

# Bulletin

# National Council of Jewish Women

WINTER 2025-26 Volume 70, Number 2



**DECEMBER 2, 2025** 



A global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world.

This Giving Tuesday donate to NCJW Peninsula Section to

Make A World of Difference

for women, children and families in our community and in Israel.

SEE PAGE 4

When viewing this pdf file you can go directly to articles by clicking on the sections listed below and you can go to various websites by clicking on the links throughout this issue.

Message from the President	2
Advocacy	
The International Day of the Girl	3
Film Series: Floyd Abrams	3
Giving Tuesday	4
We Care Blankets	4
Community Service	
Donations to the INN	5
Period Project Expands Its Reach	5
New Year's Greetings	6
Thanksgiving at the Thrift Shop	6
Tributes	7
Coming in 2026	7
Gratitude to Those	
Who Make It Happen	8





INSTAGRAM

@ncjwpeninsulasection
INSTAGRAM

@5townsthrifting





#### **Message from the President**

Change is one of life's constants and change is happening at NCJW. After six dynamic years with our organization, Sheila Katz has resigned as CEO. We are grateful for her vision and her passion. Her work elevated NCJW's voice on many of the issues we care most about. We are especially proud of her work galvanizing Jews to speak out for reproductive freedom and abortion access, solidifying NJCW's position as the leading Jewish organization in this area. We wish her the best and we know that she

will continue to contribute her passion and leadership to the Jewish Community for many years to come.

The National Board of Directors has

The National Board of Directors has named Jody Rabhan, who has been part of NCJW's leadership team for 20 years, to the position of Executive Vice Presi-

dent. She will lead NCJW during this transition as the Board launches a national search to identify our next CEO.

Rest assured, our focus is not changing. NCJW has just announced its Strategic Plan for FY25–FY30–NCJW Forward: Building for the Future, Building for Impact. It's a coordinated, nation-wide effort to increase our base and multiply our impact by engaging one million supporters who believe in our work to improve the lives of women, children and families here and in Israel. It's an audacious but attainable goal.

Nationally, NCJW will continue to be a leader in advocating for progressive policy change. NCJW will continue to speak out on behalf of the needs of women, children and families. And we, NCJW PENINSULA SECTION, and all Sections across the country, will

support those efforts and we will continue to respond to the needs and issues in our local communities.

But we can't reach our goal of one million supporters by 2030 unless we engage more people in our work. We know they're out there. I'm sure each of you can think of a few people you know who would be a perfect fit for NCJW. And you, our members, are our best recruiters! This is not the time to be shy, please spread the word... The more supporters we have, the more impactful our voices will be.

— Donna Bialor





National Council of Jewish Women

#### **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**

342 Central Avenue, Lawrence, NY 11559 Phone: 516-569-3660, Fax: 516-569-3634 office@ncjwpeninsula.org, www.ncjwpeninsula.org

President	Donna Bialor
Executive Vice President .	Susan Fox
Executive Director	Bonnie Sperry
Bulletin Editor	Abby Fox
Feature Editor	Harriet Rubenstein
Bulletin Design	. Cheryl Mirkin, CM Design

Issues Published: Fall / Winter / Spring

# The International Day of the Girl, October 11

PAM SHELDEN - Facilitator/Mentor, Generation Next teens, NCJW Peninsula Section,

Since 2012 when the UN delared October 11th as the International Day of the Girl, Peninsula's teen group has been reaching out to local, state, and national legislators asking them to proclaim/recognize the day so as to underscore the marginalization of girl children throughout the globe, as well as here in the US. This year's teens—Nicholas Gilleeny, Levi Goldin, Raven Kelly, and Helena Napoli—wrote and posted over 20 letters, urging their representatives to recognize such injustices as compromised/or no education, human trafficking, genital mutilation, and breast ironing of girls. Through posters, classroom visits, and social



media, these young advocates will educate and advocate in their schools, neighborhood businesses, and school communities.

NCJW Pensinsula is proud to be the Section, helping to inspire

and shape the next generation of advocates, calling for an end to discrimination with a guarantee of basic human right to all girls.





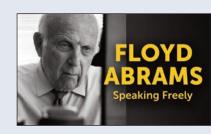
**Advocacy Film Series** 

# Floyd Abrams: Speaking Freely

## ◆ Sunday, March 15, 2026, 2:00 pm, Gold Hall, Hewlett-Woodmere Public Library

"Floyd Abrams: Speaking Freely" is a biopic of the First Amendment as told through the story of one of its greatest legal advocates. The film traces the path of this law from its early precedents in the 1960s to today, as pressing concerns around free speech have the nation questioning anew: what price are we willing to pay for free speech?

As the nation grapples with issues such as hate speech, censorship, the impact of money in politics, artificial intelligence and the dangers of boundless internet communication in a rapidly changing media ecosystem, Abrams continues to advocate for broad First Amendment protections—but acknowledges the increasingly heavy price we pay for such freedoms.



This topical and thought-provoking film offers critical context for how we came to this moment, where free speech issues have never felt more complicated and urgent, and explores the directions this still-evolving area of law might be going.

Tickets: There is no charge for this screening. NCJW members may call the office, 516-569-3660, to reserve a seat. Seating is open to the District 14 community.

Facilitator: Pamela Shelden, Peninsula Section's Advocacy Film Series / Moderator: James Coll, Esq.

## ◆ Also – Thursday, January 15, 7:00 pm, The Hewlett-Woodmere Library

"The Librarians" documentary, focuses on another democratic assault, book censorship and the freedom to read and think. Registration a MUST, www.hwpl.org.

# **Your Donation to NCJW** Will Make a World of Difference

FRAN DENNY - VP Fundraising

Dear NCIW Peninsula Section Friend,

As GIVINGTUESDAY approaches we are reminded of the incredible impact that generosity has had on our community. It's a day when people all over the world come together to support causes that matter to them—causes like ours.

Your donation to NCJW will Make a World of Difference. With your help, we will continue to provide essential services, support local families and build a stronger, more resilient community.

For more than 70 years, NCJW has been supporting women, children and families throughout Israeli society. Our support of Israel is needed now more than ever.

Please donate to NCJW Peninsula Section and become part the global movement of people who are giving back and **Making a World of Difference**. Thank you.





### NCJW Peninsula Section GIWING TUESDAY Donation Form

Return this form with your contribution or donate online at www.ncjwpeninsula.org/givingtuesday/ on or before December 2, 2025.

Name	 
Address	 
Email	 
Phone	

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

#### Make a World of Difference.

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

NCJW Peninsula Section, 342 Central Avenue, Lawrence, NY 11559 516-569-3660 • email: office@ncjwpeninsula.org • www.NCJWPeninsula.org

# Want to Bring Warmth and Comfort to a Child Battling Cancer?



For more information call our office at 516-569-3660.

Know how to knit or crochet? We are looking for hand-knit and crocheted blankets made using washable yarn (no wool). Blankets should be at least approximately 36"x36" in size. Please, no tassels or fringes as they can get caught in the medical equipment. These items will be donated to We Care Blankets, a nonprofit organization who delivers them to local hospitals. Let's make a child's day better with a handcrafted blanket that's made with love.

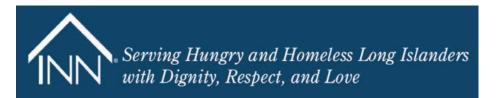


# **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

# **Donations to the INN Help Support Women**

NCJW Peninsula Section has donated three laptops and a check to the Edna Moran Inn. The INN is a not-for-profit, volunteer-based organization that provides a broad variety of essential services to assist those challenged by hunger, homelessness and profound poverty. The INN partners with those in need in a dignified and respectful manner to help them achieve self-sufficiency. This donation will help the women at the INN rebuild their lives by giving them access to computers to create resumes and apply for jobs.

Our Period. Project also donated menstrual products to the INN, whose residents are in need of these items.





Pictured from left to right: Donna Bialor– President NCJW Peninsula Section; Arlene Gewanter–Coordinator, NCJW Peninsula Section; Robert Kammerer–Board Member the INN; Renee Fischer–VP Community Service NCJW Peninsula Section

# **Period Project Expands Its Reach**

Our **Period. Project** donated 320 menstrual kits to Planned Parenthood of Greater New York. Our history goes back many years with Planned Parenthood, and they need our help now more that ever. For decades Planned Parenthood has been a vital lifeline for individuals and families who depend on affordable, accessible health care. But with government funding now cut, thousands of people are left without access to the most basic service- not just reproductive care, but everyday health essentials that many take for granted. We look forward to partnering on more projects together.

NCJW Peninsula Section began the Period. Project in 2022 when New York State mandated that all schools have free menstrual products available, but the schools had to pay for these items themselves. Some nurses were paying out of their pockets to make sure their students had what they needed. Many schools were not able to put this as a line item in their budget so, we decided to help. We have delivered over 3,000 menstrual kits to schools, women's shelters, community centers and now to Planned Parenthood. We are expanding this project and always need help when we have our Packing Parties. Keep checking your emails for our next one which will be in December or January.





(Left) Pictured left to right: Susan Schwarz (NCJW Community Service Coordinator), Angelica Medina (Planned Parenthood), Jennifer Eramo (Planned Parenthood), Bonnie Sperry (NCJW Executive Director), and Renee Fischer (NCJW VP Community Service)

# Our Members Wish You a Happy and Healthy New Year 5786

Jackie and Raymond Baltch Donna Bialor and Family Lisa and Ed Cohen Fran Denny Jaclyn Feldman and Connie DiBenedetto Merrie and Mike Fischer

Abby Fox and Family

Myra and Carl Garber Arlene Gewanter Linda and Neil Gorin Lesley Harris and Family Judie and Vic Horowitz Pnina and Lewis Knopf Paul Farrell and Pamela Korn The Mintz Family

Judy Steingart Novet Gloria Okin and Family Sheryl and Bob Orgel and Family Harriet Rubenstein Denise and Bob Sher Sally Telias The Tolkin Family Natalie Zeiger and Family



"Right now, someone is dreaming of the things we take for granted everyday — our freedom, our health, our families, our jobs, our homes, even the simple joys we overlook. Let's be grateful for what we have and never forget the blessings we enjoy are the very things others are praying for." —Unknown author

This quote resonates so with the mission of NCJW. We at the Thrift Shop are so fortunate on a daily basis to practice gratitude. Our customers feel a sense of family, safety, and comfort under our roof. Our efforts do not stop there—we are participating globally through our dedicated shoppers.

We partnered with Manuella Silve of Port au Prince, Haiti, to prepare a barrel to be shipped to Haiti before Hurricane Melissa. We didn't have a lot of time for preparation so it was all hands on deck to complete our mission.

Sharing just one of our blessings and wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving! With Love,

Marci & The Thrifties

www.longislandthriftncjw.com @5townsthrifting



Marci Last, manager and Manuella Silve



#### To Purchase 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 at 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 and freedoms for all.

#### **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.

Tributes for August 5, 2025 - October 23, 2025

#### **GOLD ALL OCCASION FUND**

#### In Memory of:

Barbara Fishman, beloved aunt of The Kamen, Fishman & Schwartzberg Family

Patty Greenfield

Jackie Ross, her life and legacy

Lori Groisser

#### In Honor of:

Susan Schwarz and the wonderful work that you do for NCJW

Phyllis M. Hersh & Family

Abby Fox on the birth of your grandson

Pam Shelden

#### SILVER ALL OCCASION **FUND**

#### In Memory of:

Roana Cohen, beloved sister of **Brenda Raden** 

Barbara Weinstein

Elaine Zukerman, beloved wife of **Ed Zukerman** 

Irma Latinsky

#### In Honor of:

Abby Fox on the marriage of your son Dylan to Phoebe

Marlene Berman

Dylan Fox on your marriage to Phoebe

Marlene Berman

Julia Edelman on your milestone birthday

Fran Denny

#### **BLUE ALL OCCASION FUND**

#### In Memory of:

Roana Cohen, beloved sister of **Brenda Raden** 

Natalie Zeiger

#### In Honor of:

Donna Bialor on being named **Long Island Section 2025 Honoree** 

> Ronna Weiss Susan Schwarz Natalie Zeiger

Susan Schwarz on being named Long Island Section 2025 Honoree

Natalie Zeiger

Abby Fox on the birth of your grandson

> Fran Denny Harriet Rubenstein

Abby Fox on the marriage of your son Dylan to Phoebe

Donna Bialor

#### **ISRAEL GRANTING PROGRAM FUND**

#### In Memory of:

Marshall Mankin, beloved husband of Karen Mankin

> Joan Butwin Adrienne & Arthur Singer

Beloved brother-in-law of Mr. & Mrs. Marshall Reses

Adrienne & Arthur Singer

### In Honor of:

Abby Fox on the marriage of your son Dylan to Phoebe

Adrienne & Arthur Singer



### Repro Shabbat

◆ Friday-Saturday, February 13-14

### "Into The Woods" at Lynn University

◆ Sunday, February 22, 3:00 pm Boca Raton, FL., For tickets call 516-569-3660

### Relationship Between Israel & the U.N.

◆ Tuesday, March 17, 10:00 am-Noon

LEARN, DISCUSS, QUESTION — With Dr. Joan Lurie Goldberg, International Council of Jewish Women's NGO United Nations Representative.

Hewlett-East Rockaway Jewish Centre Open to the public, light lunch to follow Reservations required, couvert \$18 For more information, contact 516-569-3660

### "The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store"

♦ Wednesday, March 25, 1:30 pm

**BOOK DISCUSSION & REFRESHMENTS** 

\$20/Members, \$25/Non-Members. RSVP by March 18 Location will be emailed to attendees by March 20. Please send your check payable to NCW Peninsula Section, 342 Central Avenue, Lawrence, NY 11559.

### **Game Day**

◆ Tuesday, April 21, 11:00 am

# Founder's Day Luncheon

♦ Friday, June 12

HANNAH G. SOLOMON AWARD — Honoring our Fab 4: Renee Fischer, Judy Novet, Pam Shelden, Natalie Zeiger. Their kickoff meeting (photo below) was held to start planning our annual NCJW Peninsula Section Founder's Day Luncheon.



#### **Back 2 School Store 2026**

Friday, August 7 and Sunday, August 9

# **Gratitude to Those Who Make It Happen**

**HOPE COLEMAN ands SUSAN FOX – B2SS Chairs** 

We want to take a moment to thank our extraordinary team. Each of you helped make our Back 2 School Store event such an outstanding success. Your dedication, hard work, and teamwork shone through in every detail, from the planning stages to

the very last of pack-up. Because of your efforts, we were able to create an event that not only ran smoothly but truly reflected the heart of our mission.



The smiles on the faces of the children and families we served are a direct result of the time, energy, and care you put in. It's a privilege to work alongside such committed and talented people. We are grateful for each of you, and proud of what we accomplished together.

With much appreciation, Hope and Susan www.ncjwpeninsula.org/b2ss/

You can always donate to the B2SS



#### **BACK 2 SCHOOL PROGRAM HELPS HUNDREDS**

How many of you remember as children doing your back-to-school shopping? That one new outfit and new pair of squishy sneakers made you feel so special and made the anticipation of an exciting new school year even more exciting.

The National Council of Jewish Women provided new school clothes and back packs to over 625 students and each child was able to "shop" at the Back 2 School Store which was set up within the confines of Atkinson School on Seaman Avenue in

Our church's Adopt-A-Family Program was a referral agency and we submitted the names of 70 needy school and church children in grades K-5 to be recipients. Each child received a full backpack, winter coat, sweat pants, hoodie, T shirts, long sleeve shirts, underwear, socks, hat, gloves, shorts, leggings, blanket, stuffed animal, books, sneakers and a new toothbrush.

Rosina Codrington and Linda Hendrickson both served as professional shoppers and took the children around to the various rooms to select their own clothing items. The joy on their faces was the price of gold. The parents were especially grateful for the sneakers, winter coats and full backpacks.

Having the right school tools as well as clean and stylish clothing helps the students overcome some of the obstacles they face on a daily basis at school.

In the true meaning of ecumenical giving and brotherhood, Hope Coleman told Linda to come back on Monday with a truck and helpers to take some of the extra merchandise for our Adopt-A-Family Program and Soup to Nuts Soup Kitchen in Freeport.

Richard and Marilyn Holdsworth, Peter Binns, Java Bhuya, Rosina Codrington, and Linda Hendrickson packed Richard's truck and Peter's Jeep with boxes and boxes of winter coats, sweat pants, hoodies, socks, backpacks, shirts, underwear and leggings. The donation from the NCIW is a welcomed addition to the boxes of items already purchased for our Christmas program. Joy to the World!!!



"One of my favorite guidelines is: "Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress, working together is success," said Linda. The Back 2 School Program sponsored by the NCJW had over

150 volunteers working tirelessly together. They represented so many ethnic and religious groups as well as so many age groups. They were all working to make the lives of hundreds of elementary students better for the 2025-2026 school year. Now the ripples of the NCJW's program will continue through our Adopt-A-Family Program.

The Back 2 School Program was a win-win for everyone! Thank you NCJW and may God continue to bless their marvelous program. If any church member would like to volunteer with the Back 2 School Program next year, please talk to Linda or Rosina. 99

#### **NCJW Peninsula Section**

342 Central Avenue, Lawrence, NY 11559

Phone: 516-569-3660 Fax: 516-569-3634

Email: office@ncjwpeninsula.org www.ncjwpeninsula.org