COUNCIL CONNECTIONS
SEPTEMBER 2023

Watch your inbox for event details, location and zoom information or visit our website for up-to-date information on all our events and activities.
www.ncjwbcs.org • office@ncjwbcs.org • 201-385-4847

THE OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS WISH ALL OUR MEMBERS, THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS
A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR.

COMING EVENTS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023, 12:30 PM
GENERAL MEETING
TEMPLE EMETH: 1666 Windsor Road, Teaneck
Abraham Foxman will speak on “Confronting Antisemitism in Today’s World.” Mr. Foxman is National Director Emeritus of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), from which he retired after 50 years with the organization, including serving as National Director for 28 years. Upon retirement, he served as Vice Chairman of the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York City. He is the author of several books and co-authored Viral Hate: Containing Its Spread on the Internet. A Holocaust survivor, Mr. Foxman has been a dedicated member of the President’s United States Holocaust Memorial Council.
Cost: Free for members, $15.00 for non-members.
For more information contact Lois Katz Brown at lkbrown125@gmail.com.

PLEASE NOTE THE DATES HAVE CHANGED!
WEDNESDAYS FROM 10-11:30 AM
OCTOBER 4, 11 & 18, NOVEMBER 1 & 15
KNITTING CLASSES
Temple Sinai Social Hall, 1 Engle Street, Tenafly
Come to socialize, learn to knit, work on your own projects
Cost: $54.00 for 5 classes. Watch for the Registration Flyer
For more information contact Phyllis Palley at ptpalley@gmail.com, 201-263-0708.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023, 12:30 PM
GENERAL MEETING
TEMPLE EMETH: 1666 Windsor Road, Teaneck
Alejandra Sorto, Campaign Strategist for the ACLU of NJ, will speak on building a movement to secure abortion rights. Also, we will recognize the volunteer group of abortion escorts for its critical work at Bergen County’s 2 clinics.
Cost: Free for members, $15.00 for non-members.

MORE COMING EVENTS ON THE NEXT PAGE!!!
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023
MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON
Temple Emeth
All paid-up, newly-gifted & Life members are welcomed to a lovely lunch with music & our infamous Fashion Show.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 6-10 PM
THE SPEAKEASY SOIREÉ
Seasons in Washington Township
Travel back in time to the twenties. Buffet dinner, sundae bar, open bar. Music and entertainment.

WATCH YOUR EMAIL FOR DETAILS!

COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS

CENTER FOR HOPE AND SAFETY
On Sunday, September 10 from 4:30 – 7:30 the Center will present its 2nd Annual Beer and Wine Tasting, at Williams Center, Rutherford, in memory of Michele Sabia, a domestic violence victim. Contact Flora Perskie at fwperskie@gmail.com for more information.

BVMI (Bergen Volunteer Medical Initiative)
On Thursday, September 28 BVMI will hold its 14th Anniversary Gala at the Edgewood Country Club, Rivervale. Cut-off date to RSVP is September 12. For more information contact Gladys Laden at Gladys.laden@gmail.com.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Membership Dues Letters have gone out (email and snail mail). Many have responded, but we encourage all to look for the letters and forward their dues. Reminder letters will be going out this month.

A planning committee for our upcoming Membership Luncheon, set for October 24, has been organized. Further details will be announced as we complete our planning efforts.

Member Barbara Golub has provided a list of potential members and offered her home to conduct an orientation on NCJW Bergen County Section. Meetings will take place in October. Further details to follow.

The Membership Committee looks forward to seeing you all at our General Meeting on September 28. See Coming Events on page 1 for details.

Greta Cirlin, Harriet Hirschenfang, Jocelyn Inglis, Robin Rogers, Lisa Schwartz, Casey Olesko Watts
CHILDREN OF WRIC, YCS HOLLEY AND BVMI SAY “THANK YOU”

Thank you, everyone, who donated school supplies for the Women’s Rights Information Center, YCS Holley Center and Bergen Volunteer Medical Initiative back-to-school drives. These supplies will help so many families have a successful start to the new school year!

Checking in donated supplies at BVMI is Case Manager Rosa Flores-Campos.

Pictured are (LEFT TO RIGHT) Barbara Golub, BCS new Board member and chair of WRIC; Lesley Greenblatt, WRIC’s Displaced Homemaker Counselor; and Sigrid Ceballos, Administrative Assistant.

Cathy Tronlone, Cultivation & Development Manager of YCS Foundation, accepting school supplies donated by BCS members for Holley Center kids.

BERGEN COUNTY SECTION SUPPORTS 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION of the 1963 MARCH ON WASHINGTON

As a new sponsor of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Committee of Bergen County, NCJW Bergen County Section, along with more than 100 people, participated in their annual celebration of the March on Washington at Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU) on August 27, 2023. Our Committee on Racial Equity and Antisemitism organized our section’s participation. The MLK Birthday Committee was instrumental in having a magnificent bronze statue of Dr. King erected on the Hackensack side of FDU’s campus in 2016. It is situated in a lovely treed plaza, with benches, lending itself to quiet contemplation and meditation.

The Sunday afternoon celebration featured a symbolic walk over the bridge connecting the Teaneck and Hackensack sides of the campus, notable speakers, musicians, refreshments, and a jazz concert featuring the Loren Daniels Quartet with Vivian Sessoms, vocalist. BCS participants were Carol Bratman, Lois Katz Brown, Sue Kanrich, Jackie Kates, Ann Levenstein, Marcia Levy, Angelique Pinedo, Elaine Pollack, Roxanne Reff, Bernice Schwab, Bari-Lynn Schwartz, Ina Miller-Silverstein, and Paula Star.

The Committee on Racial Equity and Antisemitism is accepting new members.
For further information contact Lois Katz Brown at lkbrown125@gmail.com.

CALLING ALL NCJW BCS AUTHORS!
Have you published a book?
The Program Committee would like to know!

Please send information about your book to Ginny Wasserman, rubigin@aol.com, and Lois Katz Brown, lkbrown125@gmail.com.
The 2023 Advocacy Committee is operating in full force, re-committing to leadership on issues of Reproductive Rights, Racial Equality and Antisemitism, Human Trafficking, Gun Violence, Climate Change and "Get Out the Vote." Here's an update on work to date:

THE “A” TEAM JOINS OHIO TEXTBANK
On August 3 members of NCJW BCS joined with Council members across the country as part of a TextBank organized to advance abortion access in Ohio. Special thanks to Ginny Wasserman, Cathy Mirra, Bari-Lynn Schwartz and Gina Plotino for their participation. A ballot initiative that would have made it tougher to protect abortion rights was resoundingly defeated, making way for a citizen initiative, enshrining “choice” in state law that voters will decide this fall.

MARCH ON WASHINGTON -- 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: “I HAVE A DREAM . . .OUR SHARED LEGACY”
Under the leadership of Lois Katz Brown, members of NCJW BCS joined community leaders on Sunday, August 27 at the MLK monument plaza on the FDU campus to celebrate and commemorate the 1963 March on Washington, the progress made in civil rights during the past 60 years and the work still needing to be done.

PLATINUM POWER AT THE POLLS
Whether we are 18 or over 100, blond, brunette, gray, black or platinum-haired, using a cane or a wheelchair, running marathons or still playing golf, writing our memoirs, working 8 to 5, running a business, or relaxing with a great read, we all have one thing in common .... each of us as CITIZENS in our democracy has a civic duty and a fundamental right to vote in FEDERAL elections.

BCS Honorary President Bea Podorefsky says that the 2024 Presidential election next November 5 may possibly be the most important in our lifetime. So, she is reaching out to senior living communities with a new initiative she calls “Platinum Power at the Polls,” encouraging voter registration, as well as educating residents about how to vote hassle-free and without leaving their homes.

NCJW BCS Co-President Paula Star will launch the initiative at 5 Star Senior Living in Teaneck. If you would like to join us in getting out the vote, please contact Bea at bpodorefsky@gmail.com.

BUILDING A MOVEMENT TO SECURE ABORTION ACCESS
Alejandra Sorto, Campaign Strategist for the ACLU of New Jersey, will be our guest speaker for the October 17 General Meeting. We will gather at 12:30 pm at Temple Emeth and begin the program by recognizing a volunteer group of abortion escorts for their extraordinary commitment to ensuring that women have access to reproductive healthcare in the face of increasingly hostile protestors outside Bergen County's two clinics. It is an opportunity to remind ourselves that despite deflating and almost daily news reports of more state bans, something impactful can be done! For more information contact Gina Plotino at verylefty@aol.com.

NATIONAL AWARDS GRANT FOR NEW ADVOCACY PROGRAM
Grant funds, awarded to NCJW BCS by national’s Jewish Fund for Abortion Access, will purchase products for construction of 200 After Abortion Care Kits. Kits will be distributed to patients of Bergen County’s two clinics (Englewood and Hackensack). Our hope is that preparation of the kits will be done by NCJW BCS volunteers, representatives from our partner agency’s/community organizations (including Rabbis for Repro), NCJW Sections statewide, and members of the THRIVE NJ Coalition which itself is comprised of over 80 organizations. The goal of the program is to engage the passions of like-minded individuals in actively, concretely and with real impact supporting abortion access for women who might need abortion care.
COMMUNITY SERVICE OF THE MONTH
ADLER APHASIA CENTER

The Adler Aphasia Center is one of the community programs that NCJW BCS supports. The Center has three full-service facilities. Our members volunteer at the Maywood Center, but there are opportunities for volunteers in West Orange and Toms River, NJ. Having just celebrated its 20th anniversary, the program is very innovative, offering help and hope for people with aphasia and their families. The Center teaches new communication skills and offers the chance to engage with others with aphasia. Members learn new ways to re-engage with the community at large.

Aphasia is a language disorder that usually result from a brain injury, such as a stroke, brain tumor or accident. Aphasia can affect one’s ability to speak, understand, read and write but it does not affect intellect. People can develop aphasia at any age, and it affects people in all areas of society.

Volunteers are given extensive training prior to volunteering in the program in order to feel comfortable and confident when working with people with communication disorders. As a volunteer you will have the opportunity to help community members, some of whom are friends and neighbors. It is a very warm and friendly atmosphere where volunteers get as much out of their efforts as do the program members.

To learn more, contact the Volunteer Manager, Stephanie Sigelkow at 201-898-2191 or NCJW Adler Aphasia Center Chair, Hilary Eth at 201-621-1097.

REMEMBERING ELAINE ADLER

Elaine Adler, co-founder and driving force behind the Adler Aphasia Center, passed away in Florida on August 10. She and her late husband Mike founded the Center when Mike became aphasic in 1993 after suffering a heart attack and a stroke. The Center, one of Bergen County Section's community services, celebrated its 20th Anniversary this year.

Elaine was an active philanthropist in the Jewish Community, Ramapo College, the Arnold Gold Foundation and so many more causes that she took to her heart. She was the recipient of the NCJW Hannah G. Solomon award in 2014. This energetic, accomplished, warm, outgoing woman will be missed by the many friends and acquaintances she made throughout her amazing 95-year lifetime.

A Match Made in Heaven

The Rotary Club of Tenafly, NJ, has partnered with NCJW Bergen County Section’s Walk-In Dinner Program (WIDP). Through Marilynn Friedman's husband Joel, the Rotarians have graciously volunteered to be our drivers—picking up trays of hot food from our experienced chefs and delivering them hot to the Bergen County Shelter, where Family Promise volunteers bring them inside to fill up individual dinner boxes for the hungry. This is extremely helpful, especially since many of the trays are very heavy and difficult to carry from our homes to our cars. We sincerely thank the Tenafly Rotarians for their generous commitment to participate with us four times a year providing nutritious meals for the homeless.

The WIDP is accepting new volunteer cooks. For more information contact Lois Katz Brown at lkbrown125@gmail.com.
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters): The new HIPPY year is beginning. NCJW BCS is once again zooming Family Events for 20 HIPPY families. Volunteers are needed to read a cute book or work on selected crafts. It’s so much fun to be part of this, and you become a HIPPY Zoom star. Please don’t get nervous about zooming to the HIPPY kids. They and their families look forward to these monthly events. It’s all smiles and giggles. For more information contact: Joan Schnuer at 201-833-1006 or Edie Kaplan at 201-461-2724.

CENTER FOR FOOD ACTION will once again hold its Annual Food Packing Event on September 11 at Fairleigh Dickinson University, Hackensack at 4:00 pm. To volunteer and for more information contact Marcia Levy at mllevy0648@gmail.com.

WOMEN’S RIGHTS INFORMATION CENTER (WRIC) Englewood-based WRIC helps women develop skills needed to enter the workplace and move towards economic self-sufficiency. It also provides housing assistance, financial literacy and a host of other services. WRIC needs volunteers with expertise in Career Counseling, Mentoring (particularly for their “Moms as Mentors” program) and with Computer skills. To learn more about these opportunities, contact Barb Golub, barbaragolub@me.com.

WANT TO DO A MITZVAH?

DELIVER “MEALS ON WHEELS” FOR ROSSH HASHANAH FROM THE JEWISH HOME AT ROCKLEIGH TO HOME-BOUND BERGEN COUNTY SENIORS. Contact Roberta Lew, RMLew@aol.com.

RESALE SHOP

FALLING INTO FALL

We look forward to accepting your FALL and WINTER gently-used and saleable items. Please remember that we cannot sell stained or damaged clothing. These items must be placed separately in bags along with linens, curtains and tablecloths. Our shoppers are anxious to purchase silver jewelry. If you have some silver and are willing to part with it, we would love to have it. Of course gold is a wonderful donation item for us. Scraps of the above metals are sold and converted into dollars for the store.

A Joyous and Happy New Year to all of our customers and donors.

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<tr>
<th><em>NEW STORE HOURS</em></th>
<th>DONATION HOURS</th>
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<td>Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 10:30 AM - 5:30 PM</td>
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<td>Thursday 10:30 AM - 7:00 PM</td>
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<td>Saturday 10:30 AM - 5:00 PM</td>
<td>Donations are not accepted on Friday and Saturday.</td>
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Shop resale and reduce your carbon footprint.

NCJW BCS BOOK CLUBS & BOOK SELECTIONS

For more information contact Marilynn Friedman at marisfried@aol.com.

**Monday Book Club - Marian Kugelmass**
Meets 1x month via Zoom
ALL THE DEMONS ARE HERE by Jake Tapper

**Tuesday Book Club - Liz Warms**
Meets 1st Tuesday of the month @11 am/ Member homes
DEMON COPPERHEAD by Barbara Kingsolver

**Wednesday Book Club - Elaine Manberg**
Meets last Wednesday of the month- Member homes
THE PARIS APARTMENT by Lucy Foley

**Friday Book Club- Shelly Winner**
Meets 1x month via Zoom
SMALL MERCIES by Dennis Lehane
Passages
CONGRATULATIONS TO:
Ina & Michael Silverstein on the marriage of their grandson Ryan Balick to Kate Brandon.

GOLD TRIBUTES
Ina & Michael Silverstein
To Ann & Bob Levenstein
Congratulations on the marriage
of granddaughter Kate Faxon
to Jordan Lerner

Michael & Susan Silverstein
To Elizabeth Halverstam
Congratulations on your
special birthday

Ann & Bob Levenstein
To Ina & Michael Silverstein
Congratulations on the marriage
of your grandson Ryan Balick to
Kate Brandon

Carole & Gerry Benson
To Elizabeth Halverstam
Warmest wishes for a fabulous
birthday and many more

SILVER TRIBUTES
Henrietta & Bernie Wolfeiler
To Liz & Gary Krebs
In memory of their father &
grandfather Seymour Adler

BRONZE TRIBUTES
Hilary Eth
To the Adler Family
In memory of their mother Elaine Adler

Keep Us Informed
If you hear news about one of our members, please email office@ncjwbcs.org so we can notify
Section members and include information in our next Council Connections.

With almost 1,000 members, we might not hear of the passing of one of our members, or a close
relative, or about happy events such as bar/bat mitzvahs, engagements, weddings and births.

Send a Tribute
Cards are for happy occasions, sending good wishes or to express condolences.
Click here to check out our beautiful cards.
To send or purchase cards you can contact:
Roberta Lew RMLew@aol.com or (201) 836-4695

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