1pm

Location to be determined.
Discussion of the book "Two Jews - Three Shuls" by Sandra Tankoos.

SAVE THE DATE!!



**34TH ANNUAL
NEWBURGH JCC
GOLF OUTING**

2026 | JULY 13TH | 11:00 AM
OSIRIS COUNTRY CLUB | WALDEN, NY
NEWBURGHJCC.ORG/ANNUAL-GOLF-OUTING

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES STARTING AT \$100
VISIT NEWBURGHJCC.ORG TO REGISTER OR SPONSOR
QUESTIONS? EMAIL VISITNEWBURGHJCC@GMAIL.COM

Sisterhood Paid-Up Spring Dinner
Wednesday June 3rd, 6:00pm
Ana Restaurant 22 Spring Street Warwick


Join us for community, sisterhood and fun basket raffles.
RSVP-Robin Bordman 845-699-6460, thebordmans@aol.com
Or
Wendy Wayman 845-781-0629, wwayman5285@gmail.com
No charge for Sisterhood members. Not a member?
Your dues payment of \$54 covers the cost of the dinner.



COMING SOON...
Monroe Temple Gift Shop will be combining their Judaica with ours for even more choices!

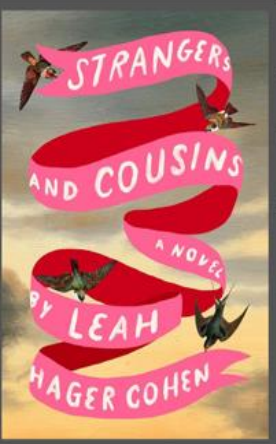


June 1st
7:00 PM on Zoom.
Email
allzgreat4@gmail.com
BY 5/29/26
FOR ZOOM LINK



Sisterhood members only
BOOK CHAT


A novel about what happens when an already sprawling family hosts an even larger and more chaotic wedding: an entertaining story about family, culture, memory, and community.



In the seemingly idyllic town of Rundle Junction, Bennie and Walter are preparing to host the wedding of their eldest daughter Clem. A marriage ceremony at their beloved, rambling home should be the happiest of occasions, but Walter and Bennie have a secret. A new community has moved to Rundle Junction, threatening the social order and forcing Bennie and Walter to confront uncomfortable truths about the lengths they would go to maintain harmony.

Meanwhile, Aunt Glad, the oldest member of the family, arrives for the wedding plagued by long-buried memories of a scarring event that occurred when she was a girl in Rundle Junction. As she uncovers details about her role in this event, the family begins to realize Clem's wedding may not be exactly what it seemed. Clever, passionate, artistic Clem has her own agenda. What she doesn't know is that by the end, everyone will have roles to play in this richly-imagined ceremony of familial connection - a brood of quirky relatives, effervescent college friends, ghosts emerging from the past, a determined little mouse, and even the very group of new neighbors whose presence has shaken Rundle Junction to its core.

With *Strangers and Cousins*, Leah Hager Cohen delivers a story of pageantry and performance, hopefulness and growth, and introduces a winsome, unforgettable cast of characters whose lives are forever changed by events that unfold and reverberate across generations.



Monroe Temple
SISTERHOOD/WRJ
WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM

Saturday, June 20th, 6PM



Monroe Temple and Temple Beth Shalom invite you to be a part of bringing Torah scrolls from Monroe to Florida, NY. We begin with Havdalah and de-consecration at the Monroe Temple and expect to arrive at TBS by 7:30. We would love to have lots of kids, music and fellowship to greet us.
Either meet up in Monroe or be at TBS when we get there. A light nosh will be served after the festivities.
An RSVP and more details to follow.

Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County

Your Gift. Our Community. Our Future.




Make your 2026 Annual Campaign gift today.
Together, we keep Jewish life in Orange County strong and thriving.

COMING SOON!
YIDDISH UBER

We would like to... "get you to the Temple...on time!"
Open to members of Monroe Temple and Temple Beth Shalom to attend services or any Temple event

Please let us know if you are able to provide a ride or if you need a ride.



Sun, Jul 5
Sun, Aug 9

adventure
STARTS WITH
SURPRISE
Rookie Day
at SLC

FREE!
Grades K-5

- Sports & Adventure
- Arts & Crafts
- Water Fun

TRY Surprise Lake Camp FOR A DAY — FREE!

Curious about sleepaway camp? Kids grade K-5 are invited to experience the magic of Surprise Lake Camp during a real camp day. Our Rookies will jump right in with fun activities, meet our amazing staff, and enjoy lunch with new friends.

REGISTER NOW
<https://surpriselake.org/future-families/first-time-experiences/>



SURPRISE LAKE CAMP
SINCE 1902

From the Ashes of Kibbutz Nir Oz Recap | May 14

Photo Credit: Yael Ceglio Photography

A large number of community members gathered for a powerful and moving evening, "Choosing Life: From Survival to Resilience," featuring October 7 survivor and Kibbutz Nir Oz resident Barak Morag. The event offered a heartfelt opportunity to hear firsthand about courage, faith, and rebuilding after unimaginable loss. In his deeply personal presentation, "From the Ashes of Kibbutz Nir Oz: A Journey from Loss to Light," Barak shared his story of survival, resilience, and determination in the aftermath of the October 7 attacks, inspiring the audience with his message of hope and unwavering spirit.



A heartfelt prayer for Israel and for peace around the world was led by Federation past president and executive committee member Abbe Distelburger. "A most memorable but gut-wrenching community event. To listen to Barak recount how his family survived the horrific October 7th terror attack on his Kibbutz, Nir Oz, is something I don't think any of us who were there will ever forget," she commented.

Federation past president Dr. Leslie Green delivered a strong message on the importance of educating and advocating against antisemitism, highlighting the vital role the Jewish Federation plays in strengthening Jewish identity, fostering unity, and standing up for the community.



"Speaking for the Orange County Jewish community was a wonderful experience. The people, the atmosphere, and the great sense of welcome I received reinforced my passion for this meaningful mission. The large turnout of people who came on a weeknight to hear me share my story and be there as a support, and the meaningful reactions from them mean the world to me, and will send me back home with renewed strength," said Barak about his experience visiting the community.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County partnered with Chabad of Orange County in the Chabad Center in Monroe. The event served as a powerful reminder that even in the face of devastation, faith, resilience, and community can help illuminate the path forward, together.

