

Bulletin

A FAITH IN THE FUTURE

A BELIEF IN ACTION[®]

February, 2021

127 YEARS OF POWERFUL JEWISH WOMEN

NCJW confronts today's most urgent social and economic challenges facing women, children and families. Powered by the Jewish imperative to ensure dignity for all, we impact policy, advocate for justice, and support the community. Your voice has never been more essential and our voices together make a meaningful difference in the world.

Become A Member

Call us at
215-302-3586

Visit us at
ncjwphiladelphia.org

2 Flyers enclosed



DANGER
Ahead

OUR COURTS HELPED SAVE OUR DEMOCRACY in 2020.

Now the Pennsylvania State Legislature is proposing House Bill 38 (HB) to gerrymander our Pennsylvania Courts. This would create one of the most partisan systems in the nation through a Constitutional amendment which may be voted on as soon as our PRIMARY ELECTION on MAY 18. According to our NCJW Section Legislative chairperson, Liz Downing the passage of House Bill 38 (HB 38), would be "terrifying on several levels" :



Judges will not be chosen on the basis of merit.

The power of the Legislative Branch would extend into the Judicial Branch.

Citizens would be denied a voice in choosing their state wide judiciary.



Stop what you are doing and take time to take action by asking your elected state representatives to vote against House bill 38 to keep it from being placed on the May ballot.

This link to THE ACTION NETWORK will help you to easily contact your legislators.

https://actionnetwork.org/letters/stop-judicial-gerrymandering-make-your-voice-heard?source=BucksVoices&link_id=4&can_id=c4bba863b3a7ad8d90bc5eb71a449e2a&email_referre r=email_1038492&email_subject=bucks-voices-even-more-gerrymandering



Let's GO! If it passes the state legislature we must ensure our vote defeats this bill at the polls in May! Note: If the PA Legislature does not meet a mid-February timeline to act on the bill, then HB38, if undefeated, may likely be placed on the November 2021 election ballot. STAY TUNED. Updates will be carried in our NCJW Bulletin and on our NCJW website.

.....and speaking of elections remember: ALL PENNSYLVANIA VOTERS CAN REQUEST A MAIL-IN BALLOT FOR ALL ELECTIONS! See the ADVOCACY SECTION on our NCJW Section's Website for updated information on MAIL-IN BALLOTS.

**National Council of Jewish Women
Greater Philadelphia Section**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2021 at 2:00PM

**ZOOM SPECIAL MOVIE EVENT
PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR MOVIE MATINEE COMEDY**

**CALENDAR GIRLS
Featuring Helen Mirren**

As a non-profit, NCJW is always looking for creative ways to help us fund our projects.... NOT SAYING WE WOULD EVER DO THIS ONE, BUT... this comedy is based on a true story in Ireland, in which 55+ year old members of a Women's Institute chapter chose to do an unusual and risqué fundraising effort for a local hospital by posing nude for a calendar – which then becomes a media sensation.

**CLICK HERE TO SEE THE
TRAILER**

**RSVP REQUIRED BY
FEBRUARY 15, 2021 TO
JOIN US - CLICK HERE**



**If the above button does not work for you,
copy and paste the following into the URL section of your browser:**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf52EgyROORxklCxM6nXBk8NWPT3bGhAh3Q_ptbl8YHSInEyA/viewform

Questions?

**Call Char Kurland (215) 805-3006,
Patti First (215)-470-1560,
or Donna Bader (856) 303-9616**

National Council of Jewish Women
Greater Philadelphia Section
Tuesday, March 16, 2021– 2:00 PM –ZOOM EVENT

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
a Zoom meeting/discussion
“Funny You Don’t Look Like a Rabbi”
with author **Rabbi Lynnda Targan**



Rabbi Targan tells the story of her surprising transformation from successful working mom to spiritual seeker and Jewish scholar, and chronicles her quest to reinvent herself in midlife to become a rabbi.

RSVP REQUIRED BY MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2021

CLICK HERE– TO RSVP

Or if the link does not work for you, copy and paste this into your browser to rsvp

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1tHJtJSzger9Pul-W4nhHvVzJIhAE4aiGslh_MaZgrDk/viewform

Questions? Call Char Kurland (215) 805-3006, Patti First (215)-470-1560, Donna Bader (856) 303-9616

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Rosemary Vosbikian 🙇‍♀️ Vicki Vosbikian 🙇‍♀️
Nan Myers

As membership vice-presidents, we welcome our new members to call us regarding any questions you may have.

Please contact: Ellen Mirbach semirbach@gmail.com or Donna Spector queenaheartdsds@hotmail.com
215-771-5311 215-886-0640

We will be delighted to send out membership packets.

Membership Dues: Annual \$45 (Be an Angel \$55 🙇‍♀️)*

Please LIKE us on our Facebook page

Search our full name "National Council Of Jewish Women Greater Philadelphia Section"

*For an additional \$10, you can achieve "angel" 🙇‍♀️ status which increases the number of people we can assist.



"Fantastic news! We are now joining the modern techno world!"

That's a quote from Past-President Barbara Nussbaum....

Barb was excited about members being able to use their credit cards to pay their dues online and, when we're socializing again, being able to register and pay for events and programs online.

Find this link on the website. Just click over to the JOIN page.

www.ncjwphiladelphia.org

Our website is the place to read the monthly Bulletin, check what's coming up on the calendar, pay Section dues, see what actions you can take locally, read important breaking news from the National website and so much more.

We welcome your ideas to broaden our content!

Questions or suggestions:
contact Mal Gran at hgranncjw@gmail.com

Letters like the one below went to:

- Gloria Dei Church, Huntingdon Valley
- Manna Center City
- Beth Sholom Congregation, Mitzvah Food Pantry, Elkins Park
- North Hills Food Cupboard, Glenside
- Haws Avenue Food Cupboard and Soup Kitchen, Norristown
- Colonial Baptist Church and Food Pantry



In response to the current needs caused by the pandemic and related food shortages, the National Council of Jewish Women Greater Philadelphia Section is pleased to send you \$250 to be used for food insecurity.

For 127 years NCJW has been a leading voice for justice in the United States. We are dedicated to improving the quality of life for women, children and families and to safeguarding individual rights and freedoms.

We hope the enclosed check will help ease your needs.

Sincerely,

Aileen Salus

Co-Vice President, Community Services

Afternoon Book Club

Our group has continued to meet via Zoom. Thank you to Wendy Rader for moderating our January book discussion of *Three Floors Up* by Eshkol Nevo.

Thursday, February 25 at 1:30pm.

Red at the Bone

by: Jacqueline Woodson

Moderator: Sue Leon

For more information, contact Susan Brooks at 215-542-0712 or seamcrazy@verizon.net

Evening Book Club

Thanks to Harriet Gran for our interesting discussion last week. February 23 at 7:30 p.m. *The Huntress* by Kate Quinn
Facilitator: Nancy Fagan

For more information about Evening Book Club... contact Joan Sax at 215-947-9166 or joansax@comcast.net

CENTER CITY BOOK GROUP

Thank you to Adrienne Jacoby for leading our Feb. discussion of *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins. She did a masterful job.

Next Zoom meeting is Wed., March 10th, at 7 p.m.

Walking Lions by Ayelet Gundar

Our leader is Joanne Stoloff

Center City residents interested in a book group
Contact Audrey Block. ablock1919@comcast.net
215-688-0094



IMPORTANT NOTICE

At 12:01 on January 1, for the first time ever,
Hindsight was actually 2020. 😊

**I heard Netflix and
Yahoo are merging.
They're moving their
HQ's to Jerusalem and
calling it
Net 'n' Yahoo.**



It was January 20, our regular recycling/trash pickup day. President Trump was departing from the White House. Mal came up the driveway holding the empty recycling and garbage cans, grinned and said, "This was a good day to take the trash out!"

Harriet Gran



Were these radiant smiles, pictured eight years ago, a premonition of a good November 3 outcome? Our members, Char Kurland (on the left) and Ellen Toplin (on the right) with then 2nd Lady, Dr. Jill Biden and Montgomery County Commissioner, Dr. Val Arkoosh.

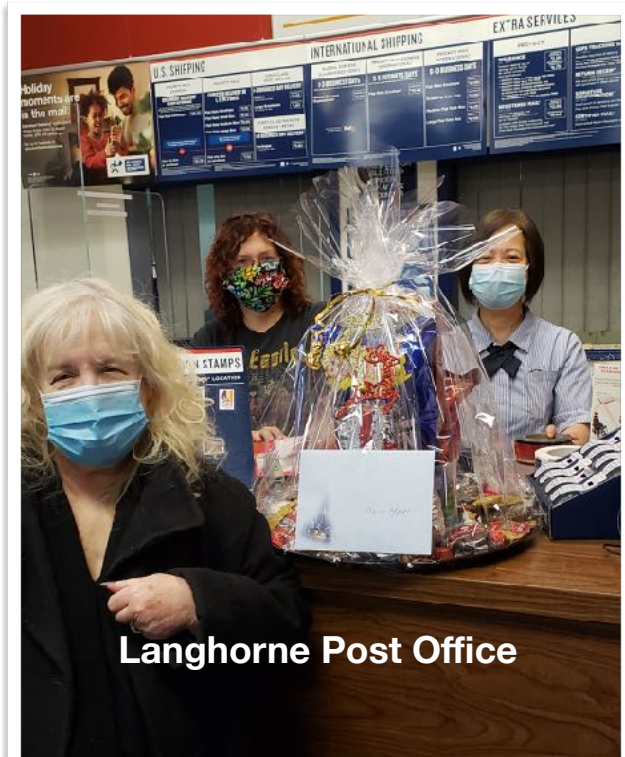
More about the Good Guys making Goodies for the Good Guys

Michelle Utain and a group of volunteers produced packages of goodies that were delivered to St. Mary Hospital, the police stations of Newtown, Lower Makefiled, Bensalem and Middletown, the Newtown and Langhorne Post Offices, Atteboro Assisted Living nursing home, Jeffereson-Aria Hospital, Lower Bucks Hospital and Capital Health Hospital.

Thanks also to our members Ellen Slepion, Randee Slutsky, Diane Blum, Madelynn Greenberg, Sue Weber, Ellen Weiner, Judy Fried, Freddie Sperling and to those non-members who helped as well, Robbie Revness, Ellen Dressner, Barbara Rubin, Margie Pepp, Lori Young, Roz Smeyne, Helene Harwood, Shelly Snitzer and Arlene Rubin.



Middletown Township Police Dept



Langhorne Post Office



Jefferson
St. Mary Hospital



Atteboro Nursing Home

Holocaust Essay Contest

I have been in touch with the three schools who have been participating in the past years in our Holocaust Essay Contest...Upper Dublin, Springfield Township Middle School and Community Academy of Philadelphia. They are willing to participate again this year.

We haven't worked out the details but the essays will probably be sent virtually so our readers will read them at home and express their opinions over the internet. Your votes will be counted and the certificates and prizes will be sent to the schools for distribution. I need to hear from our members who would like to read essays and grade them. We probably will not receive them until sometime in May. If you would like to be a reader, let me know...ergoldhammer@gmail.com.

Evelyn Goldhammer

GOODBYE 2020!!

Twas a minute before midnight – excitement ran high
As we all couldn't wait to wave 2020 goodbye
Twas a year like no other – I think you'll agree
As from dreaded Covid, we all tried to flee
It traveled from Wuhan to Washington state
And soon quarantine was our shared dreadful fate
Normal life was canceled – no school, work or play
Netflix and Zoom were where daily we'd stay
Let's flatten the curve – we can't fall behind
Our revered Dr. Fauci would constantly remind
Summer was better – we could all be outside
But as winter approached in our homes we'd abide
A president was defeated – a change we did need
But don't on your life bet he'll ever concede
What's the next step – should we all give up hope
Hang our heads low and continue to mope
I think not, dear friends
Help is right around the bend
A vaccine in 2021
So our nightmare can end!!

The best of New Year wishes to you and your families. Here's hoping for a happier and healthier 2021 – hope to see you all (in person) then!!

Joan Kober

REMEMBER.... THERE WILL BE MANY WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Join our wonderful NCJW group of volunteer tutors at our adopted Benjamin Franklin Elementary School now in our sixth year. Until safety issues relevant to the pandemic are resolved we will pursue other means to support students as we await a safe return to school. Please call Harriet Gran at 215-206-1026 or email hgranncjw@gmail.com.

Sponsoring an event for a minimum of \$100.00 in honor of a special event or person in your life, or in memory of an important person is a great way to do a double mitzvah! You are honoring the person or event and helping NCJW. You can share this sponsorship between friends. Your name (or names) will be on the invitation flyer. This is a lovely and meaningful way to support our NCJW section!

Please consider sponsoring an upcoming event.
Just call Ann Pollock 215-806-4068
and tell us what event you'd like to sponsor.

Tribute cards for special occasions and memorials

Our new section card is selling 6 for \$25 or \$5 each. Purchase the cards at a meeting or contact Fran Radel and she will send a card for you.

Contact Fran at 610-584-9234 (home) 610-304-3908 (cell) or Email: fran@markradel.com

INCLUDE NCJW Greater Philadelphia Section in your estate planning,

You can help its important work continue for years to come.

Celebrating a simcha or have one you would like NCJW to recognize?

We will make a note of it. An acknowledgement to you and the recipient is our pleasure.

What a great way to share by making a donation to our Greater Philadelphia Section.

For information, call 215-302-3586 and leave a message for Pearl Tragash, Treasurer.



Supplies needed for Dawn's Place - Shelter for Survivors of Sex Trafficking

Household cleaners, laundry soap, dish liquid, paper napkins, paper towels, toilet paper (single-ply only!), personal grooming products.... also NEW single bed sheets and non-perishable food.

We look forward to the time when we resume all of our volunteer activities.

If you have changed your address, phone number and/or email or if you hear of a member's passing, please contact Harriet Winokur harrietwinokur@gmail.com

\$50 GIANT CASH CARDS

GIANT cards are available for purchase. Please contact Roz Fudell. 267-939-4424

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OFFICERS 2019-2020

This year, NCJW of Greater Philadelphia is being led by a Presidium. A Presidium is a council of executive officers that collectively administer the organization's business in place of one individual President. Our presidium will be comprised of Vice Presidents, with the only or most senior member of their portfolio. Members of this year's Presidium are:

- Vice President of Advocacy, Liz Downing
- Co-Vice President of Membership, Ellen Mirbach
- Co-Vice President of Program/Education, Char Kurland
- Co-Vice President of Community Services, Linda Brosgol
- Vice President of Fund Raising, Ann Pollock

It has been collectively decided that each of the presidium members will be taking on, in addition to the responsibilities in their own portfolio, the following:

- Executing one of the duties of a single president
- presiding over an executive and full board meeting
- writing a presidium post for the Bulletin

We hope that you will not hesitate to contact any of the presidium members with your questions.

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Fundraising VP | Ann Pollock* | apollock1229@yahoo.com |
| Membership Vice Presidents | Donna Spector Ellen Mirbach* | queenaheartds@hotmail.com semirbach@gmail.com |
| Program/Education Vice Presidents | Donna Bader Patti First Charlene Kurland* | DRBader@comcast.net patal16@verizon.net chaky@aol.com |
| Community Services Vice Presidents | Aileen Salus Linda Brosgol* | asalus1945@gmail.com lgbrosgol@gmail.com |
| Advocacy Vice President | Liz Downing* | elizabeth.downing@msn.com |
| Treasurer | Pearl Tragash | |
| Assistant Treasurer | Margie Zukerman | |
| Recording Secretary | Susan Chace | |
| Corresponding Secretary | Bobbie Berman | |
| Financial Secretary | Harriet Winokur | |
| Immediate Past Presidents | Barbara Nussbaum Cindi Pasceri | |

Directors-at-large

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Janet Ecksel | Judy Fried |
| Paula Bursztyn Goldberg | Evelyn Goldhammer |
| Diane Piotnick | Wendy Rader |
| Linda Lempert | Celia Rothkopf |
| Kay Skioff | Diane Steinbrink |
| Sherry Kohn Eisman | Gerri Green |
| Anita Shomer | |

Harriet Gran, Bulletin Editor.
hgranncjw@gmail.com

Mal Gran, Website Manager
Ellen Toplin, Technical Advisor



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Order Your NCJW Facemask Now

Face masks are available now. The mask is double layers and is washable. The cost is only \$11. Support NCJW We can either meet or I can mail them to you plus postage.

We have a limited supply.

Ann Pollock 215-806-4068 or apollock1229@yahoo.com

February

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

| | | | | | | |
|----|----|--|----|----|----|----|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | Zoom Movie Calendar Girls 2:00 p.m. | | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | | | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

National Council of Jewish Women is a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates who turn progressive ideals into action. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children and families and by safeguarding individual rights. We are a 501 (c)3 nonprofit organization. Our National web site is www.NCJW.org

