



2019 Honorees

Leadership & Commitment to the Greater Jewish Community:

- **BERNARD & SHIRLEY HANDEL**

Longevity & Continued Commitment to JFedDC

- **GLORIA, STEVE & SHELLY TURK**

Next Generation Leadership:

- **JACOB RECKESS**

Next Generation Leadership:

- **BRIAN ARNOFF**

Young Jewish Leadership:

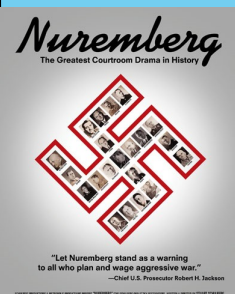
- **CALLIE & LIZA GOLDSTONE**

Super Sunday
April 7
PUT A RING ON IT



To volunteer call Nancy @ the JFedDC office (845) 471-9811

Wednesday, May 1
 2:00pm-4:00pm
FDR Library & JFedDC presents
Nuremberg: Its Lesson for Today
 After the viewing, producer, Sandra Schulberg, will be there for discussion & questions.



Where: FDR Library
 4079 Albany Post Rd
 Hyde Park, NY
 RSVP: <http://fdrlibrary.org/events-calendar>

Thursday, May 2
 6:30pm-8:30pm



Annual Community Holocaust Commemoration at Dutchess Community College
ANTI-SEMITISM: THEN & NOW
 Kenneth S. Stern, Director, Bard Center for the Study of Hate Area Clergy & Gesher Hebrew High School
Where: DCC, Dutchess Hall 202, Park in Lot D
RSVP: JewishDutchess.org/Events
 *This program is partially funded by the Ann & Abe Effron - Donor Advised of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley

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Jewish Federation of Dutchess County
 P.O. Box 2525
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Tuesday, May 14, 2019
The Culinary Institute of America
 12-6pm

HUDSON VALLEY FOOD & BEVERAGE INNOVATION SUMMIT

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Special thanks to our Media Sponsor  #HVFBSSUMMIT
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May 5 is Hudson Valley Mitzvah Day
Joining Dutchess & Ulster Counties together
 See page 10-11 for registration information
 Or register online www.jewishdutchess.org

Poughkeepsie Public Library and JFedDC
 Are pleased to bring back from Israel...

RAMI FEINSTEIN
 U.S. TOUR MAY 2019



Yom Ha'atzmaut Mother's Day Concert, May 12, 2:30pm
Boardman Road Library
Post Concert Nosh
RSVP: <https://poklib.org>

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Jewish Federation of Dutchess County
 (845) 471-9811 P

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The Voice is published by the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County. Your donation of \$36 or more helps defray the cost of this community paper.

Please send your check to:
 The Voice
 PO Box 2525
 Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

LEARN & LUNCH BUNCH

The Jewish Federation of Dutchess County presents weekly cultural, social, and educational programs.

WEDNESDAY PROGRAMS and MENUS

April

- April 3** **Magic with Jace**
Prepare to be amazed when Jace does slight of hand and illusions.
Menu: bagels, schmear, coffee/tea, dessert
- April 10** **Dr. Seema Rizvi**
Seema will be teaching us about the holy month of Ramadan
Menu: stuffed grape leaves, stuffed vegetables, coffee/tea, dessert.
- April 17** **Closed for Passover**
- April 24** **Closed for Passover**

REGISTRATION STRONGLY REQUESTED BY MONDAY EACH WEEK FOR FOOD AND ACTIVITY PLANNING PURPOSES
 RSVP to the Jewish Federation office (845) 471-9811.
 Learn & Lunch Bunch activities are open to the public.



Mayor Rolison at Learn and Lunch Bunch

Office For the Aging Update:

WHO KNEW?

One of the greatest challenges we face at the Dutchess County Office for the Aging is making sure people are aware of the existence and purpose of the Dutchess County Office for the Aging.

Our goal for every senior in the county is simple: that they be able to live happily and independently for as long as is safely possible.

If you are a senior, it can be hard to meet the challenges of aging on your own. If you are caring for a senior, those challenges can also be difficult to meet. We are ready to lend a hand when you need it.

Those of you with family and friends outside Dutchess County should know, every county in New York State has an Office for the Aging or an agency with a similar name and duties. New York City has its own Office for the Aging. We can put you in touch with any of them, if you have a need.

Many seniors are used to being in charge of a household, and worry that asking for help will be seen as a sign of failure. Nothing could be further from the truth. Part of aging gracefully is accepting help gracefully – for example, if having somebody stop by for an afternoon to help with chores is the key to a senior's continued independence, the Office for the Aging can help you find the assistance you need.

There is so much the Office for the Aging can do to help seniors, their families, and their caregivers that there is not enough space in one column to describe them all. Learn more about us at Dutchess County Government's newly-redesigned website at www.dutchessny.gov/aging. We can also be reached at (845) 486-2555 and our new offices at 114 Delafield St. in Poughkeepsie.

WHERE
 118 South Grand Ave
 Poughkeepsie, NY
 (Temple Beth-El)

SCHEDULE

11:00 –11:30am
Coffee & Nosh
 11:30 –12:30pm
Program
 12:30pm —Lunch

\$6.00—Lunch and program
 \$4.00—Program, coffee, nosh

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



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Mazel Tov Memories

Send us information about what you are celebrating: Birthdays, Engagements, Weddings, Anniversaries, Simchas. We at the JFedDC want to celebrate with you and share the Nachas. Send your information to thevoice@jewishdutchess.org



Mazel Tov Jack Koschitzki

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Adult Education

Educational Opportunities Abound at Congregation Schomre Israel

Know Your Book with Rabbi Langer Tuesdays, 10:30am. April 2: The Moon and the Jew; April 9: The Doorpost and the Jew; April 16: Order and the Jew; April 30: The Tear and the Jew.

Classes with Rabbi Langer Thursday, April 4 and 11, 7:00pm. April 4: Pesach in the Mishna; April 11: Passover during Temple Times.

Classes are free. All are welcome. View website at www.schomreisrael.org for recordings of previous classes. For information on cancellations and class schedules visit www.schomreisrael.org or call (845) 454-2890.

Weekly Adult Study Groups at Vassar Temple

The Talmud: Modern Ideas from an Ancient Text will be held once a month at noon (often on the 3rd Thursday) and taught by Senior Scholar, Rabbi Paul Golomb. For this month's schedule or if you have other questions, contact Rabbi Golomb at pjgolomb@verizon.net.

Torah Study Saturdays, 9:00am, (no class April 20) with Rabbi Reni Altman. Examine passages from the week's Torah portion or haftarah.

Class on Reform Judaism Thursday, April 11, 7:30pm-9:00pm. Rabbi Reni S Altman, DD will teach a 3-session course "Reform Judaism: Why We Do What We Do."

All are invited. Come learn and join in the lively discussions at both classes. No charge to attend. No previous training required. For more info or if you have questions, contact: rabbi@vassartemple.org or (845) 454-2570.

Higher and Higher: Come Grow with Temple Beth-El

Shabbat School Adult Schmoose with Rabbi Victor Saturday, 9:30am-10:15am. "Kinship as Spiritual Practice" directing our hearts, minds, and souls to the rough questions concerning how we build long lasting and meaningful relationships in faith communities. Through a spiritual prism, we will examine strategies and theories on *Relation Judaism* and how they play out and/or can be adapted to our own community. All sessions are free and open to everyone. The essential questions, session material, and possible answers are from Won Wolfson's book on *Relational Judaism*. Questions? Contact Rabbi Victor (845)454-0570.

The Mind and the Mystical with Rabbi Daniel Victor, Thursdays, 9:30am, at The Crafted Kup, Raymond Avenue. Using the textbook *My People's Prayer Book* we explore as many different voices of commentary in which our learners are interested.

New Adult Discovery Course

Temple Beth-El is pleased to present this year's discovery course of study which for many will conclude with a formal commitment by the student to embrace Jewish life and a warm embrace by the Jewish community adding new members to our congregations. Classes begin with "Jewish Museum" program beginning in February and running every two weeks. For more info, contact Rabbi Daniel Victor rebvictor@tbeny.org or call (845) 454-0571

Learn to Read Hebrew Saturdays Whether you are learning to read Hebrew for the first time or just need a refresher, this class is for you! No fee, but a suggested donation of \$36 is encouraged. To sign up contact Rabbi Miriam Hyman at (845) 454-0570 or education@tbeny.org.

All welcome. Details at the Temple Beth-El www.tbeny.org, or call (845) 454-0570, or email info@tbeny.org.

Chabad Center Classes

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

Please visit our website www.chabadmidhudsonvalley.com.

Congregation Shir Chadash

Torah Study: Saturday, April 6 and 27, 9:15am. An informal discussion about the Torah portion of the week with Rabbi Polish while enjoying a light breakfast. Everyone has a chance to participate. No Hebrew expertise or knowledge is needed - just an inquisitive mind, a curiosity about our tradition, and a willingness to share your thoughts. All welcome to attend the bi-monthly session. Check website calendar for exact dates.

For more information call (845) 232-1029, email info@shir-chadash.org, or website www.shir-chadash.org

Passover Judaica Shoppe Sale

We will display our latest wares to enhance your Seder table in the Vassar Temple East Chapel. Passover fun items for the children too! Looking for a special gift, look no further - come and see us.

Regular hours Monday - Thursday 10:00am - 2:00pm plus special Passover Sunday sale dates: April 7 and April 14 from 9:30am - 11:30am. We will be waiting for you!

For appointments at other times or for special orders, contact Perla Kaufman at perlakaufman22@gmail.com or (914) 456-7309.

Temple Beth-El's Judaica Shop re-opens on:

by request or Sundays April 7 & 28 from 9:30am - 12:30pm
Gifts, books, holiday Judaica, and more...



Book Club to Discuss Magic Hour

Vassar Temple's Sisterhood Book Club will discuss the *Magic Hour* by Kristin Hannah.

In the rugged Pacific Northwest lies the Olympic National Forest. Out of this vast forest, a six year old girl emerges. Speechless and alone, she offers no clue as to her identity, no hint of her past. Having retreated to her western Washington hometown after a scandal left her career in ruins, child psychologist Dr. Julia Gates is determined to free this little girl, whom she calls Alice, from a prison of unimaginable fear and isolation. To reach her, Julia must discover the truth about Alice's past. The shocking facts of Alice's life test the limits of Julia's faith and strength even as she struggles to make a home for Alice - and for herself. goodreads.com

This deeply emotional story about the resilience of the human spirit is available in paperback or at the local library. Myrna Rubinstein will lead the discussion to which everyone is welcome.

DETAILS

Thursday, April 18, 2:00pm, Community Room, Collegeview Tower, 141 Fulton Ave. To RSVP or get more info, contact Linda Babas at (845) 473-7931 or linda.babas.41@gmail.com. As always, your book suggestions for future meetings are greatly appreciated.


Gerri Ann Brenner Medicare Specialist

gerriannbrenner@aol.com

845-518-7283

Debbie's Voice—is currently recouping. We look forward to her voice returning to *The Voice* soon.

Chag Pesach Sameach



Marc Molinaro



Peace to you this Passover!



Rebecca Edwards
Dutchess County
Legislator,
District 6

HAPPY PASSOVER

JFedDC Staff & Board Members

Happy Passover

Learn & Lunch Bunch



Happy Passover

County Legislator Will Truitt



Happy Passover

Sue Serino



You have probably had occasion to appreciate the legacy of the people, many of whom you never met, who cared enough about the future to ensure that the organizations dear to your heart are here for you today.

Now it's your turn to do the same thing for those who follow in your footsteps. Together, let's begin that important conversation on how you can leave a legacy at the JFedDC.

29th Annual Marist College Holocaust Remembrance

A Survivor's Story
Michael Silberstein, a survivor of Auschwitz and Mauthausen concentration camps, will relate his experiences during the Holocaust

DETAILS
Tuesday, April 16, 7:00pm, Nelly Goletti Theatre, Marist College. For more info call (845) 575-3449 or email mediarelations@marist.edu.

Dear Readers,

We are glad that you have been enjoying reading the "Dear Shoshana" column and hope that you will continue reading.

In the tradition of "Bintel Briefs", we encourage our readers to submit articles from their Jewish life for which they feel they might need some advice.

Articles submitted will be printed and advised by our very own Shoshana, who is a skilled problem solver! Please submit problems to be solved to: TheVoice@JewishDutchess.org.

The advice shared is solely that of Dear Shoshana and does not represent the position of *The Voice* or JFedDC.

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Music Director / Conductor - Randall Craig Fleischer

BACH'S MASS IN B MINOR
Saturday April 13 - 8pm at the Bardavon

BACH Mass in B Minor, BWV 232
with Vassar College Choir & Cappella Festiva,
Christine Howlett, Artistic Director

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Dear Hanukkah,

Would a rose by any other name not still smell like a rose? Hanukkah can be spelled with a C, an H, or double K in the middle. We differ on spelling. Depending on where you grew up, we differ on pronunciation of certain words and holidays as well. When you have ten Jews together, you get fifteen opinions! None of them is necessarily wrong. We spell the holidays differently; so what. Spell it the way your bubbe taught you - the way you are comfortable. What really matters is that you observe Hanukkah!

Articles and letters to the Editor Policy
The Voice welcomes articles and letters to the editor. Letters must not exceed 300 words and must be dated and signed with current address and daytime telephone number. *The Voice* reserves the right to edit letters. Email submissions to thevoice@jewishdutchess.org

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

VOICE DEADLINES
Note deadlines below. Email TheVoice@JewishDutchess.org if you have questions.

ISSUE	DEADLINE
May	April 1
June/July	May 1
August	July 1

Rabbi's Blog

To Balk or Not To Balk

By Rabbi Jon Haddon, Congregation Beth David of Amenia

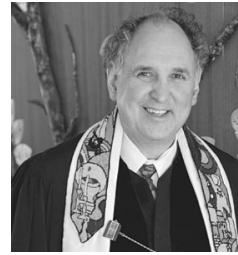
Just a few weeks ago, my wife and I attended a major league baseball spring training game in beautiful Sarasota, Florida. It was a game between the Baltimore Orioles and the Toronto Blue Jays. I actually saw something I had not seen for a very long time, although I am an avid baseball fan.

We saw a young pitcher balk. A balk is when a pitcher, with players on base, takes his windup, gets ready to pitch, and then fails to deliver the ball; he is charged with a "balk." Because he aroused everyone's interest and brought everyone's abilities to the fore, and then failed to carry through, he is penalized according to the rules of baseball. I felt so sorry for the young pitcher that I had to drown myself with yet another bottle of light beer and, of course, another hot dog...kosher, of course, at Ed Smith Stadium!

It dawned on me that a "balk" is true of life itself. Often we become greatly inspired by a holy day or a religious experience and we summon all our abilities and spiritual resources. We are all wound up, prepared to deliver the pitch, but then at the last moment, we balk. When we do this, we penalize - ourselves.

Jews attend services during the High Holy Days and, invariably, are inspired but "balk" on attendance when the next Sabbath comes just a few days later. We read a Jewish book or attend an inspiring lecture and find it fascinating, but we balk upon attending another.

At this time of Passover, with so much turmoil in our government, our country, and the entire world; it is more important than ever to realize that Jewish life must be lived with courage, commitment, and loyalty, or we are penalized. When we balk at the requirements, we pay the penalty of failing to grow and to increase our understanding. Let us not balk in supporting our Jewish Federation and our synagogues, in writing letters, signing petitions, and attending rallies to fight the scourge of anti-semitism, to support our beloved State of Israel, and to do the righteous deeds which we as Jews must do, or we, too, will "balk" and pay the penalty.



Rabbi Jon Haddon

Inside the Jewish Studio

By Karen Hochhauser

This questionnaire originated in the French series, *Bouillon de Culture*, better known as the closing questions asked by James Lipton on the celebrity interview TV show, *Inside the Actor's Studio*. The questions are re-adapted for this column.

Each month, we ask a MOT* these questions and feature their answers.

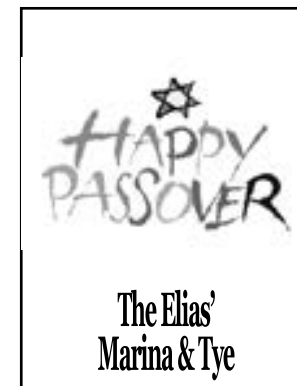
This month, our special guest is **Jeff Levine** who found time from cooking up Communications at the Culinary Institute of America to join us to answer our questions...

- What is your favorite word?**
Balagan It is so descriptive and can replace other words we shouldn't say in public.
- What is your least favorite word?**
Chanukah Bush
- What turns you on creatively, spiritually, or emotionally?**
Teamwork, and I love a good word play. A bad pun will make my day.
- What turns you off?**
People who are so sure of their side they don't listen to my side, which - of course - is the correct one.
- What is your favorite curse word?**
For F!#-sake*
- What sound or noise do you love?**
The crack of a wooden bat connecting with the ball
- What sound or noise do you hate?**
ABBA music
- What profession other than your own would you like to attempt?**
Major league umpire or play-by-play announcer
- What profession other than your own would you not like to attempt?**
Executive Director for a Non-Profit
- What are you really bad at & really good at?**
Bad: Hiding my true feelings Good: Good with numbers
- What is one interesting thing that people don't know about you?**
The Turtles once backed me up singing a Bruce Springsteen song at a club in Greenwich Village.
- If you could choose a superpower, what would it be?**
I could eat anything I want and not gain any weight.
- If Heaven exists, what would you like to hear God say when you arrive at the Pearly Gates?**
What took you so long?



Jeff Levine

* Member of the Tribe



The Caravan is Coming!
Tuesday, May 28, 2019
 Temple Beth-El • 118 South Grand Avenue • Poughkeepsie • 845-454-0570

Save the Date for this Community Celebration of Israeli Music, Culture & Food!

6:00pm
Israeli Style Dinner (Small Fee)

6:30pm
Free Concert—All are welcome

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE FOR THE CARAVAN:
www.israelscouts.org/friendship-caravan

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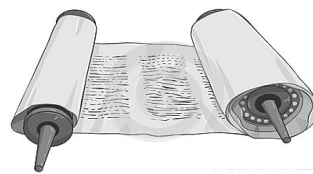
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Good to know.™
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Passover Greetings

Adar—Nissan

May you be blessed with peace, prosperity, and joy this Passover



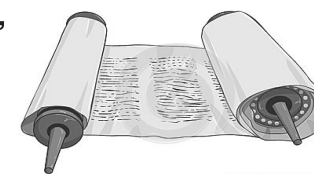
Phyllis & David Miller

Happy Passover

Rabbi Ellen & Judge Jonah Triebwasser
Red Hook, NY



May you be blessed with peace, prosperity, and joy this Passover



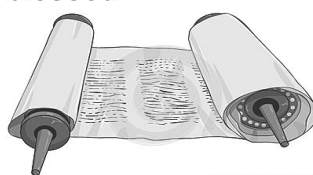
Ellen, Victor Stern & Family

Shalom at Pesach!



Linda & Eric Perfecto and Family

May you be blessed with peace, prosperity, and joy this Passover

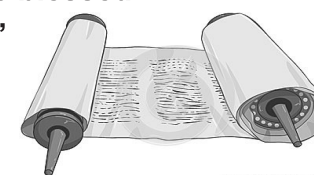


The Bressman Family

Passover Greetings

Miriam & Burt Gold and Family

May you be blessed with peace, prosperity, and joy this Passover



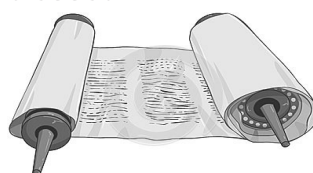
Evelyn & Oscar Weiss

Peace to you this Passover!



The Gorin Family

May you be blessed with peace, prosperity, and joy this Passover



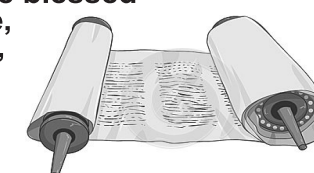
Amy, Steve, Lindsay & Hannah Effron

Happy Passover

Drs. Miriam & Maury Lacher



May you be blessed with peace, prosperity, and joy this Passover



Roberta & Len Grossman

Shalom at Pesach!



Linda Skolnik

Passover Greetings

Elaine & Aaron Blum and Family

May you be blessed with peace, prosperity, and joy this Passover



Grete & Marty Finkelstein

Passover Greetings

Jill & Ira Auerbach

Peace to you this Passover!



Roz & Dan Ashley

Happy Passover

Marian & Ralph Schwartz



Passover Greetings

Barbara & Bernie Cohen and Family

Happy Passover

The Quackenbush Family



Passover Greetings

Irene & Eric Brocks and Family

Happy Passover

Jane & Steven Idell



Passover Greetings

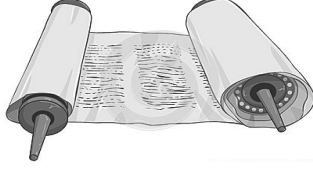
Team Silbergleit

Shalom at Pesach!



Ann & Jeffrey Gross

May you be blessed with peace, prosperity, and joy this Passover



Rose, Brion & Joshua Shapiro

Nextyear in Jerusalem

Nancy & Sandy Bernstein



May you be blessed with peace, prosperity, and joy this Passover



Sharon & Howard Lynne

Peace to you this Passover!

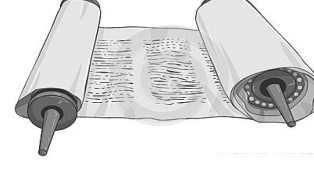


Adreinne London & Dr. Robert Roeshman, D.O.

Passover Greetings

Sharon & Hal Warren

May you be blessed with peace, prosperity, and joy this Passover



Roni & Charles Stein

Passover Greetings

Bob Ulrich

Shalom at Pesach!



Rabbi Miriam Hyman, Rabbi Michael Fessler and Family

Happy Passover

The Hankin Family



Nextyear in Jerusalem

Miriam & Frank Rubin



Happy Passover

Deanie Gordon and the Israel, Levine & Gordon Families




Peace to you this Passover!



Candy & Lou Lewis

Nextyear in Jerusalem

Miriam, Eric, Callie & Liza Goldstone




Happy Passover

Karen & Jack Fein




Nextyear in Jerusalem

Barbara & Harvey Katz and Family




Passover Blessings




Frieda & Ed
Gershuny

Chag Pesach Sameach



Sandy & Harry (z"l)
Mamis

Passover Blessings



Hochhauser, Marks Family
Martin, Karen, Samuel,
Alexander & Benjamin

Happy
Passover



Amy & Richard
Schwed

Next year in Jerusalem



Gail & Samuel Simon

Happy
Passover



The Reckess
Family

Peace to you
this Passover!



Anita & Ed Lester
and Family

HAPPY
PASSOVER

Beth & Les
Richardson


Peace to you
this Passover!



Leona & Irvin
Miller

HAPPY
PASSOVER

Bradley
Sohn



Lori, Elliot,
Bradley, Adam
& Jenna Levine

Shalom
at Pesach!



Elanor & Marty
Korfman

HAPPY
PASSOVER

Ellen, Barry, & Matt
Rosenberg

Peace to you
this Passover!



Judy & Herb
Dym

HAPPY
PASSOVER

Lauren & Michael
Muffs



Elaine
Lipshutz

Peace to you
this Passover!



Barbara & Irwin
Lifshey

HAPPY
PASSOVER

The Breslow/Glassman
Families

Peace to you
this Passover!



Geri & Maurice
Bromberg

HAPPY
PASSOVER

Jane, Jonathan & Steven
Dworkin

Peace to you
this Passover!



Lou
Newman

HAPPY
PASSOVER

Debbie & Arnold
Most



Muriel & Matt
Lampell

Peace to you
this Passover!



Sandy & Lee
Corwin

HAPPY
PASSOVER

The Hentel
Family


Peace to you
this Passover!



Mary & Jonah
Ritter

HAPPY
PASSOVER

Judy Elkin &
Gene Fleishman
and Family



Ellen & Lawrence
Danziger

Peace to you
this Passover!



Nancy & Sandy
Bernstein

HAPPY
PASSOVER

Elyse & Neil
Mansfield

Peace to you
this Passover!



Pam & Sol
Resnikoff

HAPPY
PASSOVER

Betty & Hyman
Kaplan

Peace to you
this Passover!



Ruth & Donald
Klein and Family


HAPPY
PASSOVER

Betsy Kopstein-Stuts
and George Stuts



Judy & Alan
Fox

Peace to you
this Passover!



Blanche & Lou
Bergman

Gearing Up for Spring

By Rabbi Miriam Hyman, Ed. Director & Cantor Devorah Gartner, Youth & B'nai Mitzvah Director

We've brought the outdoors in and Israel to Poughkeepsie with our new indoor/outdoor traveling gaga pit. It can be such a drag to be stuck inside for recess in the winter, but not when you can play gaga. You don't know how to play? Drop by during our **Ivrit Program** recess on Tuesday afternoons or after lunch on Shabbat to take in a game and get some pointers from the experts.

Throughout **Shabbat School**, we welcomed our classes to the bimah. We presented our students with their own *siddurim* (prayer books) and *chumashim* (Torah books), as well as their personalized Hebrew bookmarks in March.

The B'nai Mitzvah class was busy learning one another's Torah portions, getting acquainted with Haftarah blessings and trope, practicing their prayers, and joining Rabbi Miriam Hyman and Cantor Devorah Gartner on the bimah to hone their service leadership skills. It is such a pleasure to watch their mastery and confidence growing week by week.

The B'nai Mitzvah Class was joined by Kitah Vav for a special series of programs on weaving mitzvah and tzedakah into daily life. This special series and curriculum is made possible by a grant from **Chai Mitzvah**.

The **Gesher Hebrew High School** program students are completing their second trimester of classes. The holiday cooking class brewed up delectable delicacies and the Torah yoga class allowed our students to relax and decompress while internalizing Jewish concepts & values. Trimester 3 arrived before the daffodils, bringing new classes like *Anti-Semitism in Current Events*, *Kosher Vampires* and *Shabbat Time Travel*, *Environmental Activism*, and more.

The Youth Group's annual Mishloach Manot Project was sweet success. Many thanks to all who supported this fundraiser which allows the Youth Group to support charities at home and in Israel as well as to provide scholarships for teens to attend regional events and programs. Their Candygram/Jellybean Guess Booth at the Purim Carnival was also delicious, and a good time was had by all. The Youth Group is studying, planning and writing the program for the **Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration at Dutchess Community College on May 2**. In addition, the students are hard at work organizing their program at The Pines for **Mitzvah Day on May 5**.

Pesach will be here before we know it. Good luck with your spring cleaning, and we'll see you at the shores of the Sea.

Tiny Temple Celebrates Passover

Please join us for Tiny Temple's free Passover event at Vassar Temple, Sunday, April 7, 10:30am - 11:30am. The tots, along with the Religious School, will learn about Passover through crafts, story, and song in a relaxed and friendly setting; also a special holiday snack will be served.

Parents, grandparents, families, and children (infant to age 5) are warmly invited to join in the fun. Tiny Temple is open to all regardless of temple affiliation, is always free of charge, and is sponsored by the Sisterhood. To assist in our planning, please RSVP to Emma Arnoff and Jas Russo at tinytemple@vassartemple.org. They will also be happy to answer any question you may have about this wonderful, free, monthly program and to put you on the Tiny Temple e-mail list. For more info: www.vassartemple.org or call ((845) 454-2570

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

CHABAD MID-HUDSON VALLEY

Sunday, 10:00am-12:15pm, ages 5-12 years
63 Vassar Rd, Poughkeepsie

For information contact Hindy Borenstein,
Director (845) 463-5801
chabadmidhudsonvly@prodigy.net

JUDAIC SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Sunday, 10:00am-12:00pm

For information www.mypardess.org/JSA

RHINEBECK JEWISH CENTER

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

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

CONGREGATION SHIR CHADASH

The programs focus on G-d & Prayer, Jewish History, and the concepts of Tzedakah, G'milut Chasadim and Tikun Olum. Member families' children from Kindergarten to 2nd grades are welcome to attend at no charge for a full year. Open registration.

Classes meet two Saturdays a month at 9:00am. April 6, 27

For information, contact (845) 723-4045, info@shir-chadash.org or www.shir-chadash.org

TEMPLE BETH-EL

At Temple Beth-El, education is something truly celebrated! From kindergarten through the last year of high school, Temple Beth-El instills a love of Judaism and a lifelong hunger for Jewish learning.

Tuesday,
Ivrit (Hebrew) School
4:30-6:30pm, grades 3-7

Wednesday,
Gesher Youth Program 6:30-8:30pm,
grades 8-12

Saturday, B'Nai Mitzvah Class
9:30am-12:30pm, grade 7

Sunday, Judaic Studies
9:30am-12:30pm, grades PreK-6

For information, contact (845) 454-0570
or education@tbeny.org

VASSAR TEMPLE

Vassar Temple provides a program of Jewish education within the Reform Movement's guidelines, which deepens a student's Jewish experience and knowledge in an accepting and stimulating 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." Temple membership not required.

Sunday Religious School Sundays,
9:00am-12:00pm, grades K-7 (No Class 4/21)

Hebrew Language School
Wednesdays, 4:30pm-6:30pm,
grades 4-7 (No Class 4/24)

Gesher Program
Wednesdays, 6:30pm-8:30pm,
grades 8-12 (No Class 4/17)

Innovative individualized Hebrew language instruction and bar/bat mitzvah preparation.

For info contact Rabbi Renni Altman, Director (845) 454-2570 or rsdirector@vassartemple.org



Mini-Mitzvah Day for families with kids 0-8

MITZVAH DAY, May 5th 9:00-2:00

Mitzvah Day Headquarters, Congregation Schomre Israel

18 Park Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Come for Breakfast and learn about our partner organizations.

PJ Library Mid-Hudson Valley will conduct three complete, age appropriate projects:

10-11 Laundry bag decoration and stuffing for residents at Liberty Station Veteran's Housing

11-12 Creating centerpieces and decorations for The Lunch Box

12-1 Pets For Vets bag decoration and stuffing for the SPCA. Stay for Lunch and a wrap up of our day of good deeds.

Activities include a visit from a Therapy Dog, creating beautiful things boxes, family tzedakah shopping bags, and "I did a Mitzvah" buttons.

Families are invited for the whole day or any part of it. Stories will be read throughout the day in our PJ Library Story Station.



Please bring pet food, cat litter, etc for donation to the SPCA Community Pet Food Pantry

Drop in Zone for kids ages 3-8 when parents are off site at a project.-must be pre-registered.

Contact us for details at pjlibrary@jewishdutchess.org

תיקון עולם tikkun olam repair the world

Blessing Kit

Taken from <https://debtakesherlifeback.com/how-to-help-the-homeless/>

Create a Blessing Kit for those experiencing homelessness to keep handy in your car for use when you cross paths with someone in need. This provides them with several much-needed items, plus a durable water bottle or reusable bag.

Pack a pair of socks, hand wipes, snacks, and a fast food gift card inside a wide mouth Nalgene or other water bottle. The gift card not only allows them to purchase food, it also allows them to use the restroom as a paying customer. A reusable water container is an important possession. Add a friendly message. You can also pack items into a gallon Ziploc bag, or gently used purse or backpack.



Vassar Temple Tot Shabbat

Tot Shabbat is a half hour introductory morning worship experience specially designed for toddlers and their families. The community is warmly invited to attend. The program is led by Rabbi Renni Altman and music teacher Olivia DeLorio. Join us for singing, a story, healthy snacks, and engaging with families and children.

DETAILS

Saturday, April 27, 10:30am-11:00am RSVP's appreciated (845) 454-2570; walk-ins are welcome! For info contact: rabbivassartemple.org



Jewish Early Childhood Programs at Temple Beth-El

Experience Joyful Judaism with Age appropriate classes ● Arts ● Cooking ● Crafts Dance ● Drama ● Hebrew Readiness ● Holidays Music ● Shabbat ● Stories ● Yoga

Family Programming Community Friday Evening Dinners ● Monthly Tot Shabbat ● Holiday ● Celebrations

Register Today! Contact Rabbi Miriam Hyman at: education@tbeny.org or (845) 454-0570



Each year local community partners come together under the umbrella of Jewish Family Services of the JFedDC to create a full day of service to our greater community know as Mitzvah Day. In 2019 we are joined by the Federation of Ulster County making this a Mid-Hudson Valley Mitzvah Day. Headquarters, on May 5th, will be at Congregation Schomre Israel in Poughkeepsie. Go to www.jewishdutchess.org to register for a project. For more Ulster County projects contact the Federation in Ulster at www.ucjf.org.

PJ Library creates a Mini-Mitzvah Day with three separate age appropriate (0-8) Mitzvah projects at Mitzvah Day headquarters, encouraging families to participate in all three or only one - whatever is right for their family. This year we are expanding our offerings to give families, who choose to, the opportunity to participate all day - from our opening and breakfast at 9:00, to three projects at 10, 11 and 12:00, and to continue their day by staying for lunch. After lunch in our activity zone, families will listen to the PJ Library book *The World Needs Beautiful Things* and make a beautiful things box. After listening to "10 things I Can Do To Help The World", they will decorate a family shopping bag for a weekly collection of nonperishable foods for local food pantries. Finally, families will create "I did a Mitzvah!" pins after listening to "26 Big Things Small Hands Do". We will end the day at 2:00 with our own closing circle. Our Mitzvah Day projects will serve The Lunch Box of Dutchess Outreach, Liberty Station Veterans Residence of Hudson River Housing, and the SPCA Pets for Vets project.

This year in order to support adult participation in off-site projects that are not kid friendly, PJ Library is also offering a Drop In Zone for kids ages 3-8 who have been pre-registered. Your kids can stay at headquarters with PJ Library staff and volunteers while you complete your project. You must be preregistered in a project and your child must be preregistered for the Drop In Zone (all children must be potty trained).

To make all of this happen, volunteer for PJ Library's Mini Mitzvah Day which is a Mitzvah Day Project! You can volunteer for a specific activity, to be a reader in our Story Station, or to help run the Drop In Zone activities. Teen volunteers are welcome and will receive a letter for any community service requirements they have for school, clubs, etc.

In addition to these projects there are several collections families may contribute to: Bring boxed cereal for Cereal Counts to help provide nourishing food for local children throughout the summer; bring packages of new adult size large underwear for men and women for the Jewish War Veteran's Collection; bring cake mix, candles, and icing for The Birthday Bag Project; and bring pet food for the SPCA Community Pet Food Pantry.

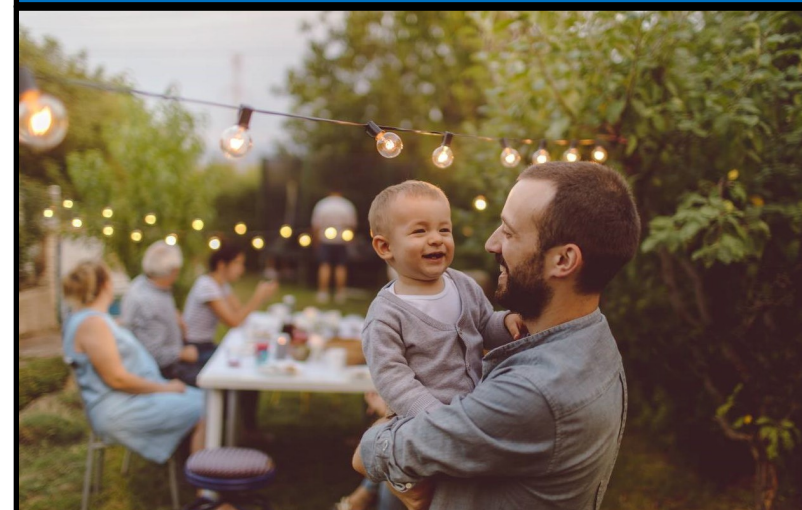
Mitzvah Day is a great opportunity for us to make a difference in our community together! We will see you at headquarters or at an offsite project.

Your PJ Library Team:

Melinda Margulies, Kimberly Ritz, Bekah Starr, and new Ulster Liaison, Rachel Jakobs,

Have questions? Need help finding resources? Contact: pjlibrary@jewishdutchess.org

PJ Library Get-Togethers



- PJ Library and PJ OurWay enrolled families-get together with two or more families who are raising Jewish children
- Send us three pictures
- Get up to \$100 back in a no fee debit card
- For details and to apply, go to <https://pjlibrary.org/gettogether2018>



Not a part of PJ Library yet?
Receive a FREE children's book each month and become part of the PJ Library family.
Register online at www.PJLibrary.org
Monthly e-newsletters. Special program invitations! Call (845) 471-9811 or email PJLibrary@JewishDutchess.org



*PJ Library is a program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and made possible through gifts from the Jewish Federations of Dutchess and Ulster Counties, The Harding Club, and the generous support of PJ Library donors.
To make a donation online, go to www.JewishDutchess.org
Thank you!*

Hudson Valley Mitzvah Day Reg

Sunday, May 5, 2019 • 9 am-2 pm • Mitzvah Day Headquarters: Congregation Schomre Israel,

REGISTER EARLY!

Register online at www.JewishDutchess.org beginning April 2nd or mail the completed form (next page) to JFDC, PO Box 2525, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Registrations received by April 15th will be entered into a drawing for various gift card prizes. *KID DROP OFF ZONE AVAILABLE* See Project #2

	PROJECT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
1	PJ Library Mini - Mitzvah Day	PJ Library is offering a full day of projects and activities for families with children ages 0-8. There are 3 major projects plus a drop in zone for kids ages 3-8- Families may sign up for one project or as many as they like. We need adult and teen volunteers to help facilitate.	Mitzvah Day HQ
2	PJ Library Drop Off Zone	A drop-in zone for kids ages 3-8 to accommodate parents who wish to participate in projects not appropriate for younger children. **Advanced Registration Required**	Mitzvah Day HQ
3	PJ Library Mid-Hudson Valley/ Liberty Station	Creating & stuffing laundry bags with laundry supplies for Liberty Station Veterans' Residence.	Mitzvah Day HQ
4	PJ Library Mid-Hudson Valley/ Lunch Box	Creation of centerpieces/table decorations for The Lunch Box.	Mitzvah Day HQ
5	PJ Library Mid-Hudson Valley/ SPCA Pets for Vets	Adoption support bags for the SPCA Pets for Vets Program. Pet Food drive for Pet Food Panty.	Mitzvah Day HQ
6	The Pines	Adults and youth will visit nursing home & perform for & socialize with residents. Children not a member of youth group must be accompanied by an adult.	Meet 9:00 am at Mitzvah Day HQ
7	Cookie Caper	Baking desserts & distributing them at Dutchess Outreach Lunchbox. Leaving TBE for Lunchbox at 11:30 -11:45a.m.	Meet 9:00 am at Mitzvah Day HQ
8	Gomez Mill House	Indoor spring cleaning of Gomez Mill House and outdoor gardening, weeding, and planting new flowers. Lunch provided by agency	Meet at 9:00 am Mitzvah Day HQ. Leave: 9:30 am for 11 Mill House Rd, Marlboro
9	Appalachian Trail	Crush invasive phragmites plants along Appalachian Trail boardwalk.	Meet at 9:00 am HQ. Leave: 9:30 am for 991 NY-22 Pawling, NY 12564
10	Pershing Cemetery	Rake and clean Pershing Cemetery site of leaves, small branches, miscellaneous debris.	Meet at 9:00 am Mitzvah Day HQ Leave: 9:30 am for 94-98 Pershing Ave, Poughkeepsie NY
11	The Birthday Bags Project	Create Birthday In-A-Bag for underprivileged children. Volunteers sort gift items. Make birthday cards. Decorate and stuff gift bags.	Mitzvah Day HQ
12	New Horizons Resources	New group residential home constructed on the farm site. Need site restoration, winter cleanup & spring planting. Flower beds, barn cleanup, rebuild koi pond, etc.	Meet at 9:00 am Mitzvah Day HQ. Leave: 9:30 am for Briggs Farm, 201 Cream St, Poughkeepsie NY 12603
13	Mitzvah Day Registration Table	Coordinate & assist with the registration process, assist volunteers in selecting projects/ answering questions, trouble shooting, communicate with project captains as necessary.	Mitzvah Day HQ
14	Cereal Counts	Bring boxed cereals for hungry neighbors in need to your synagogues' cereal drive, or bring to Mitzvah Day HQ at Schomre Israel on Mitzvah Day morning.	Mitzvah Day HQ
15	Dutchess Outreach Lunch Box	Prepare meal for Dutchess Outreach Lunch Box and serve at the Lunch Box.	Meet at 9:00 am, Mitzvah Day HQ. Leave: 9:30 am for 29 North Hamilton St.
16	Jewish Federation of Dutchess County (JFedDC)/ Harding Club	Help with community mailing. Help facilitate young family participation in projects at HQ.	Mitzvah Day HQ
17	Congregation Beth David Pantry Collection	Collecting non-perishable foods, personal care products, and paper goods for the St. Thomas Episcopal Church of Amenia Food Pantry.	Congregation Beth David, 3344 East Main Street, Amenia
18	Jewish Federation of Ulster County	Program to be held in Kingston. Details TBA. See registration website jewishdutchess.org/programs for more details.	Kingston
19	Liberty Station	Come support our local veterans. Help prepare vegetable garden and/or do kitchen spring cleaning.	Mitzvah Day HQ. Leave: 9:30 am for 38 N. Clinton St, Poughkeepsie NY

♦ MITZVAH DAY DRIVES ♦ Mitzvah Day is a Community Service Day!

Starting April 28th, 2019 we'll be gearing up for a successful Mitzvah Day with three Mitzvah Day Drives. Please participate in the projects below!

• CEREAL COUNTS

Boxed cereal for hungry neighbors in need. Drop off boxes of cereal at your local synagogues after April 28, 2019 or bring to Mitzvah Day HQ on May 5. For more information contact cerealmid@aol.com

• BIRTHDAY BAGS

Bring a box of cake mix, a can of frosting, and a package of birthday candles to Congregation Schomre Israel, Temple Beth El, or Vassar Temple starting April 28th, 2019. For more information contact Jasmine Russo jasmainerusso@gmail.com

Registration Form

18 Park Avenue Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Join us for breakfast at 9:00 am (RSVP when you register) and then head to project location, or go straight to your project at the appointed time. Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

TIME	TOOLS NEEDED (If You Have Them)
9:00 am - 2:00 pm	We need adult and teen volunteers to help facilitate.
9:00 am - 2:00 pm	Age limitations 3-8 years old. Must be potty trained, and must be preregistered.
10:00 am - 11:00 am	Pet food for Pets for Vets Program.
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Pet food for Pets for Vets Program.
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Pet food for Pets for Vets Program.
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	None needed.
9:00 am - 1:00 pm	None needed.
9:00 am - 2:00 pm	Bring small hand tools, gloves & hat. Wear work clothes & boots.
10:10 am - 2:30 pm	Work gloves.
9:00 am until done	Bring: Rakes and work gloves.
9:00 am - 12:30 pm	Crayons, markers, paper for cards.
9:00 am - 2:00 pm	None needed.
8:30 am - 2:00 pm	None needed.
9:00 am - 11:00 am	Register Online. You will be contacted with further information.
9:00 am - 1:30 pm	None needed.
9:00 am - 1:00 pm	None needed.
9:30 am - 1:00 pm	Food Pantry.
TBA	TBA
9:00 am - 2:00 pm	Gloves and small gardening tools.



Mitzvah Day Project Choices

Assignment is made on a first-come, first-served basis. Please use project numbers to indicate first and second choices. Indicate age if under 18 years.

Family Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Individual Name _____

Project # _____ 1 2

Project # _____ 1 2

Individual Name _____

Project # _____ 1 2

Project # _____ 1 2

Individual Name _____

Project # _____ 1 2

Project # _____ 1 2

Remember the Mitzvah Day Drives! (see details below table)

Number attending breakfast _____

Number attending lunch _____

SCHEDULE

9:00 Light breakfast and opening ceremony, Mitzvah Day Headquarters, Congregation Schomre Israel

9:30 Off to do mitzvot around the Hudson Valley

11:00 - 1:00 Light lunch for volunteers, Mitzvah Day Headquarters, Congregation Schomre Israel

Note: Photographs taken on Mitzvah Day may be used for Jewish Federation marketing and outreach.

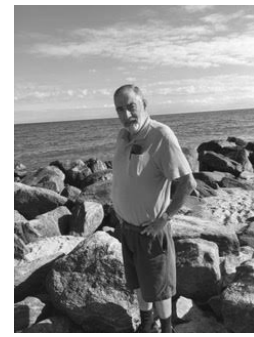
Partially underwritten by a grant from Ann and Abe Effron Fund – Donor Advised of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley. Sponsored by Jewish Family Services of Dutchess County, a program of the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County.

Please consider making a donation to support Mitzvah Day. Make checks payable to: **Jewish Family Services, PO Box 2525 Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.**

• JEWISH WAR VETERANS VA COLLECTION

New underwear and socks for Clothes Closet (male & female; size large preferred). Deliver to Temple Beth-El, Vassar, and Shomre. For more information, contact Martin Hochhauser mhochhauser@yahoo.com

JFedDC Community Programs...



Dr. Jack Fein

Literary Notables - Part 2

He also added..."I may not be much of a chauvinist for the nation as such or for the territory, but I am terribly adamant and keen on the language. I will not part from it...just as the state of Israel is young so, of course, is Israeli literature...?"

Oz became a primary figure in the Israeli "New Wave" movement in literature in the 1960s, a group which included A. B. Yehoshua, Amalia Kahana-Carmon, and Aharon Appelfeld.

He employed a fanciful, imaginative license to capture the drama of Israeli society itself. In his gripping novel *Judas* he portrays the protagonist Shalteal, a member of the Zionist executive committee who developed close links with the local Arab population. Shalteal opposed and ultimately betrayed David Ben-Gurion in the struggle over the foundation of the state of Israel. The character advocated instead that Jews and Arabs live side by side as equals in a country under international control. This is juxtaposed to the author imagining the relationship of and betrayal by Judas of Jesus. Each could be considered treachery in a good cause since the betrayal had to be part of God's plan.

In *Dear Zealots* Oz offers three powerful essays that speak directly to our present age, on the rise of zealotry in Israel, on the universal nature of fanaticism and its possible cures, on the Jewish roots of humanism and the need for a secular pride in Israel, and on the geopolitical standing of Israel in the wider Middle East and internationally.

Oz was one of the first Israelis to advocate for a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict after the Six-Day War. He did so in a 1967 article "Land of our Forefathers" in the Labor newspaper *Davar*. "Even unavoidable occupation is a corrupting occupation," he wrote. In 1977, Oz co-founded Peace Now, a group which called for negotiations with the Palestinians and the creation of a Palestinian state. He indicated that he would always fight if Israel were ever threatened. He believed that the one thing more ugly than using violence is not reacting to violence. For many years Oz was identified with the Israeli Labor Party and was close to its leader Shimon Peres. When Peres retired from party leadership, he is said to have named Oz as one of three possible successors.

In *How To Cure A Fanatic* Oz offered insight into the true nature of extremism and proposed a reasoned approach to resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He also commented on the Gaza pullout, Yasser Arafat's death, and the war in Iraq. Oz argued that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is not a war of religion or cultures or traditions, but rather a real estate dispute--one that will be resolved not only by greater understanding, but by painful compromise.

More recently, in a New York Times editorial in June 2010, he wrote: "Hamas is not just a terrorist organization. Hamas is an idea, a desperate and fanatical idea that grew out of the desolation and frustration of many Palestinians. No idea has ever been defeated by force... To defeat an idea, you have to offer a better idea, a more attractive and acceptable one... Israel has to sign a peace agreement with President Mahmoud Abbas and his Fatah government in the West Bank."

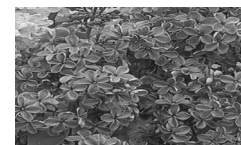
Oz strongly supported Israeli actions in Gaza during the 2014 Israel-Gaza conflict, criticizing Hamas for using human shields, asking: "What would you do if your neighbor across the street sits down on the balcony, puts his little boy on his lap, and starts shooting machine-gun fire into your nursery? What would you do if your neighbor across the street digs a tunnel from his nursery to your nursery in order to blow up your home or in order to kidnap your family?"

To Amos Oz nationalism, more often appealed to weak people who dwelled in fantasy, rather than in reality. The real Israel, the one he found on Kibbutz Hulda, was cherishable precisely because it was not just an idea, but a fact, something achieved by real labor and compromise.

In tribute, Israel's President Reuben Rivlin said "A story of love and light and now great darkness"

THE LEAH's (Ladies Eating at Hadassah)

The lilacs are in bloom and so are we. Come join us (Hadassah membership not required) for lunch with a congenial group of ladies.



The LEAH's (Ladies Eating At Hadassah) will be celebrating on OCHO DE MAYO ~~~ for the Gringas within us all; that's **May 8 12:30pm lunch at Margarita's 1810 South Rd (The Kohl's Plaza)**

As in the past, we will be ordering off the menu, and separate checks will be provided. At the luncheon we will collect a voluntary, minimum donation of \$3 for Hadassah.

For questions or to RSVP by May 3, please contact Grete at (845) 297-0775 or grete15@optonline.net or contact Judy at (845) 462-6310 or judydym@gmail.com. Reservations are a MUST

1. Do you need a ride?
2. Can you give a ride?
3. Please let us know if you have an April or May birthday that you'd like announced.

The "Cabaret Rabbi" to Perform

Rabbi Deborah Zecher, also known as "The Cabaret Rabbi," will perform her critically acclaimed show "Broadway Bible."

Rabbi Zecher had always sung primarily in the synagogue. But in 1995, when she was invited to do a presentation at another local temple, the opportunity led to a new passion. She created "Broadway Bible," a program linking familiar Bible stories with beloved Broadway show tunes. Don't miss this entertaining social event!



DETAILS

Sunday, May 19, 7:30pm in the Vassar Temple event hall. Tickets, which include a dessert and glass of wine are on sale for \$36 at the Vassar Temple office. For more information: call (845) 454-2570 or email office@vassartemple.org.

Our Executive Director



Chag Samech! Happy Passover! Happy Spring!

Passover is one of those "funny" holidays in that people either tend to love it or not. Some LOVE Passover foods, while others count the days until bagels are back on the menu. In our family, we joke that it is a "crummy holiday" - because of all the matza crumbs (hahaha).

Growing up, my mother always called it our spring cleaning - which is so true. We would go through the fridge and throw out a number of things. We scrubbed each shelf and drawer until it sparkled. We did the same with cabinets, the oven, the microwave - you get the picture - it was a lot of work. Then we had to drag all the Passover dishes, pots, pans, and utensils up from the basement, bring other stuff back down, wash it all and put it away, again, a lot of work.

Then there was the very limited Kosher for Passover food selection, not like today, including the horrible 'catsup'. Now, even Kosher For Passover Parve "ice cream" can be found and I seem to buy more sweets during this week than any other. Somehow, the lack of eating bread seems to leave me craving something.

Before having kids, I would frequently share my lack of enjoyment over the holiday and the amount of work.... but I always felt a sense of pride, accomplishment, and maybe even a little relief when it was over. It was an amazing reminder of how our ancestors had to give up so much more for so much longer and that my "suffering" was only a limited time. At the end of 8 days, I always appreciate everything so much more, the "freedom" to resume my normal life, and the accomplishment that I did it. I try passing that lesson on to my children, but kids are kids and it will be something that they will need to learn for themselves. At least I try and make the prep a little more fun for them and enjoy asking them (as much as they enjoy hearing) who wants to help get ready for Passover by finishing all the ice cream in the freezer...

Wishing you all a Zissen Pesach!

Karen Hochhauser

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Next year in Jerusalem



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Effron**

Anti-Semitism: Then & Now

By Cantor Devorah Gartner, Temple Beth-El Youth & B'nai Mitzvah Director

In a year that has seen the largest massacre of Jews in a synagogue in America as well as frankly anti-Semitic language from political leaders, it is impossible to ignore the increase (and acceptance) of all kinds of hate speech. The students of the **Gesher Hebrew High School** approached the Yom HaShoah Commemoration Committee with this topic as the central organizing principle of the program for the annual Yom HaShoah Community Commemoration at Dutchess Community College.

As the students studied the parallels in current events with those during the rise of Nazi Germany, they were struck by how familiar many of the incidents seemed. The pupils began to look at the similarities, and the differences, and their focus on this convergence was formed. The students are studying the past and its dangerous echoes in the present because they are committed not only to bear witness to history but also to prevent it from repeating itself.



The featured speaker for the annual commemoration on Thursday, May 2 will be **Kenneth S. Stern, Director of the Bard Center for the Study of Hate**. He is an attorney, author, and one of the country's leading experts on anti-semitism and hatred. He has testified before Congress (most recently about anti-Semitism on campus, before the House Committee on the Judiciary), has been an invited presenter at the White House conference on Hate Crimes, and has been an official member of the United States delegation to the Stockholm International Forum on Combating Intolerance. He has argued before state and federal courts, including the United States Supreme Court.

Stern is the author of four books, including *Loud Hawk: The United States vs. the American Indian Movement* which won the Gustave Myers Center Award as outstanding book on Human Rights. His book on the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing – *A Force Upon The Plain: The American Militia Movement* and *The Politics of Hate* was nominated for the National Book Award.

For a quarter century Stern was the American Jewish Committee's expert on anti-semitism, and he wrote about it in books. (His two books under the AJC imprint were *Holocaust Denial and Antisemitism Today*.) His op-ed pieces and book reviews appeared in *The New York Times*, *USA Today* and *The Washington Post*. He has appeared on Face the Nation, Dateline, Good Morning America, the CBS Evening News, the History Channel, and National Public Radio. He is slated to appear in a 2019 PBS documentary on anti-semitism by filmmaker Andrew Goldberg. We look forward to welcoming him to Dutchess Community College on May 2.

The Maccabeats—Live! One Night Only

The Maccabeats, one of the world's premier a cappella singing groups and YouTube singing sensation, will be performing, with a reception to follow after the concert.

The Maccabeats perform an eclectic array of Jewish, American, and Israeli songs. They have emerged as both a Jewish music and an a cappella phenomenon, with a large fanbase, more than 20 million views on YouTube and numerous TV appearances. They produce a unique blend of musical genres and styles, intricate harmonies, thumping beatbox, and stunning lead vocals.

DETAILS

Sunday, April 7, 4:00pm, Congregation Shir Chadash. For more information contact: (845) 223-1029 or info@shir-chadash.org. Tickets available at www.shir-chadash.org via PayPal or major credit cards. Adults - \$32 in advance, \$40 at the door; Students - \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Seating is limited.

Sense and Sensibility by Steven Brummel, President of the IJC in Brussels Belgium

Belgium punches far above its weight on the world stage when it comes of history, culture and food. This includes its folkloric culture. UNESCO has designated several annual Belgian rites as world cultural heritage events. One so honored is the annual bawdy Carnival parade before Lent in the Flemish town of Aalst (Alost in French) outside Brussels.

The carnival parade in Aalst is meant to be humorous and the floats are known for being outrageous and breaking taboos. But Aalst went too far last Sunday and Monday. One float called "Sabbath 2019" had giant figures of ultra-orthodox Jews with large streimel hats, hooked noses, standing on bags of money. One figure had a rat on his shoulder and a cigar in his mouth (see photo below). Members of the group that built the float wore similar costumes and walked along side the float.

The float certainly had shock value. But to us, the shock was to see the reappearance of the Nazi caricature of the venal, subhuman Jew in a country where during World War II, the Nazis exterminated over 41% of its Jewish population. During the Nazi era, this image appeared in *Der Stürmer* as floats in Carnival parades in Germany. The group which built the float says the theme was really "saving money", that is, saving money on this year's float so that they would have more money to build a much larger and more complex float next year. We suppose that, to this group, the image of the Jew represents "money" and a penny-pinching scrooge - and thus in a way "saving money".

When confronted by complaints from Belgium's main Jewish umbrella organizations, the group seemed flabbergasted, claiming they had no anti-semitic intent. It was just a joke. When the town's Mayor was asked about the impropriety of the float, he said that Carnival season is all about breaking rules and there really should not be a constraint on free expression during this period. He emphasized that the float had to be seen in context and that there was no ill intent.

Yes, context is everything. In the context of the Aalst carnival, this float was just a rowdy play on images. However, one must look at the larger context. These images hark back to a time during the war when these caricatures were omnipresent in Belgium, awful things were happening and the Belgians were not blameless. Portions of Belgian officialdom did not oppose the Nazi efforts to round up all Jews in the country.

Just a month ago, the Flemish historian Herman Van Goethem published the book "1942" showing that the Antwerp wartime Mayor had actively collaborated with the Nazi SS to roundup Jews, penalizing local police who refused to participate in the exercise. A Flemish SS brigade was formed which went to the Eastern Front and participated in the murder of Jews. It has been recently reported that some of these SS veterans are still alive and receiving "Hitler" pensions from Germany. It took decades for the Belgian State to acknowledge its dark role in the Holocaust and to offer apologies to the Belgian Jewish community. Belgium has built a Holocaust Museum in Mechelen, the transit point for Jews on the way to Auschwitz, to mark and commemorate what happened to Belgian Jewry and why. Moreover, the shocking use of wartime Nazi images is not new to the Aalst carnival. In 2013, one group's float featured a mock cattle car, the type used to transport Jews to the concentration camps, accompanied by their members dressed in SS uniform drinking champagne in front of a poster depicting smiling German soldiers carrying canisters of Zyklon B. It made light of the Holocaust and earned condemnation from around the world including from UNESCO.

Times are changing. Such caricatures trigger trauma in the Belgian Jewish community and cannot be used gratuitously for laughs. Fifty years ago Mel Brooks made a comedy film "The Producers" with a plot based on an attempt to portray Hitler's rise in a Broadway musical. There were dance numbers involving goose-stepping SS soldiers. It was not made to support a new rise of Nazism. It was made to show how preposterous the idea would be. Today the ghost of anti-semitism has been disinterred in Belgium, Europe and the world at large. Light-hearted attempts to play with anti-Semitic symbols show a fundamental disregard of history, current events and common decency.



New Paths Morning Worship

Join us at New Paths Sabbath morning service in the informal, intimate setting of Vassar Temple's East Chapel. The moving liturgy of the *New Paths* prayer book includes both traditional and contemporary writings, mostly in English. You may also bring supplemental materials to share. We take the time to let the service get through to us, rather than getting through the service.

Each New Paths service, whether lay-led or rabbi-led, provides a unique and thoughtful Shabbat morning experience. A brief mini Kiddush follows.

DETAILS
Saturday, April 6 and 27, 10:00am.
For info, contact: Marian Schwartz: mschwa9882@aol.com, Rabbi Altman rabbi@vassartemple.org or call the Temple office (845) 454-2570.

First Night Community Seder

8th annual lay-led seder the first night of Passover, the community is warmly invited to attend. Enjoy a short, meaningful Seder service, appealing to both adults and children, followed by a delicious four-course kosher-style dinner, including matzah ball soup, appetizers, entrée choice of fish or rotisserie chicken, herbed vegetables, Pesach desserts, ritual wine, juice and soft drinks. You may also bring your own table wines.

Passover is best when experienced with others. Vassar Temple, wants to make sure that everyone has an opportunity to take part in a seder. Community members who have not attended a Seder in years, or even ever, are expressly welcomed! Space is limited, so please reserve early.

This is not a fundraiser and the fees have been set to cover expenses. Cost: adult: \$40; age 5-13: \$12; Under age 5 free. If you cannot afford that fee, please contact us as support funds are available.



DETAILS
Friday, April 19, 5:30pm Vassar Temple. RSVP deadline is April 8, and your payment is your reservation. Checks should be made out to "Vassar Temple", and write "Seder" in the memo area, and the number of adults and children. Please include your e-mail address and indicate your entrée selection(s) of fish or chicken. Checks should be brought or mailed to Vassar Temple, 140 Hooker Ave., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 so that they are received by April 8.

If you have any further questions, have any special dietary requirements, or would like financial assistance, please contact Ron Rosen by e-mail: seder@vassartemple.org or by phone at (845) 454-4936. This event is co-chaired by Polly Lewis and Ron Rosen.

Healing Service

Everyone is welcome to attend a new Healing Service led by Rabbi Renni S. Altman, DD and Cantorial Intern Ilana Goldman. This service is designed for anyone praying for healing of the body, soul, and spirit for themselves or others, for caregivers, and for anyone in need of spiritual strength. The service, to be held in the round, will include prayers, reflections, and songs that focus on healing and on Shabbat, as well as a Torah reading. Please feel free to contact Rabbi Altman with any questions at rabbi@vassartemple.org

DETAILS
Saturday, April 13, 10:30am - 12:00pm. Vassar Temple, 140 Hooker Ave.

The Golden Gelt Raffle!

Vassar Temple is holding a raffle, and only 200 tickets will be sold, increasing the odds of winning!

1st prize: \$5000, 2nd prize: \$1000, 3rd prize: \$500, 4th prizes (4): \$250

The tickets are \$100 (all are tax deductible), and everyone is invited to participate. Raffles are available at Vassar Temple, 140 Hooker Ave, (845) 454-2570. Payment may be by credit card or check made out to "Vassar Temple" with "Golden Gelt raffle" in the memo.

The drawing for all prizes will be held April 28, at 1:00pm, in the Vassar Temple Social Hall. For info, or to purchase tickets, contact Gail D'Alessio at gaildalessio@yahoo.com.

Note: Prizes above based on sale of 200 tickets, to be adjusted as follows: 1st prize: 25%, 2nd prize: 5%, 3rd prize: 2.5%, 4th prizes: 1.25% of sales.

JEWISH WAR VETERANS POST 625

Private Herman Siegel Post 625 of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States holds regular monthly meetings.

All persons of the Jewish faith who have served in the armed forces and others of the Jewish faith are cordially invited to attend and participate. 9:00am is an informal coffee and cake "schmooze."

Congregation Schomre Israel is strictly kosher, so no outside food may be brought in. We look forward to seeing you there.

DETAILS
Sunday: 1st Sunday of each month at 9:30am. 18 Park Avenue, Poughkeepsie. Questions? Contact Rob Rubin, Presiding Officer at qbee5@optonline.net

Jewish Organizations Greetings

May you be blessed with peace, prosperity, and joy this Passover

Sisterhood Schomre Israel

Peace to you this Passover!

Rabbi Jonathan Kligler & Woodstock Jewish Congregation

May you be blessed with peace, prosperity, and joy this Passover

Congregation Schomre Israel

May you be blessed with peace, prosperity, and joy this Passover

Congregation Shir Chadash www.Shir-Chadash.org

Happy Passover

Private Herman Siegel JWV Post 625 Poughkeepsie

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The Vassar Temple Sisterhood Judaica Shop

offers a wide selection of religious and Passover items:

Seder plates, Books, Haggadot, Matzoh holders and covers Great gift ideas & more! Gift certificate available.

Our Judaica Shop features jewelry, art, and cosmetics from Israel. Open Mondays-Thursday from 10:00am-2:00pm & Sunday March 31 9:30am-12:30pm & April 7, 14, 9:30am-11:30am Or call (914) 456-7309 for appointment

Chag Sameach, Peace, & Happiness from the Sisterhood!

Happy Passover

May your home be filled with peace and joy!

Vassar Temple

Rabbi Renni S. Altman, DD
Alan Kflowitz, President

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♦ Rabbi Daniel Victor ♦ Rabbi Miriam Hyman, Education Director and Prayer Leader ♦ Susan Canning, Director of Operations and Programs ♦ Cantor Deborah Gartner, Youth Advisor ♦ Steven A. Koch, President ♦

Local

Sunday

Bagels, Lox, Torah (Tefillin too!) 9:00am 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.

Temple Beth-El serves at Lunchbox Volunteers always needed to keep this program running. Please call (845) 454-0570 if you can help.

Monday

Congregation Schomre Israel Chair Yoga with Toni Farkas 11:30am. \$5 per session. All welcome.

Temple Beth-El Board Meeting April 8, 7:30pm. Temple Beth-El Board of Trustees meeting.

Wednesday

Learn & Lunch Bunch every Wednesday, 11:00am-1:30pm. 118 So. Grand Ave, Poughkeepsie. Please RSVP each week by Monday so we can prepare appropriate amount of food. For information, menu, and program schedule, see page 2 of *The Voice* or contact (845) 471-9811.

Friday

Congregation Shir Chadash Kabbalat Shabbat Service April 5, 12, 26, 7:30pm, evening service with Rabbi Daniel Polish and Cantor Gail Hirschenfang. Followed by community Oneg. All welcome.

Vassar Temple Shabbat April 5, 12, 26, 7:30pm.

Vassar Temple Community Seder April 19, 5:00pm. See page 14 for more information.

Vassar Temple Yizkor April 16, 10:00am.

Temple Beth-El Evening Service each week, 8:00pm, Conservative, egalitarian service. All welcome.

Saturday

Congregation Shir Chadash Sharing Shabbat and Religious School Programs April 6, 27, 9:00-10:30am. Come early at 8:45am and have breakfast on us! Registration for religious school is ongoing. New parents are encouraged to have their children try a class for a month with no obligation. Children learn about Jewish culture, holidays, and history while having fun and making friends. All are welcome.

Congregation Shir Chadash Tot Program April 6, 27, 9:00-10:30am. Children ages 3-5, accompanied by an adult, learn through crafts, food, and games. The class is open to all families and free of charge.

Congregation Shir Chadash Morning Torah Service April 6, 27, 10:45-11:30am. Led by Rabbi Daniel F. Polish & Cantor Gail Hirschenfang. Bagels, coffee, etc. prior to service. All welcome!

Vassar Temple New Paths Shabbat Morning Worship April 6, 27, 10:00am.

Vassar Temple Healing Service April 13, 1:30am—12:00pm.

Vassar Temple Tot Shabbat April 27, 10:30am.

Temple Beth-El Shabbat Morning Service every week, 9:30am. Lively, inclusive, Conservative, egalitarian Shabbat.

Spring Rummage Sale

Vassar Temple Sisterhood is accepting rummage items through Friday, April 5, weekdays 10:00am-2:00pm, as well the evenings of Wednesday, April 3 and Thursday, April 4 6:00-8:00pm.

Tax receipts will be given for all donations. Bring your items to the social hall, place them on the left side of the room, and keep the area in front of the stage clear.

Please don't leave items outside the building when it is closed. Sorry we can't accept textbooks, old TV's, old computers or heavily damaged goods. For large items, please contact us before you bring them.

Volunteers are always and greatly needed the week prior to the sale as well as on sale day!

DETAILS

Sunday, April 7, 9:30am-12:30pm; the bag sale starts at 2:00pm and ends at 5:00pm. For information or to volunteer, please contact rummage@vassartemple.org or the Vassar Temple (845) 454-2570

Out of Area

Congregation Emanuel of the Hudson Valley Events

23 Albany Ave, Kingston, NY 12401 (845) 338-4271 www.templemanuelkingston.org.

All services held in our chapel are available to live stream. Visit our website: www.cehv.org and click on the live stream link on the homepage. You can also view archived services and classes.

Kabbalat Shabbat Evening Service First Friday evening at 6:00pm with a symbolic Oneg following. All other Fridays at 7:30pm with an Oneg following.

Musical Kabbalat Shabbat is the second Friday of the month.

Shabbat Service with Zemer Choir Participation is the fourth Friday of the month.

Tot Shabbat May 11, 9:00am. A wonderful way to introduce your tot to Shabbat through interactive music with Rabbi Romer and her guitar.

Religious School Saturday, 9:30am-12:30pm, September - May. Contact our Religious School Director Samara Genee for more info at (845) 338-4271 x 110.

Saturday Morning Service 10:00am for an uplifting morning communal prayer, meditation, and Torah study.

Ongoing Adult Education with the Rabbi Call (845) 338-4271(x101) for class dates/time: Hebrew Trope, Torah Study, Introduction to Judaism, Beginner and Intermediate Conversational Modern Hebrew, Meditation and Parashat Shuvah, Kabbalah and Private Conversion Tutorials.

Lunch with Rabbi Romer & Guests April 2, 12:00pm. First Tuesday of the month at 12:00pm. Join Rabbi Romer for a hot luncheon with discussion following.

Rhinebeck Meditation & Torah Study Tuesday, 8:45am; 9:15am weekly Torah study, led by Rabbi Yael Romer.

Confirmation Class with Rabbi Romer Meeting first Wednesday, Shabbat Dinner the second Friday, Community service TBD monthly on either the second or fourth Thursday. Religious School registration required.

Rosh Chodesh Tuesday, April 16, 6:45pm refreshments, 7:00pm. Our Rosh Chodesh group is a women's gathering exploring our female voices in Jewish Traditions.

Women's Seder April 7, 5:00pm

Second Day Seder April 20, 4:30pm. Menu and prices TBA, online reservations at www.cehv.org

Yom HaShoah Remembrance May 5, 4:00pm community event. All welcome to join us.

Calendar

April

REGULAR SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Beacon Hebrew Alliance (Conservative)

331 Verplanck Avenue, Beacon (845) 831-2012
Rabbi Brent Spodek; Cantor Ellen Gersh; Education Director, Ashley Baker

Website: www.beaconhebrewalliance.org

Email: 411@beaconhebrewalliance.org

Services: Fridays, 7:30pm and alternating Saturdays at 9:30am. Visit website for information about services, religious school, and community events

Chabad of Mid-Hudson Valley

63 Vassar Road, Poughkeepsie (845) 463-5801

Rabbi Yacov Borenstein

Website: www.chabadmidhudsonvalley.com

Email: ChabadMidhudsonVlv@prodigy.net

Services: Fridays, call for time and Saturdays at 10:00am

Congregation Beth David (Reform)

East Main Street, Amenia (845) 373-8264

Rabbi Jon Haddon

Website: www.CongBethDavid.org

Email: JonRab33@gmail.com

Services: usually Saturdays, 10:00am twice monthly except January and February; call for schedules

Congregation Schomre Israel (Orthodox)

18 Park Avenue, Poughkeepsie (845) 454-2890

Rabbi Eliezer Langer

Website: www.schomreisrael.org

Email: SchomreI@aol.com

Services: Monday-Thursday, 7:00am, Sunday, 8:00am,

Saturday, 9:00am Sunday-Thursday 7:00pm

Shabbat Services vary depending on sundown

Congregation Shir Chadash (Reform)

Interim: Freedom Plains Presbyterian Church, Lagrange

(845) 232-1029

Rabbi Daniel Polish, Cantor Gail Hirschenfang Website:

www.shir-chadash.org

Email: info@shir-chadash.org

Services: Friday, 7:30pm; bimonthly Saturday children's

religious school, 9:00am, Torah study, 9:15

Pardess Center for Jewish Life

(845) 440-7592

Rabbi Zalman Sandhaus

Website: www.MyPardess.org

Email: info@MyPardess.org

The Rhinebeck Jewish Center

102 Montgomery Street, Rhinebeck (845) 876-7666

Rabbi Hanoch Hecht and Rebbitzin Tzivie Hecht Website:

www.RhinebeckJewishCenter.com

Email: RSVP@RhinebeckJewishCenter.com

Friday services call for time; Saturday services, 9:30am

Temple Beth El (Conservative)

118 So Grand Avenue, Poughkeepsie (845) 454-0570

Rabbi Daniel Victor, Rosh Tefilah Rabbi Miriam Hyman

Email: info@tbeny.org

Website: www.tbeny.org

Services: Friday, 8:00pm, Saturday Shabbat service at

9:30am, weekdays, 7:30am daily

Vassar College Bayit

51 Collegeview Avenue, Poughkeepsie (845) 451-3920

Liz Aeschlimann, Rose and Irving Rachlin Director of

Jewish Student Life at Vassar College

Email: eaeschlimann@vassar.edu

Services: Friday, 6:00pm service, 7:00pm dinner when

school is in session

Vassar Temple (Reform)

140 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie (845) 454-2570

Rabbi Renni Altman Website: www.vassartemple.org

Email: Office@VassarTemple.org or

rabi@vassartemple.org

Services: Friday, 7:30pm unless otherwise noted, Torah

study Saturday, 9:00am. New Paths 1st and 3rd Saturday

every month, 10:00am unless otherwise noted.

April Candle Lighting

April 57:07pm

April 127:15pm

April 19.....7:22pm

April 20.....8:23pm

April 25.....7:29pm

April 26.....7:30pm

Want to share your thoughts about *The Voice*? Have an idea you'd like to see in print?

We're listening.

Email us at

TheVoice@JewishDutchess.org



The ROMEOS
(Retired Older Men Eating Out)

Best wishes for a zisessen Pesach!

Peter Albenda	Martin Hochhauser
Ted Baker	Gary Mayer
Mitch Barden	Bob Morrison
Shelly Baskin	Lou Newman
Herman Chertok	Frank Rubin
Stu Chimkin	Mike Schwartz
Marty Finkelstein	Ralph Schwartz
Jerry Goldberg	Eric Straus z'l
Eli Gorin	Mel Zipes z'l

Business Greetings

Passover Blessings

East Fishkill Eye Associates
Debbie Roodner, OD
Vicki Chenarides, OD

Passover Blessings

Avalon Assisted Living
and Wellness Center
in Wappinger Falls

HAPPY PASSOVER

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Peace to you
this Passover!

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Happy Passover

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Passover Blessings

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and Spice Catering

Passover Blessings

Stop & Shop
Poughkeepsie, NY

Passover Blessings

The Family and Staff
at Torstone Funeral Home

Chag Pesach Sameach

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Chag Pesach Sameach

Lorraine Patten, DDS
Louise Dewhirst, DDS
Michael S. Schwartz, DDS