

# bulletin

NCJW<sup>®</sup> Bergen  
County  
Section

National Council of Jewish Women

MARCH-APRIL

BERGEN COUNTY SECTION

2020

## MARCH GENERAL MEETING

**FRED GUTTENBERG**

*Advocate for Gun Safety*



Founder, "Orange Ribbons for Jaime"

**Tuesday, March 24, 2020**

**at 12:30 pm**

**Temple Emeth, Teaneck**

The meeting is free for members.

There will be a \$10 charge for nonmembers, applicable toward new membership if paid that day.

## APRIL GENERAL MEETING ANNUAL ADVOCACY FORUM

**VICTORIA BASSETTI**

*Your Vote, Your Voice, Your Power*



**Tuesday, April 21, 2020 at 12:30 pm**

**Temple Emeth, Teaneck**

The program is free and open to the public.

In addition to our program, NCJW BCS will be observing **Yom HaShoah** to remember the six million Jews who were killed during the Holocaust. Our member, Sandy Rubenstein, daughter of Holocaust survivors and a Holocaust educator, will share her family story. Ms. Rubenstein is a Master Teacher Fellow at the US Memorial Museum and a Master Teacher at the USC Shoah Foundation.

## ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON

Our annual Spring Luncheon will be held at the Montammy Golf Club in Alpine, New Jersey on **Wednesday, June 3**. Lunch in the 'Montammy Room' will be preceded by a Mediterranean station, hors d'oeuvres and a wine, soda and juice bar in the 'Living Room'. Our honorees this year are: Charlotte Bennett Schoen, recipient of the Hannah B. Solomon Award and Henrietta Wolfeiler, recipient of the Woman of the Section Award. Watch for your invitation in the mail in April!

## BERGEN COUNTY SECTION CALENDAR

### MARCH

- 3 Lunch and Learn
- 10 Purim
- 13 Council Shabbat
- 17 **Board Meeting**
- 24 **General Meeting**
- 26 Symphony

### APRIL

- 8 First Seder
- 9-16 Passover
- 14 **Board Meeting**
- 21 **General Meeting/**  
Yom HaShoah
- 23-25 NCJW National  
Convention

***A HAPPY PURIM AND PASSOVER  
TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES***

## COMING EVENTS/COMMUNITY SERVICE

### MARCH GENERAL MEETING GUN SAFETY: "ORANGE RIBBONS FOR JAIME"

NCJW BCS is pleased to present Fred Guttenberg as our speaker at the **March 24 General Meeting at 12:30 pm at Temple Emeth in Teaneck**. Mr. Guttenberg is the father of 14-year-old Jaime Guttenberg, who was murdered in the Parkland School shooting on February 14, 2018. The day after the murder, Mr. Guttenberg spoke at a public vigil in Parkland. His words shook the nation, and he has not stopped speaking since.

Only four months prior to the murder of his daughter, his brother Michael had passed away from cancer related to his service in the aftermath of 9/11. He was one of the original first responders and was with a team of physicians who became trapped in the WTC as it collapsed. Amazingly, the room that they hid in did not collapse, and Michael and his team spent 16 days at Ground Zero taking care of others.

Following Mr. Guttenberg's involvement in these two distinctly American tragedies, he traveled the country talking about both events. He discussed perspective, perseverance and resilience and how we should respond to those pivotal moments in our lives.

Mr. Guttenberg's professional life included over a decade of experience in sales and management with Johnson and Johnson, followed by 15 years as an entrepreneur, building a business that consisted of 19 Dunkin' Donuts franchises, which he sold in 2016.

Mr. Guttenberg and his wife Jennifer now spend time challenging our elected officials to do more. They began a nonprofit organization dedicated to Jaime's life called "Orange Ribbons for Jaime." He has been a regular on TV news programs and in a myriad of online and print media. "Orange Ribbons for Jaime" is now his full-time mission.

For further information call the NCJW BCS office at 201-385-4847 or send an email to [office@ncjwbcs.org](mailto:office@ncjwbcs.org).

### APRIL GENERAL MEETING: ANNUAL ADVOCACY FORUM YOUR VOTE, YOUR VOICE, YOUR POWER

**VICTORIA BASSETTI**, a fellow of the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law, will be the speaker at the **NCJW BCS Annual Advocacy Forum on Tuesday, April 21 at 12:30 pm at Temple Emeth in Teaneck**. She is the author of *Electoral Dysfunction: A Survival Manual for American Voters*, the companion book to a PBS documentary by the same name. Ms. Bassetti will give us insights into the issues, paradoxes and conflicts that inform our democracy and our voting.

Ms. Bassetti worked on Capitol Hill for almost a decade and served as chief counsel to Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) and legislative director for former Senator John Edwards (D-NC). She was a chief counsel and staff director of a subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and she served on the teams that drafted the 9/11 Victims' Compensation Fund Act, the PATRIOT Act, the Economic Espionage Act and the Homeland Security Act. She also oversaw matters related to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

While on Capitol Hill, Ms. Bassetti led a multi-year, multi-hearing, bipartisan investigation into innovation and competition in the medical device field, culminating in the first-ever voluntary code of conduct agreed to by hospital device purchasing organizations. The code was heralded by *The New York Times* as "sweeping" and aimed at "making it easier for new, lifesaving medical products to reach hospitals faster." In addition, she was a part of the legal working group assigned to oversee the Senate impeachment trial of President Bill Clinton.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY – TO EVERYONE!

Everyone loves birthday parties! They're a time for getting together with your relatives and best friends and playing silly games. And that's just what we did!

NCJW BCS is pleased to announce that on January 23, HIPPY\* children celebrated **everyone's** birthday! Miss Joan read a silly birthday story, and the other volunteers acted it out! We played "Pin the Tail on the Donkey," colored birthday pictures, decorated party hats and even made colorful wooden masks. A great time was had by all!

Good HIPPY friends and parties – a perfect match. That's what NCJW is all about.

\*HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters) is a program of the Bergen Family Center and trains parents to be their children's first teachers.

### NCJW CONVENTION 2020

This year, 127 years after Hannah G. Solomon founded NCJW in Chicago at the 1893 World's Fair, advocates from across the country will once again join together in Chicago on April 23–25 to celebrate all that NCJW has accomplished and set the course for the future. The theme for the convention will be "Jewish Feminism: Honoring the Past, Shaping the Future." Bergen County Section will be represented by six delegates selected by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Board. They are Joan Cooper, Elizabeth Halverstam, Elaine Meyerson, Bari-Lynne Schwartz, Linda Walden and Ginny Wasserman.

## AWARDS/COMING EVENTS

### CHARLOTTE BENNETT SCHOEN TO RECEIVE NCJW's PRESTIGIOUS HANNAH G. SOLOMON AWARD



For decades, Charlotte Bennett Schoen has worked as an advocate to change the global culture of violence. In the 1970's, as an Englewood Board of Health and League of Women Voters member, she was appointed by the mayor to establish and coordinate mental health services in Englewood, Teaneck, Leonia and Englewood Cliffs. The coordination of these vital services has expanded and exists to this day.

In the early 90's she was employed by the Bergen County Department of Human Services as Coordinator of the Community Court Watch Projects, organizing volunteers countywide to observe and report courtroom etiquette and responses of judges. The Court Watch II report was published and was part of the national wave of positive change regarding domestic violence laws. Charlotte was honored by the Bergen County Commission on the Status of Women and the State of NJ for her efforts (and the report is still available today). Charlotte also designed the Court Accompaniment Program at Alternatives to Domestic Violence (ADV) and administered it for 14 years. It still exists today.

A long-time elected member of the Englewood Democratic Municipal Committee, Charlotte was elected to two terms on the Englewood City Council (2005 through 2010) and served as City Council President in 2007.

In 2011 she embraced the concept of Global Justice Advocacy and worked for 3-month periods at NGOs in southeast Asia, serving until 2014, in Lucknow,

India; Chiang Mai, Thailand; and Yangon, Burma (Myanmar). She worked in the areas of education (training village women to keep girls in school); human rights; healthcare and education for sex workers; and peace-building programs. She employed her diversity of skills as she worked with the staff at SMILE (*Smile Education and Development Foundation*) and presented original peace projects in the cities of Yangon, Bago and Mandalay. Charlotte continues to collaborate with her Burmese colleagues on peace-building projects. A related exhibit was shown in 2018 at the Kaplen JCC in Tenafly, and she was featured on the front page of the *Jewish Standard* – *Call for Justice* (9/21/18).

Locally Charlotte also serves as co-president of the Englewood Historical Society, where its advocacy has been expanded and successful city-wide programs have been developed. She is a member of the Englewood Rotary Club and served as District 7490 Chair of Peace and Conflict Resolution 2013-16.

Since 2016 Charlotte has focused on advocacy and justice for immigrants who have come to the US for political asylum. In 2014 she attended a NCJW program that presented First Friends of NJ NY, a 20-year-old NGO whose mission is to "uphold the inherent dignity and humanity of detained immigrants and asylum seekers." She is now a Board member and Development Chair of First Friends, making visits to people in detention and mentoring new volunteers.

Since 2009, Charlotte has been a life member of NCJW and served on the Board of Project S.A.R.A.H. which also honored her in 2010. Charlotte has two daughters, Lindsay Mara and Ava Lauren, both of whom are attorneys. This award will be presented to Charlotte at the **NCJW BCS Annual Spring Luncheon on June 3.**

### WOMAN OF THE SECTION: Henrietta Wolfeiler



Henrietta Wolfeiler was educated totally within the borders of Los Angeles, where she attended elementary school through high school and then went on to UCLA where she studied Home Economics and Education, receiving her BA in 1958.

As Henrietta tells it, the normal chain of events at that time was education, then marriage. Since there was no such thing as J-Date, she met her future husband Bernie via a blind date and decided that

a man with a good sense of humor was in order. He seemed determined to find someone who was GU (geographically undesirable), as she was in LA and he was in New York. They figured out the cross-country issue – she moved to the East Coast in 1958.

Her first job was as a Home Economics teacher at Teaneck High School, living in River Edge. It was a serious adjustment with a new husband, new city and new job and few friends. A suggestion was made that she join an organization which had many young women members who were working

or were stay-at-home moms with young children. The organization, of course, was NCJW, which had an evening branch. The rest is history. Sixty years later she's still hooked.

She and Bernie later moved from River Edge to Teaneck and they became parents of three wonderful children. A career move brought Henrietta to the world of fashion, where she worked in the New York garment industry for almost 20 years. Leaving Teaneck for a Hackensack high-rise, ultimate retirement, enjoying her children and seven grandchildren has brought fulfillment and pleasure.

NCJW has become an important part of Henrietta's life. Her first Evening Branch job was as refreshment chair, perfect for a Home Economics major. But she has had many jobs over the years, ranging from chairing the Nominating Committee to most recently serving as the Waiting Room Volunteer Coordinator.

"Seeing my parents volunteer in spite of working six days a week has always been my inspiration," she said proudly. She certainly has followed in their footsteps! This award will be presented to Henrietta at the **NCJW BCS Annual Spring Luncheon on June 3.**

### SPECIAL COUNCIL SHABBAT WITH TEMPLE SINAI

Please join us on **March 13** for a special **Council Shabbat at Temple Sinai, 1 Engle Street, Tenafly, NJ** in partnership with Temple Sinai Sisterhood. We will enjoy a delicious kosher dinner at 6 pm followed by a traditional Shabbat service at 7:30 pm. Rabbi Jordan Millstein and Cantor Nitza Shamah will lead the service along with members of NCJW BCS and Temple Sinai Sisterhood.

To register, please send a check for \$30 per person, payable to NCJW BCS, with your full name and contact information to: NCJW BCS, 75 S. Washington Avenue, Bergenfield, NJ 07621. Deadline to register is March 6. For further information, contact Peggy Kabakow at [peggyk1@optonline.net](mailto:peggyk1@optonline.net) or [office@ncjwbcs.org](mailto:office@ncjwbcs.org), 201-385-4847.

## FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

It's nearly spring and March is bursting with Section activities! The **March 3, 2020 Lunch and Learn** will feature actor Mark Simons in a one-man presentation of three immigrants and their passage to America. On **March 13, Council Shabbat** will be at Temple Sinai. On **March 24, Fred Guttenberg**, father of Jaime (who was murdered in the Parkland massacre) and a gun safety advocate, will be our speaker at the **General Meeting**.



Co-Presidents L-R: Bari-Lynne Schwartz, Elizabeth Halverstam, Ruth Seitelman

You also don't want to miss the Section's **Annual Advocacy Forum on April 21**. The program, entitled **Your Vote, Your Voice, Your Power**, will feature Victoria Bassetti, a fellow of the Brennan Center at NYU Law School and the author of *Electoral Dysfunction: A Survival Manual for American Voters*.

Our Community Services program continues to thrive because hundreds of you volunteer in 19 programs for children and adults. We encourage each of you to find your niche. A full list of opportunities with contact information is in the *Coming Events* notice distributed at all Section events and posted on our website.

We are excited that the Women's Rights Information Center (WRIC) in Englewood is honoring **NCJW Bergen County Section as a "Community Change Maker."** This

award is a tribute to our many members who volunteer at WRIC. We hope many of you will join us at the celebration on **May 5 at 6:30 pm at Morton's Steakhouse in Hackensack**.

The governor and state legislators have signaled that 2020 will be a historic year for reproductive freedom legislation in New Jersey. Please watch your inbox for action alerts. It's time to stand up for reproductive freedom, wear our hanger pendants (the iconic symbol of the pro-choice movement) and make our voices heard. If you do not have a hanger pendant, you can purchase one at any Section event.

To ensure that our vital work continues, we ask you to contribute as generously as you can to the **Stay-at-Home Campaign** (a huge thank-you to those who have already made meaningful donations), to support the Thrift Shop and to solicit ads for our Spring Luncheon Journal from your local merchants, family, friends and colleagues (ad blanks will arrive in your mailbox soon). With your support, together we will make a greater difference.

Happy Purim and Happy Passover,

**Elizabeth, Bari-Lynne and Ruth**

### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Joan Baron, Brendi Drosnes, Naomi Eichen, Marilyn Fiedler, Laurie Fox, Libby Klein and Ilene Singh.

#### 2020 – 2021 SLATE OF OFFICERS

Honorary President	Bea Podorefsky
Honorary Vice President	Ruth Seitelman
Co-Presidents	Elizabeth Halverstam, Elaine Meyerson, Bari-Lynne Schwartz
Vice Presidents	
Administration	Carole Benson
Advocacy/Education	Joan Cooper, Ginny Wasserman
Community Services	Lois Katz Brown, Linda Walden
Membership	Marilynn Friedman, Joan Schnuer
Philanthropy	Joan Ornstein
Thrift Shop	Fran Einiger, Doris Sarokin
Treasurer	Liz Roditi
Recording Secretary	Norma Goldsmith

**2020–2021** Nominating Committee Chair: Leah Fetner

**2019–2020** Nominating Committee: Gladys Laden, Chair; Shelly Winner, past Chair; Bea Podorefsky, Advisor; Leah Fetner, Alice Kanrich, Ann Levenstein, Ellie Lubin, members; Celia Argintar, Tobey Weiss, alternates.

## bulletin

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**Deadline to VPs for  
MAY-JUNE BULLETIN is MARCH 29.**



# PHILANTHROPY

## THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS STAY-AT-HOME DONORS 2019-2020

(as of February 3, 2020)

### \$2,500 or more

Gloria Ansh  
The Beatman Foundation  
In memory of  
Joan Robins  
Fran Butensky  
Miriam and Albert  
Horowitz  
Peggy Kabakow  
Ann Levenstein  
Henrietta & Bernie  
Wolfeiler

### \$2,000-\$2499

Gloria & Wilson Aboudi  
Sandra Fleisig  
Ruth Kornheiser  
Beatrice Podorefsky

### \$1,500-\$1,999

Elizabeth Halverstam  
Gladys Laden  
Susan Laskin  
Felicia Leibman  
Marcia Levy  
Ina Miller-Silverstein

### \$1,000-\$1,499

Celia Argintar  
Helen Astmann  
Andrea and Mitchell Becker  
Carole Benson  
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Fran Einiger  
Norma Goldsmith  
Linda Horowitz  
Ellen Jacobs  
Margaret Kaplen  
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Susan Levenstein Faxon  
Susan Kanrich  
Marian Kugelmass  
Karen Kurland  
Roxanne Reff  
Doris Sarokin  
Bari-Lynne Schwartz  
Tobey Weiss  
Emily Wilkins

### \$250-\$499

Fran Altchuler  
Estelle Greene  
Micki Grunstein  
Vivian Hesselson  
Jacqueline Kates  
Robin Katz  
Frances Levine  
Edna Lewitz  
Aida Melamed  
Elaine Meyerson  
Judith Neidenberg  
Joan Ornstein  
Phyllis Palley  
Flora Perskie  
Elaine Pollack  
Sabina Sicklick  
Thelma Silber  
Ava Silverstein  
Marilyn Sirulnick  
Shirley Sosland  
Deanna Yalowitz

### \$100-\$249

Enid Alpern  
Kimberly Axelrod  
Irma Ball  
Sheila Barkow  
Deanne Bernstein  
Thelma Bialer  
Phyllis Breit  
Alma Brotman  
Lois Katz Brown

Elinor Buchbinder  
Barbara Bushnell  
Harriet Cohen  
Susan Cohen  
Paula Dillon  
Ruth Dinks  
Judith Distler  
Charlotte Eth  
Hilary Eth  
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Leah Fetner  
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Marilynn Friedman  
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Barbara Kosoff  
Nancy Kozeradsky  
Stephanie Kwait  
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Eva Liebmann  
Marilyn Linder  
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Carol Marcus  
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Nanette Matlick  
Catherine Mirra  
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Selma Schenkman  
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Bernice Schwab  
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Margot Stern  
Nechama Student  
Joan Teichman  
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Suzanne Wiener  
Shelly Winner  
Trina Wolf

### Up to \$99

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Philip Ball  
Susan Barnett  
Marianne Berg  
Janet Blaustein  
Carol Bodian  
Susan Bresnick  
Linda Coll  
Miriam Donson  
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Nancy Dweck  
Nancy Ferer  
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Janice Lipsitz  
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Ellen Miller  
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Diana Teitel  
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Elaine Vogel  
Linda Walden  
Judith Warshofsky  
Ginny Wasserman  
Ilene Wechter  
Dorothy Weiner  
Debra Wolf  
Diane Zilz  
Barbara Zucker

## IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE

*Together We Make A Difference* – THANK YOU for your donations to our Stay-at-Home personal giving campaign. It is not too late to contribute in 2020.

If you wish to donate stock as your contribution, here is the procedure: Notify your stockbroker that you wish to transfer a designated stock to NCJW BCS. S/he sends the designated stock to the NCJW stockbroker: Stephen M. Gross, 725 River Road, Suite 56, Edgewater, NJ 07020 or email [stevegrossinc.com](mailto:stevegrossinc.com). At the same time, the donor should notify the Section Chair of the Investment Committee, Fran Butensky, at 201-944-0904 or [franbuten@aol.com](mailto:franbuten@aol.com). We will sell the stock upon its arrival, and you will be credited with the amount of the sell price.

Or write a check or use your credit card. If you've never given before, now is the time. If NCJW is part of your regular personal giving and you haven't contributed yet, now is the time. If you love the work we do and want to increase your donation, now is the time. Now is always the time to help NCJW BCS help the women, children and families we support.

# TRIBUTES

## GOLD TRIBUTE CARDS

**Ann & Bob Levenstein**  
To Sandy Fleisig  
In memory of husband, Allen

**Roxanne Reff**  
To Doris Sarokin  
In memory of brother, Morton Press

**Leah Fetner, Ann & Bob Levenstein,  
Addie Rudin, Sybil & Irwin Grace,  
Doris Sarokin, Fran Einiger,  
Norma Goldsmith, Bea Podorefsky,  
Roxanne Reff**  
To the Dorée Family  
In memory of Lucy Dorée

**Linda & Joe Horowitz**  
To Natalie Landau  
69th Celebration of your 21st Birthday

## SILVER TRIBUTE CARDS

**Peggy Fine & Jerry Kotch, Ann  
Levenstein, Elaine Bieger, Ina &  
Michael Silverstein, Peggy Kabakow**  
To Doris Sarokin  
In memory of brother, Morton Press

**Ina Miller Silverstein**  
To Joan Ornstein  
Bat Mitzvah of granddaughter, Maya

**Ina & Michael Silverstein**  
To Sandy Fleisig  
In memory of husband, Allen

**Peggy Fine & Jerry Kotch, Sue Kanrich,  
Aida Melamed, Marcia Levy  
Carole & Gerry Benson, Elaine  
Meyerson, Bari-Lynne Schwartz**  
To the Dorée Family  
In memory of Lucy Dorée

## SPECIAL TRIBUTES

**Neil Benson**  
To Carole Benson & Elizabeth  
Halverstam  
Keep up the good work!

**Pola & Juan Bradman  
Sheila & Barry Feirstein & Family  
Miriam & David Abrahams & Family**  
To Aida Melamed  
In honor of your birthday

**Joan Schnuer & Emily Wilkins, Fran  
Butensky, Ellen & Michael Jacobs,  
Joan David, Hilary Eth**  
To the Dorée Family  
In memory of Lucy Dorée

**Donna Podorefsky**  
To Bea Podorefsky  
New Year Tribute in honor of Bea  
Podorefsky

**Wolfeiler And Fleischer Families**  
To the Fleisig family  
In memory of Allen Fleisig

**Evalyn Brownstein**  
To the Dorée Family  
In memory of Lucy Dorée  
Forever in our hearts!

## PASSAGES

**We mourn the loss of** Life Member and past Section President Lucy Dorée and Life Member Joyce Kelz.

### Condolences to:

**Doris Sarokin**  
on the passing of her  
brother Morton Press

### Congratulations to:

**Marilyn Sirulnick**  
on the engagement of  
her granddaughter Casey  
Olesko to Rob Watts

**Eley Kohn**  
on the birth of her first  
grandchild Arya Ocean

**Bea Podorefsky**  
on the birth of her great  
grandson Indiana  
Alexander

**Estelle Greene**  
on her 100th birthday

### LET'S VOTE 2020

*"Every citizen of this country should be guaranteed that their vote matters, that their vote is counted, and that in the voting booth, their vote has as much weight as that of any CEO, any member of Congress, or any President."*

—Barbara Boxer, Former US Senator

### HOW TO SEND TRIBUTE CARDS

Honor and congratulate your friends and family and send condolences to your nearest and dearest – with an NCJW BCS tribute card. We'll mail it for you. Just call Celia Argintar at 201-836-2563.

## AWARDS

### BARI-LYNNE SCHWARTZ NAMED FIRST RECIPIENT OF THE JANE ABRAHAM ADVOCACY AWARD



This new award was established to honor the memory of Jane Abraham, our inspirational Co-President who passed away in 2019. Jane made advocacy come alive in our Section through her passion and commitment to social justice. This award honors an NCJW BCS member who has been a leader and instrumental in advancing social change in the community.

To receive the award, the recipient must fulfill the following criteria: further the mission of NCJW; exemplify innovation, creativity and courage; serve as a role model in our Section and our community; and raise awareness of NCJW through pioneering efforts, mentoring and motivation of others. We will be pleased to present this award to Bari-Lynne Schwartz at the **April General Meeting's Advocacy Forum on April 21, at 12:30 pm at Temple Emeth.**

Bari-Lynne grew up in Fitchburg and Leominster, Massachusetts, mill towns 50 miles west of Boston. Her early life mostly centered around a small Jewish community. Her grandfather was a founding member of the synagogue, and she enjoyed many after-school activities at the Jewish Community Center.

Bari-Lynne graduated from the University of Massachusetts and taught high school English for five years. She then lived in London for six years. Returning to the US, she moved to New Jersey and immersed herself in volunteer activities. As a docent at the Montclair Historical Society and the Montclair Art Museum, she produced and coordinated participatory education programs for children. She

served on the State Public Affairs Committee of the Junior Leagues of New Jersey, advocating successfully for family life education and education for children with disabilities in the public schools.

In 1988 Bari-Lynne received a Master of Social Work degree. She served as the Planning Officer at the Bergen County Department of Human Services, where for 20 years she oversaw the grants/contract office and administered the Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) and the Bergen County Commission on the Status of Women. She became a champion for social justice. She advocated and testified for policy and legislative reforms, coordinated successful legislative breakfasts and programs celebrating women's rights and much more. While there she met two articulate, powerful activists, Connie Hochberg and Bea Podorefsky, who were on the HSAC representing NCJW Bergen County Section.

After retiring, Bari-Lynne attended two of Bergen County Section's impressive advocacy forums and joined Council. Soon she was on the Board as a co-chair of the next forum. She is a co-chair of the Grants Oversight Committee, served two years as Co-Vice President of Advocacy and Education and currently is a Co-President.

Bari-Lynne lives in Little Falls. She has two children and two fabulous grandchildren!

When informed of her selection as the first recipient of the Jane Abraham Advocacy Award, Bari-Lynne said, "Educating others and championing social justice reform have been constants in my life. I am truly honored to be the first recipient of the Jane Abraham Advocacy Award. For three years Jane guided my Council activities, and I will always cherish her friendship and her passion."

### SNACK-PACKING EVENT A SUCCESS ONCE AGAIN!

More than 125 NCJW BCS members and friends packed 1,500 snack packs in a record 70 minutes at the January 21 general meeting. In what has become an anticipated annual event, we prepared the packs for the Center for Food Action to distribute to local children in schools and libraries in Bergen County.

The packs are meant to be a supplement on weekends when school meals are not available. Each pack contains tasty, nourishing foods that kids will enjoy.



(Photo by Hillary Vidars, Northern Valley Press)

The Section partially covers the cost of the packs (\$4.75 each) by passing a basket at each general meeting and through our annual grant to the Center for Food Action.

Kudos to everyone who participated!!



Co-presidents Elizabeth Halverstam, Ruth Seitelman and Bari-Lynne Schwartz snack-packing with other NCJW BCS volunteers. (Photo by Hillary Vidars, Northern Valley Press)

## PHILANTHROPY/COMMUNITY SERVICE

### NCJW BCS THRIFT SHOP: *RETIRE, REPURPOSE, RECYCLE AND RENOVATE!!!*

Sometimes life has a way of rewarding all of us, even under difficult circumstances. It all begins with a generosity of spirit, or Yad L'Yad, "one hand helping the other."

Robin Katz, a long-time life member of NCJW BCS, advised Karen Kurland that her cousin Steve's store in Westwood, LN Grand 5 & 10, was closing and that he would be willing to donate anything that Council Thrift Shop could use. After scouting out the fixtures and accessories at the store, we were able to secure scads of wooden and glass shelving that would

have only become construction debris. Instead, all of those wooden and glass shelves have found a new home at OUR store.

After several months of moving, painting, restoring/refitting, our Thrift Shop looks terrific! Robin

stopped by the store last week to make a donation and said "WOW! The store looks twice the size! . . . You can even see the floor tiles! . . . I hope this stimulates sales!"



Volunteers, staff and customers are all in agreement that the store looks better than ever. All the shoes are now neatly displayed on uniform wooden racks, and the glass shelving in the storefront makes

the china and glassware more appealing and eye-catching. We even have a new glass counter for our checkout display case!

What a difference a donation makes! We owe the Naginsky/Katz family, with other NCJW BCS volunteers, much gratitude. Come see for yourself! The wonderful improvement to Council Thrift Shop all began with a generosity of spirit – the same good feeling you get when you "retire, repurpose and recycle" your gently-worn clothing, accessories and housewares to help support our community services and advocacy causes.



### IS SHARED HOUSING FOR YOU?

An 85-year-old woman wanted to stay in Bergen County, where she had lived her whole life, but could no longer afford it on her fixed income. With her housing search nearing a dead end, she sought help from the Shared Housing program, initiated by NCJW and presently run by the Women's Rights Information Center (WRIC) in Englewood, NJ.

The program director interviewed her and asked for references before recommending she share her home with a vetted Englewood woman who was struggling to keep up with her monthly bills. Despite a 20-year difference in their ages, the two women bonded quickly.

The Shared Housing program has long been the only non-profit in Bergen County to serve as a matchmaker between overburdened homeowners and home seekers, many of whom have as little as \$500 - \$700 a month to spend on housing.

The program, open to men and women of any age, helps prospective housemates identify and avoid potential conflicts by completing a detailed housing agreement together.

Homeowners can be reluctant to open their home to someone they don't know even if they are finding it difficult to get by on their own. Shared Housing staff will guide clients before and during the time they are living together.

So:

1. Would you like extra income?
2. Could you use help with household chores?
3. Would you enjoy congenial companionship?

WRIC provides formal guidance and support needed for such arrangements to be successful. For inquiries, call WRIC at 201-568-1166 or go to [www.womensrights.org/sharedhousing](http://www.womensrights.org/sharedhousing).



## COMING EVENTS/COMMUNITY SERVICE

### SUFFERN MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTS HIDDEN HOLOCAUST HISTORY

**On Thursday, May 14, 2020 NCJW BCS** will travel to Rockland Community College in Suffern, NY to visit the redesigned and expanded **Holocaust Museum & Center for Tolerance and Education**. Abigail Miller, the museum's Holocaust Educator, will conduct a private guided tour of the exhibit "Holocaust by Bullets." The exhibit, based on the work of Father Patrick Desbois, a Roman Catholic priest from Paris, examines the history of the Holocaust in Eastern Europe before the opening of the concentration camps. This is a largely unknown chapter of the Holocaust that should be of interest as it accounts for at least 1/3 of the Holocaust victims. The exhibit details the process of uncovering and documenting the mass killing sites of these early phases of the Holocaust in Eastern Europe. The Jewish Book Council recognized Father Desbois's book *Holocaust by Bullets: A Priest's Journey to Uncover the Truth Behind the Murder of 1.5 Million Jews* as a National Jewish Book Award winner.

Following the tour, Ms. Miller will provide a special lecture to help us process the exhibit, to think critically about the earliest phases of the Holocaust and to inspire us to find our "unique personal responsibility to creating a more peaceful tomorrow." We will enjoy a buffet lunch in a private room at the museum. Lunch will include an assortment of sandwiches, salads, cookies, fruit and cold drinks.

The cost is \$70 for members and \$80 for non-members. Bus departs Temple Emeth, 1666 Windsor Road, Teaneck at 10:30 am sharp. Please arrive by 10:15 am. Bus returns approximately 3 pm. Registration and payment must be received by Tuesday, April 14, and will be acknowledged by email. Refunds will be honored if there is a waiting list. The activity level for this trip is low, \* out of \*\*\*. For further information, contact Joan Cooper at 201-461-7748; grammyjoan18@gmail.com.

**Please complete in full and mail with a check payable to NCJW BCS to NCJW BCS, 75 S. Washington Ave., Bergenfield, NJ 07621.**



Name

Address

Home Phone

Cell Phone

E-mail

Please indicate any food allergies or restrictions

Number of Members: \_\_\_\_\_ Non-members: \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Turn your passion into a volunteer opportunity!

- Bergen Family Center (BFC) needs volunteers to help teachers with classroom planning and preparation; artists, musicians, and dancers are needed to work with preschoolers and toddlers.
  - If you prefer working with older children, you can help a student with homework or play a game at the BFC Zone or take part in one of the monthly craft programs at the YCS Holley Center Club NCJW.
  - The MS Swim-In program needs personable volunteers to help in the locker rooms (land- lovers welcome – no bathing suit or swimming required).
  - Women who are transitioning to gain career, life and resource-building skills need your skills at The Women's Rights Information Center.
  - For people who like to work behind the scenes: Bergen Volunteer Medical Initiative (BVMI) has a need for clerical assistance, and Center for Food Action (CFA) needs help with client intake or food packing.
  - We have opportunities at the Family Promise Walk-In Center, the Center for Hope and Safety's Making Meals Together Program or providing birthday cakes (homemade is great, but most are store bought and personalized) for children at the Holley Center. For many of these children, this is their first birthday cake.
  - If you feel strongly about supporting domestic violence victims who used to face their abuser outside the courtroom, you can donate your time to the Waiting Room or to the Children's Court Care Center at the Hackensack Courthouse.
  - Your sympathetic ear along with timely conversation would help the residents at The Jewish Home at Rockleigh.
- It's great if you can give time each week; some of these activities take place only two to four times a year. So what's your passion? For more information or to volunteer, please contact Linda Walden (201) 472-8642 or email Lmargotbw@gmail.com.

NCJW  
Bergen County Section  
75 South Washington Ave • Bergenfield, NJ 07621

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National Council of Jewish Women

For news & updates, follow and like  
us on Instagram, Twitter & Facebook

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Go to [www.ncjwbcs.org](http://www.ncjwbcs.org)  
for daily updates on Bergen County Section's  
news and activities.

## SAVE THE DATE! JUNE 25, 2020 MATINEE

A trip is planned to the **Paper Mill Playhouse** to see  
***The Wanderer*** before it moves to  
Broadway in Spring 2021.

***The Wanderer*** is a new play based  
on the life and music of Dion.

His hit songs include *Runaround Sue*, *Teenager in Love*  
and *I Wonder Why*.

Watch for details and registration information in April in the  
"Coming Events" sheet, on the website and in your inbox.  
If you do not have Internet access, contact the office at  
201-385-4847. Registration will open April 1 for NCJW BCS  
members. Beginning April 20 registration will be accepted  
from non-members as well. The cost of the trip including  
bus and ticket will be \$100 for members and \$110 for non-  
members. Interest is high for this trip. A limited number  
of tickets have been reserved, so register early to avoid  
disappointment.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) 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 and freedoms.

## COUNCIL THRIFT SHOP

75 S. Washington Avenue  
Bergenfield NJ 07621  
(201) 385-3702

(Parking in rear, enter from Bergen Street)

For a Thrift Shop merchandise pick-up, please contact  
Marcia Kopeloff at 201-265-2506.

### Selling Hours

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri:  
10 am ~ 5:30 pm  
Thurs 10 am ~ 8 pm  
Sat 9:30 am ~ 5 pm\*

### Donor Hours

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri:  
11 am ~ 4 pm  
Thurs 11 am ~ 7 pm  
\*No Donations Saturday

DON'T FORGET TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.ncjwbcs.org](http://www.ncjwbcs.org)