

9TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION GALA

Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

We The People

Thursday | June 11, 2026 | 5:30 PM
 The Grandview | 176 Rinaldi Blvd | Poughkeepsie, NY
silent auction ~ dinner ~ dancing

2026 HONOREES

DEDICATION TO COMMUNITY The Effron Family Foundations	GREATER JEWISH COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP Adam & Nancy Belok
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FEATURING REMARKS BY Rabbi (Major) Heather Borshof
U.S. Military Academy at West Point

DONATE YOUR SERVICES OR AN EXPERIENCE

Do you have a special service or experience you can donate? Consider donating it to our annual Gala silent auction to support our local Jewish Federation of Dutchess County to continue our meaningful work.

EXAMPLES OF DONATIONS

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- ★ Game or Show Tickets
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 845-471-9811 | Events@JewishDutchess.org

CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF AMERICA

STRONGER TOGETHER Jewish Family Service
MITZVAH DAY 2026



The community came together to do good deeds, help others, and have a little fun!
 (See pages 7-8 for more pictures and details.)

Calling all 2026 High School and College Grads

If you know a 2026 High School or College graduate, email their name, picture, and the school from which they graduated.

Email the information by July 1: Thevoice@jewishdutchess.org

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L'chaim! MUSIC & CULTURE SERIES

VOICES FROM THE YIDDISH STAGE

Thursday, June 25, 6:30 pm

Christa P. Whitney, director of the Yiddish Book Center's Wexler Oral History Project, shares video highlights from the project's collection.

Presented in partnership with:
 Jewish Federation of Dutchess County
 Yiddish Book Center
 Regenerating Jewish Culture

Registration required.

POUGHKEEPSIE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
 2026 poklib.org

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

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In partnership with the Jewish Federations of Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster Counties!

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Learn & Lunch Bunch	2
Family & PJ Library Corner	6-7
Federation Presents	8
Synagogue Schedules	10-11
Special Events	12

Jewish Family Services

What is Jewish Family Services (JFS)?

- Creating a senior social network through Learn & Lunch Bunch bi-monthly gatherings.
- Connecting and celebrating our seniors with holiday gift packages.
- Helping those in need through Mitzvah Day and Mitzvah Now initiatives.
- Scholarships for Jewish education, Jewish summer camps, and youth trips to Israel.
- Medical Loan Referral closet—providing medical equipment (free of charge) and referrals to other local medical loan closets.
- Assisting during a personal or family crisis.
- Weekly bereavement group.



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JFedDC Executive Director Karen Hochhauser
 ExecDirector@JewishDutchess.org

The Voice

Editor: Karen Hochhauser
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The Voice
 PO Box 2525
 Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

LEARN & LUNCH BUNCH

Jewish Family Services (JFS) presents cultural, social, and educational programs.

Location

Temple Beth-El
 118 S Grand Ave
 Poughkeepsie NY

SCHEDULE

Schmooze 11:00 –11:30 am
Program 11:30 –12:30 pm

Suggested Donation \$8; no one will be turned away for lack of funds.

Please do not bring outside food into the temple.

*Gluten free options available upon request in advance

*Menu is subject to change

WEDNESDAY PROGRAMS Join us!

June 10 - **Borscht Belt Stories**- presented by Allen Frishman. Allen, once a Catskill Mountain plumber, will be telling us stories of his time in the Borscht Belt and have copies of his book, *Tales From a Catskill Mountain Plumber*, on hand for sale.

Menu: minestrone soup, noodles, toss salad, ice cream, cookies

June 24 - **Look Close** - presented by Jen Radicone, photographer. It is a collection of images that invites viewers to slow down and rediscover the nature woven into our everyday lives.

Menu: vegetable quiche, GF vegetable quiche, salad, fruit bars

July 8 - **Gained in Translation: How the Jewish book program, PJ Library, was adapted to serve Jewish and Arab children in Israel** (Sifriyat Pijama, and Maktabat al-Fanoos) presented by Galina Vromen.

Menu: tuna and egg salad sandwiches, lettuce, tomato, fruit salad, ice cream

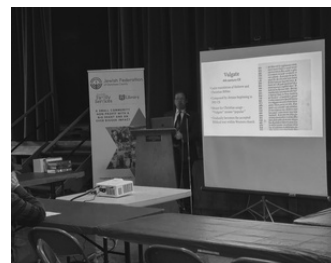
July 22 - **The Losses and Services of the American Loyalist in Poughkeepsie** presented by Shannon Butler, Head Historian, Poughkeepsie Public Library District.

Menu: vegetable pasta, salad, fruit, cookies, ice cream

TO REGISTER, call the office at (845) 471-9811 or online at: www.JewishDutchess.org/events

****Advanced registration needed for food planning purposes****

Learn & Lunch Bunch is partially funded by the Ann & Abe Effron Fund and Bernard and Shirley Handel Foundation Donor Advised Fund of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley and an anonymous Charitable Trust thanks to the guidance of Adam Belok, Board Member and Financial Consultant.



Office for the Aging

submitted by Todd N. Tancredi, Director, Dutchess County Office for the Aging

"How do you even spot a scam any more?"

That's a great question we received from an Office for the Aging client. The obvious "tells" of a scam, like poor spelling, implausible stories, and sketchy graphics, don't pop up in scam attempts as much as they used to.

Modern scams look like messages from friends and family, from your bank, from places you shop...and that makes them more likely to work against you, because they look more real.

Scammers are like mosquitos. You can spray yourself head-to-toe with repellent, you can wear protective gear and stay away from areas that mosquitos frequent; and at the end of the day, while you're getting ready for bed, there's that telltale itchy bump on your skin. You did everything right, and it got you anyway. How?

It's A Numbers Game

Like mosquitos, the sheer number of scammers probing our weaknesses from around the world means that eventually they can find a target. Scammers adapt to change just as any successful business does - because that's what they are: businesses. Their business happens to be theft, and they are consummate professionals. Their scams can be crafted with artificial intelligence. What that means for us is that the artificially synthesized voice trying to trick us on the other end of the phone can speak standard American English, right down to regional accents.

Or, more unsettlingly, the fake voice can sound exactly like one of our loved ones.

But Remember Your Training

Scammers still rely on urgency and panic to lower your guard. The single most effective scam prevention habit remains the same: Stop. Think. Verify. The urgency the scammer is trying to create is fake. But no matter how slick the message is, if any message makes you feel rushed or stressed...STOP.

Don't engage. Don't click any links in emails or text messages. Don't scan any unexpected QR codes or answer surprise phone calls. It's like our moms said all those years ago, and maybe you said it to your own kids: Don't touch that, you don't know where it's been!

Prepared by the Dutchess County Office for the Aging, 114 Delafield St., Poughkeepsie, New York 12601, phone (845) 486-2555, email: ofa@dutchessny.gov website: www.dutchessny.gov/aging Social media: www.facebook.com/DutchessCountyOFA



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See page 11 for a sneak peek
of our Silent Auction and
Gala Goodie prizes!

Pre-orders must be placed by
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be sold at regular price at the
Gala.

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The Harding Club

Summer 2026



The start of summer is typically a time when our thoughts turn to having fun. For many of us, outdoor activities, vacations, and travel are summer rituals.

At the Harding Club, we look forward to engaging, upcoming pursuits. This summer and early fall, Harding Club members and spouses will, among other things, enjoy a Hudson river cruise and dinner, as well as a pickleball event.

In addition, we believe there's a sure way to lead a happier life throughout the year: Join the Harding Club.

Life is more fun when it's shared with friends. The Harding Club is a Jewish men's social club, located in the Poughkeepsie community. The Club is a place to make new friendships and expand existing friendships.

The Club, founded during the Harding Administration, has flourished for over 100 years. We believe the long life of our club reflects the lasting happiness, and joy, achieved by enabling new, and deeper, friendships among Jewish men.

Harding Club meetings take place once or twice a month, for dinner or lunch, at a local eatery. Each meeting mixes socializing and camaraderie; with speakers who address timely topics across the spectrum of life, including business, the arts, recreation, health, money management, politics and history.

If you would like to join our circle of friends, we are excited to welcome you!

To learn more, contact one of the Club Officers below:
 Irvin Miller, president, irvinmmiller@gmail.com
 Jim Thrasher, vice president, jdt845@gmail.com
 Dave Lowitz, secretary, dlowitz@aol.com

Rabbi Michael Fessler of Temple Beth-El hits his 25 year Milestone

By: Ellen Danziger



This May marks a significant milestone for Rabbi Michael Fessler of Temple Beth-El in Poughkeepsie, New York: on the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination by the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, he is receiving an honorary Doctor of Divinity in recognition of a quarter-century of service.

After becoming a rabbi in 2001, Rabbi Fessler served for over a decade as rabbi and co-rabbi of Congregation B'nai Tikvah-Beth Israel in southern New Jersey. There, as a partner in the rabbinic team that included his spouse, Rabbi Miriam, Hyman, he worked toward inclusive, thoughtful, and engaged Jewish engagement, helping individuals and families from many backgrounds find entry points to Jewish life and learning. He accompanied members through the joys and sorrows of life, providing compassionate pastoral care. He built bridges in the broader community. And he helped guide the congregation through significant milestones in both spiritual and material realms: during his time there, the congregation selected new prayerbooks and developed adult and family education programs, while also carrying out a successful capital campaign, moving to a new building, and merging with a synagogue from a nearby community.

In addition to his congregational work, Rabbi Fessler has contributed to the wider Jewish world by facilitating challenging conversations among rabbis, as well as teaching both teens and adults on topics ranging from Jewish ethics to contemporary culture. During the pandemic, he was instrumental in the Reconstructionist movement's quick transition to online resources to support communities wracked with grief and uncertainty, striving for spiritual sustenance and connection.

Since assuming leadership at Temple Beth-El in 2021, Rabbi Fessler has continued to prioritize lifelong learning, compassionate pastoral care, and thoughtful engagement with Jewish thought and tradition, while working to continue the Temple's historic legacy of interfaith involvement and social action. Speaking at a recent event, congregants expressed appreciation for his leadership during turbulent times, his thoughtful teaching and sermons, and his pastoral presence supporting families on happy occasions as well as through episodes of profound loss and uncertainty.

Beyond the synagogue, Rabbi Fessler has also engaged in broader civic and charitable efforts addressing issues such as hunger, support for immigrants, and standing up for human dignity. He strives to foster the role of faith as a bridge-builder in the wider community.

In accepting this honorary degree, Rabbi Fessler expressed gratitude and humility. "It has been a privilege to serve, learn, and teach over the past twenty-five years. I'm grateful to everyone whom I've had the honor to accompany on their Jewish and human journeys." As Rabbi Fessler looks ahead, he remains committed to the sacred work that has brought him to this milestone.

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The New Colossus

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
 With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
 Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand
 A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
 Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
 Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
 Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command
 The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
 "Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she
 With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,
 Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
 The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
 Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
 I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

Emma Lazarus,
 November 2, 1883



Disclaimer: Please note that the articles and advertisements submitted are the viewpoints of the authors and do not necessarily represent the position of JFedDC.

VOICE DEADLINES	ISSUE	DEADLINE
Note deadlines listed. Email: TheVoice@JewishDutchess.org if you have questions.	August	July 1
	September	August 1
	October	September 1
	November	October 1

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Page 3: Wm. G. Miller & Sons Funeral Home, Inc., David Feinstein Berkshire Hathaway Home Services, B Riley Wealth, Optique Elegance, Michael Torsone Memorial Funeral Home, Red Cap Cleaners, and PAZ.

Page 12: Hudson Valley Hospice, and Hudson Valley Palliative Care

Rabbi's Blog *by Rabbi Heather Borshof*

First Experience Away from Jewish Community

I grew up in central New Jersey, a county that had one of the largest Jewish populations in NJ. Public schools were closed for Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Passover. Even though I was exposed to other faith groups, I never thought twice about having to fight for or explain why I needed off for a Jewish holiday because it was never necessary.

When I first came into the military as a Rabbi and Jewish chaplain, I discovered very quickly that Jews, as we are in the world, are a minority. In fact, I learned a new phrase: I am a "low-density faith" chaplain and Jews are a low-density faith religion in the military. This was a completely different experience for me than where I grew up and went to college.

For the first time, I met people who had never met a Jewish person. Many people do not recognize the tablets insignia that Jewish chaplains wear. Throughout my time in the military, and in particular during my time in Afghanistan, on a daily basis, individuals would inquire and ask what that "symbol" above my name was. I discovered that this was and is a wonderful opportunity to share who I am as a Jewish chaplain, and to communicate about who we are as a Jewish people. When we show our Judaism, whether that be the way we dress (wearing a Jewish star, or a kippah, or for me the Jewish tablets with the 10 commandments and the Star of David), we represent not just ourselves, but all of Judaism. So many people do not realize that Jews serve in the military and have always served in the military.

During my thirteen years on active duty in the Army as a Jewish chaplain, I have been fortunate to encounter very little antisemitism or opposition to practicing my faith freely. Once or twice, I have had leadership who did not respect or understand my requirement to serve the military Jewish community in addition to my regular officer responsibilities. However, most people are receptive and often even excited to meet a Jewish chaplain. But I do know that for those Jewish military personnel who are not chaplains, the experience of finding others to be receptive and understand their needs is not always so easy. Many Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, and Airmen experience resistance when making a request to practice their Judaism. Whether that be for kosher meals or asking to be excused in order to attend worship services for a Jewish holiday, they are often met with opposition and are denied the chance to participate and practice their Judaism.

In the present day, we are facing more antisemitism than we have in recent years. That is not to say that it was not always there, but it is more public today and tolerated in a way that must be considered unacceptable to Americans. However, in the military I find that when Jewish people are refused the opportunity to practice their faith, it is more out of ignorance and a lack of understanding than it is out of antisemitism.

After the attacks on 7 October in Israel, Jewish students at many colleges and universities are experiencing antisemitism as they never have before. It is scary, upsetting, and problematic on many levels. I am currently stationed at West Point in NY, and I am pleased to see that the Jewish students here have not experienced that kind of antisemitism. In fact, many of the faculty have reached out and asked how they can be supportive of the Jewish community. It is a breath of fresh air, but I know that this is an anomaly and is not happening in many places around the country, so it is important that we speak up and speak out when we face antisemitism.

We have a strong Jewish community here at West Point, and our Cadets will be among the Jews who serve in the US military in future years. We hold several Jewish events and Shabbat services with Shabbat dinner on a regular basis here at West Point. The Jewish Cadets often bring their non-Jewish friends and they have a wonderful time. It is a terrific opportunity to expose those from other faith backgrounds to Judaism. This will give them a better understanding of the Jewish community when it is their time to be leaders in the Army and a fellow Jewish Soldier asks them for their help living their Jewish identity.

It can be challenging to be a "low-density faith." Many have experienced first-hand the challenges that come with it, and it is important that we continue to educate others. As a low-density faith chaplain, I feel blessed to be able both to serve the military Jewish community and have an opportunity to work with all of those from other faiths as well. Everyone has so much to learn from one another, and together we can continue to teach each other, support each other, and make the military a stronger and more cohesive community.

L'shalom



Rabbi (Major) Borshof

Meet Your Neighbor *by Karen Hochhauser*

Each month, we ask a Member of the Tribe* (MOT) the following questions and feature their answers for a fun and insightful way to meet your neighbors. This month, we are excited to introduce **Rebecca Cohen**, who took time away from launching her new private practice in psychiatry (www.rcohenp.com) to answer our questions.



Rebecca Cohen

1. **What is your favorite/least favorite word?**
Favorite: "Pura Vida" The translation is "Pure Life." It means a lot of things, including "life is good" and "no worries."
Least Favorite: *I can't.*
2. **What inspires you?** *Nature.*
3. **What is your favorite song?**
"I Got You" by Jack Johnson. It is my wedding song.
4. **What profession other than your own would you like to attempt?** *Marine Biologist.*
5. **What profession other than your own would you not like to attempt?** *Anything in finance.*
6. **What do you most like and dislike about yourself?**
Like: *My ambition.*
Dislike: *My ambition.*
7. **What is your favorite Jewish food/dessert?** *Kreplach.*
8. **What is one interesting thing that people don't know about you?**
I recently opened my own private practice as a nurse practitioner in psychiatry.
9. **If you could choose a superpower, what would it be?** *Reading people's minds.*
10. **What is your greatest achievement/something you are most proud of?** *How Bert and I raised all five of our boys.*
11. **Do you have a "bucket list" and, if so, what is on it?** *Moving to Costa Rica in 2027.*
12. **What is your earliest Jewish memory?** *Chanukkah Celebrations.*
13. **What is your favorite Jewish memory?** *My and Bert's wedding.*
14. **If there were one thing you would hope others do in the interest of our future, what would that be?** *Treat everyone with kindness because you never know what other people are going through.*
15. **In what ways, does or can JFedDC impact our Jewish community?** *Showing the greater community how loving the Jewish community is.*
16. **If Heaven exists, what would you like to hear God say when you arrive at the Pearly Gates?** *"Go Right In!"*
17. **What is one question you wish we asked and what is the answer?**
Q: *What is your current occupation?*
A: *Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner in private practice.*

*Member of the Tribe



Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

New Dates Announced

Community TRIP TO ISRAEL

★ HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Shabbat in Jerusalem — Kabbalat Shabbat overlooking the Western Wall
- Masada at sunrise & Dead Sea float
- Visit to the Nova Festival Memorial Site & southern communities impacted by October 7, 2023
- Special briefings and behind-the-scenes encounters with Israeli leaders, educators, and innovators
- Experience Israel during a beautiful fall season

NEW DATES

OCTOBER

12-21, 2026

Due to evolving circumstances, this trip has been rescheduled to October 2026. We look forward to traveling together in solidarity for a meaningful and impactful experience. VISIT: JewishDutchess.org/events

NEW DATES. REGISTRATION REOPENED. SECURE YOUR SPOT.

For more information or questions:
 845-471-9811 | Events@JewishDutchess.org

After 11 years, our amazing Layout Editor, Tamra Bienemann, will be "retiring" from *The Voice*. We are excited for her and her new adventure. Thank you for everything you have done for our community and making *The Voice* as wonderful as it is. We truly appreciate you!

We are also pleased to share that our own Pamela Mason will be our new layout editor. For any *The Voice* related content, please use the email address of: Thevoice@jewishdutchess.org Welcome Pam!

We invite you to join us children ages 2-pre-k

Once a month interactive program Starting Fall 2026

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Thank you everyone who participated in one of our Mitzvah Day projects. Fun was had by all.



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Monday, 4:00-5:30 pm
Tiny Tots Division (ages 1-5)
Intermediate Division (ages 6-10)
Bar and Bat Mitzvah (ages 11-13)

For information, contact Rebbitzin Tzivia Hecht, Director (845) 876-7666 or tziviehecht@gmail.com

KULANU SCHOOL at TEMPLE BETH-EL

The Kulanu school welcomes all students who wish to learn Hebrew and deepen their knowledge of Jewish Tradition. We believe that Jewish learning should be an organic part of our students' experience. Our students explore religious and spiritual concepts through Hebrew texts. They also celebrate Shabbat and holidays together while extending their connection to Jewish culture through art, cooking, music, and movement.

Jewish Studies classes: Pre-K through grade 7
Sundays from 10:00 am –12:30 pm (September – December)
Saturdays from 10:00 am-12:30 pm (January–April) followed by a community Shabbat lunch.
Fridays from 5:00 pm—7:30 pm (May) includes a Shabbat dinner

Ivrit (Hebrew): Grades 3-7
Tuesdays 4:45 pm—6:15 pm

Ivrit (Hebrew) Tutoring: Grades 3-7
Students receive 20-30 minutes of online instruction with their teacher individually or in groups of two. For more information contact Karen Jacobs at: education@tbeny.org

VASSAR TEMPLE

Vassar Temple provides a program of education within the guidelines of the Reform Movement, which deepens a student's Jewish experience and knowledge within an accepting, stimulating, and creative learning environment. Our philosophy of Jewish learning is based on the quotation from Pirke Avot, "The world depends on three things: on Torah, on worship, and on deeds of loving kindness."

The Seth A Erlebacher Religious School for grades K-7 meets Sunday mornings under the administration of Rabbi Shoshana Hantman, our Religious School Director. Hebrew language instruction for grades 4-7 and bar/bat mitzvah preparation are offered Wednesday afternoons for grades 4-7 under the direction of Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh. Teens may work as madrichim (teacher aides) in the Sunday School. New enrollments are welcome throughout the year.

For more information, rsdirector@vassartemple.org (845) 454-2570

You're Invited:

A PJ Library @ Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum Exclusive Event

Sunday, June 14th 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM!

Admission is free. The first 4 PJ Library families* to register and attend the event on 6/14 will receive a 1 year family membership to the MHDM!

Join us on June 14th for an exclusive morning in the museum as we learn all about the solar system & the summer solstice! From 9-11am, children can design their own beaded planet, create a painted sun and even make sun prints (weather permitting). Plus we will have a special LEGO building station too!

At 9:30 and 10:30 families can join museum educators in the MHDM's portable planetarium for a whirlwind adventure about the sun, seasons and the Earth's tilt.

Planetarium show: Tilt!
Come on a whirlwind adventure as Max and Annie learn about Earth's tilt and how the seasons work, and discover that sometimes, all we need is a new angle on the world.
30-minute shows at 9:30 and 10:30

This program is funded by an anonymous Charitable Trust created to support PJ Library thanks to the guidance of Adam Belok, Board Member and Financial Consultant. *Applicable for Families with Children Ages 0-9

קיץ Summer Kayitz



Tamatha



Suzanne



Here is a sweet “Jewish Summer Garden” values craft from morshamirart.blogspot.com:

What you need:

- Colored paper (flowers, sun, grass)
- Markers/crayons
- Scissors & glue
- Optional: bulletin board background (blue for sky)

How to do it:

1. Give each person a flower template (or let them draw their own).
2. In the center, they write “הקיץ שלי” (My Summer)
3. On each petal, they write or draw one Jewish value:
 - חסד (kindness)
 - שמחה (joy)
 - חברות (friendship)
 - תודה (gratitude)
 - שלום (peace)
4. They color and decorate
5. Assemble all flowers into one big “ Garden” board

Optional add-on (super cute)

- Add a sun labeled: “האור שלנו” (Our light)
- Each person writes one nice thing they’ll do over summer.

Why it works

- Calm end-of-summer energy
- Reinforces Hebrew vocabulary
- Visual + meaningful
- Adorable.



Stronger Together

by Tamatha Williams, PJ Library Director

Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time and those who generously donated this Mitzvah Day! It was a tremendous success because we are STRONGER TOGETHER.



Our final Mitzvah Day “Cereal Counts” collection yielded over 400 boxes of cereal and 20 cases of shelf-stable milk that have been distributed throughout Dutchess County. Our car wash, even with the cold and wind, raised over one hundred dollars. At The Lunch Box, 96 meals were served and we helped prepare cookies, potatoes and fruit salad for additional meals for later in the week. Thousands of people in our community go to bed without enough food, but because of you, that number was reduced. Heartfelt, personalized cards and gifts were created for Grace Smith House to bring some light to women victimized by domestic violence. Seven fleece blankets plus two crocheted throws were made and distributed to the Dyson Center For Cancer Care. On and off site, New Horizons was beautified through a collaborative effort between volunteers, staff and New Horizon residents as we planted positivity, creating spectacular plant arrangements that will grow and flourish at New Horizon sites in Dutchess County.

This Mitzvah Day 2026, we showed up as one community and we were so strong together! Thank you to everyone who lent a hand and shared their heart. As we look ahead to Mitzvah Day 2027, we will continue to focus on being united, increasing the impactfulness that Mitzvah Day will have in our shared community.



Summer

by Suzanne Turrisi, PJ Library Assistant Director

Summer in the Jewish calendar has a really interesting mix of joy, reflection and even a little romance. We start by celebrating the receiving of the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai during Shavuot. That has a sense of peacefulness with that early summer feeling. Then we reflect: we have those three weeks of reflection, a more serious period mid-summer. We mark the historical tragedies leading to the destruction of the Temples. People often avoid big celebrations and focus on introspection. It gives summer a thoughtful, quieter tone.

We then move onto the saddest day in the Jewish calendar, Tish B’Av, which falls in the heat of summer. People fast and read Lamentations. There’s something powerful about mourning during the hottest, stillest part of the year. We move onto Tu B’Av, almost like Valentine’s Day.

It comes right after the somber period. It’s associated with matchmaking, love and renewal. It’s like summer turning from heavy to hopeful.



Make and Take. The children planted plants in a raised bed that will be placed in front of the TBE building. Each child also took a plant and pot home for themselves or to give to someone. We read stories, sang planting flower songs, did some Hebrew Through Movement and had snacks.

Mitzvah Day at New Horizons
Photos from Steve Herschbein

PJ Library, a flagship program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation (HGF), was launched with a humble beginning in 2005 in Western Massachusetts, sending children’s books about Jewish holidays, culture, and values. Today, PJ Library has grown into an internationally recognized \$40M global cultural literacy venture that partners with philanthropists and Jewish communities around the world to provide families raising Jewish children ages 0-12 with the gift of free, high-quality, children’s books and other resources that foster a deeper connection with Jewish life (www.hgf.org).
Thank you!



The Federation Board's Voice



Russell Rothman

Last week, I was driving past the Marist campus on Rt 9 and noticed a big lighted sign saying to be prepared for heavy traffic next week due to Marist's graduation ceremony (avoid Rt 9!). It got me thinking about all the celebrity graduation speeches being given this spring and in past springs. A lot of wise advice and catchy statements from the likes of Kermit the Frog to Harrison Ford, none of which will be remembered after a few weeks. I have been to many graduation ceremonies for my brothers, friends, and my children and although I might remember who gave the speech, I can't remember one thing that was said. That doesn't mean the advice

wasn't worthy or brilliant; it just didn't make a lasting impression, regardless of who the speaker was.

Here's an example of some of the poignant highlights of some previous speeches. You be the judge. Steven Jobs said during one graduation speech, "embrace failure, find the work you love and stay hungry and stay foolish." Conan O'Brien said that "whatever you think your dream is now, it will probably change." The actor Jane Lynch said that "life is just one big improvisation." Along these themes, Stephen Colbert said that "if everyone followed their first dreams in life, the world would be ruled by cowboys and princesses" (or in my case, astronauts). At the University of Pennsylvania, Denzel Washington said, "fall forward. Reggie Jackson struck out 2600 times in his career, the most in the history of baseball. But you don't hear about all of his strikeouts. People remember the spectacular home runs. Thomas Edison conducted 1000 failed experiments, but you only remember the 1001st because it was the light bulb. Every failed experiment is one step closer to success."

But the one that resonated the most with me was from George Saunders, the American writer who said, "What I regret most in my life are failures of kindness. Those moments where another human being was there, in front of me, suffering and I responded.... sensibly, reservedly...mildly." While I may not remember what Ella Fitzgerald said when I graduated over 50 years ago, the simple lesson of Saunders' haunts me and inspires me. Be kind. Be caring. Listen to others. Put down your phone. Find out what you have in common with others, not just your differences.

There is a lot of noise out there, in our daily lives. We all need to try to tune out the noise and listen to the music surrounding us, in the laughter of our children and grandchildren, in the smile from a friend or a stranger. Our history is not just a series of events, wars, and pithy speeches but a path we need to walk together in this interconnected world we live in today and be united by our best values rather than our deepest fears.

As for the advice from Kermit the Frog, the green expert said, "forget the map, roll down the windows, pull over, and picnic with a pig, whenever you can. And if you can help it, never fly as cargo."

Enjoy your summer. Picnic, sing, dance, swim, and be kind.

Our Executive Director



Tick tock

When I was 12 years old, I was in full bat mitzvah preparation mode. Every morning, I woke up early, around 5am, to practice the prayers, my Torah portion, and haftarah reading whilst still attending school, practicing the flute, playing on a soccer team and swimming on a swim team. It was the reality of the time, though apparently set me up for a lifetime of being able to multitask.

When the day came, and fortunately everything went off without a hitch, I was shocked at how quickly it was all over. All those hours, days, weeks, and months of preparation for what seemed like a fleeting moment. While I do remember feeling a great sense of accomplishment, the letdown on Saturday night was a bit overwhelming. Having one's bnai mitzvah is a once in a lifetime experience but imagine if it was like the movie "Groundhog Day", every year preparing from scratch and working hard for an experience that only lasts a few hours. To some extent that is how it feels when we organize our Federation Celebration Gala.

Every year the committee starts from scratch with identifying a meaningful and relevant theme, working with the Board to choose worthy honorees, designing new invitations, and collecting items for the silent auction. All the time invested-from choosing the date until the last table decoration is cleaned up-is incalculable. However, it is a worthy investment if everyone has a good time and significant money is raised, which enables us to do more for the community. This is now where each and every one of you can help- do a sponsorship, attend the event, donate something for the silent auction. We have a wonderful committee (and are always looking for others to help). We have great silent auction prizes (and are looking for more experiences and items to include). Most importantly, we want YOU there.

Gala preparations have various moments of stress and excitement (just ask my team). This year, I wanted to highlight one particularly special experience. As our theme is "We The People", celebrating 250 years of this amazing country, we are blessed to have special guest speaker Rabbi (Major) Heather Borshof from West Point joining us.

During one conversation, she extended an offer to attend Shabbat services at West Point. I cannot begin to share what an amazing experience this Shabbat was. Seeing all these cadets joyfully singing and praying was more than words can describe. Their happiness in celebrating Shabbat was something I wish each of us could experience. The good news is that one lucky winner can. We have been offered a "West Point Shabbat Experience" as part of the Gala's silent auction prizes, which includes a tour of the Chapel, Shabbat services, and dinner with the cadets. It will truly be an unforgettable experience, as hopefully the Gala will be too. These young men and women have chosen to defend our country so that we can enjoy the freedom we currently have. As Memorial Day has just passed and Independence Day is right around the corner, we honor all those who have sacrificed for this country. Please thank a veteran when you see one and do not take for granted the "Land Of The Free Because Of The Brave". So join us on June 11, (www.jewishdutchess.org/gala) to honor our veterans, because this evening too shall pass in the blink of an eye.

Happy Father's Day!
Karen Hochhauser
JFedDC Executive Director

Purchase your JFedDC Gala Tickets Today!

2026 Holiday Greetings

It's almost that time of the year when The Voice invites you to wish your friends and neighbors a Happy Holiday.

This year we will once again be offering a 3-pack of Holiday Greetings which includes: Passover, Rosh Hashanah, and Chanukah.

Please look at the designs and choose an individual greeting or the 3-pack. If you choose the 3-pack, please choose the same size ad for all holidays.

The cost:	Small ad: \$30 each or 3 for \$80	Sm Ad - 2" by 1.4" Md Ad - 1.5" by 2.0" Lg Ad - 3.2" by 2.7" Approximate size
	Medium ad: \$40 each or 3 for \$110	
	Large ad: \$70 each or 3 for \$190	

Please fill out the form and mail it back to us with your payments to:
 THE VOICE, PO Box 25-25, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603
 Or complete online: www.jewishdutchess.org
DEADLINE for Rosh Hashanah Greeting is August 8

2026 Holiday Greetings

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Holiday	Small	Medium	Large
Passover (circle one)	A B	C D	E F
Rosh Hashanah (circle one)	A B	C D	E F
Chanukah (circle one)	A B	C D	E F

Your name(s) on the Greeting: _____

Checks should be made out to:
Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

Passover Greetings

Small-A

Medium-C

Small-B

Medium-D

Large-E

Large-F

Rosh Hashanah Greetings

Small-A

Medium-C

Small-B

Medium-D

Large-E

Large-F

Chanukah Greetings

Small-A

Medium-C

Small-B

Medium-D

Large-E

Large-F



Jewish Federation of Dutchess County Celebrates Executive Director Karen Hochhauser as NYS "Woman of Distinction"

POUGHKEEPSIE, NY – The Jewish Federation of Dutchess County is bursting with pride to announce that our very own Executive Director, Karen Hochhauser, has been named the 2026 Woman of Distinction for the 39th New York State Senate District.

On Tuesday, May 5, New York State Senator Rob Rolison honored Karen at the Albany State Capitol, recognizing her as an outstanding leader whose contributions have profoundly strengthened our community. Senator Rolison noted that Karen "embodies the very spirit of service, leadership, and compassion".

While many know Karen for her professional expertise, those of us at the Federation see the heart she pours into every project. A lifelong resident of Dutchess County, Karen returned to her roots after nearly 20 years in Asia. Beyond her role as a powerhouse leader and certified executive coach, she is most importantly a proud mom to three boys, whom she raised during her time abroad.

At the Federation, Karen has transformed our "people-first" approach. Whether she is expanding access to critical resources or simply bringing neighbors together, her work is driven by the Hebrew concept of Tikkun Olam—the call to repair the world.

"My family's roots in the Hudson Valley go back 85 years," Karen shared during the ceremony. "I stand here today because of the maternal role models who came before me—my mother, grandmother, and aunt—who instilled in me that our collective strength is found in individual acts of service".

We invite the entire community to join us in congratulating Karen on this well-deserved honor. She doesn't just lead our organization; she inspires us all to lead by example every single day.

Civic Engagement Series: Your Voice is Your Vote!

"Meet Your Elected Officials", a six-part speaker series presented by the Civic Engagement Committee at Vassar Temple, concluded on April 26. The Town Hall format discussions featured local officials from all three branches of government. The programs brought together Vassar Temple congregants, members of the local Jewish community, neighbors, and others from the broader community.

The central theme that emerged is that our voices count and local civic engagement matters. Indeed, it is a right and a civic duty that we participate. Elections matter. Your voice is your vote! There are important primary elections in June (early voting begins on June 13 and Primary Day is June 23). And critical local, state and national mid-term elections on November 3 with early voting starting on October 24.

The final event in the speaker series featured a panel from Dutchess County Legislature. Chair Yvette Valdes Smith led the discussion and was joined by Majority Leader Barrington Atkins and Legislator Emma Arnoff. Chair Yvette Valdes Smith encouraged attendees to join monthly legislature meetings and to serve on a variety of county-wide advisory committees. There are currently vacancies on the following citizen advisory committees: Board of Health, Domestic Violence, Fish & Wildlife, Resource Recovery, Tick Task Force, Veterans Affairs and Water/Wastewater. For further information, reach out to Clara Masters (cmasters.dclcg@gmail.com or cmasters@dutchessny.gov)

The series' programs each opened with Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh offering a blessing and a prayer to welcome the participants and invited guests to Vassar Temple. Previous featured speakers at series programs included Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony Parisi, Dutchess Family Judge Jeffrey Martin, Poughkeepsie Mayor Yvonne Flowers, Poughkeepsie Town Supervisor Rebecca Edwards, State Senator Rob Rolison, NYS Assembly Member Didi Barrett, NYS Assembly Member Jonathan Jacobson, and Dutchess County Comptroller Dan Aymar-Blair. If you want to learn more about the Vassar Temple Civic Engagement committee, its activities or projects, please contact: civicengagement@vassartemple.org.

Andrea Ciminello (program planner), County Legislature Chair Yvette Valdes Smith, Legislator Emma Arnoff, Legislator Brendan Lawler, Majority Leader Barrington Atkins



Flag Cake

By Alexa Prendergast taken from www.delish.com/cooking/recipe-ideas/a42975/flag-cake/

Ingredients:

- Cooking spray
- 1 (15.25-oz.) box vanilla cake mix, plus ingredients called for on box
- 1 1/2 cups (12 oz.) cream cheese, cold, cubed 3/4 cup (150 g.)
- granulated sugar
- Kosher salt
- 1 cup heavy cream, cold
- 1 1/2 tsp. pure vanilla extract
- 1/3 cup fresh blueberries
- 1 1/2 cups fresh raspberries
- 1 Tbsp. confectioners' sugar, sifted (optional)



Equipment Needed:

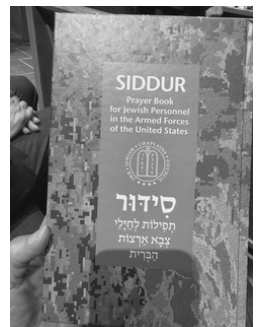
A piping bag with a small star tip

Directions:

- **Step 1:** Place a rack in center of oven; preheat to 350°. Lightly spray a 13" x 9" baking dish with cooking spray. In a large bowl, prepare cake batter according to package directions. Pour into prepared baking dish; smooth top.
- **Step 2:** Bake cake until golden brown and a tester inserted into the center comes out clean, 25 to 30 minutes. Let cool.
- **Step 3:** Meanwhile, in the large bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the whisk attachment (or using a handheld mixer), beat cream cheese, granulated sugar, and a pinch of salt on medium speed until light and fluffy, about 2 minutes. Gradually add cream and vanilla, scraping down sides of bowl as needed, and beat until mixture is fluffy and holds its shape, about 1 minute.
- **Step 4:** I made it Spread about half of frosting over surface of cake. Transfer remaining frosting to piping bag fitted with small star tip. Pipe a border in top left hand corner to section off an area for the stars, if desired. Fill section with tight rows of blueberries to cover frosting, filling in the gaps between each berry with a second layer of blueberries on top. Pipe a small dollop on top of exposed blueberries to resemble stars. Dust with confectioners' sugar (if using).
- **Step 5:** Starting at top edge of cake, snugly arrange raspberries in 2 even rows. Repeat with remaining raspberries, creating 4 rows and leaving a blank space in between each row. Pipe stripes, swirls, or any pattern you wish with remaining frosting in blank spaces.

**Federation Gala
Silent Auction Supporters
Sneak Peek**
(Just to name a few)
Show your support to our supporters!

- Sukhotthai**
- The Blue Olive**
- Three Arts Bookstore**
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- Hair Driven Barber Shop**
- Saba**
- West Point Shabbat Experience**
- Red Cap Cleaners**
- Longobardi's Restaurant**
- End Cut**
- Villa Nigrelli**
- Poughkeepsie Steak House**
- Anna et Pierre**
- Boutique Wine, Spirits, & Ciders**
- The Refillery Storehouse**



Where in the GALA-xy has Karen been?



We The People Federation Gala
ticket deadline extended.
Buy your Gala Tickets today.
www.jewishdutchess.org/gala

Congregation Schomre Israel

(Orthodox)
18 Park Ave, Poughkeepsie
(845) 454-2890
Rabbi Shlomo Krasner
Website: www.schomreisrael.org
Email: rabbishlomok@gmail.com

Weekly Services:

Shacharis 7:00 am (weekdays)
Shacharis 8:30 am (Sunday & holidays)
Maariv: 6:40 pm (winter weekdays)
Friday Kabbalat Shabbat: around candle lighting times.

Adult Education:

Tuesday
Ethics of the Fathers through the Prism of History, and the Views of the Jewish Sages, Philosophers, Thinkers, Kabbalists, & Pious 10:30 am. One who wants to reach Piety should delve into Ethics of the Fathers We will continue our study of these ideas guided by insights from our sages.

Hebrew 301-Learning Hebrew through the Book of Ruth 6:00 pm. We will be building our Hebrew vocabulary of nouns and verbs, studying practical applications of possessives, prefixes, suffixes, & pronouns, examining Hebrew's usage of masculine/feminine, singular/multiple, & verb tenses and taking a look under the hood of Hebrew's Binyanim - verb conjugations. The class is appropriate for all levels and will be taught through the lens of the Book of Ruth, ensuring that it will be both enjoyable, functional, and informative.

Thursday
A Deeper Understanding of the Weekly Haftarah 7:00 pm. Do you ever sit during the reading of the Prophets, lost, bored, and having no idea what is going on? We can help you engage with the Haftarah. Join us on Thursday to study the holy words and explain their connection to the Parsha. We will then present a two-pronged approach that will enable us to understand the core meaning of the Haftarah while taking a deeper look at how it is expressed. Topics will be:

June 4 - True friendship, Yonatan & David;
June 11 - Isreali Spies; June 18 - What is true leadership?; June 25 - What does HaShem want from me?

OtherEvents:

Sunday
Rosh Chodesh breakfast June 15, following the morning service to mark the beginning of the month of Tammuz.

For July events please look at the synagogue website.

Contact
rabbishlomok@gmail.com
for current information
or visit the website
www.schomreisrael.org

Congregation Shir Chadash

(Reform)
Interim: Freedom Plains
Presbyterian Church, Lagrange
(845) 232-1029
Rabbi Glenn Jacob
Website: www.shir-chadash.org
Email: info@shir-chadash.org

Weekly Services:

Fridays: 7:30 pm In-Person & Zoom
Saturday: 9:15 am In-person,
Bi-monthly Torah Study with
Rabbi Jacob, all welcome to attend.

Adult Education:

Saturday
Torah Study 9:15 am. An informal discussion about the Torah portion of the week with Shir Chadash's new spiritual leader, Rabbi Jacob. Everyone has a chance to participate. Bring an inquisitive mind, a curiosity about our tradition, and a willingness to share your thoughts. For info: (845) 232-1029, email: info@shir-chadash.org

Other Events:

Sunday
Rosh Chodesh Reading Group
Those interested in reading are invited (now done virtually) to our interesting and provocative discussions. Dates & times TBD. Participants meet to discuss memoirs, fiction, poetry, and drama in a variety of works that offer Jewish themes and a variety of perspectives of interest. Have a topic or suggestion? Please let us know! For more info, please call (845) 232-1029, via email: info@shir-chadash.org

Contact:
info@shir-chadash.org
for current information
or visit the website
www.shir-chadash.org



Temple Beth-El

(Conservative)
118 S Grand Ave, Poughkeepsie
(845) 454-0570
Rabbi Michael Fessler
Rosh Tefilah Rabbi Miriam Hyman
Website: www.tbeny.org
Email: info@tbeny.org

Weekly Services:

Friday & Saturday Shabbat Services are both in-person and Zoom.
Monday— Friday Minyan 8:00 am.
Monday & Thursday in person & Zoom,
Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday only on Zoom
Call the Temple Beth-El office for the current schedule.

Adult Education:

For information about ongoing Adult Education at Temple Beth-El, please contact the synagogue office : (845)454-0570.

OtherEvents:

Sunday
Temple Beth-El Serves at Lunchbox 2nd Sunday. Volunteers are needed to help serve a meal at Lunchbox at Dutchess Outreach. You can also help by making a donation to help cover the cost. Contact Nancy Judson & volunteer (845) 216-7563

Monday
Start Your Mondays with Tai Chi! 10:30 AM. Contact the Temple for details. (845) 454-0570

Wednesday
Mitzvah Knitters 10:30 am, June 3, 17, July 1, 15. No knitting experience necessary - we will get you started!

Friday
Shabbat Table June 12, August 7. We look forward to gathering together for Shabbat Tables. Shabbat Tables are welcoming Friday night Shabbat Dinners with music, stories, Torah Study, dessert, and Kaddish. RSVP is required and a nominal fee applies. Contact Joel at adminasst@tbeny.org for more information.

Special Friday Evening Service July 10, 7:30 pm. Please join us for a soulful and uplifting service led by Renee Finkelstein. Renee is a beloved prayer leader who spent seven years bringing music and spiritual leadership to the Kol Hai community in Ulster County. This will be her fifth time leading a service with us, and we're so happy to welcome her back. We hope you can be with us for this special Shabbat evening.

Saturday
Book Club June 6, for a short story discussion (title coming soon), and then we'll take a summer break. If you're interested in joining us, please reach out to Merrie at moondoggie7@optonline.net for more information.

Contact:
info@tbeny.org
for current information
or visit the website
www.tbeny.org

Vassar Temple

(Reform)
140 Hooker Ave, Poughkeepsie
(845) 454-2570
Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh
Rabbi Emeritus Renni Altman
Website: www.vassartemple.org
Email: Office@VassarTemple.org or rabbi@vassartemple.org

Weekly Services:

All services are hybrid. For Zoom link contact office@vassartemple.org.

Friday: .
Shabbat Evening Service, 7:00 pm June 5,
Pride Shabbat, June 12, Installation of Officers, June 19, and June 26, Picnic and Outdoor Service at 6:00 pm. July every week at 7:00 pm.

Saturday:
New Paths Shabbat Morning Worship
June 6, July TBD 10:15 am

AdultEducation:

Monday
Talmud Study with Senior Scholar Rabbi Paul Golomb select Mondays in June. Usually Zoom only, but 6/29 may be in person only. For info and study sheets email pjgolomb@verizon.net. No classes in July and August.

Saturday
Torah Study with Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh 9:00am, hybrid.
Contact office@vassartemple.org for schedule, Zoom link and to be put on the Torah Study email list.

OtherEvents:

Saturday
New Paths Service June 6, 10:15 am hybrid. The moving liturgy includes both traditional and contemporary writing, mostly in English and participants may contribute supplemental materials to share. "We take the time to let the service get through s, rather than getting through services." Each New Paths service provides a unique and thoughtful, spiritually - oriented Shabbat morning experience, including music, with Rabbi Jeff in an intimate, informal worship setting. A brief kiddush follows. Contact (845) 454-2570 or office@vassartemple.org to be put on the New Paths email list, if you need the Zoom link, or to borrow our special prayer book.

Wednesday
VTS Book Club June 17, 2:00 pm. *My Friends*, a novel by Fredrik Backman who brought us *A Man Called Ove*, enjoyed by many, is a funny, deeply moving tale that will pull you in right away.

"Most people don't even notice them— three tiny figures sitting at the end of a long pier in the corner of one of the most famous paintings in the world. Most people think it's just a depiction of the sea. But Louisa, an aspiring artist herself, knows otherwise, and she is determined to find out the story of these three enigmatic figures.

Twenty-five years earlier, in a distant seaside town, a group of teenagers find refuge from their bruising home lives by spending long summer days on an abandoned pier, telling silly jokes, sharing secrets, and committing small acts of rebellion. These lost souls find in each other a reason to get up each morning, a reason to dream, a reason to love.

Out of that summer emerges a transcendent work of art, a painting that will unexpectedly be placed into eighteen- year-old Louisa's care. She embarks on a surprise-filled cross-country journey to learn how the painting came to be and to decide what to do with it. The closer she gets to the painting's birthplace, the more nervous she become about what she'll find. Louisa is proof that ahappy endings don't always take the form we expect in this stunning testament of the transformative, timeless power of friendship and art. (Amazon) Discussion of this book will be in-person at the Collegeview Tower meeting room, 141 Fulton Ave, Poughkeepsie. All are welcome. For questions contact: bookclub@vassartemple.org.

Contact:
office@vassartemple.org
for current information or
visit the website
www.vassartemple.org



Mazel Memory



Congratulations, to our very own, Suzanne and Don Turrissi.

Special Double Chai occasion
36 years of love and marriage!



Mazel Memory

Mazel tov to Barbara Kernes on the remarkable milestone of 50 years since her conversion to Orthodox Judaism in 1976. Together with her beloved husband, Marc T. Kernes, z"l, she built a beautiful Jewish home and raised her children, Shawn and Heather, in a home filled with Jewish life, tradition, and love. May this special anniversary honor a lifetime of faith, family, and Jewish continuity.



Rabbi Jeffrey Stombaugh and his wife, Stephanie Belsky, at his recent ordination ceremony and service at Vassar Temple



Susan Karnes Hecht created a very special Challah for Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh's Installation as Rabbi of Vassar Temple.

Pardess Center for Jewish Life

(845) 440-7592
 Rabbi Zalman Sandhaus
 Website: www.MyPardess.org
 Email: info@MyPardess.org

Contact:
info@MyPardess.org
for current information
or visit the website
www.MyPardess.org

The Rhinebeck Jewish Center

102 Montgomery Street, Rhinebeck
 (845) 876-7666
 Rabbi Hanoch Hecht
 Rebbitzin Tzivie Hecht
 Website:
www.RhinebeckJewishCenter.com
 Email:
RSVP@RhinebeckJewishCenter.com

Weekly Services:

Fridays: Call for time.
 Saturdays: 9:30 am

Contact:
RSVP@RhinebeckJewishCenter.com
for current information
or visit the website
www.RhinebeckJewishCenter.com

Chabad of Mid-Hudson Valley

63 Vassar Rd, Poughkeepsie
 (845) 463-5801
 Rabbi Yacov Borenstein
 Website:
www.chabadmidhudsonvalley.com
 Email:
ChabadMidhudsonvly@prodigy.net

Weekly Services:

Fridays: Call for times.
 Saturdays: 10:00 am Chabad Hebrew School

Adult Education:

Wednesday

Torah Class: Discover the World of Prayer 11:00 am, 36 Pleasant Ridge Drive. Class led by Hindy Borenstein. Indulge your body with thought provoking insights from the weekly Torah portion and other contemporary issues and indulge your body with a light and healthy lunch.

Special Events

Sunday

Bagels, Lox, Torah (Tefillin too!) 9:00 am led by Rabbi Yacov Borenstein. Morning minyan will follow Torah discussion on the coming week's Torah portion, upcoming holiday, or topic of Jewish interest.

Contact :
ChabadMidhudsonvly@prodigy.net
for current information
or visit the website
www.chabadmidhudsonvalley.com

Beacon Hebrew Alliance

(Conservative)
 331 Verplanck Ave, Beacon
 (845) 831-2012
 Rabbi Justin David
 Rabbi Emeritus Brent Spodek;
 Email:
411@beaconhebrewalliance.org

Weekly Services:

Friday Shabbat, 5:30pm Mini Minyan with Luke Wygodny & 6:00pm Potluck Shabbat Dinner and Kabbalat Shabbat

Check our Community Calendar for services times, generally every Friday & one Saturday per month:
www.beaconhebrewalliance.org/calendar

Contact:
for current information
or visit the website
www.beaconhebrewalliance.org

Congregation Beth David

(Reform)
 East Main St, Amenia
 (845) 373-8264
 Rabbi Jon Haddon
 Website: www.CongBethDavid.org
 Email: JonRab33@gmail.com

Weekly Services:

Saturdays 10:30 am.

Contact:
jonrab33@gmail.com
for current information
or visit the website
www.CongBethDavid.org

Vassar College Bayit

51 Collegeview Ave, Poughkeepsie
 (845) 728-4792
 Rabbi Bryan Mann
 Rachlin Director of Jewish Student Life at Vassar College
 Email: bryanmann@vassar.edu

Weekly Services:

Fridays: 6:00 pm
 7:00 pm dinner when school is in session

Contact :
for current information
bryanmann@vassar.edu

Contact:
rabbichabadbeacon.com
for current information
or visit the website
chabadbeacon.com

Congregation Emanuel of the Hudson Valley

243 Albany Ave, Kingston
 (845) 338-4271 ext 101 Rabbi's Study:
 (845) 338-4384 ext 102

Rabbi Jack Sherratt:
rabbijack@hvc.rr.com

Weekly Services:

Friday
 Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 pm,
Saturday
 Morning Minyan 10:00 am
Education:
Mediation & Torah Study 8:45 am via Zoom
Hebrew Trope 12:00 pm, via Zoom,
 Dates TBD.
Hebrew, Shebrew! 4:00 pm, via Zoom.
Talk Back with Rabbi Jack 8:45 am, via Zoom,

Contact: info@cehv.org
for all events and current info
or visit the website www.CEHV.org

Bard College

Rabbi Joshua Boettiger
 Jewish Chaplain, Visiting Assistant
 Professor of the Humanities
 Phone: (802) 733-6342
 Email: jboettiger@bard.edu

Contact:
jboettiger@bard.edu
for current information

Woodstock Jewish Congregation

241682 Glasco Tpke, Woodstock
 (845) 679-2218
 Admin: admin@wjcsul.org

Weekly Services:

Friday
Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 pm,
Kid Friendly Intergenerational Shabbat First
 Fridays 6:00 pm
Saturday
Shabbat Service 10:00 am

The 1st Friday Shabbat—The students of our Family School co-lead Kabbalat Shabbat with Cantor Raechel in a warm and fun mix of upbeat, traditional melodies, learnings from class, and sometimes their own original melodies. All children are invited to come up on the bimah, play shakers, and share their own ideas. The services culminate with the Priestly Blessing, a blessing over all the children in the space. The service lasts about 40 minutes and is followed by a full community potluck where members of all ages come together to eat, chat, and play games. This is a sweet intergenerational community experience.

Contact: admin@wjcsul.org for all events and current info or visit the website www.wjcsul.org



June/July


Candle Lighting Schedule

June 5 - 8:09 pm
June 12 - 8:12 pm
June 19 - 8:15 pm
June 26 - 8:16 pm
July 3 - 8:15 pm
July 10 - 8:13 pm
July 17 - 8:09 pm
July 24 - 8:03 pm
July 31 - 7:56 pm




The Jewish War Veterans of the United States, Post 625


Pvt. Herman Siegel Post 625, Jewish War Veterans of the US, meets monthly at Congregation Schomre Israel, Poughkeepsie. We are the only active post between Westchester and Albany! Upcoming meeting dates are Sundays, 6/14/26, (9:00 am schmooze, 9:30 am meeting). The location is strictly kosher and tasty refreshments are provided. All are welcome to attend and/or join, both veterans and anyone else who would like to support our cause. We provide community service and support local veterans' facilities. We advocate against antisemitism and for the rights and benefits of all American military members and veterans. For more info, contact Senior Vice Commander Ralph Schwartz at (845) 849-0025.



Jewish Federation
of Dutchess County



POUGHKEEPSIE
PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

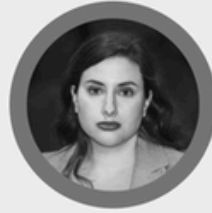


Jewish Book Council

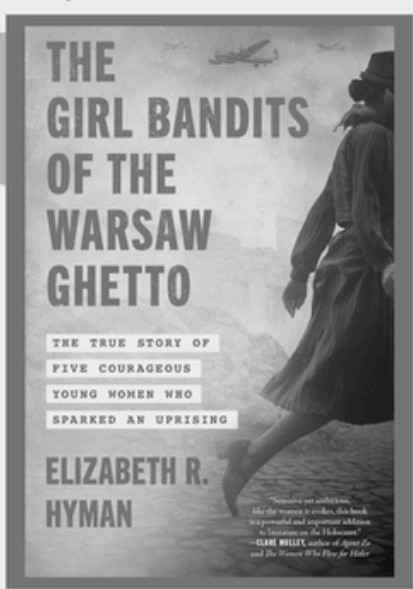
JOIN US FOR A POWERFUL CONVERSATION ON COURAGE, RESISTANCE, AND SURVIVAL.

TUESDAY
JULY 28TH
6:30PM

ADRIANCE MEMORIAL LIBRARY
93 MARKET STREET
POUGHKEEPSIE



WITH
ELIZABETH R. HYMAN



Elizabeth R. Hyman is the descendant of Polish Jews who fled Europe in 1939 and made their way, as refugees, to the U.S. She earned dual master's degrees in History & Library and Information Science from the University of Maryland-College Park. She lives in New Paltz, New York.

"The Girl Bandits of the Warsaw Ghetto" reveals the extraordinary true story of five young Jewish women who defied Nazi terror — as fighters, couriers, and saboteurs — and helped spark the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, forever changing our understanding of resistance in the Holocaust.

REGISTER AT: WWW.JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG/EVENTS
CALL 845-471-9811 OR EVENTS@JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC | BOOKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE EVENT

Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

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Find out where we'll be next - visit JewishDutchess.org/Events



Mitzvah Day Cereal Counts delivery to Rhinebeck Reformed Church.

Vassar Temple
Where You Belong

A community engaged in worship, learning and the pursuit of justice.

Outstanding Jewish education program
Sign up Now!

Join Us for the High Holy Days

No charge to attend -- Donations Appreciated

Please register in advance to attend at office@vassartemple.org

Ask about membership specials at membership@vassartemple.org

Rabbi Jeffrey Stombaugh, Cantor Elizabeth Goldmann





140 Hooker Ave. Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
845-454-2570 • vassartemple.org
Find us on Facebook

HIAS Welcome Campaign Congregation

LGBTQ safe ZONE

UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM
איחוד ליברל רפורמים
SERVING REFORM CONGREGATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA



Beacon Hebrew Alliance Mitzvah Day collection for Cereal Counts.




The cast of Vassar Temple's 2026 Purim spiel, "A Night at the Movies."



JFedDC's Yom HaShoah special screening of the documentary "Resistance: They Fought Back" with director/filmmaker Paula Apsell, in collaboration with FDR Presidential Library.






Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration at Dutchess Community College with students from Poughkeepsie HS.

Hudson Valley Medical Health Choices

Life challenges? We can help!

Our new office is open and accepting patients!
1 Webster Avenue, Suite 402B in Poughkeepsie.
To schedule an appointment or to learn more, visit hvpalliativecare.org or call **845.240.7557.**



Hope
comes in many forms

For some, it means feeling seen, heard and supported, every step of the way.

Hudson Valley Hospice

Contact Hudson Valley Hospice: hvospice.org • (845) 240-7555