

Bulletin

A FAITH IN THE FUTURE

®

A BELIEF IN ACTION

September, 2024

131 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



like your life depends on it
BECAUSE IT DOES

November 5th, election day, will determine our future as a democracy and the viability of the mission of 131 years of the National Council of Jewish Women.

Project 2025, authored by officials of the previous administration would devastate millions of Americans.

Project 2025
will:

- Restrict access to reproductive care and medication abortion.
- Roll back progress with civil rights and voting rights.
- Eliminate the Head Start Program for 800,000 children.
- Dismantle social safety net programs.
- Stop efforts to lower prescription drug prices.
- Push Medicare recipients into less desirable private options.
- Create policies hostile to green energy.
- Jeopardize workers' pay protections and workplace safety.
- End health care insurance protections for pre-existing conditions.
- Eliminate red flag laws.

If you're not scared yet, go to <https://democracyforward.org>

See page 5 for voter registration deadlines and voter mail drop box locations.

Join us for an important and relevant discussion.

Enjoy lunch with friends and NCJW members.

Keneseth Israel Synagogue 8339 Old York Road Elkins Park, PA 19027

September 17, 2024 11:30-2:30

Keynote speaker: Rabbi Isabel de Koninck

Topic: *Confronting Antisemitism in 2024!*

Building Bridges and Promoting Understanding



Rabbi Isabel de Koninck has served as the Executive Director and Campus Rabbi for Hillel at Drexel University since 2010. A native of Montclair, NJ, she graduated from Brandeis University. She received rabbinic ordination from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, where she also earned a graduate certificate in Jewish Gender and Women's Studies. Rabbi de Koninck serves on the boards of Reconstructing Judaism and Tribe12. Her passion for Jewish life starts with the belief that Judaism is a relevant and inspiring framework for engaging the daily opportunities and challenges of today's world

Boxed Luncheon Fee: \$30 Members \$35 Guests

Register your lunch choice and pay online before 9/12

BY CLICKING HERE

To Register and pay by mail complete the form & submit by 9/12

to:

Margie Zukerman
5106 Meridian Blvd
Warrington, PA 18976

Lunch Selection: Sandwich or salad with side and dessert

NCJW Member Name _____

Email _____

Please put a check next to your lunch preference.

Chicken Salad Sandwich on Challah Roll with side salad & cookie

Tuna salad Sandwich on Challah Roll with side salad & cookie

House Roasted Turkey Sandwich on Challah Roll with side salad & cookie

Mary Ellen Salad: grilled chicken, chopped romaine, tomato, honey goat cheese, sugar toasted almonds & cookie

Vegetarian Mary Ellen Salad: Same as above minus the chicken with the addition of apple slices & cookie

Guest Name _____

Email _____

There will be donation tables for Dawn's Place, No More Secrets and Benjamin Franklin Elementary School.

Questions-Call Program Education VPs Rosalie Marcus (215-512-5110) or
Anita Shomer (215-880-9992)

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



I hope everyone has had a great summer. As we begin a new year, it is important that we continue our mission to be a relevant force in our local and national communities. We hope you will support the events that are being planned. You should know what we will do with the money that is made from these events. This past year we were able to provide financial support to numerous food banks in Bucks, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties; we helped provide school supplies and clothing to Benjamin Franklin Elementary School; we gave donations to the Ronald McDonald House

(with the intention of going there to make breakfast for the families upon completion of new construction); we gave supplies and money to Dawn's Place, a Philadelphia residential recovery home and program for women recovering from the trauma of sex trafficking; we received and read several hundred Holocaust essays from local schools and were able to provide gift prizes to students. We made donations to National Giving Alliance (NGA), Female Hebrew Benevolent Society, and No More Secrets, the program that provides menstrual products to the underserved in our community.

In the aftermath of October 7, we provided financial support for Israel with donations to Magen David Adom, the Israel Defense Fund (IDF) and World Central Kitchen. We continue to advocate for women's reproductive health care and choices. In past years, we have provided financial support to victims of national disasters such as the Miami hurricane disaster effort.

These are just some of the agencies and community efforts we support. We like to say that NCJW Greater Philadelphia Section is a grassroots organization. With your help and continued participation, we look forward to being a positive force in our community.

I look forward to greeting you at our upcoming events.

Aileen Salus, President
NCJW Greater Philadelphia Section

In a consequential election, turn your anxiety into action

Here's How:

- Phone Banks
- Letter Writing (Vote Forward offers a template for volunteers to write to unregistered and low propensity voters). You can learn more at votefwd.org.
- Host letter writing and phone bank parties.
- Knock on doors
- Volunteer with voter registration
- Donate funds

Everyone is encouraged to apply for mail-in ballots NOW!!!

DO NOT WAIT FOR THE DEADLINE.

To request a ballot, you must be registered to vote.

You can use the Check Your Registration Status tool to review your registration.

- You can request a mail-in ballot online at votespa.com/applymailballot
- You can check the status of your application or ballot at <https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/pages/ballotracking.aspx>
- You may also download a [paper application](#) and send it to your [county election office](#) [if you do not have a driver's license or another official state ID]

If you do not have access to a computer and the internet, then call your county board of elections to request an application for a ballot.

Bucks County: (215) 348-6154

Montgomery County: (610) 278-3280

Philadelphia County: (215) 686-3469

Delaware County: (610) 891-4673

DON'T DELAY. DO NOT WAIT FOR THE DEADLINE. APPLY TODAY!

Pennsylvania Voter Information - Tuesday, November 5 - Election Day

October 21, 2024 - Last day to register to vote

October 29, 5 p.m. - Mail-in or Absentee ballot application due in local county election office.

November 5, 8 p.m. - Completed ballot must be received by county election office.

Secure Ballot Drop Box Locations*

Montgomery County

Cheltenham-Township Tax Office, 8230 Old York Road

Upper Dublin-Upper Dublin Library, 520 Virginia Dr., Ft. Washington

Upper Moreland-Willow Grove Annex, 102 N. York Rd.

Bucks County

Northampton Township - Free Library, 25 Upper Holland Rd, Richboro

Warminster Library - 1076 Emma Lane

Central Bucks - County Admin. Bldg, 55 E. Court St, Doylestown

Bensalem Library - 3700 Hulmesville Rd.

Philadelphia City

Philadelphia City Hall, 1400 John F. Kennedy Blvd.

Dorothy Emanuel Rec Center-8500 Pickering St.

*Check days and times of drop box locations



Kudos to NCJW Arizona!

NCJW Arizona takes a stand against Project 2025 due to its threats to women's rights, social justice, the environment, and civil liberties. Let's protect our rights and future!



Holocaust Essay Contest

Our Section's Holocaust Essay Contest Committee met for our annual contest on Monday, May 13. The middle school student essays from Upper Dublin's 6th grade and Philadelphia Charter Community Academy of Philadelphia's 7th and 8th graders were distributed to our Committee readers. Three hundred middle school students participated. Awards were granted to first place winners during the first week of June. Winning essays have been placed on our Section's Website. Many thanks go to our Committee readers: Joan Sax, Sherry Kohn Eisman, Charlotte Schwartz, Ruth Hartz, Lee Tonik, Harriet Gran, and Liz Polk and to our Section for providing such generous gifts.

The greatest joy was watching and listening to the kids cheering for each classmate as his or her name was called.

Cindi Pasceri



Kudos to Cindi Pasceri for her excellent leadership with this important program.

Two winning essays are on the next pages.

Leona Ly
Mrs. Myers
ELA 1
5/2/24

Unrecognized

Everything is gone. My family is never to be seen again. Sharp rocks pierce my bare feet as I stumble out of the train car. I take a deep breath in the fresh air. It feels so good to get out of there. I'll never forget the nauseating smell of vomit. Legs trembling, stomachs throbbing. The loud but short breaths when the train car started running out of air. The thumps when a life was lost forever. The 3 loudest thumps when my family was gone. Mom, dad, and my 3-year-old brother Michael, who was too young to even understand what was happening. Right when I got off the train, we were separated into groups. Men, and then women and children.

A million centimeter-long needles sink into my left forearm, identifying me as 169065 forever. I was told I wasn't supposed to give out personal information, but here I was, giving it all away to the people that wanted to kill me. I had a vague memory of a man I met on the train. "Tell them you're 18." he whispered. He had a rough, hoarse voice. He could have been going crazy from starvation. Still, that's what I did. I limped over to the next line, rocks still piercing my feet.

A tall SS guard said firmly, "Take off your clothes." Why would I do that? In front of all these strangers? Since my life practically depended on it, I did. I softly dropped my clothes into a pile of a million ones. Something told me I was never getting it back. I took one look back at the beautiful floral dress my grandmother had sewn for me. guess it wasn't like I had a big chance of being able to wear it again anyways. I'd probably die in the next 24 hours or so.

I heard a faint buzzing sound behind me. I turned around to see all different colors and textures of hair, falling to the ground. No, I can't. My hair, I couldn't shave it off, I just couldn't. I stared blankly at the chair. "Sit down!" The guard ordered. The sharp spikes of the razor ran along my scalp, hairs one by one, gone. The cold air blew against my head, now bald.

I suddenly got an urge of excitement, after waiting in a line with hundreds of people. Ahhh. Finally, the showers! Thank god I could get this disgusting smell off of me. I stepped in. The tiles were cracked, and dust filled the air. I slowly turned the faucet to the left, expecting warm, fresh, water to come sprinkling out. Instead, ice cold water came pouring down on me. Goosebumps rose up the back of my neck. I winced as I reached for the soap and scrubbed my face. It stung. I let out a shriek. I thought I was the only one that heard it, but apparently everyone did. "It's bleach!" someone shouted. I put the bleach back on the shelf, choosing dirtiness over pain. Just as I set it down, I caught a glimpse of my reflection in the faucet. Who is that? She had baggy eyes, a body skinny and frail, and no hair on her head. No hair at all. I couldn't even recognize her.

I hopped out of the showers, and an SS guard held out a set of striped pajamas. What a downgrade from my clothes at home - I mean, what used to be my home. I am Sarah Hoffman. Age 18. Female. Former daughter and sister. Number 169065. An official prisoner at Auschwitz. Death is assumed.

Mason Walczak
Mrs. Adkins
Core 2
May 6, 2024

Remember Us

Remember the night, glass shattered and swayed
Remember the saying, "it's okay"
Remember the time when the Nazis weren't here
Remember the screams that the Nazis didn't here
Remember even, when we'd obey,
they would put us in carts and take us away
Remember the camps that split us apart,
taking our family thus taking our hearts
Remember the razor that shaved off our hair
Remember at first you cried in despair
Remember when they said to get in the showers
Remember you knew you could die any hour
Remember the numbers that you were given
Remember your identity that was now forbidden
Remember the flag that was raised up and down
Remember the red that praised with your frown
Remember Us

Our June 24 Closing Luncheon and Installation of Officers



Our new officers for our 2024-2025 year with their smiles of enthusiasm/



Robin London, our new and dynamic fundraising chair.



Our member Ruth Hartz who wrote "Your name is Renee" a memoir of her childhood during the Holocaust in Nazi occupied France. With her is Linda Glazerman Roeder who plays Ruth and the Mother Superior in last May's musical production, "Hidden" based on Ruth Hartz's memoir. On the following page, see the notice of a new production of "Hidden" to be shown this September.



Steven Pollack sang our favorites from the music of Steven Sondheim and Andrew Lloyd Weber.



A great turnout!



Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center
Preserving History to Learn From the Past | Est. 1961

Come see **Hidden: A Musical!**



Tickets for **Hidden: A Musical!** are on sale now. Join us in supporting Holocaust Survivor Ruth Hartz at the world premiere of the musical version of her story.

At just four years old, Ruth was hidden in a small Catholic convent in southern France and forced to change her name to Renee to conceal her Jewish identity. Through ingenuity and the bravery of her rescuers, Ruth survived the war.

“Hidden” will be playing at the Gratz Theater on the weekends of September 6th and September 20th. Ruth will be there for every production from September 6th through the 21st. The exact times and dates are listed below:

Fri. Sep 6th, 2024 - 8:00 pm

Sat. Sep 7th, 2024 - 8:00 pm

Fri. Sep 20th, 2024 - 8:00 pm

Sat. Sep 21st, 2024 - 2:00 pm

Sun. Sep 22nd, 2024 - 2:00 pm

VENUE

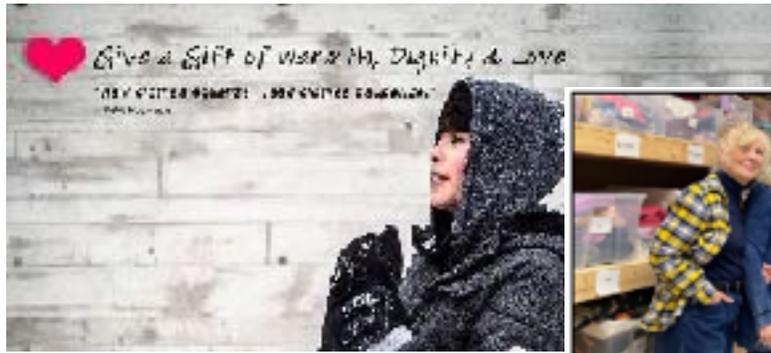
7605 Old York Road
Melrose Park, PA 19027

[Buy Tickets Here](#)

[Our Website](#)

[Donate Here](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)



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 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.

Condolences:

To the family of Linda Abrams, member of our Board.

NCJW is committed to creating a world where all people, regardless of race, class, gender, sexuality, ability, or immigration status, have the right to build their families and live their lives with dignity. Our Jewish values teach us that our reproductive freedoms are integrally bound to our religious liberty; we are committed to advancing the goals of reproductive justice so that every person can make their own moral and faith-informed decisions about their body, health, and family.

Since its founding, NCJW has been a leader in the reproductive health and rights movement, and while much advancement has been made in the past 100 years to legally secure a person's right to abortion and contraception, there is so much more that needs to be done to truly ensure reproductive freedom for all.

Reproductive health, rights, and justice goes beyond the basics of reproduction. It requires us to dig deeper, advocate louder, and love harder. It requires us to center the voices of those who have been marginalized at the center to lead the conversation for social change.

Until every person has the power to make their own informed decisions about their body, sexuality, and future, our work is not over.

Greater Phila Section reps spread the word about NCJW at the Bucks County Jewish Fair on June 9. It was a beautiful day and more than 500 people attended.

L to R Lynne Jacobs, Susan Chase, Sherry Kohn-Eisman. Not pictured: Judy Heath, Rona Elias



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

A \$3 million grant program to bring free menstrual products to Pennsylvania students was approved with this year's budget, but details including which districts are eligible and how schools can apply are still to come.

Casey Smith, a spokesperson for the state Department of Education, said guidelines will be established in the coming weeks.

Advocates say the allocation is not enough to provide all menstruating students with the supplies they need, but it's a start.

"We all know that menstrual products are extremely expensive," said Lynette Medley, co-chief executive officer and founder of The SPOT Period, a "menstrual hub" in Philadelphia. "It's going to be stretched to the limit."

Read Spotlight PA's full report: [Free period products coming to some Pa. schools thanks to \\$3M budget commitment.](#)



First Lady Lori Shapiro (right) visits the SPOT Period in Philadelphia with its founder Lynette Medley. (Commonwealth Media Services)

BOOK CLUBS

Afternoon Book Club

- Sept. 26 *Tom Lake* by Ann Patchett
Leader: Patti First
- Nov. 21 *The Boy with the Star Tattoo*
by Talia Carner
Leader: Betsy Parziale

The Afternoon Book Club is now meeting every other month at 1:30 p.m. on Zoom. For more information call Anita Shomer at 215-880-9992 or email at anitabeckershomer@gmail.com

Suburban Book Club

Thursday, September 19, at 1:00 p.m.
Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow
by Gabrielle Zevin
Our hostess is Rebecca Landau and
facilitator is Lee Tonik.
Please rsvp to Rebecca at 215-885-7950
or reb9575@gmail.com.

Many thanks to Joan Sax for hosting our
pot luck discussion on August 14 and to
our facilitator, Eileen Davis. The
discussion and food were equally
delicious!

If you are interested in joining our book
club, call Joan Sax at 215-740-7263 or
email her at joansax@comcast.net

"Book clubs: where women come for the literature, stay for the desserts,
and linger for the company of good friends."



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.



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

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 Anita Shomer, 215-880-9992 or Rosalie Marcus, 215-512-5110 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.

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

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Joan Freiman

Rochelle (Shelly) Blank

Wilma Wenger

Amy Alberts Ata Goldberg

As Membership Vice-President, I welcome all to call with any questions.

Please contact Patti First at patal16@verizon.net.

I am 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 \$55 (Be an Angel \$65 🙇)*

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.

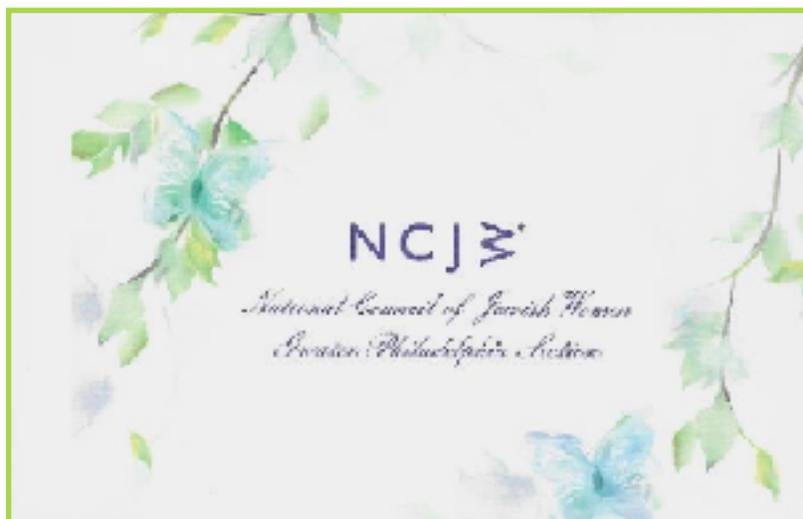
Please check out our website ncjwphiladelphia.org for our Bulletins, past and present, for program information and registration.

**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



NCJW Section Officers and Voting Board Members for 2024-2025

President

Aileen Salus

Vice Presidents

Membership – Patti First

Programs/Education – Rosalie Marcus/ Anita Shomer

Advocacy – Lynne Jacobs/ Judy Heath

Community Service – Faye Benshetler

Fundraising - Robin London

Additional Officers

Corresponding Secretary - Bobbie Berman

Recording Secretary – Susan Chace

Treasurer – Pearl Tragash

Assistant Treasurer – Margie Zukerman

Financial Secretary - Harriet Winokur

Directors at Large

Nancy Cox

Diane Plotnick

Joan Sax

Cindi Pasceri

Merryl Pelberg

Sherry Kohn-Eisman

Ann Pollock

Jackie Swartz

Harriet Gran

Linda Brosgol

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

Harriet Gran, Bulletin Editor.

Mal Gran, Website Manager

harrietandmal@gmail.com

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

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"**



Hebrew Helpers

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Preparation • Jewish Education
In-home Lessons • Specialized Learning
Private Bar/Bat Mitzvah Services • Destination Services

Now in Philadelphia & New Jersey!

Debbie Jaffe

www.hebrewhelpers.com

917-541-6363



technicolormoments@gmail.com
[@technicolor_moments](https://www.facebook.com/groups/technicolormoments)

[facebook.com/groups/
technicolormoments](https://www.facebook.com/groups/technicolormoments)



Patricia Tagliolini
Real Estate Salesperson

o 215.348.4848 m 215.882.1202
pat.tagliolini@compass.com

Shiva

Made Easy, LLC

Deborah Cohen
215-783-6154

www.shivamadeeasy.com

Debra Miller
215-205-1405

perkiemc@verizon.net

Elite's Family of Shops...
Serving all your Floral needs.



215.886.6760
Abington
www.eliteflorals.net



215.884.1106
Jenkintown
www.foxflowerselite.com



215.672.3050
Warminster
www.elitetreehouseflowers.com

ROSENBLUTH

Vacations

SUSAN K. SNELLENBURG
VACATION SALES ASSOCIATE

610 GERMAN TOWN PIKE, SUITE 180, PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462
610-825-9010 • Fax 610-825-4588 • 1-800-438-7802
Email: 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
Website: susanlchace.com



www.vfi-usa.org
philadelphia@vfi-usa.org

BEVERLY COHEN
Regional Director
610.584.0458

CAROL STEIN
Regional Director
215.646.6381



**Jane Barr Horstman
& ASSOCIATES, INC.**

Jane Barr Horstman & Associates offers
High-Level Personal Assistance
(In-Person and Virtual)

- **Home Management** – multi-premises maintenance, house sitting, cleaning, décor, landscaping, pool, scheduling of staff and vehicle maintenance
- **Errands** – personal shopping, wardrobe, deliveries, scheduling vendors, dry-cleaning, repairs, etc.
- **Help for the holidays and party planning** (all sizes)
- Scheduling **appointments** and accompanying you to the appointments
- **Bill payment**



Jane Barr Horstman
215-399-9436
jane@barrhorstman.com
www.janebarrhorstman.com

SEPTEMBER

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|---|---|-----------|--|--------|----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 VOLUNTEER TODAY  | 17 Opening Luncheon Rabbi Israel de Koninck Confronting Antisemitism in 2024! Building Bridges and Promoting Understanding  September 17 11:30 a.m. | 18 | 19 Suburban Book Club 1:00 p.m. <i>Tomorrow, Tomorrow, and Tomorrow</i> by Gabrielle Zevin | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 Afternoon Book Club <i>Tom Lake</i> by Ann Patchett | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | |