

# Bulletin

A FAITH IN THE FUTURE

®

A BELIEF IN ACTION

November, 2023

## 130 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](http://ncjwphiladelphia.org)

**NCJW National proclaims its solidarity with Israel and its shared values.**

**We value human  
life equally.**



**We are all created in  
the divine image.**

National Council of Jewish Women

**LET IT BE KNOWN...**

**As Israel defends herself, we do not  
celebrate any civilian losses.**

**We want a swift and peaceful resolution.  
We don't want more human suffering.  
We want the hostages returned alive.**

National Council of Jewish Women

NCJW Greater Philadelphia Section has made substantial donations to help meet the critical needs Israel is experiencing in this tragic time.

Recipients include:

NCJW Israel Emergency Fund

Friends of the Israeli Defense Forces

Magen David Adom-an ambulance corps that offers service equivalent to the Red Cross.

## *Invitation*



Members, you are invited to share your thoughts, hopes, and your personal experiences related to the grievous events continually unfolding in Israel. Your submissions will be placed in our Bulletins and will be archived on our website.

Submissions should be sent to: Harriet Gran at [harrietandmal@gmail.com](mailto:harrietandmal@gmail.com)

Beyond the headlines and  
political complexities,

**REAL PEOPLE — PARENTS,  
CHILDREN, FAMILIES**

are the victims of this heinous violence.

We hold them close,  
mourning the great loss of life  
and pray for the safe recovery of all hostages.

We pray for Israeli and Palestinian civilians alike.

National Council of Jewish Women

**Saturday's events showcased  
the worst of humanity,  
and we pray that in the  
coming days,  
we will begin to witness  
the best of humanity.**

National Council of Jewish Women

## GREATER PHILADELPHIA SECTION

**Afternoon Tea and Talk**

Tuesday October 24, 2023

1-3 p.m.

Beth Sholom Congregation  
8231 Old York Rd  
Elkins Park, PA 19027

Please join us and bring friends!

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**ELECTIONS MATTER!****Our Voices-->Our Votes**

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Our featured speaker will be

Lauren Cristella

President and CEO of Committee of Seventy

Lauren Cristella joined the Committee of Seventy in 2018. She became President-CEO in June and is the first woman to lead the 119-year-old organization.

Lauren has dedicated her career to promoting active citizenship, and she is proud to lead an organization that has promoted, supported, and facilitated election integrity for more than a century.

Prior to Committee of Seventy, she spent seven years at the Fels Institute of Government at the University of Pennsylvania. Before that, she led education efforts for the National Constitution Center

Lauren served as President of the League of Women Voters of Philadelphia from 2018-2023. She is also a mom and former foster mom who lives in South Philadelphia with her family.

Come enjoy tea and pastries. \$10 for members and guests



Please send your check paid to NCJW for \$10/person  
to:  
Margie Zukerman, 5106 Meridian Blvd, Warrington,  
PA 18976  
by October 19

Or  
[Click Here to  
Register Online](#)

Please bring supplies for Dawn's Place (paper products) and No More Secrets (period products)

Questions? Call Lynne Jacobs, Advocacy VP 215-248-3333

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON**

**Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.**  
**SPRING MILL COUNTRY CLUB**  
80 Jacksonville Road  
Ivyland, PA 18974

**Valerie A. Arkoosh, MD, MPH**

Secretary

Pennsylvania Department of  
Human Services

Sharing her thoughts on *Women's Health*



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

featuring



Scarlet Begonias Boutique

**MEMBERS \$60**

**GUESTS \$65**

[Click Here to Register Online](#)

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Please mail your check made out to NCJW by October 25  
In order to guarantee your seating request to:  
Margie Zukerman, 5106 Meridian Blvd., Warrington, PA 18976

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ENTREES FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR GUESTS

- © Chicken Piccata  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_
- © Salmon with Champagne Mustard Sauce  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_
- © Penne Pasta Primavera  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SEAT ME WITH: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions: Call Membership Vice Presidents:  
Linda Abrams – 215-266-2566 or Patti First – 215-470-1560

**Tuesday, December 5, 2023**

**10:30 to 2:30**

***Keneseth Israel Synagogue -- 8339 Old York Rd, Elkins Park, PA 19027***



***Canasta, Bridge, Mahjongg, Scrabble***

***Bring your chosen game materials***

***Invite your group or we can match you up with other players***



**BOX BRUNCH/ FEE: \$40.00 for MEMBERS \$45.00 for GUESTS**

**Snacks provided during play**

**ADVANCE REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT REQUIRED BY NOVEMBER 29th – NO WALK-INS**

**[REGISTER & PAY ONLINE BY CLICKING HERE](#)**

YOU WILL RECEIVE AN EMAIL RECEIPT

**Questions: Call Program-Ed VPs- Anita Shomer 215-880-9992 or Rosalie Marcus 215-512-5110**

**TO REGISTER BY MAIL - COMPLETE THIS REGISTRATION FORM BELOW.**

**MAIL WITH CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO NCJW GREATER PHILADELPHIA SECTION TO:**

**Margie Zukerman**

**5106 Meridian Blvd. Warrington, PA 18976-1102**

**THIS FORM AND YOUR CHECK MUST BE RECEIVED BY November 29, 2023**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I am registering to play:** \_\_\_\_\_ Mahjongg, \_\_\_\_\_ Canasta, \_\_\_\_\_ Bridge, \_\_\_\_\_ Scrabble

# Save The Date

## Show Your Support for Reproductive Justice

### Abortion After Care Packaging Interfaith Event

November 16, 2023 3:00 p.m.

Keneseth Israel  
Elkins Park

Last May, NCJW joined the congregants of St Martin's in the Fields for a day of packaging abortion aftercare packages for the Women's Center in Center City. It was a rousing success and our partners at St. Martin's are now going to be joining us for another packing event for which NCJW is the sponsor. So let's make us look good with a big turnout!

It will be held on November 16, 2023 in our regular meeting space at KI. But we need all of you who can be to be involved. We need help with pre-packaging, for transportation for our materials from St. Martin's to KI and taking completed packages back after the event. We could use help with set up and take down. Even to be greeters! In fact, if you are willing to help we will have many possibilities for you to choose from that are reasonably easy and short.

Please contact me if you are planning on attending so that we can make sure we have enough refreshments!! Contact me at [rhonda.mandel@gmail.com](mailto:rhonda.mandel@gmail.com) for more information or to RSVP.

Rhonda Mandel



## **DON'T FORGET TO VOTE NOVEMBER 7TH!**

**One vacancy on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court needs to be filled. This court can determine access to reproductive care, voting rights, fair representation, gun safety, environmental justice, and more.**

Your choices:

### **Carolyn Carluccio**

- Ran as a pro-life, pro-gun candidate in the May primary
- Endorsed by the PA Pro-Life Federation
- Former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia "most reflects [her] judicial philosophy"

### **Daniel McCaffery**

- Endorsed by Planned Parenthood PA and Reproductive Freedom for All, formerly known as NARAL Pro-Choice America
- Endorsed by unions, the Sierra club, Working Families Party (WFP).

There are two vacancies on the Superior Court and one vacancy on the Commonwealth Court, as well as two Justices on the Superior Court running for retention, one Republican and One Democrat. At the local level Common Pleas Court and magisterial district judge candidates need to be chosen. In addition, local officials involved in governance of municipalities, including mayors, county commissions, city council members, and school boards will be elected on November 7th.

Resources for the November election [www.spotlightpa.org/news/2023/09/pennsylvania-election-2023-supreme-court-candidates/](http://www.spotlightpa.org/news/2023/09/pennsylvania-election-2023-supreme-court-candidates/) and/or [vote411.org](http://vote411.org) and/or [ballotopedia.org](http://ballotopedia.org)

**PLAN YOUR  
VOTE**

### **Important Dates:**

Registration Deadline: October 23, 2023

Application for Mail-in ballot: October 31, 2023

**Covid is on the rise, so you may want to vote by mail.**



**NCJW Team at Jewish Community Lobby Day in Harrisburg on September 12**

L to R: Beth Rubin, Lynne Jacobs, Rhonda Mandel, Judy Beck, Joan Kober, Penni Blaskey, Diane Morgan

## TWO REMARKABLE ORGANIZATIONS THAT RECEIVED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OUR SECTION

The Female Hebrew Benevolent Society remains the oldest Jewish charitable organization in continuous existence in the United States. Our NCJW Section donates to FHBS every year.



In all communities the means of alleviating the sufferings of the poor are considered of high importance by the benevolent and the humane. The original subscribers, members of the Hebrew Congregation of Philadelphia, and citizens of the United States and of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, sensible to the calls of their small society, and desirous of rendering themselves useful to their indigent Sisters of the House of Israel, associated themselves

together for the purposes of charity; and in order to make the benefit permanent, adopted this Constitution. From the Preamble to the Constitution of the Female Hebrew Benevolent Society, January 16, 1837

Founded over 200 years ago by the women of Congregation Mikveh Israel and guided by Rebecca Gratz, the Female Hebrew Benevolent Society remains the oldest Jewish charity in continuous existence in the United States. It is also the first independent organization established by Jews to serve Jews in the City of Philadelphia. In her chosen role as the first secretary, a position she held for nearly 40-years, Gratz set the stage for placing FHBS at the forefront of American Jewish social service.

The Society is overseen by a volunteer board of 13-managers who assume responsibility for administration and almost all overhead. There are no paid employees. Future board members serve as observers at semiannual meetings and gradually take on tasks as their knowledge of and commitment to our mission increases. Former board members may choose to serve as emeritae, participating in an advisory capacity to the extent that they are interested and able.

FHBS concentrates on four specific areas of assistance: emergency aid, including a small number of monthly stipends, personal emergency response systems for frail, elderly women, a pharmacy stipend program and camp scholarships. All cases are considered individually, taking into account any extenuating circumstances. Requests are filled as the treasury permits, often within a 24-hour period. Referrals come from communal professionals who screen the client to verify and prioritize her needs before making a recommendation to FHBS.

### 'We Looked Like an Army': Meet the Handmaids Standing Up to Netanyahu

Israeli women's rights group, **Bonot Alternativa:**

"The stark, instantly recognizable red and white costumes are a reference to the uniforms forced upon enslaved women in Margaret Atwood's patriarchal dystopia *The Handmaid's Tale*. Today, the procession of women dressed in all red has become a staple at weekly protests against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's judicial overhaul, underscoring the threat to democratic freedoms and gender equality."





Israeli EMTs are risking their lives to save the lives of others. But you can save lives safely from home.



The men and women of Magen David Adom (MDA) are risking their lives, working around the clock to treat Israelis injured by rockets and terrorist gunmen. Four have already made the ultimate sacrifice, killed while treating patients or in their ambulance en route to an emergency.

Israelis — including MDA EMTs and paramedics — desperately need your support. MDA urgently needs more ambulances, protective vests and helmets, and critical supplies and equipment to save as many lives as possible.

The people of Israel are counting on you. Support [Magen David Adam today](#).

Donate Now



## A BIT OF NCJW HISTORY

### Immigrant Aid

In line with their emphasis on motherhood, (NCJW) council members and employees provided services to more than twenty thousand immigrant Jewish girls who arrived on American shores without guardians. They met girls at ports of entry, built settlement houses, provided vocational training and Americanization classes, shared tips on etiquette, provided cultural programs, and fought against the influence of the white slave trade. They visited girls in their homes to see how they were doing and acted as advocates for those in legal trouble.

Members who provided such aid were termed "friendly visitors," reflecting the council's belief that they were providing the stern but loving guidance that would have been provided by a stable home, had circumstances allowed. Some recipients of NCJW services viewed "friendly visitors" as annoying interlopers who offered help only because it served their own self-interest to combat antisemitism, not because they understood or cared about the immigrants' needs. There is no doubt that "friendly visitors" were separated from the girls they served by a wide economic and social gap.

In addition, many NCJW members were ambivalent about training girls to enter the workforce, doing so because they recognized the economic necessity but regretful that women who worked could not pay "proper" attention to care of children and home. Resulting policies included support of protective legislation for working women and corollary opposition to the Equal Rights Amendment. These policies were easy to adopt from the vantage point of wealthy homes, but they sometimes made life more difficult for the families they were supposed to help. Yet, unlike most other Jewish agencies, the council's model of philanthropy required more than giving money. All "friendly visitors" received training in modern social work, and the personal contact that many members had with the immigrant community humanized the statistics and, in many cases, led to genuine empathy.

Furthermore, the NCJW differed from other (largely Christian) organizations that saw poor immigrant girls as "fallen" and in need of saving. The council believed that their clients were generally good people who merely needed to overcome unfortunate circumstances. The help they provided was therefore material, not spiritual. They did hope that the girls they served would become good Jewish mothers, and sometimes supported religious training toward that end, but their goal was to help the girls preserve their ethnicity in ways that were "appropriate" to America, not merely to preserve Judaism.

By most accounts, the NCJW's model of immigrant aid was highly successful. One New York City report credited the council's preventive programs with a 40 percent decrease in Jewish women arraigned for prostitution. NCJW leaders were invited to present sessions at international conferences, and their methods were taught in college classrooms. No organization wielded more influence over immigrant Jewish girls than the NCJW.



Stella Steinheimer Bauer, with five other women, who were officers of the National Council of Jewish Women - Atlanta Section. 1910-1912.

**Hello HAMEC Volunteers!**

The Holocaust Awareness Museum and Educational Center is looking for volunteers to help in the office and as docents.

Contact Cindi Pasceri

vpasce@gmail.com or (215) 205-0133



**Dear Members,**

**I am proud to be taking on the role of Grants Committee Chair.**

**Our Section awards small grants, not to exceed \$500, to local organizations whose programs serve the needs of women, children and families.**

**If you know of a worthy organization in our area, you can suggest that they fill out a grant request.**

**Click the link below to get the application.**

**To be eligible, a group must qualify as an IRS 501(c)(3) organization.**

**Feel free to contact me at gervert@verizon.net or (215) 402-0887 with any questions.**

**Gerrie Greene**

**"Click here for grant information and an application"**

Condolences to:  
The family of our member, Ronda Dorfman.

## **Please Remember:**

### **Bring Supplies to Donate at the October and November Meetings**

Please continue your generous donation of supplies for:

**Dawn's Place:** all paper products (*especially single-ply toilet paper*), full size cleaning products & wipes, large trash bags.

**No More Secrets** - period products

**Ben Franklin Elementary School:** School supplies (glue sticks, pencils, erasers, notebooks etc....) would be a much valued donation.

**We have suspended donations to Mitzvah Circle** at this time because they are now located too far away from our volunteer drivers. Please DO NOT bring any used clothing to donate until further notice.

We have started helping a different group, the National Giving Alliance. They distribute new clothing to families in need, and we've been volunteering to unpack and sort supplies they receive from manufacturers.



On the third Monday of the month we volunteer at NGA 822 Veterans Way Warminster. National Giving Association collects only new clothing and donates the clothing after getting a request from a social worker. It is a small building and quite nice to work in. We remove tickets from the clothing and place an NGA sticker on each item. We also take lists from social workers and pack boxes to be sent out.

Since the Pandemic, we have been trying to find organizations where we can physically volunteer. Our monetary donations are always welcome but having a members volunteer helps both the organizations and NCJW. We make our presence known in the community and we have a bonding experience that has been missing since the Pandemic.

I am always looking for other places to volunteer and would appreciate any suggestions.

An e-mail blast will be sent out the week before the event.

Please call Sherry Kohn Eisman at 215-208-0550 if you have any questions.

## BOOK CLUBS

### Afternoon Book Club

Thursday, October 26, at 1:30.

*This Is How It Always Is*  
by Laurie Frankel

Moderator: Eileen Davis

Thursday, November 30, at 1:30.

*Remarkably Bright Creatures*  
by Shelby Van Pelt

Moderator: Anita Shomer

Thank you to Stephanie Fenion for moderating the discussion for September's book, *Mother, Daughter, Traitor, Spy* by Susan Elia MacNeal.

Thank you to Eileen Davis for Moderating our October discussion on *This Is How It Always Is* by Laurie Frankel.

Our group has continued to meet via zoom. If you would like to join the afternoon book group, contact Eileen Davis by text 215 901 2754 or E mail [puppyme2@aol.com](mailto:puppyme2@aol.com).

### Center City Book Group

Wednesday, November 8, at 8:00 p.m.

*Hello Beautiful* by Ann Neapolitan  
Leader - Sharon Kestenbaum

Host - Audrey Block

Interested in Center City Book Group?  
Call Audrey Block 215-688-0094.

(Our October meeting was canceled. Thus a repeat of this book.)

### Suburban Book Club

Wednesday, October 18, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Joan Sax.

*The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray

Facilitator: Charlotte Schwartz

For more information... contact Joan Sax at 215- 740- 7263 or [joansax@comcast.net](mailto:joansax@comcast.net).

[Click Here for our Website Book Page](#)



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](mailto:harrietwinokur@gmail.com)

## WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Linda Glazermen Roeder   Marilynne Flaquer   Irina Moyseyenko   Bunny L Verbit  
Edyie Leiber   Cheryl Turetsky   Connie Berman   Meryl Lightstone   Ann Stolinsky  
Marcela Pardes   Ronda Lang

As Membership co-Vice-Presidents we welcome all to call with any questions. Please contact Patti First (patal16@verizon.net) or Linda Abrams (lr.abrams@gmail.com).

We are delighted to send out membership packets to those wishing to become members or dues envelopes for current members.

Dues envelopes should be returned to Harriet Winokur, 732 Johns Lane, Ambler, PA 19002

Membership Dues: Annual \$50 (Be an Angel \$60 🙏)\*

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.

Please check out our website [ncjwphiladelphia.org](http://ncjwphiladelphia.org) for our Bulletins, past and present, for program information and registration.

**CLICK HERE TO JOIN  
OR RENEW ONLINE**

This beautiful Tribute card is available in packages of 6 cards for \$25. Use for many occasions such as graduation, Get Well, In Memory, Bar or Bat Mitzvah, or Just Thinking of You. Your donation will help support NCJW in many ways. We would be happy to meet you and deliver your cards. You can also call us to send a card for you at a cost of \$5.00.

Ann Pollock  
215-806-4068

Linda Mosko  
215-233-0184



## DO YOU WANT TO BE IN PICTURES?

When you are at an event, send a picture to Harriet (harrietandmal@gmail.com), who will publish it in the Bulletin.



REMEMBER.... THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE.

### 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.



**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. Click on the link below or call Aileen Salus 215-441-9339 or Linda Brosgol 215-672-2404 and tell us what event you'd like to sponsor.

***[CLICK THIS LINK TO SPONSOR AN EVENT](#)***

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



Please call Harriet Gran at 215-206-1026 or email [hgranncjw@gmail.com](mailto:hgranncjw@gmail.com).

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

## NCJW Greater Philadelphia Section 2023-2024

President - Aileen Salus

### Vice Presidents:

Advocacy:	Lynne Jacobs
Membership:	Patti First, Linda Abrams
Programs & Education:	Rosalie Marcus & Anita Shomer
Community Services:	Faye Benshetler & Wendy Rader
Fund Raising:	Cindi Pasceri & Aileen Salus

### Officers:

Treasurer:	Pearl Tragash
Assistant Treasurer:	Margie Zukerman
Financial Secretary:	Harriet Winokur
Recording Secretary:	Susan Chace
Corresponding Secretary:	Bobbie Berman

### Board Directors at Large:

Nancy Cox  
Sherry Kohn Eisman  
Janet Ecksel  
Diane Plotnick  
Ann Pollock  
Joan Sax  
Jackee Swartz

### Honorary Founding Director

Diane Steinbrink

### Immediate Past Presidium

Linda Brosgol

Harriet Gran, Bulletin Editor.  
Mal Gran, Website Manager  
harrietandmal@gmail.com  
Ellen Toplin, Technical Advisor

Thank you to those members whose help with the publication of the Bulletin is so appreciated:

Harriet and Mal Gran      Carol Stein  
Char Kurland      Margie Zukerman

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](http://www.NCJW.org)





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Patricia Tagliolini  
Real Estate Salesperson

o 215.348.4848 m 215.882.1202  
[pat.tagliolini@compass.com](mailto:pat.tagliolini@compass.com)

# Shiva

## Made Easy, LLC

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Debra Miller  
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Email: [ssnellenburg@rvacations.com](mailto:ssnellenburg@rvacations.com)

## SUSAN CHACE, MSW, LCSW

### Geriatric Care Manager

8005 Rodgers Road  
Elkins Park, PA 19027-1325

Phone: 215-782-8088  
Email: [slchace@comcast.net](mailto:slchace@comcast.net)  
Website: [susanlchace.com](http://susanlchace.com)



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[philadelphia@vfi-usa.org](mailto:philadelphia@vfi-usa.org)

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November

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	<b>8</b> <b>MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON 11:00 a.m.</b> <b>Valerie A. Arkoosh, MD, MPH Secretary</b> <b>Pennsylvania Department of Human</b> <b>Services</b> <b>Sharing her thoughts on Women's Health</b> <b>=====</b> <b>EVENING BOOK CLUB 8:00 p.m.</b>	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	<b>30</b> <b>Afternoon</b> <b>Book Club</b> <b>1:30 p.m.</b>		