

**Jewish Federation**  
of Dutchess County

**8TH ANNUAL  
JEWISH FEDERATION  
CELEBRATION GALA**

**STRONGER  
TOGETHER**

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Thursday | June 19th**  
**The Grandview | Poughkeepsie**

*Announcing our 2025 Honorees*

*Dedication to Community:*  
*Robert Levine z"l*

*Greater Jewish Community Leadership:*  
*Martin Hochhauser*

*Next Generation:*  
*Emma Arnoff*

*Righteous Dutchess:*  
*Salute to Law Enforcement*

**WWW.JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG/EVENTS**  
**845-471-9811 | INFO@JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG**

## Cybercrime Defense Boot Camp

### Prevent Your Apple ID From Getting Stolen

By Rivka Tadjer

With news of breaches and hacks almost daily, involving every company and government agency and health care organization you do business with, you need protection. These breaches can compromise your identity and bank accounts, not to mention the organized crime world of proactive hackers and fraudsters. The problem is that no one can protect you but yourself.

You need new life skills. It's the dawn of 2025. If you do not understand modern criminal and therefore victim behavior, you will become the latter. It is just a matter of time. There is no containing breached data—your bank account numbers, passwords, social security number, etc.—once they are out there. You cannot put the toothpaste back into the tube.

The good news is that you can become impervious to the constant barrage of breaches that involve your Personally Identifiable Information. You can learn new behaviors and apply new principles so that your beached data actively being trafficked on the dark web no longer leads to your assets or identity.

Here is a tip to start off your new year. This one is for iPhone users, because our phones are our mobile entry point to every financial interaction we have—and so it is a hacker's favorite target.

Getting your Apple ID stolen means you are locked out of your Apple account. The hacker will gain access to the credit card you have stored on your phone for purchasing apps, as well as iCloud backup of your entire phone contents.

Most hacker motivation is financial theft. But, if you are active in the Jewish community, you may also have antisemitic ideologies who want to target

(Continued on page 4)

**COPING WITH  
GRIEF AND LOSS**  
*grief support group*

**Jewish Federation of Dutchess  
County sponsored  
GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP FOR  
LOSS OF SPOUSE OR PARTNER**

IS SEEKING A LIMITED NUMBER OF NEW GROUP  
MEMBERS WHO HAVE BEEN BEREAVED 3 YEARS OR LESS  
Professionally Led by Judy Elkin, LMSW

Call JFedDC office at (845) 471-9811 for further details.



### Wildfire Crisis Relief

Wildfires across Greater Los Angeles have displaced tens of thousands, caused immense destruction, and tragically claimed lives. Jewish institutions, including a 100-year-old synagogue, are among those deeply affected.

Jewish Federations in Los Angeles, Ventura County, and San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys have opened a Wildfire Crisis Relief Fund to provide critical assistance to those impacted.

Your support ensures aid reaches Jewish communities and others in need during this devastating time.

To donate visit: [www.jewishla.org/wildfire-crisis-relief](http://www.jewishla.org/wildfire-crisis-relief)

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE PAID  
NEWBURGH, NY 12550  
PERMIT #934

Jewish Federation of Dutchess County  
P.O. Box 2525  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603  
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

**ANNOUNCING the launch of our new  
Coffee Mitzvah Club**  
See page 7 for more information.

*Skip a Coffee*

Join Our Coffee Mitzvah Club  
And Help To Support PJ Library





**\$18**

Petite Coffee Donor:  
Make a monthly  
donation of \$18



**\$36**




Tall Coffee Donor:  
Make a monthly  
donation of \$36



**\$54**

Grande Coffee Donor:  
Make a monthly  
donation of \$54

<https://www.jewishdutchess.org/programs/pj-library>






**Novel & Nosh**

JOIN US FOR A DISCUSSION  
FOLLOWED BY A BOOK SIGNING & A NOSH

**THURSDAY  
FEBRUARY 27TH  
6:30PM**

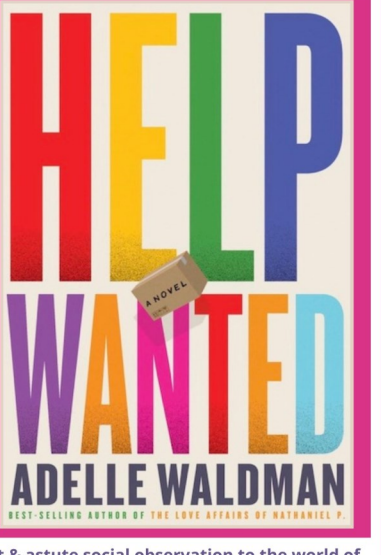
**AT BOARDMAN ROAD LIBRARY  
141 BOARDMAN ROAD**



with **ADELLE WALDMAN**  
Adelle's writing has appeared in The New Yorker, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Slate, among other publications. She lives in the Hudson Valley with her husband and daughter.

Waldman brings her unparalleled wit & astute social observation to the world of modern, low-wage work. A humane and darkly comic workplace caper that shines a light on the odds low-wage workers are up against in today's economy, *Help Wanted* is a funny, moving tale of ordinary people trying to make a living.

**REGISTER AT: WWW.JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG/EVENTS**  
**CALL 845-471-9811 | INFO@JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG**  
**ZOOM OPTION ALSO AVAILABLE | BOOKS FOR PURCHASE AT THE JFED OFFICES**



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

# LEARN & LUNCH BUNCH

**Location**  
 Temple Beth-El  
 118 S Grand Ave  
 Poughkeepsie NY

**SCHEDULE**

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

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

**WEDNESDAY PROGRAMS Join us!**

**MEETING LOCATION**

**We will be meeting at 11:30 am at Temple Beth-El, 118 S Grand Ave, Poughkeepsie Please do not bring outside food into the temple.**

Suggested Donation \$6, no one will be turned away for lack of funds.



**2025 Federation Officers**

**President** Susan G. Hecht  
**Vice President** Ira Auerbach  
**Second Vice President** Jonah Ritter  
**Secretary** Stan Cooper  
**Treasurer** Dr. Michael Smith

**Immediate Past President**

Steven Wasser (z"l)  
**Past President**  
 Betsy Kopstein-Stuts

**Federation Board**

Adam Belok	Laura Leibman
Rebecca Cohen	Zachary Lewis
Mark Klein	Azzy Reckess
Alyssa Kogon	Russell Rothman

**Advisory Board :**

Michael Arnoff	Vicki Greenberg
Eric Goldstone	Bernard Handel (z"l)

**Honorary Board :** Burton Gold (z"l)

**Jewish Federation of Dutchess County**

(845) 471-9811  
**JFedDC Executive Director**  
 Karen Hochhauser  
 Director@JewishDutchess.org

**The Voice**

**Editor:** Karen Hochhauser  
**Layout:** Tamra Bienemann  
**MAL:** Alyssa Kogon

Subscriptions, address changes, etc.  
 TheVoice@JewishDutchess.org

**Advertising/Sales**

For advertising information email:  
 Advertising@JewishDutchess.org.  
 The Voice and the Jewish Federation assume no responsibility for the *kashruth* or reliability of any products or services advertised.

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

**HELP PLANET EARTH**

A growing number of smart readers read *The Voice* electronically saving trees, paper, and trips to the recycling bin. Plus they get *The Voice* a week before anyone else does. And, you know what can happen in seven days...

Let us know that you'd like to save a tree, and we'll add you to the email list. Email:

TheVoice@JewishDutchess.org.  
 Yours truly—Mother Nature

**Please like and follow our Instagram and Facebook**

**February**

- February 12 **Slavery in New York and The Lemmon Slave Case** with Judge Albert Rosenblatt  
**Menu:** bagels, cream cheese, lox, tuna salad, and gelato bars
- February 26 **Genealogy for your Legacy!** with Irv Miller  
**Menu:** pasta primavera, fruit, cookies, and ice cream bars

\*Gluten free options available upon request in advance

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



## Office for the Aging

*submitted by Brian Jones, Outreach Coordinator, Dutchess County Office for the Aging*

**MAKING YOUR WISHES KNOWN**

When it comes to your health care and end-of-life decisions, do your loved ones know what you would want, or would they be left guessing and arguing among themselves if you became unable to decide for yourself?

These do not have to be awkward conversations. It may come as a pleasant surprise to those closest to you that you have been giving end-of-life and aging issues some thought in order to spare them future confusion in an already stressful situation.

Making your wishes clearly known, in writing, is the basis of what is called “advance care planning.” The goal is to create plans known as “advance directives” covering the decisions that are best made ahead of time, while you are able to do so. The directive can describe what you want, as well as what you do not.

**NOTHING IS CARVED IN STONE**

Your wishes may change between now and this time next year, or ten years from now, or even next week. An advance directive only takes effect if you cannot communicate your own wishes. That is how the directive is designed: to let you make changes as your needs evolve.

If you are looking for a simple way to make your wishes known, a living will or a durable power of attorney are great directives to start with. There may be other directives needed to cover your finances and estate, depending on your needs.

**WHAT HAPPENS WITHOUT DIRECTIVES?**

Planning can only improve your chances of receiving the care you prefer while avoiding treatments you may wish to avoid. The lack of an advance care directive, on the other hand, can complicate what could otherwise be straightforward decisions about your health care. Without a directive, doctors may try to look to family, friends, or clergy for guidance or to a court-appointed guardian if no one can be found to make decisions on your behalf.

**IT COSTS LESS THAN DOING NOTHING**

While OFA legal services do not have a financial eligibility requirement, the services are intended for those who would be otherwise unable to afford them. We operate our legal services division on a suggested-donation basis.

Reach out to OFA at (845) 486-2555 or ofa@dutchessny.gov, and we can help you get started with the advance directive process. Visit [dutchessny.gov/ofalegal](http://dutchessny.gov/ofalegal) to find out more about our full range of legal services, as well as additional legal services located nearby.

**Golden Living is prepared by the Dutchess County Office for the Aging, 114 Delafield St., Poughkeepsie, New York 12601, telephone (845) 486-2555, email: [ofa@dutchessny.gov](mailto:ofa@dutchessny.gov) website: [www.dutchessny.gov/aging](http://www.dutchessny.gov/aging) Social media: [www.facebook.com/DutchessCountyOFA](http://www.facebook.com/DutchessCountyOFA)**

**SNAP**

After a rash of “skimming” scams targeting EBT (formerly known as food stamps) benefit cards, New York State is slowly moving its EBT system to more secure cards, the kind with “smart card” chips that we have seen on debit and credit cards for years.

We will let you know as soon as possible when New York announces a timetable for the rollout of new cards.

In the meantime, the window to have a scammed EBT card replenished is a lot tighter than it was just a few months ago. Federal authorization to replace stolen SNAP benefits ended on December 20, 2024; as of New Year’s Day 2025, it had not been re-authorized. Until such time as re-authorization happens, local social services districts are not allowed to issue SNAP replacement benefits for theft that occurs on or after December 21, 2024.

Worried about scams in general? Visit [dutchessny.gov/scampreventionresources](http://dutchessny.gov/scampreventionresources) for useful information.

A special thank you to  
our **2025**  
**Community Partners**

**Pillar Sponsors**



The Louis Berger Foundation

**Guardian Community Partners**

- PKF O'Connor Davies

**Builder Community Partners**

- Marshall & Sterling
- NFP
- Wm. G. Miller & Son Funeral Home, Inc
- Bernard & Shirley Handel Foundation
- Mid Hudson Construction Management
- The Kartrite Resort and Waterpark

**Patron Community Partners**

- Arnoff Moving & Storage
- M&T Bank

**Supporter Community Partners**

- Acorn Stairlifts:  
Call Martin Hochhauser first  
(914) 456-4050
- Hudson Valley Renegades
- Riverside Bank A Division of Salisbury Bank and Trust
- Ulster Savings

*Interested in becoming a  
Community Partner?*

Contact JFedDC  
**(845) 471-9811**



**Wm. G. Miller & Son  
Funeral Home, Inc.**

Vincent J. Miller  
*Funeral Director*

**Complete, Dignified &  
Caring Funeral Service**

Pre-need counseling available in  
the comfort of your home or at  
our funeral home.

Beacon Hebrew Alliance, Temple Beth-El,  
Congregation Beth David,  
Congregation Schomre Israel,  
Vassar Temple, Chabad

371 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie

**845-485-0241**

[www.wmgmillerfuneralhome.com](http://www.wmgmillerfuneralhome.com)

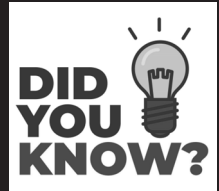


Prescription Guild Opticians  
Fashion Eyewear  
Precision Optics

76 Fulton Avenue  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603  
(845) 485-4080  
(845) 485-4175 Fax

Brion S. Shapiro H.F.O.A.A.

[OptiqueElegance.com](http://OptiqueElegance.com)



JFedDC sends out  
a weekly email?

If you are not receiving the  
weekly email, call the  
JFedDC office  
to be put on the list.  
**(845) 471-9811**

**Passover begins April 12.  
Don't forget to order your  
Holiday Greetings.  
See Page 9 for more information.**



**March Events**

**3/2 Orange County Jewish  
Book Council (JBC) Hybrid  
Lolita At Leonard's of Great  
Neck and Other Stories from the  
Before Times by Shira Dicker**

**3/9 Community Purim Carnival**

**3/16 L'chaim! Jewish Cooking  
and Culture Series - Matza  
Balls with Poughkeepsie Public  
Library**

**3/23 Jewish Book Council (JBC)  
Lolita At Leonard's of Great  
Neck and Other Stories from the  
Before Times by Shira Dicker  
Meet & Greet in Poughkeepsie**

<p><b>B   RILEY</b> <i>Wealth</i></p> <p>11 Raymond Avenue Suite 22 Poughkeepsie, NY 12603</p>	<p>Adam Belok <i>Financial Consultant</i></p> <p><a href="mailto:abelok@brileywealth.com">abelok@brileywealth.com</a> (845) 867-5812 Office (914) 474-6300 Mobile (845) 485-2684 Fax</p>
<p><b>BROKERAGE SERVICES ASSET MANAGEMENT INSURANCE SOLUTIONS TAX SERVICES</b></p>	<p><b>B   RILEY</b> <i>Wealth</i></p> <p>A B. Riley Financial Company NASDAQ: RILY <a href="http://www.brileywealth.com">www.brileywealth.com</a></p> <p><small>B. Riley Financial, Inc. is the parent corporation to several affiliated financial services companies operating under the B. Riley Wealth brand name. Securities and Variable Insurance products are offered through B. Riley Wealth Management, Inc. member FINRA/SIPC. Visit <a href="http://www.brileyfn.com/platform">www.brileyfn.com/platform</a> for additional information and disclosures.</small></p>

<p><b>BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY</b> HOMESERVICES</p>	<p>HUDSON VALLEY PROPERTIES</p>
	<p><b>DAVID FEINSTEIN</b> LICENSED REAL ESTATE SALESPERSON COMMERCIAL &amp; RESIDENTIAL SPECIALIST</p> <p>M. 845.325.8085 O. 845.473.1650 E. DFEINSTEIN@BHSHUDSONVALLEY.COM</p> <p>DAVEFEINSTEIN.COM <small>A member of the franchise system of BHHS Affiliates LLC</small></p>

Michael  
**TORSONE**  
Memorial Funeral Home, Inc.  
Family Owned & Operated  
Est. 1928

*Serving Jewish families with the  
utmost care and concern throughout  
the entire Hudson Valley*

218 Mill Street  
Poughkeepsie, NY  
845-452-7700

38 Main Street  
Highland, NY  
845-691-2281

[www.TorsoneMemorial.com](http://www.TorsoneMemorial.com)

**PAZ**  
MANAGEMENT

**ARLINGTON**  
POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK  
COMING 2023

**1 & 2 BEDROOM RESIDENCES**

JOIN THE WAITLIST AT [ARLINGTONPOK.COM](http://ARLINGTONPOK.COM)

# The Harding Club



Security. We all need it, desire it, and can't get enough of it. Jews everywhere are particularly needy as antisemitism rises throughout the United States and the world. And so, the Harding Club recently welcomed Pat Regan to a meeting. Pat is the Regional Director for the Hudson Valley of CSI, the Community Security Initiative. CSI focuses most closely on security issues related to local Jewish institutions and activities. Noting that Jews are more at risk than in previous years, Pat was successful in painting an optimistic future scenario for the Hudson Valley.

The Harding Club has been around for more than 100 years, serving the social and philanthropic needs of Jewish men. The club meets twice monthly for lunch or dinner and an interesting speaker. We enjoy the camaraderie of gathering together and the satisfaction of doing good deeds within the greater Dutchess community.

Recent speakers include our member Lou Newman speaking on the Walkway Over the Hudson, an organization for which Lou volunteers. We look forward to another member, Bob Haas, presenting on "Hiking Trail Bridges." Topics are wide-ranging and are presented by members and non-members alike.

The club enthusiastically supports the Jewish Federation, the PJ Library, and other worthy local organizations. We also get active and help with monthly deliveries of needed fresh food to inner city families at the Morse School in Poughkeepsie.

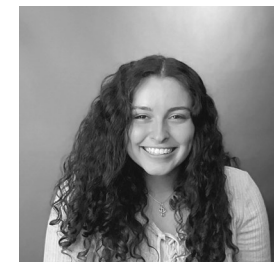
If you are interested in joining the club, contact any one of us listed below. We will be glad to begin the membership process.

Wishing all of you a happy and a healthy 2025.

Gene Fleishman, president, [gene.fleishman@gmail.com](mailto:gene.fleishman@gmail.com)  
 Irv Miller, vice president, [irvinmmiller@gmail.com](mailto:irvinmmiller@gmail.com)  
 Alan Fox, secretary, [alfox21@yahoo.com](mailto:alfox21@yahoo.com)

# NextGen: Rochelle Barsz *by Alyssa Kogon*

Your twenties can be a time of transition. You are stepping into new roles, leaving behind the familiarity of student life, but also entering a time of growth and discovery. One of Dutchess County's newest vicenarians is Rochelle Barsz. A Queens native, the 23 year old and recent Cornell graduate has found herself in the Queen City.



Rochelle Barsz

From early on, Rochelle was involved in youth groups, and later she surrounded herself with friends in United Synagogue Youth [USY]. Each summer, she looked forward to a jam-packed week with USY friends from the New York area, their slogan being "We do in eight days what other camps do in eight weeks."

A key component of Rochelle's upbringing was that she is a third-generation Holocaust survivor. As a result of their experiences, all four of her grandparents encouraged pride in identity and appreciation for the opportunities we get each day. Rochelle maintains these ideals each day in her love of learning. She received her undergraduate and Master's degrees in Electrical Engineering, graduating from Cornell University last May.

Rochelle was involved in on-campus activities from the beginning, meeting her close friends in a Hillel event prior to the start of classes. Her freshman year was unfortunately interrupted by the pandemic, and college life was put on pause. Rochelle sought opportunity as a Campus Engagement Intern for the on-campus Hillel. Rochelle spent her afternoons in meaningful coffee chats with fellow students to discuss their life on campus. She continued to foster a community by enjoying outdoor holiday dinners. Once the pandemic subsided, Rochelle kept up a strong connection with Hillel and the broader Jewish community.

With a new job in the area, a new community and looking for connections with other Generation Zers, Rochelle also is a musician. She plays the flute in a local community band, Aerophone. The Jewish Federation of Dutchess County would formally like to welcome Rochelle to our community, and we look forward to her being a big part of all the work we do.

**Passover begins April 12,  
 don't forget to order your  
 Holiday Greetings.  
 See Page 9 for more information.**

*(Cybercrime Defense Continued from page 1)*

you. Here is how to lock hackers out of your Apple account:

Click on Settings. Above your name in the Search bar, type Screen Time. Click on the Screentime icon (purple hourglass). Scroll down to Content and Privacy Restrictions. Turn on the toggle button at the top (so it is green not white). Scroll down to the "Allow Changes To" section. The second item down is Accounts. Click on Accounts and check Don't Allow. Now someone cannot steal your Apple ID, because they cannot remotely make changes to your account. This should be your default setting.

Please note: If you do want to make changes to your account—buy apps, etc.—you need to click it back to Allow, make the changes, and then click back on Don't Allow when you are done. Why doesn't Apple tell you this? This is the lesson: We need to rely on ourselves, not the companies we do business with.

There are many more tips to make yourself impervious to breaches and cybercrime tactics. Please contact me if you need help. [rt@0secure.com](mailto:rt@0secure.com)

**Be sure to look for our advertisers in this month's *The Voice*:**  
 Page 3 Wm. G. Miller & Sons Funeral Home, Inc., David Feinstein Berkshire Hathaway Home Services, B Riley Wealth, Optique Elegance, Michael Torson Memorial Funeral Home, and PAZ  
 Page 5 Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Hudson Valley Properties  
 Page 12: Hudson Valley Hospice, and Hudson Valley Palliative Care

## L'Chaim To Our Senior Holiday Gifts

An idea sparks and before we know it sharing twenty-five Senior Holiday Gifts has grown to over two hundred, including fifteen Dutchess County nursing facilities and a multitude of individual homes! For the holidays of Rosh Hashanah, Chanukah and Purim; volunteers and Jewish Federation of Dutchess County staff fill gift bags with yummy treats, heartfelt crafts, and handcrafted cards. These gifts are delivered throughout Dutchess County and beyond, enlivening the holidays and helping our community members to stay connected.



To contact us, call (845) 471-9811, email: [admin@jewishdutchess.org](mailto:admin@jewishdutchess.org) or visit [www.jewishdutchess.org](http://www.jewishdutchess.org) if you:

- would like to help brighten someone's day, please consider making a donation to support the growth and continuation of this special program.
- know of a senior that would enjoy receiving a Senior Holiday Gift.
- would like to donate your time. We will be putting Senior Holiday Gifts together for Purim beginning the week of March 10, 2025.



GREENSPAN TRUST-HANDEL FOUNDATION  
 ENDOWED CHAIR IN HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES

**THE RAVINE**  
 A FAMILY,  
 A PHOTOGRAPH,  
 A HOLOCAUST MASSACRE REVEALED



LECTURE BY:  
**DR. WENDY LOWER**  
 CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE

*Presented with support from The June and Aaron Gillespie Forum.*



Dr. Wendy Lower, the John K. Roth Professor at Claremont McKenna College and director of the Mgrublian Center for Human Rights, will discuss her groundbreaking investigation into a single photograph—a rare "action shot"—documenting the horrific final moment of a family's murder in Ukraine.

**THURSDAY  
 FEB. 13, 2025  
 7 P.M.**

Free Community Event—James & Betty Hall Theatre, Dutchess Hall, Dutchess Community College, 97 Cottage Rd

*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.	March	February 1
Email: <a href="mailto:TheVoice@JewishDutchess.org">TheVoice@JewishDutchess.org</a>	April	March 1
if you have questions.	May	April 1
	June/July	May 1

## Rabbi's Blog by Rabbi Boettiger

A couple of years ago, our family went to Rosh Hashanah Day Two services at the Chatham Synagogue (where we are now members) in Northern Columbia County. The sermon/discussion that morning was a deep dive into the Bob Dylan song "Every Grain of Sand." Since I've been an unabashed Dylan devotee for almost forty years, I just assumed that I would have what to offer in such a conversation. Yet I was pleasantly shocked that I found myself with a roomful of Dylan experts whose knowledge and fervor far exceeded mine. Such is Jewish life in the Hudson Valley.



Rabbi Boettiger

I don't need a special occasion to write about Dylan, born Robert Zimmerman eighty-three years ago in Duluth, Minnesota, but the new film about him, *A Complete Unknown*, gives me cover all the same. I avoided seeing it for a while as I was worried that it couldn't help but disappoint, but finally I went in early January and ended up being pleasantly surprised. The film's main narrative arc involves the tension within the folk community when Dylan goes electric. (The movie culminates at the infamous concert at 1965's Newport Folk Festival where someone in the crowd memorably heckles, "Judas!") But since we are squarely in the Exodus cycle right now, I want to talk about another moment (and there are many) where Dylan caused controversy and offended a good swath of his fan base.

It was the late 70s, and even if you were not Jewish, chances are you were not initially thrilled with Dylan's evangelical Christian period, which kicks off around that time. But if you dismissed Dylan then, you missed a powerful, if sometimes bizarre, musical stretch that produced three high quality, hard driving, gospel albums. The first one, *Slow Train Coming*, produced the single, "Gotta Serve Somebody," which to me, helps shed light on the Israelites' journey as they are struggling internally and externally with leaving Egypt.

There was resistance from Dylan's fan base, in the vein of – what do you mean "gotta serve somebody"? We want freedom to do whatever we want, we don't have to serve any authority. (John Lennon, supposedly in response, wrote a song called: "Serve Yourself") Like any piece of Torah, there are multiple levels and interpretations at play here, but I would say at the heart of this song – "It might be the devil or it might be the Lord, but you know you gotta serve somebody" - we find the story of Exodus. We find the message that freedom does not exist for its own sake. It's easy to remember, *Shlach Ami/Let my people go*, but we forget the second half of the verse, *v'ya'avduni/in order that they may serve me*. Freedom is not an end in itself. Freedom is a state by which we might learn to serve consciously, and without coercion. G-d isn't saying let my people go in order that they may have endless choices of ringtones or streaming services. G-d is saying, in effect, let my people go so that they can serve me instead of Pharaoh.

For Dylan, we are always in the act of serving. If we don't choose, it is still a choice by default. Reb Shmuel Simenowitz has taught that we are all born under a particular *mazal*, a star/planet, which gives us a gift that we have when we come into the world. To use an extreme example, the shochet is born under the same *mazal* as the murderer. The gift is a gift – but we can choose where we turn with that gift, who or what it serves. We all have a relationship to call, to some measure of coming to know that we were put here to be part of something larger than ourselves.

The story of the Exodus begins with the reality of the condition of slavery, with the people being forced to serve a false master. The middle piece involves the people being liberated from that condition. The story continues with the long third act, the part all of us are still enmeshed with today - the not being satisfied with freedom as a concept but rather coming to see freedom as a dynamic that makes love, commitment, and service possible.

Rabbi Boettiger is Jewish Chaplain and Visiting Assistant Professor of Humanities at Bard College and is Rosh Yeshiva at the Center for Contemporary Mussar.

## 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 Jesse Lunin-Pack who took time away from (doing) I'm hard at work helping my clients plan their financial futures to answers our questions.



Jesse Lunin-Pack

- 1. What is your favorite/least favorite word?**  
Favorite: *Family*.  
Least Favorite: *Can't*.
- 2. What inspires you creatively, spiritually, or emotionally?** *People. I'm a classic extrovert—I get energy from being around people.*
- 3. What is your favorite song?**  
Toss - up: *"Yihiyeh Tov" by David Broza* or *"Born to Run" by Bruce Springsteen*
- 4. What profession other than you own would you like to attempt?** *I think I would have been a good lawyer or doctor, but the truth is I've tried so many things both professionally and in my volunteer life that I'm quite content with the career I've chosen! I've worked as a professional in the Jewish not-for-profit world, in marketing, and as an investment banker, and I was a volunteer emergency medical technician for decades. I've been a trustee of two different synagogues – most recently at Beacon Hebrew Alliance where I also served as President.*
- 5. What profession other than your own would you not like to attempt?**  
*I think every profession has its own challenges, but each can be done with honor so I don't want to talk badly about any.*
- 6. What do you most like and dislike about yourself?**  
Like: *I'm always up for an adventure.*  
Dislike: *I'd like to have more time to exercise (and lose 20 pounds!)*
- 7. What is your favorite Jewish food/dessert?**  
*Sabich is my sandwich obsession—there's something about the combination I just can't resist!*
- 8. What is one interesting thing that people don't know about you?**  
*In the early 2000s I was a nationally ranked amateur triathlete.*
- 9. If you could choose a superpower, what would it be?**  
*I'd slow down time. I've got way too much that I want to accomplish!*
- 10. What is your greatest achievement/something you are most proud of?** *My kids. They are both super fun and interesting people who are growing into themselves and having their own accomplishments I can be proud of.*
- 11. Do you have a "bucket list" and, if so, what is on it?**  
*I firmly believe that you should always be working on crossing things off of your bucket list. In 2001 I took an around-the-world trip and crossed a number of things off of mine, including seeing Mount Everest. But that just means there's more room for new things. Right now I'm excited to be participating in the Arava Institute 2025 Israel Ride, where I'll have the experience of riding my bicycle from Jerusalem to Eilat.*
- 12. If there were one thing you would hope others do in the interest of our future, what would that be?**  
*Spend time getting to know people from different backgrounds than the one they come from or are comfortable with.*
- 13. What is your earliest Jewish memory?**  
*When I was about five years old my mother took my brother and me to shabbat services with her childhood rabbi. Sitting in the front row of the synagogue I loudly asked her, "mom, they're talking about God. What are WE doing here?"*
- 14. What is your most favorite Jewish memory?**  
*Touring the old city of Jerusalem with my wife and kids in August of 2019.*
- 15. In what ways, does or can JFedDC impact our Jewish community?**  
*JFedDC reminds us that the Jewish community is so much larger than the people we see when we go to synagogue. We are all a part of something much bigger than ourselves, and Federation is one way of manifesting that.*
- 16. If Heaven exists, what would you like to hear God say when you arrive at the Pearly Gates?**  
*Well done.*

\*Member of the Tribe

## JEWS IN THE NEWS.

Highlights, updates, and happenings of our Jewish business members of the community.

### New Menorah for Wappingers.

A new outdoor menorah has been installed in Schlathaus Park in the town of Wappinger. The new menorah will replace an older, unreliable installation next to other symbols of the holidays such as a crèche and other religious portrayals. The new menorah is brighter than the old one with a timer and better insulation from the elements. Town of Wappinger Supervisor Joey Cavaccini recently remarked, "Erecting this new menorah as a shining beacon of hope is a testament to how the town of Wappinger is proud to stand with our Jewish brothers and sisters, especially during such tumultuous times in our history."



We thank Shelley and Randy Ross for their generous contribution toward the purchase of this new menorah for Brexel-Schlathaus Park.

**BERKSHIRE  
HATHAWAY**  
HOMESERVICES

HUDSON VALLEY  
PROPERTIES

### HELLO, NEIGHBOR.

RESIDENTIAL HOMES  
LUXURY COLLECTION & COUNTRY ESTATES  
FARMS & EQUESTRIAN PROPERTIES  
NEW CONSTRUCTION & LAND SALES  
COMMERCIAL & INVESTMENT PROPERTIES  
RELOCATION & REFERRAL SERVICES  
CONDOMINIUMS & TOWNHOMES  
FORECLOSURES & SHORT SALES  
SHORT- & LONG-TERM RENTALS



STEVEN DOMBER  
PRESIDENT

CORPORATE OFFICE | 892 MAIN STREET  
FISHKILL, NY 12524  
SDOMBER@BHSHUDSONVALLEY.COM  
845.905.8748

SERVING THE MID-HUDSON VALLEY  
BHSHUDSONVALLEY.COM | @BHSHUDSONVALLEY

**Love** by Suzanne Turrisi, PJ Library Assistant Director

Oxford Languages defines **loves** as, “an intense feeling of deep affection, a great interest and pleasure in something.” February is traditionally the time where we show people how much we love them, often with flowers, candy or cards. Telling someone that you love them validates their presence in your life. Expressing love strengthens our bonds with them and helps contribute to our well-being. When we love something, like being Jewish, we feel supported and connected. When we love G-d, we love with all of our heart, our soul, and our might! Hashem loves us unconditionally showing us love through creation and forgiveness. G-d’s love is the basic foundation for our ability to love others. Let’s all show love to one another in February and always.



Teens from Vassar Temple and the Mid Hudson Islamic Association joined forces to prepare and distribute lunch to our hungry neighbors at Lunch Box.



Community Chanukkah Party

## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

### BEACON HEBREW ALLIANCE

Friday afternoons, ages 9-13 years  
 Sunday mornings, ages 5-13 years  
 331 Verplanck Ave, Beacon  
 Contact [celia@beaconhebrewalliance.org](mailto:celia@beaconhebrewalliance.org)  
 Led by Education Director, Celia Baczkowski -Masa is filled with joyful Jewish experiences, including song, dance, art, food, field trips, and more!

### 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](mailto:chabadmidhudsonvly@prodigy.net)

### JUDAIC SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Sunday, 10:00am-12:00pm  
 For information [www.mypardess.org/JSA](http://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 Tzvie Hecht, Director (845) 876-7666 or [tzviehecht@gmail.com](mailto:tzviehecht@gmail.com)

### CONGREGATION SHIR CHADASH and TEMPLE BETH-EL

Kulanu: All of Us A School of Jewish Learning  
 A joint religious school program with Shir Chadash and Temple Beth-El

Our collaborative school models the true meaning of *Klal Yisrael* (Jewish peoplehood) by increasing the sense of Jewish community and partnership for our students and families. It allows students to get to know their Jewish peers and to receive a broader Jewish education. Students explore Jewish tradition, history, and culture through art, music, movement, and text. For grades Pre-K through Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

Classes meet:  
 Pre-K through grade 6, 10:00am-12:30pm on Sundays\*  
 January-Mid March we meet on Saturdays and explore Shabbat.  
 Grades 3-7 also meet Tuesdays 4:45pm-6:15pm.  
 B’Nai Mitzvah class (grade 7 meets Saturday mornings).

For more info contact:  
 Rabbi Miriams Hyman: Education Director Temple Beth-El at [education@tbeny.org](mailto:education@tbeny.org)  
 Rabbi Glenn Jacob: Congregation Shir Chadash [rabbigmj@gmail.com](mailto:rabbigmj@gmail.com)

### 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. The Hebrew School, under the direction of Temple Rabbi Renni Altman D.D., meets Wednesday afternoons, offers Hebrew language instruction and bar/bat mitzvah preparation for grades 4-7. Teens may work as madrachim (teachers aides) in the Sunday School. New enrollments are welcome throughout the year. For more information, [rsdirector@vassartemple.org](mailto:rsdirector@vassartemple.org) (845) 454-2570.

**PJ'S**  
*Birthday*  
**BASH**

Join us as we celebrate all PJ Library children with winter birthdays! Come party with your PJ pals and enjoy a special birthday treat, PJ storytime and a fun craft!

February 24th @ 4:30 PM  
 Location: 104 Fulton Ave Suite 1A  
 Poughkeepsie, NY

RSVP required  
[programs@jewishdutchess.org](mailto:programs@jewishdutchess.org)  
 or call 845.471.9811

*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](http://www.hgf.org)).  
 Thank you!*

אהבה  
Ahava  
Love

Here is a fun and easy love handprint craft from [www.fun365.com](http://www.fun365.com):

**What You'll Need:**

- Colored paper
- Glue sticks
- Adhesive hearts
- Pencils
- Scissors



**Directions:**

**Step 1**

Have a child place their hand with their fingers spread open and their upper arm on a piece of brown construction paper. Use a pencil to trace around the arm and fingers. Cut out the handprint and arm. This makes your tree trunk and tree limbs.

**Step 2**

Use a glue stick to add glue on the back of the handprint. Glue it at the bottom of a piece of light blue cardstock or paper.

**Step 3**

Grab your self-adhesive heart stickers. Remove a heart sticker from the sheet, peel the backing off it and place it at the top of your handprint on your finger tree limbs. The self-adhesive hearts come in two different sizes with four colors: red, light pink, dark pink and white. This makes it so there are lots of ways for children to customize their handprint heart tree craft.

**Step 4**

Continue removing self-adhesive hearts from the sheets, removing the backing and placing them around the fingers of the handprint to fill your tree branches with hearts.

**Step 5**

After you have finished filling your tree with hearts, your handprint heart tree craft is finished. Children can write a special message on the back of the craft and give it to a loved one for a sweet gift or display the heart tree at home.



Tamatha



Suzanne



**Coffee and Contribution** by Tamatha Williams, PJ Library Director

Sometimes it's the little things that bring a smile to our faces. For me, nothing beats the aroma and warmth of a cup of coffee. For my little one, she loves receiving the latest PJ Library book in the mail. While the two may seem quite different, both enrich our lives.

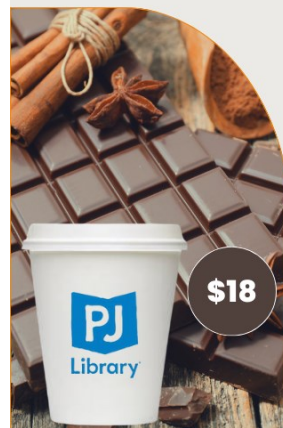
PJ Library sends free, meaningful Jewish children's books to families each month. While Harold Grinspoon, founder of PJ Library, may not have realized how far-reaching his generosity would span, the nonprofit Harold Grinspoon Foundation (HGF) has grown to reach Jewish children throughout the world, helping to connect Jewish values, traditions, and culture. HGF partners with local Jewish organizations to assist in funding this remarkable and ambitious program. Locally, HGF is partnered with your Jewish Federation of Dutchess County. This partnership enables PJ Library to be part of your community.

While I love my coffee, I realize that by foregoing a cup or two of boutique coffee weekly, I can make a meaningful contribution to the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County. This contribution helps to secure continued Jewish enrichment through PJ Library books and programming.

Please consider joining our Coffee Mitzvah Club at the level in which you feel comfortable, billable monthly. To learn more, call (845) 471-9811 or visit: [www.jewishdutchess.org/programs/pj-library](http://www.jewishdutchess.org/programs/pj-library)

*Skip a Coffee*

Join Our Coffee Mitzvah Club  
And Help To Support PJ Library



Petite Coffee Donor:  
Make a monthly donation of \$18



Tall Coffee Donor:  
Make a monthly donation of \$36



Grande Coffee Donor:  
Make a monthly donation of \$54

<https://www.jewishdutchess.org/programs/pj-library>

PJ Library & Mindful Yoga  
With Liz

President's Weekend  
YOGA RESET



A PJ Library & PJ Our Way Event  
Siblings Welcome

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 16  
12:00-12:45 PM

REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
SPACE IS LIMITED  
\$15 PER CAREGIVER

SCAN QR TO REGISTER



## The Federation Board's Voice



Alyssa Kogon

### We Will Dance Again by Alyssa Kogon

From The Board Piece

As the Jewish Federation prepares for its 2025 Gala, I find myself on the committee organizing this important fundraising and friendraising event. Part of me wants to scream out at the thought of a joyous celebration during these unforgiving times.

Dear friends, relatives, and hundreds of thousands of others have lost not only their homes in North Carolina flooding and California wildfires, but they are left with little hope of being able to restore what was stolen from them. While we continue to agonize over the hostage crisis in Israel, and pray for the eventual release of all of our brothers and sisters, it seems almost impossible to have a festivity of any kind.

Just as we break a glass during the joyous wedding celebration to remember that even in times of great joy there is sorrow, we also must do the opposite. In fact, the Torah tells us that a relationship with G-d that is devoid of joy is no relationship at all. Somehow we must trust in G-d that everything, even tragedy, will work out.

The Jewish Federation's own director, Karen Hochhauser, told me a Passover story that puts this very edict into place. When the Jews were rushing to leave Egypt during the time of Moses, the women grabbed their tambourines. Why would someone tarry even for a second when they are running for their lives to pack something that is not essential to survival? Why carry an instrument when you cannot even carry food? It is written right there in Exodus that this is exactly what happened;

*Miriam, the prophetess, Aaron's sister, took a timbrel in her hand, and all the women came out after her with timbrels and with dances. And Miriam called out to them, "Sing to the Lord, for very exalted is He; a horse and its rider He cast into the sea." Exodus 15:20-21*

The women, while fleeing for their lives, were certain that G-d would somehow make things better, even in the desert. It was their defiance of fear and their knowledge that G-d would intervene that led them to bring their instruments for future celebrations. Their very trust in G-d led to the redemption of the Israelites.

These long conversations with a group of devoted Jewish women about color scheme, honorees, and door prizes are in itself a way to practice joy. It is okay and even necessary to have celebrations in dark times. We are not waiting for a miracle but, instead, for the gift of G-d's goodness. We are promised a positive outcome remembering even in times of great tragedy there is joy. We will dance again.

### Jewish Federation of Dutchess County's 2024 Annual Meeting

The Jewish Federation of Dutchess County (JFedDC) held their annual meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup>, highlighting and showcasing the work, efforts, and community building that occurred during the past year.

JFedDC is a small, non-religious, non-profit doing big things for the community. It is an umbrella organization where Jewish people from any background can come together to form a greater community. From children's programs through PJ Library, to senior support programs, to educational, cultural, and entertaining events (such as whiffle ball), to fighting antisemitism, we are here for you. JFedDC has done this in Dutchess County for over 50 years and looks forward to continuing to do so!!



This past December, we launched the Maccabee Awards to honor those who make bold efforts to fight antisemitism and Anti-Zionism in Dutchess County. Our three recipients were Barbara Kernes, Mark Klein, and William O'Neil.

Barbara Kernes (JFed member) said, "Since my husband passed away there has been a large increase in antisemitism and anti-Zionism in the Hudson Valley. The Jewish Federation has been a supportive and safe haven for me."



William O'Neil, past Dutchess County Executive, said, "I know about the historical accounts of the Maccabees and the defense of Israel. The present situation in Israel has so many similarities as the current fight it did 2 thousand years ago. I will forever defend my Jewish brothers and sisters and Israel forever!"

Mark Klein, Board member, stated, "We Jews are such a small part of the population that it is imperative that we have a JFed to help our Jewish life and existence. Before I moved to Poughkeepsie Dr. Sitomour pulled me into the community and guaranteed I could live a prosperous Jewish community life in Dutchess County.....And he was right".



Rabbi Altman from Vassar Temple was thanked for all that she has done for the community and honored before her upcoming retirement. We are grateful that she will still be living in our community for years to come.

We heard from our security consultants at Community Security Initiative (CSI) Executive Director Mitch Silber, and Pat Regan, Regional Security Director about the current situation in Dutchess County.



Jewish Federation can be reached, [JewishDutchess.org/events](http://JewishDutchess.org/events), (845) 471-9811 [info@jewishdutchess.org](mailto:info@jewishdutchess.org).

## Our Executive Director



### Put The Glass Down!

When my children were younger and we lived in Asia, they would occasionally become upset because some of their friends would travel to other countries during holiday breaks, whether to go skiing or heading to beach resorts... and we did not. Very rationally and calmly, I would explain to them that **everything is relative**. I shared that

throughout life, there would be those who were smarter than them and those who were not. Likewise, there were always going to be those who would be wealthier than them and others who were not. Living in Thailand, there was an incredible dichotomy and disparity of those who had wealth and went skiing for holiday breaks and those who lived in metal corrugated sheds.

I am not sure how much they retained of this life lesson, but I was reminded about this recently when I reread a story that has stuck with me over the years (and there are numerous versions of the same story online). I thought it of value to share because, yes, **it is all relative**.

A professor of stress management walked into the classroom to start the lecture. As she stood in front of her students, she raised a glass of water and everyone expected her to ask the typical "is the glass half empty or half full" question. Instead, with a smile on her face, the professor asked, "How heavy is this glass of water?"

Students began responding with various answers ranging from six ounces to two pounds. She replied, "The actual weight does not really matter. What does matter and what is relevant is how long I have been holding it. If I hold it for just a minute, it feels very light. If I hold it for an hour, my arm may start to ache a little. If I hold it for a whole day, assuming I actually can, my arm will feel numb and paralyzed. I will most likely want to give up and drop it. In each case, the weight of the glass has not changed, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it becomes."

As the class nodded their heads in agreement, the professor continued. She explained that the stresses and worries in life are very much like the glass of water. Think about them and carry them for a short while and they are manageable. Nothing happens. Worry about them for a bit longer and they begin to hurt. You begin to ache a little. Think about them all day long or longer, and you can begin to feel completely paralyzed and helpless - incapable of doing anything, concentrating, or focusing on anything else until you drop them.

While there can be many lessons learned from this story, one of the 'morals of the story' is that it is in one's best interest to find ways to let go of or at least reduce one's stress and worries. Something small and slightly insignificant can become heavy and overwhelming the more we hold on to it. We all know that constant stress has considerable negative impacts on our physical and mental health and well-being. That being said, what may feel insignificant to one, may feel highly significant to another. **Everything is relative**. What is consistent though, in today's stressful world, particularly with rising antisemitism, is that we all need to find ways to 'put the glass down'.

Stay warm. Stay healthy.  
Karen Hochhauser

### Mazel Tov Memories


Send us information about what you are celebrating: birthdays, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, and simchas. We at the JFedDC want to celebrate with you and share the nachas.

Send your information to:  
[thevoice@jewishdutchess.org](mailto:thevoice@jewishdutchess.org)



**Congratulations to Tamra Bienemann, our Voice layout editor and her husband for the upcoming wedding of their son Isaiah and his fiancé, Hayley Rucker, on their upcoming wedding!**

# SAVE THE DATE



## NOT YOUR BUBBE'S MATZO BALLS

PART OF OUR 2025 L'CHAIM JEWISH COOKING & CULTURE SERIES


## WITH C.I.A. CHEF SCOTT SWARTZ

JOIN US TO TASTE UPDATED CLASSICS


### Sunday, March 16 | 2:30pm

At Adriaance Memorial Library | 93 Market St | Poughkeepsie


To Register: [JewishDutchess.org/Events](http://JewishDutchess.org/Events) | 845-471-9811




**Jewish Federation**  
of Dutchess County




**POUGHKEEPSIE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT**



**Jewish Federation**  
of Dutchess & Orange Counties



**TEMPLE SINAI**  
Adult Ed Program



**Jewish Book Council**


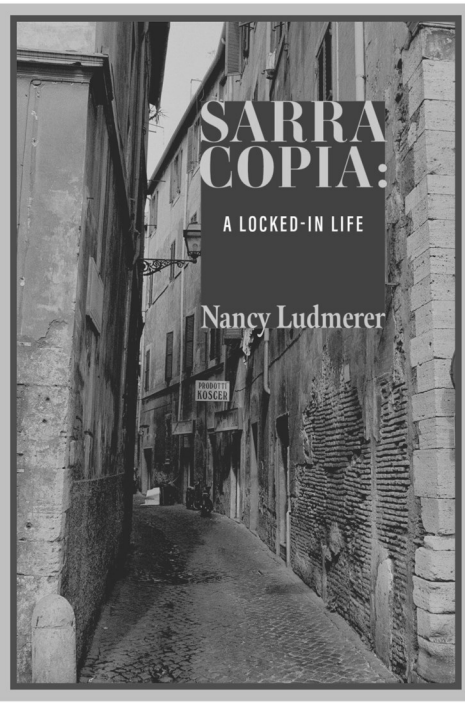
## JBC Author Series with Nancy Ludmerer

JOIN US FOR A VIRTUAL BOOK TALK ON ZOOM

---

### SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23RD 2:00PM

---

**with Nancy Ludmerer**

Nancy Ludmerer's stories, including many prizewinners, appear in Kenyon Review, Carve, Masters Review, and other venues. She practiced law in NYC before turning to fiction full-time.

The first official ghetto was established in Venice in 1516. Jews were locked in from sunset to sunrise in Canareggio, the northernmost area of Venice. This is a historical fiction based on the title character, who lived there from her birth in 1592 until her death 49 years later.

**REGISTER AT: [WWW.JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG/EVENTS](http://WWW.JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG/EVENTS)  
845-471-9811 | [INFO@JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG](mailto:INFO@JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG)**

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

**CALLING ALL THOSE WHO LIKE TO SEW**

If you have free time and are interested in performing a Mitzvah...Wheelchair confined residents of nursing homes and other facilities benefit from having a small bag attached to their wheelchair armrest for easy access to their personal items such as tissues, eyeglasses, and cell phones. Please contact the Jewish Federation at (845) 471-9811, and Vicki Grillot will reach out to you with specifics. Your participation would be greatly appreciated.

## It's a new year. It's time to renew your holiday greetings for 2025.

### 2025 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  
                   Medium ad: \$40 each or 3 for \$110  
                   Large ad: \$70 each or 3 for \$190

Sm Ads—2" by 1.4"  
 Md Ads—1.5" by 2.9"  
 Lg Ads—3.2" by 2.7"  
 Approximate sizes

Please fill out the form and mail it back to us with your payments to:  
 THE VOICE, PO Box 2525, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603  
 Or complete online: [www.jewishdutchess.org](http://www.jewishdutchess.org)  
**DEADLINE for Passover Greeting is March 8**

### 2025 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		Rosh Hashanah Greetings		Chanukah Greetings	
<b>Small—A</b>  Your Name	<b>Medium—C</b>  Your Name	<b>Small—A</b>  Your Name	<b>Medium—C</b>  Your Name	<b>Small—A</b>  Your Name	<b>Medium—C</b>  Your Name
<b>Small—B</b>  Your Name	<b>Medium—D</b>  Your Name	<b>Small—B</b>  Your Name	<b>Medium—D</b>  Your Name	<b>Small—B</b>  Your Name	<b>Medium—D</b>  Your Name
<b>Large—E</b>  Your Name	<b>Large—F</b>  Your Name	<b>Large—E</b>  Your Name	<b>Large—F</b>  Your Name	<b>Large—E</b>  Your Name	<b>Large—F</b>  Your Name

## Congregation Schomre Israel

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

### Weekly Services:

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

### Adult Education:

#### Monday

**Advanced Hebrew** 6:00pm. We will be using the siddur (prayerbook) to learn about root words, prefixes, and suffixes as well as the past, present, and future tenses.

**“Responsibilities of the Heart” Text Study and Discussion** 11:00am. We will be using the classic Jewish text *Chovot HaLevaot* by Bachya ibn Pekudah, composed in Spain circa 1080 CE. The book discusses topics such as the unity of God, devotion to God, and repentance. The book is divided into ten “gates” or treatises.

#### Thursday

**Mitzvot during the Times of Modernity** 7:00pm, weekly presentation and discussion. Feb. 6—Charity, Feb. 20—Interest on loans. This class presents a practical look at some of the mitzvot—what the commandment is and how we should pursue the mitzvah. Join as we explore this and a dozen other directives of Hashem

### Other Events:

#### Tuesday

**Cooking Club with Cassia** February 4, 6:00pm. In the 2nd presentation of the Cooking Club, we will be learning how to bake Mandelbrot and get a printed recipe for this delicious biscotti-like treat. Cassia Brown will share her baking expertise and recipe with us. The Cooking Club meets of the 1st Tuesday of the month.

#### Thursday

**Yiddish Club** February 6, 11:00am. The 1st Thursday each month. Join us to enjoy hearing, speaking, and learning Yiddish and its culture. Let’s keep Yiddish alive!

**Tu B’Svat Celebration** February 13, 6:00pm.

**Hands of Judaism for the Foodie** February 27, 6:30pm. Learn about the role (roll?) of Challah and schnapps (good spirits?) in our tradition and enjoy both with a light dinner. Please let our office know you will be coming. Contribution to cover the cost of food kindly requested.

#### Friday

**Rosh Chodesh Breakfast** February 28, following morning services. Join us for a light breakfast to mark the beginning of the month of Adar.

**Last Day To Order Hamantaschen** February 28. \$19/doz., \$12/half doz., Pick-up is March 2 at the synagogue. More info on synagogue website.



#### Saturday

**Night at the Movies** February 8, 7:00pm, movie to be determined.  
**Turkish Shabbat** February 22.

#### Contact

[rabbishlomok@gmail.com](mailto:rabbishlomok@gmail.com)  
for current information  
or visit the website  
[www.schomreisrael.org](http://www.schomreisrael.org)

## Congregation Shir Chadash

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

### Weekly Services:

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

### Adult Education:

#### Saturday

**Torah Study** 9:15am. 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](mailto:info@shir-chadash.org) or visit [www.shir-chadash.org](http://www.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 suggestion, please let us know! For more info, contact Sandy Lash at (845) 232-1029, via email: [info@shir-chadash.org](mailto:info@shir-chadash.org)

#### Contact :

[info@shir-chadash.org](mailto:info@shir-chadash.org)  
for current information  
or visit the website

### Repro Shabbat 2025

Repro Shabbat, Friday, February 21, will be marked at Vassar Temple with guest County Legislator Lisa Kaul, speaking on *Are Reproductive Rights “Safe” in New York?* at the 7:30pm service. In addition to being Dutchess County Legislator for District 6, among her myriad community activities, Ms. Kaul serves on the Board of Planned Parenthood of Greater New York Action Fund. It is in this capacity that she will speak to us on the 5th “Repro” Shabbat, initiated by the Nation Council of Jewish Women. While New Yorkers passed the “Amendment to Protect Against Unequal Treatment” in November, which expanded state constitutional protections to include prohibiting discrimination based on a person’s ethnicity, national origin, age, disability and sex, as well as protecting access to reproductive health care, we cannot rest on our laurels, especially as those rights are being curtailed in so many states in this country. Ms. Kaul will speak during the service and outline some of the challenges to accessing reproductive healthcare in New York as well as identifying pathways for action toward reproductive justice. A brief question and answer period will follow her talk, and people will be able to engage with Ms. Kaul at the Oneg. As with all Shabbat services, this service will be hybrid.



## Temple Beth-El

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

### Other Events:

#### 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

#### Tuesday

**Book Club** 2:00pm in the Social hall at TBE. February 11 (*An Unfinished Love Story* by Goodwin), April 15 (*Looking for Jane* by Marshall), June 10 (*Cain v Abel: A Jewish Courtroom Drama*). If inclement weather, we meet via Zoom.

#### Contact:

[info@tbeny.org](mailto:info@tbeny.org)  
for current information  
or visit the website  
[www.tbeny.org](http://www.tbeny.org)

## Vassar Temple

(Reform)  
140 Hooker Ave, Poughkeepsie  
(845) 454-2570  
Rabbi Renni S. Altman D.D.  
Website: [www.vassartemple.org](http://www.vassartemple.org)  
Email: [Office@VassarTemple.org](mailto:Office@VassarTemple.org) or [rabbi@vassartemple.org](mailto:rabbi@vassartemple.org)

### Weekly Services:

All services are hybrid (both in person and on Zoom). For further information contact [office@vassartemple.org](mailto:office@vassartemple.org)

#### Friday

**Shabbat Evening Service** February 7, 28, February 14 Shabbat/Tu B’Shevat service w/guest speaker, February 21, Repro Shabbat service w/guest Speaker, 7:30pm.

#### Saturday

**New Paths Shabbat Morning Worship** January 1 & 15, 10:15am.  
**Shabbat Morning Service** January 8 & 22, 10:15am.

### Adult Education:

#### Tuesday

**Talmud Study with Senior Scholar Rabbi Paul Golomb** meets on Zoom from noon to 1:30pm alternate Tuesdays. To be placed on the Talmud Study email list and receive the dates and study sheets, contact [pjgolomb@verizon.net](mailto:pjgolomb@verizon.net).

#### Wednesday

**Beyond the Matriarchs: The Lesser Known and Unnamed Women of the Bible with Rabbi Renni S Altman DD Pt. 3** meets (hybrid) on February 5, 7:30pm. It is not necessary to have attended parts 1 & 2 to attend part 4. The class is free of charge and is presented hybrid. Bring a Bible if you can. If you are attending on Zoom and you do not have a Bible, you can access the passages by Sefaria.org. Register at [office@vassartemple.org](mailto:office@vassartemple.org) where you can also request the Zoom link.

#### Saturday

**Torah Study with Rabbi Renni Altman DD**, 9:00am. (Hybrid) Come join our lively discussions! Please contact: (845) 454-2570 or [office@vassartemple.org](mailto:office@vassartemple.org) for details and to be placed on the Torah Study email list.

### Other Events:

#### Sunday

**Chai Noon** Vassar Temple Sisterhood luncheon at an area restaurant on the 18th of each month (Chai Noon), as long as the date does not fall on a holiday or the weekend. Everyone orders and gets separate checks. The restaurant is always wheelchair accessible. For more info about this event, contact: [chai@vassartemple.org](mailto:chai@vassartemple.org).

#### Wednesday

**Author at Sisterhood Book Club** Author Julie Kabat will join our discussion of the book, *Love Letter from Pig*, on February 26, 2:00pm, on Zoom only. In the summer of 1964, shortly after the horrific discovery of the Mississippi Burning murder of James Chaney, Michael Schwerner, and Andrew Goodman, author Julie Kabat’s beloved brother, Luke, arrived as a volunteer for the Mississippi Summer Project. Teaching biology to Freedom School students in Meridian, Luke became one of more than seven hundred student volunteers who joined experienced Black civil rights workers and clergy to challenge white supremacy in the nation’s most segregated state. It celebrates her brother’s activism and many issues he grappled with that continue to haunt and divide us today: racialized oppression, threats of violence, and segregation whether explicit in law or implicit through custom. Community members interested in participating should RSVP to [bookclub@vassartemple.org](mailto:bookclub@vassartemple.org).

The book is available at the public library, 3 Arts Bookstore, and Amazon. Bonus: an in-person opportunity to meet author Julie Kabat and one of the former Freedom school students at a talk and book signing to be held at Vassar Temple

#### Contact :

[office@vassartemple.org](mailto:office@vassartemple.org)  
for current information  
or visit the website  
[www.vassartemple.org](http://www.vassartemple.org)

### Congregation Schomre Israel’s Baking Crew

The baking crew at Schomre is gearing up to produce delicious hamantaschen for Purim which will be celebrated on March 14.

#### Here is what you need to know to order hamantaschen:

Cost \$19 per dozen, \$12 per half dozen  
Filling flavors -apricot, chocolate poppy seed, prune, raspberry  
Prepaid orders accepted through 2/28  
Pick up will be 3/2 from 11am to 1pm  
Sheloch Monot baskets \$27  
Mailing charge \$18  
Order forms are on the synagogue website.

**Mitzvah Knitters**  
Learn how to knit and crochet  
1ST AND 3RD WEDNESDAYS OF EVERY MONTH  
10:30AM - 12:00PM  
AT TEMPLE BETH-EL  
118 S. GRAND AVENUE, POUGHKEEPSIE  
Knitting scarves + headbands for children of Morse School & Bright Nights Program  
BEGINNERS & ADVANCED ARE WELCOME  
RSVP TBE 845-454-0570  
OPEN TO PUBLIC AT LARGE

## Pardess Center for Jewish Life

(845) 440-7592  
 Rabbi Zalman Sandhaus  
 Website: [www.MyPardess.org](http://www.MyPardess.org)  
 Email: [info@MyPardess.org](mailto:info@MyPardess.org)

**Contact:**  
**[info@MyPardess.org](mailto:info@MyPardess.org)**  
**for current information**  
**or visit the website**  
**[www.MyPardess.org](http://www.MyPardess.org)**

## The Rhinebeck Jewish Center

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

**Weekly Services:**  
 Fridays: Call for time.  
 Saturdays: 9:30am

**Contact:**  
**[RSVP@RhinebeckJewishCenter.com](mailto:RSVP@RhinebeckJewishCenter.com)**  
**for current information**  
**or visit the website**  
**[www.RhinebeckJewishCenter.com](http://www.RhinebeckJewishCenter.com)**

## Chabad of Mid-Hudson Valley

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

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

### Adult Education:

**Wednesday**  
**Torah Class: Discover the World of Prayer** 11:00am, 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!)** 9:00am 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.

**Contact :**  
**[ChabadMidhudsonvly@prodigy.net](mailto:ChabadMidhudsonvly@prodigy.net)**  
**for current information**  
**or visit the website**  
**[www.chabadmidhudsonvalley.com](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.beaconhebrewalliance.org/calendar)

**Contact:**  
**for current information**  
**or visit the website**  
**[www.beaconhebrewalliance.org](http://www.beaconhebrewalliance.org)**

## Congregation Beth David

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

**Weekly Services:**  
 Saturdays 10:30am.

**Contact:**  
**[jonrab33@gmail.com](mailto:jonrab33@gmail.com)**  
**for current information**  
**or visit the website**  
**[www.CongBethDavid.org](http://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](mailto:bryanmann@vassar.edu)

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

**Contact :**  
**[bryanmann@vassar.edu](mailto:bryanmann@vassar.edu)**  
**for current information**

## Bard College

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

**Contact:**  
**[jboettiger@bard.edu](mailto:jboettiger@bard.edu)**  
**for current information**

## 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](mailto:rabbijack@hvc.rr.com)

**Weekly Services:**  
**Friday**  
**Kabbalat Shabbat Service** 6:00pm,  
 February 7 (Shabbat Shira), 14, 21, 28.  
**Tot Shabbat** February 8, March 8, and April 11, 9:15am.

**Saturday**  
**Morning Minyan** 10:00am, February 1, 8, 15, 22.

**Education:**  
**Zimet Jewish Learning Adventure** 9:30am,  
 February 2, 9, 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30,  
 and April 6.

**Mediation & Torah Study** 8:45am via Zoom, February 4, 11, 18, 25, March 4, 11, 28, 25, April 1, 8

**Hebrew Trope** 12:00pm, via Zoom, February 5, 12, 19, March 5, 12, 19, 26, and April 2, 9

**Hebrew, Shebrew!** 4:00pm, via Zoom, February 5, 12, 19, 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26, and April 2, 9

**Talk Back with Rabbi Jack** 8:45am, via Zoom, February 6, 13, March 6, 13, and April 3, 10.

**Contact: [info@cehv.org](mailto:info@cehv.org)**  
**for all events and current info**  
**or visit the website [www.CEHV.org](http://www.CEHV.org)**

## Woodstock Jewish Congregation

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

**Weekly Services:**  
**Friday**  
**Kabbalat Shabbat Service** 6:00pm,  
**Kid Friendly Intergenerational Shabbat**  
 First Fridays 6:00pm

**Saturday**  
**Shabbat Service** 10:00am

**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](mailto:admin@wjcsul.org)**  
**for all events and current info**  
**or visit the website**  
**[www.wjcsul.org](http://www.wjcsul.org)**



## February

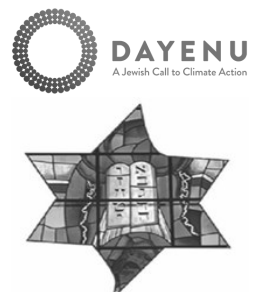
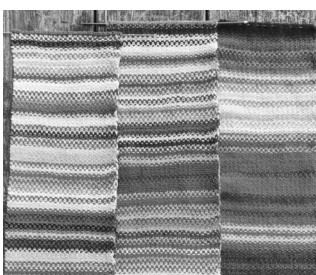
### Candle Lighting Schedule

February 7	5:01pm
February 14	5:10pm
February 21	5:19pm
February 28	5:27pm

### TEMPESTRY PROJECT FOR TU BISHEVAT



Please join us at Vassar Temple for a unique Shabbat program highlighting the environmental themes of Tu BiShevat: the Birthday of the Trees, showing our gratitude for the goodness of the land and our respect for its preservation, Friday, February 14 at 7:30 pm. The Tempestry Project ([www.tempestryproject.com](http://www.tempestryproject.com)) combines fiber art, environmental education, and climate activism through data representation. One of the ongoing problems inherent in discussions about climate change is the vast scale of the conversation. The Project scales data down into tangible and beautiful projects, creating a bridge between the climate and personal experience through temperature tapestries, or 'Tempestrys.' These may depict temperature deviation from the average or daily high temperatures over time for a specific location. Tempestrys create a powerful visual representation of changing temperatures over time and spark important conversations about the environment using relatable information. As more and more people create Tempestrys, both individually and in geographic collections, a mosaic of our climate history is beginning to emerge. The more people get involved — through knitting, crocheting, discussing, sharing — the richer, more beautiful, and more undeniable this mosaic becomes. Project co-founders Emily McNeil and Asy Connelly will speak about their work and display a number of Tempestrys. Chat with Emily and Asy at one, when refreshments will feature the seven species, holy foods consumed by the Jewish people in the land of Israel during biblical times. This special program is sponsored by the Vassar Temple Ritual Committee and Dayenu Circle and will also be available on Zoom. For further information, please contact [office@vassartemple.org](mailto:office@vassartemple.org) or (845) 454-2570.

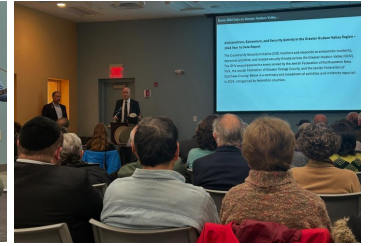


## The Jewish War Veterans of the United States, Post 625

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 Feb. 9, Mar. 9, Apr. 13, May 11, June 8 (9am schmooze, 9:30am 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



Hanukkah at The Fountains



JFedDC Annual Meeting



DC Regional Chamber of Commerce Breakfast



JFedDC Hanukkah Latka & Vodka Celebration



Beacon Hebrew Alliance & JFedDC The Klezmatics Concert

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 hv palliative care.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: hvhospice.org • (845) 240-7555