

Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation

SISTERHOOD CORNER— December, 2023

Judy Arkin, Editor (kjarkin99@comcast.net)

Judy Frank, Co-President (judy@tcscorp.com) and Diane Rosenfeld, Co-President (raynesd@aol.com)

From the President's Desk...

We have read, listened to and seen some wonderful accounts from people who attended the March for Israel on November 14th in Washington, D.C. It was estimated that 290,000 Jews and Israel supporters from across America flocked to this rally. Individuals described their feelings at being at this monumental event as exhilarating, unifying and powerful. Some described it as a once-in-a lifetime experience. This representation displayed our steadfast allegiance to Israel, our commitment to fight antisemitism and our determination for the swift and safe release of all the hostages! We all can do our part by urging members of Congress to publicly call on Hamas to immediately release all hostages by supporting resolutions in the House and Senate.

When the first barbaric attacks took place on October 7th, Women's League was one of the first organizations to come out with a statement in support of Israel and condemning the terrorists. Women's League has been a source of information for us all along, sharing its insights on its web page dedicated solely to Israel. It was one of 140 women's organizations that called upon the U.N. to do everything in its power to condemn the brutal attacks and atrocities of Hamas. This resolution is available on the Women's League website.

We look forward to seeing you at our annual Chanukah Happening on Wednesday, December 13th. Our musical entertainment will be provided by Bibi Marcell and Gail Mangurten from the Maxwell Street Klezmer Band. We will enjoy a delicious Chanukah lunch. Don't miss this special afternoon! Please send in your reservations now as the deadline is December 5th.

Our Sisterhood looks forward to two Zoom programs in January and February. Helene Herman will present "The Ancient and Modern Kingdom of Morocco - a 'Mecca' for Jews" on January 10th. In February we look forward to welcoming Leah Polin who will speak about "Great Jewish Families Who Have Built America." Please stay tuned for more details.

The song "Am Yisrael Chai" (The People of Israel Live) has become second in popularity to "Hatikvah" (The Hope). It is our hope as time goes by, the despair, fear and distress we might be feeling now will evolve into resilience, peace, comfort and calm for all.

As we look forward to 2024, our hopes and prayers are for a better year. We wish all of you and your families a *Freilach* (Happy) Chanukah and a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year!

L'Shalom, Judy Frank and 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,

Joan Cook

*(in honor of granddaughters and grandson Jaime
Albert, Rikkie Hobson and Geoff Hobson),*

Fran Givertz

(in honor of my family and friends),

Miriam Goldberger,

Mickey Gordon

*(in honor of my children, grandchildren
and great-grandchildren),*

Bobbie Levin, Dori Marks,

Esther Manewith

(in honor of our grandchildren),

Ada Rabinowitz and Judi Stein

DATES TO REMEMBER...

by Judy Arkin - Programming V.P.

Wednesday, December 13th at 11:30 a.m.

**Sisterhood Chanukah Celebration with
Bibi Marcell and Gail Mangurten from the
Maxwell Street Klezmer Band**

Wednesday, January 10th at 1:00 p.m. (ZOOM)

**Helene Herman presents "The Ancient and
Modern Kingdom of Morocco - a 'Mecca' for
Jews".....see enclosed flyer**

Wednesday, January 31st at 10:30 a.m. (ZOOM)

Sisterhood Book Club

Wednesday, February 7th at 1:00 p.m. (ZOOM)

**Leah Polin presents "Great Jewish Families Who
Have Built America".....details to follow**



*You may be disappointed if you fail, but you are
doomed if you don't try... Beverly Sills*

TODAH RABAH • תודה רבה • THANK YOU

• Thank you to Alona Anspach for her generous donation to our Sisterhood!

Sisterhood Judaica Gift Shop

by Ada Rabinowitz - Ways & Means V.P.

Sisterhood Gift Shop Is Open for Chanukah!

The first Chanukah candle will be lit on December 7th. Come buy your candles, Chanukah supplies and presents at our gift shop! We have a variety of menorahs and so much more. Also, we have gifts for special occasions including mezuzot and kosher scrolls. See Bill Gerber in the office who can assist you with your purchase or call Judy Frank at (847)530-4572.

The Mini-Boutique at the November Book and Author event was very successful! Thank you to all who purchased unique items from our vendors. And a big **thank you** to Carol Gottlieb, Dolly Zavell, Debbie Reich, Judy Arkin, Davida Grossman and all those who worked to make the afternoon so special. Everyone had a wonderful experience. Speaking about wonderful experiences, Carol Gottlieb and Cheryl Sklar need to be thanked for an outstanding Games Day event in October!

Happy Chanukah!
Ada Rabinowitz
(847)530-5517

***Remember, supporting our Sisterhood
supports our Synagogue.***

**Our next BOOK CLUB will be on
Wednesday, January 31st
at 10:30 a.m. on ZOOM to discuss
"Signal Fires" by Dani Shapiro**

Returning to the form that launched her career, the author writes a riveting, deeply felt novel that examines the ties that bind families together – and the secrets that can break them apart.

This work of haunting beauty should provide us with an opportunity for an engaging discussion!

Carol Gottlieb and Dolly Zavell
Book Club Chairs

Our Sisterhood is an affiliate of



Education Corner

"Create Together to Be Great Together"

by Jerry Witkovsky and Deanna Shoss

We firmly believe in the transformative power of creativity to foster deep connections across generations. A prime example of this is the unique bond between grandparents and grandchildren. Engaging in creative activities together not only enriches their individual lives but also strengthens the bond they share.

Neuroscience offers valuable insights into how creativity can nurture these relationships. Neuroscientists David Eagleman and Anthony Brandt, in their book "The Runaway Species: How Human Creativity Remakes the World," delve into the human brain's inherent need for novelty and the social elements that fuel inventiveness in our species. Human brains are wired for creativity, making it a unique opportunity to explore together.

Moreover, involving adult parents in these creative endeavors can further enhance the family dynamics. Instead of excluding parents, inviting them to participate can be a catalyst for strengthening the grandparent-grandchild relationship, ultimately bringing the entire family closer.

Creating together transcends age stereotypes, allowing both parties to open up and reveal their true selves. Vulnerability becomes a bridge, and the process deepens as it progresses.

You don't have to consider yourself creative to engage in creative activities together. The focus should be on enjoying each other's company. Embrace your differences in technology, music, or style as opportunities to learn from one another.

Creativity knows no bounds. You can start anywhere, whether it's finger-painting, making quick videos, exploring local art galleries or journaling side-by-side, or simply turning on the music and dancing together.

The essence of "Create Together to Be Great Together" lies in the beautiful journey of shared creativity. Don't be afraid to begin this remarkable journey, for anyone can embark on it, using their unique strengths and interests as a springboard for creating together.