

THE NEWSLETTER

NCJW BERGEN COUNTY SECTION

DECEMBER 2015—JANUARY 2016



Thursday December 3 Community Services Tour

Back by popular demand! Our second community services tour for 2015 will visit the Women's Rights Information Center in Englewood and the Bergen Family Center, also in Englewood. WRIC provides opportunities and training and some housing assistance to women who are either new to employment or are reentering the work place. Bergen Family Center is a multi-functional institution: it is the home of our much-lauded HIPPY program (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters). BFC also provides elder daycare, afterschool, and infant care to a large number of Bergen County residents. We will tour both facilities and be briefed by the professionals who run these programs. AND we will have a light lunch at BFC. Watch for the "sign-up sheets," since we have limited space. You will receive information after we have your name. Contact Ruth Seitelman, ruth.seitelman@gmail.com or Marcia Levy, mllevy0648@gmail.com.

Tuesday December 8 Menorah Memories at Open Board Meeting

All members of Bergen County Section are invited to attend our Open Board Meeting in the Youth Lounge at Temple Emeth at 9:15 am. Watch the board as they go about the business of bringing advocacy, education, and community service to Bergen County and beyond. An additional program to highlight the season will be MENORAH MEMORIES. Remember when *bubbe* lit the menorah and Aunt Esther, not to be outdone, brought her special menorah to the festivities? Bring back those memories, show off your own menorah, whether ornate or simple, colorful or amusing, and share your stories with us at our special Hanukkah celebration. Susan Laskin and her guitar will add to the festivities. Of course, potato latkes will be served.

Thursday December 10 Hanukkah Fun at Rockleigh

NCJW will participate in the annual *Elegant Hanukkah Luncheon* for the residents at the Jewish Home at Rockleigh at 12 noon. Lunch will be provided, including the most delicious potato latkes, along with Hanukkah music and entertainment by some of NCJW's talented members. If you would like to join us to help serve the residents and partake of the food and fun, please contact Roberta Lew [201-836-4695](tel:201-836-4695) or RMLew@aol.com.

SAVE THE DATE!

GENERAL MEETING Tuesday, March 15 at 12:30 pm at Temple Emeth
Eric Goldman, Jewish film scholar, professor of cinema at Yeshiva University and film critic for the Jewish Standard, will present an exciting program, "*The American Jewish Story Through Cinema.*" Mark your calendar now!

Monday December 14 **Third Annual Sandy Hook Memorial**

Our coalition partner, Bergen County Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence, invites you to join them to remember the victims of this tragedy as well as all other victims of gun violence. The memorial will take place at 7:30 pm. Indoor venue and speakers to be announced. Music will be provided by the Teaneck Community Chorus. The Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting occurred on December 14, 2012, in Newtown, Connecticut, when a 20-year-old fatally shot 20 children and 6 adult staff members. The incident was the deadliest mass shooting at a high school or grade school in U.S. history. Join us as we remember the victims of Sandy Hook.

Tuesday December 15 **Lunch and Learn: Nourishing Hearts and Minds**

Temple Emeth, 1666 Windsor Road, Teaneck, at 12:00 noon. Topic: Immigration Detention: Unjust and Immoral. Presenter Sally Pillay, MSW, a native of South Africa, is an activist for immigration rights. She serves as the director of First Friends of NJ & NY, an organization that upholds the inherent dignity and humanity of detained immigrants and asylum seekers, through volunteer visitation, resettlement assistance, and advocacy. Sally has an MSW in International Community Development, with a focus in Human Rights and Social Justice. She also serves on the board of the Bergen County Sanctuary Committee, a coalition of religious and humanist communities, human rights organizations, and other groups and individuals in the Greater New York City and New Jersey area. It serves as a sponsor organization for asylum seekers released from detention and provides them with humanitarian support and advocacy services. Participants will gain an understanding about immigration detention in New Jersey and nationally. They will also learn ways to get involved. Lunch and presentation: \$18 members, \$23 nonmembers. Please mail checks made out to NCJW BCS to Barbara Brill, 166 Cambridge Ave., Englewood, NJ 07631. (Your check will serve as your ticket.) Deadline: December 9, 2015.

Sunday December 20 **Solos Holiday Party**

All our SOLOS are invited to a delicious family-style Chinese dinner (from soup to nuts) at Mr. Wok, 1 Highwood Avenue, Tenafly, from 1 to 4 pm. Join us for a great afternoon of fun, food, and friendship; for more fun, remember it's a BYOB. Send your \$20 check (nonmembers are welcome at \$30) made out to NCJW BCS to Arlene Zweifler, 5 Horizon Road #503, Fort Lee, NJ 07024. Please send your check by December 15; include your phone number and email address. Questions? Call Doris Pape at (201) 489-4012.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2016 GENERAL MEETING BLANKET PARTY

See flyer and website www.ncjwbcs.org

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH OCTOBER 2015: ANNA BURRIS

Anna Burris, a longtime member of NCJW Bergen County Section, began her work at the section by immediately becoming Corresponding Secretary. She has served as Vice President of every department, except Fund Raising, has sat on various committees, and continues to volunteer at the Adler Aphasia Center and the Children's Court Care Center at the Bergen County Courthouse. She is always available to help out and has proved herself to be invaluable in so many ways over the years.



THE MAGIC OF STAY-AT-HOME . . .

Our Stay-at-Home fundraiser provides the funds we need to support our 18 community service projects, our advocacy issues, and our programs in Israel. For all those we serve, this is MAGIC. When you support Stay-at-Home, you help to continue the MAGIC. Bergen County Section's 2015-16 Stay-at-Home personal giving campaign is in full swing: almost 100 members have already contributed. To you, we say "thank you." And to everyone else, we say: see the enclosed flyer, and please donate now!

PASSAGES

We mourn the loss of our member Libby Kessler. Condolences to Phyllis Becker on the death of her husband Marty. Congratulations to Doris Pape on the marriage of her grandson, to Liz Warms on the marriage of her granddaughter, and to Micki Grunstein on the bar mitzvah of her grandson.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome new members Jessica Hoffman, Elizabeth Roditi, Barbara Rosenfeld, Leona Conford Tuttle and new life members (from dues) Elaine Meyerson, Joan Ornstein, and Marilyn Shapiro. We also welcome transfer from New Orleans Section Life Member Dale Gaber.

SILVER TRIBUTE CARDS

Phyllis Schriger

To Mr. and Mrs. Brian Murray
Congratulations on your
wedding

Aida Melamed

To Lucille Shapiro
Congratulations on
granddaughter
Stephanie's marriage

Sheila Sasson

To Bea Tendler
Congratulations on
Special Birthday

Save the Date: Tuesday, April 19th ---General Meeting

We hit the jackpot with author **Ariel Sabar**, who won the National Book Critics Circle Award in 2008 for autobiography. He is a witty, knowledgeable speaker who will discuss his award-winning book, *"My Father's Paradise,"* lives of Jews in Arab countries, the vanished Jewish Kurdish community, and more.

HOLIDAY GIFT COLLECTIONS

At holiday time, Bergen County Section collects gifts for the children and families served by our community services and coalition partners. This year we will also include families from Jewish Family Services. The gifts can range from Target gift certificates (\$10 each for the children of Holley and Kilbarchan) to toys and clothing.

HIPPY requests unwrapped gifts suitable for preschoolers. Bring your gifts to Game Day on November 17 or to our Open Board meeting on December 8, or give them to a friend on the board. For HIPPY, contact Evalyn Brownstein, teaneckeab@gmail.com, or Edie Kaplan, ediekaplan@gmail.com. For more information, contact Community Services Vice President Ruth Seitelman at 201-836-2916 or ruth.seitelman@ gmail.com.

FUN WITH HIPPY



An overflow crowd of excited three-year-olds was welcomed by NCJW BCS volunteers to their first HIPPY workshop. While their parents participated in an orientation program, the children laughed and clapped as our two clowns (BCS board member Phyllis Schriger and her sidekick Shirley London) entertained with their songs, jokes, and tricks.

ACTION ALERT

Our judicial system is in crisis. In Obama's last two years in office, the Senate has confirmed only seven federal judges. This is the lowest rate since Eisenhower was in office. As of this writing there are 67 court vacancies. Thirty-one are considered judicial emergencies. Four thousand cases are waiting to be heard by the court. The closer it gets to the election, the less likely that the Senate will confirm these nominations. Now is the time to act! Call or email Senator Chuck Grassley and ask him why he isn't holding confirmation hearings of nominees in the 31 emergency districts. Call: (202) 224-3744 or (515) 277-1145 or email www.grassley.senate.gov. Call or email Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. Tell him to bring the names of the seven nominees that have already been approved by the Judicial Committee to the floor for a vote. Call: (202) 224-2541 or (502) 582-6304 or email: www.mcconnell.senate.gov.

THRIFT SHOP NEEDS YOU . . .

for your gently-used clothes and household linens
 for your furs and costume jewelry
 AND to volunteer (call Estelle at 201-944-4788)
 AND for pickups (call Ilene at 201-704-4362)

Reminder: March-April Bulletin 2016 deadline is January 15
