

# Bulletin

National Council of Jewish Women Peninsula Section

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2020 Volume 65, Number 2

# WEAR A MASK While Facing the Task



# GI\WING TUESDAY



**DECEMBER 1, 2020** 

Help us reach our goal so we can continue improving the lives of women and families.

# Message from the Editor

Welcome to our second digital *Bulletin*. When viewing this pdf file you can go directly to articles by clicking on the sections below and you can go to various websites by clicking on the links throughout this issue.

	_
Message from the President	2
Program Meeting	3
Post 2020 Election: Where Do We	
Go from Here?	
Commuity Service Happenings	4
Center for Adult Life Enrichment (CALE)	
If you love knitting, this one's for you	
Our Special Tutorial Educational Program	
(STEP) has gone virtual	
Graduation at the FTELC	4
Center for Adult Life Enrichment (CALE)	
GivingTuesday	5
Lecture Series	6
Back 2 School Store	6
Circling the Courthouse	7
Honoring Ruth Bader Ginsberg	
Amazon Shop From Home	8
Virtual Gala & Hanukkah Celebration	8
International Day of the Girl	9
Tributes	9
Thrift Shop Thanks Hadassah	10



As I write this, we have just received word of the passing of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, an icon of our American legal system.

That Justice Ginsburg died as the sun began to set marking the onset of Rosh Hashanah is, in our Jewish tradition, symbolic. We're told that only the truly righteous, those we need the most, pass on Rosh Hashanah, for we need them until the very last minute. I am devastated, as I'm sure many of you are. RBG, from my hometown of Brooklyn, was a diminutive giant, a groundbreaking protector of women's and human rights. At this post, we don't know the full impact of the fight to replace her on the Supreme Court. Be aware that NCJW is on the front lines, honoring RBG and working to protect her legacy. We will let you know how you too can participate. May Ruth Bader Ginsberg's memory be a blessing – and a revolution!

The most momentous election of our lives is fast approaching. Reach out to all you know to ensure that they use their collective voices to VOTE! Vote as if your life depends on it – it well may. It is our duty as Americans and we have to believe that democracy still works.

NCJW Peninsula Section's fall season has brought the first of our program meetings and lecture series. I hope you enjoyed them and are adjusting to the Zoom format. Our November 3rd lecture topic, "From White Gloves to Boxing

Vote as if your life depends on it – it well may. It is our duty as Americans and we have to believe that democracy still works.



Gloves: How the League of Wives Brought Their Husbands Home from Hanoi" sounds fascinating. I'm interested to find out what these extraordinary women did. And the December 1st lecture, "A Virtual Tour of the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center" will allow us to view the priceless museum to our north in Glen Cove, so that we never forget. The HMTC is well worth a visit in person too, once we can safely return to that. Our Program Meeting on December 9 will help to guide us forward with the topic, "Post 2020 Election: Where Do We Go From Here?"

As always, the NCJW Peninsula Section's Thrift Shop offers treasures for the holidays. Shop there or donate to them. Your gifts help our section in a myriad of ways. And do remember to donate to us on Giving Tuesday, December 1st! Give until it feels good!

We always need you so that we can give our all to improve the lives of women, children and families. Donate, shop, and of course, volunteer with Peninsula Section. We all will be better because of it.

- Myra Garber



### **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.

### **NCJW** Peninsula Section

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# **POST 2020 ELECTION:** WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

# Program Meeting - Wednesday, December 9



Wilfred Codrington III is an assistant professor of law at Brooklyn Law School and a fellow at the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law. His work focuses on constitutional law, election law, and public policy.

He is a frequent commentator on issues such as voting and elections, constitutional reform, antidiscrimination, and the rule of law. Professor Codrington areas of expertise are voter suppression and the racial origin of the Electoral College.

Professor Codrington has authored reports, scholarly articles, and opinion pieces in outlets such as the Atlantic, American Prospect, Columbia Law Review Forum, Slate, The Hill and Ms. Magazine. He is the coauthor of a forthcoming book, The People's Constitution.



Wilfred Codrington III

Professor Codrington earned his undergraduate degree in philosophy from Brown University with honors, an MPA from the University of Pennsylvania, and a JD from Stanford Law School.

"Whatever its shape, the era ahead must rekindle the aspiration of a nation molded in the ideal of perfect equality." -Wilfred Codrington III, July 20, 2020

# Please sign me up for "Post 2020 Election: Where Do We Go from Here?"

Members: Free / Non-members: \$5.

Email us at office@ncjwpeninsula.org to provide your email address for the Zoom login code no later than **December 4**. Space is limited. Questions? Call our office at 516-569-3660.

Payment must be received by **December 4**. There are two ways to pay:

- 1. Send your check payable to NCJW Peninsula Section, to 342 Central Avenue, Lawrence, NY 11559. You must include your name and email address along with your payment.
- 2. Sign up at www.ncjwpeninsula.org/get-involved/donate/, then go to "Post 2020 Election: Where Do We Go from Here?"

# **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

# **Community Service Happenings**

**PENNY SANTIAGO - Community Service, VP** 

For up-to-date information, please visit www.ncjwpeninsula.org/what-we-do/community-service/



# Center for Adult Life Enrichment (CALE)

The Center for Adult Life Enrichment (CALE) is up and running with in person and virtual activities for their members. CALE's Executive Director, Lee Gerardi, has expressed, on behalf of CALE's members and herself, sincere appreciation for the continued support of NCJW Peninsula Section.

**Volunteer Opportunity** 

There has been a request by CALE members for volunteers from NCJW to assist CALE members in taking short COVID SAFE walks outside of their homes. If you are interested please contact: Pennyss353@gmail.com

# ◆ If you love knitting, this one's for you

A great activity for the cooler months . . . NCJW Peninsula Section continues to collect and distribute blankets to those in need, in hospitals and nursing homes. Blankets can be dropped off at the office.



# Graduation at the FTELC

ENID SCHWARTZBAUM - Five Towns Early Learning Center (FTELC), Chair

Nor rain, nor snow, nor heat, nor Pandemic could stay the Five Towns Early Learning Center (FTELC) from a graduation ceremony on September 3.

With the focused belief of Pepper Robinson, Director of FTELC, that children should be recognized for their growth during this important stage of early childhood, the abbreviated event was flawlessly held.

Dressed in holiday finery, they emerged from the center as proud families and guests recorded the occasion on cameras and cell-phones. Encouraged and supported by a loving and dedicated staff, eleven four-year-olds presented a program in the play-garden under a beautiful sunny sky, and declared what they want to be ("When I grow up"). The children said they looked forward to becoming police officers, teachers and firefighters. They also demonstrated their ability to count from 1 to 100 (with a teensy bit of help.)

During a brief break while the children went back into the Center, Pepper addressed the approximately 30 guests about the goals of the Center and the progress of the children's social growth. The Center was open strictly following official Health Department rules for health and safety which allowed working families to feel assured that their children would stay well. Pepper's remarks were translated into Spanish.

Then the children were escorted back to the garden, wearing yellow Mortarboards identified with their names and now the guests were all standing snapping photos like paparazzi. Pepper called each child by name and handed a certificate/diploma of graduation with congratulations.

This was a lovely day.



# In a Year When Needs Seem so Much Greater, Giving Feels so Much Better

CHIRA BUDICK - Fundraising, Chair

The world is a different place this year. We may not be celebrating Thanksgiving with large family gatherings, we might not be running to the stores for Black Friday, but we still need to remember those who rely on our support. In fact, now more than ever, our community services and advocacy efforts are that much more in need.

GivingTuesday, occurring this year on December 1, 2020, is the time to make your annual donation to NCJW Peninsula Section. We need to Wear a Mask While Facing the Task of supporting our section as the dramatic changes in operations and plans that the pandemic has presented continues to upend life around our community and the world.

It is of utmost importance that we continue to carry out policy, advocate for social justice, and support our community programs.

NCJW Peninsula Section supports C.A.L.E. (Center for Adult Life Enrichment), which has reopened to give our seniors a safe place to socialize. Your contributions will also help our continued support of the Five Towns Early Learning Center, which has been open during the entire pandemic, caring for children of essential workers. As the year comes to a close, we're working to secure enough funding to honor our financial commitment to these centers and sustain our advocacy efforts. Please consider a generous year-end gift to help us reach our goal of \$30,000.







**DECEMBER 1, 2020** 

# Donation to NCJW Peninsula Section GI₩ING TUESDAY

You can make your contribution:

- 1. Online at www.ncjwpeninsula.org/givingtuesday/
- 2. Send your check payable to NCIW Peninsula Section, to 342 Central Avenue, Lawrence, NY 11559. You must include your name and email address along with your payment. Please include your name, address, phone and email.

We know that NCJW means much to you, so please give what you can.

Suggested donation amounts: \$72, \$144, \$216 or more – any amount is valued and appreciated.

If you have questions, please call 516-569-3660 or email office@ncjwpeninsula.org

Please make our contribution on or before December 1, 2020

# Together, we can continue improving the lives of women, children and families. Thank you.





















# LECTURE SERIES

# **Our Virtual Lecture Series Continues**

**Reservation Fee:** \$10 per lecture for Members; \$12 for Non-Members

Please send your check payable to: NCJW Peninsula Section, to 342 Central Avenue, Lawrence, NY 11559. You must include your name and email address along with your reservation.

Lectures are from 1:30-2:30 pm. We will send you the Zoom login code on Monday preceding the lecture.



# From White Gloves to Boxing Gloves: How the League of **Wives Brought Their Husbands Home from Hanoi**

◆ TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Heath Hardage Lee is an independent historian, biographer and curator. Heath's narrative nonfiction book is entitled The League of Wives: The Untold Story of the Women Who Took on the U.S. Government to Bring Their Husbands Home from Vietnam. Her exhibition, The League of Wives: Vietnam POW MIA Advocates & Allies is traveling through 2022 to museum venues all over the country. Actress Reese Witherspoon and her production company optioned The League of Wives for a feature film.

Drawing from archival sources, personal letters, diaries, and oral histories in her new book, Heath Hardage Lee reveals how unlikely activists, wives of American POWs and MIAs during the Vietnam War, went to extraordinary lengths to facilitate their husbands' freedom and to account for missing military men.



# A Virtual Tour of the HMTC (Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center)

**◆ TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1** 



**Helen Turner** is the Director of Education at the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center (HMTC) of Nassau County. Ms. Turner earned her BA in European History from Binghamton University and her MA in History, specializing in Holocaust and Genocide studies from Stony Brook University. Her historical research focuses on Auschwitz-Birkenau. Her article, "Resistance as Examined through Material Possessions in Auschwitz-Birkenau" was published in Between Collaboration and Resistance, a Metropole publication.

Join Helen Turner and HMTC on a tour of their five gallery exhibition on the Holocaust as they examine history through the choices of ordinary people, organizations and nations. This tour connects the global perspecitive with a local lens as HMTC's unique collection connects the Holocaust to Long Island Survivors.

# **B2SS Finds Ways to Help Students When** 'Back to School' Takes on a Whole New Meaning



HOPE COLEMAN, SUSAN FOX & PEGGY KLANG - B2SS, Team Leaders

The Back 2 School Store (B2SS) has done an amazing job of helping children during this challenging time. We have given out 1,700 filled backpacks and 3,500 pairs of socks (donated by BOMBAS). We look forward to our lives returning to normal and planning the 2021 Back 2 School Store. Stay safe and know that we are all in this together and in the future will be together at another B2SS helping children and families and seeing smiling faces. For more information visit www.ncjwpeninsula.org/b2ss/

# May her memory be a revolution

National Council of Jewish Women



# Circling the Courthouse

There is a custom in many Jewish communities that at the end of shiva – the seven-day period of initial mourning following burial – mourners take a walk around the block to symbolically mark the end of an intensely inward time and begin a return to the world.

When someone is buried shortly before a holy day, shiva is cut short, so that the day is not observed with formal mourning. Given that Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's burial was just before the beginning of Sukkot, Friday, October 2 marked the day for this symbolic ritual shift in our mourning for the first Jewish woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Justice Ginsburg had a sign in her office bearing the famous injunction in the Torah (Deuteronomy 16:20): Tzedek, tzedek, tirdof, or "Justice, justice, you shall pursue." This commandment is situated in the context of verses imploring us to create a

fair and impartial judicial system; our pursuit of a non-partisan judiciary is, in its essence, the pursuit of justice, and our holding fast to this standard honors the memory of a great judge and justice.

We thank all who came out, in less than perfect weather, to Circle the Lawrence Courthouse. NCJW Peninsula Section would like to thank the Village of Lawrence and the 4th precinct for allowing us to hold this "ritual" in honor of RBG.

NCJW Peninsula Section,
along with many of our
sections across the
country, participated in
"Circling the Courthouse"
to honor Justice



# **Amazon Shop From Home!**

While shopping from home don't forget to place your Amazon orders through Amazon Smile and make NCJW Peninsula Section your charity of choice.

Shop at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to us - no fees, no extra cost.



Click this link to place all your orders:

smile.amazon.com/ch/11-6003315



You shop. Amazon gives.





# **International Day of Girl 2020**

PAM SHELDEN - Generation Next, Mentor, Peninsula Section

Since the UN declared October 11 as the "Day of the Girl," a day set aside to recognize the injustices girls suffer throughout the world (among them, human trafficking, genital mutilation, and compromised or no education), our NCIW Peninsula Section's Generation Next teens have written to state, national, and local legislators asking them to proclaim the day in their respective legislative districts. This year, Governor Cuomo, State Senator Kaminsky and Representative Rice have each issued a proclamation. Our teens (Alexandra Fox, Lynbrook HS; Kira Grossman and Ethan Eisenberg, Hewlett HS) are also publicizing the event through their social media accounts, ensuring that their peers, as well as their school and neighborhood communities, are educated about the purpose and importance of Day. In October, Kira and Ethan, addressed their Hewlett HS peers in a special assembly and displayed the proclamations in the auditorium entrance for all to read. We applaud our teens for their efforts on behalf of girls. Surely RBG would be proud!





### Tributes

July 22 - Septemer 30, 2020

### **GOLD ALL OCCASION FUND**

### In Memory of:

Morton Jablons, beloved family of Sandy Jablons

Michael & Marie Orzano

### SILVER ALL OCCASION **FUND**

### In Honor of:

Linda Gorin on the wedding of her daughter Samantha to Cory

Judy Bernstein Renee Fischer

Fran Denny on the wedding of her granddaughter Samantha to Cory

Judy Bernstein

Abby Fox on the marriage of her daughter Lindsay to Dave

Renee Fischer Fran Denny Harriet Rubenstein Anne Siegel Judy Bernstein

Edna Ritzenberg on a complete and speedy recovery

Renee Fischer

Anne Siegel on the Bar-Mitzvah of her grandson

> Adrienne & Arthur Singer Joan Butwin

### **BLUE ALL OCCASION FUND**

### In Memory of:

Caron Brill, beloved niece of Susan Schwarz

Natalie Zeiger

### In Honor of:

Susan Fox on the birth of her granddaughter Julianna Lee Myra Garber

Abby Fox on the marriage of her daughter Lindsay to Dave

Myra Garber Martha Leviton Enid Schwarzbaum Judy Bernstein

Arlene Gewanter for being a kind and special person

Natalie Zeiger

### **ALL OCCASION FUND**

### In Memory of:

laime Aronin, beloved son of the **Aronin Family** 

Adrienne & Arthur Singer

Bob Agrest, beloved husband of **Phyllis** 

Patty Greenfield

Enid Lederer, beloved mother of Jill Hicks

Joan P. & Sandy Ivler

### In Honor of:

Abby Fox on the marriage of her daughter Lindsay to Dave

Sally Telias Bonnie Sperry Joan P. Ivler NCJW Peninsula Section Thrift Shop Carole Schrager

Adrienne & Arthur Singer on the birth of their granddaughter Jade Darling

Harriet Rubenstein

### Florence Steiger and best wishes on her move

Judy Bernstein Joan P. Ivler Carole Tolkin Myra Garber

Susan Fox on the birth of her granddaughter Julianna Lee

Abby Fox Fran Denny

Linda Gorin on the wedding of her daughter Samantha to Cory

Adrienne & Arthur Singer Carole Tolkin Carole Schrager Myra Garber

Fran Denny on the wedding of her granddaughter Samantha to Cory

Adrienne & Arthur Singer

### **ISRAEL GRANTING PROGRAM FUND**

### In Memory of:

Beloved mother of Jessica Jacobson Marcia Roth

### In Honor of:

Abby Fox on the marriage of her daughter Lindsay to Dave

Adrienne & Arthur Singer

Edna Ritzenberg on a complete and speedy recovery

Adrienne & Arthur Singer

Judy Siegel on a complete and speedy recovery Abby Fox

# NCJW Tribute Cards

Making a donation is a meaningful way to celebrate a special occasion or a thoughtful way to let someone know you are thinking of them. Cards can be purchased by contacting our office at 516-569-3660 or by going to www.ncjwpeninsula.org/tribute/.

### **ALL OCCASION FUND**

Supports NCJW Peninsula Section's efforts to improve the quality of life for women, children and families and ensure individual rights

 Sentiment is listed in bulletin, a card is sent from our office Metallic Gold Trim: \$50 Blue Trim: \$18 Metallic Silver Trim: \$25 Basic Card: \$10

## ISRAEL GRANTING PROGRAM FUND

All donations to this program enable us to partner with a granting site in Israel. All projects advance women's empowerment.

Sentiment is listed in bulletin, a card is sent from our office: \$10



# A FAITH IN THE FUTURE. A BELIEF IN ACTION.®

## **NCJW** Peninsula Section

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