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March 2023 Newsletter

## Petals for Passover

Support NCJW of Kansas City's newest fundraiser by [ordering a Petals for Passover floral arrangement](#).

For \$85, the arrangement may be picked up on April 4 between 10:00-1:30 at The Shirley & Lewis White Theatre Entrance at The Jewish Community Campus (5801 W 115th Street, Overland Park, KS 66211). For \$100, delivery on April 5 between 11-3 is also an option.

Please [complete this order form](#) **by March 31** (click through to the form for payment details). Jenifer Hall of Eden Floral and Events (formerly Forget Me Not Flowers) is generously donating 50% of each arrangement sold to NCJW.



## Make a difference this Passover

Join us during the month of March for our Passover Food Drive benefiting the JFS Food Pantry. Help us brighten the holiday for 225 families in greater Kansas City by making a financial contribution to the Food Pantry or donating the following kosher-for-Passover foods:

- Grape juice
- Matzah ball soup mix
- Boxes of matzah
- Baking mixes
- Potato starch
- Matzah cake meal
- Matzah meal

Items can be donated from **now through March 29** at participating Congregations or dropped off in designated JFS Food Pantry barrels in the lobby of the Jewish Community Campus or outside the JFS Brookside location during regular business hours. We're also seeking volunteers to deliver Passover meals on Tuesday, **April 4**. Learn more and [sign up here](#).

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We had such a good time volunteering at Thelma's Kitchen last month (see photo highlights below!) that we have decided to volunteer once a month. This month, we are volunteering on **Tuesday, March 28** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. We will be working alongside the chefs to slice, dice, and prepare our house made ingredients for the subsequent day.

The church where Thelma's Kitchen is located has a clothing pantry. If you have any gently used, clean clothes for men and women (all sizes), please bring them to donate. They request that they be seasonal.

Go to [thelmaskitchen.org](http://thelmaskitchen.org) and click on the button to volunteer. Go to March 28 and click on the 11-2 shift and sign up. Please contact Susan Kivett with any questions at [kivetts@gmail.com](mailto:kivetts@gmail.com) or 913-219-0823. If you haven't been before, please sign the volunteer waiver on the website.

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## Next empty nesters cohort get together March 20

Drinks, food, fun, and stimulating conversation! Please join the empty nester cohort on **Monday, March 20**, at 5 p.m. at Ya Ya's (7021 W 135th Street, Overland Park, KS 66223). Please let Stephanie Herman ([sjherman@mac.com](mailto:sjherman@mac.com)) know if you plan to attend. Hope to see you there!

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## Collecting used eyeglasses

Our community service project for March is to collect used eyeglasses to donate to the Lion's Club, which seeks to improve health and well-being, strengthen communities, and support those in need through humanitarian services and grants. In 1925, Helen Keller addressed the Lions in Cedar Point, Ohio, and challenged them to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness." This began a century-long mission—impacting hundreds of millions of lives through vision-related work.

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and prevent blindness on a global scale, and eyeglass donations are an essential part. Please help this effort by **donating your glasses through March 31** at the NCJW office (5311 w. 75th St, Prairie Village, KS) or the following Brookside Optical stores:

- 7111 W. 135th St., Overland Park, KS
- 6935 W. Tomahawk Rd., Prairie Village, KS
- 1966 Shawnee Mission Pkwy, Shawnee, KS

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## ***Lilith* magazine online discussion group on April 16**

Please join us online Sunday, April 16, at 2 p.m. CT, when we'll be discussing two interesting articles from *Lilith* magazine's Winter 2022-23 issue. You can access the first article [here](#) (p. 19-21) and the second article [here](#) (pp. 36-37). The discussion is free and open to any NCJW member. Please contact Nancy Kalikow Maxwell at [nancykalikowmaxwell@gmail.com](mailto:nancykalikowmaxwell@gmail.com) or 954-260-7696 for the Zoom link.

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## **Restaurant night fundraiser at Houlihan's Leawood April 18**

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15-20% of all food proceeds will be donated to our section when you mention the fundraiser (the more food proceeds, the higher the percentage donated).

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## Join NCJW for an April 30 performance at the White Theater

Please join NCJW at the **Sunday, April 30**, matinee performance (2 p.m.) of *Vilna: A Resistance Story*. The show is a brand new musical about the true, untold story of the heroic Jewish resistance movement in the Vilna Ghetto. It will run at the White Theatre April 22-30 and is a co-production of The White Theatre and The Culture House.

You can [purchase tickets at The White Theater website](#) (recommended for ages 12+). Here is a [teaser video](#) of the opener *Vilna, My Vilna*. Please contact Milisa Flekier with any questions at 913-568-2559.

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## Spring clean and help NCJW fundraise!

We are partnering with Thrift World **May 6-9** to collect your gently used clothing, books, small appliances, etc. The more you drop off, the more money NCJW makes. Thrift World will pay us based on the total weight of all the goods donated. Start saving your items now, and be on the lookout for more details.

## Seeking leaders for new NCJW cohorts

NCJW of KC is trying to get two new cohorts started—one for young professionals and one for mothers of young children—and we are looking for someone to lead each of them. Most cohorts meet once a month for coffee, dinner, or a social event. As the leader, you would

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to be a fun time and an opportunity to get to know other members who are in a similar stage of life and have a shared interest in volunteering and advocacy.

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## Welcome to our new members!

- Pam Auerbach
  - Gloria Elyachar
  - Ellen Merrill
  - Kelly Pfeifer
  - Jessica Shea
  - Beth Sherry
  - Sandy Sostrin
  - Carly Stein
  - Rita Sudhalter
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## Follow us on Instagram

NCJW of KC has a new Instagram account! Check it out at [#ncjwofkc](#). If you enjoy social media and would be willing to lend your expertise and/or post a couple times a week, please reach out to Amy at 913-648-0747 or [ncjwofkc@gmail.com](mailto:ncjwofkc@gmail.com).

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## Highlights from Thelma's Kitchen

We had a great time volunteering at Thelma's Kitchen last month! We helped make box lunches and got to meet the amazing staff and volunteers. Pictured: Susan Kivett, Sharon Mallin, Susan Cohen, Ellen Portnoy, Lynn Murray, Elizabeth Henrick.

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