

WE ARE ONE

July 2025 tamuz/av 5785

HUDSON VALLEY RENEGADES

JEWISH HERITAGE NIGHT

WEDNESDAY JULY 9
GAME TIME @ 6:35pm | GATES OPEN @ 5:30pm

SUPPORT THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF **DUTCHESS, ORANGE, & ULSTER COUNTIES!**

Kosher Food Options Available

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FIND US AT FUN!



The **Levine Speaker Series** presents:

Ron Kampeas



Media, Consensus, and the Jews; Where Did You Go, Walter Cronkite?
Where Do Consumers of News Go in a World Mired with Disinformation and Polarism?

*DON'T MISS this **dynamic speaker** who has appeared as a TV analyst in the United States, Europe, and the Middle East.

*The Jewish Telegraphic Agency's **Washington bureau chief** for more than two decades. While living in Israel, worked for the **Jerusalem Post**.



*An expert on the involvement of **Jews in the American political discourse**.

Tickets: \$18 pp
Sponsorship:
\$100 - includes 2 tickets + Meet & Greet
\$136 - includes 2 tickets + Meet & Greet + reserved seating

Register by using QR code or at:
<https://jewishorangenyny.regfox.com/ron-kampeas>

Sunday, July 27
3pm: Meet & Greet, wine & cheese reception
4pm: Presentation

Newburgh location
Details to be given upon registration



Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County
Building Our Jewish Community Together

Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County
Building Our Jewish Community Together

3rd Annual Federation FunDay

A Day of Community

Food | Vendor Fair | Silent Auction
Israeli Folk Dancing | DJ | Piano Sing-along
Covered Pavilions | Playground | Security

Sunday, August 17th
10:00 Am - 2:00 Pm

- Israeli Dancing | 10:30am
- Yoga | 12pm
- CSI (Security Situational Awareness) with Pat Regan | 12:45pm
- Music with Cantor Carl

Thomas Bull Memorial Park Day Camp Area

More Info at:
www.jewishorangenyny.org

Vendors & sponsors register here:



Dance With Shmulik
WWW.SHMULIKGOVARI.COM

ISRAELI FOLK DANCING

REGISTER TODAY!
SUNDAYS:
August 17 | 1030am Federation Funday!
November 2 | Middletown
Location details given upon registration

REGISTER HERE:



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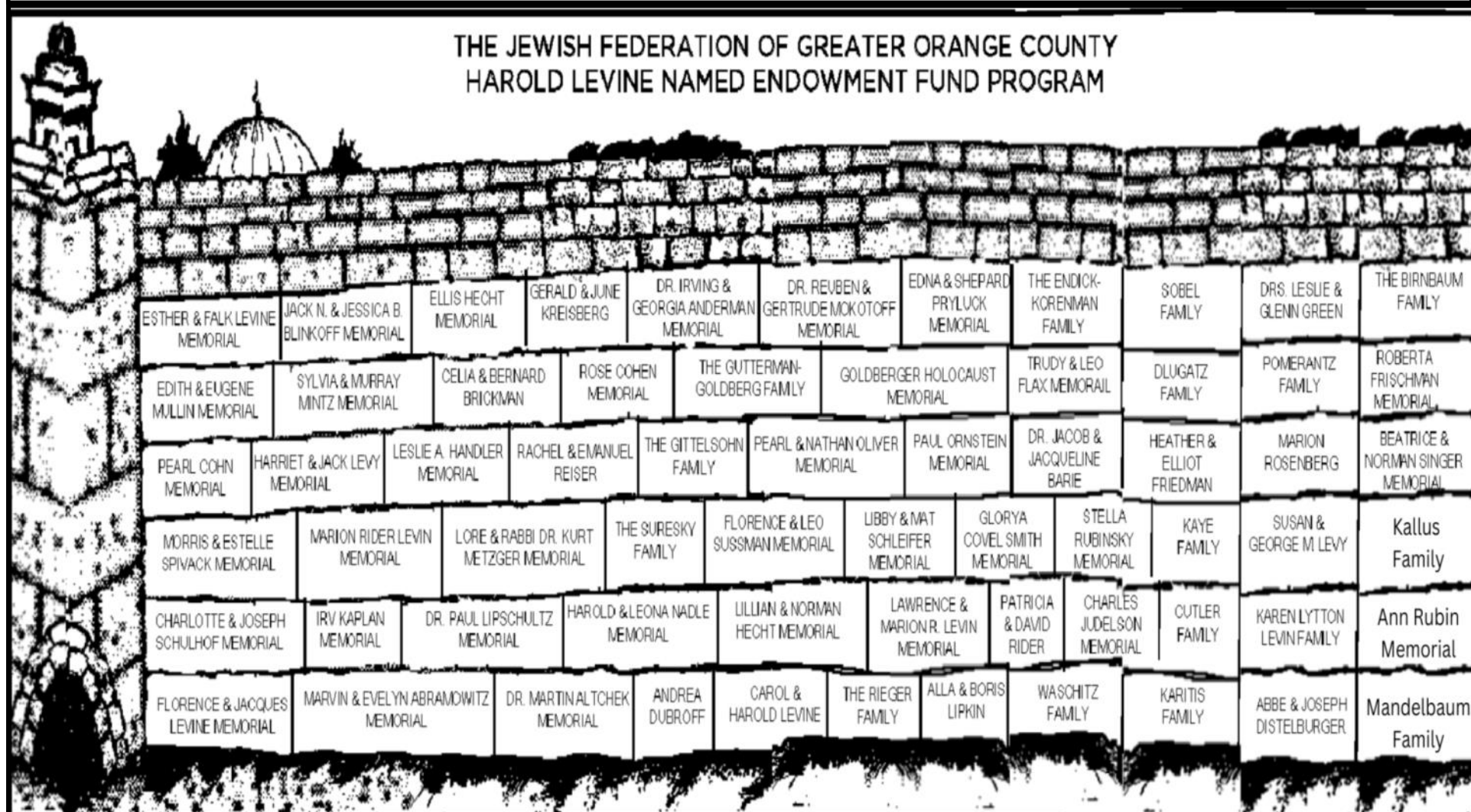
jewishorangenyny.regfox.com/israeli-dancing

The Harold Levine Named Endowment Fund Program

The Harold Levine Endowment Program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County currently has 65 Endowments with a principle of over \$5,000,000. These funds can be established with any amount of money. The interest is reinvested in the funds until they reach a corpus of \$5,000, at which time distributions can be made to named charities.

All endowment funds must designate a minimum of 30% of the interest earned to the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign. Arrange a confidential meeting to make a charitable gift as part of your estate plan. Call the Federation office 845-562-7860 for more information.

Read more here: jewishorangeny.org/donate/endowments



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relationship with
the Israeli farmer*

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*A portion of the
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back to the community.*

*A portion of the
proceeds is donated
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**Support an Israeli Farmer and Receive From
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Oil, Kosher Wine or Whisky!**

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- ✧ **Wine (Private Label) | Aug 18 | Delivery Sept.**
- ✧ **Whiskey | Oct. 31 | Delivery | Dec.**
- ✧ **Olive Oil | Oct. 31 | Delivery | Dec.**

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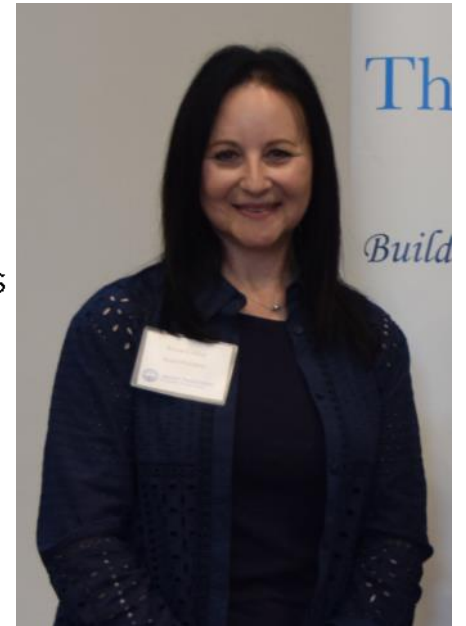
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Federation Office **845-562-7860.**



A Message From Our Board President, Rissa Cutler

In case you missed our annual meeting last month, here are some excerpts from our President, Rissa Cutler's report, highlighting our work from 2024:

The impact of the work of our Federation can be seen all over Orange County. This work would be impossible to do without the dedication of our staff. Pam Mason wears so many hats in our office that her titles are many. Pam is our administrative assistant, communications manager, and so much more. She has officially been with us for two years, although she really has been part of our family most of her life. Pam is an invaluable member of our team. She communicates with donors, oversees our weekly emails, newsletter, and event registration pages. She is thorough and accurate and has tremendous dedication to the Federation and commitment to the work we do. We can always count on Pam when we need something done. Pam, we value the work you do and look forward to continuing our partnership.



Georgia Mason, our bookkeeper, is starting her 38th year with us. If you have ever met Georgia, I am sure you will agree that she does much more than our bookkeeping. She talks to our donors, keeps up to date records and has served as counsel to me, always having the information I need at her fingertips. She cares deeply about our community and the work of the Federation. Georgia, you are a valuable asset to our us, and we look forward to many more years together.

In addition, Wendy Cedar, our executive director, is completing her fourth year with us. Since joining our organization, Wendy has become a member of the Orange County Human Rights Commission and the Orange County Chamber of Commerce, representing Federation around the county. She has worked to participate in the work of our committees and has been closely involved in our responses to antisemitism in partnership with our Community Relations Council. A quick response is always required on the part of the Federation, and Wendy is right there each time, coordinating with our Council members, reaching out to the community and writing press releases. Wendy also attained a security grant to support programs that included pre-school-aged children. And, alongside Pam Mason, continues to chair, plan and coordinate Federation Funday. This important work would not happen without your dedication. Wendy, thank you.

The commitment of these professionals and our Federation Board, has enabled our work to touch thousands of community members, making a positive impact along the way. Our Zachor Antisemitism initiative has reached over 3000 kids in Orange County this year thanks to our Zachor director, Judy Ronay, our partnership with the Rockland Holocaust Museum and Center for Tolerance and Education, our Executive Director Wendy Cedar and our Stop Hate Essay Contest. These important programs will continue to be strong in the coming year.

Teaching our young people about our history and connecting them to our Jewish community is an important responsibility for us. This year, we sponsored a NFTY event, hiking at Bear Mountain and apple picking. Loretta Trinco was instrumental in planning these events, and they gave our local teens opportunities to connect to each other and our community. Our community Purim Carnival at Temple Beth Shalom attracted more than 100 people and was a huge success this year. In addition, thanks to the leadership of Leslie Green, Shai Davidai came to the Hudson Valley to share his experiences on the Columbia University campus and led an

important discussion for many community members from Orange, Ulster and Dutchess Counties.

In addition, our microgrant program, chaired by Steve Rubinsky, continues to receive increased requests for funding. The goals of this program are Jewish community building, social justice and experiential education. Started in 2019, our first year funded 4 programs with a budget of \$2000.

Continued Next Page

A Message From Our Board President, Rissa Cutler continued

This successful program continues to grow. Only halfway through this year, with a budget of \$8,000, we have already funded ten programs, and we look forward to honoring our microgrant recipients shortly. Many of the programs in our local synagogues and partner organizations can only happen because of the hard work of Steve and his committee. Thank you, Steve, for your ongoing leadership.

Volunteers are key to the success of every nonprofit and our Federation is no exception. As such, we are always looking for board members who want to actively contribute to our work and support our mission. Even as we prepare to elect and install our new officers and board members in a few minutes, we have several vacancies on our Board of Trustees. We welcome your interest in helping us to maintain and sustain a strong Jewish community here in our own county so please reach out to me if you are interested in joining our team.

Another real challenge in any nonprofit organization is raising much needed funds. We count on our donors to support us so that this important work can continue to make a difference in Orange County and abroad. Thanks to the hard work of many dedicated volunteers, we have had some success with our efforts.

Our endowments provide a vital foundation and we are working to grow our total and make this base even stronger in the coming year. Under the leadership of endowment chair, Jeffrey Harmer, our fund continues to grow and be an important part of our Federation's campaign.

As we look ahead, plans are already underway to continue our ongoing campaign efforts. You will hear from our treasurer in a few minutes, and while our annual campaign total has decreased over time, we have had some successful years thanks to the generosity of our donors, many who have increased their pledges. For our work to continue, we must keep that upward path going and increase our donor base. We must continue to reach out to our community and secure annual gifts that allow us to fund our important initiatives. The current economy makes this increasingly difficult, as people feel pulled in many financial directions. However, the work of the Federation cannot happen without successful fundraising.

Planning for our annual Major Gifts event is underway so stay tuned for this information to be shared. We hope many of you will join us for Major Gifts and consider increasing your pledge to support our campaign.

Thank you again for joining us. We look forward to hearing from you.



Thank you to everyone that joined us on **Sunday, June 8th** at **Kol Yisrael** in **Newburgh** for our **49th Annual Meeting**. We honored so many **special individuals** who have shown **outstanding service** in our partner **Synagogues & Organizations**. You can read their bios below, those not pictured were unable to join us. Thank you Gail Conklin for all of the beautiful photos.



Congregation Agudas Israel - Todd Kelson

Todd has served on the Board for many years and served two consecutive terms as Board Chair. He is currently the Cemetery Committee Chair, and takes care of helping families through the difficult process of burying their family member with care and consideration, as well as handling all of the cemetery maintenance. In addition, Todd served on the Board of the Newburgh JCC for many years, and is proud to be a member of the Board of Directors of Access: Supports for Living. Your CAI community thanks you!



Congregation Beth Hillel/Walden JCC - Anne Klingner

Anne brings her bright and positive energy and enthusiasm to every task and committee she serves on. She is a do-er who shows up ready to help with her honesty, intelligence and insight. Plus, she makes everything more fun! Anne has a long history of serving, organizing, and getting things done; at Mental Health Association supporting families and people with developmental disabilities; and as a parent, and community activist. Congregation Beth Hillel is proud and fortunate to call Anne one of their own, and they look forward to her continued participation and contributions in the years to come.



Congregation Eitz Chaim - Michael Schack

Michael has been involved in Eitz Chaim for over 40 years. He became committed to learning - and then leading- the prayer services as the "gabbai," and has fun with his deeply serious Purim Shpiel(s)! He also served as President of the Shul and as a member of the religious committee, and was the "Kol Nidre Nudge". Michael has been devoted to filling almost every role at Eitz Chaim - which now includes writing weekly Dvar Torahs and interpreting scripture with new takes on our age-old stories with humor and, trying to understand how the lessons of our biblical forefathers can shine a light on human nature in modern times.



Congregation Eitz Chaim - Karen Fischer

In Karen's second year at the shul, she participated in an adult b'not mitzvah class in which she deepened her knowledge of Jewish holidays and learned the Torah trope. This came in handy later on when she became a gabbai. Twenty years and counting, she continues to serve the congregation in that capacity, helping to run Shabbat morning services. Karen was also active in Sisterhood, serving as president, and held positions on the synagogue's Board of Trustees. She is most proud of proposing, and then chairing the committee for the establishment of Gan Shalom, the shul's nursery school.



Congregation Eitz Chaim Sisterhood (MWJCC) - Rita Wincott

Rita was a founding member of Eitz Chaim. From day one she worked tirelessly for their sisterhood and has managed every kitchen they ever occupied. Whatever was needed for a smooth running of the shul, Rita was there. It would be foolish to even try to list her accomplishments over the past 50 years. But when they needed a president and treasurer and kiddush boss she stepped in once again to offices she had already passed on to younger members. Suffice it to say she was the only one considered for this honor - it was an easy choice.



Jewish Family Service - Claire Caspe

Claire has been a volunteer with Jewish Family Service of Orange County for just eleven months, but her impact has been nothing short of extraordinary. In this short time, she has generously donated over 220 hours of service, consistently stepping up to help those who need it most. She frequently volunteers in hard-to-serve areas of the county where support is limited. She never hesitates to travel across Orange County to ensure our neighbors can attend essential appointments. Claire not only offers her time—she builds genuine, caring relationships with the people she serves and is always willing to go the extra mile to meet their needs.

Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County - Tepper Saffren - B'nai Torah Shul - 2nd Night Seder

Tepper provided a revitalized Seder with music, acting, and community connection for attendees at B'nai Torah Shul. This helped them take the teaching "let all who are hungry come and eat" very seriously and they were able to provide a wonderful experience for those who attended.



Marjorie Sweet - Congregation Beth Hillel - Trip to Forestburgh Playhouse

For the 2nd year in a row, Cong. Beth Hillel coordinated this trip - this year seeing the musical: Beautiful - the Carol King Story. The trip provided a great opportunity for the community to enjoy a social & cultural experience as a community, and help the synagogue broaden their program offerings for those seeking alternative connections to the Jewish community.



Stacey Yerger (will be sharing the honor with Raena Korenman and Susan Notar)- Kol Yisrael - October 7th Commemoration

These ladies coordinated, in conjunction with the Federation sponsored Jewish Book Council, a wonderful speaker and program to mark 1 year since the attack on Israel on October 7th. Their program was respectful and meaningful, and the speaker from the Book Council spoke about what it was like to interview survivors of the attacks for the book that she wrote.

Jerry Goldberg - Monroe Temple - Beit Sefer trip to the Museum at Eldridge Street

Which included a walk to the historic Essex Market for lunch and a quick stop at Economy Candy - New York's oldest family-owned candy shop since 1937.



Ellen Levine (Diane Rowe and Doris Kossover will be accepting on her behalf) - Monroe Temple - Gil Hofman lecture

They brought the community a presentation by Gil Hofman.

This program was pulled together with the efforts of their small Israel Education committee - consisting of Doris Kossover, Sharon Goldberg, Illisa Lipkin, Diane Rowe and Betsy Utnick.

Gil Hofman is a journalist and started an organization called Honest Reporting, who work to "ensure truth, integrity, and fairness to combat ideological prejudice in journalism in the media, as it impacts on Israel". His presentation was timely, interesting, and refreshing to hear that truth is still valued in certain areas of the media!

Hannah Shinder - Temple Beth Shalom - NFTY-GER Havdallah event

Hannah brought a Jewish teen event to TBS through the North American Federation of Temple Youth -Garden Empire Region aka NFTY-GER,

It was a Disney-themed Havdallah event at which there were social action/ Tikkun Olam activities, teaching recycling, and anti-bullying. The teens were left with a sense of joy for their heritage.

Rabbi Rebecca Shinder - Temple Beth Shalom -2 Beit Sefer Shul-ins & MoveMeant Purim program

The **Shul-ins**, one at Monroe Temple, the other at Temple Beth Shalom, included music, crafts, mitzvah projects, Alef Bet Yoga, watching The Prince of Egypt, and Superbuddies (for the Jewish super-hero themed event), and of course, food and social activities!

The **MoveMeant Pre-Purim Shabbat Experience** was a creative expression of Jewish liturgy through music and movement. The guest presenters gave each participant a clipboard with prompts to answer for self-reflection and personal connection to prayer. They studied a portion of the megillah by shared analysis of a piece of art created to illuminate the story. The event inspired the community to connect with our tradition in a unique way.



Catherine Greenblatt - Temple Beth Shalom - 2nd day Rosh Hashanah at Mountain Lake Park (Sharon Ball accepted on Catherin's behalf)

She supported a 2nd day Rosh Hashanah, non-traditional, lakeside service at Mountain Lake Park - the site of the former Kutz Camp in Warwick.

The goal of of this event was to draw in young families and other non-affiliated Jews.

The response to this event was astounding. So many people attended: Congregants, non-congregants, and even friends of Wendy Cedar from our time at the Kutz Camp! Many of the attendees would not have observed Rosh HaShana at all; this lakeside experience was an opportunity for them to reconnect with their Judaism without entering a synagogue - a shul without walls.



Sharon Ball - Temple Beth Shalom - 2nd Night Seder

The goal of TBS's 2nd night Seder is to welcome anyone in the Orange County Jewish community to share in a Seder so that everyone has a place to go. They have been providing this to the community for several years, and in 2024 had nearly 75 people participate. With expenses rising, the funding from Federation allowed them to keep up this wonderful tradition.



Kol Yisrael - Mark LaKritz

Mark is a founding member of the Kol Yisrael joint planning committee, which facilitates joint programming between all three of the Kol Yisrael partner organizations. He is always the first to volunteer his time and effort for event planning, preparation, and support. This year, Mark served as the Joint Planning Committee Chairperson, where he organized meetings, took notes, sent follow-ups, and tactfully pushed forward their programming agenda while keeping everyone organized and engaged.



Monroe Hadassah - Rochelle Marshall

Rochelle's dedication to Hadassah has always been equal to her love of Israel. In the past year, she has made several trips to Israel, volunteering for a variety of organizations and always visiting Hadassah's hospitals. She was interviewed on Israel's i24 several times, but it was her first interview that went viral on the internet. In each of those interviews, she spoke up with a heartfelt plea for Israel and Hadassah. She was also a stalwart at the rallies Hadassah co-sponsored with members from Eitz Chaim in Monroe. These rallies began in response to the atrocities of October 7th, and have been going on almost biweekly during the winter and weekly in good weather. They have been an inspiration in a time of despair, with people in cars waving and honking and passersby stopping to talk in support. We have

information about these events on the table and you are encouraged to join in, and ask Rochelle any questions about them!



Monroe Temple Beth-El- Natalie Browne

Natalie is a long-time resident of Orange County who grew up at Monroe Temple. She is not only a dedicated mother of two girls who currently attend religious school at Monroe Temple and the new Beit Sefer, in conjunction with Temple Beth Shalom, but she has also worked for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for many years.

She is a strong supporter of "reduce, reuse, recycle" and has helped the Temple with fundraising efforts through its community yard sale – which is coming up in 2 weeks! She also played a key role in the fundraising efforts of the joint religious school, Beit Sefer.

In addition, Natalie has planned and executed the Girl Scout Shabbat Service at Monroe Temple for several years, bringing in girls from local girl scout troops, promoting diversity, equity and inclusion as non-Jewish girls and their families attended services alongside their Jewish peers.



Monroe Temple Beth-El Sisterhood - Audrey Wolf

Audrey worked at NASA in Manhattan at Columbia University for almost 40 years. She retired from Columbia in 2019 and is now working part time at the Woodbury Public Library.

She has been a volunteer at Jewish Family Service for the past five years and a member of the Sisterhood board for two years. She has quickly learned the operations of the board, moving from a position as trustee to Recording Secretary after just one year. She has enabled the Board to remain on track through her dedicated role on the executive board and goes above and beyond to help out with various events.



Newburgh Jewish Community Center - Mona Rieger

Mona is a long-time member of Newburgh Jewish Community Center, Kol Yisrael, and Jewish Federation communities. Her volunteerism and support during annual events, fundraisers, and building improvement projects at the JCC have been unwavering, often taking on a time-consuming role for each program. She adds an air of elegance and thoughtfulness to every project that she participates in.



Temple Beth Jacob - [Ken Packer](#)

Ken has been a member of Temple Beth Jacob for 46 years. He has served on the Board of Trustees, has been the Head Usher, and is currently the Chairman of the Cemetery Committee, a position he has held for the last 17 years. Ken works with families to do end of life planning and counseling, oversees the upkeep of the temple's three cemetery locations, takes a lead role in Cemetery Fund Raising, insuring the financial stability of the Cemetery Fund which will make certain they have a forever beautiful sacred resting place for family and friends, and acts as the liaison between the Rabbi, the funeral home, and the family at the time of death and burial of a loved one.



Temple Beth Jacob Sisterhood - [Stacey Yerger](#)

Stacey has been a tireless volunteer for Temple Beth Jacob's Sisterhood. They benefit from her boundless ideas and creativity. In addition to shopping and cooking, Stacey's beautiful decorations highlight every event. Prior to her Sisterhood career Stacey served as a religious school teacher and is the immediate past-president of Temple Beth Jacob.

Temple Beth Shalom - [Melissa Kleinman](#)

When asked to join the Board and then re-up for a full-term Melissa said yes without hesitation. Her dedication to TBS is evident to everyone who works with her. Her youngest child will have his Bar Mitzvah in the next school year. Yes, that will make 4 B'nei Mitzvah from the Kleinman Family at TBS! TBS is grateful for Melissa for being a dedicated congregant and volunteer for their family of families!

Temple Beth Shalom Men's Club - [Rich Schwartz](#)

Rich is an active member of the Men's Club as far back as can be remembered! RHe is always a huge help with any event and willing to go the extra mile to make Men's Club outings special. When the prior men's club president became Co-President of the temple, Rich became Social Chair and never looked back! Attending, organizing, contributing...



Temple Beth Shalom Sisterhood - [Sharon Ball](#)

Sharon has always been an active member of the Sisterhood, attending all of events, participating and supporting the ladies.

At the beginning of each luncheon, dinner, or brunch Sharon leads the opening remarks, always finding the perfect poem, sayings, and prayers of gratitude and sisterhood.

She was only allowed to skip her duty once, and that was because she was meeting her grandson, Silas, for the first time. Sharon is also the media source in the TBS community to advertise meetings and events, and she makes sure all of the sisterhood's news gets into the monthly newsletter and included in the weekly email thread, even if you call very, very late the night before the email is set to go out!



Rabbi's Blog

This year, the minor fast day of the 17th of Tammuz is observed from dawn to nightfall on Sunday, July 13. A number of historical events either occurred on that day, or are attributed to it: Moshe's breaking of the Tablets, the breaching of the walls of Jerusalem leading to the destruction of both the first and second Temples on the 9th of Av, and the establishment of idolatry alongside the burning of a Torah scroll in the Beit Hamikdash (Temple), ostensibly during the Roman period.

Admittedly, far fewer Jews observe this fast day as compared to those who observe the "white" fast of Yom Kippur or the "black" fast of Tisha B'av. Fewer still are aware of its history. I am intrigued, however, by its symbolism, as well as its relevance for today.

Shiv'a Asar B'Tamuz (the 17th of Tamuz) is about minding the details and being prepared for what may inevitably come our way.



After Shavuot, we proceed on a spiritual high, having celebrated our receiving of the Torah. We learn, however, that absent diligence and constant mindfulness, complacency can be our downfall. One moment of weakness almost ended it for our ancestors— and for us.

The shattering of the Tablets, the profaning of the Beit Hamikdash (The Holy Temple), and the breach of the walls of our sacred city which led to two exiles, were all seminal events which, while perhaps inevitable in their original contexts, can certainly remind us to keep our eyes and ears open for those events, circumstances, and personalities which—overtly or covertly—can do us harm.

Shiv'a Asar B'Tamuz begins the Three Weeks; typically observed as a period of semi-mourning. For the 9 days preceding Tisha B'av, we traditionally continue the observance, but add an additional level of self-denial by forgoing the eating of meat meals (other than on Shabbat). This lengthy spiritual preparation for an occasion which recognizes tragedy and calamity is a wake-up call. There is no warning sign too subtle, benign, or seemingly innocuous that it can escape our attention. There is no amount of preparedness too little or unnecessary. Yet we shouldn't, and mustn't, live in fear. We can go on offence instead of constantly playing defense. With kindness, faith, open arms, and open hearts.

Imagine if Israel's faith had been so strong that the Golden Calf never existed.

Imagine if Babylon and Rome, instead of destroying Jerusalem and the Beit Hamikdash, had joined us to celebrate our holidays alongside us.

Imagine if instead of burning a Torah scroll, the Roman General Apostomos had learned to read it, or study it alongside our Sages.

Imagine a time, may it come soon, when our Midsummer Night's Dream will come true; that we will live without fear, in harmony with all humankind, in a world at peace.

Rabbi/Hazzan David B. Sislen
Temple Sinai, Middletown

We Gratefully Acknowledge Gifts Made To The Jewish Federation Of Greater Orange County By The Following Donors As Tributes for June '25

The following gifts were given on behalf of the Congregation Agudas Israel Volunteer of the Year, Todd Kelson by:

- ✧ Sharon Kelson and Family
- ✧ Rosalyn Portnoy
- ✧ Frank Wolf

The following gifts were given on behalf of the Jewish Family Service Volunteer of the Year, Claire Caspe by:

- ✧ Susan Barone and Family
- ✧ Barbara and Robert Fromowitz
- ✧ Joan Ostrer

The following gifts were given on behalf of the Congregation Beth Hillel/Walden JCC Volunteer of the Year, Anne Klingner by:

- ✧ Jane Friedland
- ✧ Marjorie and Harry Sweet

The following gifts were given on behalf of the Congregation Eitz Chaim Volunteer of the Year, Michael Schack by:

- ✧ Barbara and Robert Fromowitz
- ✧ Joan Ostrer

The following gifts were given on behalf of the Congregation Eitz Chaim Volunteer of the Year, Karen Fischer by:

- ✧ Barbara and Robert Fromowitz
- ✧ Joan Ostrer

The following gifts were given on behalf of the Congregation Eitz Chaim Sisterhood (MWJCC) Volunteer of the Year, Rita Wincott by:

- ✧ Barbara and Robert Fromowitz
- ✧ Joan Ostrer

The following gifts were given on behalf of Monroe Hadassah Volunteer of the Year, Rochelle Marshall by:

- ✧ Daryl Bailin
- ✧ Roslyn D'Onofrio
- ✧ Barbara and Robert Fromowitz

The following gift was given on behalf of Temple Beth Jacob Sisterhood Volunteer of the Year, Stacey Yerger by Susan and Leon Notar

The following gift was given on behalf of Monroe Temple Beth-El Sisterhood Volunteer of the Year, Audrey Wolf by Robin Rosenberg and Craig Wernick.

The following gift was given on behalf of Monroe Temple Beth-El Volunteer of the Year, Natalie Brown by Robin Rosenberg and Craig Wernick.

A gift was made through our HV Gives Campaign, in memory of Geri Wassell by Gail Rivkin.

A gift was made through our HV Gives Campaign, in memory of Mimi and Sheldon Ocko by Stacey Ocko Lulkin and Stuart Lulkin.

A gift was made through our HV Gives Campaign, in memory of Karen Cooper by Loretta Trinco.

A gift was made through our HV Gives Campaign, in honor of the Beit Sefer Community, and all of the wonderful leaders, teachers, parents and students, by Jessica and Scott Lewis.



Thank you to the following donors for helping make out First Year of HV Gives Campaign a success. We are looking forward to being a part of Hudson Valley Give Campaign again in May 2026.

Paula and Eric Blumenau
Betty Grossman
Lisa Klein
Gwen Lerman
Jessica Lewis



Taryn Lorlano
Stacey Ocko Lulkin and Stuart Lulkin
Gail Rivkin
Loretta Trinco
Tatricia Wiley

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Scholarship Recipient, Chelsea Rein

My NFTY GER-PARSpring Kallah Experience

By Chelsea Rein

In March 2024 I attended the NFTY GER-PAR Spring Kallah at Camp Harlem in Kunkletown, PA. I attended with my cousin Alexa who is the same age as me and from Pennsylvania. During the weekend, we participated in different activities. We attended leadership programs, sang and danced in a talent show. We also played dodgeball and other sports. We attended Shabbat services, and sang songs. I liked connecting with other Jewish teens from different regions. This was the first time my cousin Alexa attended a NFTY event. It was fun to attend together. I made many fun memories. I want to thank the Jewish Federation for helping me to attend this wonderful event.

JFS Friendly Visitor Program register for the training or for more information about services available for older neighbors throughout Orange County call or email | 845-341-1173 | volunteer@jfsorange.org



JFS JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE OF ORANGE COUNTY

WE ARE HIRING

JOB POSITIONS:

- ✓ LCSW-R
- ✓ Case Manager
- ✓ Municipality Case Manager/Financial Empowerment Coordinator/HVCC Screener

Our doors are open to the entire community

SUBMIT YOUR RESUME:

☎ (845) 341-1173 x307

✉ nronsini@jfsorange.org

📍 720 Route 17M, Middletown, NY 10940

APPLY NOW

JFS Jewish Family Service of Orange County, Inc.
Our doors are open to the entire community.

DONATE NOW

Help JFS recognize Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, by collecting items for Holocaust Survivors in Orange County.

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

- Toilet paper & paper towels
- Garbage bags
- Sanitizing wipes
- Storage bags-all sizes
- New storage containers
- Paper plates, cups & napkins
- Cleaning supplies
- Sponges and rags
- Laundry detergent & bleach

SURVIVOR SUPPORT

JFS of Orange County supports Holocaust Survivors with home health care aides, cleaning assistance, socialization, transportation, food security, financial assistance.

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Bar Soap
- Liquid soap
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Moisturizer
- Hand cream
- Tooth brushes
- Personal care wipes

Store gift cards are accepted

To donate: ☎ 845-341-1173 x 306 or email ✉ slulkin@jfsorange.org

For more information about JFS visit our website jfsorange.org

Join Us and Make a Difference!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Are you passionate about contributing to your community? Here's your chance to make a meaningful impact! We are seeking dedicated volunteers to join our Senior Independence Program and support neighbors over 60 throughout Orange County.

Opportunities Available:

- Transportation, local & essential
- Grocery shopping help
- Visits and phone calls

TRAINING JULY 17 OR 31, 2025

JOIN US! ☎ CALL FOR DETAILS 845-341-1173 x306

JFS Jewish Family Service of Orange County

Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County

NVCN National Volunteer Center

ORANGE COUNTY Division of Community Development

GIFT OF LIFE MARROW REGISTRY | TOGETHER WE ARE HELPING TO SAVE LIVES!

WOO HOO!! Match #142! It's time for another happy dance!!

Gift of Life Marrow Registry believes every person battling blood cancers, and a hundred other diseases, deserves a second chance at life — and we are determined to help make it happen. Many of our donors have been found as a result of the swabbing drives we have held on local college campuses, in fitness centers, and at festivals and events. Visitors to our swabbing tables are able to join the registry on the spot with a quick swipe inside their own cheeks with a cotton swab. Every donor who joins the registry has the potential to save someone's life

If you are available to help out at a donor recruitment drive, even for a couple of hours, please contact Sherrill Lazarus smlazarus@yahoo.com or Gail Oliver gailao777@aol.com You can request a swabbing kit at home, www.giftoflife.org.

Upcoming Swabbing Drives:

- Thursday, July 3 | 6pm- Community Day-Algonquin Park, Newburgh
- Wednesday, July 9 | 6:30pm -The Hudson Valley Renegades Jewish Heritage Night, Heritage Financial Park, Wappingers Falls
- Sunday, August 17 | 10am-2pm -Federation Funday: A Day of Community, Thomas Bull Memorial Park, 211 NY-RT416, Montgomery
- Tuesday, September 9 | 10am-2pm SUNY Orange Middletown -Rowley Center, 1st floor lobby-115 south St, Middletown
- Tuesday, September 16 | 10am-2pm -SUNY Orange Newburgh, Kaplan Hall, Grand Street Lobby- One Washington Center, Newburgh

GIFT OF LIFE

Looking for a way to make a difference in the local Jewish community?

The Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County has a place for you!

Share your passion for the Jewish community with us!
Join a committee, volunteer, help fundraise

Support Jewish families

Scholarships!
For Jewish children residing in Orange County, NY
Jewish summer camp
Trips to Israel
Religious school tuition
Other Jewish experiences

Help educate on antisemitism
ZACHOR
זכור
NEVER FORGET

Support ideas for unique programs
Microgrants
for programs that:
Build Jewish community
Address a social justice issue from a Jewish lens
Create new Jewish educational experiences

Connect to the greater community
Community Relations Council
Connect our Jewish community with Interfaith Communities
Intra-faith Concerns
Elected Officials

Free books & events for Jewish children thru age 13
PJ Library **PJ OUR WAY.**

To learn more, contact Wendy:
Director@JewishOrangeNY.org
845.562.7860

Jewish Federation
of Greater Orange County
Building Our Jewish Community Together

HAVE AN IDEA?

Jewish in Orange County Micro-Grants

A Micro-Grant can foster new ideas in the Orange County Jewish community bringing us together, connecting us with a positive impact and helping the community learn and grow together.

Apply Today at
www.jewishorangeny.org/jewish-life/microgrants
or Use the QR Code



The Jewish Federation
OF GREATER ORANGE COUNTY
Building Our Jewish Community Together

First Fridays
B'nai Torah Shul
14 Lakes Rd,
GWL, NY

July 11th Shabbat Potluck!

Bring a Kosher Dairy Dish
RSVP: beaabloom@gmail.com

**Light the Candles
Sip the Wine
Break the Bread**

6:30PM Potluck
7:40PM Service

bnaitorahgw.org

MONROE TEMPLE'S FILM SOCIETY PRESENTS:

DISOBEDIENCE

Synopsis: New York photographer Ronit flies to London after learning about the death of her estranged father. Ronit is returning to the same Orthodox Jewish community that shunned her decades earlier for her childhood attraction to Esti, a female friend. Their fortuitous and happy reunion soon reignites their burning passion as the two women explore the boundaries of faith and sexuality.

This piece is available on Kanopy, Hoopla & Amazon Prime

**Wednesday
July 16th, 7:30pm**

If you are interested in joining our discussion please email Steve Block at freebank51@gmail.com.
A link to the zoom session will be sent a few days prior to the discussion



CAI
CONGREGATION AGUDAS ISRAEL
NEWBURGH, NEW YORK

Summer Shabbat Service for Families

**July 18th
5:30pm-6pm**

Join us for a special Shabbat service uniquely designed for families with children.

All are welcome, but we do kindly require registration

Please address any questions to
info@congregationagudasisrael.org



TBJ BBQ & Swim Party

12:30pm on Saturday, July 19 at the home of Ken & Carol Packer.

\$10 per person. Bring a towel, a lounge chair, suntan lotion, dessert and enjoy the fun.


RSVP by Monday, July 14.

2025 MONDAY, JULY 14

**SPONSORSHIPS STILL AVAILABLE
GOLFER REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**



OSIRIS COUNTRY CLUB | WALDEN, NY | VISIT NEWBURGHJCC.ORG TO REGISTER



Do Good that Goes Everywhere

Through Federation, You Can Do Good That Goes Everywhere
[DONATE NOW](#)

While you're reading this, your gift is impacting Jewish lives around the world. From North America to Ukraine to Israel and across 70 other countries - your gift impacts lives around the world.

Stay connected with us through our monthly **We Are One** and our **Weekly We Are One Newsletter E-Blast** (sign up by emailing office@jewishorangeny.org or Call 845.562.7860 -provide your email address), or online at Jewishorangeny.org.

Follow us on Instagram at **JFedOC_NY** or Facebook at **Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County, NY**

WE STAND WITH ISRAEL
NOW AND ALWAYS

Donations for Israel or your local Federation
If you would like to help, please donate to the Swords of Iron Israel Relief Fund here:
jfeds.org/israelfund2023 (or scan the QR code)



Or your local Jewish Federation at:
jewishorangeny.org/donate (or scan the QR code)



Alex Solomon Parents/Grandparents Bereavement Support Group



If you have lost a child or grandchild,
no matter what age or when,
come to find and share support.

A safe space - no politics, opinions, or controversy
Nondenominational
Open to the entire community

Sponsored by Congregation Agudas Israel
Meeting at the Kol Yisrael Campus
290 North Street, Newburgh, NY 12550

NEW DATE & TIME!

July 20 | 9:30am

August 10 | 11am

For more information:
AlexSolomonGriefGroup@CongregationAgudasIsrael.org

Getting Grounded in Israel and Zionism



Getting Grounded in Israel & Zionism

Jewish Federations' self-paced course, *Getting Grounded in Israel & Zionism*, offers a thoughtful foundation for anyone looking to better understand Israel today. Led by Rabbi Mike Uram, the course explores key historical events, essential concepts, and the complex issues at the heart of Zionism—equipping you to engage in more informed and meaningful conversations.

More info here: www.jewishfederations.org/getting-grounded



AUGUST 22ND Outdoor Shabbat | 5:30 PM

Join us for a beautiful outdoor experience with food, drinks, live music, and kids' crafts, followed by a joint service. RSVP online at newburghjcc.org
\$18 per adult | \$10 per child | \$50 per family of four



Let's meet in support of Israel & to bring our hostages home in good health!
Sundays 12-2PM. Corner of Lakes St & 17th Monroe
Please call Rochelle 845-783-2495
for more info & to confirm dates



Top Photos Courtesy of Lester Millman | Bottom Photos Courtesy of Judy Ronay



Temple Beth Jacob Jewish Heritage Tour of SPAIN & MOROCCO

Led by Rabbi Douglas Kohn

October 26 - November 6, 2025

Jewish history in Spain is filled with contradictions. There is tragedy here, but also former glory: largescale Jewish communities that prospered in the 1,000 years before the Inquisition. We will delve into the past and reach out to the nascent Jewish communities of today to hear their struggles and their successes. In Morocco, we'll explore the ancient Jewish communities, meander through the medinas, savor the spices and flavors of the local cuisine, and soak up the culture from Marrakech to Casablanca and beyond!

ON OUR JOURNEY WE WILL:

- Discover Madrid's Royal Palace, Puerta del Sol, Plaza Mayor and world-famous Prado Museum
- Visit the Grand Toledo Cathedral, the El Greco House and the Transito Synagogue in the Imperial City of Toledo
- Explore the old Jewish quarter of Seville, tour the city and visit the Moorish Alcazar Palace
- Step back in Jewish history in Cordoba, with visits to the synagogue, "La Juderia" (the Jewry) and Casa de Sefarad
- Bring to light the glory of Moroccan Jewry from past to present
- Experience the different lifestyles and cultures of Moroccans in urban and rural communities dotting the landscape
- Savor the flavors of Morocco with a taste of local delicacies at the bustling marketplaces
- Explore the mellahs (Jewish quarters) of Marrakech and Casablanca, once home to brilliant scholars, poets and innovators

and so much more!!

Learn more about this amazing trip at
secure.ayelet.com/KohnSpain2025.aspx

PRICING CHART (Based on double occupancy)	CHECK/CASH PRICE	CREDIT CARD PRICE
LAND TOUR	\$5,715	\$5,886
Add for Single Supplement	\$1,700	\$1,750

Tap on the flyer to learn more!

Ayelet Tours, Ltd. 800.237.1517 | www.ayelet.com

Monroe Temple Journey to ISRAEL

Led by Rabbi Roger Lerner

February 12-22, 2026

Israel is a land of connections and reconnections, of first-time discoveries and returning for rediscovery and new adventures. Traveling together as a community, we will bond through engaging and enjoyable shared experiences and deepen our understanding of culture and archaeology, religion and politics, the ancient and the modern, as we explore Israel's millennia-old legacy as the heart of the Jewish people.

ON OUR JOURNEY WE WILL:

- Discover the magic of Israel from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv and beyond
- Ascend the imposing mountain of Masada and float in the healing waters of the Dead Sea
- Bear witness to the realities of Israel after October 7th and engage in discussions and debriefings about the current state of Israel and the future outlook of the country
- Experience the magic and wonder of the City of Gold, on an Old City walking tour in Jerusalem
- Explore the Golan Heights by jeep and delight in a hands-on chocolate workshop

and so much more!

Learn more about this amazing trip at
secure.ayelet.com/LernerIsrael2026.aspx

PRICING CHART (Based on double occupancy)	CHECK/CASH PRICE	CREDIT CARD PRICE
LAND TOUR	\$5,279	\$5,442
ADD FOR SINGLE OCCUPANCY	\$1,749	\$1,799

Save \$400 per person in a triple (one person must be under 12 years old).

Tap on the flyer to learn more!

Ayelet Tours, Ltd. 800.237.1517 | www.ayelet.com