

NCJW Officers 2018-2019

BOARD OF DIRECTORS		
President	Sharon Beck	380-1018
Vice Presidents		
1st Vice President	Julie Neilson	427-3254
Community Service		
Membership	Eileen Garbutt	422-3308
Treasurer	Judy Mandel	587-0721
Corresponding Secretary	Barbara Landsman	583-1227
Recording Secretary		
Directors at Large	Ruth Allen	586-6270
	Arline Spindell	472-0242
	Caryn Glasky	462-0656
	Carol Sandusky	805-8446711
	Ginny Frogel	858-539-3253
	Solange Fisch	458-3656
COMMITTEES		
Advocacy	Harriet Himmelstein	581-7144
Israel Affairs	Diane Levin	380-1179
Personal Giving	Jean Cohn	770-4497
Publicity	Susan Levinson-Silvers	586-8847
Membership Book	Claire Weisberg	830-4284
Tributes	Shonny Lesser	354-0927
Hospitality		
	Irene Shapiro	
	Brenda Rader	
Newsletter	Sandra Smolinsky	460-0264
Federation Rep.	Lisa Michaels	472-1102
Programs	Lisa Michaels	472-1102
Annual Card Party		
Tidings and Blasts	Barbara Landsman	583-1227
Spring Event		
Day Trips		

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.

Tidings is published ten times yearly by Saddleback Section, National Council of Jewish Women.

Editor: Sandra Smolinsky
 ssmolinsky@comline.com
 Circulation: Fran Baum & Bobby Rosenfeld
 Proofreader: Arline Spindell

President's Message

By Sharon Beck, President



As I am sure you are all aware, this has been a very trying week.

NCJW has been part of protests all over the country about the National Security Emergency at the Southern Border. They encourage both letter writing and calling your representatives.

I went to the website and was reminded about all the issues that NCJW is involved in:

Reproductive rights, federal courts, voter engagement, Israel, civil rights, sex trafficking, gun violence, economic justice, religious freedom, human needs, immigration and refugees and gender based and sexual violence.

Their motto is "A faith in the future: A belief in action."

Looking at all of these important issues can be overwhelming and yet they remind us that there is a great deal to be done in these many areas.

Here in Laguna Woods by engaging in educational programs, writing letters, and calling and raising money for national efforts, we can do our small part.

On a lighter note, Feb. 1 was our game day. Thanks to the hard work of Julie Neilson, Ginny Frogel and their committees it was a great success. There was a great lunch, door prizes and raffle winners.

Don't miss our next program. Have your Funny Bone tickled by Dr. Jerry Binder on March 8. He will be discussing how the Jewish Comedic Perspective transcends Ethnicity, Social Class, Race, Culture and Religion.

See flyer for information

We are now in the process of planning our May 10 Fashion Show and luncheon. Please let me know if you would like to be involved. This is our big fundraiser and we would like to have a great turnout. Bring family and friends. If you can get raffle prizes please let us know

I hope to see you all March 8. Bring your friends!!!!

Advocacy

By *Harriet Himmelstein, V.P. Advocacy*

February 25th the US Senate votes on S31, the so-called "Born Alive Abortion's Survivors Protection Act. Despite the sensational rhetoric of its supporters, this legislation would do nothing to enhance the quality of health care and has nothing to do with outlawing infanticide. In reality, S 311 criminalizes safe and legal health care and puts anti-abortion, partisan politics between a woman and her doctor. To imply that abortion providers routinely act in a criminal manner is simply untrue and directly interfering with their medical judgment actually puts more lives at greater risk. NCJW asks us to call your senators and insist that they protect the constitutional right to abortion and leave medical decision-making to pregnant individuals and their doctors.

We are also asked to Take Action against President Trump's Fake National Emergency. Each time we are asked to Take Action it is easily done by going to the NCJW.org website and following the directions to sign up. You need only do this once if you ask the site to remember you. Even if you think you can trust our Congress and Senate members to do the right thing, it helps for them to know what is important to you. Remember they keep tallies of our calls and emails. There is strength in numbers.

Last week, the Senate Judiciary Committee advanced 44 judicial nominees in one day, many of whom pose real and serious threats to our hard-won constitutional rights. As early as this week, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) will begin to schedule votes on these unfit nominees. We cannot let these dangerous ideologies serve lifetime tenures on our federal courts. After reading about these nominees, use the script below to call your senators today. They must protect our courts.

List of nominees in order of expected votes:

*Allison Jones Rushing, nominated to the US Court

of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, has only practiced law for eight years and worked at the Alliance Defending Freedom, a group that supports the criminalization of homosexuality and the state-sanctioned sterilization of transgender people.

*Eric Miller, nominated to the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, has repeatedly argued in favor of banning abortion.

*Chad A. Readler, nominated to the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, leads the Administration's charge against the Affordable Care Act. He is an ideological warrior and has spoken out in favor of separating families at the border and the xenophobic Muslim ban.

*Eric Murphy, nominated to the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, fought to make it easier for Ohio to disenfranchise voters, argued against marriage equality in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, and repeatedly attacked reproductive rights.

*Matthew Kacsmaryk, nominated to the US District Court for the Northern District of Texas, has repeatedly cited "religious freedom" as an excuse for discrimination against LGBTQ individuals and has attacked *Roe v. Wade* and laws requiring access to birth control.

*Howard Nielson, nominated to the US District Court for the District of Utah, defended the use of torture, is one of the NRA's go-to attorneys, and once argued that a gay judge should recuse himself in a marriage equality case, simply because of his sexual orientation.

*Wendy Vitter, nominated to the US District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, praised Texas' unconstitutional TRAP law struck down by the US Supreme Court in *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt*, failed to disclose most of her speaking engagements to the Senate Judiciary Committee in which she spread false information about contraceptives and abortion, and refused to say at her hearing whether

(Continued on page five)

Community Services

Reminder: please don't bring clothing to the meetings. Call the chairpeople to make arrangements.

Friendship Shelter

Chair: **Bobby Rosenfeld** 583-1895

Bed linens, towels, blankets and unopened toiletries.

South County Outreach

Chair: **Fran Baum** 457-2556

Clothing and household items.

Laura's House (for abused women and children)

Chair: **Linda Berkowitz** 859-2775

Gently used clothing and household goods

Laura's House Resale Store

Meals On Wheels

Chair:

Drivers needed for one and a half hours each month to deliver meals within Laguna Woods Village.

S O S

Chair: **Diane Levin** 380-1179

Unopened toiletries,
baby clothes, and children's books and games.

School Service

Chair:

Volunteer in San Joaquin Elementary School classroom once a week

Israel Reports

By *Diane Levin*, *Israel Affairs Chair*

Multiple attack on cancer Israel's Accelerated Evolution Biotechnologies (AEBi) is developing an anti-cancer technology that identifies multiple peptides (small proteins) for targeting specific cancer cells and any mutations. Each treatment will also include a toxin to suppress the cancer's ability to deactivate the treatment.

Partners to prevent dementia The innovation arm of Israel's Sheba Medical Center has partnered with Japanese telecom manufacturer OKI Electric Industry to set up a new joint research project that will focus on the prevention of dementia in high-risk middle-aged individuals.

Israeli medic saves life in Mecca Refai Amer, a Muslim Israeli-Arab from Kfar Qassim is a volunteer medic for Israel's United Hatzalah. He recently went to Mecca for the Haj, taking his medkit with him. In the middle of prayers, surrounded by around 7 million worshippers, he saved the life a man suffering from a hypoglycemia.

Buying land to save endangered species The NGO TiME (This is My Earth) founded by Israel's Uri Shanas, has purchased a marine area off the coasts of Belize containing corals with several endangered species. It is TiME's third land purchase and first ocean site. The area will become a locally managed nature reserve.

Urban communal living For those people who yearn for the Kibbutz social experience without leaving the big city, Israeli startup Venn has devised urban communal living. It comprises shared living spaces, shared transportation, community amenities, services and neighborhood events.

Celebrating Jerusalem's mosaic of cultures Jerusalem's mayor Moshe Leon held the traditional

annual reception for the heads of the city's religious denominations - Jewish, Greek Orthodox, Catholic and Muslim. All spoke of their commitment to interfaith coexistence, tolerance, freedom of worship and the status quo.

Israeli rescue team flies to Brazil Israel was the only country in the world to send a team to help search for survivors of the collapsed mining dam in Brumadinho, Brazil. The 130-member IDF search and rescue team recovered many bodies and tracked down a group of 15 people, believed dead but very much alive and well.

Purifying nuclear-contaminated water The Chernobyl and Fukushima nuclear disasters released deadly radioactive isotope Caesium-137 into the water supply. Researchers at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem have developed a new material known as the Alloxan Tray, that can bind Caesium-137 in water, thereby purifying it.

Converting offices into hotel room Israeli tourism is booming so much that the Israeli Ministry of Tourism is giving some \$6.8 million of grants and holding a conference on converting offices in Tel Aviv and Jaffa into hotel spaces. They are expected to create thousands of hotel rooms.

Support Israeli small businesses My Israel Products (MIP) is a first-of-a-kind marketplace –a place to find only Israeli products, produced mostly by small and medium-sized manufacturers in Israel. MIP was founded to allow Israeli manufacturers to expand their clientele and reach millions of households around the world.

John Cleese and Tom Jones Two British icons of comedy and music are set to perform in Israel this year. Monty Python co-founder John Cleese plans to visit Tel Aviv on 1st & 2nd Sept on his "Last Time to See Me Before I Die" tour. Meanwhile, Welsh music legend Sir Tom Jones has said he will perform in Tel Aviv in July.

Tributes

Send a card commemorating a simcha, sympathizing with a health problem, or simply expressing friendship. The recipient will be pleased and you will do something good for NCJW. A \$5 minimum will be welcomed. Contact Shonny Lesser, 354-0927 and it will be mailed immediately.

Make Tribute check payable to NCJW.

Send to **Shonny Lesser**
3330-N Bahia Blanca E
Laguna Woods, CA 92637
Phone #: 949-354-0927

A Tribute card will be mailed out. Tribute will appear in next issue of *Tidings*.

.....
(Continued from page three)

she agreed with Brown v. Board of Education.

*Michael J. Truncale, nominated to the US District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, is a conservative ideologue who has been hostile to immigrants and once called the contraception benefit of the Affordable Care Act “an assault on the Catholic Church.”

*Campbell Barker, nominated to the US District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, supported the Trump Administration’s decisions to end the DACA program and implement the Muslim ban. He has also defended discriminatory photo ID laws and unconstitutional and anti-women TRAP laws.

*Brian Buescher, nominated to the US District Court for the District of Nebraska, called abortion “just immoral” and described himself as “avidly pro-life,” and has spent his career advancing partisan interests.

Step 1

NCJW requests we call or write our senators, their names and numbers are at the end of our *Tidings*. Tell them you are from NCJW and strongly want them to protect the rights of women, children and families.

February 12, 2019, Washington, DC – The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) today called for Congress to pass the FAMILY Act, which would create a national family and medical leave insurance program. NCJW CEO Nancy K. Kaufman released the following

statement:

“The Family and Medical Insurance Leave (FAMILY) Act proposed today would bring at least part of our country’s safety net up to the standards set by the rest of the industrialized world. Existing law enacted more than 25 years ago requires many large employers to provide to up to 12 weeks of leave each year to care for a newborn, a newly adopted child, or a seriously ill family member, or to deal with a serious health condition of their own, including pregnancy. But it’s unpaid leave. And the law is effectively inaccessible to two-thirds of all workers, due to eligibility restrictions or because people cannot afford to take unpaid leave. The FAMILY Act would ensure people can take the time they need to care for themselves and their families without risking their economic security.

“The lack of paid leave most harms low-income workers, including women and people of color. It also harms the economy — lost wages from unpaid leave cost workers an estimated \$20.6 billion per year. The FAMILY Act builds on successful state programs that are proven to work, and are affordable for employees, employers, and the government. We urge Members of Congress to cosponsor and support swift passage of this important legislation.”

This is but a part of what NCJW does every day. The value of your membership and participation cannot be under estimated.

Roster of Elected Officials 2018 - 2019

President
Donald Trump Phone 202-456-2461
Website President.whitehouse.gov

U.S. Senator
Kamala Harris Phone 202-224-3553
Phone 213-894-5000 L.A.
Website Harris.senate.gov

U.S. Senator
Dianne Feinstein Phone 202-224-3841
Phone 310-914-7300 L.A.
Website Feinstein.senate.gov

U.S. Rep
Katie Porter
45th District Phone 202-225-5611
Website porter.house.gov

Governor
Gavin Newsom Phone 916-445-2841
Website Gov.ca.gov

State Senate
John Moorlach
37th District Phone 916-651-4037
Phone 714-662-6050
Website moorlach.cssrc.us

State Assembly
Cottie Petrie-Norris
74th District Phone 916-319-2074
Phone 714-668-2100
Website a74.asmdc.org

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN
Saddleback Section
3212-C Via Carrizo
Laguna Woods, CA 92637
Return Service Requested

DATED MATERIAL

