

**9TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION GALA**


**Jewish Federation of Dutchess County**  
**9th Annual Jewish Federation Celebration Gala**  
*We The People*  
**Thursday | June 11, 2026 | 5:30 PM**  
**The Grandview | 176 Rinaldi Blv, Poughkeepsie, NY**  
**silent auction ~ dinner ~ dancing**

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★ **2026 HONOREES** ★

<p><b>DEDICATION TO COMMUNITY</b> The Effron Family Foundations</p> <p><b>NEXT GENERATION</b> Heather Wahba-Pallone</p> <p><b>IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF</b> Jewish War Veterans of the United States <i>Pvt. Herman Siegel Post 625</i></p>	<p><b>GREATER JEWISH COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP</b> Adam &amp; Nancy Belok</p> <p><b>RIGHTEOUS DUTCHESS</b> Reverend Dr. Jesse Bottoms Jr.</p> <p><b>FEATURING REMARKS BY</b> Rabbi (Major) Heather Borshof <i>U.S. Military Academy at West Point</i></p>
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All sponsorships include thank-you acknowledgments at the event and in The Voice newspaper & Jewish in Dutchess newsletter

[JewishDutchess.org/Gala](http://JewishDutchess.org/Gala)  
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*Our Mission: To perpetuate, protect, and enhance Jewish communal life and well-being locally, in Israel, and worldwide while supporting the greater local community.*

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## How Hackers Can Steal From You (Hint: Your Phone) And How To Prevent Being a Cybercrime Victim

*By Rivka Tadjer, CEO of ZeroHack*

Cybercrime is at an all-time high and only getting worse. Antisemitic attacks are following the same trajectory. Why is that? Because cybercrime pays and so does antisemitic crime. The organized cybercrime gangs are well funded and highly skilled. Most crimes today use cyber intel as the legwork to target people and then carry out crimes. Antisemitism are just another growing marketplace buyer profile for cybercrime gangs and their goldmine of access data.

How do they get to us? Most of the time it's through our phones, our life remote control, the mobile entry point to everything that is worth stealing or harming.

There are 4 things that a cybercriminal needs to effectively impersonate you: 1. The ability to email people as if they are you (taking over your email account); 2. The ability to forward authorization codes from your phone to another phone; 3. Your IP address (your phone actually has an address—one that geolocates so that criminals can look like they are you; 4. your Social Security Number (SSN). Three of these four can easily be stolen from your phone and leveraged to try to gain access to your SSN. If your SSN has been leaked on the dark web and is for sale, game over.

(Continued on page 4)






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**Rivka Tadjer | ZerHack**  
 ZeroHack provides Active Cybercrime Countermeasures to help businesses and individuals respond to incidents and avoid future issues.

**THURSDAY, MAY 7 | 6:30 PM | POUGHKEEPSIE**  
 Location shared post registration

**REGISTER: [JewishDutchess.org/Events](http://JewishDutchess.org/Events)**


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## MITZVAH DAY 2026

<p><b>MAY 3 SUNDAY 10:30 AM</b></p> <p><b>HEADQUARTERS</b></p> <p>Join us at Congregation Schome Israel 18 Park Ave Pk (headquarters). Doors open at 10:30 AM. Stay for our celebratory luncheon at 1:00 PM, plus a fund-raising carwash, balloon artistry and musical entertainment!</p>	<p><b>ONSITE ACTIVITY 1 10:30 AM</b></p> <p><b>CRAFTING CORNER</b></p> <p>Join Captain Vicki from 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM at the Crafting Corner to help make blankets to distribute to cancer patients. This activity is best suited for adults and children ages 6 &amp; up with supervision.</p>	<p><b>ONSITE ACTIVITY 2 10:30 AM</b></p> <p><b>BAKING COOKIES</b></p> <p>Join Captains Cassia &amp; Beth to assist in baking cookies for The Lunch Box, a Dutchess Outreach Community Meal Program committed to providing meals for those in need in our local community.</p>
<p><b>ONSITE ACTIVITY 3 10:30 AM</b></p> <p><b>PLANTING POSITIVITY</b></p> <p>Join Captain Suzanne from 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM at the PJ Library Corner as we fill planter boxes with soil and plants to brighten the surroundings at New Horizons. Appropriate for all ages.</p>	<p><b>ONSITE ACTIVITY 4 10:30 AM</b></p> <p><b>CEREAL COUNTS</b></p> <p>Join Captain Marian from 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM at the Cereal Counts station to assist in organizing and boxing unopened cereal to be donated to local Dutchess County food pantries.</p>	<p><b>ONSITE ACTIVITY 5 10:30 AM</b></p> <p><b>GRACE SMITH HOUSE</b></p> <p>Join Captain Rabbi Hantman from 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM at the Grace Smith House station to assist in creating thoughtful and memorable Mother's Day gifts for Grace Smith House victims of domestic abuse.</p>
<p><b>OFFSITE ACTIVITY A 10:00 AM</b></p> <p><b>THE LUNCH BOX</b></p> <p>Join Captain Paul at The Lunch Box from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM to assist in preparing meals for those in need. We are looking for 8 volunteers. If you are age 13-16, you may volunteer with adult supervision.</p>	<p><b>OFFSITE ACTIVITY B 9:30 AM</b></p> <p><b>BEAUTIFYING NEW HORIZONS</b></p> <p>Join Captain Steve from 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM at a New Horizon location in Hyde Park (address provided upon registration) to assist with creating planter boxes alongside New Horizon residents. Appropriate for all ages with adult supervision.</p>	

**REMEMBER THE CAR WASH: HELPERS AND DIRTY CARS NEEDED.**

**PLEASE REGISTER\*\*:** SCAN QR CODE OR [JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG/EVENTS](http://JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG/EVENTS)

**\*Remember to bring your unopened boxes of cereal to be donated to local Dutchess County food pantries!\***

**\*\*REGISTER BY APRIL 30 TO BE INCLUDED IN A SPECIAL PRIZE DRAWING.\*\***

If you choose an offsite activity, please head to Headquarters for our celebratory lunch at 1:00 PM. If you are onsite, please stay for lunch, games, balloons, music & our fundraising car wash. We are stronger together. Let's make an impact in our community this Mitzvah Day!

Partially underwritten by a grant from Ann and Abe Effron Fund - Donor Advised of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley. Sponsored by Jewish Family Services of Dutchess County, a program of the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County.

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# Jewish Family Services

## 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.



### 2026 Federation Officers

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### Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

(845) 471-9811  
**JFedDC Executive Director**  
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### The Voice

Editor: Karen Hochhauser  
 Layout: Tamra Bienemann

Subscriptions, address changes, etc.

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### Advertising/Sales

For advertising information email:  
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# LEARN & LUNCH BUNCH

Jewish Family Services (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

Suggested Donation \$8; no one will be turned away for lack of funds.

### WEDNESDAY PROGRAMS Join us!

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| May 13 | <b>Movie Quotes and Interesting Facts</b> presented by David Raften.<br><b>Menu:</b> bagels, cream cheese, tuna salad, toss salad, ice cream bars, cookies |
| May 27 | <b>Beauty for the home bound: you're never too old to feel good</b> presented by Nancy Fay<br><b>Menu:</b> taco salad, corn chips, salsa, brownies         |

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

**Please do not bring outside food into the temple.**

**TO REGISTER, call the office at (845) 471-9811 or online at: [www.JewishDutchess.org/events](http://www.JewishDutchess.org/events) \*\*Advanced registration needed for food planning purposes\*\***

Learn & Lunch Bunch is partially funded by the Ann & Abe Effron Fund and Bernard and Shirley Handel Foundation Donor Advised Fund of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley and an anonymous Charitable Trust thanks to the guidance of Adam Belok, Board Member and Financial Consultant.



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

Many people find friendships and even love online, but they can also go looking for companionship and find themselves being scammed instead. That's why it's essential to stay on the lookout for warning signs that a new online "friend" may not be what they claim to be.

Here's a couple of sample phrases from a scammer "working" their victim, from the Australian National Anti-Scam Centre:

- You brighten my day, and even though we just met I feel like you're really the one.
- Are you here babe? I miss talking to you.

We can tell ourselves we're savvy enough not to be fooled like that; but when it comes to relationships, it's all too human to believe what we want to believe and ignore the red flags.

### Romance Scammers Bide Their Time

In a romance scam, the criminal won't go for the victim's money right away. They'll claim to be lonely and claim to be employed in a field that keeps them "on the road" and starved for companionship. The prospect of an in-person meetup is dangled in front of the victim, but it never happens. The scammer continues pretending to be affectionate and caring, then asks the victim if conversations can be moved to a private messaging service. It's harder to detect scammers on those platforms.

### Then Comes the "Sales Pitch"

Requests for money often start small and escalate over time. The scammer typically asks for money for emergencies, investments, travel, gifts, cryptocurrency, or gift cards. The requests grow. Maybe the initial "investment" seems to work out, and now the victim wants more. The scammer is all too willing to oblige. If requests for money don't work, the scammer escalates to threats and extortion. By this point, the scammer has isolated their victim from friends and family who might point out the scam. Some romance scam victims have lost hundreds of thousands of dollars in life savings before their online friend disappears into the wind.

### Take a "Tactical Pause" Before It Gets Bad

Scammers of all kinds will create a false sense of urgency to pressure you into acting quickly. Don't rush to make decisions about money or sharing personal details. Instead:

- Say no, hang up, or delete suspicious messages;
- Don't let anyone pressure you into immediate action; and
- Trust your instincts if something feels wrong.

The Voice is published by the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County. Your donation of \$36 or more helps defray the cost of this community paper. Please send your check to:  
**The Voice**  
 PO Box 2525  
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## JOIN OUR FEDERATION FAMILY

Sign up to receive our **complimentary weekly email & monthly newspaper, The Voice** - filled with community news, upcoming events, and inspiring stories that bring Dutchess County's Jewish community together.



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**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

**June Events**

6/11 JFedDC Gala

6/14 PJ Library Discovery Museum

6/25 L'Chaim Series Part 2 in  
collaboration with the  
Poughkeepsie Public Library

**July Events**

7/8 Jewish Heritage Night at the  
Hudson Valley Renegades

7/28 Jewish Book Council in  
collaboration with Poughkeepsie  
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# The Harding Club



## Friendships and Happiness

Researchers uniformly find that one of the most powerful drivers of happiness available to adults is live, face-to-face, friendships. One notable study found, for example, that friendships have a more powerful impact on happiness than large increases in income.

In today's hectic, screen dominated world, there can be a tendency to de-prioritize in-person communications. However, nothing moves the happiness needle like friendships and face-to-face connections.

The Harding Club is a Jewish men's social club, located in the Poughkeepsie community. It is a place to make new friends and expand existing friendships.

The Club, founded during the Harding Administration, has flourished for over 100 years. Over the past century, technology and mechanisms for communication have changed dramatically. But, the core values of the Club, connecting Jewish men and promoting friendships, remain as valuable as ever.

Harding Club meetings take place once or twice a month, for dinner or lunch, at a local eatery.

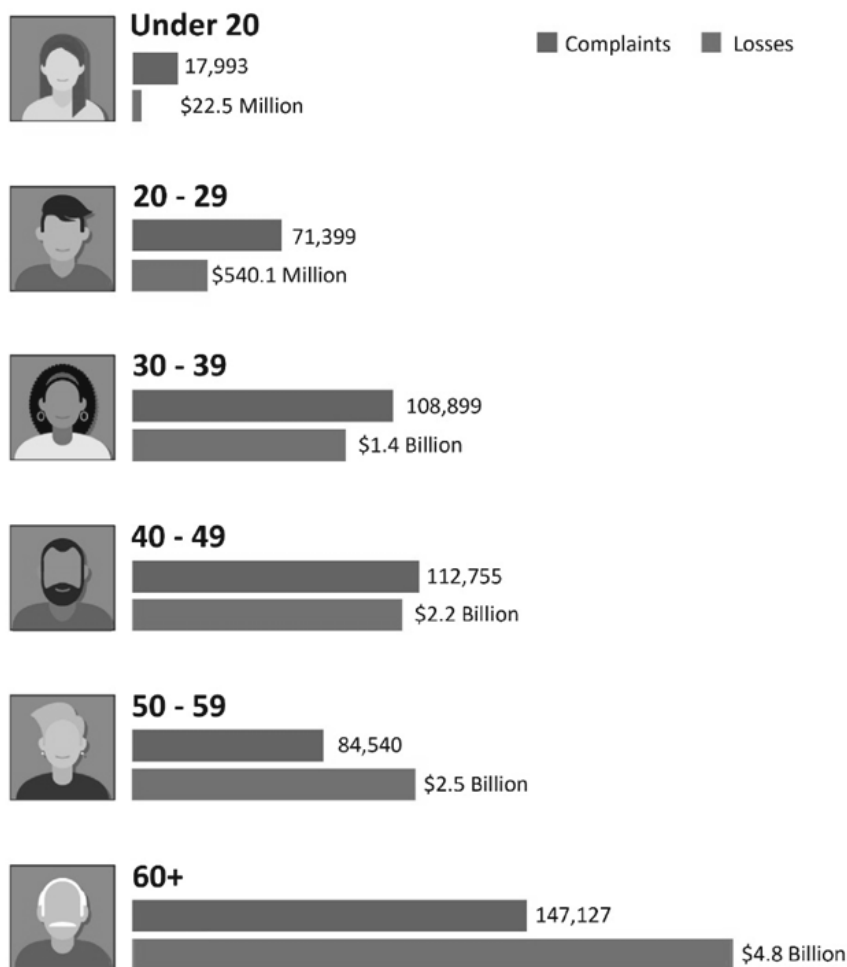
Each meeting mixes socializing and camaraderie; with speakers who address timely topics across the spectrum of life, including business, the arts, recreation, health, money management, politics and history.

If you would like to build new friendships, consider joining the Harding Club. We would be excited to welcome you!

To learn more, contact one of the Club Officers below:

Irvin Miller, president, [irvinmmiller@gmail.com](mailto:irvinmmiller@gmail.com)  
 Jim Thrasher, vice president, [jdt845@gmail.com](mailto:jdt845@gmail.com)  
 Dave Lowitz, secretary, [dlowitz@aol.com](mailto:dlowitz@aol.com)

## 2024 COMPLAINTS BY AGE GROUP <sup>6</sup>



<sup>6</sup> Not all complaints include an associated age range—those without this information are excluded from this table. Please see Appendix C for more information regarding IC3 data. Accessibility description: Chart shows number of complaints and losses by age group. Under 20: 17,993 complaints, \$22.5 million in losses; 20-29: 71,399 complaints, \$540.1 million in losses; 30-39: 108,899 complaints, \$1.4 billion in losses; 40-49: 112,755 complaints, \$2.2 billion in losses; 50-59: 84,540 complaints, \$2.5 billion in losses; 60+: 147,127 complaints, \$4.8 billion in losses.

(Hackers Continued from page 1)

If someone has all 4 of these, and therefore can impersonate you, they can be you in order to gain recovery access to bank and brokerage accounts, Social Security itself (including helping themselves to a copy of your SSN card and any payments you receive, or filing for unemployment benefits), your voting ID, your DMV records, your house title, your business, your family. They can take out pre-approved credit cards and loans in your name (the kind that don't require a credit report, so freezing your credit won't prevent this).

With just the first 3 items—all found on your phone--- they can access your favorite vendors, your Apple ID or Google ID, the credit card stored on your Apple ID/Google ID account for buying apps, your phone company accounts, your Venmo and Paypal and Zelle, the latter of which is a tunnel into your bank account.

Can this be largely prevented? Yes, even if your Personally Identifiable Information (PII) is breached and actively traded on the Dark Web. How? Come to our hands-on Cybercrime Boot Camp and find out.

Prevention is always better than incident response. Protect yourself, you protect your family, friends, and community. You don't need to be technical. The older you are the better you are at this honestly. Because unfortunately, you understand criminal behavior. If you have symptoms--increasing scam calls and texts, scam emails, or have ever received a breached data letter--please come, in person or via zoom, and bring your phone. You're going to learn how it really works and how to lock people out of it.

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Jewish Family Services



**Gala invitations have gone out. If you did not receive yours, please call the JFedDC office (845) 471-9811 or go to [www.jewishdutchess.org/gala](http://www.jewishdutchess.org/gala)**

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

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Page 12: Hudson Valley Hospice, and Hudson Valley Palliative Care

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Note deadlines listed.	June/July	May 1
Email: <a href="mailto:TheVoice@JewishDutchess.org">TheVoice@JewishDutchess.org</a>	August	July 1
if you have questions.	September	August 1
	October	September 1

## Rabbi's Blog *by Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh, Vassar Temple*

### Receiving Torah, Again

I did not grow up celebrating Shavuot.

I grew up Reform, in a warm and engaged Jewish household, and by the time late May rolled around I was already thinking about summer. School was winding down. Graduation season was in full swing. And whatever Shavuot was, it wasn't something that made it onto our family's radar beyond my grandmother's blintze recipe.



Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh

Then I became a rabbi. And I discovered what I'd been missing.

Shavuot, which falls this year on May 21st, is one of the great hidden gems of the Jewish calendar. Passover? Widely celebrated. High Holidays? Of course. But Shavuot — despite marking one of the most significant moments in all of Jewish memory, the receiving of Torah at Mount Sinai — slips by quietly for so many of us. That's a shame. Because when you actually give it some space, this holiday is extraordinary.

Start with the cheese, since we always do. It's actually a beautiful example of how Jewish tradition works. This is the season when dairy animals are producing abundantly — when milk was plentiful and making cheese was simply what farmers did with the surplus. A cheesemonger friend of mine, Zach Berg, once confirmed what agricultural history already tells us: the dairy tradition isn't mystical. It grew out of reality. Culture so often does. (Cheese pun intended.)

But Shavuot's deeper gift is this: it is a holiday built entirely around learning. Around staying up late, asking questions, and wrestling with ideas that matter. The rabbis imagined revelation not as a single fixed moment, but as something ongoing — unfolding through every generation that brings its questions to Torah honestly.

Which brings me to why this holiday feels urgent right now.

We live in a moment when moral conversation is increasingly difficult. We argue about policies. We fight about rules. We defend our positions and dig into our certainty. But underneath every rule is a value. And when we lose sight of those values — when we protect the structure and forget the soul — the rules alone aren't enough to hold us together.

Shavuot asks us to return to the values beneath the rules. To ask not just what we've decided, but why. What do we actually believe? What do we owe each other?

This is, I believe, what Judaism has always been about. Judaism approaches Jewish life with seriousness and intention - by engaging it thoughtfully, personally, and in conversation with the world around us. It was born out of a question that still echoes today: How do I remain deeply Jewish in a world that keeps changing? This is not a lighter lift. It is a heavier one that asks more of us, not less.

Ben Zoma teaches: *Who is wise? One who learns from every person.*

That's not a simple teaching — it's one of the most demanding, especially today. It asks us to stay open. To stay curious. To be willing to be changed by what we encounter and who we encounter it with.

So this Shavuot, my invitation is simple: gather, learn, and bring your real questions. Because Torah was never meant to live on a mountain. And since when are we a people who shy away from tough questions — or uncomfortable answers?

*Chag Sameach* — and don't forget the Lactaid.

## 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 **Laura Liebman**, one of our Jewish Federation Board Members, who took time away from doing laundry to answer our questions.



Laura Liebman

- 1. What is your favorite/least favorite word?**  
Favorite: *Yes!*  
Least Favorite: *Rules.*
- 2. What inspires you?** *My family and the Jewish people.*
- 3. What is your favorite song?**  
*"Free to Be...You and Me" by Marlo Thomas.*
- 4. What profession other than you own would you like to attempt?** *A herpetologist, someone who studies snakes. I love snakes.*
- 5. What profession other than your own would you not like to attempt?** *A waitress. Too stressful. Too much coordination. I did it for a day and got fired.*
- 6. What do you most like and dislike about yourself?**  
Like: *My ability to connect with people and openness to new experiences.*  
Dislike: *My lack of time and my lateness.*
- 7. What is your favorite Jewish food/dessert?** *A good Israeli salad. It gets me every time.*
- 8. What is one interesting thing that people don't know about you?**  
*I love skydiving because I am a bit of an adrenalin junkie.*
- 9. If you could choose a superpower, what would it be?** *Flying.*
- 10. What is your greatest achievement/something you are most proud of?** *My children.*
- 11. Do you have a "bucket list" and, if so, what is on it?**  
*My next thing I'm planning to do is climb Mt. Kilimanjaro.*
- 12. What is your earliest Jewish memory?** *I actually loved going to Hebrew School. I remember being there and talking about God and feeling such a strong connection.*
- 13. What is your most favorite Jewish memory?**  
*Definitely the first time I went to the Kotel.*
- 14. If there were one thing you would hope others do in the interest of our future, what would that be?** *Show Up!*
- 15. In what ways, does or can JFedDC impact our Jewish community?**  
*Truly the amount of programming we offer for every demographic is inspiring.*
- 16. If Heaven exists, what would you like to hear God say when you arrive at the Pearly Gates?** *"Why are you so late?"*
- 17. What is one question you wish we asked and what is the answer?**

**Q:** *What makes me most proud of my work today?*  
**A:** *At the Bronfman Fellowship, our mission is to cultivate pluralistic young Jewish leaders in North American and Israel. I'm particularly excited about our new college program that we launched, in response to the new divisions on campus, to empower Jewish college students to be bridge builders, drawing from the richness of our Jewish traditions and texts.*

\*Member of the Tribe

9th Annual  
Jewish Federation  
Celebration Gala

Thursday | June 11, 2026  
The Grandview

176 Rinaldi Blvd  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

New Dates Announced

# Community TRIP TO ISRAEL

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Shabbat in Jerusalem — Kabbalat Shabbat overlooking the Western Wall
- Masada at sunrise & Dead Sea float
- Visit to the Nova Festival Memorial Site & southern communities impacted by October 7, 2023
- Special briefings and behind-the-scenes encounters with Israeli leaders, educators, and innovators
- Experience Israel during a beautiful fall season

NEW DATES  
OCTOBER 12-21, 2026

Due to evolving circumstances, this trip has been rescheduled to October 2026. We look forward to traveling together in solidarity for a meaningful and impactful experience. VISIT: [JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG/EVENTS](http://JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG/EVENTS)

NEW DATES. REGISTRATION REOPENED. SECURE YOUR SPOT.

For more information or questions:  
845-471-9811 | [Events@JewishDutchess.org](mailto:Events@JewishDutchess.org)

# SAVE THE DATE!

A BRAND NEW DAY OF GIVING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

# HUDSON VALLEY GIVES

MAY 20 2026

The Jewish Federation of Dutchess County is proud to participate in the 11th Annual Hudson Valley Gives!

A 24-hour online day of giving that brings our entire region together to support the causes that matter most.

♥ ONE DAY. ONE COMMUNITY. STRONGER TOGETHER.

PRIZES + BONUS FUNDS AVAILABLE ALL DAY | MATCHING DONATIONS THROUGHOUT THE DAY | GIVE IN MINUTES. MAKE AN IMPACT INSTANTLY.

Support the programs our community depends on.

GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE.  
May 20 | 12:00 AM - 11:59 PM

DONATE HERE: [www.hvgives.org/organizations/the-jewish-federation-of-dutchess-county](http://www.hvgives.org/organizations/the-jewish-federation-of-dutchess-county)

Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

For more info: 845-471-9811 | [www.JewishDutchess.org/Events](http://www.JewishDutchess.org/Events)

TOGETHER, WE CAN STRENGTHEN JEWISH LIFE IN DUTCHESS COUNTY—FROM BABIES TO BUBBIES.



**CAMP HUDSON VALLEY**  
A JEWISH COMMUNITY CAMP

**June 29–July 3 2026**  
**MONDAY–FRIDAY**  
8:30am–4:00pm  
**AGES 5–12**

MUSIC AND SPORTS

ARTS & CRAFTS

AFTER CARE AVAILABLE



Scan Here to register



PJ Library



Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

**REGISTER BY JUNE 18**  
**\$250/wk; \$60/day**

845-454-0570  
[educationnj118@gmail.com](mailto:educationnj118@gmail.com)

**Temple Beth-El**  
POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK

Camp location: 118 South Grand Avenue  
Poughkeepsie, NY

*This camp is proudly supported by the Dr. Samuel Simon Scholarship Fund in collaboration with PJ Library and the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County.*



On April 14, the Kulanu students of Temple Beth-El learned about the journey the "Little Torah" took from Berlin, Germany to Temple Beth-El. The "Little Torah", a family heirloom of the Zimet family, was smuggled out of Germany in 1938 by Lilli Zimet (z"l). The students watched a video of the late Lilli Zimet telling her story to former students of Temple Beth-El. Her daughter, Miriam Zimet-Aaron, was present to help fill in some missing pieces and answer questions from the students. After the video, we lit 6 candles for the 6 million lost during the Holocaust. It was a solemn but educational afternoon for the students.

## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

### BEACON HEBREW ALLIANCE

#### MASA Program

Sunday mornings, grades K-7  
Wednesday afternoon "LASS" Class  
(Leading a Shabbat Services for grades 5-7)  
311 Verplanck Ave, Beacon  
Contact [celia@beaconhebrewalliance.org](mailto:celia@beaconhebrewalliance.org)

Led by Education Director, Celia Bacowski—Masa is filled with joyful Jewish experiences, including song, dance, art, food, 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](mailto: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](mailto:info@shir-chadash.org) for more information and details.  
[yp@shir-chadash.org](mailto:yp@shir-chadash.org)

### PARDESS HEBREW SCHOOL

Sunday, 10:00am-12:00pm

For information  
[www.mypardess.org/hebrewschool](http://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 Tzivia Hecht, Director (845) 876-7666 or [tziviehecht@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:education@tbeny.org)

### VASSAR TEMPLE

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

The Seth A Erlebacher Religious School for grades K-7 meets Sunday mornings under the administration of Rabbi Shoshana Hantman, our Religious School Director. 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](mailto:rsdirector@vassartemple.org) (845) 454-2570



"We are deeply proud to partner with PJ Library and to welcome its families into the Museum. This collaboration reflects our shared belief that stories, creativity, and hands-on discovery have the power to strengthen families and build a vibrant community."

Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum is proud to announce a new partnership with PJ Library that will expand opportunities for Dutchess County families associated with the Library to connect through books, hands-on learning, and shared experiences.

"When families gather around stories and creative play, they build connections that last far beyond a single visit. We are honored to partner with PJ Library to create meaningful spaces where learning and community grow together."

— Jeffrey Sasson, Executive Director, Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum

Thanks to generous donor support, the Museum will host quarterly meet-ups for families participating in PJ Library, providing welcoming opportunities to connect in an environment designed for exploration and discovery. As part of this collaboration, the Museum will also donate 20 family memberships to PJ Library families, ensuring ongoing access to exhibits and programs throughout the year.

Located along the Hudson River in Poughkeepsie, the Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum empowers children and their families through hands-on STEM and arts programming. The Museum features interactive exhibits that invite children to experiment with engineering concepts, explore environmental science, create art in a fully equipped studio, and engage in imaginative play that builds problem-solving skills and confidence.

From early childhood music and art workshops to computer science education initiatives and family learning events, the Museum is designed to support whole-family learning. Caregivers and children learn side by side, strengthening language development, critical thinking, and social-emotional growth through shared experience. "It is my hope that this partnership inspires families to come back and take advantage of all that the museum has to offer," says Sasson.

This partnership reflects a shared commitment to literacy, creativity, and access. By pairing the power of books with tactile, hands-on exploration, families can deepen the themes found in PJ Library stories through real-world experimentation, artistic expression, and collaborative play.

"We believe that learning happens everywhere, in the pages of a book, at the art table, and through the spark of curiosity when a child asks 'why,'" said Sasson. "Together with PJ Library, we look forward to welcoming families into a space where stories come alive through science, art, and joyful discovery."

The Museum is excited to grow this partnership in the years ahead, creating even more opportunities for families to engage in impactful literary, arts, and STEM experiences that strengthen both individual children and the broader community.

For more information about upcoming PJ Library meet-ups and family programming, families are encouraged to reach out to Kolene Craven, Fieldtrip and Education Coordinator, at [kraven@mhdm.org](mailto:kraven@mhdm.org)

## SAVE THE DATE: 6/14/2026

THE FIRST 4 PJ LIBRARY FAMILIES  
TO REGISTER WILL  
RECEIVE A FREE, 1 YEAR FAMILY  
MEMBERSHIP TO THE  
MID-HUDON DISCOVERY MUSEUM!

(YOU MUST ATTEND ON 6/14 TO BE ELIGIBLE)

JOIN US FOR OUR ALMOST-SUMMER  
MID-HUDSON DISCOVERY MUSEUM EXCLUSIVE EVENT  
AS WE LEARN ABOUT THE EQUINOX!

PRE-REGISTER TODAY AT [PROGRAMS@JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG](mailto:PROGRAMS@JEWISHDUTCHESS.ORG).



PJ@THE MID-HUDSON  
DISCOVERY MUSEUM  
75 NORTH WATER STREET  
POUGHKEEPSIE, NY

אביב

# Spring Aviv

Here is a spring craft, just in time for Mother's Day from [kidsactivityblog.com](http://kidsactivityblog.com)

**Supplies Needed To Make This Handprint Bouquet**

- card stock
- pipe cleaners
- pencil
- tape or strong glue

**Directions To Make A Handprint Bouquet**

**Step 1:** To make these flowers, simply trace the outline of your hands on card stock.

**Step 2:** Cut the hand print out of the card stock.

**Step 3:** Using a pen or pencil, curl the fingers to make petals flare out a bit.

**Step 4:** Grab a green pipe cleaner (for the stem) and using another color (for the inside of the flower) bend the pipe cleaners together to connect them. I just twisted them a bit and they were plenty secure.

**Step 5:** Take the hand print with the curled petals and wrap it around the pipe cleaner connecting the bases of the hands, and put a piece of tape (or use the glue) to connect them.

**Step 6:** You can tie a ribbon around them and put them in a vase! Don't forget to curl the fingers on the handprint flower bouquet.



PJ Library Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum exclusive event.

**Upcoming Shabbat Yeladim Services**  
Saturdays May 9 & May 23 at 10:15 am  
at Vassar Temple

Shabbat Yeladim is a Jewish space for wiggles, music, stories, and the kind of Shabbat joy that might just get everyone to nap time—or a good Shabbos shluff.

- If your child is in diapers and happiest in a stroller listening to music—and it works with nap time—we want you there.
- If your kiddo is in preschool, kindergarten, first, or second grade, this space is especially for you.
- If your kiddo is in third or fourth grade—or a proud big sibling—you are absolutely welcome too.

Yeladim means “children” in Hebrew, and we mean that with intention: young children at the center, families all around them, and a community celebrating Shabbat with music, movement, and joy. There is nothing we sing, learn, or do that isn't meant to be accessible—from our littlest learners to grown-ups and grand-grown-ups alike.

Your young family is invited to attend a shabbat service together, led by Rabbi Jeff, in a way that feels joyful, warm, and full of life. Snacks will be provided after each service. Please RSVP so we can plan accordingly, to [office@vassartemple.org](mailto:office@vassartemple.org) or (845) 454.2570 .

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



Tamatha



Suzanne

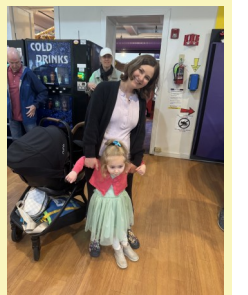


**The Rainy Day Musical Parade** by Tamatha Williams, PJ Library Director

It was a Sunday in mid-April and PJ Library families and friends came together to experience our first, exclusive Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum event. It was a rainy day with a chill more aptly suited for February or March. Nonetheless, as families shuffled in, bundled in their winter gear they longed to shed, an unmistakable warmth filled the room. In recognition of spring, the museum staff prepared pollinator-themed activities including planting special seeds into starter pots and a clever seed-rolling activity where children shaped air-dry clay into round balls and then rolled the balls, gathering up seeds with the clay. PJ Library offered a special activity where children painted their hands and then placed them onto cardstock to make beautiful butterfly keepsake handprints.

As parents and caregivers chatted with one another, the children excitedly began to scurry around the museum. They pivoted from one role play scenario to another, pretending to be firefighters, postal workers delivering mail, chefs baking scrumptious cuisine, storekeepers and inquisitive scientists.

After an opportunity for exploration, musical extraordinaire Rabbi Jeffrey Stombaugh tuned his guitar and gathered everyone together for some songs and dance, delighting both grown-ups and children alike. With much enthusiasm, we decided to transform our musical experience into a rainy day parade, marching to the rhythm of Rabbi Jeff's guitar. We followed our musical journey with a special Storytime read by Talia, one of the PJ Library children. The story focused on planting seeds of kindness and generosity. Our next exclusive PJ Library event at the Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum will be on Sunday, June 14th. I can't wait to get together with our PJ Library families and friends again!



**Spring** by Suzanne Turrissi, PJ Library Assistant Director

Aviv means the season of spring or grain. It is the time of year when grain is ripe and flowers start to bloom. It is a time for new beginnings. A time when things that are asleep are starting to come back to life. It is also the season of our freedom. Spring can also mean:

- Growth: It signifies the growth of plants and the awakening of wildlife.
- Hope: Spring embodies hope and optimism as days become longer and warmer.
- Fertility: The season is often associated with fertility and abundance in agriculture.
- Change: Spring marks a transition from the cold of winter to the warmth of summer.
- Joy: It symbolizes joy and celebration, often reflected in various cultural festivals.
- Encourages outdoor activities and a sense of rejuvenation.
- Associated with themes of hope and new beginnings.
- Marks the transition from winter's dormancy to summer's abundance.
- Renewal- Spring represents new beginnings and the rebirth of nature.

## The Federation Board's Voice



Russell Rothman

The Olympics are over. Every 4 years, some of our favorite TV shows are replaced by non-stop coverage where we get to regale over the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat. Athletes from across the country, in red states and blue states, come together and compete in individual and team competitions. The joy is unmistakable and whether we are watching in a local bar, restaurant, or in our own homes, most are rooting for the red, white, and blue. I know I took immense pride in watching both men's and women's hockey teams win.

Truth be told, in 1979 and 1980, I taught a class in evolutionary biology at the University of Minnesota and two of the members of the US Hockey team took my class (I flunked one of them one year and he took it again). I also remember seeing Herb Brooks, the Men's Olympic coach, and long-time university hockey coach, on campus often, as my office in the Bell Museum of Natural History was only a block from the campus hockey arena. He was truly a beloved local celebrity.

When the Winter Olympics began in 1980, every tv set in Minnesota, in every bar and restaurant was locked into the Olympics once again. Red or blue, black, brown, white, farmers, doctors, scientists, policemen, firemen.... It did not matter because during the Olympics, everyone bled red, white, and blue. Even now, in this politically heated environment, we are still able to put away our differences, even if only for two weeks, to come together. If it is possible for two weeks, maybe it is possible to do so even longer. This is what your Federation does, every day, every week, working to build a strong connected and caring Jewish community, keeping our institutions safe, supporting families in every stage of life, ensuring that Jewish life is lived with confidence, pride, and purpose.

While things may look down or gloomy, we hope you will choose optimism and hope and lean into Jewish life and community. We will be there to help you engage and connect. Your support of Federation makes it possible to respond to any challenges that arise.

## Our Executive Director



### Happy Women of Valor's Day

Because the Jewish calendar is based on a lunar cycle, Jewish holidays are celebrated at various times on the secular calendar. One year, Chanukkah could be on Thanksgiving and another year on the secular NY's Eve. This year in May, the Jewish calendar brings us Lag B'Omer and Shavout (otherwise known as the "Bonfire Holiday" and "The Cheesecake Holiday" in my family).


On the American secular calendar, like clockwork, Mother's Day is celebrated the second Sunday of May. Globally, it varies. When we lived in Thailand, Mother's Day was in August, which was the Queen's birthday. Technically, my children were able to celebrate with their mother twice!

"Mother's Day" fascinates me on multiple levels. Historically, it began in 1908 as an initiative by Anna Jarvis as a day to honor her mother and a celebration between mothers and their families. Once it became a national holiday in 1914, it quickly became what my family refers to as a "Hallmark Holiday." The level of commercialization superseded the original intent, and Anna spent the rest of her life denouncing the holiday.

I often think of the day as one of *celebration* and *sorrow*. Regarding the latter, for those of us who lost a mother, it is a time of sadness and longing to have one more hug or conversation with her. There is also the potential of sorrow for those who wanted to become a biological mother but could not, or for those who did have children, but whose families do not invest time in honoring or cherishing their mothers on this day or any day.

Mother's Day should be a celebration of every female who has helped contribute to the upbringing and betterment of someone young. Whether the individual is a biological mother, aunt, grandmother, teacher, family member, or friend, those who help raise a child are worthy of our love and honor. One who embraces such a role is a hero. This role is so great and valued that there is a prayer to honor her. Eishet Chayil means "woman of valor," a prayer from Proverbs, chapter 31. "A woman of valor, who can find? Far beyond jewels is her value." My mother was not the biggest fan of this prayer as I believe she felt it was framed in the value of a woman only based on her role in the home. However, there are many different ways we can define a woman of valor, inside and outside of the home. This Mother's Day, I encourage you to connect with someone who has fulfilled this role and let her know that she is valued and loved. It will make a world of difference to those who do what we do because it is the right thing to do.

Happy Mother's Day to all the women out there!  
Karen Hochhauser,  
JFedDC Executive Director



Please kindly note the new email of our JFedDC Executive Director:

**execdirector@jewishdutchess.org**

### 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

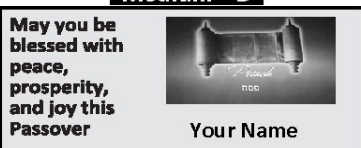
HAPPY PASSOVER!



Your Name

Medium—D

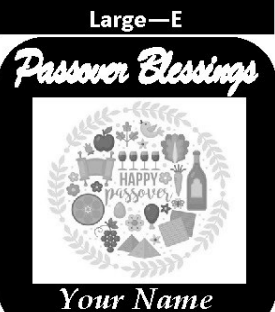
May you be blessed with peace, prosperity, and joy this Passover



Your Name

Large—E


Passover Blessings



Your Name

Large—F


CHAG PESACH SIMACH



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!




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!



Your Name

**Cheese Blintzes** Shared by Kim Salazar at <https://www.jewishfoodsociety.org/recipes/cheese-blintzes>



**Ingredients**

**FOR THE CREPES:**

- 3¼ cups of all purpose flour
- 6 cups water
- 6 large eggs (7 if blintzes will be frozen or refrigerated)
- Vegetable oil for frying

**FOR THE FILLING:**

- 1 pound farmer cheese
- 1 pound pot (or farmer's) cheese
- 8 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon salt
- Sour cream for serving
- Cherry compote

**Preparation**

1. Combine flour and water in medium bowl. Using an electric mixer or whisking by hand, whisk until batter is completely smooth with no lumps, about 4-5 minutes. Add the eggs and beat until fully incorporated.
2. Heat an 8-10 inch skillet over medium-high heat. Pour ¼ cup of vegetable oil into a small bowl and brush the hot skillet with a thin layer of oil.
3. Pour ¼-½ cup of batter into the pan lifting and swirling to coat the bottom evenly.
4. Place pan back on heat and cook until the edges have begun to curl and the center is set, about 1-1 ½ minutes. The crepe should be lightly browned, but not crispy or stiff. With a spatula remove the finished crepe onto a clean dishtowel to cool.
5. Repeat with the remaining batter, stacking crepes cooked side down once cooled.
6. Make the filling: In a large bowl, with a fork mash together the farmer cheese, pot cheese and cream cheese until well-combined. Add the eggs and salt, and mix until smooth.
7. Place a crepe, cooked side up on a clean work surface. Spoon 2 tablespoons of filling onto the bottom third of the crepe about 1-inch from the edge. Fold the lower edge of the crepe up over the filling. Fold the left and right sides of the crepe in and roll up like a burrito tucking in the edges as you go.
8. Repeat with the remaining crepes and filling (blintzes can be refrigerated or frozen at this point).
9. Heat ¼ cup of oil in a heavy bottomed pan over medium-high heat. Working in batches of 3, fry the blintzes beginning flap side down, about 2 minutes per side, or until golden brown and crispy.
10. Serve blintzes warm with sour cream or fruit compote.




**May is Jewish American Heritage Month...**

- Jewish American Heritage Month (JAHM) was established in May 2006 by a Presidential proclamation, in recognition and celebration of Jewish American society.
- During JAHM, we are reminded that discrimination against Jewish people—or any group—undermines the core principles of justice, inclusion, and liberty for all, which are fundamental to the American identity, making antisemitism inherently anti-American.
- JAHM provides an opportunity to celebrate diversity within the Jewish American community and reflect on the contributions of Jewish Americans to society as a whole.
- JAHM promotes education and awareness about the Jewish American community, fostering greater understanding and appreciation among people of all backgrounds.
- JAHM encourages community engagement through events, discussions, and activities that bring people together to celebrate shared values of inclusivity, tolerance, and respect.
- JAHM provides an opportunity for outreach and collaboration – both in celebration of Jewish communities and in the fight against antisemitism and other forms of hate.

# KNOW GREATER VALUE®

Proud to Support  
Jewish Federation of Dutchess County



ACCOUNTANTS AND ADVISORS

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Domenick T. Del Rosso, Partner  
845.244.0290  
ddelrosso@pkfod.com

pkfod.com

# WE'RE HIRING!

For more information, visit:  
[WWW.MIDHUDSONCM.COM/CAREERS](http://WWW.MIDHUDSONCM.COM/CAREERS)

**Open Positions:**

- Construction
- Accounting Clerk
- Project Manager
- Civil & Building Superintendent
- Junior Estimator
- Operator
- Carpenter
- Laborer



**MHCM**  
MID HUDSON CONSTRUCTION  
MANAGEMENT

## Congregation Schomre Israel

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

### Weekly Services:

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

### Adult Education:

#### Tuesday

**Ethics of the Fathers through the Prism of History, and the Views of the Jewish Sages, Philosophers, Thinkers, Kabbalists, & Pious** 10:30am. One who wants to reach Piety should delve into Ethics of the Fathers We will continue our study of these ideas guided by insights from our sages.

**Hebrew 301-Learning Hebrew through the Book of Ruth** 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 is appropriate for all levels and will be taught through the lens of the Book of Ruth, ensuring that it will be both enjoyable, functional, and informative.

#### Thursday

**A Deeper Understanding of the Weekly Haftarah** 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 on Thursday 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.

### Other Events:

#### Sunday

**Rosh Chodesh breakfast** May 17, following the morning service to mark the beginning of the month of Sivan.

**Road trip to Rockland** May 31, The World Stands on 3 Pillars—Torah, Service, & Kindness. We will be taking a Road Trip down to Rockland to see these three pillars in action. We will be given tours of some of the major Torah Institutions, Synagogues, and "Kindness Factories", hear from famous speakers and visit a selection of Restaurants and Stores—Tentative date, check our website.

#### Thursday

**Shavuos Community Seder**-May 21, 6:30pm. We will be having a Torah-led Shavuos Seder (dairy), with foods representing the Torah and the Jewish People - Open to the Community.

#### Friday

**Yom Yerushalayim** May 15, 6:20pm. Schomre will be bringing in Cantor Alexander Rabinowitz for a dynamic Jerusalem Kabbalat Shabbat followed by a Jerusalem inspired meal.

**Community Yizkor** May 22. Shavuos services start at 9 am. Yizkor will be recited. Following services there will be a Shavuos dairy celebration from the Sisterhood and a class titled Judaism in the A-I "Smart World."

#### Saturday

**Guest Cantor led service**-May 16, 9:00am. Cantor Rabinowitz will lead the Jerusalem Shacharis prayers starting at 9:00am, followed by a hot Jerusalem-style Kiddush - Open to the Community.  
Shavuos service with special kiddush-May 23.

#### Contact

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

## Congregation Shir Chadash

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

### Weekly Services:

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

### Adult Education:

#### Saturday

**Torah Study** 9:15am. An informal discussion about the Torah portion of the week with Shir Chadash's new spiritual leader, Rabbi Jacob. Everyone has a chance to participate. Bring an inquisitive mind, a curiosity about our tradition, and a willingness to share your thoughts.

For info: (845) 232-1029,  
email: [info@shir-chadash.org](mailto:info@shir-chadash.org)  
or visit [www.shir-chadash.org](http://www.shir-chadash.org).

### Other Events:

#### Sunday

#### Rosh Chodesh Reading Group

Those interested in reading are invited (now done virtually) to our interesting and provocative discussions. Dates & times TBD. Participants meet to discuss memoirs, fiction, poetry, and drama in a variety of works that offer Jewish themes and a variety of perspectives of interest. Have a topic or suggestion? Please let us know! For more info, please call (845) 232-1029, via email: [info@shir-chadash.org](mailto:info@shir-chadash.org)

#### Contact :

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



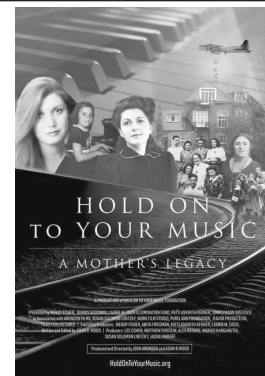
## JEWIS IN THE NEWS.

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

Congratulations, Josh Aronson, on your new film  
**Hold On To Your Music: A Mother's Legacy.**

Come join Josh, Film Director, for a movie viewing followed by a discussion and Q&A.

May 10, 7:00pm, at the Upstate Film/Starr Cinema  
Buy ticket at:  
<https://www.upstatefilms.org>



## Temple Beth-El

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

### Weekly Services:

Friday & Saturday Shabbat Services are both in-person and Zoom.  
Monday— Friday Minyan 8:00 am.  
Monday & Thursday in person & Zoom,  
Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday only on Zoom  
Call the Temple Beth-El office for the current schedule.

### Adult Education:

For information about ongoing Adult Education at Temple Beth-El, please contact the synagogue office : (845) 454-0570.

### Other Events:

#### Sunday

**Make & Take** 10:00am, May 17. Last one of the school year! Children ages 2 to 7 are invited to enjoy a creative morning filled with crafts and stories. The event coincides with our annual Teacher Appreciation Lunch. For more information, please contact Nancy at [educationnj118@gmail.com](mailto:educationnj118@gmail.com).

**Temple Beth-El Serves at Lunchbox** 2nd Sunday. Volunteers are needed to help serve a meal at Lunchbox at Dutchess Outreach. You can also help by making a donation to help cover the cost. Contact Nancy Judson & volunteer (845) 216-7563

#### Monday

**Book Club** 2:00pm, May 11. Join us for a lively discussion when author Galina Vromen will join us to discuss her novel *Hill of Secrets*. For more information Contact Merri At [moondoggie7@optonline.net](mailto:moondoggie7@optonline.net).

**Start Your Mondays with Tai Chi!** 10:30 AM. Contact the Temple for details. (845) 454-0570

#### Wednesday

**Mitzvah Knitters** 10:30am, May 6, 20. Come knit, schmooze, and do some good. We will be making scarves for those in need, and everyone is welcome. Never picked up needles before? We will get you started!

#### Friday

**Shabbat Table** 6:00pm, May 8. A welcoming Shabbat dinner with music, stories, Torah study, dessert, and Kaddish. RSVP is required and a nominal fee applies. Contact Joël at [adminassist@tbeny.org](mailto:adminassist@tbeny.org) for more information

#### Contact:

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

## Vassar Temple

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

### Weekly Services:

Most services are hybrid (both in person and on Zoom). Contact [office@vassartemple.org](mailto:office@vassartemple.org) for Zoom link  
**Thursday**  
**Tikkun Leil Shavuot** May 21, 7:30pm, (Location TBD).

#### Friday

**Shavout Morning Festival Service & Yizkor** May 22, 10:30am.

**Shabbat Evening Service** May 1, 8, 22, 29, May 15, Annual Sisterhood Service, 7:00pm.

#### Saturday

**New Paths Shabbat Morning Worship** May 2, 16, 10:15am.

**Shabbat Yeladim children's service** May 9, 23, 10:15am.

### Adult Education:

#### Monday

**Talmud Study** on Zoom with Senior Scholar Rabbi Paul Golomb select Mondays, 12:00pm. To be put on the email list and receive study sheets contact him at [pjgolomb@verizon.net](mailto:pjgolomb@verizon.net).

#### Saturday

**Torah Study** with Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh 9:00am, hybrid. (no class 4/11/26) Join our lively discussions.

Contact [office@vassartemple.org](mailto:office@vassartemple.org) to be placed on the Torah Study e-mail list.

### Other Events:

#### Saturday

**New Paths Service** May 2, 16, 10:15am, hybrid. The moving liturgy includes both traditional and contemporary writings, mostly in English, and participants may contribute supplemental materials to share. "We take the time to let the service get through us, rather than getting through services." Each New Paths service provides a unique and thoughtful, spiritually – oriented Shabbat morning experience, including music, with Rabbi Jeff in an intimate, informal worship setting. A brief kiddush follows. Contact (845) 454-2570 or [office@vassartemple.org](mailto:office@vassartemple.org) to be put on the New Paths email list, if you need the Zoom link, or to borrow our special prayer book.

#### Wednesday

**VTS Book Club** June 17, 2:00pm  
*My Friends*, a novel by Fredrik Backman who brought us *A Man Called Ove*, enjoyed by many, is a funny, deeply moving tale that will pull you in right away.

"Most people don't even notice them—three tiny figures sitting at the end of a long pier in the corner of one of the most famous paintings in the world. Most people think it's just a depiction of the sea. But Louisa, an aspiring artist herself, knows otherwise, and she is determined to find out the story of these three enigmatic figures.

Twenty-five years earlier, in a distant seaside town, a group of teenagers find refuge from their bruising home lives by spending long summer days on an abandoned pier, telling silly jokes, sharing secrets, and committing small acts of rebellion. These lost souls find in each other a reason to get up each morning, a reason to dream, a reason to love.

Out of that summer emerges a transcendent work of art, a painting that will unexpectedly be placed into eighteen-year-old Louisa's care. She embarks on a surprise-filled cross-country journey to learn how the painting came to be and to decide what to do with it. The closer she gets to the painting's birthplace, the more nervous she becomes about what she'll find. Louisa is proof that happy endings don't always take the form we expect in this stunning testament to the transformative, timeless power of friendship and art." (Amazon)  
Discussion of this book will be in-person at the Collegeview Tower meeting room, 141 Fulton Avenue, Poughkeepsie. All are welcome. For questions, please contact [bookclub@vassartemple.org](mailto:bookclub@vassartemple.org).

#### Contact :

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

### TIKKUN LEIL SHAVUOT: Preparing Together for Shavuot

*Exploring Select Jewish Teachings in Preparation to Receive the Torah*

Rabbis from Vassar Temple, Congregation Shir Chadash, and Temple Beth El will teach & lead the discussion.

**Location: Temple Beth-El 118 South Grand Ave., Poughkeepsie**  
**Thursday evening May 21, 2026**

7:30pm Coffee and Cheesecake. followed by study and concluding with Ma'ariv.  
*This event will be presented hybrid—link will be available from the synagogues*

## Pardess Center for Jewish Life

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

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

## The Rhinebeck Jewish Center

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

### Weekly Services:

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

### Contact:

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

## Chabad of Mid-Hudson Valley

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

### Weekly Services:

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

### Adult Education:

#### Wednesday

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

### Special Events:

#### Sunday

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

### Contact :

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

## Beacon Hebrew Alliance

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

### Weekly Services:

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

**Check our Community Calendar for services times, generally every Friday & one Saturday per month:**  
[www.beaconhebrewalliance.org/calendar](http://www.beaconhebrewalliance.org/calendar)

### Contact:

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

## Congregation Beth David

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

### Weekly Services:

Saturdays 10:30am.

### Contact:

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

## Vassar College Bayit

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

### Weekly Services:

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

### Contact :

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

## Chabad Beacon

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

### Contact:

**[rabbichabadbeacon.com](http://rabbichabadbeacon.com)**  
**for current information**  
**or visit the website**  
**[chabadbeacon.com](http://chabadbeacon.com)**

## Congregation Emanuel of the Hudson Valley

243 Albany Ave, Kingston  
 (845) 338-4271 ext 101  
 Rabbi's Study: (845) 338-4384 ext 102  
 Rabbi Jack Sherratt:  
[rabbijack@hvc.rr.com](mailto:rabbijack@hvc.rr.com)  
**Weekly Services:**  
**Friday**  
 Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00pm,  
**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](mailto:info@cehv.org)**  
**for all events and current info**  
**or visit the website [www.CEHV.org](http://www.CEHV.org)**

## Bard College

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

### Contact:

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

## Woodstock Jewish Congregation

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

### Weekly Services:

#### Friday

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

#### Saturday

**Shabbat Service** 10:00am

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

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



## May Candle Lighting Schedule

May 1	7:36pm
May 8	7:43pm
May 15	7:50pm
May 22	7:57pm
May 29	8:03pm



## 2026 JEWISH HERITAGE NIGHT!

WITH THE HUDSON VALLEY RENEGADES

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 8TH @ 6:35 p.m.**

**Kosher Food Options Available**

In partnership with the Jewish Federations of Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster Counties!



**Scan the QR code for tickets!**  
**or visit [JewishDutchess.org/events](http://JewishDutchess.org/events)**  
*Select DUTCHESS when you check out*



**Jewish Federation**  
 of Dutchess County

**845.471.9811 | [info@JewishDutchess.org](mailto:info@JewishDutchess.org)**



## 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, 5/17/26, (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.



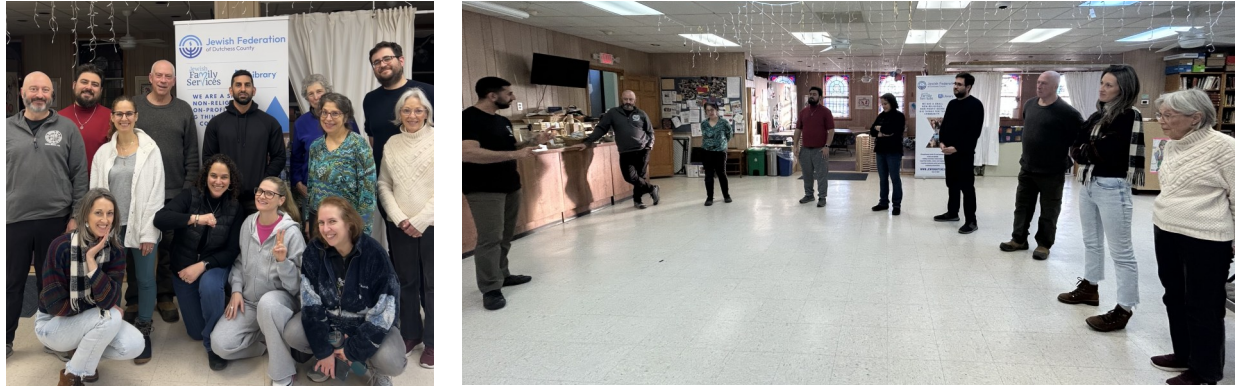
Vassar Temple High Tea



JFedDC's Jewish Book Council event in partnership with the Poughkeepsie Public Library District and with Dan Slater, the author of *The Incurruptibles*.



JFedDC's Jewish Security Council - Hudson Valley (JSEC-HV) Community Security Training with Pat Regan of CSI at Beacon Hebrew Alliance.



JFedDC's Jewish Security Council - Hudson Valley (JSEC-HV) Community Security Training with Ofer Shalom of CSS at Beacon Hebrew Alliance.

### Calling all 2026 High School and College Grads!

If you know a 2026 High School or College graduate, email us their name, picture, and the school from which they graduated to celebrate their success.

Email the information by July 1: [Thevoice@jewishdutchess.org](mailto:Thevoice@jewishdutchess.org)



Vassar Temple Civic Engagement event with NYS Senator Robert Rolison, NYS Assemblymember Jonathan Jacobson, and NYS Assemblymember Didi Barrett.



Members of the Vassar Temple Brotherhood prepared and served the annual Purim Dinner.



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](http://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](http://hvpalliativecare.org) or call **845.240.7557**.



*Hope*  
**comes in many forms**

For some, it means feeling seen, heard and supported, every step of the way.



Contact Hudson Valley Hospice: [hvospice.org](http://hvospice.org) • (845) 240-7555