

Bulletin

NCJWSM

Vol. 22, No. 1
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www.ncjwgrs.org

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National Council of Jewish Women
Greater Rochester Section

COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

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

THU / 22
Opening Event:
Election 2016

OCTOBER

SUN-MON / 2-4
Rosh Hashanah

TUE / 11
Yom Kippur

SUN / 16
Sukkot

WED / 19
General Board Mtg.
7:30 p.m., JCC

MON / 24
Shemini Atzeret

TUE / 25
Simchat Torah

SUN / 30
"The Law"
Movie at JCC

NOVEMBER

TUE / 8
Election Day

WED / 9
General Board Mtg.
7:30 p.m., JCC

FRI / 11
Veterans Day /
Books, Mommy
and Me at YWCA

SUN / 13
Safe Haven
Museum trip

NCJW, GRS Opening Event



New Politics?

Clinton, Trump and the Disenchanted Electorate



7:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Peace Theatre, Nazareth College

Guest speaker:

Dr. Timothy W. Kneeland
Chair and Professor of
History and Political Science
Nazareth College



Kneeland has been teaching and writing on American national, state and local politics for three decades and provides political analysis for local media

Q & A and light refreshments to follow program

Admission is free and open to the public, but registration is requested.

RSVP at 585-234-3475 or ncjwgrs@gmail.com

This event is co-sponsored by The League of Women Voters

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2016 - 2017**

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Soralee Cook

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Nancy Chodak

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Tinnes
Stacey Trien

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-PRESIDENTS

Dear NCJW, GRS Members and Friends,

This past year has been filled with learning, advocacy and friendship. We are fortunate to have the support of such a vibrant and strong Jewish community.

Our Public Affairs Committee will continue its efforts as the issues facing us in this year's election can impact the important work of our organization. Voter rights, reproductive justice, the environment and racial equity are just a few of the critical social issues that affect the lives of women, families and children. Last year, our local programs on poverty and the environment were attended by a broad representation of the community.

Poverty in our community is an ongoing challenge that encompasses housing, race and education. We continue to make our small but meaningful impact through our PAD initiative. Providing women in shelters, transitional housing or on the streets the dignity to have access to tampons, sanitary pads or liners is important to women's self-esteem. In addition, it is through our efforts of contacting your legislators that the luxury tax on these essential products will be removed. Your contributions have helped immensely.

Each year we hold our Hannah G. Solomon and Woman of the Year awards brunch. If you attended, you know that **Gina Horowitz**, our 2016 Woman of the Year, spoke from the heart with passion and conviction. In addition, Larry Marx, the director of The Children's Agenda, spoke sincerely of the need to help the youth in our community. These awards are not frivolous, but meaningful ways to highlight issues important to our work.

A small group of us met at **Vancy Boyar's** home to discuss the current status of voting and voter disenfranchisement. The problems seemed overwhelming, but with a little thought some great ideas surfaced,

including closer work with the League of Women Voters in the high schools and developing a video to help teach new voters what to expect at the polling booth and how to find out what a ballot may look like.

This year we are welcoming four new board members: **Jane Amstey, Nancy Tinnes, Nicole Gantshar, and Stacey Trien.**

Our lives are full and time is precious. We encourage you to participate in any way that fits into your personal life and touches your heart. None of these programs or committees are closed to you. If you have an idea, pick up the phone and let us know you are there and can offer some of your precious time. ☺

Vancy Boyar & Soralee Cook,
Co-presidents, 585-234-3475

SAVE THE DATE **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13**

**Bus trip to
Safe Haven
Holocaust Refugee
Shelter Museum
in Oswego, NY**

- Departure 9:15 a.m. Location TBA
- Arrive at museum 11:00 a.m.
- Video and docent-led tour 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Lunch details and cost - TBA
- Proceeds to benefit P.A.D. (Providing Access and Dignity) project

www.safehavenmuseum.com

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR THE ELECTION

There are two elections coming up, the first being a primary for local and state offices on Sept. 13. Not every jurisdiction will have a primary, but there are a few locally, including the one between Harry Bronson and Rachel Barnhart for the 138th Assembly district and also one for the Democratic spot on the ballot for the 133rd Assembly District, currently held by Bill Nojay. The deadline to register to vote for a primary was August 19, but only brand new voters could select a party between then and the election and be allowed to vote in that party. Anyone else who wishes to change parties can do so at any time, but it doesn't take effect until after the next general election.

The general election for all offices, including president, Congress and the NY Assembly and Senate will be Nov. 8, and the deadline for registration is Oct. 14.

You can check your voter registration status online at <http://www.monroecounty.gov/etc/voter/>. If you have moved or changed your name, you need to update your registration, which you do by filling out a new application form. Forms are available at the County Board of Elections, at any DMV office, at most public libraries, and at many other social service offices. You can also print one and mail it: <http://www.elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/download/voting/voteform.pdf>

If you will be away from home on Election Day or are sick or disabled, you can request an absentee ballot. This can be done by mail, by sending in this form: [\[monroecounty.gov/files/boe/AbsenteeApplication.pdf\]\(http://monroecounty.gov/files/boe/AbsenteeApplication.pdf\). In some cases, if you go to the Board of Elections before the election, you will be allowed to vote in person at that time. The deadline to request an absentee ballot is the day before the election, and the ballot must be delivered in person or postmarked by the day of the election.](http://www2.</p></div><div data-bbox=)

The League of Women Voters is working in coalition with a large group of other organizations known as the Rochester Voters Alliance to register more voters this summer and fall. They are providing registration opportunities throughout the city at many public events and locations. If you'd like to participate, contact **Gin Busack** at ginbusack@aol.com.

Barbara Grosh

INSTALLATION EVENT



Our Installation speaker was Adam Chodak, evening anchor and managing editor of Channel

8 News. Adam spoke to our group about "How to Tell Your Story" and also took questions from the audience. It was an informative and fun evening for everyone. Thanks to our chairs **Ellen Rosen** and **Joan Clar**, committee members **Cathy Schneider**, **Donna Cohen**, **Nancy Chodak** and photographer **Vancy Boyar**.

IN THE FAMILY

Condolences to:

Letty Gail Schact on the passing of her husband Robert Schact

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 and to order tribute cards. Tribute cards are a meaningful way to honor life cycle events and support NCJW projects.

JOIN OR RENEW YOUR NCJW MEMBERSHIP

As an NCJW member, you will impact your community and the world at large by becoming part of a growing grassroots network of courageous and compassionate individuals who improve the lives of women, children, and families every day. **Our membership year runs from July 1 through June 30.**

Annual Membership dues are only \$36 per year (July 1 - June 30).

Your **membership supports important programs** such as the P.A.D initiative, Books, Mommy and Me, public affairs events and advocacy.

Renew today online at ncjwgrs.org or mail a check to: **Barbara Grosh**, 12 Whittlers Ridge, Pittsford, NY 14534.

CONSIDER COLLEGE MENTORS FOR LIFE

Consider College, an academic and career mentoring program of the Greater Rochester Section, began in 2006 with three classes of 6th graders at School No. 17 in Rochester. The goal of the project was to level the playing field with more affluent students by providing educational, cultural, and social activities for low-income Rochester City School District students so that they might see beyond their limited world view and actually consider going to college. Since then, many students in the program have moved from the district, left Consider College, or have dropped out of school entirely. We now have 21 extraordinary young people who are overcoming all the classic disadvantages of poverty: they attend college, they drop out for a semester, they return, they work, they have children, they leave abusive homes, they get married, they join the armed services. Sometimes, out of the blue, they call to ask for help filling out the hideous Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or just to invite one of the mentors out for lunch.

During the most active years of Consider College, we applied for and received grants from the Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation, the John F. Wegman Foundation, Ames Amzalak Memorial Trust, Farash Foundation, and the Rochester City School District. We used these grants to take students to Geva plays, ballets at Nazareth Arts Center, The Corning Museum of Glass, Garth Fagan Dance performances, a Red Wings game, the Susan B. Anthony House, the Central Library and many other places. We held a

Chanukah party one year that included latkes (made by the mentors), menorah lighting, and Chanukah bingo. We visited virtually every college within 50 miles of Rochester and, year after year, many businesses were generous enough to offer our students the opportunity for a morning of job shadowing.

The NCJW mentors have stuck by our mentees through thick and thin, not so much out of a sense of obligation, but because we have come to love our "babies." We mentors also have grown from being a part of Consider College. We have invited mentees to our homes and ventured into some of the most difficult neighborhoods in Rochester for a close-up look at the realities of our students' lives.

We believe that all the students who are going to graduate from high school have done so and we're no longer focused on helping students get into college, but rather encouraging them to stay in college. Each semester we deposit \$100 in every college student's bookstore account, and each June we have a "family" year-end event. This June we went to Painting with a Twist for a relaxing evening of fun, "fine art" and chit chat.

Our ongoing commitment to provide books for college students is significantly less glamorous than preparing them to enter higher education. Foundations generally do not fund ongoing activities. Our expenses to help underwrite books and gather as a group once a year are \$2,500. The

purpose of our sharing some of our history with you is to request your financial help in keeping Consider College going until all 21 students graduate. Please consider making a donation to Consider College in any amount either now or during your end-of-year giving in November and December.

If you would like to consider the possibility of making ongoing contributions or if you would like to get in touch with one of the mentors or some of the students, you can contact us at info@ncjwgrs.org. ☞

Mollie Traub, Chairperson

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Nancy Tinnes and I are very excited to be co-chairing the Public Affairs Committee! Nancy is a new board member and I have been active with NCJW for a number of years. I became involved with NCJW through the Books, Mommy and Me program at the YWCA, as I am the program support specialist (also known as the volunteer coordinator) for the YWCA of Rochester and Monroe County. I loved the program and enjoyed the wonderful volunteers! I then became a mentor with Consider College, and recently went to the NCJW Washington Institute. Last year, I helped with the section's environmental program as well. After all that, I concluded I should do more --- so here I am doing a bit more!

continued on next page

P.A.D. PROJECT INITIATIVE LIKES ITS LISTS

Here are a couple of lists for you to enjoy – a list of organizations that have held kit-making parties and a list of recipient organizations.

So many different kinds of groups hold kit-making parties:

- Church groups, both men's and women's, such as the Church of Latter Day Saints, which held two;
- High school groups, like the girls' modified basketball team at Canandaigua Middle School and Monroe High School's Red Cross Club;
- Synagogues and Jewish organizations, such as Hadassah and Temple Sinai, JCC Connections, the Jewish Home, and Temple B'rith Kodesh's youth group;

- Retail stores such as Athleta, which has held four;
- Organizations that help women in transition, such as Charles Settlement House and Sojourner House;
- Social groups, like the women who were having a baby shower and decided to ask guests to bring a box of pads to donate.

And who has been helped? The women at Baden Street Settlement, Charles Settlement Family Center, Sojourner House, Victor-Farmington Food Cupboard, RAIHN (Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network), Willow Domestic Violence Center, Veterans Outreach, Zion House, Canandaigua, Lutheran Ministry, Angels of Mercy, Ronald McDonald

House, Open Door Mission, Livingston County Catholic Charities, the Women's Center and VA Medical Center, School #35, School #28, East High School, Center for Youth, YWCA Residency, Bivona Child Advocacy Center, Restore Sexual Assault Services, the House of Mercy, Hope Ministry at Holy Trinity Church in Webster, and Brighton Food Pantry.

We strive to lengthen both lists in the coming 2016-2017 NCJW year. Perhaps your group of friends or your club or organization would like to have a kit party or collection drive. Contact ginarose@rochester.rr.com or 482-8652 if you'd like to help, join our committee or hold a kit party or collection drive. ≧

Gina Horowitz, Chair, P.A.D.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

continued

Nancy joined NCJW because of her passion for social justice. Our paths first crossed years ago when Nancy worked at the Summit of Rochester and I worked at the Jewish Home of Rochester. We are looking forward to working together. We hope to see you at this year's opening event, which promises to be interesting and informative. Please, save the date for our spring program on gun violence prevention. It will be held April 5, 2017 at Temple Brith Kodesh. More details will be available in a later bulletin. ≧

Ruth Kramer
foofie44@yahoo.com

Remember you can keep up to date with NCJW,GRS news on our website:
www.ncjwgrs.org



THE LAW, a riveting true story about the Minister of Health, Simone Veil, and her groundbreaking work as the leading force behind the legislation of abortion in France.

César Award-winning actress Emmanuelle Devos delivers a smoldering performance as Simone Veil, the French lawyer and politician who survived the Holocaust to emerge as a champion of women's rights. Appointed health minister in 1974 by Prime Minister Jacques Chirac (Michaël Cohen), she faces strong opposition from the Catholic Church and her own factionalized party in pushing landmark legislation to decriminalize abortion in France and end dangerous back-alley procedures. With just a few days to debate the

issue before a final vote, anti-abortion activists launch a craven campaign of stinging personal and anti-Semitic attacks. As the unflappable Veil and her allies maneuver around the religious and moral minefields, events are closely chronicled by a crusading photojournalist (Flore Bonaventura), who is waging her own feminist fight for recognition.

Showing at 5:00 p.m. on October 30, 2016. Tickets are \$8.00. Shown in partnership with the JCC.

Following the movie, there will be a Q and A session with Brighton Town Judge **Karen Morris**. RSVP to **Allison Cresov** at 746-5236 or acresov@hotmail.com. ≧



National Council of Jewish Women
Greater Rochester Section

**P.O. Box 92444
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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.



Celia McIntosh from the Rochester Coalition Against Human Trafficking organized a pad and tampon collection at a recent baby shower. Look inside to read about the many events that have supported the P.A.D. Project. ≡

Change of address?

If you have a change or correction of address, please contact **Barbara Grosh** at Barbara@grosh.net

