



National Council of Jewish Women

**Friday, March 12, 2021 ZOOM meeting  
10:00am**

(The Zoom link will be sent to all members. If you are not a member, contact Sharon Beck by email with your name and email address)

## **Women and the Law: Education and Empowerment**

**Vivian Clelak is the founding director of Human Options.**

Her nonprofit organization provides services to prevent dating abuse and domestic violence and ensure safety and healing. Legal Advocacy is an integral part of their focus. Women and Children deserve to live violence-free lives.

She will introduce Marissa Presley, Community Education, rep and Sara Behemerwold, Legal Advocacy rep.



**Rima Nashashibi is the founder and president of Global Hope 365.**

Global hope 365 interfaces with local, state, federal and international organizations and legislatures. They advocate on behalf of immigrant women and girls fleeing violence.

The focus is on raising awareness, education, empowerment, and prevention of harmful practices towards women and children.

- Issues: - child marriages,  
- human trafficking  
- other forms of gender based violence.

For ZOOM access: Sharon Beck [morshar2@yahoo.com](mailto:morshar2@yahoo.com)

Questions about the program: Lisa Michaels (949) 472-1102

# NCJW Officers 2020-2021

President- Sharon Beck  
First Vice President- Julie Neilson  
Recording Secretary- Ilene Oller with an alternate  
Corresponding Secretary- Barbara Landsman  
Treasurer- Carol Sandusky  
Advocacy Chairs and Community Service  
Harriet Himmelstein  
Linda Mendelsohn  
Chris Schecter  
MOMS of Orange County- Ginny Frogel  
Program- Lisa Michaels, Eillen Ettinger  
Membership- Elisa Kaplan Senter  
and Eileen Garbutt  
Israel Affairs- Diane Levin  
Publicity and Tribute cards- Judy Levy  
Hospitality- Judy Mandel  
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Trips- Phyllis Faigeles  
Special Events  
Fashion Show  
Card Party  
Website- Caryn Glasky  
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Irene Shapiro  
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Judy Mandel

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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.

## President's Message

By *Sharon Beck, President*



I hope that you are all well and either have been or will be vaccinated shortly. I think of my family on the East Coast and my family in Texas coping with all that snow and bad weather in addition to the virus and I am thankful that we are here in California.

Last Shabbat February 12th and 13th NCJW groups in conjunction with many other sponsoring groups all over the country had a Repro Shabbat.

Our national CEO Shelia Katz stated.

“Jewish tradition affirms that access to reproductive health care, including abortion, is a matter of human rights and basic human dignity. As many people’s reproductive health care decisions are informed by their religious beliefs, denying them access to family planning and abortion services is a violation of their religious freedom. Privileging the religious beliefs of one group while making it more difficult for another group to follow their own faith is a violation of the First Amendment.

Here in Laguna Woods we had a study session on Feb 13th with Rabbi Joe Mendelsohn to teach us what the Torah says about reproductive rights. It was very enlightening and those attending were about to ask many questions. WE want to thank Rabbi Mendelsohn for providing us with this worthwhile study group. Linda Mendelsohn also gave the group information of how they can participate. If you were unable to attend and would like to view the tape, please E mail me and I will send you the recording.

I encourage you to go frequently to the national NCJW website to keep up to date with all that is happening. It is not only informative but gives you ways you can make your voice heard. Just by pushing the Action button, you can easily communicate with your representatives and senators to let them know how important some of these current bills are.

NCJW advocates are 180,000 strong. We can make our voices heard.

A small committee headed by Linda Mendelsohn has been making kits for South County Outreach. These are given to women and children that are homeless. Some members have made donations to this cause. If you would like to help, let me know

Next month the program is entitled Education and Empowerment. Our speaker is Vivian Clelak from Human Options and Rima Nashshibi from Global Hope 365. This promises to be a wonderful meeting. See the flyer

I wish you all a healthy and peaceful month  
Feel free to call or E mail me  
949-380-1018  
morshar2@yahoo.com

# Israel Reports

By *Diane Levin, Israel Affairs Chair*

**Every Jew is responsible for one another** When Covid-19 hit Israel, Tal Ohana, mayor of the southern town of Yerucham, personally saw to everyone's needs, checked those tested, called those infected, and brought education to children's homes. Yerucham has had only one Covid-19 case in the last month.

**Wedding for Bnei Menashe couples** Eleven Bnei Menashe couples, who recently immigrated to Israel from India, were wed in a festive and emotional group ceremony at Shavei Israel's absorption center in Nordia, near Netanya. They were remarried after their formal conversion to Judaism and return to the Jewish people.

**Israel's Olympic marathon hope** Ethiopian-Israeli Girmaw Amare runs the marathon in just over 2 hours 7 minutes and is aiming for a medal in the summer Olympics in Japan. Here he talks about his life, why he enjoys the sport, his training and his pride in representing Israel.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QigC\\_KrJIGA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QigC_KrJIGA)

**Tesla launches in Israel** Tesla officially launched its official sales in Israel for its electric vehicle on a new website. It is also building a sales agency at Ramat Aviv Mall in Tel Aviv

**Saving the Australian almond crop** Israel's Edete is to begin a trial test on artificial pollination technology in the Australian state of Victoria. Its machinery can be deployed both day and night and at extreme temperatures. Israel is still working on saving the world's honeybees.

**Trade with Dubai tops \$270 million** The Dubai Media office reports that since Israel and the United Arab Emirates normalized ties in September, trade between the Jewish state and Dubai has reached 1 billion dirham (\$272 million). Figures for the other seven states in the UAE were not yet available.

**Record month for investments.** January 2021 saw an unprecedented record \$1.2 billion invested in Israeli companies.

## Recycling plastic and feeding the world

Engineering students from Tel Aviv University have built self-watering micro farms from plastic waste. Their startup PotsFarms markets plant containers with a standalone hydroponic irrigation system made from recycled plastic bottles.

**Israeli scientists win an Oscar** Tel Aviv University Professor Meir Feder and Israeli startup Amimon have won a Scientific and Engineering award by the American Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences. Their wireless video technology plus Amimon's chipset have made a substantial impact on the global film industry.

**Israeli astronaut reaches for the sky** When Israeli astronaut Eytan Stibbe launches into space in 2022, he will be aiming high. The Israel Space Agency and the Ramon Foundation announced that the name of the Israeli part of the mission would be "Rakia," Hebrew for sky. It was chosen by 60% of Israelis in an online poll.

**Kosovo establishes diplomatic relations** Israel and Kosovo officially signed an agreement to normalize ties. Kosovo's Foreign Minister called the occasion "a golden page in the history of the people of Kosovo". It will be the first Muslim-majority country and European nation to establish an embassy in Jerusalem.

**Startup training across the Middle East** Israel's Starting Up Together weekly Zoom program helps young entrepreneurs from Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Libya, Tunisia, Egypt, Morocco, Jordan, Gaza, and the PA. Its topics include market research, business plans and raising funds. 40% of participants are women.

**Israel - melting pot in the Middle East.** Great video featuring Yoseph Haddad showing how Israel's minorities live in the Jewish State.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DD1uj9-QqYo>

**Migraine treatment device gets US approval** Israel's Theranica has received US FDA clearance to market its Nerivio therapeutic device for the acute treatment of episodic or chronic migraine in people 12 years and older. Theranica's migraine patch was approved by the FDA in 2019.

President Joseph Biden	Phone Website	202-456-2461 President.whitehouse.gov
U.S. Senator Alex Padilla	Phone Phone Website	202-224-3553
U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein	Phone Phone Website	202-224-3841 310-914-7300 L.A. Feinstein.senate.gov
U.S. Rep Katie Porter 45th District	Phone Phone Website	202-225-5611 porter.house.gov
Governor Gavin Newsom	Phone Website	916-445-2841 Gov.ca.gov
State Senate John Moorlach 37th District	Phone Phone Website	916-651-4037 714-662-6050 moorlach.cssrc.us
State Assembly Cottie Petrie-Norris 74th District	Phone Phone Website	916-319-2074 949-251-0074 a74.asmdc.org

## Advocacy

By Linda Mendelsohn, V.P. Advocacy Chair

We are lucky enough to have the funds to continue to help others. Since Advocacy for Women, Children, and Families is in our DNA it is wonderful to be able to continue our efforts. At the last Board meeting, the Board approved putting together kits for women and children who are homeless. In talking with South County Outreach, and amongst the “Kit Committee”, we determined together what we would include in the kits.

Julie Neilson, Judy Mandel, Judy Levy, and Linda Mendelsohn worked together to make the necessary decisions and each of us took on different aspects of the kit to research and order the items that were most appropriate. Everything has been delivered and we will put together the kits and bring them to South County Outreach.

As things open up and we are able to have in-person meetings again, we are considering having a table where you can donate items so we can put together kits for various causes. Each month we can let you know what the needs are so that we can continue to be active Advocates.

## Tribute Cards

Tribute cards can be purchased through Judy Levy-otnj@aol.com; 201-446-4378

## May Their Memory Always Be A Blessing

Fran Baum-  
Jeanne Stieglitz  
Joanne Emmerich

## ACT

Please take the time to go to ncjw.org. The importance of the ACT (Action) button on the ncjw.org web site cannot be stressed enough. When clicking on the orange rectangular box it will bring you to “Take Action” and if you scroll down you can find at least a dozen things you can do to help in areas that are part of our mission statement. You may sign petitions and send messages to our Senate and House members from California. Counts are taken to see how strongly their constituents feel about a particular topic or bill. Since we are 90,000 members strong all across the USA, our voices will be heard loud and clear.

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## 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:  
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: **Chris Schecter**  
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.

### MOMS Orange County

Chair: Ginny Frogel 858-220-4617