

Bulletin

NCJWSM

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April 2015
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National Council of Jewish Women
Greater Rochester Section

COMING EVENTS

APRIL

FRI / 4
First Seder
Passover

SAT / 11
Eighth Day of
Passover

WED / 15
General Board
Meeting
7:30 p.m., JCC

SUN / 19
Hannah G.
Solomon /
Woman of the
Year

WED / 29
Sojourner House
Event

MISSION STATEMENT

National Council of Jewish Women, Inc., is a volunteer organization that has been at the forefront of social change for over a century. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW works to improve the quality of life for women, children and families, and to ensure individual rights and freedoms through programs and projects initiated by its network of 90,000 members and supporters nationwide.

Please join the
National Council of Jewish Women
Greater Rochester Section
at a Recognition Brunch honoring:

Elaine Spaul

Executive Director
The Center for Youth

Hannah G. Solomon Award Recipient

and

Cathy Schneider

NCJW, GRS

Woman of the Year
Award Recipient

Sunday, April 19, 2015

11:00 a.m.

Irondequoit Country Club
4045 East Avenue **Rochester, NY**

You are invited to bring a box of sanitary pads or tampons, which will be distributed to the Brighton Food Cupboard as part of the P.A.D. (Providing Access and Dignity) service project.

Hannah G. Solomon and Woman of the Year Brunch Reservation Form

Please mail your check (payable to NCJW, GRS.) and this form to:
Sharon Rose, 300 Avalon Court, Rochester, NY 14618 by April 11, 2015

Supporter: \$36 Patron: \$54 Sponsor: \$72 Benefactor: \$100

Name(s): _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

- Yes, I/We will attend at this level: \$ _____
- No, I cannot attend, but enclosed is my tax -deductible contribution to NCJW, GRS.

President
Sandra Frankel

Treasurer
Vancy Boyar

VP Membership
Nancy Chodak

VP Administration
Soralee Cook

VP Ways and Means
Mollie Traub

Financial Secretary
Judy Slade

Recording Secretary
Kourtney Spaulding

*Immediate Past
President*
Gina Horowitz

*Honorary National
Board Member*
Judy Abelman

Board Members
Donna Cohen
Jan Feldman
Marilyn Fenster
Ronny Frishman
Gloria Kaplan
Dolores Kleinberg
Robin Levitt
Jennifer Loviglio
Peg McNamara
Wendy Moss
Arlene Schenker
Cathy Schneider

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Recently I visited the Lower East Side Tenement Museum in Manhattan. Tenement actually meant an apartment without a negative connotation. Over time, however, the pressures and challenges of poverty, crime, and pushcart life on the street changed the perception.

This wonderful museum has preserved places where many of our immigrant family members may have first lived and worked when they arrived on our shores and made their way through Ellis Island. The guides tell the immigrant stories in a personal way that illuminates our own family histories.

My father's parents came to America from Poland for a better life and to escape the plight of many Jews in Eastern Europe in the early 20th century. In Poland, they brought produce from the farm to Warsaw on a cart and returned with city goods for those in the rural community. After arriving in America, my grandfather picked hops in Utica, had a pushcart, worked in the food district of New York City as an "egg and butter man" testing for freshness, and later started a wholesale grocery business in Miami, Florida, which my father and uncle eventually ran. They achieved the American dream.

What are your family stories?

The museum tells of the hardships, entrepreneurial spirit, drive, and commitment of the new Americans to each other and to their communities of common language and customs. They helped one another. They overcame

pervasive health problems of the day, built businesses, and moved uptown as their improved economic status allowed. With each new wave of immigrants came new opportunities, challenges and biases.

In the early days, immigration laws were minimal, but over time new and more stringent laws regulated immigration. Today, our nation's changing needs and attitudes highlight the need for immigration reform.

Today, local farmers tell us how much they depend upon guest workers to harvest crops, yet agricultural workers do not enjoy the same protections and rights as other workers under our current labor laws, and some are undocumented. In addition, immigrant agricultural workers may be exploited and abused en route to America and after they are here as a result of human and sex trafficking. This has to change.

As we work to ensure the well-being of women, children and their families, we must not lose sight of the people who work hard to put food on our tables. They deserve to be treated with dignity, a safe work environment, and a responsible path to citizenship.

Consider attending NCJW's Advocacy Day in Albany this spring, which will focus on human trafficking, and getting involved with the our section's Public Affairs Committee. You will make a positive difference in the lives of women, children and their families. ≥

Sandra L. Frankel, President
473-5872, frankel@rochester.rr.com

Brighton Food Cupboard -- food items with the greatest need:

- Beans (pinto, navy, chili, black)
- Cereal
- Evaporated, powder and condensed milk
- Fruit (canned or boxed)
- Healthy snacks (granola bars, crackers, etc.)
- Juice (canned or boxed)
- Pasta
- Pasta sauce
- Peanut butter

- Rice
- Soups
- Tomatoes (canned or boxed)
- Tuna
- Vegetables (canned)

Donations may be dropped off at the Food Cupboard in the Brookside Building, 220 Idlewood Road, Rochester, NY 14618. ≥

MEET ELAINE SPAULL, 2015 Hannah G. Solomon Award Recipient

Margaret Thatcher once quipped, "If you want something said, ask a man. If you want something done, ask a woman."

Those words certainly capture the spirit of Hannah G. Solomon, NCJW's founder, and ring just as true for Elaine Spaul, this year's recipient of the Hannah G. Solomon Humanitarian Award. A tireless advocate for teens and children, Spaul is executive director of Rochester's Center for Youth. She also is a lawyer, educator and City Council member – and has a reputation for getting things done, particularly things that improve the lives of at-risk youth.

A native of Rochester, Spaul has had a varied academic and professional life. She received her bachelor's degree from George Washington University and a master's in literature from Georgetown University. She later attended the University of Buffalo, where she received a Ph.D. in educational administration and then a law degree. She served as associate vice president for student affairs at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), practiced corporate tax law at Nixon, Peabody, and taught at RIT and the University of Buffalo Law School. In 2000, she became head of the Center for Youth, beginning what she has called "the most important" work of her career.

Started in 1971 by a group of teens, the Center for Youth, located on Monroe Avenue, provides a range of services, including emergency shelter, education, counseling and youth development opportunities. It serves more than 200

young people a year, many of whom are troubled, homeless and lacking resources. Under Spaul's leadership, the center has expanded considerably; for instance, today it has a crisis nursery, which provides temporary child care to families during emergencies, a school-based music program, a summer reading initiative and transitional housing. Its New Beginning School offers an alternative to young men ages 16-21 who have struggled in a traditional high school setting or have had a brush with the law. In February, the center announced opening of the New Beginning House, which will provide stable housing for up to eight homeless young men attending the New Beginning School. The center received a \$100,000 state grant and private funds from foundations and businesses to finance the facility.

During Spaul's tenure, the center also has become active in awareness and prevention of sexual exploitation and youth trafficking -- an issue important to NCJW -- through its Safe Harbour program. Our Greater Rochester Section has been partnering with the center's Street Outreach Program, which provides on-the-street services for needy and homeless youth, by supplying feminine hygiene products through our P.A.D. (Providing Access and Dignity to Women during their Monthly Cycles) project.

"Elaine Spaul reflects the values of Hannah G. Solomon, who was a social reformer and advocate for equal rights and freedoms. Elaine's dedication to improving the lives of women, children and families as executive director of

the Center for Youth and as a member of the Rochester City Council makes her a great choice for this recognition," said **Sandra Frankel**, NCJW,GRS president. "I am proud to call Elaine a friend, and equally proud that the Center for Youth has become our partner in the P.A.D. project."

Elected in 2008 to Rochester City Council to represent the East District, Spaul served as council vice president from 2009 to 2011. She currently chairs the Arts and Culture Committee and sits on the Parks and Public Works Committee and the Public Safety, Youth and Recreation Committee. She was among the founders of both the Rochester Fringe Festival and the Friends of the Women's Rights National Park in Seneca Falls. She has served on a multitude of local, state and national boards, many of which reflect her ongoing commitment to young people. She has received numerous honors and awards, including the Rochester Women's Network "W" Award and the Jennifer Koon Peace and Justice Award. She and her husband Malcolm, an RIT professor and filmmaker, are the parents of two grown children.

Join us April 19 as we honor this dynamic Rochester woman and add her name to the prestigious list of Hannah G. Solomon Award recipients. ≥

Ronny Frishman, board member
frishman@rochester.rr.com





NCJW, GRS WOMAN OF THE YEAR: CATHY SCHNEIDER

Let us congratulate Cathy Schneider, our 2015 NCJW, GRS Woman of the Year. A mother, wife, daughter, teacher,

volunteer, Cathy joined NCJW to be able to give back to the community. In return, she made friends that have the same commitment to the community that she has. Cathy has been an active participant on many committees: Public Affairs, Consider College, Books, Mommy and Me and the P.A.D. Project. Cathy serves on the NCJW, GRS Board of Directors and oversees tribute cards for our section. In the past, she has been involved with the Temple Sinai Education Committee and is a current

participant in the RAIHN program, which provides shelter to families that are temporarily homeless. She is a presenter in The Broadway Theatre League "Curtain Up."

Cathy taught 1st grade, 2nd grade and kindergarten at the Hillel School, and in the Victor and Pittsford school districts. She is now retired and has found time to be involved in book clubs, exercise activities, yoga, and mah jongg. Cathy has been married to her husband Lou for 44 years; they have two daughters, Amy and Laura.

She is an ardent voice for all women. We thank her for her contributions to NCJW. Join us on April 19, 2015 to celebrate Cathy as Woman of the Year. ≥

Soralee Cook, VP of Administration

SOJOURNER HOUSE LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM

The Sojourner House Life Skills Program has been a staple of NCJW GRS and is designed to advance our mission to help improve the quality of life for women, children and families.

Robin C. Levitt, the new chairperson of this program, is excited about this year's program, Easy, Elegant and Delicious Dessert Recipes, and encourages NCJW GRS members and friends to volunteer.

On April 29, 2015, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., residents of Sojourner House will learn about nutrition, stocking a pantry, and making easy desserts. It will also include time for quick and easy dessert making and tasting, and a quick quiz on food safety. We will offer handouts on how to stock a pantry and nutrition fact sheets from the American Dietetic Association.

Be a part of this successful interactive program that advances our mission and makes a difference in the lives of others!

Call Robin at 507-6014 or email her at robslodge@aol.com to volunteer. ≥

IN THE FAMILY

Condolences to:

Schaff family on the passing of Phil Schaff
Nancy Chodak on the passing of her mother

Mazel tov to:

Ann Germanow on her son's marriage
Soralee Cook & Carol Fybush for a great Oscar Night program
Donna Cohen & Gloria Kaplan for another outstanding Ad Book
Cathy Schneider on being named NCJW, GRS Woman of the Year

Speedy Recovery to:

Peg McNamara
Jennifer Loviglio
Harry Rosen

Please contact **Cathy Schneider** at 586-7575 to inform your fellow section members of family life cycle events that you would like printed in the bulletin. ≥

Share your News in the Bulletin

Send your articles, pictures or announcements to:
Marilyn Fenster, 59 Rowland Parkway, Rochester, NY 14610
or email to: marilyn.fainfenster@gmail.com



Honor family and friends or express your sympathy with a Tribute Card.
*To have a card sent, contact **Cathy Schneider** at 586-7575 or cathy@rochester.rr.com*

2015 NCJW NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Underlined names are to be elected.

Officers

President	Sandra Frankel	continuing	2 nd year of 2
VP Administration	Soralee Cook	continuing	2 nd year of 2
VP Ways and Means	Mollie Traub	continuing	2 nd year of 2
VP Membership	Nancy Chodak	1 st year of	second term
Treasurer	Nira Tobochnik	1 st year of	2-year term
Financial Sec'y	Barbara Grosh	1 st year of	2-year term
Recording Sec'y	Lisa Waltzer	1 st year of	2-year term
Immediate Past President	Gina Horowitz		

Directors – term ending 2016

Marilyn Fenster	Ronny Frishman
Gloria Kaplan	Cathy Schneider
Jennifer Loviglio	Peg McNamara
Arlene Schenker	

Directors – term ending 2017

Vancy Boyar	Donna Cohen
Wendy Moss	Helene Newman
Jan Feldman	Ruth Sklarsky
Stacey Freed	Amy Stein
Robin Levitt	Judy Slade

Ex officio

Judy Abelman, former national vice president

Nominating Committee members:

Alison Cresov, Gina Horowitz, Ellen Lewis, Kourtney Spaulding, Mollie Traub

NEW WEBSITE PARTNER

I am delighted to announce that **Barbara Grosh** has agreed to share the job of keeping the GRS website humming along.

She joined NCJW three years ago. She's a freelance website developer with many clients in the nonprofit world, including several public libraries and Jewish organizations. She's the director of voter services for the League of Women Voters. She's also on the board of Friends of Educational Excellence, where she chairs the Marketing Committee. Barbara's breadth of technical website expertise is of

tremendous value to our section.

We expect that Michael Slade, who is responsible for creating the website, will find other activities to occupy his time and will be able to cope with all the free time he will now have.

A big thank you to Michael for the countless hours he has spent over the past several years and a warm welcome to Barbara who will add a new touch to this activity.≡

Mollie Traub, VP Ways and Means, 442-7521
mtraub@rochester.rr.com

SUCCESSFUL P.A.D. PARTY

On February 25 eight NCJW,GRS P.A.D. Project Committee members and friends of the P.A.D. Project packaged 500 emergency kits for the Center for Youth's Street Outreach Program. **Jackie Davidson, Barbara Grosh, Ellen Solomon, Mollie Traub, Soralee Cook, Cathy Schneider, Wendy Moss** and **Gina Horowitz** assembled kits containing sanitary pads, tampons, bags for product disposal, candy, a contact card from the Center for Youth and a gift card from NCJW,GRS and from **Ann Germanow**, NCJW member and owner of Scensible Source Company, supplier of the disposable bags. Kathy Cummins, volunteer coordinator at the Center for Youth, visited us during the "party" and took about half of the kits with her. The rest were delivered by week's end.

In our ongoing effort to *provide access and dignity* to low-income women during their menstrual cycle, NCJW,GRS is purchasing tampons and sanitary pads with a portion of our section's annual budget, accepting product donations from our members and guests at our events, and educating the Rochester community about the importance of donating these items to local food cupboards.

We look forward to your generous donation of pads and tampons at the Hannah G. Solomon/Woman of the Year Recognition Brunch.≡

Gina Horowitz, P.A.D. Project Committee, 482-8652
ginarose@rochester.rr.com



National Council of Jewish Women
Greater Rochester Section

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Rochester, NY 14692**

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JOIN US FOR ALBANY ADVOCACY

The 2015 Albany Advocacy Days will be Monday and Tuesday, April 21 and 22. NCJW members from all around New York State will gather in Albany to work for passage of the Trafficking Victims Protection and Justice Act (TVPJA).

The TVPJA is proposed legislation that would protect victims, particularly sexually exploited children, and increase the accountability for buyers and traffickers. Currently, an individual convicted of buying sex from a minor receives a lower penalty than one convicted of rape. The law would correct this. Further, those accused of statutory rape could not use a defense of not knowing the age of the child.

Another aspect of TVPJA would defend victims of trafficking from being prosecuted as prostitutes.

At present, victims' statements are the main source of evidence. Testifying can be traumatizing for the victim. With passage of TVPJA, law enforcement would be able to pursue wiretap evidence if there is probable cause to believe that a suspect owns or manages a prostitution business, operates a sex tourism business or is pimping children under eighteen-years old. A final aspect of the legislation would eliminate stigmatizing language by changing the use of the word "prostitute" when referring to the victim.

On Monday, we will learn specific strategies and talking points to use when we meet with our State Senators and House Representatives on Tuesday.

You are invited to join us in this important NCJW State Policy Advocacy work, which goes right to the heart of our national and local mission. Contact **Gina Horowitz**, 482-8652, to sign up or ask questions. You can also look at www.tvpja.com to learn more about the proposed legislation.➤

Gina Horowitz,
NCJW,GRS State Policy
Advocacy Co-Chair