



Sue's Book Shelf

By Sue Littauer



When I originally spoke to Tair Giudice, Director of the Center for Jewish Education, about the possibility of working there, she asked me, "Why?" The answer was simple for me. I wanted to write a monthly book column for the *CJN* and facilitate a Community Book Club.

Well, it's been an entire year since I've been doing just that. Many thanks to all of you who stop me everywhere I go to tell me how much you enjoy the column, incorporate some of the ideas into your own book club discussions, take the time to send me personal notes and emails, and reserve the books I've recommended.

Being the coordinator of a community book club has been a wonderful bonus for me. I've met so many new people and have gotten to know old friends even better. Reading and preparing for the book club is very motivating to me and our discussions have been insightful and stimulating. The participants are smart and passionate readers.

The most recent CJE Book Club selection was *My Mother's Kitchen: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and the Meaning of Life* by Peter Gethers. The writer is an American author, publisher, and screen writer whose beloved mother's family founded the famous Ratner's Restaurant in New York City. The book generated an excellent conversation about the connection between food and family, and the food memories we associate with our parents and grandparents. Whether or not you enjoy cooking (I skipped over all the recipes), this book will fill you with nostalgia ... my maternal grandmother's matzo ball soup, my paternal grandmother's onion cookies, the meat grinder attached to our kitchen table to make chopped liver, the pressure cooker spewing cabbage soup all over our kitchen are just some of my own memories. Reading about Judy Gethers, the author's mother, was a gift. This amazing woman, who started her career at age 53, became a friend and mentor to famous new chefs including Wolfgang Puck and beat seemingly insurmountable odds as she faced cancer and a devastating stroke with her courage and determination. This book will have widespread appeal for both gourmet cooks, and those who "just make reservations."

Our CJE Book Club will not meet in September; however, we have a good line up for the remainder of 2018:

- * *Stolen Beauty* by Laurie Albanese, October 17
- * *Faithful* by Alice Hoffman, November 14
- * *The Book of Separation* by



Tova Mirvis, December 19

A great source for information about new books both written by Jewish authors or with Jewish themes is the National Jewish Book Council. And I'm very excited about a shipment of new books we received recently. Those I've recently read and highly recommend are:

- * *Good Neighbors* by Joanne Serling
- * *The Husband Hour* by Jamie Brenner
- * *Sadness Is a White Bird* by Moriel Rothman-Zecher
- * *Promised Land* by Martin Fletcher

Sadness Is a White Bird and *Promised Land* will be 2019 CJE Book Club selections.

I hope you'll share your book recommendations with me, and that you'll consider joining us for one or more sessions of the CJE Book Club. I can be reached at Sueb.Littauer@JewishCharlotte.org. ✨

Check out what's happening this month at the CJE ?

CJE CALENDAR: SEPTEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
The Center for Jewish Education (CJE) enhances community engagement, promotes lifelong Jewish learning, and creates pathways to Jewish identity. LIBRARY HOURS: Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm; Friday, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm; and Sunday, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm					
2 PJ Library Apple Picking 10:00 AM Carrigan Farms	3 Library Closed Today!	4 Library Closed Today!	5 Once Upon a Storytime 1:15 PM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library	6 Library Closed Today!	7 PJ Library Baby Storytime 11:00 AM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library
9 Library Closed Today!	10 Library Closed Today!	11 Library Closed Today!	12 Once Upon a Storytime 1:15 PM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library	13 Library Closed Today!	14 PJ Library Baby Storytime 11:00 AM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library
16 Library Closed Today!	17 Library Closed Today!	18 Library Closes at 1:00 pm today!	19 Library Closed Today! No Book Club Today! No Storytime today!	20 Library Closed Today!	21 PJ Library Baby Storytime 11:00 AM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library
23 Library Closed Today!	24 Library Closed Today!	25 Library Closed Today!	26 Once Upon a Storytime 1:15 PM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library	27 Library Closed Today!	28 PJ Library Baby Storytime 11:00 AM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library

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BRIAN C. BERNHARDT

has joined Milazzo Webb Law, PLLC



Brian specializes in IRS Tax Disputes and Tax Litigation, and also advises Nonprofit Organizations

- Member, Board of Directors of the Levine Jewish Community Center
- North Carolina Rising Star Super Lawyer
- AV-rated Attorney by Martindale-Hubbell



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