

National Council of Jewish Women

Saddleback Tidings

Saddleback Section, National Council of Jewish Women

May 2022

National website: www.ncjw.org

Volume 20 - No. 17



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

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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 morshar2@yahoo.com



I hope that you all had a wonderful Pesach with family and friends. Many people have been sending Facebook pictures of their gatherings. This is the time of the year when we realize how fortunate we are.

On April 8, about 100 people gathered in Clubhouse Five for a meeting intended to make people aware of what they could do to help Ukrainian refugees. It was sponsored by the Jewish Clubs and groups in Laguna Woods. Our NCJW group donated \$500. This is a time when we realize just how important our participation in fundraising can be.

Jackie Mentor, Director of the Orange County Jewish Coalition for refugees, said, "We used to settle refugees because they were Jewish. Now we resettle any refugee because we are Jewish."

This month we will have a lovely Fashion Show sponsored by Macy's. See the flyer in the front and send in your reservation. It will be a great time to see our members' model and to raise money for NCJW.

We are now forming our board for next year. We are in need of both a Corresponding and Recording Secretary, a Membership Co-chair, a Publicity Chairperson, and a Program Co-Chair. Please call me at 949-380-1018 if you are interested in any of these positions.

"Success isn't about how much money you make; it's about the difference you make in people's lives."- Michelle Obama



Laguna Woods Friends of Jewish Federation of OC

Ethical Will Workshop The Most Important Letter You Will Ever Write

Presented By Debbie Margolis

Debbie is active in many charities, locally and nationally. Her many roles at Jewish Federation Orange County include past Chair of the Board, president of Women's Philanthropy and she currently chairs the Leadership Advisory for Women's Philanthropy. She is a TECH trainer for National Women's Philanthropy Board of Jewish Federations of North America (JFNS)

Monday, May 9th, 2022 Clubhouse 5 7:00p.m.

An Ethical Will is a document designed to pass from one generation to the next...

Hopes and blessings for future generations. Important personal values, spiritual values and beliefs.

**Please bring paper and pen for notes.

Free to club members. Guests \$10

Coffee and dessert will be served during the evening.

.RSVP: Harriet Schwartz 248-766-5290 <u>harriet_schwartz@hotmail.com</u>

Attendees will be asked to show proof of vaccination. For Laguna Woods residents and their guests only.





CELEBRATE ISRAEL'S 74TH INDEPENDENCE DAY! חוגגים יום העצמאות Orange County

WHITE BLUE & PARADE

MUSIC FOLK DANCING FAMILY FOOD

FUN

A SPECIAL FAMILY MUSICAL PERFORMANCE BY ROCKID ' רוקיד - הופעת רוק לכל המשפחה

SUNDAY, MAY 15 | 12PM-3PM

IAC360.ORG/EVENT/YHA-OC

Advocacy by Linda Mendelsohn

The Need to be Responsive to the Needs of Others

I've posted this before but felt the need to do it again to get even more of our members involved. By registering as a member of NCJW Sacramento's Rapid Response Team you become an Advocate for NCJW on the most pressing issues for women, children, and families along with other members from around the state. I am on the State Committee for NCJW Advocacy, which works closely with Stronger California and other groups. Not only does this expand our numbers greatly, but also makes us a **force**. Please sign up and follow through when you get an alert. Thank you.

TIRED OF FEELING LIKE THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO?

It takes less than 5 minutes to make a difference and improve the lives of California's women, children, and families. Join NCJW Sacramento's Rapid Response Team!

As important legislation comes up for a vote, NCJW will send you emails and provide background information and simple scripts. All you have to do is email or call the targeted lawmaker(s).

Join now and be part of the solution: <u>NCJW Sacramento Rapid Response Team</u>. Fulfill the Jewish commitment to tikkun olam!

On April 25, several members from our Chapter will be participating in Lobby Day with all of the other Sections in California. The steering committee, of which I am part, has chosen three bills to lobby for this year: 1) AB1666-Prevent California Courts from Being Used to Enforce Out-of-State "Fetal Heartbeat" Laws, 2) AB92-Alleviate the Burdens Families Face in Paying for Child Care, and 3) AB1816-Reduce Homelessness by Creating Re-Entry Housing and workforce Development. Each of these bills targets a different population. We need to continue to be a leader in the fight for helping others. Our Section will personally be lobbying Senator Dave Minn and Assemblyperson Cottie Petrie-Norris.

The Presidents of all the Jewish organizations in Laguna Woods, have formed a President's Council so they can work together for the good of Laguna Woods as well as support issues that are impactful around the Globe. The six groups are NCJW, the Reform Temple of Laguna Woods, ORT, Hadassah, Shalom Club, and Friends of the Jewish Federation-Orange County. The Presidents voted to help refugees from the war in Ukraine, especially children. On April 8, Lynne Rosenstein, President of The Reform Temple of Laguna Woods, with help from others, was able to present a program for the entire community. Close to \$5,000 dollars was raised by attendees for HIAS, American Red Cross, and UNICEF. Our community can certainly be proud.

Israel Report

by Diane Levin

Where Zionism and medicine meet. At the Medics Conference in New York, Nefesh b'Nefesh were matchmaking Israeli medical professionals with medics and their families who want to make Aliyah. They get their diplomas authorized and have interviews for positions at Israeli medical centers.

Cancer kids get their wish. A group of childhood cancer survivors, mostly from the U.S., arrived in Israel this month as part of Chai Lifeline's "Wish at the Wall" program. The 10-day annual event was made possible by the Hartman Family Foundation.

Although recorded in 2015, Colonel Richard Kemp's simple summary of how the IDF, **the most moral army**, conducts itself is very timely and needs publicizing. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tN1MkAGuVyY</u>

Ukrainian refugee wins Jerusalem marathon. Valentyna Veretska, who fled Ukraine along with her daughter, won the women's race in the 25th March Jerusalem Marathon. Celebrating her victory, Veretska held up the flags of both Israel and Ukraine. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CWrpx79wQGs</u>

One hundred "Israeli" electric trucks in London. Asher Bennett (brother to the Israeli PM), is the founder of Tevva Electric Trucks. "We're trying to do something good for the world," he told Calcalist's *Mind the Tech London* conference. Tevva now operates 100 electric delivery trucks in and around London.

More funds for startups. Israel's Glilot Capital Partners has raised \$220 million for its fourth Seed fund. The fund, which is double the size of its previous fund, will invest in Israeli startups in the areas of cybersecurity, enterprise software, and developer tools. Meanwhile, Israel's Vertex VC has raised \$400 million.

Opportunities in Bahrain. A team from Jerusalem Venture Partners (JVP), led by Executive Chairman Erel Margalit, completed a four day visit to Bahrain as guests of the Bahrain Economic Development Board. They met Bahrain's top business leaders to promote a new economic chapter in Bahrain-Israel relations.

Using nature for nature. Israel's Ayala Water & Ecology has 26 years of experience in the field of phytoremediation - the use of plants to extract and remove elemental pollutants from water. Ayala received an EU Horizon 2020 innovation award to adapt its technology for the EU market.

Two Israelis (out of 15 worldwide) have been selected as **"intelligent" Apple Scholars** in Al/Machine Learning for 2022. Moshe Shenfeld is studying privacy-preserving machine learning at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and Noam Razin of Tel Aviv University is studying the fundamentals of machine learning.

Four Arab nations at Israeli summit. Israel hosted the "Negev Summit" comprising the Foreign Ministers of the UAE, Morocco, Bahrain, and Egypt, plus the U.S. Secretary of State and Israel's Foreign Minister. They stated that the conference would be the first of a regular regional forum.

The car being driven by volunteers from United Hatzalah broke down twice in Moldova. Each time, local citizens helped fix the problem but wouldn't accept payment. The reason? "We recognized your jackets – you are **'The Orange Ones'** who have come from Israel to help the Ukrainian refugees." https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/324357

Helping refugees in their own language. Israel is sending a delegation of 15 Russian- and Ukrainian-speaking police officers to Poland to assist Ukrainian refugees who want to come to Israel. Additionally, police will reserve rooms at Israel's National Police Academy to host some 100 refugees.

Israeli's aid to Ukrainians. The Jewish Agency is leading *Operation Out Turn*, involving 110 local authorities and organizations from all over Israel. It includes an air train of 23,000 boxes (some 230 tons) of humanitarian aid donated by the Israeli public for the victims of the war in Ukraine.

From war in Ukraine to studies at Israeli University. Tel Aviv University (TAU) welcomes Maryana Sytar, the first Ukrainian graduate research student to arrive as part of TAU's emergency scholarship program. Maryana was working towards her Ph.D. at the Koretsky Institute of State and Law of Ukraine before the war broke out.

Singapore to open an embassy in Israel. Singapore's Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that it will upgrade its consulate in Israel to a full embassy as part of a series of agreements reached between the two governments. The two countries are keen to conduct joint projects in Artificial Intelligence.

Arab women learn Hebrew. Israeli nonprofit Lissan (Arabic for "language" or "tongue") promotes gender and social equality in Jerusalem. It oversees the "Women Speaking Hebrew" program where 40 volunteers teach Hebrew to some 400 Arab women, empowering them and giving them more independence.

Israel's Arab sector is modernizing. According to Dr. Nasreen Haddad Haj-Yahyais, director of the *Arab Society in Israel* program at the Israel Democracy Institute (IDI), the "Annual Statistical Report on Arab Society" highlights that the rate of Arab students enrolled in academic institutions in Israel has nearly doubled in the last decade, from 10% in 2010 to 18.3% in 2020. More significantly, the proportion of graduate students has nearly tripled in the last ten years, and Ph.D. candidates rose from 3.9% in 2010 to 7.3% in 2020. Other positives include the medical profession and Arab women in employment.

Mentoring for women in hi-tech. Israel's Melio (fintech startup) recently launched MentorM, its mentoring program for female developers that brings together highly-experienced women with those at the beginning of their careers, to learn and discuss the challenges they face. Fifty women were selected to participate.

The second booster reduced deaths by 78%. Israeli HMO Clalit, Sapir College, and Ben-Gurion University studied 563,465 Israelis aged 60-100 who were eligible for the fourth coronavirus vaccine. They reported a 78% decrease in COVID deaths over a 40-day period.

Ukraine field hospital treats thousands. The Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Health, and Sheba Medical Centre, assisted by Israel's healthcare system have created Israel's "Shining Star" field hospital. In its first week, it treated 1,100+ adults and children, including a 10-year-old heart patient.

President	Phone	202-456-2461
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Alex Padilla	Website	Padilla.senate.gov
U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein	Phone Website	202-224-3841 310-914-7300 Feinstein.senate.gov
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Governor	Phone	916-445-2841
Gavin Newsom	Website	Gov.ca.gov
State Senate	Phone	916-651-4037
John Moorlach	Phone	714-662-6050
37th District	Website	Moorlach.cssrc.us
State Assembly	Phone	916-319-2074
Cottie Petrie-Norris	Phone	949-251-0074
74th District	Website	a74.asmdc.org

Tribute Cards

Tribute cards can be purchased through Rhona Ginsberg: 460-226-5495, rhonabridge@gmail.com If you need help with **Elder Abuse** or **Domestic Violence** call The National Domestic Violence Hotline 1 (800) 799-7233

ACT

Please take time to visit *ncjw.org*. The importance of the ACT (Action) button on the nejw.org website cannot be stressed enough. When the orange rectangular box is clicked, you will be taken to "Take Action." Scroll down to see 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 California Senate and House members. 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 U.S., our voices will be heard loud and clear.

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.

Laura's House (for abused women and children)

Chair: Linda Berkowitz 859-2775 Gently used clothing and household goods Laura's House Resale Store

SOS

Chair: Diane Levin 380-1179 Unopened toiletries, baby clothes, and children's books and games. **South County Outreach**

Chair: Rabbi Joseph Mendelsohn 309-1564 Clothing and household items.

Meals on Wheels

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

MOMS Orange County

Chair: Ginny Frogel 858-220-4617