

# the Shofar



Etz Chayim Conservative Synagogue's Monthly Newsletter

JUNE, 2018

SIVAN/TAMUZ, 5778

Friday evening services begin at 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday morning services begin at 9:30 a.m.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

It has been an honor and privilege to serve the Etz Chayim Congregation community as President for the past two years. I want to thank Michelle Lapidus, Candy Rush, Sandra Wiederecht, Kevin Thompson, Gary Hall, Joe Paddock, Marvin Kalachman, Amelia Mauldin, Susan Paddock, and Fred Kolchin for their service on the Board during my two years as well as Bill Goldberg, Millie Rosenthal, Scott Hancock, Thomas Jones, Brenda Liles for their service on various committees, Jon Berger for leading our Book Club, and Natha Hancock and various members of the Sisterhood that have provided support in various areas.

I hope everyone in the Synagogue and the Jewish Community has a healthy and enjoyable summer while setting aside appropriate times for prayer.

שלום  
Barry

## WE NEED YOUR HELP

We are going to paint the outside of the synagogue building on Sunday, June 24. The building has been divided into 12 sections, and each volunteer will be asked to paint one section. Each section is about 350 square feet and should take 4-5 hours to paint. Paint and all supplies will be provided, including drinks and breakfast.

We need you to indicate if you can come to paint; men, women, older teens and young adults, we need all of you. Please let me know "Yes" or "No" and your name. Let me know even if you are not sure of your situation on June 24.

Max Rosenthal  
[maxmil60@aol.com](mailto:maxmil60@aol.com)

## D-DAY

June 6, 1944

Wednesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, is the 74<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day.

The beginning of the end of WWII.

Howard Polin

## BOOK CLUB MEETING, JUNE 19

The next meeting of the Etz Chayim Book Club will be on Tuesday, June 19 at 11:00 am at the synagogue.

We'll discuss "Life Goes On" by Hans Keilson, an autobiographical novel that's a fascinating look at Germany between the First and Second World Wars (how did we get there and how did it happen).

The club is open to anyone who would like to read and learn from non-fiction books that are related in some way to Judaism. Give it a try. If you'd like to see one of our discussions, come on June 19th even if you haven't read this book. It will give you a glimpse of how the club works as well as a say in what we read next.

If you have any questions contact Jon Berger. Call or text at 256-457-0277 or email at [jonaberger@gmail.com](mailto:jonaberger@gmail.com).

Jon Berger

## SISTERHOOD

Sisterhood is having a Lunch Bunch meeting at 11:30 on June 18<sup>th</sup> at the South Memorial Parkway location of the

Blue Plate Café. We will install our officers at this meeting, so come out and welcome our new board members.

Believe it or not, it's already time for us to start thinking about the New Year Booklet! Expect a letter from us—it's our synagogue's main fundraiser for the year. Funds from this project are used throughout the year to provide all of Sisterhood's Rabbi Luncheons (with the volunteer labor of many!) and many of the holiday refreshments, to subsidize the Seder, to sponsor BBYO and other activities we have or projects we can help with.

Of course, we are truly grateful for so many of you who have supported our project for years and years. If you're new to EC or haven't participated in our booklet lately, take a look through the one kept in the office. You'll be impressed by the friends and previous members, some of whom moved away long ago, who continue to hold our small congregation in fond regard. We would love to have 100% membership participation, so please consider helping out when you get your letter.

Have a safe and happy June!

Brenda Liles

## ONEGS

|        |         |
|--------|---------|
| Jun 01 | Berry   |
| Jun 08 | Paddock |
| Jun 15 | Lapidus |
| Jun 22 | Levitt  |
| Jun 29 | Berger  |

## DONATIONS

### Sisterhood

From: Karen Hirsch

Thank you for being so warm and welcoming.

From: Sandra Wiederecht

### Rabbi Fund

From: Millie & Max Rosenthal

To: Elizabeth Persons - Congratulations on your scholarship for school for next year.

### Outdoor Lighting Fund

In Memory of Gertrude and Perry Schlein from their daughters Natha Hancock and Robin Slomka and their families.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 28 JWV participation in Memorial Day Program at Veterans Memorial Park
- Jun 03 Annual Picnic
- Jun 12 Congregational Meeting
- Jun 18 Lunch Bunch & installation of SH Officers, 11:30 AM, Blue Plate Café
- Jun 19 Book Club, 11:00 AM at EC

## BIRTHDAYS

- Jun 01 Jeff Zelickson
- Jun 03 Benjamin Yalowitz
- Jun 10 Adam Liles
- Jun 19 Jacob Copeland
- Jun 19 Sheree Greenbaum
- Jun 26 Natha Hancock
- Jun 30 Bill Brigadier
- Jun 30 Rochelle Berry

## ANNIVERSARIES

- Jun 05 Brenda & Cliff Liles
- Jun 12 Karen Hirsch & Eric Jackson

## YAHARZEITS\*\*

- May 29 Sivan 15 Harry Kaufman\*
- May 30 Sivan 16 Myrna Klazmer
- May 31 Sivan 17 Harriet B. Schlein\*
- Jun 03 Sivan 20 Julius Strimling\*
- Jun 08 Sivan 25 Goldie N. Brown
- Jun 08 Sivan 25 Stanley Weiss
- Jun 10 Sivan 27 Al Krupnick\*
- Jun 13 Sivan 30 Phyllis E.A. Schreiber
- Jun 18 Tamuz 05 Charles Klazmer
- Jun 18 Tamuz 05 Doris Mae Aaronson Kirshtein
- Jun 18 Tamuz 05 Morris Schindler
- Jun 19 Tamuz 06 Abraham Kalachman\*
- Jun 19 Tamuz 06 Meyer (Mike) Zelickson\*
- Jun 20 Tamuz 07 Jacob Milton Ludmer\*
- Jun 20 Tamuz 07 Jacob Zarovsky
- Jun 20 Tamuz 07 Virginia Johanna McDonald\*
- Jun 22 Tamuz 09 Etta B. Roberts
- Jun 23 Tamuz 10 Rose Flashner\*
- Jun 23 Tamuz 10 Joel Mendelson
- Jun 27 Tamuz 14 Gary Shelman
- Jun 30 Tamuz 17 Milton Fuerst
- Jul 01 Tamuz 18 Sam Goldstein\*
- Jul 01 Tamuz 18 Benjamin Sainker\*

\* Plaque

\*\*Light Memorial candle sunset of previous evening



## MY PERSONAL GARDEN OF WEEDEN By Ted Roberts

Who would have thought retirement would be such a problem? Especially to me, a natural gardener or a landscape designer as I called myself when there was nobody around to critique my self-described hobby. I plant flower seeds on Tu B'shevat and up spring weeds. I planted flowers and they transmogrified due to the dictates of Hades, god of the underworld, into weeds. I planted weeds and they flourished. The only thing I'm good at is growing trees. I plant acorns and I get oak trees (which are inedible and non-flowering). We Jews are "people of the book" not of the garden, as I learned in Sunday school.

My next-door neighbor, whose gene pool swamps rural Mississippi has none of

these problems. And I'm sure a thoughtful and manipulative G-d has put him next door to incentivize me. His garden is discussed in Genesis. Eden, I believe, they called it. My neighbor has my opposite talents. He has a green thumb – I have a black thumb.

For instance, the strangest disaster struck my marigolds. They were growing the way G-d intended. Bushy, low lying and even showing off their new buds. Then one hellish night, darkened by an AWOL moon, a bud-eating creature sneaks in the garden and enjoys a bud buffet. Not the stalks, not the leaves but only the nascent blooms-just my luck.

Take the windy storm earlier that month that had made a garden smoothie out of four kinds of flowers; so the next morning revealed. We sat Shiva for seven days and contemplated the destruction of my dreams.

Then there was that ill-fated day when I planted five kinds of seeds and forgot to mark the burial site with its contents. It made little difference. It was like a cemetery without headstones. My usual crop of weeds appeared two weeks later.

Birds--vulture sized, reconnoiter the plot daily looking for buds. I installed a scarecrow. First, they nipped his suspenders, so his pants fell down (which made him a clown, not a deterrent). Then, they pecked out his eyes.

Since flimsy marigolds didn't work, with my own two green thumbs, I planted a clever fig tree whose big green leaves hid the fruit. Not clever enough, the birds watched and waited like buzzards. When

the crop was ripe they swooped down for a breakfast, lunch and supper. In between, I grabbed a few appetizers.

There's more. There are our two cats who patrol Weeden and also find nourishment in its blossoms. They nip here and there in revenge of our fixation on discounted cat food. If we can't supply a balanced diet, they will, by chewing up the flowers.

They got it right in Sunday school. "We aint the people of the garden."

Just to balance out this mammal/vegetarian contest, when the cat went to feline heaven, I buried him next to the fig tree – close to her roots. Sure enough. Next year brought a bountiful harvest.

Ted Roberts, "The Scribbler on the Roof," is a syndicated Jewish columnist and longtime member of our Synagogue. Buy Ted's collected works at Amazon.com or the Sisterhood Gift Shop. Ted welcomes your comment and/or critique and can be emailed at: [shirlr@hiwaay.net](mailto:shirlr@hiwaay.net)