National Council of Jewish Women Bergen County Section 75 South Washington Avenue Bergenfield, NJ 07621



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ESTELLE GREENE One Hundred Years of Doing Good

Fort Lee resident Estelle Greene will turn 100 years old on February 11! She is a chic, charismatic dynamo who has been a major volunteer for the National Council of Jewish Women Bergen County Section for sixty years.

Born in 1920, she grew up in New Bedford, MA, the third of four sisters. As a young girl she came to New York and well remembers her life in the "big city" in the early 1940s, living in the Village in an apartment a few feet above street level, where she had to make sure the grate was closed so that homeless people didn't roll through the open window from the street! Working as a buyer for a 7th Avenue fashion wholesaler, she sold designer fashions and accessories to small, high-end "specialty stores" all over the country. She has vivid memories of World War II, when she volunteered for the Red Cross Blood Bank and acted as a USO hostess at events for soldiers who were home on leave. She later worked for the New York Convention Bureau, in charge of the Speakers' Lounge at the Javits Center.

Estelle and her husband moved to Fort Lee and she joined what was then the Teaneck Section of NCJW in the early sixties. She soon became one of the leaders of the Section and became involved in "Art 67," a series of successful annual art shows that raised funds for NCJW and were important social events. Over the years she served in many positions, and it was her love of fashion that led her to the NCJW Thrift Shop, which she now calls "her baby." She was involved almost since the Thrift Shop's beginning, starting at the original location in Hackensack, and moving with it to Teaneck and then to its current site in Bergenfield. She has served as Vice President of the Thrift Shop and now, as energetic as ever, she serves as the Thrift Shop's Volunteer Coordinator. She comes in to work two afternoons a week, selling, checking inventory and doing whatever needs to be done.

Always one to keep busy, Estelle loves to knit, bake and do puzzles, and she is an avid reader. But she says that working at the shop "has filled a great void in my life and has given me something to look forward to." NCJW Bergen County Section has been fortunate to have Estelle's dedicated service and wise leadership for so many years. She has been a major force in helping the shop to grow into one of NCJW's most successful fundraising tools.

Estelle feels that the secret of her success is her attitude towards life. She says, "While I'm on this earth, I want to do as much good as I can."

To join Estelle as a volunteer at the Thrift Shop, please call 201-385-3702. For more information on NCJW Bergen County Section please visit www.ncjwbcs.org.

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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.

The NCJW Thrift Shop is located at 75 South Washington Avenue, Bergenfield. Proceeds from the sale of donated gently-used clothes, accessories and household items go directly to support those in need in the community and to provide gift cards to clients at some of our nineteen community service.