

Mitzvah Day is Sunday, May 7

Register at www.JewishDutchess.org or call Karen (914) 456-4051 (see page 10)

Congregation Shir Chadash Shares Space (and Spirituality) with Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church *By Gloria W. Goverman*

Everywhere you look lately, it seems that there's strife and in almost every conflict, there is someone who identifies one way disagreeing with someone, a group or country who identifies another way. How often have we seen it, experienced it ourselves? "There goes the neighborhood." "This is MY land." "They're stealing our jobs!" and "Those people don't believe in our G-d." Color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, whether you break your eggs on the wide side or the narrow side - there is, sorrowfully, no shortage of hate and discontent in the world.

But there is a little bubble of peace and contentment in LaGrangeville. The building is called The Freedom Plain United Presbyterian Church and it looks every inch like it.

"If the whole world would be like our little corner of Dutchess County, it would be a much more peaceful and happy place."

Except for the small sign on the front lawn that reads, "Congregation Shir Chadash" and then in moveable type, "Services 7:30 Friday."

In this building, there are church services on Sunday, jumble sales, communi-

ty meetings and choir practices. The elders of the church meet, the pastor counsels his congregation and religious education for children and adults takes place in classrooms. There's a library, a kitchen and a nursery school.

And a Torah.

The Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church is also home to Congregation Shir Chadash of the Hudson Valley, a Reform congregation 16 years of age and not quite settled into its own building yet, although the plans continue.

This unusual partnership isn't just that of renter and landlord; there is a real affection between the two groups that is expressed through joint-religious services, a joint-Thanksgiving service followed by a shared meal, joint education with Reverend Lent and Rabbi Polish, and coming in May, a concert with the choirs of both religious groups singing together with three cantors, including Shir Chadash's cantor Gail Hirschenfang, under the direction of Lorraine Nelson Wolf, Music Director of the Church.

Every Friday night, the big brass cross in the sanctuary is carefully taken out of its brackets and for the following hour is replaced with a custom made Star of David. With no other iconography in the sanctuary, just that one simple change is



Reverend Paul Lent and Rabbi Daniel Polish in their shared sanctuary

all that's required for the Shir Chadash members to feel comfortable and at home - but of course, it's not the only change. The Torah is placed on a table and is covered with a tallis, siddurs are taken out and wine is poured. At the end of the service, everything is whisked

away, safely stored and the Church returns to its natural state.

Rabbi Polish mused on this unusual serendipity, "We often lose sight of just how amazing our relationship with

(Continued on page 2)

Dueling Rabbis 2017

The Dutchess Rabbis Jewish Federation *Dueling Rabbis*

Program for the Omer will take place between Passover and Shavuot. This year's topic is The Five Scrolls (Megillot)—the books of the Bible that are read on the observances of Passover, Shavuot, Tisha b'Av, Sukkot and Purim.

Boardman Library: 141 Boardman Road ~ **Vassar College Bayit:** 51 Collegeview Drive
All Programs begin at 7:00pm ~ Call JFDC for more information (845) 471-9811

Boardman Library

May 2, *Lamentations (Tisha b'Av)*
Rabbis Brent Spodek and Michael Fessler

Rabbi Brent Spodek



Rabbi Michael Fessler



Vassar College Bayit
May 16, *Esther (Purim)*

Rabbis Miriam Hyman and Paul Golomb

Rabbi Miriam Hyman



Rabbi Paul Golomb



Boardman Library

May 9, *Ecclesiastes (Sukkot)*
Rabbis Neal Loevinger and Dan Polish

Rabbi Neal Loevinger



Rabbi Dan Polish



Vassar College Bayit
May 23, *Ruth (Shavuot)*

Rabbi Leah Berkowitz and Joey Glick

Rabbi Leah Berkowitz



Joey Glick



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LEARN & LUNCH BUNCH

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

WEDNESDAY PROGRAMS and MENUS

- May 3** **Catholic Guide for the Blind**
 With Stan Hirscheberg. Learn how blind and visually impaired people conduct tasks of daily living
 Menu: Israeli Fiesta, in honor of Israeli Independence Day!
 Coffee/tea, fruit salad dessert
- May 10** **Medicaid—Long Term Care Needs and How are you going to pay for it?** with Linda Collica
 Menu: Mexican Fiesta, veggie chili con carne, rice, pitas, guacamole, salsa, coffee/tea, dessert
- May 17** **Empowered by Nature**
 With Lorraine Hughes. Lorraine will be discussing Qi Gong—Self care through breath and mindful movement and foot reflexology. Healing through relaxation.
 Menu: Pasta Fiesta, salad, baked ziti, vegetable lasagna, coffee/tea, dessert
- May 24** **Current Events** with Howard Lynne
 Menu: bagels, schmear, dessert, coffee/tea
- May 31** **Meals on Wheels**
 With Kat Mitchell, who will be discussing the Poughkeepsie Meals on Wheels program.
 Menu: Salad Fiesta, egg salad, tuna salad, cole slaw, potato salad, coffee/tea, dessert

WHERE

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

SCHEDULE

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

\$5.00—Lunch and program
 \$2.00—Program, coffee, nosh

INFORMATION

For details, weather updates, last minute schedule or menu changes, call the Jewish Federation office.
 (845) 471-9811.

Open to the public.
 Come and join in!

(Continued from page 1)

Freedom Plains is. Almost to the point of taking it for granted. But in the whole long history of human religiousness it is really amazing. Even today, in so many parts of the world, and, sadly still in corners of this country, our close friendship would be unthinkable. And yet here we are, week in and week out, sharing a space and so often collaborating. On a personal level among the things I look forward to during the week is the chance to catch up with my friend, Paul Lent. If the whole world would be like our little corner of Dutchess County, it would be a much more peaceful and happy place."

Scheduling conflicts, and they do happen, are dealt with cordially. Everyone is flexible. From time to time there is some discussion of making the arrangement more permanent, but for now, this lovely, friendly partnership is very happy with the agreeable balance that lets two groups with more in common than they ever knew, share the space in peace.

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Community



Book & Gift Shops

Temple Beth-El's Book and Gift Shop submitted by Geri Bromberg

The Temple Beth-El Book and Gift Shops will have hours by appointment until Sunday hours, 9:30am to 12:30pm, resume on May 21. There will also be Sunday hours on June 4.

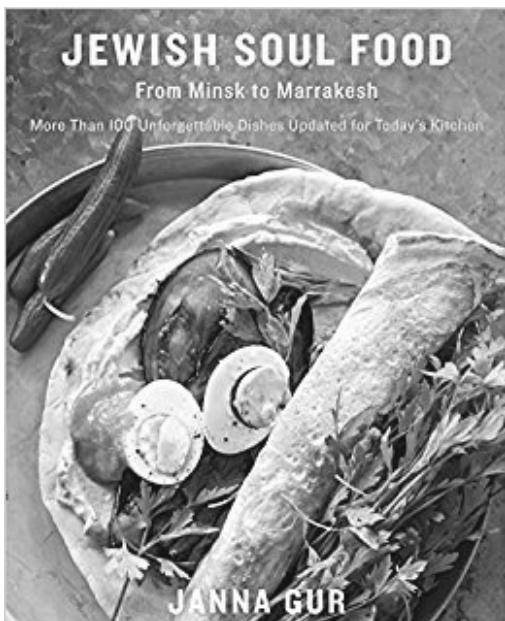
The Bookshop has all that you need for Shabbat and Shavuot: stories, recordings, Shabbat and colorful Havdalah candles; year-round ceremonial objects, gifts for graduation, Mother's Day, and Father's Day, as well as host and hostess gifts.

The Bookshop is featuring *Who Knows Ten? Children's Tales of Written Out Ten Commandment* by Molly Cone with illus-



trations by Robin Brickman for Grades PreK-1; *Sammy Spider's First Shavuot* by Sylvia Rouss with illustrations by Katherine Janus Kahn for PreK-1, *A Child's First Book of Holidays* by Rabbi Alfred J. Kolatch with bright and colorful illustrations by Harry Araten which add fun and excitement to each holiday presentation for Grades K-5.

New to the Bookshop is *Jewish Soul Food: From Minsk to Marrakesh, More Than 100 Unforgettable Dishes Updated for Today's Kitchen* by Janna Gur; with Nirit Yadin and



Ruth Oliver. Photographs by Daniel Lailah. Visual content and food styling by Amit Farber. Born and raised in the former Soviet Union, Ms. Gur immigrated to Israel in 1974. She is founder and chief editor of *Al Hashulchan*, the leading Israeli food and wine magazine. In 2008, she authored *The Book of New Israeli Food* a collection of recipes and stories celebrating the people who created it. She lives in Tel Aviv, on Israel's Mediterranean coast. Back in stock is *Kosher by Design: Short on Time* by Susie Fishbein. Ms. Fishbein will show you how to use common ingredients to create an uncommon meal in record time.

DETAILS

For more information call the temple office (845) 454-0570 and leave a message for Geri Bromberg for books and recordings or for Sheri Raften for year-round ceremonials. Temple Beth-El is located at 118 South Grand Ave, Poughkeepsie.

Adult Education

Educational Opportunities Abound at Schomre Israel

Know Your Book with Rabbi Langer Tuesday, May 2, 10:30am. Does One Celebrate a 69th Birthday? What about Israel's? May 9—Second Chances.

Classes with Rabbi Langer Thursday, May 4, 7:30pm. Surrogate Motherhood in Jewish Law, the public is invited to hear an Orthodox presentation in the modern vernacular.

Classes are free. All are welcome. You are invited to visit our website, www.schomreisrael.org, for a full complement of recordings of previous classes of the following topics: books of the Bible, controversial issues in Israel, new perspectives on the holidays, Jewish biographies, crash course on Jewish history and more. For info on weather cancellations and class schedules visit www.schomreisrael.org or call (845) 454-2890.

Weekly Adult Study Groups at Vassar Temple

Torah Study, Every Saturday, at 9:00am, led by Rabbi Leah Berkowitz. Examine passages from the weekly Torah portion or Haftorah.

The Talmud: Modern Ideas from Ancient Texts, Every Tuesday, at 12:00pm, Senior Scholar, Rabbi Paul Golomb.

All welcome. No previous training required. No charge to attend. Questions Rabbi@vassartemple.org (845) 454-2570.

Higher and Higher: Come Grow with Temple Beth-El

Sunday Hebrew for Adults Class, Sundays, at 9:30am. Learn to read and speak Hebrew with Naomi Kamlot. RSVP to educationassist@tbeny.org or call (845) 454-0570.

Adult B'nai Mitzvah Classes, Wednesdays, 7:00pm. Did you miss out on getting Bar/Bat Mitzvah? Are you looking for an upgrade? Contact Rabbi Victor about joining this class. Emphasis on learning Torah reading, how to give a *d'var torah*, learning about prayer and more.

Sacred Texts Speaking to Issues of the Day with Rabbi Daniel Victor, Tuesdays, 12:30pm, The Crafted Kup, Raymond Ave. Join Rabbi Daniel Victor for study. Email rebvictor@tbeny.org for more information.

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

Chabad Center Classes

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

New Talmud class: Upcoming classes in Talmud and Hebrew and other fascinating classes and events.

Please visit our website www.chabadmidhudsonvalley.com

Congregation Shir Chadash

Saturday Torah Study, Saturday, May 6 & 20, at 9:15am. While enjoying a light breakfast, engage in an informal discussion about the Torah portion of the week with Rabbi Polish, everyone has a chance to participate. No expertise or knowledge of Hebrew is needed. Just an inquisitive mind, a curiosity about our tradition and a willingness to share your thoughts. All welcome to attend.

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

Shavuot



Pesach Haggadah; Rabbi Daniel Victor, Temple Beth El--Wisdom and Literature in the Book of Psalms. You are invited to bring a piece of Jewish wisdom that inspires you (from any source) to share with the community. The program will end by 11:00pm, and everyone is warmly invited to come celebrate and learn together at any or all of the activities of the evening.

DETAILS

Tuesday, May 30, 7:30pm-11:00pm, Temple Beth-El, 118 S. Grand Ave, Poughkeepsie

Shavuot Day Luncheon and Learn Session

CSI, Congregation Schomre Israel, Poughkeepsie's modern orthodox synagogue looks forward to the third annual Shavuot Day Luncheon and Learn session. Shavuot, the anniversary of the giving of the Torah to the Jewish people, is celebrated with extra Torah study. Many follow the age old custom of studying up all night long in anticipation of that momentous time in world and Jewish history. In place of the regular sermon during services, the congregation will adjourn to a scrumptious dairy lunch in honor of the tradition of a dairy meal on Shavuot.

In past years, our learning focused on the background of the holiday's culinary delights and the question of who wrote the last eight sentences of the Torah. This year, the congregation will analyze "10, 20 or 613? - Who says or said?" - addressing how and why these commandments are highlighted and by whom.

"Taste and see that the word of G-d is good" said the psalmist.

DETAILS

Services begin Wednesday, May 31 at 9:00am and will be followed by the luncheon. The luncheon is free of charge but we need an accurate count, so reservations are required by May 22 through the synagogue office at (845) 454-2890 or by email at schomre1@aol.com.

Rosh Chodesh Reading Group Presented By Congregation Shir Chadash

Those interested in reading have been invited to a potluck brunch and discussion held every month. 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! Date and location to be decided. For more information, please contact Sandy Lash at (845) 232-1029, via email: info@shir-chadash.org or website: www.shir-chadash.org.

Community Shavuot Event: What is Your Torah?

A Community *Tikkun Leil Shavuot* will be held Tuesday night May 30, to provide us all an opportunity to prepare for the receiving of the Torah on Mt. Sinai the following day (Shavuot). The program is presented jointly by Congregation Shir Chadash, Temple Beth-El and Vassar Temple, and will be held at Temple Beth-El. The evening's events will open with a musical celebration at 7:30pm, followed by a Shavuot evening service at 8:05pm with refreshments and the opportunity to socialize at 8:45pm.

At 9:00pm, a learning session will begin, as three rabbis (and you!) share the Jewish wisdom that guides our lives from Sinai to today. "What is Your Torah?" will be the theme. Each rabbi will speak on a piece of Jewish wisdom that is close to his/her heart: Rabbi Leah Berkowitz, Vassar Temple--To Laugh and Cry with the Same Eyes, the Poetry of Yehuda Amichai; Rabbi Daniel Polish, Shir Chadash--The

of Psalms. You are invited to bring a piece of Jewish wisdom that inspires you (from any source) to share with the community. The program will end by 11:00pm, and everyone is warmly invited to come celebrate and learn together at any or all of the activities of the evening.

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Debbie's Voice



I grew up in what my children refer to “as the oldie times” or what I like to call, the 70’s.

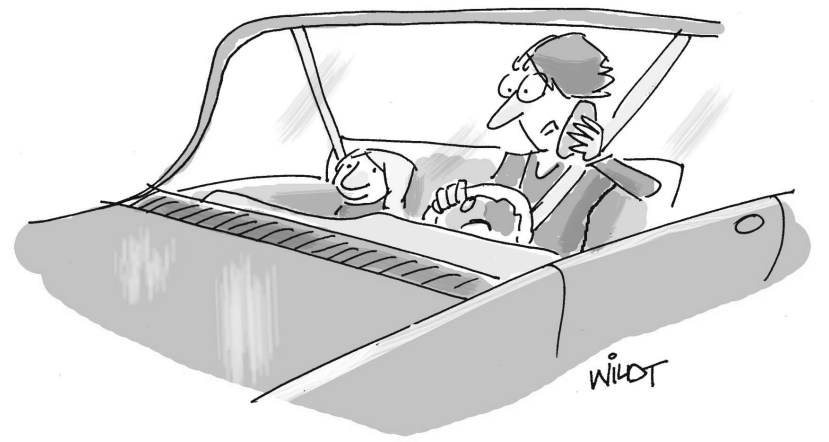
Growing up ‘back then,’ getting invited to a party was a big deal. There was no internet (gasp!) or cell phones (double gasp!) and therefore all invitations came in the mail. The invitation, once received, was taped to our fridge where once availability was confirmed, a phone call was placed to the host with our RSVP. Remember those days, when people took the time to RSVP?

This is one of the biggest issues I have in today’s society, and full disclosure, I’ve got at least a solid dozen pet peeves! Why, in this day and age where access to anyone is literally at your fingertip, does society no longer have the courtesy of RSVPing to an invitation? When did this become the norm? Who deemed this socially acceptable? According to my boys, I’m “old school,” but call me crazy...when someone takes the time to invite you to an occasion, you should take the time to respond.

Sadly, this is no longer the case. I’ve witnessed this first hand. Recently my younger son had his 8th birthday party. He graciously invited all the other children in his class. Less than half RSVP’d. One parent texted five minutes before the party saying they were no longer available. It’s no fun explaining to a first grader that you’re not sure how many people are going to show up for his party. Not to mention the difficulty of planning how much food to have for that party.

I’d like to say it’s only schoolmates or neighbors that are guilty of this transgression but sadly so are family members. Last month, I sent out our Annual Team Silbergleit Seder E-vite and heard back from all our friends we’d invited. Not so much with our extended family. I had to send texts or make calls to ask if they’d be joining us. Can you imagine what Moses would say...wandering around the desert waiting for people to RSVP!?

So, with the start of spring, I’d like to humbly suggest we start a new trend. We can call it a throwback to the “oldie times” - how about when that Bar Mitzvah invitation, birthday invitation or even Seder invitation comes (whether in your mailbox or inbox), we take a few seconds and respond... **please!**



“But dear, I have to attend all the school meetings. Otherwise I get volunteered for committees.”

Young Jewish Professionals in Dutchess

This month meet: Justin Feldman

Editor’s Note: Every month, I will be interviewing a youngish (50 years old or younger) Jewish professional in our area. Please feel free to email us with any suggestions! --- Debbie Silbergleit



I met Justin Feldman, PT, DPT (Doctor of Physical Therapy) at his office inside the Gold’s Gym Lagrange location. Feldman Physical Therapy and Performance has a second location inside the Gold’s Gym Fishkill location. Justin loves what he does and it shows. He doesn’t just preach the merits of PT as he recently strained his neck and after doing PT exercises faithfully throughout the day, he was completely pain free by the end of the day.

Justin grew up in Lagrange. Although clearly raised Jewish, he never belonged to any of the temples in the area because his family spent (and still does!) every winter weekend skiing at Mt. Snow. Since he wasn’t affiliated with any local temples, Justin became a Bar Mitzvah in Israel, surrounded by his parents, siblings and all four of his grandparents.

Justin first discovered physical therapy as a kindergartener when he went along to his mom’s physical therapy appointments. By the time he was in high school, Justin had decided to become a physical therapist and attended Ithaca College, where he met his wife, an occupational therapist. They eventually decided to return to his hometown area because of the proximity to their families and Mt. Snow, where Justin is still an active member of the ski patrol.

He was drawn to the field of physical therapy because he “likes getting to know his patients and spending time with them.” This desire to spend time with each patient also prompted him to refuse to participate in any insurance plans. Since Justin doesn’t accept insurance, he is able to dedicate an entire hour to each of his patients and able to create therapy plans based on a patient’s need not what is covered by the insurance company. He’s also found that because there’s no insurance chipping in for the therapy costs, his patients are more vested in taking their rehab seriously.

Justin’s favorite type of patients are “the people who think they’ve got no hope. There’s always a plan to help someone—even the smallest thing can improve someone’s life.” He also really enjoys working with marathon and triathlon athletes. As an avid runner and triathlete, he is capable of treating injuries and very empathetic. Justin is constantly training for a marathon or triathlon, often with his sister and dad, despite his wife thinking, “he’s crazy!”

Growing up, Justin’s Dad was always “big into charity and giving back to the community.” Justin also believes passionately in the importance of charity. He sponsors Road Runner Club events on a regular basis and last year, sponsored a Feldman PT & Performance Racing Team, where team members wore Feldman shirts during various road races, and each mile logged raised a dollar. As a result, he donated \$600 to building the new Abilities First Special Needs Playground (Editor’s note: This is also a Mitzvah Day activity, so if interested please call the Federation to volunteer!).

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Email submissions to theVoice@JewishDutchess.org

VOICE DEADLINES

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

ISSUE	DEADLINE
June/July	May1
August	July 1
September	August1

Rabbi's Blog

Every Day Is Mitzvah Day *By Rabbi Leah Berkowitz*

On May 7, our Jewish community will gather for our annual Mitzvah Day, during which we provide support to 20 local non-profit agencies through a special, one-day *tzedaka* project. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to connect with one another and with our neighbors in Dutchess County, for the purpose of doing good and recognizing the needs in our community beyond the walls of each individual synagogue.



Mitzvah (plural *mitzvot*) is a tricky word. We might have learned in Religious School that *mitzvah* means "good deed." However, this is actually a Yiddishism: in the *mamaloschen mitzveh* refers to a favor, as in "do me a *mitzvah*". *Mitzvah* actually comes from the Hebrew root meaning "to command" and refers, not only to nice things we do for our neighbors and acts of community service, but to all 613 commandments that the Israelites received at Sinai. This means that lighting candles on Shabbat—or being ethical in your business practices—is also a *mitzvah*, just like the projects we take on each Mitzvah Day.

In recent years, some of the liberal movements have challenged the notion of commandedness, as we believe in freedom of choice. *Mitzvot*, for

Helping provide for the needs of our community... is not something we do out of the goodness of our hearts, but the price we pay for being a citizen

some, are not obedience to a divine command, but a series of decisions we make about how Jewish teachings and traditions will give shape and meaning to our lives. But that doesn't mean that we don't take them just as seriously as if they had been engraved in stone at Sinai. In that vein, many in the Reform movement translate *mitzvot* as "sacred obligations." We may choose them for ourselves, but our commitment to them lasts a lifetime.

But there is something profoundly different about the *mitzvot* we do on Mitzvah Day. While we only have the chance to do certain *mitzvot* once a year (or even once in a lifetime), we have the opportunity to fulfill our obligation of helping those in need every single day. This specific *mitzvah* is also called *tzedaka*, which comes from the Hebrew root meaning "justice." *Tzedaka* does not refer only to charitable giving and social action: it is a fulfillment of our responsibility to create a just and equitable society.

Our ancestors built the *mitzvah* of *tzedaka* into the rhythm of their daily lives. The Torah commands us to leave behind a portion of our harvest, so that vulnerable groups—such as widows, orphans and strangers—can glean grain and other produce from the fields. With Shavuot coming up, it makes sense to mention that Ruth and Naomi were among the widows who gleaned in the fields.

As we moved away from an agrarian society, the rabbis established social safety networks for their newly urban communities. The *tamchui* was a communal food plate on which food was collected from each household and distributed daily to the hungry, similar to a mobile soup kitchen. The *kuppah* was a collection of funds that was collected and distributed weekly, similar to the *pushkes* of our childhoods. Anyone who did not have enough for two meals a day—and three meals on Shabbat—could take from these funds to buy what they needed to sustain themselves (Mishnah Peah 8:7).

Just as there were rules about distributing food and money to the poor, there were also rules about collecting it. Giving was not voluntary. Anyone who had been living in one town for one month was obligated to donate food to the *tamchui*. After three months, donations to the *kuppah* were required. The longer one lived in a city, the more responsibilities one earned: such as contributing to the burial fund and paying for structural repairs (Babylonian Talmud Bava Batra 8a).

Helping provide for the needs of our community, therefore, is not something we do out of the goodness of our hearts, but the price we pay for being a citizen. As Jews, we are responsible for the care and well-being of every member of our community, every day of the year.

Mitzvah Day is an incredible opportunity to work together, to engage with our community, and to make ourselves aware of the needs of our neighbors in Dutchess County. Whether we are painting, gardening, preparing food or putting together Birthday Bags, we are fulfilling our sacred obligation to care for vulnerable groups in our community. Let our *mitzvot* on Mitzvah Day serve as an inspiration to find ways to fulfill the sacred obligation of building a just and equitable society, every day of the year.

New Feature in *The Voice*

Inside the Jewish Studio

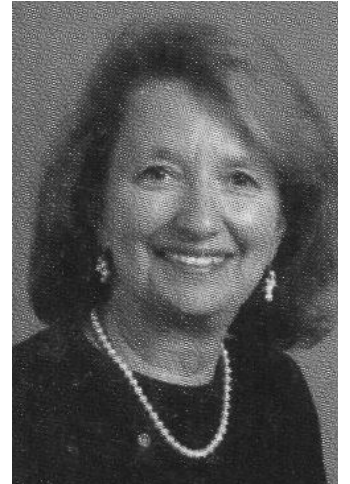
By Debbie Silberleit

Inspired by the French series, *Bouillon de Culture* but better known as the closing questions asked by James Lipton on the celebrity interview TV show, *Inside the Actor's Studio*. I too have adopted these questions for this new column.

Every month, I'll be asking a MOT [Member of the Tribe] from our community these questions. Then I'll feature their answers, along with a photo, in this column.

Thank you to Betsy Kopstein-Stuts, President of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County for going first!

1. What is your favorite word?
Peace
2. What is your least favorite word?
Arguments
3. What turns you on creatively, spiritually or emotionally?
Goodness of people
4. What turns you off?
People who are not willing to listen to other people's viewpoints
5. What is your favorite curse word?
[Editor's note: As a Jersey girl, this is typically my favorite question! Betsy was a good sport with her answer.]
*Umm... S**t. How about 'egads' instead???*
6. What sound or noise do you love?
Kissing
7. What sound or noise do you hate?
Thunder
8. What profession other than your own would you like to attempt?
Entrepreneurial
9. What profession would you not like to do?
Doctor
10. If Heaven exists, what would you like to hear God say when you arrive at the Pearly Gates?
"You left your mark on your community by doing good deeds. Welcome."



Betsy Kopstein-Stuts

News from the Dutchess County Interfaith Council

This year, the newly reconstituted D.C. Human Rights Commission has been collaborating with NAACP and DCIC to create a unique opportunity for all sectors of the Poughkeepsie community to come together over coffee to meet, discuss various issues and to get to know one another.

The gatherings occur at the Family Partnership Center and everyone is welcome to join these conversations. Check the DCIC website dutchesscountyinterfaith.org or Dutchess County Interfaith Council's Facebook page for more information and to learn when the next gathering will occur.

Further from the Interfaith Council



April 3, annual Dutchess County Interfaith Council Peace story concert. Seven storytellers donated their time and talent to a well-attended program that raised over \$700 to benefit Hudson River Housing.

Shir Chadash Winding Up The School Year

Congregation Shir Chadash's religious school will be winding up its first year (of a three-year curriculum rotation) on Israeli cities and the Jewish Life Cycle on Saturday, May 2. The children will be presenting their projects to their parents, which include booklets on different Israeli cities studied as well as a quilt made by the children depicting the different major Jewish life events: birth, bar/bat mitzvah, making a Jewish home and marriage.

There will be refreshments and prizes for the students' hard work. Anyone interested or considering enrolling for the fall school year is welcome to join us for the day and see what we're all about.

Inquiries about the school and/or other educational programs should be directed to Sue Marcoe, Religious School Coordinator at (845) 723-4045. For general information, call (845) 232-1029, email: info@shir-chadash.org or check out the website at www.shir-chadash.org.



Congregation Shir Chadash's religious school children showing off their finished projects

Amazing May

by Rabbi Miriam Hyman, Ed. Dir. & Rosh Tefillah
Cantor Devorah Gartner, B'nai Mitzvah & Youth Dir.

It's hard to believe that April flew by so fast. Here at the collaborative Temple Beth-El/Congregation Shir Chadash Tuesday Ivrit Program, the students participated in a wonderful practice Seder.

The combined third and fourth grades showed off their ever increasing Hebrew skills with a rousing rendition of the Four Questions. Much silliness (such as Rabbi Hyman's hilarious version of *Chad Gadya*, in simultaneous Aramaic and sign language) as well as much excellent learning for Pesach was done by all.

As we approach the end of the year, the students in the collaborative TBE/CSC Ivrit Program are working on the Friday evening services they will be presenting together. On April 28, the third and fourth grade students helped Rabbi Polish and Cantor Hirschenfang lead a beautiful Friday evening service at Congregation Shir Chadash.

We hope you will be able to join Rabbi Victor, Rabbi Hyman and fifth through seventh grade combined TBE/CSC students for a Friday evening service, May 12, 7:30pm at Temple Beth El.

May also brings us our celebration of Israel. This year our students are building a cardboard Kotel, taking a whirlwind tour of Israel and enjoying some traditional Israeli foods.

We can't wait!



Temple Beth-El Tot Shabbat

Join Rabbi Neal J Loevinger for a fun, creative Shabbat for tots and their caregivers. Stories, songs and Shabbat appropriate activities take place in a warm, welcoming environment. Program is free and open to anyone. All are welcome to stay for the Kiddush following the service.

Saturday, May 20 (and all 3rd Sat) at 11:15am.

PJ LIBRARY STORY TIME PLAY DATE at Temple Beth-El

Every Friday at 10:30am.

A special hour of fun that includes stories, music, movement, crafts and play time. This program is for children ages 6 months to 5 years with a caregiver. It is free and open to the community.

RSVP to pjlibrary@jewishdutchess.org

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

CHABAD MID-HUDSON VALLEY

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

For information about preschool, new pre-bar/bat mitzvah class, contact Hindy Borenstein, Director (845) 463-5801 or chabadmidhudsonvly@prodigy.net

RHINEBECK JEWISH CENTER

Monday, 4:00-5:30pm

Tiny Tots Division ages 1-5
Intermediate Division ages 6-10
Bar and Bat Mitzvah ages 11-13

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

SHIR CHADASH

Congregation Shir-Chadash's religious school will be starting the next phase of their new curriculum, *The Jewish Life Cycle*, which includes learning about Jewish rituals for baby boys and girls, bar/bat mitzvah practices, traditional marriage ceremonies and, for the older students, shiva rules and burial rites.

Classes meet two Saturdays a month at 9:00am. See website for dates and special new membership rate.

For information, contact (845) 232-1029 or www.shir-chadash.org

TEMPLE BETH-EL

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

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

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

Saturday, Shabbat School
9:30am-12:30pm, grades PreK-6

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

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

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

VASSAR TEMPLE

Vassar Temple provides a program of Jewish education within the Reform Movement's guidelines, which deepens a student's Jewish experience and knowledge in an accepting and stimulating learning environment. Our philosophy of Jewish learning is based on the quotation from Pirke Avot, "The world depends on three things: on Torah, on worship and on deeds of loving kindness." Temple membership not required.

Sunday Religious School
Sundays (Last class May 7)
9:00am-12:00pm, grades K-7

Hebrew Language School
Wednesdays (Last class May 10)
4:30pm, grades 4-7

Innovative individualized Hebrew language instruction and bar/bat mitzvah preparation. New enrollments always welcome.

For information contact Julie Makowsky, Director (845) 454-2570 or rsdirector@vassartemple.org



PJ Library Mid-Hudson Valley

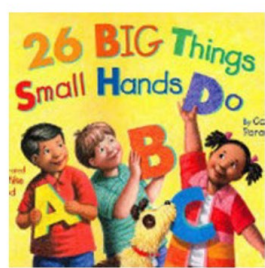
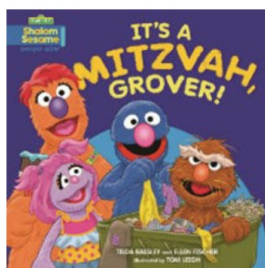
Mini-Mitzvah Day

Sunday May 7, 2017

Families, participate in one or all three projects!

- 10:00-11:00 *Repairing the World* Create hanging seed starters with recycled bottles
- 11:00-12:00 *Friendship Frames* Create framed friendship poetry to go with Castle Point Veteran's Hospital Mitzvah Day donations
- 12:00-1:00 *Welcome Baby Bags* Create boo-boo bunnies and receiving blanket bears and stuff welcome baby bags

Register for Mitzvah Day at www.JewishDutchess.org



Partnering with members of The Harding Club and Jewish War Veterans.
Together we make the world a better place!

Mitzvah Day Headquarters (Temple Beth-El)
118 S Grand Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603
Call Melinda (914) 475-5566 or email PJLibrary@JewishDutchess.org



The Harding Club



כבוד זקנים kibud zekaynim "honoring elders"

Create Beautiful Personalized Garden Stepping Stones for Grandparents

From www.pgeveryday.com by Ruth Soukup

- Plastic stepping stone mold: You can find this in a wide variety of shapes at any craft supply store or online for less than \$5. In a pinch, try using a disposable saucer for a large planter, an old cake pan or even an old cereal box. You will need one mold for each child.
- Quick-setting concrete: for one stone you can purchase an 8-lb box of stepping stone mix from the craft supply store for around \$5.
- Embellishments: consider collecting items that show the relationship between child and grandparent or highlight a grandparent's interests. Small toys, old game pieces, rocks or seashells all make beautiful stepping stones.
- Old bucket
- Old spoon or paint mixer
- Nonstick cooking spray or petroleum jelly
- Rubber gloves
- Old newspaper or drop cloth

Instructions:

1. This is definitely a project that is best done outdoors. Protect your deck, driveway or lawn from stray lumps of concrete by spreading old newspaper or a thick drop cloth over a large work area. Be sure also to dress your kids in their oldest, most beat-up play clothes, just in case.
2. Fill mold with a heaping pile of concrete mix to determine how much you will need to mix. Pour the concrete mix into your bucket.
3. Coat mold with cooking spray or petroleum jelly to prevent the concrete from sticking after it dries.
4. Mix water into concrete mix, a small amount at a time, until it resembles the consistency of sour cream or very thick cake batter.
5. Spoon or pour your mixed concrete into the mold and spread smooth. If your mold is sturdy enough, carefully lift the stone and tap it gently a few times (as you would a cake) to smooth the surface and release any hidden air bubbles. Let stand about 30 minutes. Your stone is ready to decorate!
6. Let your kids personalize the surface of the stone with handprints, their names and other embellishments.
7. Let the stone dry in a safe, covered spot overnight. Once the stone is completely dry, carefully pop it out of the mold and let it cure another 5 to 7 days before using the stone.



Infant/Toddler Play group
Waddle and Swaddle



Play group at Temple Beth El



Family attending
Yours Anne



PJ Library presentation at the Harding Club

PJ Library is made possible through gifts from the Jewish Federations of Dutchess and Ulster Counties and the Harding Club

From Generation to Generation

L'dor v'dor, from generation to generation, is a special value for PJ Library Mid-Hudson Valley. It usually focuses on the handing down of tradition from older generations to younger. However through PJ Library books that arrive in your mailbox each month, we also explore the obligations of the young to honor their elders. The family tree kits that came with books in February gave families the experience of recognizing where we came from and the individuals who helped create the families that we are today.

"Honoring elders, *kibud zekaynim*, is important not only as a Jewish value but for society as a whole. We value the wisdom of past generations, our ancestors and older family members. Treating everyone with respect, but paying particular attention to how we treat seniors, is a building block of Jewish life." www.pjlibrary.org

This month your children will have the opportunity to participate in the PJ Library Mini-Mitzvah Day at Mitzvah Day 2017 on May 7. This three-project event follows the theme *L'dor v'dor* as each of our projects focuses on an important aspect of this tradition; however, the theme will be made all the more special by our partnership with The Harding Club and Jewish War Veterans who will be on-hand to work with your family!

From 10:00-11:00am our PJ Library books will focus on Care of the Environment, and we will create hanging seed starters from recycled bottles. From 11:00am-12:00pm, Friendship will be our focus as we will create framed poetry to go along with clothing collection for Castle Point Veteran's Hospital. From 12:00-1:00pm, we will celebrate babies as we create boo-boo bunnies from washcloths and bears from folded receiving blankets to add to our PJ Library Welcome Baby Bags. Listening to PJ Library books read by our friends from The Harding Club and JWV—and working with them to complete projects—will be the beginning of relationships that will grow through other events. Go to www.JewishDutchess.org to register for Mitzvah Day.

In early June, look for a special grandparent's event to continue our *L'dor v'dor* and *kibud zekaynim* themes. A picnic with games and crafts in one of our gorgeous Hudson Valley parks continues our inter-generational journey followed by a New Parent Tea.

Be sure you enroll your children ages 9-11 in PJ Our Way at www.pjourway.org. Each month, kids choose a book from four offered on the website, and we help kids connect with each other in local PJ Our Way book club events.

Our sincere thanks to The Harold Grinspoon Foundation, The Jewish Federations of Dutchess and Ulster Counties, The Harding Club and local individuals who all make PJ Library Mid-Hudson Valley possible through their support!

Melinda Pendleton Margulies, Kimberly Ritz, and Jessa Kwon
Mid-Hudson Valley Program Directors

CAMP ROCKS 2017

Rock Climbing Summer Camp

Ages 7-14

\$150 deposit secures your spot!

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www.gravityvault.com

Not a part of PJ Library yet? Register online at www.PJLibrary.org

Free children's Jewish Book-of-the-Month Club

PJ Library monthly e-newsletter
Special program invitations!

Contact Melinda for more information
(914) 475-5566

Bat Mitzvah

Amanda Moore May 13, 2017, Vassar Temple

Daughter of Danali & Jeremy Moore
Sister of Jacob & Justin Moore

Amanda is a seventh grader at Orville A Todd Middle School where she participates on the soccer and track teams. She plays the violin and is involved in many after-school activities, including peer mediation, Continental Math League (CML) and yearbook. She also enjoys gymnastics and activities with her Girl Scout troop.

Amanda loves animals, so it's only natural that she is volunteering at the Hudson Valley Animal and Rescue Shelter (HVARs) for her mitzvah project. She helps new arrivals at the shelter become socialized with humans and other animals for future adoption. She also cares for the animals' more basic needs of cleaning and feeding, explaining that "These animals have gone through so much and all the love and care they get at the shelter is just amazing!"



92nd Street Y

92nd Street Y programs are a collaboration of the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County and the Poughkeepsie Public Library District.

Thursday, May 18, 7pm (call to confirm showing) Jewish Identity: The Truth, Fears, Hopes and Illusions

Part of the *Shababa Network* Summit, 92Y presents a panel discussion on Jewish Identity with Rabbi Peter J. Rubinstein, Rev. Eleanor Harrison Bregman, Rabbi Irwin Kula, Rabbi Brent Chaim Spodek and Sharon Thomas.



Thursday, June 15, 7pm (call to confirm showing) Bernard Henri-Lévy with Charlie Rose: Why Judaism Matters

The rock-star French philosopher sits down with Charlie Rose to explain how his ideas are shaped by the wisdom and beauty of Judaism, why Judaism and Jewish peoplehood is important to the world — and why the global resurgence of anti-Semitism poses an existential threat to us all. Bernard-Henri Lévy is a philosopher, journalist, activist and filmmaker. Among his dozens of books are *American Vertigo*, *Barbarism with a Human Face* and *Who Killed Daniel Pearl?*, and most recently *The Genius of Judaism*. His writing has appeared in a wide range of publications throughout Europe and the United States. His films include the documentaries *Bosna!* And *A Day in the Death of Sarajevo*. Lévy is co-founder of the antiracist group SOS Racism and has served on diplomatic missions for the French government.



LOCATION: Boardman Library, 141 Boardman Rd, Poughkeepsie

This is a collaboration between the Library District and The Jewish Federation of Dutchess County, made possible in part, through a grant from the Norman and Jeannie Greene Fund.

To view one of the 92nd St Y talks, go to www.92yondemand.org and click on TOPICS, then JEWISH INTEREST to select from a list of recorded programs. You'll find a great number of lectures by such notables as Alan Dershowitz, Elie Wiesel and Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks and topics including Judaism in American, God and Israel.

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The President's Voice



Dear Friends:

By the time you read this column Mitzvah Day, sponsored annually by the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County, will have occurred. This year, we were fortunate to have such an amazing committee of volunteers, headed by Karen Hochhauser. Our projects ranged from helping out at the Gomez House to creating birthday bags for those in our community who are in need.

Jewish Federation can only function successfully with an active board working alongside a community that is willing to volunteer to help with our programs and our fundraising activities. Here is the dilemma that we now face. Many of

our volunteers have become snow birds or they have found that they are no longer able to help out as much as they would like. A serious gap has been created. Hence, this is my message to all of you who read this column.

WE NEED YOU!!!

We want to expand our programs and our visibility in the community, but we can't do it without YOU.

Please call or email me. Working together, let's discover how you can help Jewish Federation reach its goals. Bkopstein@hotmail.com and (845) 416-4757.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Betsy Kopstein-Stuts, President
Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

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Advertising Representative Wanted

Are you looking for extra income?

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Are you interested in getting to know the Dutchess County community better and share the Dutchess Jewish story with businesses?

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We're looking for an energetic, outgoing and creative individual to serve as Advertising Representative for *The Voice*.

The job has four parts: 1) steward current advertisers, 2) seek out new advertising partners, 3) invite Jewish community members to place holiday greetings in the Passover, Rosh Hashanah and Chanukah issues, and 4) deliver copies of *The Voice* to our business partners.

You must be a self starter. Outgoing. Computer-friendly enough to stay connected to Federation and *The Voice* staff each month.

A car in good working order is mandatory! Compensation is commission-based. The sky's the limit! Training provided.


Contact Howard Lynne for information at HowardLynne1@gmail.com or (845) 489-2393.

Congregation Shir Chadash

presents

Cantors' Cabaret

SPOTLIGHT ON BROADWAY



Cantor Claire Franco Community Synagogue Port Washington, New York	Cantor Jodi Schechtman Temple Beth Emeth Albany, New York	Cantor Gail Hirschenfang Congregation Shir Chadash LaGrangeville, New York
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A Wonderful Celebration of Musical Favorites

ACCOMPANIED BY PIANIST TOM MCCOY
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260 BOARDMAN ROAD, POUGHKEEPSIE NY

TICKETS: \$25 IN ADVANCE ONLINE • \$30 AT THE DOOR • \$20 STUDENT
845-232-1029 • info@Shir-Chadash.org
PayPal and Major Credit Cards accepted online • www.shir-chadash.org

Maltz Haftarah Siyyum Dedication at Temple Beth-El

Witness and participate in writing the final letters in the Maltz Sefer Haftarah Scroll at Temple Beth-El.

This special program will take place from 11:00am-1:00pm and feature the completion of the Haftarah scroll by Sofer (scribe) Rabbi Kevin Hale. Observe Haftarah letter writing which will be happening throughout the morning.

Additionally, the program will feature an interactive learning experience, a completion ritual, the formal dedication of the scroll, music and dancing. Haftarah dedications are still available. If you would like to participate with an inscription call the Temple Beth-El office.

Rabbi Hale is a trained Sofer STaM, Torah scribe. He is an engaging teacher who is passionate about Torah and the sacred scribal traditions. His work focuses on evaluating and restoring sifrei Torah, writing and teaching about our sacred scribal traditions.



Rabbi Kevin Hale

All are welcome to join us for this festive and engaging morning.

DETAILS
For additional information please call Temple Beth-El at (845) 454-0570 or email info@tbeny.org.

PAVLOVA WITH GREEK YOGURT

taken from: [HTTP://WWW.JOYOFKOSHER.COM/RECIPES/PAVLOVA-WITH-GREEK-YOGURT/](http://www.joyofkosher.com/recipes/pavlova-with-greek-yogurt/)

INGREDIENTS

- 4 egg whites
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vinegar
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract



PREPARATION

1. Preheat oven to 200°F.
2. Whip egg whites until foamy.
3. Slowly add sugar until stiff peaks form.
4. Add vinegar and vanilla extract and beat until meringue batter holds its shape when turned upside down on beater.
5. Place in piping bag and pipe circles on parchment-lined baking sheet, leaving space in center of circle for filling. You can make one large 9-inch circle, or smaller circles for individual servings.
6. Bake for 1½ hours in oven. Leave in oven for another hour to cool.
7. Fill with Norman's Greek Yogurt — your choice of flavor, fresh fruit or crushed cookies.

the Kosher Store

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 <p>12 oz. • Select Varieties Where Available Manischewitz Egg Noodles 2/\$3</p>	 <p>22 oz. Chicago Style 47th Street Deep Dish Pizza 8⁹⁹</p>
 <p>7-8 oz. Tex Mex or Black Bean 47th Street Burritos 2/\$5</p>	 <p>1-2.5 oz. • Select Varieties Where Available Osem Bissli & Bamba Snacks 89¢</p>
 <p>8.8 oz. Osem Toasted Couscous 1⁹⁹</p>	 <p>14.5-15 oz. Select Varieties Tabatchnick Soups 2/\$5</p>

Meat Including a selection of Glatt Kosher Fresh and Frozen Beef, Chicken & Turkey.

 <p>48 oz. Meal Mart Ground Beef Patties 3 Lbs. 17⁹⁹</p>	 <p>12 oz. Meal Mart Chicken Nuggets or Tenders 4⁹⁹</p>
 <p>12 oz. • Sweet Italian or Empire Kosher Spicy Apple Chicken Sausage 4⁹⁹</p>	 <p>Fresh Empire Kosher Chicken Breasts 5⁹⁹ lb.</p>

Fish Including a selection of Salmon Fillets & Steaks.

 <p>8 oz. Acme Smoked Salmon \$12.99 or Acme Smoked Salmon 4 oz. 6⁹⁹</p>	 <p>9 oz. Gold's Cocktail Sauce 2/\$5</p>
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Shir Chadash's Annual Spring Concert

Cantors' Cabaret: Spotlight on Broadway will take place on Saturday, May 13, 8:00pm. There will be three outstanding New York women Cantors performing: Cantor Claire Franco, Cantor Jodi Schechtman and Shir Chadash's own Cantor Gail Hirschenfang, who will use their highly trained vocal talents to delight the audience with old favorites from shows such as *Fiddler On The Roof*, *Showboat* and *Chorus Line*, as well as more modern shows such as *Wicked*, *Beautiful Merrily We Roll Along* and *Ragtime*. It promises to be an unforgettable night of Broadway music with a Jewish touch.

DETAILS

Saturday, May 13, 8:00 pm, Poughkeepsie Day School, 260 Boardman Rd, Poughkeepsie, NY. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door; \$20 for students. Tickets are available online at www.shir-chadash.org. Major credit cards and PayPal are accepted. For more information, please call (845) 232-1029, email info@shir-chadash.org or check out our website at www.shir-chadash.org.

What is Mitzvah Day Birthday Bag?

Let's provide birthday parties for local children in need who otherwise would have none--a tote bag filled with birthday cake fixings, a special toy and book reflecting the child's interests, perhaps a party decoration or a gift card.

Choose from many ways to help:

- Bring boxed cake mix, canned icing, boxed birthday candles and birthday décor to the donation boxes in the BHA, Temple Beth-El and Vassar Temple by May 5
- Donate any amount at the **GO-FUNDME** <https://www.gofundme.com/mitzvah-day-birthday-bags>
- Donate \$36 to sponsor a bag, receive thank you note from child
- Kids, register at: www.jewishdutchess.org to decorate and stuff bags, make cards on Mitzvah Day

For information or to sponsor a bag, call Jasmine (845) 476-4261 or email jasmainerusso@gmail.com

JEWISH WAR VETERANS POST 625

Private Herman Siegel Post 625 of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States will hold its regular monthly meetings on Sunday, May 7 and June 3.

All persons of Jewish faith who have served in any branch of the United States armed forces (Active, Reserve or National Guard) are invited to attend and participate in the activities of this JWV Post. All persons of the Jewish faith who have family members who have served in the armed forces of the United States are also invited.

Schomre Israel is strictly kosher. Please no food or drink inside the shul.

DETAILS (next meeting)

Sunday, May 7 & June 3, 9:30am. There is an informal coffee and cake period of schmoozing. Congregation Schomre Israel, 18 Park Ave, Poughkeepsie. For details contact the Presiding Officer, Rob Rubin at qbbee5@optonline.net.

Congregation Shir Chadash's Adult B'not Mitzvah Class Reaches Goal

Last year, seven women began a journey toward becoming B'not Mitzvah. With some reading Hebrew and some not, each woman embarked on this path to deepen s connection with her Jewish roots. After 17 months of study with Cantor Gail Hirschenfang, these women will achieve this goal. They have found fulfillment and satisfaction in learning to read and understand Hebrew, study and discuss Torah, and have become more fully immersed in Jewish history and traditions.

DETAILS

All are welcome to attend this special B'not Mitzvah service at Shir Chadash on Shabbat May 20, 10:30am, as each member of the class leads worship and chant from Torah. For information, call (845) 232-1029, email info@shir-chadash.org or check out our website at www.shir-chadash.org.

Vassar Temple Sisterhood Dinner

DETAILS

May 9, 6pm: Hors D'oeuvres, 7pm: Mediterranean Inspired Dinner, Guest speakers, Dr. Ron & Shelley Tatelbaum: "The Stresslessness of Now, Heart-to-Heart Mindfulness & Coping with Stress" Info: Marcia Tazman tanzco@aol.com

Congregation Schomre Israel to Participate in BikeNCSY

We are excited to share with you the launch of BikeNCSY and invite you to join us on this incredible ride to raise money for NCSY teens (National Conference of Synagogue Youth- the youth group of the Orthodox Union) to spend a gap year in Israel!

In partnership with Rabbi Langer and Congregation Schomre Israel, BikeNCSY will be offering a fun day of summer activities for those looking to get active and support the great work NCSY and Congregation Schomre Israel are doing in the Jewish world. While riding through the beautiful landscape of the Hudson Valley, you will be making a difference in the lives of teens across the country who would otherwise not be able to afford to spend this time growing and studying in Israel.

The ride will take place on Sunday, June 25. In its inaugural year, NCSY is partnering with BikeNY and their Discover Hudson Valley Ride which has multiple routes ranging from 15 to 100 miles, so both the casual and serious rider can be part of a fun summer day of exercise and supporting Jewish continuity! Participants pay a fee to register and also make a \$500 fund-raising commitment. Congregation Schomre Israel will be welcoming riders from across the Eastern Seaboard to get active and support NCSY in its endeavors to inspire the Jewish future.

NCSY, the youth arm of the OU, is active in over 200 cities, connecting with Jewish teens through innovative, cutting-edge social and recreational programs to develop a positive Jewish identity. OU-JLIC is the campus branch of the OU, and is bringing positive Jewish experiences and education to students on 23 college campuses. In addition, thousands of people participate in and are touched by the OU's special needs division, YACHAD.

NCSY looks forward to the excitement and involvement of the Poughkeepsie community. Congregation Schomre Israel will be having multiple Shacharit minyanim, and a breakfast spread before the ride as well as a post-ride gala BBQ at the shul. By joining BikeNCSY, you will also gain access to a post race gala BBQ, bike jersey, biking gloves, and more!

Strap on your helmets! We look forward to seeing you there!

DETAILS

Sunday, June 25. If you have any questions, please reach out to Nicole at bike@ncsy.org

New Paths Morning Worship

Join us at the New Paths Sabbath morning service in the informal, intimate setting of Vassar Temple's East Chapel.

The moving liturgy of the *New Paths* prayer book includes both traditional and contemporary writings, mostly in English. Participants may bring supplemental materials to share.

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

DETAILS

Sat, May 6, 10:00am.

For info, contact Rabbi Leah Berkowitz at rabbil@vassartemple.org, email Marianne Schwartz at mschwa9882@aol.com or call the temple office (845) 454-2570.

Schomre Israel Raffle Buffet

Schomre Israel's annual raffle to be held at the synagogue. Only 200 raffle tickets will be sold at the price of \$100 each. The prizes to be given away are 8 prizes of \$250, one prize of \$1000 and the grand prize of \$5000. All ticket holders are invited to attend a delicious buffet with an open wine bar. The winning tickets will be selected at this event. It is possible to purchase a ticket jointly with others.

Join us for an afternoon of good food, good company and the possibility of coming away with some extra money.

DETAIL

Sunday, June 25, 2:00pm, Schomre Israel. For more information or to purchase a ticket, please contact Irwin Lifshay, chairperson, at (845) 452-2051, or synagogue (845) 454-2890.

Families - Adults
Seniors - Children

COMMUNITY DAY OF SERVICE
Mitzvah Day 2017
Sunday, May 7

Register TODAY!

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	TO REGISTER & INFORMATION
Visit to the Pines	3rd and 4th grade students interact with residents	<p>Online at www.JewishDutchess.org or call Karen (914) 456-4051</p> <div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Mitzvah Day Schedule</p> <p>9:00 Light breakfast* Opening ceremonies</p> <p>9:30 Off to do mitzvot around the Hudson Valley</p> <p>11:00 - 1:00 Light lunch* for volunteers at Mitzvah Day HQ</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">*Reservations REQUIRED for breakfast and/or lunch</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Mitzvah Day Headquarters: 118 S Grand Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY (Temple Beth-El)</p> </div> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 5px 0;">Mitzvah Day is a program of the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County.</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 5px 0;">Also Mitzvah Day is partially underwritten by a grant from the Bertha Efron Fund of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley.</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 5px 0;">Photographs taken on Mitzvah Day may be used for Federation publicity purposes. Please let us know if you do not want your picture used.</p>
Car Wash	Youth group raises money for tzedakah	
Baking	5th and 6th grade students bake and serve at Lunch Box	
Gomez Mill House	Indoor and outdoor cleanup	
Appalachian Trail	Remove invasive plants species	
Grace Smith House	Landscaping and indoor painting	
Children's Home of Poughkeepsie	Garden cleanup and planting, playground repair, indoor painting	
Pershing Cemetery	Cemetery clean-up	
Birthday Bags Project	Create a birthday party in a bag for children who are underprivileged	
PJ Library for Families	Intergenerational activities at Mitzvah Day Headquarters	
Elant Nursing Home	Performances of music for Elant residents	
New Horizons Resources, Briggs Farms	Construct an accessible walkway—trail for the community	
Community Family Development	Plant flowers, prep flower beds, plant seeds, sort attic and bag garbage	
Sprout Lake	Clean and spruce up lake, spring planting, possible painting	
Dutchess Outreach Lunch Box	Prepare and serve a meal	
COLLECTIONS		
Beth David Food Pantry Collection	Non-perishable food, paper goods, household cleaning, personal care products	
Birthday Bags	Bring a box of cake mix, a can of frosting, and box of birthday candles to Vassar	
Cereal Counts	Bring boxed cereal for hungry neighbors to Temple Beth-El	
Jewish War Veterans	Bring new underwear and socks (male and female, size L) for Clothes Closet to Temple Beth-El, Schomre Israel and Beacon Hebrew Alliance	

Local

Sunday

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

Monday

Congregation Schomre Israel Chair Yoga with Toni Farkas, 11:30am. \$5 per session, all welcome.
Temple Beth-El Board Meeting May 8, 7:30pm. Temple Beth-El Board of Trustees monthly meeting.

Tuesday

Yiddish is back! 11:00am—12:00pm, at the JCC. Check us out. Groove on the sweet sounds of bubba and zaida, alefasholem! Become one of our small group of alter cockers who, although we really can hardly still speak our zisse mameloschen, rejoice in trying to recreate wonderful olden times of blessed memory. And it's free! For info call Don Poretz (845) 471-9529 or June Seidan (845) 471-5492, Zei gezunt.
Temple Beth-El Shavuot Service May 30, 8:00pm, Tikkun Leyl Shavuot Program, service and light refreshments. This program is held jointly with Vassar Temple and Congregation Shir Chadash

Wednesday

Learn & Lunch Bunch every Wednesday, 11am-1:30pm. 118 So Grand Ave, Poughkeepsie. Info, menu and program schedule see page 2 of *The Voice* or contact (845) 471-9811.
Congregation Schomre Israel Shavuot Luncheon and Learn Session May 31, 9:00am, Reservations requested for the luncheon (845) 454-2890
Vassar Temple Shavuot Service May 31, 10:00am
Temple Beth-El Shavuot Service May 31, 9:30am and 7:30pm.

Thursday

Congregation Schomre Israel Second Day of Shavuot June 1, 9:00am.
Temple Beth-El Shavuot Service June 1, 9:30am.

Friday

Congregation Shir Chadash Kabbalat Shabbat Service May 5, 12, 19, 26, 7:30pm. Service with Rabbi Daniel F. Polish & Cantor Gail Hirschenfang, followed by community oneg, all welcome.
Vassar Temple Shabbat Evening Service May 5, 19, 26, 7:30pm. May 5 service honoring Cantorial Soloist, Elisa Dugatkin,
Vassar Temple Family Shabbat May 12, 7:30pm.
Temple Beth-El Shabbat B'yachad Evening Service May 5, 6:30pm. Spirited and intergenerational Shabbat service. Interactive Torah study, lively Shabbat melodies, candle lighting and more. Wear Silly hats! Mourners' Kaddish is said. Birthdays are celebrated. For information call (845) 454-0570.
Temple Beth-El Service May 12, 19, 26, 7:30pm. Conservative egalitarian Shabbat, all welcome.

Saturday

Congregation Shir Chadash Sharing Shabbat Program Religious School May 6, 20 9:00-10:30am. Children learn Jewish culture, holidays & history. New parents encouraged to have their children try a class for a month with no obligation. For information contact (845) 232-1029, email info@shir-chadash.org or www.shir-chadash.org.
Congregation Shir Chadash Torah Study May 6, 20, 9:15-10:30am, while enjoying a light breakfast, engage in an informal discussion about the Torah portion of the week with Rabbi Polish; everyone has a chance to participate. No expertise or knowledge of Hebrew needed—just an inquisitive mind, a curiosity about our tradition and a willingness to share your thoughts; all welcome to attend.
Congregation Shir Chadash Tot Program May 6, 20, 9:00-10:30am, children ages 3-5, accompanied by an adult learn through doing, crafts, food and games. Class is open to all and free of charge.
Congregation Shir Chadash Morning Torah Service May 6, 20, 10:45-11:30am, led by Rabbi Daniel F. Polish and Cantor Gail Hirschenfang, bagels and coffee prior to service, all welcome.
Vassar Temple New Paths Shabbat Morning Service May 6, 20, 10:00am.
Vassar Temple Sabbath Morning Toray Service May 13, 10:00am.
Temple Beth-El Shabbat Service May 6, 13, 20, 27, 9:30am, Conservative, egalitarian service
Temple Beth-El Tot Shabbat May 20, 11:15am.

Out of Area

Congregation Emanuel of the Hudson Valley Events

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

Kabbalat Shabbat evening service every Friday, 6:30pm, with a light oneg before at 6:00pm
Musical Kabbalat Shabbat is the third Friday of the month. Musical Shabbat is the way Shabbat "ought to feel." Be prepared to be lifted out of your seat as our fabulous community of musicians brings extraordinary talent, passion and soul to accompany our Sabbath prayers.
Shabbat Service with Zemer is the fourth Friday of the month.
Tot Shabbat Saturday, May 20, 9:00am, A wonderful way to introduce your tot to Shabbat through interactive music with Rabbi Romer and her guitar. September—June.
Saturday Morning Service 10:00am, September – June. Join our community for uplifting and inspiring Saturday morning communal prayer, meditation and Torah study.
Ongoing Adult Education with the Rabbi Call (845) 338-4271(x101) for class dates/time: Hebrew Trope, Torah Study, Introduction to Judaism, Beginner and Intermediate Conversational Modern Hebrew, Meditation and Parashat Shuvah, Kabbalah and Private Conversion Tutorials.
Lunch with Rabbi Romer & Guests Tuesday, May 2, 12:00pm. Join Rabbi Romer for a lunch with discussion. This month's topic: Can Thorium Reactors Save the World? Presented by David Rolfe.
Rhinebeck Meditation & Torah Study Thursday, Meditation, 8:45am; 9:15am weekly Torah study, September-June Led by Rabbi Yael Romer. Welcome your day with a morning ritual that prepares you to receive the day's blessings.
Rosh Chodesh Third Tuesday, 7:00-9:00pm, October-June, a women's exploration of our female voices in Jewish traditions. Please reserve your space (845) 338-4271.
Religious School Saturday, 9:30am-12:30pm, September-May. Pre-K class from 9:30-11:00am. Enrollment is ongoing. For information, contact Religious School Director Samara Genne (845) 338-4271 (x 110).
Pirke Avot with Rabbi Romer, Thursday, May 11, 5:30pm.
NYC Broadway Voices Sunday, May 7, 3:00pm, Tickets \$50/\$35 seniors/\$25 students. Reservations requested please contact the main office (845) 338-4271
Tikkun L'eil Shavuot Tuesday, May 30, 10:30pm at Temple, Wednesday, May 31, Sunrise Service 5:15am at Kingston Point Beach (at Temple if inclement weather)

Calendar

May

Regular Schedule of Services

Beacon Hebrew Alliance
 331 Veplanck Avenue • Beacon • (845) 831-2012
 Conservative: Rabbi Brent Spodek
 Cantor Ellen Gersh/Education Dir. Rabbi Shoshana Hantman
 Website: www.beaconhebrewalliance.org
 Email: 411@beaconhebrewalliance.org
 Service held weekly on Fridays at 7:30 pm and alternating Saturdays at 9:30am. Visit our website for information about services, religious school, and community events

Chabad of Mid-Hudson Valley
 63 Vassar Road • Poughkeepsie • (845) 463-5801
 Email: chabadmidhudsonvly@prodigy.net
 Website: www.chabadmidhudsonvalley.com
 Rabbi Yacov Borenstein
 Friday—Call for time • Saturday—10 am

Congregation Beth David
 E. Main Street • Amenia • (845) 373-8264
 Email: JonRab33@gmail.com
 Website: CongBethDavid.org
 Reformed: Rabbi Jon Haddon
 Services held usually on Saturdays at 10:00am twice monthly except January & February. Please call for schedules.

Congregation Schomre Israel
 18 Park Avenue • Poughkeepsie • (845) 454-2890
 Email: Schomre1@aol.com
 Website: www.schomreIsrael.org
 Orthodox: Rabbi Eliezer Langer
 Monday-Thursday—7 am, Sundays—8 am, Saturday—9 am
 Sunday-Thursday 7:00pm • Shabbat Services vary depending on sundown.

Congregation Shir Chadash
 Interim: Freedom Plains Pres. Church • Lagrange • (845) 232-1029
 Email: info@shir-chadash.org
 Website: www.shir-chadash.org
 Reform: Rabbi Daniel Polish
 Cantor Gail Hirschenfang
 Fridays—Shabbat Services at 7:30pm, Bi-monthly on Saturdays; Children's Religious School at 9:00am; Torah Study at 9:15am.

The Rhinebeck Jewish Center
 102 Montgomery St • Rhinebeck • (845) 876-7666
 Email: RSVP@RhinebeckJewishCenter.com
 Website: RhinebeckJewishCenter.com
 Rabbi Hanoch Hecht & Rebbitzin Tzivia Hecht
 Friday Services—Please call for time; Saturday Services—9:30

Temple Beth El
 118 So. Grand Avenue, Poughkeepsie • (845) 454-0570
 Email: info@tbeny.org
 Website: www.tbeny.org
 Conservative: Rabbi Daniel Victor
 Rosh Tefilah: Rabbi Miriam Hyman
 Shabbat B'yachad family service—1st Friday of the month at 6:30 pm, Friday evening—7:30 pm, Saturday Shabbat service at 9:30 am, Weekdays—7:30am daily.

Vassar College Bayit
 51 Collegeview Avenue • Poughkeepsie • (845) 451-3920
 Rabbi
 Email:
 Friday-6:00pm service, 7:00pm dinner, when school is in session

Vassar Temple (Reform)
 140 Hooker Avenue • Poughkeepsie • (845) 454-2570
 Website: www.vassartemple.org
 Reform: Rabbi Leah Berkowitz
 Email: office@vassartemple.org or rabbi@vassartemple.org
 Friday night service at 7:30pm unless otherwise noted. Torah study Saturday at 9:00am. New Paths Services on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month at 10:00am. Unless otherwise noted.

May Candle Lighting

May 5 7:40pm
May 12 7:48pm
May 19 7:55pm
May 26 8:01pm
May 30 8:04pm
May 31 9:13pm

Do you want to share your thoughts about *The Voice*? Got an idea you'd like to see in print?
 We're listening!
 Email us at
 TheVoice@JewishDutchess.org



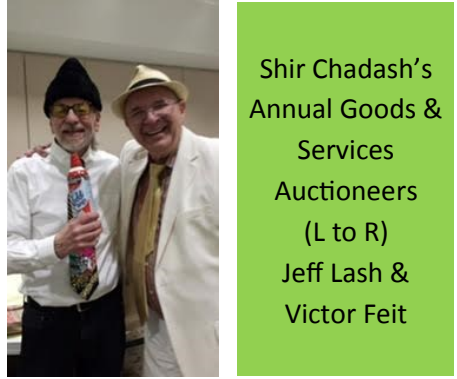
Schomre Israel's kitchen crew preparing the Purim Seudah

Purim dinner celebration at Schomre Israel Synagogue, Purim, 2017



Shir Chadash congregants & friend enjoying the auction & good food

The Co-chairs of Shir Chadash's Auction (L to R) Liz Glassberg & Susan Feit



Shir Chadash's Annual Goods & Services Auctioneers (L to R) Jeff Lash & Victor Feit

Vassar Temple Teens help at Lunch Box

Purim at Vassar Temple
After a pasta dinner prepared by the Men's Club, the megillah was read and Vassar Temple Players regaled everyone with a lively Purimschpeil.

2017 Purim Carnival



Congregation Shir Chadash's congregants & friends celebrating Purim and enjoying their Purim Spiel.



Congregation Shir Chadash's congregants & friends celebrating Purim and enjoying their Purim Spiel.

See your Mitzvah Day pictures here next month!
On Sunday, May 7, take pictures. Then send the good ones with captions identifying people and venue to TheVoice@JewishDutchess.org. We love action shots! Photos will be used as space allows.



Passover 1 2 3 at Vassar Temple

