

Bulletin

A FAITH IN THE FUTURE

A BELIEF IN ACTION[®]

March, 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.

Call us at
215-302-3586

Become A Member

Visit us at
ncjwphiladelphia.org

2 Flyers enclosed

IT WORKED (for now 🥲)

GERRYMANDERED JUDICIAL DISTRICTS STILL MIGHT BE A BALLOT INITIATIVE IN NOVEMBER

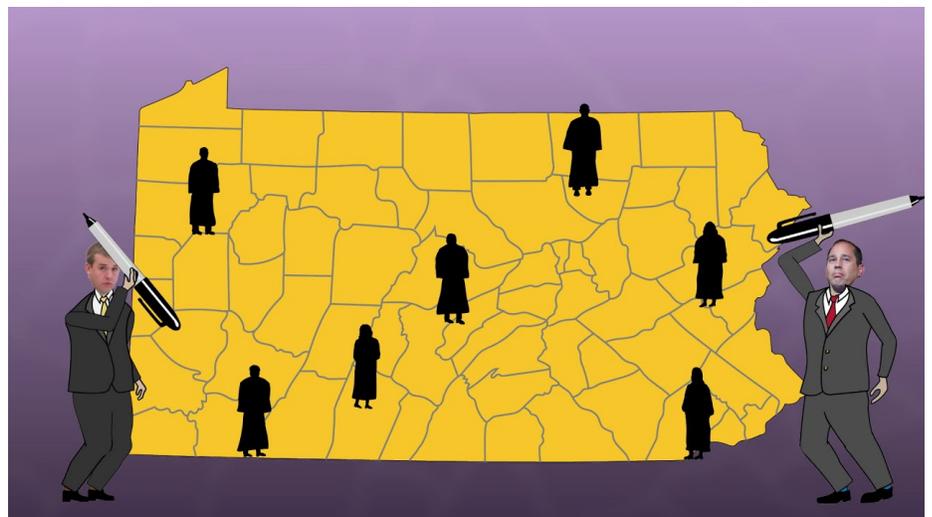


Many thanks go to our NCJW Section Legislative Chair, Liz Downing, who, with a coalition of groups (the League of Women Voters, American Association of University Women, Fair Districts, Bucks County Women's Advocacy Coalition) worked to marshal grass roots efforts to keep the question of Pennsylvania House Bill 38 off of the ballot in the upcoming May election. Thanks also to our many NCJW members who heeded Liz Downing's guidance on H.B. 38 by calling state legislators to protest this bill.

PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE BILL 38 would end the election of judgeships statewide and replace them with gerrymandered judicial districts. Had judicial districts been a reality before the 2020 Presidential Election, the State Legislature's fight to overturn the Presidential election results in Pennsylvania might have succeeded.

There are efforts to put H.B. 38 on the ballot in the November 2021 election. It is important to note that, historically, Pennsylvania voters vote "YES" on ballot initiatives. Hopefully, the enormous voter education campaign will make a difference. STAY TUNED!

WATCH THIS VIDEO



If you want to stay aware and participate in our vital Advocacy work, please [CLICK HERE](#) to opt in to our Alerts!

AND ON A FEDERAL LEVEL

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW about U.S. House Bill HR 1 and U.S. S 1
THE FOR THE PEOPLE ACT OF 2021, the voting rights act.



The For the People Act purports to expand Americans' access to the ballot box, reduce the influence of big money, strengthen ethics rules for public servants and implement other anti-corruption measures to fortify our democracy. The bill would require states to allow a minimum of two weeks of early voting. All eligible voters could vote by mail for any reason. All states would be required to conduct elections by paper ballot to safeguard votes. To address unfair practices with gerrymandering, states would be required to create independent commissions to conduct redistricting.

HR 1 passed the House on March 8, 2019, but has been blocked in the Senate since then. There is now a renewed effort to make this major reform bill a top legislative priority in the Senate.

REMEMBER, this is at a time that, according to the Brennan Center for Justice, state legislatures around the country have filed more than one hundred bills to tighten election laws to restrict voting, triple the number from last year!

BRIDGING THE VACCINATION DIGITAL DIVIDE



NCJW Greater Philadelphia Section's Community Service Group seeks to assist with access to Covid Vaccines for eligible individuals who are challenged by limited technological knowledge and/or internet access.



CAN YOU HELP?

Our NCJW SECTION Community Service Group is looking for a group of technologically savvy people to help folks find appointments to receive vaccinations for Covid 19.

If you can provide this advocacy, please contact Aileen Salus at asalus1945@gmail.com or 215-441-9339

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE LOOKING FOR HELP?

Lack of access to a computer, a reliable internet access, email or cellphone are often barriers to scheduling vaccination appointments. Limited tech skills may make efforts to secure appointments feel overwhelming. Adding to this, there's no centralized state or regional call system. Not all vaccine clinics have phone-scheduling options. If you are someone who is in need of partnering with someone to find a vaccine resource, or know someone who is, please contact our Community Service Group Co-Chair, Aileen Salus at her contact information above.

* Updates on Covid 19 health concerns and vaccination locations in Philadelphia and surrounding counties are available on the website: why.org. Go to their Health Desk Help Desk.

**Thank
You!**

During these trying times, we have been able to gather together socially only on Zoom. However, our efforts to work for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children and families and safeguarding individual rights have continued.

Thank you for your continued support.

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



Preservation Pittsburgh presents

Landmark Lectures: People & Place

March 18, 2021 | 6:30 p.m. EST

Pauline Hanauer Rosenberg & Her House

Matthew Falcone
President of Preservation Pittsburgh

*Presented in collaboration with the NCJW,
Pittsburgh Section*

March 18th - Preservation Pittsburgh's Virtual Series - Landmark Lectures: People & Place - Pauline Hanauer Rosenberg & Her House

About this Event

*Join us for the second event of Preservation Pittsburgh's Virtual Lecture Series - Landmark Lectures:
People & Place*

MARCH 18th, 2021 at 6:30 PM - In celebration of Women's History Month, Preservation Pittsburgh is pleased to announce a free virtual lecture on *Pauline Hanauer Rosenberg & Her House* presented by Matthew Falcone, President of Preservation Pittsburgh, who will discuss the life and legacy of Pauline Rosenberg (1863-1940) and her Deutschtown home.

Presented in collaboration with the [National Council of Jewish Women, Pittsburgh Section](#)

Rosenberg founded the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), its Pittsburgh section, and other Pennsylvania sections while she was living in the house. She advocated for progressive causes related to education, immigration, women's rights, and children. Landmarked in 2020, Rosenberg's former home is now the second city designated historic landmark that recognizes women's and Jewish history.

Image: Pauline Hanauer Rosenberg

Registration for this free event is required to receive the Zoom link. The virtual program will run approximately one hour, with time for questions and conversation.

Preservation Pittsburgh is dedicated to education and advocacy surrounding Pittsburgh's history and architecture. Our work often centers around landmarking sites, buildings, and structures to become officially designated at the local and national level. As the complementary public engagement and education component related to our work, we are pleased to launch **Landmark Lectures: People & Place**. Given that inherent in the landmarking process is collaboration and public outreach, our talks will reflect some of our partnerships.

Landmark Lectures will be held on the Third Thursdays of February, March and April, and ongoing. JOIN US throughout the year!

Here is the link to register via Eventbrite:
<https://march18lecturepreservationpittsburgh.eventbrite.com>



UPCOMING COLLECTION FOR DAWN'S PLACE

We have scheduled another collection for Dawn's Place on Wednesday March 17, from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM at Wegman's parking lot in Warrington. Find us in the parking lot left of the store (as you face it). Lynne Jacobs will deliver the supplies that afternoon. Please look for Lynne's car, which is a **KIA Soul, Bright Blue.**

At this time, Sister Kathleen is asking for toilet paper (single ply only, especially Scott), paper towels, napkins, dish soap, laundry detergent and detergent for the dishwasher. If you have any questions please contact Lynne at 215-248-3333 or ljacobs816@gmail.com

Thank you for your continued support in these very difficult times. We look forward to seeing you.

Aileen Salus and Linda Brosgol

Asalus1945@gmail.com
lgbrosgol@gmail.com

Co-Vice Presidents
Community Services



Dear Aileen Salus:

Yes! Dawn's Place celebrated its first ten years! We provided support to more than 100 women beginning new lives after surviving Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE) or sex trafficking. We couldn't have done it without your donation for \$200.00 on 11/23/2020.

Because of your gift we were able to:

- developed the first residency, year-long, non-faith based program specifically for survivors of CSE in the Philadelphia area
- provided a welcoming and safe residence for women of all faiths or no faith
- provided individual and group trauma counseling and other services for all residents
- supported women as they began new lives away from CSE
- raised awareness about CSE
- advocated for new laws that viewed the women as victims and not criminals
- created programs that would enable them to succeed in their new lives
- acquired a second house as a transitional residence for graduates

The next decade will be even more successful and will be a period of continued growth and thanks to you. We couldn't have done it without you.

Thank you for helping us combat human trafficking. Let's keep going for the next decade!

Best regards,

Sr. Kathleen
Sr Kathleen Coll, SSJ
Executive Director

*Thank you
for your support
of Dawn's Place.*

No goods or services were provided by Dawn's Place for this donation.

AND A THANK YOU FROM THE FBI FOR OUR DONATION

Dear Lynne,

I wanted to reach out to you and the National Council of Jewish Women to say thank you for your lovely donation of books to our human trafficking survivors.

As you are aware, we are unable to purchase items such as books for the victims we are working with on cases. Part of the role of the FBI, in addition to investigating Federal crimes, is to assist victims. We feel providing books is a wonderful and supportive way to encourage their path to recovery.

Again, thank you so much for your generous donation of inspiring books to provide to our human trafficking victims/survivors.

Sincerely,

Alexis

FBI Victim Specialist Alexis Krieger

Philadelphia Division



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Michelle Donlin 🙇

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 215-771-5311 or Donna Spector queenaheartdsds@hotmail.com 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.

CENTER CITY BOOK GROUP

Thank you to Adrienne Jacoby for leading our Feb. discussion

American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins. She did a masterful job.

Wednesday, March 10, at 7 p.m.

Walking Lions by Ayelet Gundar

Our leader is Joanne Stoloff



Wednesday, April 14, 7 P.M. on Zoom

The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett

Leader - Phyllis Barsky

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

Evening Book Club

Tuesday, March 23 at 7:30 PM

American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins

Leader: Nancy Fagan

Thank you to Harriet Gran for leading our discussion for the January Meeting

For more information contact Joan Sax:
215-947-9166 or joansax@comcast.net

Afternoon Book Club

Our next Zoom meeting:

Thursday, March 25, 2021

The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett

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

From Our Members



Guess I'll see you all in the Spring.
Stay safe.

Cindi

Condolences:

To our member, Madelynn Greenberg, who's husband, Stuart, recently passed away.

**The world has flipped upside down.
Old folks are sneaking out of the
house, and their kids are yelling at
them to stay inside.**

"It's for your own good!"

**If you can't think of a word,
say "I forgot the English word for it."**

**That way people will think you're bilingual instead of an
idiot.**

From Patti First

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



A Spotlight On Our NCJW Section

PROGRAMS/EDUCATION

What a year this has been!

Programs/Education has always given our members an opportunity to socialize while enjoying yummy lunches and special presentations. Our speakers have ranged from political figures, Rabbis, intergenerational experts, historical recreators, and experts in many other fields.

But with the unexpected arrival of a pandemic, it was impossible to bring members together in person for informative educational experiences. New words sprang into our vocabulary: Corona virus, COVID-19, N95 masks, and one special word—Zoom. Zooming online became the creative solution to the need to maintain social distancing.

Through the wonders of technology, we have been able to successfully meet with our members and continue to connect by bringing thought-provoking, entertaining and informative programs to all. Whether on your laptop, computer, iPhone, Android, or iPad, we hope you were able to tune in and take part in our wonderful Zoom programs. This past year we learned about the development of drugs and vaccines from Dr. Ira Spector. We were privileged to hear Sarah Hurwitz, former speech writer for Michelle Obama. Rabbi Bob Alper had us chuckling as he discussed the *Spirituality of Laughter*. Dr. Melissa Klapper discussed Jewish Women and Suffrage; and Ruth Hartz, a hidden child during the Holocaust, inspired us with her story of survival.

We look forward to a time when we can all meet again, face to face. We look forward to a time when we can hug and hold the hands of our dear friends. In the interim, undaunted by Covid-19, we will continue to connect, learn, discuss, and work together to fulfill our commitment to NCJW values and dreams.

Char Kurland
Presidium and VP Program/Education

UPDATE FROM THE GRANTS COMMITTEE

Dear Members, our Section's Grants Committee awards small grants, not to exceed \$500, to organizations that assist through their programs and initiatives the needs of women, children and families.

We are pleased to announce that during this fiscal year we have provided grants to the Mitzvah Circle Foundation, Pegasus Therapeutic Riding Academy, National Giving Alliance and SOWN.

Please take a moment and think of organizations that you support or are familiar with and ask them to submit a grant request. They must qualify as a IRC 501(c) (3) organization. A link to a copy of our Grants Application can be found on our NCJW website.

Feel free to contact Wendy Rader, Grants Committee Chairperson, at wrbarbiegirl50@gmail.com or 215 657-9347 with any questions.

Condolences:
To the family of Celia Rothkopf

A Tribute To Celia Rothkopf
from Sandy Fryer

I am delighted that Lauren asked me to share some words about Celia's connection with NCJW because Celia enriched our Greater Philadelphia Section in so many ways.

When one feels passionately about her involvement with NCJW, she reaches out to her friends to join. Luckily for us, Celia was one of my friends who joined our section.

Early in Celia's years as a member, we had a backpack drive and a winter coat drive for impoverished school children. When Celia turned up at my home with 12 fully stocked new back packs and later 12 brand new winter jackets, my mouth dropped open. Typical to Celia, she asked to remain anonymous.

When we were looking for a new recording secretary, a very difficult office to fill, Celia graciously agreed and served in this office for 2 years.

So many of our members described Celia just as Bobbie Berman did when she shared these words with me, "Celia was a beautiful person, very kind, generous and caring. It was always a pleasure to talk with her. I am very lucky to have had her as a friend."

When Celia was not able to hold an office due to family and personal health issues, she continued to be a generous supporter of our important efforts.

Linda Lempert shared the following: "Celia as we all know was a very private person, unassuming and extremely generous. Several years ago, when we were looking for funds to buy a mattress for a young woman just getting her own apartment after recovering from having been sex trafficked, Celia volunteered to pay the entire cost – anonymously of course, which was typical of Celia – she never wanted covet."

When Celia was feeling better and able to be more involved, I suggested something to our president, Barb Nussbaum who shared the following:

"I was so so sad to hear about Celia. Such a lovely, fine woman. When I asked Celia to Co- chair the Holocaust Essay project her first reaction was, "I really cannot do that because it is too close a subject for me." I totally understood. Then a week later, she called to say she thought about it and because the subject was so close to her, she decided that she should co-chair the committee. What a mensch."

What many of you might not know about, Celia, was in her quiet way she was a wonderful financial supporter of our section. I would call to thank her for her generosity and she wanted no recognition. she truly understood the meaning of Tzedakah."

Our NCJW section will miss Celia very much.

On a personal note.

Dear Celia,

You were the best friend anyone could hope to have. Whenever, anyone in my family had health issues, I knew I would get a daily phone call from you. I will miss your emotional support. I will miss our philosophical discussions about parenting, grand parenting and life in general. I will miss being able to call you about translations of Yiddish phrases. I will miss the daily witty and funny texts with which you greeted our "girls text group" each morning over the past year. You kept all of us laughing.

When we received the phone call about your passing, we were playing Bridge on line. Larry put his head in his hands and could not continue playing. Larry and I will miss the times we spent, just the three of us together. We both treasured our friendship with Brad and with you. Both of you were "Gita Neshamas." Our children also have treasured and appreciative memories of you. To know you, was to love you. We feel very lucky to have had you as a friend.

With love,
Sandy

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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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

March

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Board Meeting	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 Zoom Program Rabbi Lynnda Targan	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	Passover
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