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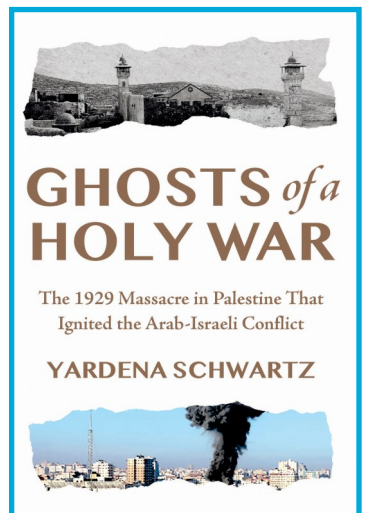
The following was adapted from a speech to the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County by Yardena Schwartz, award-winning journalist and bestselling author of “Ghosts of a Holy War: The 1929 Massacre in Palestine that Ignited the Arab-Israeli Conflict”:

It's fitting that I'm speaking to you one month after a man who opposes the existence of a Jewish state was elected mayor of New York City. For when an estimated third of New York City Jews are willing to vote for such a man, it is clear that American Jewry is facing an existential crisis. At the heart of this crisis lies a profound lack of knowledge of our own history—a vacuum that has allowed misinformation and distorted facts to take hold.




The more you know about the roots of this conflict, and how we arrived at this tragic moment in our history, the more empowered you will be – not only to be immune to these distortions but more importantly, to counter them.

Ever since October 7th, Israel's critics have argued that there was “context” to Hamas's massacre. They were right. Only their context was all wrong.

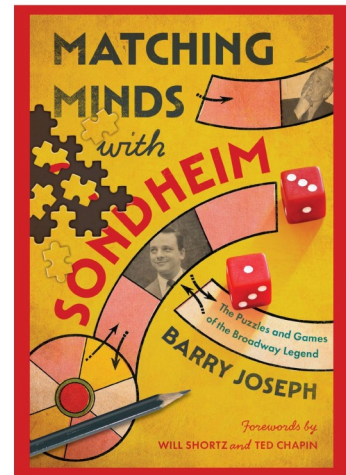
This did not begin in 1948, 1967, or with the blockade of Gaza after Hamas took power. The roots of October 7th go back a century. Two decades before the State of Israel was born, the ancient Jewish community of Hebron—in what was then British Mandate Palestine—suffered a massacre that was hauntingly similar. On August 24, 1929, the second holiest city in Judaism was transformed into a slaughterhouse. That morning, thousands of Arab men armed with swords, axes, and daggers marched through the



(Continued on page 5)


  

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Editor: Karen Hochhauser
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What is Jewish Family Services (JFS)?

- ♦ Creating a senior social network through Learn & Lunch Bunch bi-monthly gatherings.
- ♦ Connecting and celebrating our seniors with holiday gift packages.
- ♦ Helping those in need through Mitzvah Day and Mitzvah Now initiatives.
- ♦ Scholarships for Jewish education, Jewish summer camps, and youth trips to Israel.
- ♦ Medical Loan Referral closet—providing medical equipment (free of charge) and referrals to other local medical loan closets.
- ♦ Assisting during a personal or family crisis.
- ♦ Weekly bereavement group.

LEARN & LUNCH BUNCH

JFS presents cultural, social, and educational programs.

Location

Temple Beth-El
118 S Grand Ave
Poughkeepsie NY

SCHEDULE

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

January 14

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

Learn & Lunch Bunch is partially funded by the Ann & Abe Effron Fund and Bernard and Shirley Handel Foundation Donor Advised Fund of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley

WEDNESDAY PROGRAMS Join us!

MEETING LOCATION

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

Join Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh, Senior Rabbi at Vassar Temple for a presentation on New Beginnings and the Jewish Calendar.

The Jewish calendar is beautiful, cyclical guide to living with Intention. It carries us through spiritual highs and lows, offering festivals the lift us up and moments that invite us to sit gently with what it means to be human—always grounded in community.

During our time together we’ll explore the holidays you know and love, along with others that may be less familiar, to understand the full sweep of how Judaism marks sacred time. Together, we’ll consider how these rhythms can shape our own lives with meaning and purpose. Looking forward to learning with you all as we begin 2026 with curiosity, reflection, and renewed intention.

Menu: Minestrone soup, noodle kugel, GF noodle kugel, tossed salad, cookies.

The Ten Warning Signs of Alzheimer’s Disease, presented by Joan Carl, Senior Community Engagement Manager, Alzheimer’s Association, Dutchess County Chapter.

Menu: Bagels, cream cheese, lox, tuna salad, tossed salad, ice cream bars, and cookies.

*Gluten free options available upon request in advance
* Menu is subject to change

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

****Advanced registration needed for food planning purposes****

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ANCIENT VOICES TELL THEIR VERSION

By Stephen Lee Crane



SUNDAY, JANUARY 25 | 2PM

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The Harding Club

For A Happier 2026



Now is the time when people are often ablaze with ideas for changing their lives. These resolutions, for the coming months, involve commitments to exercise more, work less, start a new hobby, or hundreds of other shifts.

Sadly, academic researchers find that most people, for any number of reasons, are unable to realize these goals.

Fortunately, there's one resolution that's easy to execute, leads to new friendships, and creates a happier life: Join the Harding Club.

Life is more fun when it's shared with friends. The Harding Club is a Jewish men's social club, located in the Poughkeepsie community. The Club is a place to make new friendships and expand existing friendships.

The Club, founded during the Harding Administration, has flourished for over 100 years. We believe the long life of our club reflects the lasting happiness achieved by enabling new, and deeper, friendships among Jewish men.

Harding Club meetings take place once or twice a month, for dinner or lunch, at a local eatery. Each meeting mixes socializing and camaraderie; with speakers who address timely topics across the spectrum of life, including business, the arts, recreation, health, money management, politics and history.

If you would like to join our circle of friends, we are resolved and excited to welcome you!

To learn more, contact one of the Club Officers below:
Irvin Miller, president, irvinmmiller@gmail.com
Jim Thrasher, vice president, jdt845@gmail.com
Dave Lowitz, secretary, dlowitz@aol.com



An Important Message for Our Readers

Over the years, readers have shared how valuable *The Voice* is to them. Throughout the year, your local Jewish newspaper shares positive stories and fosters connections - all the more important during this time of conflict in Israel and growing antisemitism in the US and around the world.

For more than 30 years, *The Voice* has been delivered to you free of charge by depending on Federation campaign funds and advertising to cover the editorial, printing, delivery, and other costs of producing your paper. **Due to popular demand, we are printing more copies of each issue and printing costs have escalated in recent years.** Your support will allow us to reach more people wishing to connect with all our Jewish community offers to full-time residents, part-time residents, and the many Jewish tourists who visit Dutchess County each year.

We need your help to remain a viable local news and information source in the future. Please consider becoming a voluntary subscriber to *The Voice*. A voluntary subscription **at any level** helps defray costs and supports our efforts to share relevant and positive news, events, and ideas from across the Dutchess County and throughout the Jewish world

To donate: www.jewishdutchess.org/donate or scan the QR Code:



Sojourner Truth School food delivery from the Harding Club.

(Pictured L to R)

Alan Fox, Ellen Stern, Victor Stern, Gene Fleishman, and Richard Levine

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grief support group

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Jewish Family Services

Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

WHO CAN BENEFIT FROM A GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP
Submitted by Judy Elkin LMSW, Grief Therapist, Foundation for Religion and Mental Health, Poughkeepsie

Reactions to the loss of a loved one, especially a spouse or partner, affect virtually every aspect of life for the person who is grieving. Bereavement support groups are helpful because they provide a safe and non-judgmental environment in which, over time, members can work through their grief. Support groups provide community at a time of great loneliness, mutual aid, information and validation (that what they are experiencing is normal), all crucial during this painful and chaotic time.

If a person is comfortable in a small group, or is willing to come for several times to try it out, there's a good chance he/she will feel welcome and appreciate that the other members share similar struggles.

Examples of group rules, intended to contribute to a member's sense of safety, are that no one has to speak if they don't choose to, and what is said is not to be repeated outside the group.

Ours is an open, ongoing group, meaning that we are always welcoming new members and existing members can leave when they feel ready.

The only people who might not do well in the group are those in the first eeks/months after a death and are still in shock. It is only when that initial shock wears off and they are beginning to accept the reality of their loss that the group will be of value.

WHY A JEWISH SUPPORT GROUP?

As Jews, we are commanded to comfort the afflicted. Exodus XXII:21-22: "Ye shall not afflict any widow or fatherless child. If you afflict them in any wise - for if they cry at all to Me, I will surely hear their cry."

At a time of spiritual crisis, it's comforting to be with people who have common roots and rituals such as shiva, burial and unveiling. Additionally, our group is the only one that we know of in Dutchess County for the Jewish community. There are many churches that have grief support groups (many lay led) for their parishioners.

We're proud of our support group, sponsored by our Dutchess County Jewish Federation, which has served many members of our community during a very difficult time in their lives. That's why we're here.

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

	ISSUE	DEADLINE
VOICE DEADLINES		
Note deadlines listed.	February	January 1
Email:	March	February 1
TheVoice@JewishDutchess.org	April	March 1
if you have questions.	May	April 1

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Page 3 Wm. G. Miller & Sons Funeral Home, Inc., David Feinstein Berkshire Hathaway Home Services,, B Riley Wealth, Optique Elegance, Red Cap Cleaners, Michael Torsone Memorial Funeral Home, and PAZ.

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Rabbi’s Blog by Rabbi Josh Boettiger

On Abundance

Even if there is nothing especially Jewish about 2026, or about this way of counting years or measuring; even if we in the Jewish community often seem quick to downplay the turning of the secular year in relationship to Rosh Hashanah or our other internal ways of marking time – still, there’s something to the feeling of a new year. And if the Mishnah tells us we have multiple new years in Judaism – including the new year for the trees, for kings and festivals, for animal tithes – then surely we can make room for this shared new year we share with many beings across the world.

When the new beginning of January 1st announced itself this year, we were reading the ending of the book of Genesis. Much of that parasha was devoted to Jacob blessing Joseph’s two sons and his own twelve sons, and no doubt there are multiple gems in here that can be framed as a blessing for all of us collectively at this moment of the year’s turning. This is part of the blessing given to Judah, for instance:

He tethers his donkey to a vine,
His donkey’s foal to a choice vine;
He washes his garment in wine,
His robe in blood of grapes.
His eyes are darker than wine;
His teeth are whiter than milk.

Ibn Ezra understands this as meaning that the land will produce an abundance of wine and milk – more than enough. Judah will have so much wine that his eyes will be red and he’ll wash his clothes in wine vats rather than in water. He will have so much milk that his teeth will turn extra white. There will be enough, more than enough even.

I love these hyperbolic images and they put me in mind of some of the conversations happening these days – on a political level, what is called ‘the abundance movement’ aims to facilitate the coming into being of more essential resources like housing, public works, and clean energy. In some ways it’s a recognition that there is inherently enough to go around if we can remove the obstacles we have gotten used to and have come to think of as inevitable that get in the way of our creating these resources as a society. In some ways this fits with the journey of the Israelites over the course of Genesis – a journey from a scarcity mindset (limited amount of blessing to go around – enough for only one child in a family) to one of abundance, which we begin to see with the reconciliation of Joseph and his brothers. But surely this is a journey we are still on – to cultivate this mindset and to put it into action. May 2026 help us access the blessings of Judah, and may we share such abundance far and wide.



Rabbi Boettiger

Meet Your Neighbor by Karen Hochhauser

Each month, we ask a Member of the Tribe* (MOT) the following questions and feature their answers for a fun and insightful way to meet your neighbors. This month, we are excited to introduce Claire Schuschny who took time from a “very busy and occupied schedule” to answer our questions.

- What is your favorite/least favorite word?**
Favorite: *Friendship.*
Least Favorite: *War.*
- What inspires you?** *My family. My daughter. Music—always classical music.*
- What is your favorite song?**
A French song “Les Feuilles Mortes” (“The Dying Leaves”)
- What profession other than you own would you like to attempt?**
To be an opera singer.
- What profession other than your own would you not like to attempt?** *Soldier.*
- What do you most like and dislike about yourself?**
Like: *I like to think that I am a good friend and I like to help people.*
Dislike: *Sometimes I am too anxious.*
- What is your favorite Jewish food/dessert?** *Matzah ball soup and latkes.*
- What is one interesting thing that people don’t know about you?**
I am a Holocaust survivor.
- If you could choose a superpower, what would it be?** *If we could have seen what the Nazis were going to do, we could have taken action differently and earlier. Unfortunately, we did not have Israel at that time.*
- What is your greatest achievement/something you are most proud of?** *My daughter.*
- Do you have a “bucket list” and, if so, what is on it?**
I'm too old for that already. I would like to have traveled to Spain but I am too old.
- If there were one thing you would hope others do in the interest of our future, what would that be?**
To have more friendship amongst people.
- What is your earliest Jewish memory?**
I was only 6 years old when the war started. Before that I remember my Grandmother making chicken soup.
- What is your most favorite Jewish memory?**
The birth of Israel in 1948.
- In what ways, does or can JFedDC impact our Jewish community?**
To teach the young people about the Holocaust deeper and to understand each other.
- If Heaven exists, what would you like to hear God say when you arrive at the Pearly Gates?**
I would like to ask instead, “Where were you during the Holocaust?” There was no one to help. It was like he forgot us.



Claire Schuschny

*Member of the Tribe

(Ghosts of a Holy War Continued from page 1)

Jewish quarter, breaking into homes and stabbing, torturing, raping and castrating their unarmed victims. The brutality of that day was indiscriminate. Infants were slaughtered in their mothers’ arms. Children watched as their parents were butchered by their neighbors. Elderly rabbis and yeshiva students were mutilated. Ancient synagogues were looted and destroyed. Within about three hours, 67 Jewish men, women, and children were murdered and dozens wounded. More shocking than the atrocities was the intimacy of the violence. Many victims knew their assailants by name. Many of the rioters were their neighbors, coworkers, landlords, and people they had considered friends. The massacre of 1929 became ground zero of a century-long holy war. It ended generations of peaceful coexistence in the City of Abraham, burial place of the patriarch of both the Jewish and Arab people. Until that day, Muslims and Jews had lived harmoniously together in Hebron. This is when that harmony ended, and the reality we know today began.

The Hebron massacre did not occur by chance. It was the result of a calculated campaign of fear and disinformation initiated by Haj Amin Al-Husseini, the British-appointed Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, the most powerful Arab leader under the British Mandate. To distract from accusations of corruption and to consolidate his power, Husseini weaponized Islam. Beginning in 1928, he worked to convince his people that the Jews of Palestine were working to conquer Al-Aqsa Mosque. The third holiest site in Islam, and the most sacred Islamic shrine in Palestine, Al-Aqsa sits atop the Temple Mount, site of the ancient Jewish temples. Under Muslim rule, the Temple Mount was off limits to Jews. The closest place they were permitted to pray was the Western Wall, the last remnant of the Second Temple’s retaining walls.


Husseini not only worked to limit Jewish access to the Western Wall, but insisted that Jews who worshipped there were actually plotting to conquer Al-Aqsa to rebuild their ancient temple. His campaign reached a fever pitch in August 1929, when imams called on the faithful to "defend Islam with their blood" based on false reports that Jews had attacked Muslim men, raped Muslim women and cursed the Prophet Muhammad. The truth had become irrelevant after a year of propaganda. Husseini’s blueprint is still at work today. It is no coincidence that Hamas named its attack on October 7th “The Al-Aqsa Flood.” Hamas inherited the Mufti’s strategy of presenting mass murder as a defensive holy war for Al-Aqsa. Much like the rioters of 1929 praised Allah as they slaughtered unarmed men, women, and children, so did Palestinians on October 7th in footage they themselves posted on social media.

The riots of 1929 reached every city in Palestine. Yet the Jews of Hebron – a haven of coexistence - paid the heaviest price, suffering more brutality and more casualties than any other Jewish community. Jewish leaders of Hebron rejected repeated offers of protection from the Haganah, the underground Jewish defense force that would later become the IDF. When members of the Haganah visited Hebron in the days before the riots erupted, they were swiftly told to leave. Our Arab neighbors are our friends, the Jewish leaders of Hebron insisted. They did not believe - or want to believe - that their neighbors would turn on them. After all, the Jews of Hebron in 1929 were not Zionists building the foundations of a Jewish state. They were pious Jews living a quiet existence centered around the Torah. That the massacre did happen there was a turning point for Zionism and the conflict itself. In 1929, Zionism was not a mainstream Jewish value. Many religious Jews, including those in Hebron, disdained the young movement as a secular contamination of Judaism. They believed that the return of the Jewish masses to the Land of Israel could only be achieved through the will of God, and the arrival of the Massiah. Many secular American Jews also rejected Zionism. They feared it could threaten their fragile place in American society. That opposition to Zionism was challenged by the Hebron massacre, which epitomized the tragedy of the stateless, powerless Jew. Tens of thousands of Jews had just returned to their homeland to escape the pogroms of Europe. The pogrom that followed them to the city of their forefathers was both devastating and galvanizing. One of the lasting lessons of 1929 was the absolute failure of the British authorities to protect the Jewish population. Leading up to and during the riots, British forces proved either incapable or unwilling to intervene for fear of provoking further Arab violence. In Hebron, Jewish survivors

(Continued on page 8)

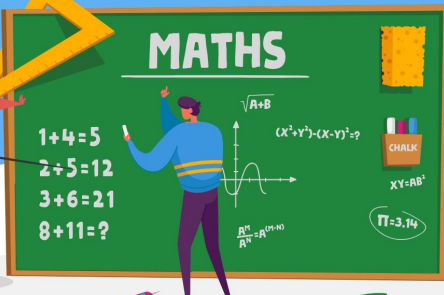
Shabbat Y’Ladim (Children’s Shabbat)

All young children from tots to first grade are invited to Vassar Temple to welcome the Sabbath Saturday, January 17, 10:30am. We’ll also learn about Tu B’Shevat, the birthday of the trees, and celebrate with a round of rollicking songs by Rabbi Jeff. Tell your friends and neighbors—this event is free and open to the whole community. Vassar Temple is welcoming, inclusive Reform congregation. For more information and to RSVP, contact office@vassartemple.org or call the Temple (845) 454-2570.



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3.3.2026
Temple Beth-El
118 S Grand Ave Poughkeepsie





RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

BEACON HEBREW ALLIANCE

Friday afternoons, ages 9-13 years
Sunday mornings, ages 5-13 years
311 Verplanck Ave, Beacon
Contact celia@beaconhebrewalliance.org

Led by Education Director, Celia Baczkowski—Masa is filled with joyful Jewish experiences, including song, dance, art, food, field trips, and more!

CHABAD MID-HUDSON VALLEY

Sunday, 10:00am-12:15pm, ages 5-12 years
63 Vassar Rd, Poughkeepsie
For information contact Hindy Borenstein, Director (845) 463-5801
chabadmidhudsonvl@prodigy.net

CONGREGATION SHIR CHADASH

A Progressive Jewish program teaching children, adults, and entire families, based on the tenets of Reform Judaism. We welcome all families in an experiential setting.
Please call (845) 232-1029 or email info@shir-chadash.org for more information and details.
yp@shir-chadash.org

PARDESS HEBREW SCHOOL

Sunday, 10:00am-12:00pm
For information
www.mypardess.org/hebrewschool

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

KULANU SCHOOL at TEMPLE BETH-EL

The Kulanu school welcomes all students who wish to learn Hebrew and deepen their knowledge of Jewish Tradition. We believe that Jewish learning should be an organic part of our students’ experience. Our students explore religious and spiritual concepts through Hebrew texts. They also celebrate Shabbat and holidays together while extending their connection to Jewish culture through art, cooking, music, and movement.

Jewish Studies classes: Pre-K through grade 7
Sundays from 10:00am –12:30pm (September – December)
Saturdays from 10:00am-12:30pm (January—April) followed by a community Shabbat lunch.
Fridays from 5:00pm—7:30pm (May) includes a Shabbat dinner

Ivrit (Hebrew): Grades 3-7
Tuesdays 4:45pm—6:15pm

Ivrit (Hebrew) Tutoring: Grades 3-7
Students receive 20-30 minutes of online instruction with their teacher individually or in groups of two.

For more information contact Karen Jacobs at:
education@tbeny.org

VASSAR TEMPLE

Vassar Temple provides a program of education within the guidelines of the Reform Movement, which deepens a students Jewish experience and knowledge within an accepting, stimulating, and creative learning environment. Our philosophy of Jewish learning is based on the quotation from Pirke Avot, “The world depends on three things: on Torah, on worship, and on deeds of loving kindness.”

The Seth A Erlebacher Religious School for grades K-7 meets Sunday mornings under the administration of Rabbi Shoshana Hantman, our Religious School Director. Hebrew language instruction for grades 4-7 and bar/bat mitzvah preparation are offered Wednesday afternoons for grades 4-7 under the direction of Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh. Teens may work as madrichim (teachers aides) in the Sunday School. New enrollments are welcome throughout the year.

For more information,
rsdirector@vassartemple.org (845) 454-2570

חורף

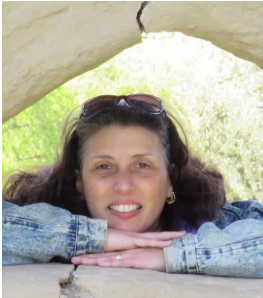
Winter Choref



Tamatha



Suzanne



Here’s a craft from www.brainybeginningsnetwork.com, creating hot chocolate pop art!

Gather:

- Cardboard
- Cardstock in 4 bright fun, contrasting colors plus white
- Scissors
- Glue stick
- Cotton balls
- Pencil



Create:

1. Cut a piece of cardboard to your size and shape preference.
2. Use two of the pieces of paper to create your mug. Use your pencil to draw the shape of the mug on one side of your paper. Think upside down 'C'. Add a base, make it wider at the top or taper it inward. This is entirely up to you!
3. Lay both colors on top of each other and cut out the mug drawing.
4. Take one of the mugs and cut it into strips. Glue half of those strips onto the other mug.
5. Use the same two colors to create a handle. Overlap them slightly, leaving each color exposed. Glue them together and on to the mug. Set aside.
6. Create the background of your art. Grab the other two pieces of paper and fold them in half. Now fold them in half the other direction. Cut along the creases to create four rectangular pieces from one sheet of paper. You should have 8 total pieces at this point.
7. Cut each piece on the diagonal from corner to corner.
8. Alternating colors, glue them onto the cardboard backing. Be sure each piece comes to the center and covers the cardboard entirely. You may need to lay the pieces in different directions as you go. Continue around the cardboard until you have covered it. Turn the piece over and trim the excess paper from the cardboard.
9. Glue the mug to the middle of the paper. Use the white paper to create undulating melted marshmallow goo. Glue on to the top of the mug.
10. Use white glue or hot glue to add the fluffy marshmallows! Make several pieces, using different colors each time!

Enjoy the collection!

Jumping Into January by Tamatha Williams, PJ Library Director

Before I began writing this article, my thoughts were on the Community Hanukkah Party that had to be cancelled last month due to a winter weather storm. As I talked to my young daughter, she used the word disappointed to describe how she felt missing out on the celebration. Indeed, we both felt disappointed. This feeling prompted me to reflect upon the significance of celebrating as a community.

December is often hectic for families and for mine it was no different. Two of my children have December birthdays in addition to celebrating Hanukkah and incorporating Christmas. In fact, the weekend of the scheduled Hanukkah party also included my daughter’s birthday party and a family holiday celebration. While there was plenty of celebrating, I missed seeing tables sprinkled with dreidels and gelt and the smiling faces of children over-indulging their doughnuts with decorations. I missed hearing a room filled with familiar, joyful Hanukkah songs. I missed the light, the laughter, the camaraderie and perhaps most, Jewish identity amongst my PJ families, our Jewish community and our friends. It was in the absence of Jewish tradition and culture that I realized how valuable these customs are to me.

With the new year upon us, rather than dwell on what was missed, I have decided to jump into January. The absence of the Community Hanukkah Party has created a sense of gratitude and awareness. As I plan ahead for our March Purim Carnival, I await the opportunity to support Jewish identity through this upcoming community celebration.



The ARC School To Work students enjoyed learning about Hanukkah as we played dreidel, decorated doughnuts and learned about the significance of lighting the menorah.

STEVEN A. WASSER CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

PROVIDING SCHOLARSHIPS FOR JEWISH SLEPAWAY CAMPS



FOR MORE INFO:

Call (845) 471-9811 or
email admin@jewishdutchess.org

*OPEN TO DUTCHESS COUNTY RESIDENTS
AGES 8-13 YEARS OLD



Jewish Federation
of Dutchess County



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

Thank you!

Winter by Suzanne Turrisi, PJ Library Assistant Director

Winter is the coldest and darkest season of the year. It is the season with the shortest days. While Winter can feel very cold and long, it often invokes renewal and transformation. As the land lies dormant, there is promise of new growth soon to spring up. Winter is often thought of as the end of one cycle and the beginning of another. Sometimes seen as a time for rest and inner reflection, it can also be seen as a stage of growth, like a chrysalis developing into a butterfly. It's an opportunity to find strength from stillness and prepare for a new awakening, change, and new growth!

The Federation Board’s Voice



Russell Rothman

Israel 2026!

Thinking of our upcoming spring trip to Israel reminded me of some of the happy memories I’ve had from previous adventures to the Holy Land. Back in the seventies when I was preparing to begin my PhD research on wolves in Israel, I made several initial trips to scout out potential study sites. (Those trips were made quite affordable, about \$50 roundtrip because of my new bride’s perks working for an airline that extended to her immediate family-Yowza!!). On one trip, I was picked up at the airport by a park ranger who was going to guide me for several days in the Negev and we spent that first night in his cozy apartment in Jerusalem. When I woke up, I grabbed some tea and went outside onto his backyard patio to sit. As I was enjoying the tea, anticipating how the next few days would transpire, I noticed an older woman across the yard, in her backyard, playing a tray of coffee and pastries on a table and as she sat down, her husband came out to join her. She poured him a cup and he sat down across from her. I began staring at him because he looked strangely familiar. At that moment, my host, Amotz, came out to join me. I said that his neighbor looked a lot like the current prime minister, Menachim Begin. He laughed and said that’s because it was Begin. I was dumbfounded. Where was his protection, his guards? I could probably hit him with a hurled egg, let alone a rock or baseball.

Amotz asked why I was so surprised and I told him that in the US, the closest I could ever get to President Carter was with binoculars, not sharing tea via our touching backyards. It was very strange to me then and now. When we got up to leave, Amotz waved to the Begins and they waved back. Instinctively, I waved back and smiled. Although this was my third trip to Israel, something felt different. I felt an intimacy and connection, like the soul of a nation was just exposed to me. My first visit to Israel was in early 1968, months after the Six Day War, on a Federation trip with my parents and brothers, hitting all the familiar sites and newly opened places such as the Western Wall, the Golan Heights, as well as Masada and a kibbutz. I suppose these places are a must for every visitor but every time I visit the Wall, I have new feelings, sense new electricity, sounds and smells. No visit is identical. Same with Masada or Yad Vashem and the Israel Museum, The experience is not static; it is alive, vibrant, and exciting, just as it was when I saw PM Begin.

I can guarantee you that even if this is your third or fourth trip to Israel, it will be different, not just as a learning experience but as a life experience. The soil and ground you step on will come alive. When you walk in the valley of Elah, you will visualize King Saul’s army battling the Philistines, see it in your mind’s eye. Perhaps the stone under your shoe was the one a young David picked up to launch in his sling. This is more than a simple tour and I hope you will consider joining us. Bring home amazing pictures and memories and perhaps a stone or two.

Please call our office at 845-471-9811 for more details and information and we hope to see you there!

Our Executive Director



Happy 2026!

For this new calendar year, I would like to offer two pieces of advice: Everything is relative and the only thing constant in life is change.

For the former, you may recall I previously shared the Chinese fable about the farmer’s son who fell from a horse and broke his leg. When everyone commented on the family’s bad luck, the father said maybe yes or maybe no. When the army then came to conscript people, the

boy was saved from going off to war. What looked to be a bad thing actually ended up being good.

For the latter, things are always changing: our bodies, our health, our relationships, technology, trends, medical innovations, etc. Imagine living in a time when electricity did not exist. How many people embraced bringing this potentially dangerous technology into their homes and now we cannot imagine living without it. Speeding ahead, microwaves and individual computers seemed like something from a sci-fi movie and now they are both integral parts of our lives. I remember when we got our first microwave, my mother would only allow us to use it to make popcorn for fear of too much radiation in the food.

With the 90’s, the World Wide Web came into our lives. I remember my boss showed me in amazement how a screen had hyperlinks to click and connect to troves of information. I questioned how it worked and wondered whether the applicability would be long-lasting. A few years later, my friend Russell Klein insisted that I create a profile on LinkedIn, a platform I had never heard of. Both of these have become so second nature, I do not remember a time when I did not access them on a regular basis, if not daily.

Fast forward to today, everything is about AI. The good. The unknown. The scary. Similar to before, I am receptive for changes, but confess that I am not per se the trailblazer. I have dabbled with ChatGPT and am amazed at the capabilities it offers, but have not gotten to a point that everything revolves around it. Similar to my being the consummate lifeguard, I approach the situation (pool) with receptiveness but caution of any existing hazards. I do not dive into the pool without knowing the depth, but once in, I am like a fish IN water.

So with the constant change and new technology, we have yet to determine whether this will be a good thing or a bad thing for us. In some cases, it is all relative. I will leave you with this one last story. I was out to lunch with a friend who teaches her team about the relative power of AI and how to capitalize on using it...we took a lovely photo that her husband then turned into a little dancing video. I was both impressed and scared in the same moment. It was so lifelike and done with such little effort. So while I might be able to use AI to write this article in less time and potentially with a more polished outcome, I plan on still doing it the old-fashioned way and writing it “au natural.” Well, at least for now. Wishing you and your family a Happy and Healthy 2026!

Karen Hochhauser,
Executive Director

Are you interested in getting more involved with JFedDC?
Call the office and get information about upcoming events in our community.

(Ghosts of a Holy War Continued from page 5)

were evacuated by the British and told not to return.

The British betrayal of the Jews of Palestine led them to unite around Zionism. After the massacre, many who had until then opposed the movement now agreed that Jews could only be safe in their own country, under the protection of their own army. No foreign power was going to protect them. The legacy of 1929 is also a century of missed opportunities and rejected offers of peace. In the years after the massacre, the Mufti and his political descendants rejected every proposal for a two-state solution. In 1937 and again in 1947, when the UN voted to partition Palestine into Arab and Jewish states, the Mufti chose Jihad over independence.

This rejectionism continued through the 20th century, from the 1948 Arab invasion of Israel to the Palestinian refusal of statehood offers in 2000 and 2008. While this commitment to violent "resistance" has enriched corrupt Palestinian leaders, it has only brought misery and restrictive Israeli policies upon the Palestinian people. The West Bank security barrier, for example, was built during the “Al-Aqsa Intifada,” effectively ending the suicide bombings that had emanated from the West Bank. That intifada led to the fall of the Israeli peace camp.

The massacre of October 7th has now convinced even the most ardent Israeli peace activists—many of whom were targeted that day—that there is no partner for peace. And yet, despite the darkness of these historical parallels, there were glimmers of humanity. In 1929, at least 200 Jews were saved by Muslim neighbors who risked their lives to hide them in their homes or stand guard outside their doors. Similarly, on October 7, 2023, dozens of Muslim citizens of Israel risked their lives to rescue Jews from Hamas’s onslaught. Some were murdered or kidnapped in the process. These Muslim heroes serve as a vital reminder that this conflict is not inherently between Islam and Judaism, but between those who weaponize religion and glorify violence and those who seek peace.

The parallels between 1929 and 2023 are a testament to how little has changed over a century. The forces that drove rioters in Hebron to murder their neighbors 96 years ago are nearly identical to the forces behind modern terror. For too long, the actual history of this conflict—the role of religious violence and the systematic use of disinformation—has been ignored or distorted.

Understanding these "ghosts" is essential if we are to escape this endless cycle of violence. We cannot afford to be ignorant of the roots of this conflict, as knowledge is the most powerful tool to counter the global campaign of disinformation we are up against.

Ghosts of a Holy War is a work of narrative nonfiction that provides an in-depth, personal exploration of these historical events, tracing a direct line from the 1929 massacre to the modern day. You can purchase the book on Amazon and wherever books are sold.



Senior Golden Gathering at Arlington High School, put together by County Executive Sue Serino, Senators Rob Rolison and Michelle Hinchey, and the Dutchess County Office of the Aging.

L’Chaim Jewish Cooking & Culture series "Love, Light, and Latkes" program with the Poughkeepsie Public Library District at Adriance Memorial Library with Chef Brian Arnoff of Meyer’s Olde Dutch and Beacon Quality Eats Restaurants



2026 Holiday Greetings

It’s almost that time of the year when The Voice invites you to wish your friends and neighbors a Happy Holiday.

This year we will once again be offering a 3-pack of Holiday Greetings which includes: Passover, Rosh Hashanah, and Chanukah.

Please look at the designs and choose an individual greeting or the 3-pack. If you choose the 3-pack, please choose the same size ad for all holidays.

The cost: Small ad: \$30 each or 3 for \$80
 Medium ad: \$40 each or 3 for \$110
 Large ad: \$70 each or 3 for \$190

Sm Ads—2” by 1.4”
Mid Ads—1.5” by 2.9”
Lg Ads—3.2” by 2.7”
Approximate sizes

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

2026 Holiday Greetings

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Holiday	Small	Medium	Large
Passover (circle one)	A B	C D	E F
Rosh Hashanah (circle one)	A B	C D	E F
Chanukah (circle one)	A B	C D	E F

Your name(s) on the Greeting: _____

Checks should be made out to:
Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

Passover Greetings

Small—A

Peace to you this Passover!

Your Name

Medium—C

Happy Passover

Your Name

Small—B

HAPPY PASSOVER!

Your Name

Medium—D

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

Your Name

Large—E

Passover Blessings

Your Name

Large—F

CHAG PESACH S'MECH

Your Name

Rosh Hashanah Greetings

Small—A

Your Name

Medium—C

May the sounds of the Shofar welcome in a New Year of health and happiness

Your Name

Small—B

Have a Sweet New Year!

Your Name

Medium—D

L' Shanah Tovah

Your Name

Large—E

Best Wishes For a Happy & Healthy New Year!

Your Name

Large—F

L' Shanah Tovah Have a sweet year!

Happy New Year!

Your Name

Chanukah Greetings

Small—A

Peace to all!

Your Name

Medium—C

Wishing you peace in this season of miracles!

Your Name

Small—B

Hanukkah Blessings

Your Name

Medium—D

Happy Hanukkah!

Your Name

Large—E

HAPPY HANUKKAH

From Our Family to Yours,

Your Name

Large—F

May your Hanukkah shine bright with happiness!


Happy Hanukkah

Your Name

<div><div><div>Congregation Schomre Israel</div><div>(Orthodox)</div><div>18 Park Ave, Poughkeepsie</div><div>(845) 454-2890</div><div>Rabbi Shlomo Krasner</div><div>Website: www.schomreisrael.org</div><div>Email: rabbishlomok@gmail.com</div><div>Weekly Services:</div><div>Shacharis 7:00am (weekdays)</div><div>Shacharis 8:30am (Sunday & holidays)</div><div>Maariv: 6:40pm (winter weekdays)</div><div>Friday Kabbalat Shabbat: around candle lighting times.</div><div>Adult Education:</div><div></div><div>Tuesday</div><div>Ethics of the Fathers through the Prism of History, and the Views of the Jewish Sages, Philosophers, Thinkers, Kabbalists, & Pious</div><div>10:30am, One who wants to reach Piety should delve into Ethics of the Fathers</div><div>While many of us have studied Ethics of the Fathers at one point or another, we will be approaching it through the themes and lens of some of the greatest commentators: as a Path of Perfection by the Rambam, a Guide to Piety of Rabbeinu Yona, and through the teachings of the Italian Philosopher Rabbi Ovadia Siforno, the Jewish Mystic the Maharal of Prague, the Talmudist Rabbi Chayim Volozhin, & the Intellectualist Rabbi Samson Hirsch. We will also view the historical context leading up to each statement and also consider the background and experience of each Sage, which may shed light onto why each Sage prioritized their particular statement.</div><div></div><div>Hebrew 301-Learning Hebrew through the Book of Ruth</div><div>6:00pm. We will be building our Hebrew vocabulary of nouns and verbs, studying practical applications of possessives, prefixes, suffixes, & pronouns, examining Hebrew's usage of masculine/feminine, singular/multiple, & verb tenses and taking a look under the hood of Hebrew's Binyanim - verb conjugations. The class will be taught through the lens of the Book of Ruth, ensuring that it will be both enjoyable, functional, and informative. This class will be appropriate for the near-beginner to the near-advanced Hebrew learner and everyone in between.</div><div></div><div>Thursday</div><div>A Deeper Understanding of the Weekly Haftarah</div><div>7:00pm, Do you ever sit during the reading of the Prophets, lost, bored, and having no idea what is going on? We can help you engage with the Haftarah. Join us to study the holy words and explain their connection to the Parsha. We will then present a two pronged approach that will enable us to understand both the core meaning of the Haftarah while taking a deeper look at how it is expressed.</div><div></div><div>Other Events:</div><div></div><div>Contact</div><div>rabbishlomok@gmail.com</div><div>for current information</div><div>or visit the website</div><div>www.schomreisrael.org</div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Congregation Shir Chadash</div><div>(Reform)</div><div>Interim: Freedom Plains</div><div>Presbyterian Church, Lagrange</div><div>(845) 232-1029</div><div>Rabbi Glenn Jacob</div><div>Website: www.shir-chadash.org</div><div>Email: info@shir-chadash.org</div><div>Weekly Services:</div><div>Fridays: 7:30pm In-Person & Zoom</div><div>Saturday: 9:15am In-person, Bi-monthly Torah Study with Rabbi Jacob, all welcome to attend.</div><div>Adult Education:</div><div></div><div>Saturday</div><div>Torah Study</div><div>9:15am. An informal discussion about the Torah portion of the week with Shir Chadash's new spiritual leader, Rabbi Jacob. Everyone has a chance to participate. Bring an inquisitive mind, a curiosity about our tradition, and a willingness to share your thoughts.</div><div>For info: (845) 232-1029, email: info@shir-chadash.org or visit www.shir-chadash.org.</div><div></div><div>Other Events:</div><div></div><div>Contact :</div><div>info@shir-chadash.org</div><div>for current information</div><div>or visit the website</div><div>www.shir-chadash.org</div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Temple Beth-El</div><div>(Conservative)</div><div>118 S Grand Ave, Poughkeepsie</div><div>(845) 454-0570</div><div>Rabbi Michael Fessler</div><div>Rosh Tefilah Rabbi Miriam Hyman</div><div>Website: www.tbeny.org</div><div>Email: info@tbeny.org</div><div>Weekly Services:</div><div>Friday & Saturday Shabbat Services are both in-person and Zoom.</div><div>Monday— Friday Minyan 8:00 am.</div><div>Monday & Thursday in person & Zoom, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday only on Zoom</div><div>Call the Temple Beth-El office for the current schedule.</div><div>Adult Education:</div><div>For information about ongoing Adult Education at Temple Beth-El, please contact the synagogue office : (845) 454-0570.</div><div></div><div>Other Events:</div><div>Sunday</div><div>Temple Beth-El Serves at Lunchbox</div><div>2nd Sunday. Volunteers are needed to help serve a meal at Lunchbox at Dutchess Outreach. You can also help by making a donation to help cover the cost. Contact Nancy Judson & volunteer (845) 216-7563</div><div>Monday</div><div>Book Club Gathering</div><div>January 12, 2:00pm. We will be reading <i>After Annie</i> by Anna Quindlen. Contact Merri Sedgwick at moondoggier7@optonline.net for more info.</div><div>Wednesday</div><div>Mitzvah Knitters</div><div>10:30am, 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month, January 7, 21, February 4, 18. Come join our friendly group of knitters and help make scarves for those in need this winter. No experience needed. We'll teach you!</div><div>Friday</div><div>Shabbat Table</div><div>January 9, February 13. Join us for our monthly multi-generational Shabbat evening, a joyful gathering for prayers, dinner, music, and stories. Celebrate Shabbat with warmth, community, and connection.</div><div>Saturday</div><div>Special Shabbat</div><div>January 17. Souls United Choir will be joining us for services.</div><div>Contact:</div><div>info@tbeny.org</div><div>for current information</div><div>or visit the website</div><div>www.tbeny.org</div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Vassar Temple</div><div>(Reform)</div><div>140 Hooker Ave, Poughkeepsie</div><div>(845) 454-2570</div><div>Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh</div><div>Rabbi Emeritus Renni Altman</div><div>Website: www.vassartemple.org</div><div>Email: Office@VassarTemple.org or rabbi@vassartemple.org</div><div>Weekly Services:</div><div>Most services are hybrid (both in person and on Zoom). Contact office@vassartemple.org for Zoom link</div><div>Friday</div><div>Shabbat Evening Service</div><div>January 2, 9, 16, 30, 7:30pm: January 23, 6:00pm Soup and Chili dinner and Tisch Shabbat Service.</div><div>Saturday</div><div>New Paths Shabbat Morning Worship</div><div>January 3, 17, 10:15am.</div><div>Shabbat Morning Service</div><div>January 10, 24, 10:15am.</div><div>Adult Education:</div><div></div><div>Tuesday</div><div>Talmud Study</div><div>on Zoom with Senior Scholar Rabbi Paul Golomb select Mondays, 12:00pm. For information, to be placed on the Talmud Study e-mail list, and receive the schedule and study sheets, contact Rabbi Golomb at pjgolomb@verizon.net.</div><div></div><div>Saturday</div><div>Torah Study</div><div>with Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh 9:00am, hybrid. Come join our lively discussions.</div><div>Contact us at office@vassartemple.org or (845) 454-2570 and to be placed on the Torah Study e-mail list.</div><div></div><div>Other Events:</div><div></div><div>Saturday</div><div>Sisterhood-sponsored Chai Noon Lunch at Beekman Arms.</div><div>These social events are held the 18th of the month (weekdays) at noon, at area restaurants which are handicap accessible and include vegetarian offerings. Everyone orders off the menu and receives a separate check. Come make new friends! For further info contact sisterhood@vassartemple.org.</div><div>Contact :</div><div>office@vassartemple.org</div><div>for current information</div><div>or visit the website</div><div>www.vassartemple.org</div></div></div>
<div><div><div>Congregation Schomre Israel's Baking Crew</div><div>The baking crew at Schomre is gearing up to produce delicious hamantaschen for Purim, which will be celebrated on March 2.</div><div>Here is what you need to know to order hamantaschen:</div><div>Cost \$20 per dozen, \$12 per half dozen</div><div>Filling flavors -apricot, chocolate poppy seed, prune, raspberry</div><div>Prepaid orders accepted through 2/1</div><div>Pick up will be 2/15 from 11am to 1pm</div><div>Sheloch Monot baskets \$27</div><div>Mailing charge \$18</div><div>Order forms are on the synagogue website</div></div></div>			

District Attorney to Speak at Vassar Temple

Vassar Temple will offer a Meet Your Government Officials series beginning in January 2026. The first program will feature **Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony Parisi on Sunday January 11 at 3:00PM**. The program will be a Town Hall meeting format with the presenter making preliminary remarks followed by open questions from the community. This is an opportunity to understand the roles and responsibilities of our government officials at all levels. It is also an opportunity for these officials to get to know Vassar Temple and the Jewish Community. Professional security will be present. We anticipate offering monthly programs with elected officials that will be open to Vassar Temple members, community friends and family. Other featured speakers will include elected officials of the various branches of local, state and federal government. For further information: civicengagement@vassartemple.org .



ATTENTION ALL MAH JONGG PLAYERS

It's that time of year when we start collecting for the 2026 Mah Jongg Cards. The prices remain the same as this year, \$14 for Regular print and \$15 for Large print. The cost is the same no matter where you buy your card, but by getting your card through Temple Beth-El, we get a donation from the National Mah Jongg League. This year, with your help, we received a check for over \$1500 earmarked for Dutchess County's Outreach Lunchbox Program which Temple Beth-El supports. Our goal for 2026 is to reach \$2000! We can only reach that goal with your help. Please do a real mitzvah and help spread the word to friends and relatives no matter where they live. Your card will be mailed to you via first-class mail. One of our former members who moved to Florida, consistently gets 30+ names from people in her condo complex which now amounts to over \$180 for Lunchbox.

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

Payment must be received by: January 16, 2024.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Pardess Center for Jewish Life

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

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

The Rhinebeck Jewish Center

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

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

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

Chabad of Mid-Hudson Valley

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

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

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

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

Contact :
ChabadMidhudsonvly@prodigy.net
for current information
or visit the website
www.chabadmidhudsonvalley.com



The Jewish War Veterans of the United States, Post 625

Pvt. Herman Siegel Post 625, Jewish War Veterans of the US, meets monthly at Congregation Schomre Israel, Poughkeepsie. We are the only active post between Westchester and Albany! Upcoming meeting dates are Sundays, January 11,. (9:00am schmooze, 9:30am meeting). The location is strictly kosher and tasty refreshments are provided. All are welcome to attend and/or join, both veterans and anyone else who would like to support our cause. We provide community service and support local veterans' facilities. We advocate against antisemitism and for the rights and benefits of all American military members and veterans. For more info, contact Senior Vice Commander Ralph Schwartz at (845) 849-0025.

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

Weekly Services:
Friday Shabbat, 5:30pm Mini Minyan with Luke Wygodny & 6:00pm Potluck Shabbat Dinner and Kabbalat Shabbat
Check our Community Calendar for services times, generally every Friday & one Saturday per month:
www.beaconhebrewalliance.org/calendar
Contact:
for current information
or visit the website
www.beaconhebrewalliance.org

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

Weekly Services:
Saturdays 10:30am.

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

Vassar College Bayit

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

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

Contact :
bryanmann@vassar.edu
for current information

Chabad Beacon

Rabbi Shaya Itkin
Phone: (845) 288-0170
Email: rabbichabadbeacon.com

Contact:
rabbichabadbeacon.com
for current information
or visit the website
chabadbeacon.com

Congregation Information

Congregation Emanuel of the Hudson Valley
243 Albany Ave, Kingston
(845) 338-4271 ext 101
Rabbi’s Study: (845) 338-4384 ext 102
Rabbi Jack Sherratt:
rabbijack@hvc.rr.com
Weekly Services:
Friday
Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00pm,
Saturday
Morning Minyan 10:00am
Education:
Mediation & Torah Study 8:45am via Zoom
Hebrew Trope 12:00pm, via Zoom,
Dates TBD.
Hebrew, Shebrew! 4:00pm, via Zoom.
Talk Back with Rabbi Jack 8:45am, via Zoom,

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

Bard College

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

Contact:
jboettiger@bard.edu
for current information

Woodstock Jewish Congregation
241682 Glasco Tpke, Woodstock
(845) 679-2218
Admin: admin@wjcsbul.org


Weekly Services:
Friday
Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00pm,
Kid Friendly Intergenerational Shabbat
First Fridays 6:00pm
Saturday
Shabbat Service10:00am

The 1st Friday Shabbat—The students of our Family School co-lead Kabbalat Shabbat with Cantor Raechel in a warm and fun mix of upbeat, traditional melodies, learnings from class, and sometimes their own original melodies. All children are invited to come up on the bimah, play shakers, and share their own ideas. The services culminate with the Priestly Blessing, a blessing over all the children in the space. The service lasts about 40 minutes and is followed by a full community potluck where members of all ages come together to eat, chat, and play games. This is a sweet intergenerational community experience.


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




January Candle Lighting Schedule	
January 2	4:19pm
January 9	4:25pm
January 16	4:33pm
January 23	4:42pm
January 30	4:51pm



Jewish Federation
of Dutchess County



POUGHKEEPSIE
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Jewish
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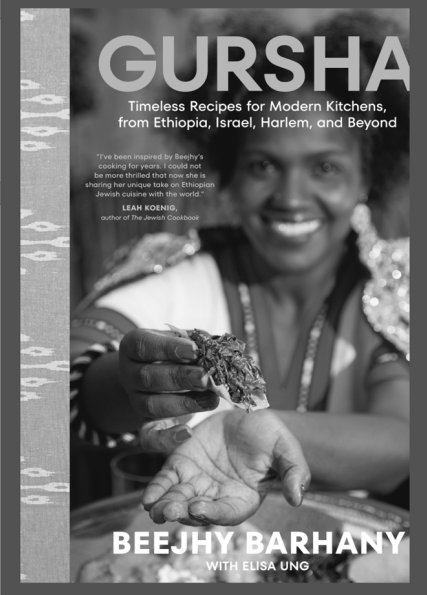
THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 5TH
6:30PM

AT BOARDMAN ROAD LIBRARY
141 BOARDMAN ROAD
POUGHKEEPSIE



WITH
BEEJHY BARHANY

Beejhy Barhany, founder and executive chef of Harlem’s Tsion Café and the BINA Cultural Foundation, is a celebrated Ethiopian-Israeli culinary leader and cultural advocate.



***Gursha: Timeless Recipes for Modern Kitchens* blends Beejhy Barhany's personal journey from Ethiopia to Israel to Harlem with vibrant recipes that celebrate the global flavors of Jewish food.**

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CALL 845-471-9811 OR EVENTS@JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC | BOOKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE EVENT



Temple Beth-El's craft fair was a great success, with over 30 vendors and hundreds of community members attending. Mark your calendars.....next year's Craft Fair will be held on November 15, 2026

Creating friendships while creating crafts at Vassar Temple's monthly "Creating Community" programs.



New York State Holocaust Memorial Bill signed at the Governor's Hanukkah Celebration

Yellow Ribbon Ceremony for the 2-Year Commemoration of October 7 organized by Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino.



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Happy Chanukah



Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

9TH ANNUAL JEWISH FEDERATION CELEBRATION GALA

Save The Date

Thursday | June 11th, 2026
Cocktail Hour beginning at 5:30 PM
The Grandview | Poughkeepsie

www.JewishDutchess.org/Events
845-471-9811 | events@JewishDutchess.org



Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

Share your moments - tag us in your photos!

CONNECT WITH US!

Follow us for the latest events, photos, and community updates!

FB: /JFedDC
IG: @JewishDutchess

Find out where we'll be next - visit JewishDutchess.org/Events



Hudson Valley Medical Health Choices

Life challenges? We can help!

Our new office is open and accepting patients!
1 Webster Avenue, Suite 402B in Poughkeepsie.
To schedule an appointment or to learn more, visit hvpalliativecare.org or call **845.240.7557**.



Hope
comes in many forms

For some, it means more time to make them laugh, cherishing each moment with loved ones.

Hudson Valley Hospice

Contact Hudson Valley Hospice: hvospice.org • (845) 240-7555