

INTERFAITH LUNCHEON  
FEBRUARY 26



**Women Helping Children Committee Members (L-R) Sandy Suffian, Patty Gilgus, Ellen Dalen, Sylvia Stone, and Ellen Portnoy. Absent from picture Meg Adler, Adrienne Applebaum, Jody Cosner, Ida Levine, Teri Sackin, Merna Siegler (Chair), and Elaine Singer**

### LUNCHEON, EVENT EXAMINES “CHILDREN IN CRISIS”

In an intense environment, more than 120 guests sat in rapt attention to the words of a professional panel of experts who have devoted many years to the ongoing causes, effects and rehabilitation of children exposed to abuse in their early years. The scene was the Temple, Congregation B'nai Jehudah where chairman Merna Siegler introduced speaker Sharon Lowenstein Shoham and the following members of the panel: Julie Donnelson, Executive Director, Child Protective Center; Virginia Lewis Brunk, MSW, (cont. on p. 4)



MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR

**December 4, 2008**

Kick off for the  
"Light Up a Life"

**December 15**

Book Club meets  
at B'nai Jehudah

**January 19, 2009**

Book Club meets  
at B'nai Jehudah

**January 22, 2009**

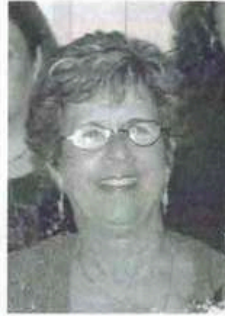
Roe v. Wade Day

**February 26, 2009**

Interfaith Luncheon

## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

### Greetings!



Dear Members,

Our section has many successful programs for children. We touch the lives of more than 1200 less fortunate children each year where they receive books, dictionaries, dental health, clothes, school supplies and eyeglasses. Through a rigorous evaluation process we are working to strengthen our reach and to continue to work tirelessly to expand the depth and breadth of these type programs in the community.

We also have just concluded our successful Honey for Rosh Hashanah. Each year we send honey to individuals as indicated by donors. This project reaches individuals who never before would have known about NCJW and also sends a perfect holiday gift to friends and family.

By the time this newsletter goes to press our Women Helping Children luncheon will have passed. Children have always been our passion and we are always looking for ways to make their lives better. Thanks to Merna Siegler and her committee.

Our programs are based on a community need, not a special interest of our own. We stretch our own thinking to stretch that of others, to find what is fair and right and accept nothing less.

We don't simply talk about these values – we take action. As Jewish women we stand together promoting tolerance, equality, freedoms and hope. Not only to the women and children our programs serve, but to each other as well.

During the next month you will be receiving the Light Up a Life invitation. Please remember that without your help we cannot continue to do all the great things we do for women, children and families.

## BERENICE

The **Bulletin**

Is a publication of

National Council of Jewish Women, Greater Kansas City Section

5750 W. 95th Street, Suite 118

Fax: (913) 648-4126

Shawnee Mission, KS 66207

Email: [ncjwkc@swbell.net](mailto:ncjwkc@swbell.net)

Phone: (913) 648-0747

Admin. Assistant: Linda Kelley

Email: [ncjw@swsbell.net](mailto:ncjw@swsbell.net)



## HONEY FOR ROSH HASHONAH

What a success! By selling more than 850 honey jars, project chairs **Barbara Cosner**, **Lynn Murray**, and **Bev Newman** certainly outdid themselves. **Meg Adler** graciously transformed her home into a distribution center while her daughters **Emi**, **Becca**, and **Miri** wrapped jars in blue and white tissue for added pizzazz.

NCJW members **Laurel Rogovein**, **Ellen Portnoy**, **Evie Lowenthal**, **Merna Siegler**, **Shirley Nelkin**, **Evy Tilzer**, **Gerre Minkin**, **Ellie Penner**, **Dolores Sosnow**, **Rosalyn Burntein**, and **Sandie Jabenis** spent countless hours wrapping, packaging, preparing enclosure cards, taping address labels and sealing boxes.

This project owes its success to these volunteers and our members who continued this shona tova tradition.

## LIGHT UP A LIFE

As December approaches, it is time to plan for our annual *Light Up A Life* (LUAL) Campaign. This is our biggest “ask” of the year and we hope you can help with its continued success.

LUAL supports many of our projects. Think about 2000 inner city children who receive books and birthday parties through our KATS program, the countless children in Johnson County schools who participate in *Hello Israel*, the disadvantaged students who receive eye exams and eyeglasses, and other similar projects.

We hope that you will still find it in your hearts to contribute so that we may continue to help those who are less fortunate than us and have come to depend on our generosity.

We're still looking for help for the *Light Up a Life* campaign. To help, please contact **Meg Adler** at (913)339-9593 or [mrader@kcav.com](mailto:mrader@kcav.com).

## MEMBER GET A MEMBER CAMPAIGN

- Do you have a friend who is not a member of NCJW?
- Does she enjoy being a “part of the action?”
- Does she want to “make a difference?”

Then NCJW is the place for her!

For \$36 she can become an integral part of our organization and make a difference!

Applications are available in the NCJW Office

## HELLO ISRAEL IN FULL SWING

Thanks to the efforts of NCJW volunteers, sixth graders in the Shawnee Mission School District are learning about Israel's people, history, geography, economy and government. *Hello Israel* volunteer presenters utilize a fully-scripted program to explain the similarities between Israelis and Americans and break down stereotypes and misconceptions about the Jewish Homeland.

**Barbara Cosner** and her co-chairs **Phyllis Green** and **Lois Winston** hosted a “kick-off” brunch in **Barbara's** home to orient volunteers, discuss script revisions, and generate enthusiasm. They have worked tirelessly to accommodate teachers' requests and presenters' schedules. We thank NCJW members **Estelle Berman**, **Hillary Fried**, **Sharon Friedman**, **Judy Fudenberg**, **Jill Jacob**, **Gloria Kagen**, **Sheryl Kaplan**, **Linda Katz**, **Mildred Kolmas**, **Evie Lowenthal**, **Gerre Minkin**, **Esther Rudnick**, **Marlene Katz**, **Arlene Shalinsky**, **Merna Siegler**, **Sue Stonefield**, **Judy Wasserman**, and **Shirley White** for participating.

*Hello Israel* is team-taught. Volunteer opportunities are still available. Contact Linda (NCJW office or one of the co-chairs.



## WE CARE FOR EYE CARE

Since school began in August, WE CARE FOR EYE CARE has funded eye exams and glasses for 14 students attending M. E. Pearson, Martin City, Eisenhower Middle School, J. C. Harmon, Stoney Point North, Emerson, McKinley, Northwest Middle, Schlagle High, and Fairfax Learning Center

This NCJW eye program provides care for students from families not qualifying for other eye health assistance.

## KATS DICTIONARY DAY, OCTOBER 30

Through the generosity of an anonymous NCJW donor, 100 third graders at the M. E. Pearson Elementary School received dictionaries at a special assembly. The dictionaries intended for school use will become a part of each student's personal library at the end of the school year.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Sandy Lerner  
Charlotte Ruben  
Sheryl Kaplan

## LUNCHEON, EVENT EXAMINES "CHILDREN IN CRISIS" (from p.1)

Regional Director, Jackson County Children's Division; Lori Fleugel, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Jackson County; Sheila Rancatore, Vice President of Program Administration and Development, The Children's Place; and Lori Peterson, LMSW, Children's Therapist, SAFEHOME.

The November 5th meeting marked the 8<sup>th</sup> annual NCJW community outreach program that focuses on abuse in its many debilitating, and often times fatal forms. President Berenice Haberman emphasizes the importance of public awareness and says the organization is committed to doing its part in furthering that message throughout the community. She adds, "In simple terms, one call to the authorities when abuse is suspected can save a life."

Committee members for the afternoon's event were **Merna, Chairman, Sylvia Stone, Ellen Dalen, Berenice Haberman, Teri Sackin, and Adrienne Applebaum.** The Table Host committee included **Ellen Portnoy (Chair), Sandy Suffian, Elaine Singer, and Patty Gilgus.**

## FOX FUND PROVIDES EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME FOR 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS

NCJW, through the **Thelma & Meyer Fox Children's Fund**, enabled 100 fifth graders at M. E. Pearson Elementary School, Kansas City, Kansas to see *Remembering The World of Anne Frank* at the Coterie. Here are some comments from some students and a teacher.

*From a teacher:* "The fifth grade students at M. E. Pearson would like to thank you for helping with funding for our field trip to the Coterie. Speaking for my class, several students left with tears and questions, along with a better understanding of the holocaust and the suffering of people based on their beliefs. After reading *The Diary of Anne Frank*, I chose not to share her death with the students. The shock of her death left students in awe with questions and anger. I chose not to edit the children's letters as they had tears in their eyes while writing."

*From students letters:* "Thank you for the money. I felt bad that they had to shave their head and take their shoes and glasses and did not have shoes on snowy days." "I did start to cry, but I did not want people to make fun of me." "I felt awfully sad about them strangling their puppies, giving them gas chamber, also cutting their hair off." "I really felt sorry for the Jewish people. It was horrible when Hitler killed the people. I was shocked and almost cried when I heard that Hitler killed his little people. When they separated the families I think that they felt really scared."



# WOMEN HELPING CHILDREN LUNCHEON



**(L-R) Shirley Nelkin, Enid Levi, Louis Diuguid, Marie Castro, Sylvia Stone (Co-Chair), Symie Menitove, and Sandy Culig**



**(L-R) Charlotte Ruben, Judy Weinstein, Merna Siegler, (Chair), Gloria Schoolman, and Barbara Cosner**



**Sharon Lowenstein Shoham speaks of her own experiences.**



**(L-R) Gerry Trilling, Gail Lozoff, Ann Stern, Roni Beshears, and Louise Garfinkle**



## 2008 FLARSHEIM SCHOLARS



(L-R) Lara Michelle Portnoy and Laura Kate Gilman

## SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

The Scholarship Committee was busy this year. A total of 19 scholarships were awarded to 9 new students, 8 returning students, and 2 graduate fellows.

These students attend Cleveland Chiropractic College, Kansas City, MO; Columbia University, New York City; Evangel University, Springfield MO; Fisk University in Nashville, TN; Emporia State University; University of Missouri, Kansas City; University of Missouri, Columbia; Kansas State; University of Kansas; and Johnson County Community College. The Flarsheim Fellowship recipients are attending Baltimore's Hebrew University and the University of Maryland and Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel.

In order to keep up with the changing financial market, the amounts of the scholarships and the number of recipients are considered on a yearly basis. The Scholarship Committee is funded by generous endowments and yearly contributions from NCJW members and friends. This year's committee members included **Ro Jacobson** (chair), **Jane Duggan**, **Deb Feingold**, **Bud Krasne**, **Sally Reicher**, **Sonia Singer** and **Ellen Portnoy**.

## GO INTERNATIONAL...

Did you know that being a member of NCJW automatically makes you a member of a worldwide organization of national Jewish women's organizations? Established in 1912, the International Council of Jewish Women (ICJW) represents 52 women's organizations in 47 countries around the world working for social justice and welfare for all races and creeds. ICJW provides a voice for Jewish women and a platform for the issues that concern us, our families, and our communities.

The North American Region, which includes NCJW of both the USA and Canada, will be holding an all-day symposium on Sunday, January 25, 2009 in Miami Beach, Florida at Temple Beth Shalom. The topic is *Migration: The Wandering World*. It will deal with the effects and trends in North America and our Jewish obligation to the strangers among us.

All are invited and there will be ICJW leaders from all over the world attending. The cost of the day is \$60.00 including a kosher lunch. Please visit the ICJW web site at [www.icjw.org](http://www.icjw.org) for more information and a registration form.

## BOOK CLUB

NCJW, in collaboration with Temple B'nai Jehudah, hosts a monthly book club at The Temple on Mondays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All are invited. Bring a sack lunch; drinks will be provided.

- **December 15:** *Jack and Rochelle: A Holocaust Story of Love and Resistance* by Jack and Rochelle Sutin.
- **January 19:** *The King's Persons* by Joanne Greenberg.

To participate, contact Rochelle Barrash, Program Director, at The Temple, (913) 663-4050 x132 or [program@bnaijehudah.org](mailto:program@bnaijehudah.org).



In honor of:  
MAURICE DUBINSKY - BIRTHDAY  
PAULA ZARR - BIRTHDAY  
HILLARY KAPLAN - BIRTHDAY  
SYLVAN SIEGLER - BAR MITZVAH  
Jody Cosner  
Donation made by:  
Marcia & Eliot Berkley

**LIFE LETTER**

Meg Adler  
Janet Agron  
Barbara Atlas  
Fayna Belzer  
Joan Berkley  
Jean Brown  
Thelma Byers  
Barbara Cosner  
Ellen Dalen  
Doris Edelman  
Sandi Fried  
Louise Garfinkle  
Rosalind Ginsburg  
Natalie Hammer  
Shirley Helzberg  
Sandra Jabenis  
Eileen Jagoda  
Judy Kahn  
Ann Kander  
Sharon Levitan  
Gina Malashock  
Betty Jo Marder  
Alayne & J. D. Mooney  
Susan Osman  
Lesly Ozar  
Ellen Portnoy  
Marjorie Schlosberg  
Gloria Schlossenberg  
Eileen Sherman  
Mary Jo Ward

**WOMEN HELPING CHILDREN**

Donation made by:  
Betty Jo & Henry Marder  
Frances Brown  
Gloria Schlossenberg  
Katie Kouba

In memory of:  
ROSE VERSMAN  
JANET COHEN

Naomi Kauffman

**COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS**

**HAROLD B. BROWN FUND**

In memory of:  
LINDA TURPIN

Ruth Mayer

ROLLA ROSE

TOM LEFKOVITZ

GERALD GERSHON

NEORA SWARTZ

Barbara & Richard Novorr

In honor of:  
MARJORIE NOVORR - 85<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY

**SELMA & MILTON FELD**

In memory of:  
ELLEN LANER  
BUD HELM

Sheila & Stuart Wien  
MAUREEN STEIN - RECOVERY

Ruth Mayer

**MILLIE KRASNE/ANNA MAIZLISH FUND**

In memory of:  
BLANCHE KRASNE  
MILLIE KRASNE

Bud Krasne

**JULES M. MAYER FUND**

In memory of:  
TOM LEFKOVITZ  
MIN BRESLOW

Fran & Jack Mayer  
SHELLEY FARBMAN  
MEYER FOX  
WESLEY DOLGINOFF

Judy & Larry Mayer  
PHIL BAUER

Tina & Danny Mayer

In honor of:

JOANNE ROSE & BILL CHUNOWITZ - MARRIAGE

JOYCE SHAPIRO - BIRTHDAY

Judy & Larry Mayer

KAREN TENENBAUM - BIRTHDAY

Fran & Jack Mayer

**RUTH B. STERN SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In memory of:

WILLIAM SNOWER, JR.

Ann Jacobson

Brentwood Condominium Homeowner  
Assn.

Phyllis & Mel Goldblatt

**SPECIAL NAME SCHOLARSHIPS**

**FRANCES WANG GERSHON SCHOLARSHIP**

In memory of:

FRANCES WANG GERSHON - YAHRZEIT  
JACK BOHM

Susan & Steve Osman

Contribution made by:

Frances Wang Gershon Supporting Foundation  
of the JCF

**ELLEN B. LANER/FRIDAY STUDY GROUP  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In memory of:

ELLEN LANER

Peggy Krigel

Jean Hiersteiner

T. G. Kase

Betty & Bob Slegman

Ann & Tom Isenberg

Dorothy Slegman & Jim Brown

Myra Siegel

Elaine Ryder

Ann Kander

Dee Dee Dale

Joe Ann & Arnie Kratchman

**NATHAN LEVY SCHOLARSHIP**

In memory of:

ELLEN LANER

BUD HELM

Jean & Bud Brown

In honor of:

PAULA ZARR

Jean & Bud Brown

**NCJW SCHOLARSHIP**

In memory of

JANET STULZ - FATHER

Jane Pollock Duggan

In honor of:

BUD BROWN - BIRTHDAY

HAROLD TIVOL - BIRTHDAY

Ellen Laner



**WHAT A DIFFERENCE A TRIBUTE MAKES.** Contributions to the NCJW, Greater Kansas City Section are **TAX DEDUCTIBLE.** \$10.00 minimum. Contributions through November 17, 2008.

**NCJW SECTION**

In memory of:

TERI SACKIN - MOTHER

Berenice Haberman

DR. & MRS. ALEXANDER DAVIS - FATHER

Stevie & John Shuchart

ELLEN LANER

Paul Gershon

Bette & Robert Grossman

Betty Jo & Henry Marder

Gerry Goldberg

MEYER FOX

SAM RASKIN

Meg & Randy Adler

ALBERT GOLLER

Jean & Bud Brown

Roni & Mark Beshears

In honor of:

SYLVAN SIEGLER - BAR MITZVAH

SYMIE MENITOVE - B'NAT MITZVAH

MERLE COLE - NEW GRANDSON

ANN STERN - NEW GRANDDAUGHTER

Roni Beshears

SYLVAN SIEGLER - BAR MITZVAH

GERRE MINKIN - BAT MITZVAH

ROD MINKIN - BAR MITZVAH

BARBARA COSNER - BAT MITZVAH

JOAN JACOBSON - BAT MITZVAH

Sheila & Ken Sonnenschein

IDA LEVINE - RECEIVING EMERGING LEADER AWARD

Bonnie & Jerry Winograd Fund of Houston Jewish Community Fnd.

BETTY BARNETT & GLENN HAYNES

Ellen Laner

SALLY & GORDON SLABOTSKY - SON'S WEDDING

PATSY SHANBERG - SPEEDY RECOVERY

DOREEN LEIFER - NEW GRANDSON

GWEN & STEVEN LOBELL - HANNAH'S BAT MITZVAH

SALLY & GORDON SLABOTSKY - IN APPRECIATION

Heather Aronoff

JANELLE FLACKS - SON'S ENGAGEMENT

Teri Sackin

Contributions made by:

Frances Kapleau

Deborah Gendel

DR. & MRS. STUART SHANKER - NEW GRANDSON

Stevie & John Shuchart

JACKIE GOLDEN - BIRTHDAY

Betty Barnett & Glenn Haynes

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

In memory of:

MEYER FOX

Jackie & Sheldon Fleschman

MEYER FOX

BUD SARACHEK

Barbara & Jerry Cosner

In honor of:

GAYLE & DAVID SHECHTER - RENEWAL OF MARRIAGE VOWS

Ruth Shechter

JACKIE & SHELDON FLESHMAN - DAUGHTER'S WEDDING

Barbara & Jerry Cosner

**BEA FIRESTONE FLAM ISRAEL PROJECTS FUND**

In memory of:

BEA FIRESTONE FLAM

Naomi Kauffman

Mordecai Kopperman

**THELMA FOX CHILDREN'S FUND**

In memory of:

MICHAEL SINGER

GARY GALLER

STUART WINOKUR

TERI SACKIN'S MOTHER

JERRY GERSHON

GOLDENE RYDELL

JANET COHEN

Ellen & Michael Dalen

STUART WINOKUR

Nicole & Mickey Hill

MEYER FOX

John & Pat Hill

Rene & Laverne Harlow

Sue & Sidney Fink

Marlene & Stan Katz

Teri Sackin

Merna & Sylvan Siegler

Dan Guckenheimer

Maureen & Sandy Salz

Charlene & Bruce Robbins

Evy & Lowell Tilzer

Phyllis Kraft

Bari & Floyd Freiden

Ann & Dan Stern

Sandy Suffian & Ernesto Zepeda

Bev & Peter Newman

Roni Beshears

Cheryl Schultz

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Martha & Sidney Cohn

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Symie & Jay Menitove

Carol & Jeff Marks

Janet Mark

Brita Horowitz

Adrienne & Vic Applebaum

Betty & Erwin Stern

Joyce & Harold Koch

Maureen & Michael Boyle

Roni Stein

Jackye & Alan Goldberg

Lillian Greenberg

Sarah Small

Karp Heurlin Weiss

Sylvia Stone

Marcia Colvin

Alayne & J.D. Mooney

Judy Wasserman

Naomi Kauffman

Vicki & Richard Helfand

Robert Goldberg

Marti & Lawrence Fry

Susie & Ron Goldsmith

Scott Shanker

Nancy & Allan Reichman

In honor of:

GLORIA & STUART KAGAN - ANNIVERSARY

JEFF GOODMAN - BECOMING PRESIDENT OF THE OVERLAND PARK ROTARY CLUB

SYLVAN SIEGLER - 2<sup>ND</sup> BAR MITZVAH

MEG ADLER - SPEEDY RECOVERY

BEV NEWMAN - SPEEDY RECOVERY

ANN & DAN STERN - 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

SUE SINGER - 85<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY

GEREAN RUDNICK - GRANDDAUGHTER'S B'NOT MITZVAH

SHARON & JIM GREENWOOD - NEW GRANDDAUGHTER

Ellen & Michael Dalen

**KATS**

In memory of:

SHELLEY FARBMAN

MEYER FOX

Ellen Portnoy

SHELLEY FARBMAN

Teri Sackin



## It's Not Too Early...

It's not too early to start thinking about all those fabulous, but unwanted items you can donate to this year's garage sale. Last year, in conjunction with **Lori Siegel's** store *A Lotta Stuff at Stan's*, we raised over \$4,000 and this year, we hope to top that figure. With the economic downturn, more people will be looking to consignment shops and garage sales for furniture, clothing, and basic household items: a win-win situation. As in the past, we plan to pick up larger items.

We're looking for a Johnson County venue and a date in April. Last year, committee members found the experience rewarding. To help, please contact **Meg Adler** at (913)339-9593 or [mrader@kcav.com](mailto:mrader@kcav.com). For pick-up, call Linda at (913)648-0747 (NCJW Office).

## A FEEL-GOOD THING TO DO

Happiness is ... when you celebrate a simcha. At the many precious *times* in life that you wish always to remember, it is not unusual to express your feelings of joy by a testimonial gift that benefits others in your community and in Israel. At such moments of celebration, or if unfortunately, the occasion is one of sadness and reflection, a donation of any size sends to the recipient the heartfelt message **YOU CARE**.

We welcome your calls regarding the many exciting outreach programs NCJW supports locally and those that reflect our organization's support of Israel. Helping others is after all *a feel good kind of thing to do!*

## Join Like-Minded Men & Women in Topeka

Celebrate the 36<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of

ROE vs. WADE

and the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Kansas  
Choice Alliance

(NCJW is a Founding Member)

Thursday, January 22, 2009

Bus Leaves 8 am – Bus Returns 4:30 pm

Dillon House & State Capitol, Topeka,  
Kansas

Our Grandmothers' Struggle! Our Mothers'  
Freedom!

Our Choice to Protect!

Lunch \$15 – Students' Lunch \$9 - Bus \$15

Mail your check made payable to KCA  
(Kansas Choice Alliance) to:

Barbara Holzmark at 3016 W. 84<sup>th</sup> Street,  
Leawood, KS 66206

---or---

Pay online at [www.KansasChoiceAlliance.org](http://www.KansasChoiceAlliance.org)

For info, call Barbara at: 913-381-8222.

Meet & park in south parking lot of Village  
Presbyterian Church, 67<sup>th</sup> & Mission Road.

## PORTNOY TO NATIONAL

Exciting news! **Ellen Portnoy**, our section's immediate past president, received a three-year appointment to an NCJW national position. As one of 37 commissioners, she is the liaison for three sections: Tri County, Howard County, and Omaha. In this role, Ellen serves as a mentor encouraging and supporting section leaders with whom she works. Congratulations, Ellen.

In recent section history, section past-presidents **Janet Mark** and **Roni Beshears** have served as national commissioners.



## **BULLETIN**

### **Contributors**

Meg Adler  
Barbara Cosner  
Ellen Dalen  
Jane Pollock Duggan  
Patty Gilgus  
Phyllis Green  
Barbara Holzmark  
Ida Levine  
Bev Newman  
Ellen Portnoy  
Sylvia Stone  
Sue Vile  
Lois Winston

### **Editor**

Symie Menitove



National Council of Jewish Women  
Greater Kansas City Section

**5750 W. 95th Street, Suite 118  
Shawnee Mission, KS 66207**

***SAVE THE DATE!!!***

***Interfaith Luncheon***

***Overland Park Marriot***

***February 26, 2009***