

Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation  
**SISTERHOOD CORNER— November, 2023**

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***Acting for Tikkun (Repair)***

Dear Sisterhood Friends,

At this difficult time Israelis of all backgrounds must know we are with them. They must know we do more than pray and gather in solidarity. They must know that we will materially support them during their times of greatest need.

Hamas has destroyed, damaged, and stolen several MDA ambulances and they are in desperate need of additions to its fleet. EHNTJC has partnered with five other local Conservative congregations to purchase one new ambulance for Magen David Adom—Israel's national emergency medical service. We must raise \$115,000 by December 15<sup>th</sup> which will cover the cost of one fully outfitted ambulance and its transport to Israel. We hope Sisterhood members will contribute to this effort.

Our synagogues' names will be inscribed on the ambulance's doors, as will the names of individuals and families who contribute \$10,000 or more. There are two ways to contribute. You can send a check to the synagogue made payable to "AFMDA." You can also contribute through [www.ehnt.org](http://www.ehnt.org). Click "Online Payments" and in the "Payment Notes" field, type "AFMDA." (AFMDA stands for American Friends of Magen David Adom.)

When the ambulance is ready, we will hold a ceremony, with the ambulance present. (MDA ambulances are produced in Elkhart, Indiana.)

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

*Julie Weill, EHNTJC Sisterhood Social Action V.P.*

***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,  
Fran Givertz**

*(in honor of my family and friends),*

**Mickey Gordon**

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

**Miriam Goldberger,  
Bobbie Levin, Dori Marks,  
Esther Manewith**

*(in honor of our grandchildren),  
Ada Rabinowitz and Judi Stein*

***Good and Welfare...***

- **Refuah Shlemah** to Paulette Levy, Elyse Stern, Rabbi Neil Brief and Shellé Malina.
- **Condolences** to Ronia Gross on the passing of her husband Jerry.

***MEMBERSHIP UPDATE!***

by Roz Cherry – Membership V.P.

Don't miss our upcoming programs....if you haven't sent in your 2023-2024 dues, please do so now!

**A BIG WELCOME to our new  
Sisterhood Member:  
Jeanne Kritzmann**

***DATES TO REMEMBER...***

by Judy Arkin - Programming V.P.

**Wednesday, November 8th at 11:30 a.m.**

**Book & Author Luncheon featuring  
Renée Rosen author of  
"Fifth Avenue Glamour Girl"**

**Wednesday, December 13th at 11:30 a.m. (see flyer))**

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

**TODAH RABAH • תודה רבה • THANK YOU**

- Thanks for the birthday Leagrams...Bette Blumenthal.
- Thank you for the birthday Leagrams...Leah Lazere.
- Thank you for my anniversary and birthday Leagram greetings...Marsha Newman.
- Thank you to Debbie Groman for the kind donation to Sisterhood in memory of Robert Frank.
- Thank you to Robin Cember for her generous donation to our Sisterhood.

## President's Message

*Shalom!* We hope you will join us at our upcoming Sisterhood events. On November 1st, we will visit the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center for a tour of its new temporary exhibit, *"I'll Have What She's Having--The Jewish Deli."* We have been asked, "What do Jewish delis have to do with the Holocaust?" Simply, this exhibit tells how Jewish immigrants imported and adapted traditions to create a uniquely American restaurant. The exhibit portrays how Jewish delis became a cornerstone of American food culture, and how delis served as a lifeline for many Holocaust survivors and refugees who moved to the USA.

On November 8th, we will hear from local author, Renée Rosen, as she talks about her newest book, *"Fifth Avenue Glamour Girl"*, the story of cosmetics queen, Estée Lauder and her rise to success. And on December 13th, we will welcome Bibi Marcell and Gail Mangurten from the Maxwell Street Klezmer Band. They will entertain us with Chanukah songs.

What can we do now as individuals to help/learn about the crises in Israel?

- Stay in close contact with friends and relatives in Israel.
- Support our local Jewish institutions and continue to celebrate our rich Jewish heritage.
- Do a mitzvah daily by reaching out to others and by forging human connections.
- Stay up on the news and be informed about the horrific crises Israel is now facing.
- **PRAY, PRAY, PRAY!**

Our EHNTJC Sisterhood has donated \$1,000 to the Jewish United Fund—Israel Emergency Fund. We will also be donating an additional \$1,000 in support of our synagogue's commitment to raise money towards the purchase of a new ambulance for Magen David Adom (MDA). Please read the bulletin article on the front page from Julie Weill and consider donating generously!

*L'Shalom,*  
*Judy Frank and Diane Rosenfeld, Co-Presidents*

## Sisterhood Judaica Gift Shop

by Ada Rabinowitz - Ways & Means V.P.

It's not too early to think about Chanukah! The first candle is lit on December 7<sup>th</sup>.....and the Sisterhood Judaica Shop has Chanukah candles and more Chanukah items including a variety of menorahs (some electric). Do you need gifts for special occasions? Come browse the display cases in the social hall. Are you or someone you know moving into a new house? We have beautiful mezuzot and kosher scrolls. If you have questions, don't see an item you want, or are interested in ordering a Judaica item, please call Ada at 847-530-5517.

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

### Exciting addition:

On Wednesday, November 8th  
come at 10:45 a.m. (before our  
Book & Author Luncheon)  
to shop at our

### Mini Boutique

featuring unique gifts and  
personalized items for all your  
Chanukah and housewarming  
needs!



***Our Sisterhood is an affiliate of***



## Education Corner

by Cheryl Sklar

### New Archaeology on King David's Palace

Decades before Indiana Jones was a movie character, I was fascinated with archaeology. I even considered it as a college major, but my more practical side dismissed it as a possibility. A highlight of two visits to Israel was participating in "Dig for a Day" at the Beit Guvrin Archaeological Park. Visitors have the opportunity to climb through candle-lit caves located in the ancient city of Tel Maresha and dig for artifacts. I frequently read about archaeological discoveries. A recent article about the palace of King David particularly caught my attention.

First, a little helpful background information. The existing walls around the old city are relatively new, having been built by the Ottoman ruler, Suleiman the Magnificent between 1535 – 1542. There are other much older walls within the old city that follow a different path; their remnants can be found, if you know where to look for them. The back of the Etz Hayim Chumash provides a diagram of the area and where these walls might have been located. The Old City of Jerusalem is now divided into the Muslim, Armenian, Christian, and Jewish quarters. A fifth area, the Temple Mount, is the site of the Jewish temples built by Kings Solomon and Herod and the current location of the Dome of the Rock and Al-Aqsa mosque. On a southeastern hill, below and outside of the Temple Mount, is the City of David archaeological park. This Park includes Gihon Springs, an important ancient water source, the Pool of Siloam, and King Hezekiah's water tunnel.

Classical theory is that King David's Palace is located at the City of David. The fortifications found there were built to protect the water supply and protect Jerusalem, so it would be a logical location for the palace. However, archaeologists have not been able to find pottery or other structures to support this conclusion. Recently, Prof. Na'aman has written about two tablet fragments, containing royal correspondence that was found on the slope below the Temple Mount. He argues that these fragments provide indirect evidence that King David's Palace was located on the Temple Mount and not at the City of David. However, it is likely to be a long time before there is conclusive evidence for this new theory as it will require currently prohibited excavations on the Temple Mount itself.



## Torah Fund

by Rose-Lynn Jaffe -  
Torah Fund V.P.

As I began to write this article for our bulletin, I was unsure of what to write. Do I talk about the October 4th Torah Fund Sukkah party that we had in my sukkah with 14 of our 2022-2023 Torah Fund donors? Or do I talk about what is on the mind and in the hearts of all of us – the devastating war currently taking place in Israel.

On October 9th I attended a Zoom meeting called Torah Fund Stands with Israel with over 300 Torah Fund VPs from all over the US and Canada. The speaker was Yael Hashavit, Consul for Cultural Affairs in North America. She updated us on the situation in Israel and on efforts of the Consulate in New York in response to rapidly changing dynamics. She discussed the need for financial support for the State of Israel and warned us to be careful that our donations go to reputable organizations.

I, like so many of you, have been in touch daily with friends and family in Israel. My friends and family live all over the country. While everyone is focused on the war, those in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and more central areas are trying to continue with some of their usual activities. The daughter of one of my close friends has a 14-month-old baby. She sends me weekly pictures. One of the recent pictures included a note that read "We are also not forgetting to focus on the important things." That's when I decided to write about both. We will continue to show our support for Israel by raising money, attending rallies and programs and writing letters to our legislators to assure continued government support for Israel. But we will also not forget to focus on the other important things in our lives like being together on Shabbat, celebrating holidays and continuing to just spend time together.

***Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Ba'Zeh, All of Israel Are Responsible for One Another*** every day in all areas of our lives.

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### ***NEXT SISTERHOOD BOOK CLUB***

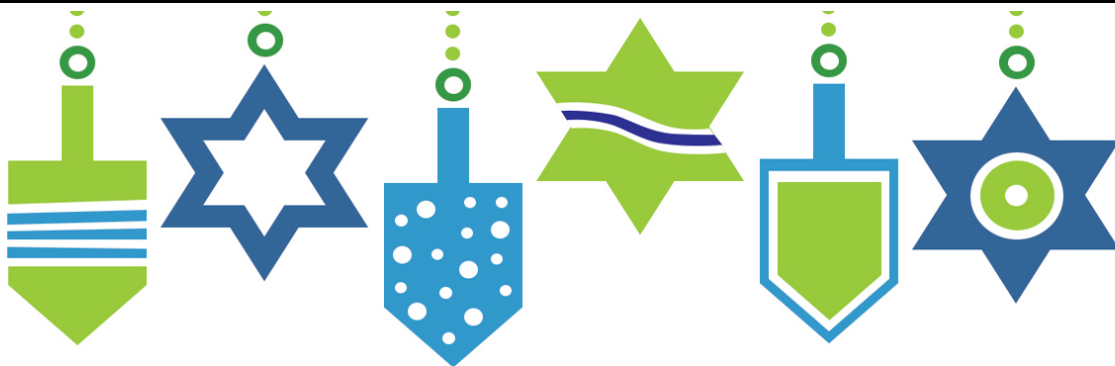
Join us on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. on Zoom to discuss *Signal Fires* by Dani Shapiro. Returning to the form that launched her career, the author writes a riveting, deeply felt novel that examines the ties that bind families together – and the secrets that can break them apart. This work of haunting beauty should provide us with an opportunity for an engaging discussion.

# Holiday Gift Drive for JCFS

by Julie Weill – Social Action V.P.

The Social Action Committee has been grateful for the generosity of spirit and the generosity of funds that the Sisterhood has demonstrated in the past year to those in need. When presented with the opportunity to help others, again and again, the Sisterhood rises to the occasion—whether welcoming a refugee family into our sukkah, giving Chanukah gifts to young children in need, or supplying low-income families who have new babies with the items they need to care for their young ones—you have responded wholeheartedly.

Once again we are asking Sisterhood to answer the call of those in need. Our Social Action Committee is again sponsoring participation in the JCFS Holiday Gift Drive (***see info below***). We appreciate your willingness to contribute to this effort to ensure that Jewish children in Chicagoland can experience small joys through gifts this Chanukah season.



Our Sisterhood will collect cash, checks, or Target gift cards and then our Sisterhood Social Action Committee members will purchase the actual gifts with the money raised and will deliver the gifts to JCFS for disbursement to the children.

## There are two ways to participate:

**Make a donation:** Please bring in or send to the synagogue office either cash, a Target gift card (***no other stores will be accepted—please indicate \$ amount of each card!***), or a check made out to “EHNTJC Sisterhood” with “JCFS WINTER PROJECT” written in the memo section. Donations must be received by **Monday, November 20th** so that the EHNTJC Sisterhood Social Action Committee has time to purchase the gifts.

**Purchase a gift from a child’s Wish List:** If you would like to do the actual shopping for a gift, please contact Julie Weill, chairperson of EHNTJC Sisterhood’s Social Action Committee, at [julieweill@msn.com](mailto:julieweill@msn.com) or (224)515-0153 and Julie will match you with a child’s Wish List item(s) and give you the information and instructions on what to purchase. Gifts must be purchased by Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.

Our EHNTJC Religious School will also be participating in this project!  
Please feel free to contact Julie Weill with any questions.