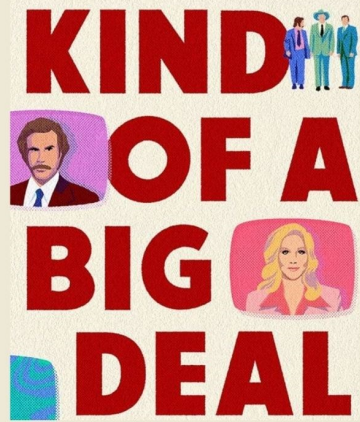


MEET AUTHOR & COMEDY HISTORIAN SAUL AUSTERLITZ



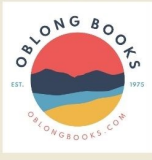
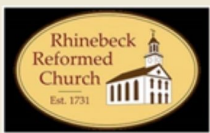
Kind of a Big Deal is a cultural analysis of the movie *Anchorman*, reflecting on the film's significance as a sly commentary on feminism, the media, fragile masculinity, 1970's nostalgia and more.

Date: Sunday January 28, 2024

Time: 1:00 PM

**Location: The Rhinebeck Reformed Church
6368 Mill Street Rhinebeck, NY 12572**

Copies of *KIND OF A BIG DEAL* by Saul Austerlitz will be available for purchase at this event, courtesy of Oblong Books.



RSVP www.jewishdutchess.org/events

Why Jews Belong Under The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Umbrella

By Debbie Epstein Henry - December 19, 2023 at 11:00 AM

"Including Jews under the DEI umbrella would accomplish three things. First is education. Providing more knowledge could bring more understanding. Second is bridging differences. Fostering communication will help build relationships and facilitate productive dialogue. Third is community. Jews need a safe space to connect and explore the range of experiences we are facing."

Isolation. This is one feeling I didn't anticipate after learning of the massacre of more than 1,200 Jewish civilians and the kidnapping of 240 civilians on October 7th. I was deeply hurt that among the hundreds of diversity, equity, and inclusion ("DEI") law firm professionals I've worked with for 25 years, only two have checked in with me since then. As I wondered why, I've surmised that while these colleagues see me as an ally, they don't see me - a Jew - as needing allyship and protection too. This is what I seek to change.

It's time to invite Jews into the DEI circle. Many firms have DEI initiatives that address systemic discrimination against people of color, the LGBTQ+ community, veterans, individuals with disabilities, and others. Many firms also have affinity groups organized around a shared identity that help to combat workplace discrimination and promote DEI. But Jews are typically excluded from these DEI efforts.

Including Jews under the DEI umbrella would accomplish three things. First is education. Providing more knowledge could bring more understanding. Second is bridging differences. Fostering communication will help build relationships and facilitate productive dialogue. Third is community. Jews need a safe space to connect and explore the range of experiences we are facing.

In order to invite Jews in, it's important to address the five reasons why, I believe, Jews have not been welcome and why we belong.

1. Some believe Jews are not marginalized and we hold disproportionate power so we don't belong with underrepresented groups.

While many Jews have attained financial and professional success, mistakenly concluding that all Jews have power has led to pernicious stereotypes. Additionally, Jews have suffered historic discrimination and we are not safe. Jewish institutions are under attack. We are also being

(Continued on page 5)

Holocaust Remembrance Day



**Friday, January 26,
2:00pm at FDR
Presidential Library**

**Register at:
[www.jewishdutchess.org/
events](http://www.jewishdutchess.org/events)**

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Kantika
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Elizabeth Graver

The JBC @ The Jewish Federation, Author Series 2023/2024
Sunday, February 4th at 2pm
A Virtual Event
This is a collaborative event with the Jewish Federations of Orange & Dutchess County & Temple Sinai, Middletown
Meet Elizabeth Graver, Author of *Kantika*

The story of *Kantika*, based on the life of Graver's grandmother, opens in Constantinople in 1907 and spans five decades, making stops in Barcelona and Havana but ultimately ending in New York City in 1950. While modern Jews everywhere are suffering as a result of the two World Wars, it's also a period of great upheaval for Sephardic Jews in Islamic lands — in this case, Turkey.

Register using the QR code, questions contact Pam: admin@jewishdutchess.org



The Jewish Federations of Orange & Dutchess County




INTRODUCING Zachary Lewis

Thank you for joining the JFedDC Board.
Learn more about Zachary Lewis on page 9

2nd Annual Pickleball Palooza
Sponsored by Temple Beth El and Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

Join us for an evening of play and instruction!!

Saturday, January 20th at 6:30pm
Taonic Sport and Racquet
190 Old Sylvan Lake Road
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\$30 per player. Nosh and drinks included.

Limited to 30 people, so register before it's too late!
RSVP and pay at www.jewishdutchess.org/events
Reach out to Susan Cooper with any questions at (845) 464-2468

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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 weekly 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.



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Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

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January

- January 10 **Current Status of the US Health Care System with Arieh Neuwirth.** What is needed to get it back on track and render it to be more affordable and a high-quality based care
Menu: vegetable lasagna, salad, garlic bread, and ice cream
- January 24 **Tu'B Shevat—with Rabbi Renni Altman from Vassar Temple**
Menu: grilled cheese, tomato soup, salad, and cookies

*Gluten free options available upon request in advance

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



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

Safely Getting Rid of Outdated and Unneeded Medications

In middle age and beyond, it's common to hear these four words from your health care provider: *We're changing your medication.*

While it's encouraging to know that your provider is paying close attention to your needs, you may find yourself the owner of an increasing amount of unneeded or outdated medications. When a change in medications is ordered, there are many ways to safely dispose of medications that are no longer needed, along with expired meds:

- For homebound individuals and their caregivers, Detera brand drug disposal kits are available while supplies last at OFA offices and our Friendship Centers throughout the county. The kits work with ordinary warm tap water to render medications inert and can be disposed of in regular trash. The kits cannot be mailed. Find Friendship Center contact information at dutchessny.gov/ofanutrition or by calling OFA.
- Dutchess County STOP-DWI, Sheriff's Office and Medical Reserve Corps offer safe drug disposal at every OFA Summer Picnic for older adults (60+). The 2024 picnic schedule will be available in April or May 2024.
- New York State's Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) recommends contacting your municipality to see if they offer household pharmaceutical collections events in partnership with local law enforcement. Note: most municipal household hazardous waste collections do NOT accept pharmaceuticals.
- Check with your local pharmacy to see if they offer disposal services. Some sell postage-paid envelopes in which unneeded medications can be mailed for incineration.
- As a last resort if none of the options above are available, the DEC says medications can be mixed with water (do not crush tablets or capsules), and then mixed with salt, ashes, dirt, cat litter, old coffee grounds, or another undesirable substance to avoid accidental or intentional misuse of drugs disposed of in regular trash. Dispose of drugs as close to your trash collection day as possible to avoid misuse and/or misdirection.
- As for sharps/needles, all non-federal hospitals in New York State must accept them for disposal.

Hudson Valley Hospice Opens its First Hospice Residence to Serve Patients in Dutchess and Ulster Counties

(Poughkeepsie, NY) – Michael Kaminski, President and CEO of Hudson Valley Hospice, announced that the Hudson Valley Hospice House is now open to patients. Mr. Kaminski added "We are extremely proud that the Hudson Valley Hospice project team was able to successfully secure approvals, design, plan, build, equip, and furnish this wonderful gift to the communities in Dutchess and Ulster Counties in a relatively short timeframe. But the real success of this project comes from our staff of compassionate professionals providing comfort and freedom from pain and anxiety to our patients during their final days. Patients who otherwise would be housed in facilities ill-equipped to correctly handle the complexities of end-of-life care. I have received a large number of congratulatory comments from residents all over both counties, noting that this facility and its programs and staff are long years overdue."

Mr. Kaminski also noted that anyone can call Hudson Valley Hospice, with no obligation, to discuss the benefits of the Hospice House, care needs, ask questions or request a tour. The Referral Center is open seven days a week and can be reached at (845) 240-7555.

The Hudson Valley Hospice House, a spacious and elegantly decorated home-like facility located on seven wooded acres in Hyde Park, just north of Hudson Valley Hospice's administrative office, offers fourteen private

(Continued on page 9)

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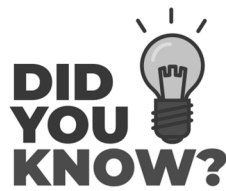
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The Harding Club



The Harding Club wishes everyone a very happy and healthy 2024.

We are especially focused on the very traumatic events in Israel and Gaza, as the war continues to grab national and international headlines. I write this at the start of December, the cease fire is over, some hostages have been released, and Israel continues its quest to live in peace as a Jewish homeland.

It is our fervent hope that the forces of good will emerge in victory and that our people can live in peace.

The Harding Club has been active in Poughkeepsie's Jewish life for more than 100 years. Originally started by a group of young Jewish athletes who were barred from local athletic leagues because of their religion, today's Harding Club is active as a social outlet for its members. Additionally, the club is proud of its philanthropic efforts which benefit not only Jewish organizations and charities, but also gives aid to needy people in the community at large. The Club meets twice monthly at a local restaurant for lunch or dinner and includes an interesting speaker. Our meetings are a chance to interact with friends, old and new. Please contact any of the listed club officers below and start the process of becoming a member.

Here is a sampling of some of our recent activities:

- A large amount of money has been sent to Mogen Dovid Adam in Israel to help with the war effort.
- Another large donation was sent to a rescue organization (American Friends of Unit 669, Team 42) in Israel to provide helmets and jackets for the soldiers.
- Azzy Reckess spoke to the group about his time serving in the IDF and about his perspective regarding the war efforts.
- Irv Miller spoke about Math in our schools.
- Melanie Rottkamp from Dutchess Tourism spoke at a meeting.
- Judge Al Rosenblatt spoke at a meeting.
- Several new members have been added to our roster.
- Food from the Food Bank has been delivered to needy families at the Morse School in Poughkeepsie.
- Additional speakers for future meetings have been secured, including Andrew Schmidt, who will speak on Hamilton's New York.

The Harding Club has embarked on its second 100 years. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact any of us listed below, or check out our website, harding.jigsy.com

Your author, Club Secretary Alan Fox, alfox21@yahoo.com
 President Gene Fleishman, gene.fleishman@gmail.com
 Vice President Irv Miller, irvinmiller@gmail.com



Annual Meeting Recap *By Alyssa Kogon*

What is usually a moderately attended year end meeting for the Dutchess County Jewish Federation turned into a standing room only solidarity event on December 4th. The Boardman Road Library Auditorium swelled with community guests, a musical offering, and a large number of public servants for the Annual Meeting. Board members met prior to the programming to vote on pending issues including the certification of the youngest and newest Board Member Zach Lewis.

JFedDC Executive Director Karen Hochhauser welcomed the overflow audience and made brief remarks on updates from the organization. The most anticipated speaker of the evening was Tsach Saar, the acting Consul General from the Israeli Consulate in New York City. He shared information on the efforts being made to save the hostages taken to Gaza during the October 7th Massacre as well as the fight for the elimination of Hamas. He discussed how shocking it is for Israel to be criticized by the world for defending its citizens, a standard no other nation is held to. Additionally, he answered questions from the audience and expressed his appreciation to be given the opportunity to speak. Saar emphasized that the entire country is traumatized and that the war will not be brief, but that the people of Israel have become more united than ever. He expressed concern over the vast amount of misleading information being shared on issues like false accusations of apartheid in Israel and bombings being attributed to Israel but carried out by Arabs on their own people. The crowd was both interested and polite.

Many elected officials were present to hear these important updates. They included Dutchess County Executive William O'Neil, New York State Assemblymen Anil Beephan and Jonathon Jacobson, Lydia Biskup, Director Of Operations representing for NY State Senator Rob Rolison, Town of Poughkeepsie Council Member Ann Shershin, and the Ulster County Conservative Party Chairman Jack Hayes.

The Jewish Federation of Dutchess County also wishes to thank the Town of Poughkeepsie Police Department and the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office for their detail during the evening's proceedings and the staff at the Boardman Road Library for their help.





#BlueRibbonsforIsrael

A global unity symbol in solidarity with hostages and their families

The blue ribbon symbolizes support and solidarity for the safe return of the hostages taken by Hamas terrorists in Israel. It symbolizes solidarity with the hostages, their families, and all who care about their safety.

BlueRibbonsforIsrael.org



At the time of print, there are still hostages being held by Hamas. They have been Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Buddhist, and Hindu. Show your solidarity with them and us by wearing a blue ribbon or putting one on your tree or building.

If you need a ribbon, call the JFedDC (845) 471-9811

Be sure to look for our advertisers in this month's *The Voice*:

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Page 5 Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Hudson Valley Properties and Levine & Levine, PLLC

Page 12: Hudson Valley Hospice



Dear Resolution Maker,

Today is the first day of the rest of your life. There can be several new beginnings during the year. September was four months ago. It's a good time to check in and see how far you are progressing with your goals. Remember, every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end!

Shoshana

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.	February	January 1
Email: TheVoice@JewishDutchess.org	March	February 1
if you have questions.	April	March 1
	May	April 1

Rabbi's Blog by Rabbi Glenn Jacob

We thought we had passed a milestone somewhere in these last decades. In some unmeasurable manner, we had slipped across the barrier between "us" and "them" and were now just another mainstream group jostling to make our way through the American culture and economy. The old, bad ways had been eclipsed by a new nonchalance and apathy towards religion. Then October 7th happened, and the illusion crumbled in an instant.



Rabbi Jacob

Jews have committed themselves to issues of social justice across the breadth of the American electorate since the beginning of the last century. We have brought our Jewish organizations, infused with our religious and philosophical ethics, into the vanguard organizations fighting racism, bigotry, misogyny, poverty, and other great ethical issues of the day. We had long concluded we were treated as equals in these battles, comrades in arms against greed, hate, and corruption. What we thought is not what the reality has turned out to be.

The most prominent example is women's issues. National and international women's organizations who fight against rape and violence against women could not bring themselves to condemn the Hamas' gruesome violence and rape of Israeli women on that fateful day. Only through bold, public outcry in the media did these nationally recognized organizations reluctantly come to acknowledge these horrific acts.

Women's issues are not the only arena though. In every major area of social justice and social action, Jewish organizations have been reporting that they have been ignored or demeaned, or in some cases denounced with every label imaginable including colonialism, apartheid, and even genocide. Victim blaming, a most pernicious dehumanizing of the other, is a prominent Jewish experience these past weeks. Jews are "the other" in places we never imagined for a generation or two of activists.

I do most of my grassroots advocacy work within a climate coalition of three hundred organizations across the state. Sitting on the second most important committee, we plan all the actions and arrange almost 200 lobby visits a year. This is the coalition that provides all my CEU's on diversity training including racism, agism, and gender equality. Imagine my surprise during the last five minutes of a weekly meeting where we plug actions and updates of our individual organizations as one of the participants invited everyone to a Pro-Palestinian Day Protest against Israel. Despite my inquiry afterward, the coalition has not taken a position as of this writing.

We are a climate coalition; we fight for climate change legislation with an emphasis on disadvantaged and indigenous communities. Our core tenant is diversity, reaching out to all walks of life across the state. The word no longer feels as broad and inclusive as it once was.

The question of next steps consumes my thoughts. Is our next task to teach these organizations about their denial of bigotry? Are we to accept their weak apologies and move forward as if nothing has changed? Have they changed or merely retreated in the face of criticism? For the causes we are advocating to move forward, can we act as a united voice still? Our tradition tells us to pray as we believe in God and to act as we believe in humankind. There are competing concerns between our philosophy of *tikkun olam* and the proclamations and protests we are witnessing. Can we still build a better world together?

(Why Jews...Continued from page 1)

threatened on college and law school campuses, in the streets, and in countless other spaces. Indeed, as of October 24th, the Anti-Defamation League ("ADL") Center on Extremism reported incidents of harassment, vandalism, and assault against Jews had increased by 388% over the same period last year.

2. Many say Jews are white and part of a dominant majority and don't need protection.

While the majority of Jews in Israel are not white, in the U.S., we are. However, Jews were deemed not to be white by the Nazis and that was part of the purported justification for murdering six million Jews. Additionally, Jews are indisputably a tiny minority- a mere 0.2% of the world's population and only 2% of the U.S. population.

3. The Israel debate is "complicated" and some see the Israelis as "occupiers," "settlers," or "colonizers" who run an "apartheid" government.

(Continued on page 8)

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 Caroline Kaye, who took time away from working on her documentary "Left Lane Straight" to answer our questions.



Caroline Kaye

1. **What is your favorite/least favorite word?**
Favorite: *Lacuna*
Least Favorite: *Amplify*
2. **What inspires you creatively, spiritually, or emotionally?**
Beautiful light.
3. **What is your favorite song?**
Anything from the Indigo Girls.
4. **What profession other than your own would you like to attempt?**
Archivist.
5. **What profession would you not like to attempt?**
Anything in politics.
6. **What is your favorite Jewish food/dessert?**
Baklava - Some Sephardi make it instead of hamantaschen on Purim in the shape of cigars to represent Haman's fingers.
7. **What do you most like and dislike about yourself?**
Like: *I'm an optimist. I always think I can make something happen.*
Dislike: *I can't multitask. I really like to focus on one thing at a time which is hard when you are a mom.*
8. **What is one interesting thing that people don't know about you?**
I used to write for magazines. I was a writer and editor and traveled all over the world.
9. **If you could choose a superpower, what would it be?**
To pause and expand time.
10. **What is your greatest achievement/something you are most proud of?** *My relationship with my husband. We met at 19 and I still think he's awesome.*
11. **Do you have a "bucket list" and, if so, what is on it?**
To finish my documentary "Left Lane Straight" - preferably this year.
12. **If there were one thing you would hope others do in the interest of our future, what would that be?** *To try and see outside of the box. We tend to label and categorize people. While working on the film, I realized that people are so much more than they seem and are more complex than we realize.*
13. **What is your earliest Jewish memory?**
Going to Hebrew School every Tuesday and Thursday and Mr. Shmueli in the Hebrew School workbooks.
14. **What is your most favorite Jewish memory?**
My wedding. It was like my Big Fat Greek Jewish wedding infused with all my culture.
15. **In what ways does or can JFedDC impact our Jewish Community?**
My favorite thing regarding Jewish Community is intergenerational programming. When you get youngers and olders in the same space it benefits all, but especially the younger generation.
16. **What is one question you wished we ask and the answer?**
Q: *Who influenced you most in your life?*
A: *My grandmother, the impetus of my documentary. I thought I knew her history and story but as I got older, I realized I didn't. She was both generous with her story telling and elusive in that she hid the more challenging parts of her life I wanted it all. Understanding her story became a life long using words and art to capture who she was and how history-shaped her.*

**Member of the Tribe*

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Shabbat Y'Ladim (Children's Shabbat)

All young children from tots to first grade are invited to join Rabbi Altman to celebrate the Sabbath and the holiday of Tu B'Shevat (the New Year of the Trees) on **Saturday, January 20, 10:30am** in Vassar Temple. Our stuffed bear friends *Kachol v'Lavan* will be there to take part in the singing, stories, and a brief, child friendly service. Tell your friends and neighbors--this event is free and open to the whole community. Healthy snacks will be served. Vassar Temple is a welcoming, inclusive Reform congregation. For more information and to RSVP, contact office@vassartemple.org or call the Temple (845) 454-2570.

Generosity taken from *5 Research-Backed Benefits of Making Generosity a Habit* (fullfocus.co)
By Suzanne Turrisi, PJ Library Assistant Director

Generosity is the value of being liberal, liberal with our time, affection, or money. Generosity comes in many different forms. "Like expressing gratitude, there's a lot of research demonstrating that generosity enhances our quality of life."

Here are 5 ways generosity give back to us:

1. Generosity makes us healthy. Chronic high blood pressure takes the lives of millions every year but one study found generosity actually reduced blood pressure as much as medicine and exercise. Generosity also lowers the risk of dementia, reduces anxiety and depression, improves chronic pain management and more.
2. Generosity makes us happy. Giving our time and money to others gives us an emotional boost. Why? Feeling good is a product of doing good. It's built into our neurochemistry. The act of giving triggers feel-good chemicals like endorphins, dopamine, and oxytocin. According to a Harvard Business School study, this is evident across cultural and economic lines.
3. Generosity lowers our stress. We don't think of Scrooge as a mellow guy. Here's why. It turns out that being stingy can actually raise our stress levels. After hooking people up to heart monitors, researchers found that when they felt they were giving too little in a transaction it actually drove up their stress. Being generous, on the other hand, kept stress down.
4. Generosity improves our relationships. In a study of generosity and its effect in marriage, researchers found that the recipient of generosity expressed high levels of marital satisfaction, but so did the giver. "The extension of generosity toward the spouse was positively related to their own reports of marital satisfaction."
5. Generosity extends our lives. In fact, one study of 2,000 people in Marin, California found volunteering dramatically reduced mortality rates. "Subjects who volunteered for two or more causes had a 63 percent lower rate of mortality than people who didn't volunteer during the study period." According to fufullfocus.com, "If we want the full positive effect of generosity, we have to make it a habit!"



A great way to support Israeli people at this time is by purchasing Israeli made items from small businesses and individuals .
For a list of sites to purchase from visit:
<http://www.jewishdutchess.org/support-Israel>

Join PJ Library & Mindful Yoga With Liz For a Yoga Gratitude Gathering
Let's choose to lose those January blues together



January 20, 2024 11:45 AM
Mindful Yoga With Liz

1 Davis Ave Poughkeepsie
[RSVP programs@jewishdutchess.org](mailto:RSVP_programs@jewishdutchess.org)
Suggested donation \$12 per family.
Donate @ the door.



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
Led by Education Director, Celia Bacowski -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

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 Tzivia Hecht, Director (845) 876-7666 or tziviehecht@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
Rabbi Glenn Jacob: Congregation Shir Chadash 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 (845) 454-2570.

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

נדיבות
Nedivut
Generosity

Here is a generosity sheet from Pinterest to clip and hang up to help children better understand the value of really giving.

GENEROSITY

GENEROSITY IS BEING WILLING TO GIVE AND SHARE WHAT YOU HAVE. YOU CAN BE GENEROUS WITH YOUR TIME, TALENTS, OR THINGS.

EXAMPLES OF GENEROSITY:

- Sharing your games or toys.
- Giving someone a gift.
- Spending time helping someone.
- Letting someone borrow your things.
- Making something for someone.
- Letting other people have a turn.

Tamatha



Suzanne



A Sensational Sensory Celebration

By Tamatha Williams, PJ Library Director

I walked down the stairs, bags and boxes balanced just so, carefully trying not to trip with my little one walking as though she was woven beneath me. I knew that we had prepped for months for our Community Hanukkah Party to be spectacular and it was! Come along with me as I share our celebration.

With eyes wide open, you see a beautiful room cast with a sheen of gold from the foil gelt wrappers sprinkled on the tables. The aroma of doughnuts from the PJ Library doughnut bar parades your sense of smell. Yummy sprinkles, decadent chocolate sauce, airy whipped cream and gooey caramel sit patiently waiting to be artistically placed on their blank doughnut palettes.

You spy a table of carefully crafted menorah kits invitingly laid out waiting for excited children to assemble them. The projector was ready to go for the older children to play a game of trivia. A soft hum fills the room from the sound of the colorfully inflated menorah. Across the room there is a tempting array of bagels, cream cheese, fruit and yogurt displayed enticingly.

As people usher into the room, beaming grandparents, community guests, teens and toddlers, the hum of the inflatable menorah is replaced with the sounds of enthusiasm and excitement as families begin to immerse themselves in Hanukkah cheer. The chairs seem to be sitting more erect, as though they are welcoming people to sit down. The dreidels atop of the tables dance as they begin to spin around and around.

There is a rhythm that you can see and sense as the entertainers skillfully prepare their artistry for their audience. Darryl Bielski, balloon artist, opened his magical briefcase which housed a rainbow of balloons just waiting to come to life. As he began to create, the room became more playful with teddy bears, butterflies, ducks and even an octopus! Children carried wands that doubled as noise makers and swords that let their bravery soar. Bubble Master Rick Moore showcased an abundant amount of bubbles, captivating his audience with science and tactile wonderment.

Our celebration concluded with Rabbi Miriam lighting the menorah with the help of Trotter, a very sweet boy who volunteered.

During this celebration, I paused for a moment and took in all of the sensory splendor that surrounded me. As I write this, I hear the laughter and the chatter, I smell doughnuts, I feel bubbles mysteriously dry on my fingertips, the boing of the oversized octopus as I try to fit it in the car, but most of all I feel a sense of community and belonging. Thank you all for making this celebration sensational.

Community Chanukkah Party



PJ Library Visits Vassar Tiny Temple

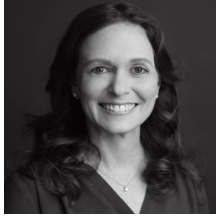
By Tamatha Williams, PJ Library Director

What a great collab when PJ Library and Vassar's Tiny Temple get together! On Sunday December 3rd, I headed over to Vassar Temple feeling very enthusiastic about the PJ Library book and craft that was planned. Tiny Temple began and I read *I Know An Old Lady Who Swallowed A Dreidel* by Caryn Yacowitz. This is such a fun book with wonderful illustrations by David Slonim. Slonim notes, "I wanted to transform classic works of art not simply to pay homage to paintings and sculptures I love, nor merely to connect the traditional "high culture" of fine art with the popular culture of a folk song and the folk-art style. Most of all, I wanted the art parodies to help the book transcend Chanukah, speaking to the universal human experience of family gatherings and celebrations." If you have an opportunity to pick up this book, I think it is one that everyone will get enjoyment out of!

After story time, the children, parents and I began to work collaboratively on a large menorah, creating paper chain links to "draw" the menorah and glued craft paper to "light" the candle's flames. At the end of Tiny Temple, the menorah was proudly hung for everyone to admire. I look forward to PJ Library's next visit to Vassar Temple's Tiny Temple.



The Federation Board's Voice



Susan G. Hecht

January 2024

Last month, I finished my first full year as President of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County. I am grateful to continue to be an active part of our great community and proud of the work the organization accomplishes. You may think my appreciation is directed primarily to the Board members, advisors and staff members, all of whom I work with on a regular basis. But the organization's accomplishments are driven by the efforts of many more.

Rather, it is the community, as a whole, that makes the organization so successful at the important work that we do.

The Jewish Federation is successful because our donors are devoted, our volunteers are hard-working, and our staff, while it may be small, (with our extraordinary executive director, Karen Hochhauser, being our only full-time employee), is undoubtedly committed. Consistently, I watch people come together from different backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives. I see people put their heads together and remain determined. For this, I thank our community.

We do this because we care about the Jewish community in Dutchess County; and at large. We care about people, in general. It is a part of our moral compass and a part of humanity. We are here because the work we do feels right; we sleep better at night. It is part of our *menschlekeit*.

From the bottom of my heart, I thank everyone who makes the organization run – that includes you – simplify for reading the Voice and staying informed. It includes people who attend events; and people who reach out and share ideas; it includes our donors, and the volunteers and staff members. It includes many clergy members from different religions who team up with us. For example, Pastor Louis and Bishop Debra Gause, I thank you for your ongoing support of our community. I thank many of our government officials, too. The organization has a terrific team of 5 part-time staff members -- Pam Mason, Tamatha Williams, Tamra Bienemann, Suzanne Turisi, and Beth Richardson -- and a committed board of directors and advisors.

It will be a busy year ahead – no one knows what it will look like. But I do know that there is much work to do. On behalf of the organization, I promise we will work hard. I ask you to please, continue to be active in whatever way works for you –read the monthly Voice, attend events, make donations, share your ideas, and volunteer. It is what makes this important organization run.

Our Executive Director



Wishing a Year of Health, Wealth, Happiness, & Peace

Previously I have written about "Ein Melim", there are no words. There are no words to describe what happened on October 7th and the global rise in antisemitism since then. There are no words to express the concern, frustration, and anger over the fact that there are still hostages being held in captivity by Hamas terrorists. There are no words over the shocking lack of support from organizations who seem to support women who have been raped, unless they happen to be Israeli. With all that being said, and a new calendar year upon us, I want to take a moment to share some gratitude.

We live in an exceptional community. Though I know I am prejudiced because my family has been here since 1941, Dutchess County is a unique and special home for all of us. On behalf of the Federation Board and Staff, I thank you all for being a part of our community. Thank you for your support both financially and with your time (and remember, our Annual Campaign is open until January 15 so it is not too late to donate).

We are looking forward to 2024 with hope and optimism for our ability to continue to make positive, lasting impact in Dutchess County, our little corner of the world. There are many initiatives in process and we want to encourage each of you to get involved. Now more than ever we need to be strong, engaged, and involved. We need to be relentless in our determination in fighting antisemitism. We will continue to help those in need and to support our seniors. We plan to expand interfaith programming and offer a safe community for college students. We are stronger together and welcome you to become more involved in our community fabric.

My wish to each and every one of you is that 2024 will bring a year of health, wealth, happiness, and peace for us all.

Happy New Year,
Karen Hochhauser, Executive Director

(Why Jews...Continued from page 5)

Condemning the butchering and kidnapping of civilians is not complicated. Terrorism is the use of violence against civilians and Hamas is a U.S. government-designated terrorist organization that murdered more than 1,200 Israeli civilians. Irrespective of what one thinks of any government, one is never justified in slaughtering innocent civilians. And one can denounce terrorism and also decry the deaths of Palestinian civilians.

4. Some say they are not antisemitic; they are just anti-Zionist.

Zionism is a movement to support a Jewish homeland in Israel. Regardless of whether you believe that anti-Zionism equates to antisemitism, the dramatic rise in antisemitic incidents demonstrates the two are inextricably linked. From the "Gas the Jews" pro-Palestinian protest in Sydney to the Jewish apartments marked with Stars of David in Berlin, it's clear that anti-Zionism and antisemitism are conflated and Jews are in danger.

5. Some worry that including Jews may create tension in the DEI community because some who oppose Israel are already under the diversity umbrella.

While it may be uncomfortable to have Jews and those who oppose Israel participate in DEI initiatives together, it's necessary. Since George Floyd's murder, much of the DEI emphasis has been to be uncomfortable and facilitate courageous conversations. It's time that Jews be part of these conversations along with Muslims, who have been included in DEI initiatives for more than a decade.

Incorporating Jews into DEI initiatives is overdue. By signing the [ADL's Workplace Pledge to Fight Antisemitism](#) and using [ADL](#) and [Shine the Light](#) resources, firms can take the necessary steps to ensure that all employees feel safe and included.

As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said: "In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends." It's not too late for us to combat the rise in antisemitism, together.

Debbie Epstein Henry is a lawyer turned author, professional speaker, consultant, and communication coach with an expertise in careers, workplace dynamics, women, and law. Debbie is a member of the board of trustees of Brooklyn Law School. She's also a Jew and an advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion.

JEW IN THE NEWS.

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

Hudson Valley, NY law firm Feldman, Kleidman, Collins & Sappe LLP (FKC&S) is delighted to announce its designation as a Metropolitan Tier 1 firm in White Plains, NY for Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants, as well as a Metropolitan Tier 2 in White Plains, NY for Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants in the 2024 edition of Best Law Firms.

2024
Happy New Year
Wishing you a year of peace!

A Day with Ellen Allard
A Tribute to Lilli Zimet (z"l) & Fundraiser for our Kulanu School
Saturday, January 27, 2024



MORNING SERVICE 11:00AM-12:00PM
Join us for Ellen's WOW Worship Service
An interactive musical service.

KIDDUSH LUNCHEON & CHOIR 12:00PM
After lunch @1:00pm, join Ellen's Instant Choir & accompany her onstage during her evening concert.

EVENING CONCERT 7:00PM
Join us for Havdallah and a concert with Ellen featuring Ellen's new music written for *L'dor vaDor* in memory of Lilli Zimet (z"l). Doors open at 6:30pm. Cost \$36.00 per person.

DESSERT & COFFEE HOUSE
After the concert, the celebration continues with some of Lilli's favorite desserts and beverages.

Ellen Allard, an award-winning Performer, Music Educator & Composer, is one of the most influential musicians on today's Jewish music scene. Committed to building community through music, Ellen has a unique and heartwarming way of encouraging audiences to join in playful singing. We welcome her this Shabbat from Boston, MA.

A Day with Ellen Allard will be held at:
Temple Beth-El
118 South Grand Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY



For ticket information:
Contact Karen Jacobs
educationassist@tbeny.org
(845)454-0570 ext. 108

- This program is funded by:**
- Jonah Sherman Family Fund
 - The Harding Club
 - The Irving and Gloria Schlossberg Family Fund
 - Many generous donations from community members

Introducing Zachary Lewis *By Alyssa Kogon*



Zach Lewis fell in love with his Jewish identity. It did not happen overnight. Instead, the newest and youngest JFED board member had a path to follow. The 36 year old real estate business professional was born in New York City and grew up in Westchester County. While his father was the president of Congregation Sharay Tefilah in Mount Kisco, young Zach excelled in all sports, but especially out on the soccer field.

Lewis confides, "I did not have an extremely religious childhood, but my Bar Mitzvah was held on top of Masada." He and his sister Rachel attended Hebrew School, but his focus was on competitive soccer and his weekends and free time were caught up in tournaments and practices. Another trip to Israel with Birthright at age 18, cemented his Jewish pride.

While attending Oberlin College as a dual major in Political Science and Religion, Lewis came to a reckoning at the far left progressive institution. He realized that his Jewish identity was under attack at the school. There was much Anti-Zionist activity and even a professor who was the Former Ambassador to the United Nations from Iran.

Joining Hillel and the Oberlin Zionists did not help matters and Lewis became an outcast due to his overt love of Israel. He faced constant confrontation and outright lies, including being told the First Infitada was a "peaceful demonstration" by his classmates. He decided to make Aliyah and at age 22 he moved to Israel.

His first stop was Jerusalem where he interned at the Jewish Center for Public Affairs. He continued playing soccer and even represented at the Maccabi Games. Additionally, Lewis played for the Israeli Lacrosse National Team. He moved to Tel Aviv and eventually lived on Kibbutz Holit, the location of the October 7th Holit Massacre. Sadly, Lewis knew many of the victims and hostages from that terrible event.

Although Lewis enjoyed his life in Israel, the job market was poor. He returned to the states to work in the family real estate business, which is in its fourth generation. What he thought was a temporary decision became more permanent after he met his wife Rebecca, a therapist. Together the couple have four beautiful young children and have resided in the Red Hook School District for the last ten years.

Lewis's grandmother has lived in nearby Woodstock for years and his parents Hugh and Heidi moved to Rhinebeck to be closer to their grandchildren. Zach and Rebecca keep a traditional Jewish home he calls a "Conservative hybrid" and the family attends the Rhinebeck Jewish Center with Rabbi Hecht.

While Lewis may be the youngest board member, he has a list of realistic goals for the organization's future. He shares, "October 7th made me realize I need to become more involved in bringing the Jewish community together." During his tenure he hopes to engage more young families to see the Dutchess County Jewish Federation the center of their community. He is also planning to bring conversational Hebrew lessons to school aged children. Finally, Lewis wishes to unify the Jewish community in general and recognize that we are all one. The Dutchess County Jewish Federation warmly welcomes Zach and looks forward to a long and fruitful collaboration with him.

(Hudson Valley Hospice Continued from page 2)

suites, each featuring a large private bathroom, individual room temperature control and convertible chairs and sofas to allow loved ones to stay overnight, while doors in each room open onto a Meditative Garden, offering patients and their loved ones the opportunity to enjoy a peaceful and tranquil outdoor environment. Suites can also be converted for pediatric patient care to meet the extraordinary needs of our youngest patients and their loved ones.

Spacious dining, sitting and gathering rooms offer places to join together in large and small groups, with coffee stations, microwaves and refrigerators available for family use. A fully staffed kitchen ensures that each patient's individual dietary needs and cravings are met. The spa includes a state-of-the-art hydrotherapy tub and offers a variety of therapies and personal care options.

Ray Travis, President and CEO of Mid Hudson Construction Management, the builders of the Hospice House, stated that "When our team was tasked with building the first freestanding hospice inpatient facility in Dutchess and Ulster County, we took the project to heart and wanted to create a place where residents and their families could feel at home while receiving the best care possible."

Lisa Wilson, Executive Director of Hudson Valley Hospice Foundation shared that "I am truly inspired by everyone who has helped bring the gift of our Hospice House to our community. No longer will patients and their families have to travel out of the area to receive the vital care that a Hospice House can provide when home is not an option. Whether it is part of a hospital discharge plan, respite care or a patient needing additional care and support, we are here for our community." She went on to say that meeting Hudson Valley Hospice and the Hospice House's objectives requires financial resources beyond what their annual reimbursement funding provides. "With a price tag of \$10 million dollars and a pandemic overshadowing the planning and building phases, we are still in the midst of a Capital Campaign to ensure that this very special place remains strong and vibrant. I encourage everyone to join our incredibly generous donors and be a part of this extraordinary project. Help make a difference in our community for generations to come."

To take a virtual tour and for more information about the Hudson Valley Hospice House, please visit hvospice.org. To find out more about how you can help support the Hudson Valley Hospice House, please contact Lisa Wilson at wilsonl@hvospice.org or (845) 240-7607.



Concert Marks Dedication of Historic Piano

Vassar Temple celebrated the dedication of its 1923 Mason & Hamlin Grand Piano at a special event featuring a piano concert with Temple Musician Joseph Bertolozzi and guest soloists Ruthanne Schempf, James F. Fitzwilliam, and Sylvia Buccelli. This historic piano was donated to the Temple by the Lemberger family, and restored with funds raised by the Music Committee. The original owner, May Engelman (Barbara Lemberger's grandmother), was born in 1893 on a ship bringing her to the USA from Europe. May grew up to become a concert pianist and teacher. When May became very ill and moved into the home of her daughter, Hope Mann (Barbara Lemberger's mother), the piano moved with her. When the Manns relocated to Florida, the piano was moved again, this time to the Lemberger home. Barbara, her mother, sisters and daughter all played on this piano, asking May to "tickle the keys" whenever they wanted to hear her play. And now, through the generous donation of the Lemberger family, this marvelous 100 year old instrument has found a new home and a new life in the sanctuary of Vassar Temple, bringing the gift of its music to all who gather here to worship.



Souls United Interfaith Gospel Choir

Vassar Temple will pay tribute to the legacy and life of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. during its Shabbat evening service Friday, January 12, at 7:30pm. The service will include specially selected liturgy as well as a presentation by Souls United of the Hudson Valley, who will intersperse their songs with quotes from Dr. King. Souls United of the Hudson Valley has served since 2010 as the area's only standing Interfaith Gospel Choir. Their repertoire consists of music from the Christian and Baha'i faiths as well as the music of other faith traditions as reflected by the choir's membership. Their first public appearance as Souls United was at a Dutchess County Interfaith Music Festival, and they recently performed at the DCIC gala "Love Forward." All are welcome to attend the service, which will be followed by an oneg sponsored by the Temple Sisterhood.



*The 2023 Annual Campaign ends January 15, 2024.
So there is still time to donate.
www.jewishdutchess.org/donate*

Sisterhood Schomre Israel
41st Annual
Hamentashen Sale
Raspberry · Apricot · Prune
Poppyseed · Chocolate
\$19/dozen—\$12/half dozen
\$27 Shalach Monot Basket + \$18 postage
Hamentashen available for purchase and pick-up on
Sunday, March 10th from 11:00am-1:00pm
Congregation Schomre Israel
18 Park Ave, Poughkeepsie
www.schomreisrael.org · (845) 454-2890

Congregation Schomre Israel

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

Weekly Services:

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

Adult Education:

Tuesday
Class on Maimonides 10:30am, hybrid. Join us as we discuss the philosophy of Maimonides (the Rambam) and study his classic work.

Conversational Hebrew 11:45am.

Thursday

A Window into Yesteryear—the lives they lived, the Torah they taught

January 4, 7:00pm, Rabbi Yosef Karo, Jerusalem in the 1500's. We will examine Jewish life in different eras and locales as filtered through the lens of the life of various interesting individuals.

Hands on Judaism for the Foodie— January 18, 7:00pm. The Role of the Mashgiach (definition of mashgiach—supervisor of kashrut)

Other Events:

Thursday
Rosh Chodesh breakfast January 11, 9:00am, following morning services marking the start of the month of Sh'vat.

TEAM Shabbat Event January 11, 6:00pm. Traditional End of Life Awareness Event, how to start preparing a will and estate planning.

Yiddish Club 11:00am, January 25. If you want to speak a bisele, to chap a noshe, and to schmooze, then this club is for you. Join us live every month. The Yiddish Club is a nostalgic trip to the times and culture of our bubblies and zaydies, mixed with Yiddish music, Yiddish comedy, Yiddish lemin, and Yiddish hanae as well as a look at how Yiddish is faring in contemporary times. This program is open to all in the community. You needn't be fluent in the language, so come join us.

Tu B'Shvat Celebration January 25, 6:00pm. Come celebrate the New Year for the Trees.

Saturday

Movie Night January 20, 7:00pm. Join us in viewing the film *The Two of Us*. In Nazi occupied France a Jewish child is sent away from his family and conceals his religious identification from the elderly anti-semitic man who takes care of him.

Sunday

4K Club January 28, 9:30am. Koffee, Kibbitzing, Kvelling Klub a pleasant social gathering.

Upcoming

HAMENTASCHEN SALE The time is NOW to order your Purim treats! The annual Hamentashen sale has begun. Pre-ordered hamentashen will be available for pick up on Sunday, March 10. See page 9 for more information. Remember, Purim Day is on Sunday, March 24. To place an order or for more information contact the synagogue office or Roberta Grosman, rgrosman@aol.com

Contact

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

Congregation Shir Chadash

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

Weekly Services:

Fridays: 7:30pm 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. Just bring an inquisitive mind, a curiosity about our tradition, and a willingness to share your thoughts.

For dates and info call (845) 232-1029, email: info@shir-chadash.org or visit www.shir-chadash.org.

Other Events:

Sunday

Rosh Chodesh Reading Group

Those interested in reading are invited, (now done virtually)-- 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

Contact :

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

Save the Date

February 4

Author Series

See page 1 for more info

February 11

Relaunching Lunch & Learn in collaboration with the Rhinebeck Reformed Church and the Institute of Advanced Theology.

March 17

Community Purim Carnival

May 5

Mitzvah Day

May 7

Community Yom Hashoa Commemoration

June 5

Annual Federation Celebration Gala



Temple Beth-El

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

Weekly Services:

Friday & Saturday Shabbat Services alternate between 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 2:00 pm in the Social hall at TBE, if inclement weather we meet via Zoom.

Upcoming dates and book selections are: 2/13/24—*The Most Beautiful Girl in Cuba*; 4/9/24 and 6/11/24—Selections TBD.

Contact:

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

The Roots of Reform as Prophetic Judaism

- a hybrid adult ed course with Rabbi Renni Altman, DD, of Vassar Temple, Wednesdays Jan. 24, 31 and Feb. 7 at 7:30pm. The prophets raged against injustice, demanded ethical and righteous behavior. With its emphasis on social justice and a universal call to strive for the betterment of humanity, it is no wonder that when Reform Judaism began in America it was grounded in the teachings of the prophets and even referred to as "Prophetic Judaism." This three part-series will touch upon the teachings of some of the early prophets and the major literary prophets, including (Jan. 24) – The Early prophets: Elijah, Nathan, Elisha; (Jan 31) – Isaiah; (Feb. 7) – Jeremiah prophesied foretelling destruction, yet promising ultimate redemption; Ezekiel is the prophet of the Exile, yet inspiring the people's hope that God has not abandoned them and that they will return and rebuild. Please RSVP to adulted@vassartemple.org and indicate if you will attend in person or online. If you have a *Tanakh* (Bible) please bring it. You can also access the text on line at www.sefaria.org.

District Attorney Anthony Parisi to Speak at Vassar Temple Thursday, January 18, 7:00pm. Anthony Parisi, District Attorney for Dutchess County, will hold a Town Hall meeting. The newly elected District Attorney will speak with us about pressing issues such as Hate Crimes, Cyber Fraud, and Crime in and around Dutchess County. There will be ample time allotted for questions and open discussion. This event is sponsored by the Vassar Temple Civic Engagement Committee. For more info contact: civicengagement@vassartemple.org

Vassar Temple

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

Weekly Services:

All services are hybrid. For Zoom link contact office@vassartemple.org For current in-person health protocols visit: www.vassartemple.org

Friday

Shabbat Evening Service January 5—7:30pm, January 12—7:30 pm MLK Shabbat, January 19—6:00pm Simchat Shabbat Family Friendly Service, January 26—6:00pm Tisch Shabbat

Saturday

New Paths Shabbat Morning Worship January 6, 20, 10:15am.

Shabbat Morning Service January 13, 10:15am

Adult Education:

Monday

Talmud Study January 8, 29, 1:30pm via Zoom with Rabbi Paul Golomb, for details, study sheets, and to be placed on the Talmud Study email list contact pjgolomb@verizon.net.

Saturday

Torah Study Hybrid, 9:00am. For info and to join, contact: (845) 454-2570 or office@vassartemple.org.

Other Events:

Wednesday

An Evening with Jennifer Rosner

January 17, 7:30pm, Jennifer Rosner, acclaimed 2020 National Jewish Book Award finalist, will speak about her book *Once We Were Home*, in a free program presented on Zoom. The book follows four hidden, displaced children during the Holocaust, and what happens to them after WWII's end when they are wrenched from what they considered their families. Little-known history and difficult questions of complicity and responsibility, belonging, identity, good intentions, and unforeseen consequences arise, making for a fascinating discussion. The event is presented to all free of charge by the Vassar Temple Adult Education Committee, but to receive information on how to join the Zoom meeting, please register in advance at <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZMpcuCoqzkoE9FQiiCTrjF3ZFu4jL-DbDGht>

Tisch Shabbat January 26, 6:00pm. We will gather for a soup and chili as part of a warm and wonderful in-person Tisch Shabbat. As we sit around tables in the social hall. Rabbi Altman and Cantor Goldmann will lead a service modeled on the "Rebbe's Tisch", using Visual Tefillah (slides of the prayers projected on a screen, instead of prayer books), and featuring lots of singing and stories. Sisterhood will provide a festive meal of homemade soups, vegetarian chili, challah, cornbread, and salad to be enjoyed during the service. While reservations are not required, we would appreciate having an idea of how much food to prepare. If possible, let us know you are coming by January 23 at: TischShabbat@vassartemple.org or call (845) 454-2570. Donations are appreciated and any checks should be made payable to Vassar Temple Sisterhood.

Sunday

Intergenerational Tu B'Shevat "Seder" January 28, 10:00am. Celebrate Nature, the Environment, and the Birthday of the Trees. Everyone mark your calendar. This is a must come event for folks of all generations—a "seder" featuring fruits of the trees that are symbolic of the holiday, music, and a program of fun-filled Tu B'Shevat activities to appeal to all ages. Everyone is welcome—please contact the temple for further details and questions email: office@vassartemple.org or call (845) 454-2570. See you there! (Snow date February 4)

Contact :

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

Pardess Center for Jewish Life

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

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

The Rhinebeck Jewish Center

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

Weekly Services:

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

Contact:

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

Chabad of Mid-Hudson Valley

63 Vassar Rd, Poughkeepsie
 (845) 463-5801
 Rabbi Yacov Borenstein
 Website:
www.chabadmidsouthvalley.com
 Email:
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
for current information
or visit the website
www.chabadmidsouthvalley.com

Beacon Hebrew Alliance

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

Weekly Services:

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

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

Contact:

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

Congregation Beth David

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

Weekly Services:

Saturdays 10:30am.

Contact:

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

Vassar College Bayit

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

Weekly Services:

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

Contact :

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

Contact:

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 Yael Romer:
rabbioromer@hvc.rr.com

Weekly Services:

Friday

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00pm, held in the sanctuary or chapel..

Tot Shabbat January 12, 5:15pm

Saturday

Morning Minyan 10:00am.

Education:

Mediation & Torah Study Tuesday, 8:45am, via Zoom.

Hebrew Trope Wednesday, 12:30pm, via Zoom.

Conversational Hebrew Wednesday, 4:00pm, via Zoom.

Coffee Chai with the Rabbi (Zoom) January 4, 11, Thursday, 8:45am.

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

Woodstock Jewish Congregation

241682 Glasco Tpke, Woodstock
 (845) 679-2218
 Rachel: rachel@wjcschul.org

Weekly Services:

Friday

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:30pm,

Kid Friendly Intergenerational Shabbat

First Fridays 6:00pm

Saturday

Shabbat Service 10:00am

Education:

Family School Registration Family School Wednesday, 4:00-6:30pm

Other Events:

WJC Men's Group Thursday, 7:30pm,

WJC Women's Group First Monday at 5:00pm, includes potluck dinner

"A Shtickle Toyrah" (a bit of Torah)

Monday 9:00am. Members of the community take turns offering a short teaching on the weekly Torah portion.

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



January

Candle Lighting Schedule

January 5	4:21pm
January 12	4:28pm
January 19	4:36pm
January 26	4:45pm

ATTENTION ALL MAH JONGG PLAYERS

It's that time of year when we start collecting for the 2024 Mah Jongg Cards. The prices remain the same as this year, **\$14 for Regular print** and **\$15 for Large print**. The cost is the same no matter where you buy your card, but by getting your card through Temple Beth-El, we get a donation from the National Mah Jongg League. This year, with your help, we received a check for \$825 for Dutchess County's Outreach Lunchbox Program. Our goal for 2024 is to reach \$1000! We can only reach that goal with your help. Please do a real mitzvah and help spread the word to friends and relatives no matter where they live. Your card will be mailed to you via first-class mail. One of our former members who moved to Florida, consistently gets about 30+ names from people in her condo complex which now amounts to over \$150 for Lunchbox.

Since the Mah Jongg League accepts only one payment for the entire order, please make your check payable to: Phyllis Rosenfield, 32 Ferris Lane, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12601.

The deadline to order your card is: **January 12, 2024**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Are you receiving the weekly email or would you like to receive **The Voice** digitally?

Email:
admin@jewishdutchess.org

Do you know a senior who would like a care package?

Please email or call the JFedDC office to get them on the list to receive a Care Package.

programs@jewishdutchess.org
 (845) 471-9811

The Annual Campaign ends January 15, so there is still time to donate.



The Jewish War Veterans of the United States, Post 625

All persons of the Jewish faith who have served in any branch of the U.S. Military (active, Reserves, or National Guard) or any person who wishes to support veterans are invited to attend Post meetings.

We will be in person at Schomre Israel. The next meetings will be January 14, February 11, March 17, April 14, May 19, and June 9, at 9:30am (9:00am schmooze). The Post will supply nosh stuff and coffee, and refreshments will be strictly kosher. Masks are optional. We look forward to seeing you there.

For more info, please contact Post Commander Schwartz at (845) 849-0025 or Rschwa9881@aol.com



Recent Family Havdalah and Social at Vassar Temple



Bright nights at Temple Beth-El is in high swing! Winter wear has been donated! Our teens are helping sort!



542 Violet Avenue, Hyde Park • hvhospice.org



Challah bake at Schomre Israel with Tziel Liba who also lead singing.



Vassar Temple members donated turkey and trimmings, religious school students made cards, and decorated baskets. Temple teens filled them and Hudson River Housing delivered them to families in need. Together we did it!



Jewish War Veterans Post 625 was represented among local veterans honored by Poughkeepsie High School. The veterans were presented with beautiful red ceramic poppies created by the school's art students. (pictured L-R: Martin Hochhauser JWV, Art Teacher Mrs. Lynnea Dean, Nate Grant of the American Legion, Rick Fenner, Vietnam Veteran)



Karen Hochhauser, Rabbi Michael Fessler, and Rabbi Miriam Hyman with Governor Hochul at her Hanukkah Party



Mitzvah Now Care Package Volunteers



Celebrating Sinterklaas in Rhinebeck and giving out 225 Hanukkah craft bags.



Jennifer Rosner sharing at the Federations of Orange and Dutchess County author series



Havdalah Celebration at Sinterklaas



JFedDC welcomed Tsach Saar, Acting Consul General of the Israeli Consulate at our Annual Meeting on December 4. Annual Reports are available. Call the JFedDC office to receive a soft copy. (845) 471-9811 Photo contribution by Robert Gartner.

Just a friendly reminder...

The 2023 Annual Campaign ends January 15, 2024. So there is still time to donate.

www.jewishdutchess.org/donate