

The Ezra-Habonim, Niles Township Jewish Congregation

SISTERHOOD CORNER—May, 2018

Judy Frank, President (judy@tcscorp.com)

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From the President's Desk...

Our Sisterhood will be very busy during the month of May! On **Thursday, May 3rd at 7:30 p.m.** we welcome local author Renée Rosen (who has written several books about Chicago such as “*White Collar Girl*” and “*What the Lady Wants*”) to discuss her latest book, “*Windy City Blues*”. A special dessert reception will follow.

Sisterhood Shabbat will take place on **Saturday, May 5th.** We welcome everyone to join us as members of our Sisterhood lead the Shabbat morning service, followed by the Kiddush luncheon sponsored by the Sisterhood. The Torah Fund Luncheon will be on **Wednesday, May 9th,** with guest speaker Rabbi Kenneth Berger. Rabbi Berger grew up in West Rogers Park, and both he and his son are graduates of the Jewish Theological Seminary—just one of the institutions that the Torah Fund supports.

Our Culminating Luncheon will take place on **Wednesday, June 6th.** Musical entertainment will be provided by Liz Zoller Cohen. Invitations are in the mail!

Information on all of our programs and events can be found on the EHNTJC website at ehnt.org. Click on the ‘Community’ header and go to the Sisterhood section. You can also call the synagogue office at (847)675-4141 to make a reservation. We hope you will join us!

B'Shalom! Judy Frank

News and Notes...

- Be a media mogul! A \$5 contribution makes you a sponsor of our Sisterhood bulletin. Please mail your contributions to:
Diane Rosenfeld c/o EHNTJC Sisterhood
4500 Dempster Street • Skokie, IL 60076

Our Media Moguls this month are:

***Marcy Feinberg,
Judy Frank (in honor of Israel
Independence Day),
Adie Fuchs (in honor of Layla Grunfeld's
high school graduation and Reina
Grunfeld's elementary school
graduation),
Esther Javetz (in honor of Israel
Independence Day),
Bobbie Levin, Dori Marks,
Debbie Novoselsky (in honor of our
50th wedding anniversary),
Diane Rosenfeld and
Judith-Rae Ross***

If you have news to share, contact Diane Rosenfeld at raynesd@aol.com.

- Sisterhood donation cards are 8/\$10 and the Chai cards are 6/\$18. The cards are available in the synagogue office or through our Gift Shop.

BOOK and AUTHOR RECEPTION

**Thursday, May 3rd at
7:30 p.m.**

***Please join us as author Renée Rosen
reviews her latest novel...***

“Windy City Blues”

Renée Rosen's latest book, “*Windy City Blues*” (February, 2017) was chosen by the Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership as ‘One Book, One Community’. This marks the first time that an author who lives and works in Chicago was selected.

In “*Windy City Blues*”, Rosen knits a small crew of fictional characters into the real lives of noteworthy Chicagoans, following them from the 1930's through the tumultuous decades that follow. Among the true-to-life figures gracing the book's pages are musical icons Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Etta James, and Chuck Berry, along with Leonard and Phil Chess of Chess Records. Readers will encounter the life of Jewish immigrants on Maxwell Street, the unregulated days of the recording industry and racial and religious discrimination. Each chapter is titled with the name of a song recorded at Chess Records.

Ms. Rosen will also have a selection of her previously published books for sale.

**\$10 for Sisterhood Members and
\$15 for Non-members
and at the door.**



EHNTJC Sisterhood

is affiliated with the Women's
League for Conservative Judaism

Good and Welfare...

- **Mazel Tov** to Debbie Reich on the birth of her new grandson, Tyler Graham Reich.
- **Mazel Tov** to Sandy Kaiz on the birth of her new great-granddaughter, Carley Ann Melin.

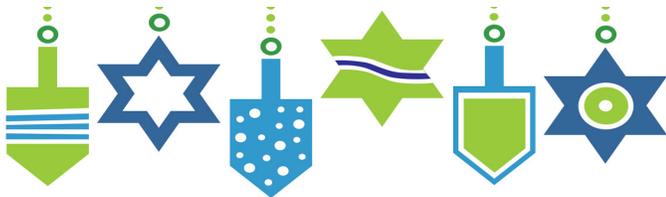
GIFT SHOP GAB: VOLUME NINETEEN

The gift shop is doing well. Our new socks for both men and women have been a success. The men have been among our frequent customers!

We have reduced the prices of our Passover items hoping to encourage sales so that next year we can have a new selection.

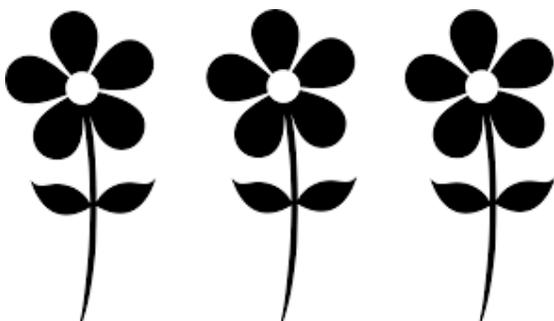
We have two new vendors and will be stocking our display cases with unique items for all—especially with graduations, Mother’s Day and Father’s Day just around the corner.

Marcy Feinberg and Ronia Gross
Gift Shop Co-Chairs



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR
Sisterhood **HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE**
SUNDAY—NOVEMBER 18th, 2018
11:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

*"Spring is coming....time for some cleaning.
Remove all the self-doubt, worry, jealousy, regret,
anger, guilt, or any other negative emotions that
are holding you back from your
happy, fulfilled life."
Nanette Mathews*



Shavuot

by Dr. Esther Javetz
Education Vice-President

All Jewish holidays have several names because, throughout history, they accumulated several functions, and there is a name to each function.

1. In the book of Exodus, the giving of the Torah is described as in Nisan [first], Iyar [second], Sivan [third]. Therefore, the holiday is called "**Matan Torah**". The giving of the Torah is related to dairy food.
2. In another place in Exodus and in Deuteronomy, the holiday is called **Shavuot** (weeks), because 7 weeks are to be counted from the beginning of the harvest (Pesach). There are 7 weeks in between the harvest of wheat and the harvest of barley.
3. Shavuot is also called "**Hag Ha-Bikurim**" (the holiday of first fruits), since we are commanded to bring the first fruits of the harvest (in this case grains) to the Temple. Shavuot is one of the three holidays when Jews went as pilgrims to the temple in Jerusalem.
4. Shavuot is the holiday that relates to harvest, so we remember the harvest rules of Leket and Peah, (Leviticus 19, 9) where part of the harvest is not taken by the owner of the field, but it is left for the poor and the stranger.
5. During Shavuot we read the story about Ruth who was both poor and a stranger, and came to pick up freebies from the field according to the local custom. Because Ruth was a model convert, Shavuot is also the holiday where we appreciate converts to Judaism.

In short, the holiday relates to our generosity to the poor, strangers and converts, and to obeying of Torah laws in general.

Knitting Project

Sisterhood is making shawls for breast cancer patients. The yarn is available at Michael’s or any hobby store. The office has copies of the instructions. If you would like more information, feel free to call Idelle Peaceman at (847)254-7745.

