

Congregation Schomre Israel of Poughkeepsie

Shabbat Bulletin

י"ג אדר התשפ"ד
שבת פרשת ויקרא

שבת זכר

Parshat Va'erah

Shabbat Zachor

March 22-23, 2024 / 5784

Rabbi
Shlomo Krasner

President
Michael Rosenblatt

Gabbai
Abe Weisfelner

Sisterhood
Cassia Brown Roberta Grosman

שבת שלום * Shabbat Shalom

COMING WEEK SCHEDULE

Shabbat Parshat Vayikra
Zachor: Devarim 25 17-19
Haftara: Shemuel I 15:2-34

Friday, March 22
6:52pm Candle Lighting
(Earliest Lighting 5:55pm)

6:50pm Mincha
Kabbalat Shabbat and Maariv
7:53pm Earliest Time for Shema

Shabbat, March 23
9:00am Shacharit
9:57am latest time for Shema
Zachor Reading
1:33pm Earliest time for Mincha
7:54pm Havdala

Thursday 21th - Fast of Esther

Fast Starts – 5:44am
Shacharis - 8:00am
No Yoga - No Class
6:30pm - Mincha with Torah Reading
Fast Ends – 7:52pm

Purim eve – After Shabbat 23rd

Maariv with Reading the Megilla -8:30pm

Purim Sunday -24th –

Shacharit with Megilla reading – 8:30am

Note: It is a very important Torah reading, and for those who cannot make it we will be having it on Zoom.

Megilla reading will be in person only ~9:00am

Second Megilla reading for those who could not make the morning
4:10pm sharp

Sisterhood Purim Dinner (RSVP Required) 5:00pm

Monday 25th: - Shushan Purim

Shacharis - 8:00am
Yoga 10:00am

Tuesday 26th:

* **Rambam – Intro to Mishna Torah II – 10:30am**

* **Writing Hebrew 11:45am**

* **Reading Hebrew – Yigdal 6:00pm**

Yahrtzeit Mincha Maariv 7:00pm at the Levines
(in merit of Cantor Stamler)

Thursday 28th:

Shacharis - 8:00am
Yoga 10:00am

7:00pm Window into Yesteryear – Sol Hachual (Morrocco 1800s)

* Indicates live and zoom (<https://zoom.us/j/2448244824> pwd 2448)

Please daven for our Schomre Families called in War:

Yoni Schneider
Avi Nattan bas Beila Miriam
Evyasar Shalom ben Leah
Yaakov Daniel ben Avigayil
Yonaton Yizchak ben Yocheved
Shira Dina bas Yocheved
Eliyahu Yeshaya ben Adina Naomi
Naftali Yehuda ben Adina Naomi
Noam Chaim ben Adina Naomi

BRING PURIM JOY TO OUR CHAYALIM!

THROUGH THE MEIR MISHKOFF Z'L MISHLOACH MANOT CAMPAIGN

Send mishloach manot and provide megillot to IDF soldiers in Gaza, up North and throughout Israel!

Provide seudat Purim, mishloach manot, and matanot levyonim to displaced families from the North and South of Israel!

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO ORDER VISIT YIMANOT.ORG

ORDERS MUST BE IN BY MARCH 15TH!

100% OF PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT PROJECTS OF THE IDF RABBINATE



Future Events

March 31 – 4:00pm – An Evening with Eleanor Reissa (Please RSVP)

April 16 – 6:30pm – Dinner of Gratitude for the Chevra Kadisha

7:00pm – Understanding Wills and Elder Law (Please RSVP)

April 22 & 23 – Community Seders – Must RSVP

Birthdays

Monday, March 25 - Naphtali Zinger

Friday, March 29 - Kim Fishman

Anniversary

Wednesday, March 27 - Mr. and Mrs. Sam Wexler

Friday, March 29 - Mr. and Mrs. Ariel Barzilay

Yahrtzeits

Monday, December 25 - Carlton Klein

Purim, Sunday, March 24 - Chana Spira

Wednesday, March 27 - Al Hochheiser

- Victor Weinstein

- Cantor Endre Stamler

Friday, March 29 - Frances Hochheiser

Taking Action

Please sign a petition to let President Biden know why he should continue his support for Israel – <http://tinyurl.com/Puri>

A few links that explain why Israel defending itself is a moral war

- <https://www.newsweek.com/israel-implemented-more-measures-prevent-civilian-casualties-any-other-nation-history-opinion-1865613>
- <https://www.compactmag.com/article/israel-has-committed-no-war-crimes-hamas-has/>
- <https://www.newsweek.com/more-accurate-accounting-war-gaza-opinion-1880784>
- <https://nypost.com/2023/12/08/opinion/israel-is-not-morally-required-to-sacrifice-its-people-to-save-gazan-civilians/>
- <https://www.international.ucla.edu/cnes/article/5071>
- <https://www.theyeshivaworld.com/news/israel-news/2270914>
- <https://www.theyeshivaworld.com/news/israel-news/2271013>

Please write and call your councilman to explain to them why demanding a ceasefire when the terrorists state that they will rebuild to perpetuate massacres again is not a good idea.

Help our Brothers and Sisters in Israel when we need them most

Young Israel has a variety of programs to support our soldiers. They are a very reliable organization and their [support page can be found here](#).

[Helmets for soldiers in the North](#) (I researched, this is a reliable link)

If you ever
feel useless
remember
the UN still
exists





Congratulations to the new graduates of the Givati Brigade



[Thermal Clothes and drones](#) for the soldiers at the North (Also reliable)
The disaster that happened last week in Gaza is a difficult event. In the conversations we have with the soldiers fighting in Gaza, we hear again and again how essential it is for the soldiers to get more drone cameras that better detect from the air the movement of terrorists or terrorists hiding in buildings in order to surprise our soldiers with live fire.

So far we have sent over 3000 sets of thermal clothing and tactical combat equipment, as well as over 20 thermal drone cameras to soldiers in Gaza. Now we have requests for 10 more drone cameras. Your support strengthens both the front and the rear.

without drone cameras it is difficult to function in the battlefield.

Support them now: <https://bit.ly/49De1eC>

Pasta for Purim

Please bring a securely sealed box of pasta to shul with you when you come to hear the Megillah read on Purim. At the mention of Haman during the Megillah reading you can vigorously shake your Purim package of pasta. After services pasta boxes will be collected to donate to the Morse School. You are welcome to bring in cans or plastic bottles of sauce to be donated as well but use only the pasta for shaking!

It's Part of a Plan

Rabbi Yitzchak Aryeh Strimber

On Purim, we read the Megillah – the Book of Esther. The Megillah tells the story about how the wicked Haman, who was second to the king, plotted to exterminate all the Jews, and how his plot was miraculously foiled. If we pay close attention to the Megillah, we will see how its story is full of various incidents which contributed to the downfall of Haman and the salvation of the Jews. There are no supernatural miracles mentioned in the story of the Megillah. There are numerous events, which during the time they happened would seem to be minute and insignificant or even detrimental to the salvation of the Jews. Only in the end, after everything came together, do we see the tremendous precision with which God orchestrated every single factor. For example, Haman prepared gallows to hang Mordechai, the leading sage of the Jews. The gallows then served to hang Haman upon them. This turnaround of events came about because, years earlier, Mordechai apprised the king of a plot that his guards had to assassinate him, and “coincidentally,” he was never paid back for this favor. The time this was brought to the king’s attention was precisely when Haman came to ask the king to have Mordechai hung. The ultimate salvation came about through Esther, who was the queen, imploring the king to save her nation. This all took place many years after she was taken against her will to marry the king. God had orchestrated this in advance, in order for her to be in the right place, at the right time, to be able to save the Jews.

The story of the Megillah is not just an interesting and entertaining story. It is a lesson for life for every person. As Rabbi Aharon Leib Steiman once told someone, the purpose of the Megillah is to ingrain in ourselves the understanding that God is running the world. Every person has things in life



which he does not understand. The Megillah teaches us how we should trust God, that everything has a plan, a purpose and a reason. We might be able to look back after many years and see how different experiences contributed to the larger scheme of things, but we might not see the bigger picture in our lifetime. The attitude we ought to gain from the Megillah is to strengthen our trust in God. Even when there are confusing events on our lives, there is a much bigger picture we don't see. God is always meticulously arranging everything to happen for our ultimate good. We don't have control over the many turns our lives take, and we must learn that God knows better how to take care of us, and He is constantly involved in ensuring everything turns out for us for the best.

When I was in eighth grade, I had applied to a three high schools, but was not accepted to either of my top two choices. My only option was my third choice, which I only applied to as a backup, but didn't really want to attend. I was not expecting the rejection, nor did the faculty members of my school. They had me convinced that I would easily be admitted to these top schools. I was very disappointed. I did not think at all that I would have a chance to succeed nearly as well at the school I was accepted to, as I would at the other two. It wasn't until over six years later, after I graduated from the post-high school program, that I realized how good it was for me. Looking back, I saw clearly how there was no way I would have developed and succeeded the way I did, had I gone to either of the other schools. It was amazing to look back and see how God steered me to the perfect school for me.

The Torah forbids us to turn to sorcerers and psychics or connect to the dead to find out what the future will bring, or to make decisions based on superstitions. At the conclusion, the verse says (Deuteronomy 18:13), "You shall be unassuming with God." Rashi says this means to accept everything that happens from God, instead of trying to manipulate your destiny based on the predictions of unnatural sources. Rabbeinu Yonah says (Sha'arei Teushvah 3:17) that this is a mitzvah to have Bitachon – to trust the God knows what he is doing, and he is taking care of us in the best possible way. We all have things in our lives which came about as a result of a combination of various events we were unaware of and did not appreciate at the time they took place, but only appreciate in retrospect. Just like in the story of the Megillah, we ought to utilize these insights to strengthen our reliance on God. This way, we even when we do not understand why things are happening to us, we will have the strength to recognize that God is running the world, and that God knows what He is doing.

Enough sympathy: Jews need real action to stop antisemitism

Rabbi Moshe Hauer

President Biden's State of the Union address notably ignored America's current tidal wave of antisemitism and failed to reference the May 2023 launch of the first ever National Strategy to Combat Antisemitism.

Doing otherwise would have forced an acknowledgement that to date that strategy has been utterly ineffective. More recent immediate responses have also been ineffective.

It's high time for meaningful action against this scourge.

We do not need more congressional hearings on campus antisemitism, or further expressions of admiration for the “courage” of Jewish students who have not gone into hiding.

We certainly do not need additional statements of sympathy for a Jewish community stunned by the torrent of unchecked hatred and violence directed towards it.

What we need are effective responses. We need this hatred and violence to stop — on campuses and on the streets of America.

Within the Jewish community people often ask, as Rep. Kathy Manning did recently, what makes the current situation different from Germany in 1933 or 1938? Shouldn't we recognize the ominous signs of where things appear to be headed?

We do worry, but we also note a significant difference. In Germany of the 1930s, the authorities were the problem, whereas in the United States today we are blessed with government and law enforcement officials who share our horror.

But that horror will only be meaningful if it translates into an effective response.

It is time — now — for the government, specifically the Departments of Justice and Education, to clarify the rights and obligations of university administrators and law enforcement officials to contain and reverse the violent antisemitic incitement masquerading as political speech, beginning with the rallies.

Jews across the country are confronted regularly with mass chants and public gatherings calling for “globalizing the intifada” and other thinly veiled threats of violent actions against Jews, against them.

These events are especially disturbing on campuses, where both members of the public and those affiliated with the university participate.

Students watch their faculty and fellow students celebrate and express support for the murderous and rapacious attacks of Hamas, a US-designated Foreign Terrorist Organization that proudly declares its genocidal intent to kill Jews.

These supporters of Hamas and opponents of Israel chant phrases including “From the River to the Sea, Palestine Will be Free.”

While some may claim this is a legitimate call for political independence for the Palestinians or even for the end of Israel, this phrase, in the context of the protesters' express support for Hamas, is nothing short of a call for Jewish genocide.

Law enforcement and campus administrators rarely intervene.

Every day since Oct. 7, menacing anti-Israel protesters confidently do and say as they wish knowing there will be no police intervention until they physically attack someone.

The FBI has acknowledged with a resigned shrug that it operationally treats this inciteful speech as protected, while, thanks to increased scrutiny of police and their handling of public protest, law enforcement is effectively powerless to go beyond attempting to convince rallying crowds to avoid violence.

No doubt, there are critical challenges to both laying down and enforcing the law on public protest. Free speech is a core American value we share.

Suppression of protest — even when it is not legally protected speech, which many of these chants are not — has terrible optics and can blow up badly.

But the status quo is not viable.

Meeting these violently hateful antisemitic movements with silence or with toothless statements threatens not only the Jewish community but the very future of our country.

Government must not satisfy itself with condemnations and community education seminars on coexistence.

To stop this hate, the offices of civil rights at the Departments of Justice and Education must issue specific guidance to campuses and law enforcement that does three things: 1) defines the limits of free speech in the public square and on campus, 2) provides specific guidance on the rights and responsibilities to enforce those limits and 3) provides effective tools of enforcement and support for their use.

Anti-war protests are legitimate free speech. Opposition to the Gaza war is not per se antisemitism.

Whatever one's opinion of the justice of the Gaza war, the images of civilians harmed in Gaza are horrific to all, and no one should be forbidden to peacefully protest them, either in sadness or anger.

If people, correctly or incorrectly, accuse Israel or Hamas of genocide, it is their right to do so even at the top of their lungs.

But there is no place for the encouragement of murder, whether it is Jews encouraging the murder of Palestinians or others encouraging the murder of Jews.

There is also no place for speech that includes intimidation and incitement of immediate violence.

But the ongoing near-daily rallies, often including masked protesters and menacing slogans, have prompted those visibly identified with Israel or the Jewish people to be immediately fearful for their physical safety.

Such speech is not protected anywhere, even before it escalates into actual violence or vandalism, especially on campuses, where legal requirements differ from most public places.

Addressing the situation at universities is both more essential and more limited than in the larger public square.

Places of learning must be open markets for the exchange of ideas, but universities have both the right and responsibility to impose behavioral policies that limit hateful speech and behavior.

Academic freedom is harmed by words and deeds that intimidate, silence debate and make those attacked feel unwelcome.

In addition, there is a legal obligation on universities to stop such rallies: As Title VI of the Civil Rights Act stipulates, educational institutions that receive federal funding, which is almost all public and private universities, must provide all students, including Jewish students, a school environment free from discrimination based on race, color or national origin, including shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics.

What is allowed on the street as free speech may not be allowed on campus.

On Dec. 5, the world watched in shock as the presidents of America's leading universities testified before Congress, exhibiting cluelessness about their obligations and rights and the principles governing inciteful speech on campus and equivocating over whether calls for genocide of the Jews violate their school's codes of conduct, their Title VI obligations or the boundaries of legitimate free speech.

They remain clueless today, three months later.

It is time that government provided more than sympathy. What will determine the difference between Germany 1933 and the United States in 2024 is not good intentions, but an effective and timely response.

Rabbi Moshe Hauer is executive vice president of the Orthodox Union.



Kiddush for Our Chayalim



**Hillel's Heimish Herring
Providing Shabbat Kiddush Delicacies
for IDF bases all over Israel**



Kiddush provides:

Herring
Crackers
Kugel
Candy platters
Kombucha
Wine and Kiddush Cup
Beef Jerky (Deluxe)

Basic kiddush kit for 50 soldiers \$300

Deluxe kiddush kit for 50 soldiers \$550

**Kiddush kits delivered to bases all over the country
(8 to 10 bases) \$2500**

All donations include a note of sponsorship



[click here to sign up](#)

Dutchess Yiddish Club

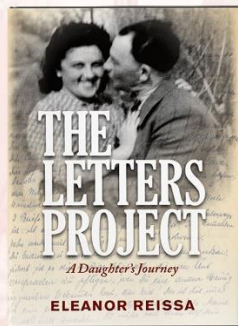
in conjunction with

the Ann & Abe Effron Donor Advised Fund
Of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley

An Afternoon with Eleanor Reissa

Eleanor Reissa, coined the "Reigning Queen of Yiddish Cabaret" is known for her career as an American actress, singer, theatre director, playwright, librettist, choreographer, translator, and author. Nominated for a Tony Award, amongst many others, Eleanor has been described as a master storyteller, whose "voice ... is earnest and speaks directly to the reader."

Eleanor has directed, acted, playwritten and sung in over fifty films, plays, and musicals, in English and Yiddish. And amongst a long list of accomplishments, she was artistic director of the National Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene for five years.



Eleanor will be coming into our Community to discuss and share her masterpiece, *The Letters Project: A Daughter's Journey*. She will likewise bring the community in to share her experience and love of her fascinating career with Yiddish and the arts.

Eleanor will graciously be available for Book Signing at the end of her shpeil.

Location: Schomre Israel - 18 Park Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY
Date: March 31, 4:00pm



The Jewish Federation
OF DUTCHESS COUNTY

Preparing for Respect of Life

Dinner in Gratitude of the Chevra Kadisha

**Join us April 16 where we will navigate the world
of Wills and Elder Care with Karen Tobias JD**



Karen Tobias is an estate planning attorney who has provided compassionate counsel and outstanding legal services for over 30 years. Karen offers both experience and expertise in the area of Elder Law, including Trusts, Medicaid Planning, Asset Preservation, Income, Gift, and Estate Tax Planning, Wills and Healthcare Directives. She offers home visits as needed.

Establishing an estate plan is one of the most important steps you can take to protect yourself and your loved ones. Proper estate planning not only puts you in charge of your finances, but it can also spare your loved ones the expense, delay and frustration associated with managing your affairs when you pass away or become disabled.

We all know how important it is to prepare a will and legal estate planning. Yet many of us do not know the basics of where to start.

Failing to Prepare is Preparing to Fail

**6:30pm - Dinner in gratitude of the Chevra Kadisha
Come with a filled Halachic Health Proxy for
Karen to notarize (\$10 suggested donation)**

7:00pm - "Understanding the Legal Issues in Creating a Will"

Schomre Israel - 18 Park Avenue, Poughkeepsie NY

**Sponsored by the Ann & Abe Effron Donor Advised Fund
Of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley**

*Join Us for Schomre Israel's
135th Anniversary
Luncheon*

**Honoring the Families of our
Founders and Leadership**

**18 Park Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY
May 19th**

- 1:30 - Meet and Welcome the families,
a collective Siyum, and Divri Bracha**
- 2:30 - Visit and pray at our family and friends
at the Schomre Cemetery**
- 3:30 - Luncheon with the presentation of the
Anniversary Journal.**
 - At this time, people will be invited to come
up and tell over their family history and/or fond
Schomre Memories.**

Please RSVP by
May 1 (latest)
Ad Deadline - Pesach
schomre1@aol.com &
rabbishlomok@gmail.com
443-388-0033 for questions

Anniversary Journal Ads
* **Diamond Sponsor \$1000**
* **Full Page \$500**
* **Half Page \$360**
* **Quarter Page \$180**

Siyum sign up - hadranalach.com/2903