

About And Between

National Council of Jewish Women, Greater Kansas City Section January 2006

President's Message

As I write this article we are in the midst of Hanukkah, a time of celebration and joy, a time to spend with family and friends. For NCJW, this is also the time of year that we conduct our annual Light Up a Life Campaign, asking our members (and others) to consider making a donation to our organization. To those who have responded to our request, thank you for your commitment to NCJW. You are helping us fulfill our mission of providing important programs for children, women and families locally and in Israel. To those who have not yet participated, I hope that the spirit of the Festival of Lights will move you to "Light Up a Life" of the less fortunate by supporting the campaign.

Thank you for your careful consideration and dedication to NCJW.

Janet Mark

Interfaith Luncheon

The third annual Interfaith Luncheon will be held 11:30 AM until 1:30 PM on Tuesday, February 28, 2006, at the Overland Park Marriott. This year's topic is "From Three Perspectives: Abraham's Ultimate Challenge." Moderator Linda Cohen, and Speakers: Amilia Chilcoat, Cantor Sharon Kohn and Dr. Molly T. Marshall, will discuss the complex issues of Abraham's ultimate challenge and find differing interpretations in meaning and morality through the teachings of three monotheistic faiths. Diane Cleaver will be the closing speaker.

Luncheon tickets are \$25 each, or you can host a table of 10 for \$250. For more information about the event, or to become a table hostess contact the NCJW office. Event chairs are Marlene Katz and Evy Tilzer.

Interfaith Passover Seder Hosts Needed

Would you like to host someone of a different faith at your Passover seder this year? NCJW is following up on requests from people in the non-Jewish community who would like to experience a Passover seder in a Jewish home. Whether your seder is modern, traditional, short or long; whether you are single, married or have children, if you are interested, please contact Sheila Sonnenschein at ksonshine@earthlink.net or 913-402-8588.

Interfaith Book Club

To dovetail NCJW's Interfaith luncheon theme of "Abraham," Women's Division of the Jewish Federation and NCJW are coordinating a three-week interfaith book club series discussing Bruce Feiler's book, **Abraham**. The sessions will be lead by Rabbi David Fine, Rev. Fran Manson, and Dr. Abulbaki Agbas, who will separately lead both a morning and an evening discussion about their reaction to the book as a Jew, Christian, and Muslim.. The

discussions will take place at the Waldo Community Branch library in KC, MO, and there will be a nominal fee. Registration forms will be available soon. Times and dates below:

Morning Sessions:

Thursday, March 23, 2006, 9:30 am - 11:00 am

Thursday, March 30, 2006, 9:30 am - 11:00 am

Wednesday, April 05, 2006, 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Evening Sessions:

Wednesday, March 22, 2006, 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Wednesday, March 29, 2006, 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Wednesday, April 05, 2006, 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

KATS

The Colgate Dental Van spent a week in Kansas City in November. They were able to do dental checks at six of our schools.

The birthday party project, in collaboration with Shawnee Mission East SHARE students, is serving almost 2,500 students this school year. At the birthday parties, students are given a book for their birthday. Krispy Kreme Donuts donates the treats. There is always a need for new children's books (grades K-5) or donations to purchase books. For more information on the KATS project call the NCJW office.

Bat Mitzvah Project Starts Eyeglass Fund At NCJW

Juliana Gensheimer (daughter of Cynthia and Joe) became a Bat Mitzvah in November. With part of her Bat Mitzvah money and donations from community members, Juliana has been instrumental in starting a fund at NCJW that will help to pay for eyeglasses for students assisted through the KATS program.

In her Bat Mitzvah speech, Juliana said: "Part of becoming a Bat Mitzvah is taking on the responsibility to help take care of others. I am giving some of my Bat Mitzvah money to the National Council of Jewish Women, which is setting up a fund helping to pay for children's eyeglasses in Kansas City. Many children are diagnosed with learning disabilities, while they only need a pair of eyeglasses to be able to read and write."

Anyone interested in contributing to the fund, should send their donation to the NCJW office.

Parties for the Blind

Kudos to Ellen Dalen, Janet Mark, Bonnie Buchinder, Carolyn Rothen, Merna Siegler and Linda Katz for providing baked goods for gift bags at the December party! Another mitzvah opportunity! We always have more people who want to attend than there are drivers to pick them up. If you have never experienced a party, please feel free to attend. Upcoming dates in 2006 are February 14, March 21, April 11 and May 9. Contact Maureen Salz at 913-402-0422 or mosalz@kc.rr.com for more information.

KATS Program Thanks Donors!

A BIG THANK YOU TO KRISPY KREME DONUTS FOR THEIR HELP PROVIDING THE TREATS FOR THE KIDS AND TEACHERS = SCHOOL BIRTHDAY PARTIES.

A BIG THANK YOU TO MEG AND RANDY ADLER AND KANSAS CITY AUDIO VISUAL FOR THEIR HELP IN GETTING DONATED ITEMS PICKED UP.

Mission to Israel 2006

Journey with NCJW for expert topical briefings, presentations by NCJW coalition partners, an intimate Shabbat celebration, and tours of Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, and NCJW and US/Israel Women to Women program sites. Mark your calendars for May 2006, when NCJW will be traveling on a mission to Israel.

Please join us for this week of shared passion, meaningful connection, and *tikkun olam*. See firsthand how NCJW has an impact on the lives of so many women, children and families in Israel.

The mission will visit the NCJW Gender and Women's Studies Program and the Women's Studies Forum at Tel Aviv University as well as a variety of Yad b'Yad grantees. Of course, we will also spend time touring and enjoying the country. The dates of the mission are May 18-24, 2005 and the cost is \$1800 per person, land-only, based on double occupancy. Participants are also encouraged to attend an optional post-mission trip to Eliat, Israel, and Petra, Jordan from May 24-27, 2006. For more information call 212-645-4048 or email action@ncjw.org.

Handbags Help NCJW and Women Helping Women

With "fashion her passion," designer Dava K. Holden happily asserts, "I am living my dream." Her excitement and enthusiasm were very much in evidence during NCJW's Women Helping Women event at Hallbrook Country Club last fall where she displayed her latest creations. The artist's credo is simple. Holden explains that a personal relationship exists between a woman and the handbag she carries. "Thus," she says, "not only should her handbag reflect the personality of each woman, it must also compliment her individual flair for fashion."

A Kansas City gal at heart, the DeSota born designer and mother of two boys now lives in St. Louis and declares, "I am loving it." As the owner of Dava K. Handbags, Holden has merged her artistic talent with the flexibility that ownership allows. With more time to spend with family, she enjoys participating in her children's activities. Another plus side to ownership appeals to the designer's wish to serve as a volunteer. Holden's Women Helping Women appearance last fall is just one of many community-related events that she attends.

Art Auction Fundraiser

National Council of Jewish Women, Greater Kansas City Section and Park West Gallery, America's largest dealer of fine art, invite you to an auction to benefit women, children and families. Join NCJW on Saturday, January 14, 2006 at the Sheraton Overland Park, 6100 College Boulevard at 7:00 p.m. for a preview and 8:00 p.m. for the auction. Admission is free but reservations are needed. A percentage of the proceeds will be donated to NCJW.

Featured will be more than 300 custom-framed original works of art including: paintings, watercolors, mixed-media works, serigraphs, lithographs, etchings, hand-hammered metal reliefs, animation art and sports collectibles. All works are beautifully custom framed and will be sold at a fraction of the appraised values.

The auction is completely cataloged and fully documented at museum and important international auction standards. Every work comes with a registered certificate of authenticity.

For questions and to make reservations please call the NCJW office at 913-648-0747.

Membership News

Welcome New Members: Sharon Altman, Linda Matorin Sweenie, and Rosemary Yarmo Silverman have joined NCJW in the past few months.

SAVE THESE DATES
FUNDRAISING ART AUCTION
WILL BE HELD ON
SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2006

9/11

Greater Kansas City Section
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