#### Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation

# SISTERHOOD CORNER—October, 2022

Diane Rosenfeld, President (raynesd@aol.com) Judy Arkin, Editor (kjarkin99@comcast.net)

#### From the President's Desk...

We will soon be celebrating the chagim, the festivals of Sukkot and Simchat Torah. For many years, we have been *welcoming* seven male guests (Uzpazin) into our Sukkot, beginning with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. In recent years, the tradition has extended to also include seven Biblical women.

The female guests are Sarah, Miriam, Deborah, Hannah, Abigail, Hulda and Esther. On the first day of Sukkot, we *welcome* Sarah who represents Chesed, loving kindness. It is fitting that we *welcome* her first; not only was she our first matriarch, but she was also known for her kindness and hospitality. She *welcomed* the strangers into her tent as we will learn in the Torah portion Vayera. She and Abraham practiced the mitzvah of Hachnasat Orchim (*welcoming* guests) when they invited the three strangers and did their best to show them kindness and provide comfort. It is important to show others Hahnasat Orchim whenever we can. Our Sisterhood does this by *welcoming* all to our lunches and events. We make our programs accessible to all by offering hybrid so that one can choose to attend either in-person or on Zoom. It is our hope that you will take part in all of our upcoming activities.

On October 12th, we will *welcome* Tom Dart, Sheriff of Cook County, to our congregation where he will speak about gun violence prevention. In honor of Jewish Book Month, we will *welcome* three authors in November. On November 2nd, Ron Balson will speak about his newest book, "An Affair of Spies." We will *welcome* Sisterhood and congregation member Deanna Schoss and her co-author and colleague, Jerry Witkovsky. They will speak about their newly released book on November 30th.

Our synagogue is *welcoming* the stranger as we continue to support and reach out to our new refugee family. And we look forward to continuing to *WELCOME* all of *YOU* to our programs this month and throughout the coming year.

B' Shalom, Diane Rosenfeld

## News and Notes...

Be a media mogul! A \$5 contribution makes you a sponsor of our Sisterhood Bulletin.

Please mail your contributions to:
Judy Arkin c/o EHNTJC Sisterhood
4500 Dempster Street • Skokie, IL 60076

# Our Media Moguls this month are: Esther Berman

(in honor of my grandchildren),

Joan Cook

(in honor of the birthdays of nephew Matthew Harrison Kaplan and daughter Sheri Lynn Dressler).

#### Fran Givertz

(in honor of my family and friends),

Miriam Goldberger, Mickey Gordon

(in honor of my grandchildren),

Bobbie Levin, Esther Manewith

(in honor of our grandchildren).

Dori Marks, Ada Rabinowitz and Judi Stein

Our Sisterhood is an affiliate of



## Good and Welfare...

- **Mazel Tov** to Mickey Gordon on the Bat Mitzvah of her granddaughter, Sadie Cohen.
- Mazel Tov to Leah Polin on the engagement of her daughter Abby to Simon Anolick.
- **Mazel Tov** to Miffie Nagorsky on the Bat Mitzvah of her granddaughter, Abby Israel.
- Mazel Tov to Carol Straus on the upcoming marriage of her grandson Sam Straus to Andrea Berg.

#### TODAH RABAH • תודה רבה • THANK YOU

- •Thank you to **Carla Price** for always finding us excellent entertainment and sponsoring our performer, Elizabeth Doyle, at our Opening Event!
- •Thank you to all for my birthday greetings.....from Goldie Brandhandler.
- •Thank you to all for your kind wishes on our 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary....from Lil and Herb Cohen.
- Thank you to all my Sisterhood friends for my anniversary and birthday greetings.....from Marsha Newman.
- ●Thank you for my birthday greetings and the wonderful Zoom program on September 7<sup>th</sup>.....from Evie Ruebner.



Past failures point the way to future achievements.

### **SAVE THE DATE...**

by Judy Arkin - Programming V.P.

Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:30 a.m.
Luncheon and Program
with renowned author Ron Balson
(see enclosed flyer)

Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

Deanna Shoss and Jerry Witkovsky
with their newly released book
"Where Two Worlds Meet: A Guide to
Connecting with Your Teenage
Grandchildren"

### Membership Update!

by Roz Cherry - Membership V.P.

We look forward to seeing you at the wonderful events, book reviews, educational and social action programs that we have planned. Please consider asking your neighbors, family members and friends to join our Sisterhood!

Questions about membership, please contact me at 847-975-3823 or rosalynrcherry@icloud.com.

A *BIG WELCOME* to our new Sisterhood Members: Lorraine Horwitz, Judith Pittel and Sarah Rabens

# WAYS & MEANS

by Judy Frank - Ways & Means V.P.

It was very exciting to hold a mini boutique at our opening program on September 7th. Thank you to Ada Rabinowitz for organizing the boutique and to all our Sisterhood members who shopped.

We hope to have a second mini boutique at our December program in time for you to purchase Chanukah gifts. We are getting ready to purchase Chanukah items for our gift shop as well as everyday Judaic items.

Please send me an email at <a href="mailto:judy@tcscorp.com">judy@tcscorp.com</a> and let me know what items you would want to purchase from our gift shop or from vendors you would like to have at our boutique. We hope to work together with you to have a very successful fundraising year!

### **EDUCATION CORNER**

by Evie Lowenthal - Education Committee

#### Sukkot

Sukkot celebrates the glory of the earth fulfilled. The moon is full and the harvest has ripened. Six months after the Pesach celebration, we are commanded to identify with our ancestors who traveled in the wilderness making camp in temporary huts. Pesach celebrates the event of liberation; Sukkot celebrates the pathway to freedom.

We rejoice as we enter the makeshift structure of the sukkah. This was the time that Solomon chose for the dedication of the Temple in Jerusalem. Was the Temple in all its grandeur no more than a fragile sukkah in the eyes of God?

Our ancestors relied on the sharing of skills to survive the wandering. We, too, have that responsibility. In this season of plenty, as we remind ourselves of the fragility of the hut, each of us must reach out to our communities and to the State of Israel. Each of us must be counted for her individual gifts. Volunteerism must not be what you do in your spare time after you have reached your personal goals. Service to others is the rent which each of us must pay for living in this world so blessed by G-d.

Our next Sisterhood
will meet
Wednesday, December 21st
10:30 a.m. on ZOOM to discuss

"Spilt Milk: Memoirs" by Courtney Zoffness

Award winning author Courtney Zoffness considers what we inherit from generations past - biologically, culturally, spiritually - and what we pass on to our children. In ten essays written with subtle wit and vulnerable voice, Zoffness considers what role does a mother play in raising thoughtful, generous children? Where is the line between privacy and secrecy? How do the stories we tell inform who we become? In these essays, sometimes fierce and sometimes funny, she insightfully captures how the past shapes who we are and who we might become, reflecting on topics including her childhood anxiety issues and challenges to her Jewish faith. Zoffness tackles motherhood in a way that is simultaneously fresh and achingly relatable. She recreates tender, moving, and poetic moments that can etch their way right into your brain and heart. These powerful, dynamic essays herald a vital new voice.

Carol Gottlieb and Dolly Zavell - Book Club Chairs

