

## COMMUNITY WAREHOUSE DONATION DAY ~ WE ARE INVITED ! ~



**Where:** The Community Warehouse ~ East end of the Broadway Bridge  
**When:** For Lunch ~ December 14<sup>th</sup> ~ 11am -1pm  
**Why?** Because our Thriftshop is closed and we have been looking for another place to take our -overstock- of household goods.

-AND-

With the downturn in our economy, purchases of new goods have declined causing a notable decline in donations of used goods. The Community Warehouse needs us to clean through our linen closets and kitchen cupboards. Hundreds of households are on their waiting list and the need is only increasing.

The Community Warehouse has invited NCJW to come have lunch, visit their facility, and bring reusable household items for redistribution. The Warehouse provides, at no cost, donated furniture and basic household items to over 3000 households per year in the greater Portland metro area and SW Washington. Many are working poor, elders on fixed incomes, or people leaving a medical facility, and some are survivors of domestic violence, homelessness, mental illness, or substance abuse. Their clients, transitioning into a new life, typically have nothing beyond a place to live, and cannot afford to purchase simple essential items, even at thrift store prices. Several of the Warehouse's clients are the domestic violence shelters we have supported in our Showers For Shelters Project, and recipients of our former Thriftshop voucher program. Please RSVP to Linda at the office and she will provide driving directions.

*Suggested donation items: Towels, shower curtains, bathmats, pillows, blankets, sheets, alarm clock, pots and pans, mixing bowls, cooking utensils, baking sheets and dishes, toasters, coffee makers, can openers, blenders, knives, dish sets for 4, glasses, silverware, mops and brooms, trash cans, and furniture.*

### LILLIAN WEXLER BEQUEST DISBURSED

With love and respect for **Lillian Wexler**, NCJW Portland Section will be donating \$8000 to the Community Transitional School from her bequest. This small NE Portland School began as a YWCA program, and is now housed in their own building on NE Killingsworth St. Over the last 18 years more than 4,000 homeless children from throughout the metro area have been taught there. While some kids are able to attend the school all year, others come and go. The average stay is 12 weeks. Much can be done in those short weeks for these children who live temporarily in cars, garages, and shelters. Current enrollment is 75 and no child is turned away.

Lillian Wexler was herself an educator so the committee felt strongly that she would have been pleased to know that her bequest is going to help these vulnerable children who have such great need. Thank you **Sharon Tarlow, Vivian Bonnin, Lynn Bartenstein, Carol Chestler, Shirley Rackner, and Rose Rustin** for serving on this committee and researching the possible opportunities for this gift.



Dear Members,

Was it just me, or did it seem like October had an awful lot of Jewish Holidays this year? While being family intensive and spiritually uplifting, it was impossible to find a date in October to hold our monthly Board of Directors meeting, so I apologize for this Bulletin getting to you half way through November, but we needed the delay so that we could have some news to report. **Dodie Harrison**, our ever-patient editor, started tapping her foot waiting for our reports weeks ago. (I could hear you Dodie) A thousand thank-you's for your efforts to produce this bulletin on time.

Well, the year is rolling along. We have been working with legal council to draw up agreements between NCJW and Cedar Sinai and the Oregon Jewish Museum for the distribution of our Neighborhood House Funds. **Leah Nepom** has been tenaciously combing through draft after draft, to assure that our best interests are preserved. It is a real pleasure to work on this with her and Jackson Lewis at Tonkon Torp LLP.

The Special Needs Housing Project at Cedar Sinai will be named Kehillah House, and the project design is steadily evolving. Incorporating 3 development phases and with a detailed time-line, the Kehillah House is on track to complete their first fund raising goal by Dec. 31. The application to HUD will be made in February, and groundbreaking is targeted for 2010. **Eve Stern** and **Eve Rosenfeld** are keeping a close eye on their progress and are involved with each planning step.

The Oregon Jewish Museum has just completed the Master Plan for their Core Exhibit. The Museum has assembled a Core Exhibit Advisory Committee who will oversee a 12-month planning period of creating our regional history exhibit, from concept to installation. **Roberta Weinstein** is representing us on that committee. OJM is concurrently searching for a permanent home, and with luck, our exhibit and the NCJW Portland Section Gallery will be ready to go when that location is found. Today's economic climate is a challenge for them, to say the least.

Today's economic climate is a challenge for our section, as well. Our investments in the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation are performing much like everyone else's, meaning - not well. It can't be helped, but I am hopeful that new leadership for our country will soon help. I am also hopeful that our small NCJW section will join me in taking an active role in our community service projects, as our available funds decrease and the numbers of needy people in our community continue to increase. Every volunteer effort is appreciated!

*....Meryl*



# Projects

## THE FOOD BOX PROJECT IN TRANSITION.

At the end of last year, Northwest Portland Ministries adopted, from Friendly House, an Emergency Food Box Program. And NCJW, Portland Section contributed over \$10,000 to help grow it. During this year, the program has run pretty much as it always had. According to NWPM volunteer coordinator, "we learned more about how food banks work and what our community needs. Beginning, Nov. 2008, we are gearing up to make significant improvements and changes." Thus the following... In November 2008, the NWPM Food Box distribution center has moved across the hall to a bigger space. It is located at 1808 NW Irving at First Immanuel Lutheran Church. Until further notice, hours will continue to be Tuesdays & Fridays from 11:00-1:00 PM & 4th Mondays from 5:30-7:00 PM. This location change will allow the

Food Box Program to change over into a "choice based model", where recipients "shop" for what they need instead of being given a pre-packaged food box.

According to research, when food box programs use a "choice" model for food distribution, the food system runs at a much lower cost to the entire community and recipients. It better and more efficiently meets hunger needs and respects recipient individuality, preserves their dignity, and gives them more food choices.

There will be a staffing change as part of this evolution. Kelly Caldwell (the NWPM Volunteer Program Manager) and Preston Holt, (longtime volunteer, Board member, and chair of the NWPM Nutrition Program Steering Committee) will be sharing the job of coordinating the program.

This change will bring an increased need for volunteer help, both during the transition and on a weekly basis. In the short term, NWPM will need people with carpentry &

organizing skills to help get the new space set up & running. More volunteers will be needed (probably 3 per shift) for staffing the food box during open hours, and for stocking the shelves or working at the warehouse when the food box is not open (on Mondays & Thursdays at 11 am. or at another time that is arranged with the coordinators). The program also needs help organizing food drives at local congregations and businesses.

If you are interested in contributing or volunteering please contact Kelly or Preston at 503-221-1224 or via email: Kelly@nwpm.org or Preston@nwpm.org

Thank you to **Sue Schwartz**, her granddaughter, **Lindsey Wachtman** and **Ann Van Hoy** who helped with filling and delivering backpacks filled with kid friendly food to Chapman School. This is an ongoing project for NWPM. Volunteers are needed for this weekly program, as well.

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## ASSORTED JOB DESCRIPTIONS

### Shop the Docks on Monday Morning at the Oregon Food Bank Warehouse

Job Description: Choose one or more Monday mornings (between 9:30-AM-12:30 PM) per month. Select fresh produce at Oregon Food Bank (7900 NE 33rd) and deliver to the NWPM Food Box (1808 NW Irving) for regular Tuesday distribution day. Help put away fresh produce & stock shelves.

### Staff the Food Box During Open Hours: Tues & Fri. 10:30-1:30 (2 x a month)

Job Description: Greet clients and sign them in, assist with filling food requests, stock shelves, maintain neat shelves and racks. Basic clean-up duties.

**Warehouse Volunteer:** (Flexible Scheduling) Job Description: Help sort & pack up donated food. Help get items from the NWPM Warehouse (2145 NW Overton) to our distribution site (1808 NW Irving). Vehicle required.

**Food Box Team Leaders:** NWPM is looking for a few very responsible volunteers who can take the lead for volunteer-run shifts during distribution hours or for stocking work parties. Must be willing to open, close & supervise other volunteers. Training provided.

**Friday Morning Trader Joe's Gleaning:** Job Description: Use your large vehicle to pick up several bags of donated produce and other perishables at about 9 AM (2 Fridays a month) to be distributed that day.

**Bread Pick-up at Franz Bakery** (NE 19th & Everett): On Wednesdays at 8:15 AM a volunteer gets bread for use in the Food For Kids Backpack Program, and delivers it to the NWPM Warehouse at 2145 NW Overton.

To be scheduled in mid-Nov: **Food Box Transition Work Party:** NWPM will be moving Food box operations across the hall once the new shelves are built in the space.

Let NWPM know if you'd like more information and want to help!

Please contact Kelly or Preston at 503-221-1224 or via email: Kelly@nwpm.org or Preston@nwpm.org

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## NCJW National Office's Powerful New Website to Bolster Advocacy Efforts

The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) launched a newly redesigned website, [www.ncjw.org](http://www.ncjw.org), for their National office. This powerful new website will enhance our grassroots members' and the general public's ability to act on behalf of the issues important to all of us. This enhanced resource enables users to learn about issues and take action, share information about our local advocacy efforts, and interact with others who share NCJW's commitment to progressive social change.

The new website is easier to navigate and offers valuable and innovative features. Highlights include:

- Improved advocacy tools and more information about NCJW's public policy issues.
- New resources for NCJW leaders, seasoned community advocates, and individuals looking for a way to put their ideals into action for the first time.
- Interactive features like polls, the ability to comment on articles, and ways to share local success stories – to showcase NCJW member voices and contribute to a dynamic online community

By giving a stronger voice to the values of NCJW members, our new national website boosts our ability to work for social justice and protect fundamental freedoms. The updates to our website are designed to help members and others bridge the gap between concern and action when it comes to issues.

At the heart of the website is the NCJW Action Center, which simplifies signing up for action alerts, participation in letter-writing campaigns, sharing action opportunities with friends, and finding advocacy resources. Members can customize their experience on the site with special tools and a navigation system that streamlines finding information and taking action. Among many new features, the website will encourage involvement by enabling users to click on success stories of advocacy campaigns that worked, as well as to find individual and local activities they can replicate. The site includes a link to the Portland Section site, [www.ncjwportland.org](http://www.ncjwportland.org).

You can sign up to get local action alerts and advocacy news by sending an e-mail to [advocacy@ncjwportland.org](mailto:advocacy@ncjwportland.org).

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## NCJW Portland Section Joins Oregonians for Working Families

The Board of Directors of the NCJW Portland Section voted at the November board meeting to join Oregonians for Working Families, a statewide coalition that advocates for an increase in the Oregon Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). We will be working on getting legislation passed during the 2009 Legislative Session.

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), referred to in Oregon law as the Earned Income Credit (EIC), is a refundable federal income tax credit for low-income working families with children and some individuals. Congress originally created the tax credit in 1975, in part to offset the burden of Social Security taxes and to provide an incentive to work.

When the EITC exceeds the amount of taxes owed, it results in a tax refund to those who claim and qualify for the credit. For example, if you have no tax liability or the credit reduces your tax liability to zero, you would still get a refund of the remainder of the EITC.

The Oregon EITC is calculated as a percentage of the

federal EITC and provides a refundable tax credit that helps low- and moderate-income working families with children improve their chances of getting ahead.

The state EITC helps make the tax system fairer for low-income working families. Currently, the lowest-income fifth of families pay a larger share of their income in state and local taxes than do the richest one percent of families. Increasing the Oregon credit to 18 percent of the federal EITC in 2006 would have increased the average credit from \$85 to \$255. For a family of four living at the poverty line (about \$21,000), last year's credit would have increased from about \$240 to about \$720.

The federal EITC is the most successful anti-poverty program for working families in the nation, lifting 4.4 million people – over half of them children – out of poverty every year.

Watch future bulletins for more information about how you can help pass this important legislation.

# Activities

## PORTLAND SECTION WELCOMES SAMMIE MOSHENBERG NCJW's Chief Lobbyist shares her stories and insights from 25 years working to promote the mission of NCJW in Washington, DC

NCJW's chief lobbyist, **Sammie Moshenberg** and State Senator Suzanne Bonamici stressed the crucial role that grassroots advocates play in the legislative process at the Jewish Federation of Portland's Social Justice Summit in September.



Sammie Moshenberg talks with leaders from Portland's faith communities about NCJW's partnership in the Fighting Poverty with Faith program, which asked candidates for elected office to share what they will do to address issues of poverty in their first 100 days in office.



Portland Section member **Amy Tanne** poses a post-dinner question to Sammie Moshenberg.



Portland Section board member, **Chris Coughlin** reaches out to community members to share NCJW's pioneering mix of community service and advocacy

Thank you to everyone who helped with making the events around Sammie's visit a huge success. It was a pleasure sharing Sammie with our religious community at the Social Justice Summit and the Fighting Poverty with Faith event, and especially with NCJW members at the dinner we all got to enjoy with her. Thanks to the Honorary Committee: **Gillian Casson, Bobbi London, Gayle Marger, Linda Nelson, and Amy Tanne**; the Event Committee: **Gerry Jackson, Jody Klevit, Marki Mazels, Louise Marsh, and Sarah Wetherson**; the Bakers and Contributors: **Meryl Haber, Rosemarie Rosenfeld, Eve Rosenfeld, Tamara DiVergilio, and Louise Marsh**; and Table monitors; **Eve Rosenfeld, Carol Chestler, Louise Marsh and Chris Coughlin**. And thank you **Sarah Wetherson**, our SPA, who made the whole beautiful fall weekend possible.

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# Bulletin Board

## BOOK CLUB

**November 13**, "Map of Love"  
by Soueif

**December 11**, "Blood of Flowers"  
by Amirrezvani

All meetings are held in the members' homes and begin at 9:30 am. Call **Dodie Harrison**, 503-684-6129 for location



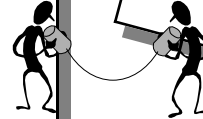
## HAVE YOU MOVED?

Or do you have a new phone number or other changes that the Section should know about? Please call or e-mail the office so that we will be able to continue to stay in touch with you.

503-222-5006

or

office@ncjwportland.org

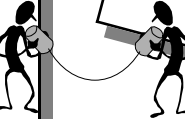


## OFFICE HOURS

New office hours are: **Mondays and Wednesday**

from 10 am to 2 pm.

All other times, please leave a message and Linda will get back to you when she is next in the office.



## DUES REMINDER

Those of you who are not Life Members have received your dues billing recently. This is a "gentle reminder" that we do need to receive these dues at your earliest convenience so that they can be put to work in support of your Portland Section. If you want to stop receiving this annual reminder, you may want to consider becoming a Life Member for only \$350.

Welcome Returning members:

Shirley Nudelman and Margery Senders  
and

Congratulations to  
Cissy Levine on becoming a  
Life Member

## From Our Archives

**Rose Rustin** recently "unearthed" some programs from the 25th Anniversary of Portland Section. This celebration took place on April 6, 1921. The President of the Section (called "Council" in those days) was Mrs. Alexander Bernstein.

This Anniversary Banquet had, as entertainment, *Seven Ages of Faith and Humanity (A Pageant of Jewish Womanhood)* and characters in the pageant were portrayed by **Mrs. Arthur Rosenfeld, Mrs. Mose Baruh, Mrs. Arthur Eppstein, Miss Lilly Eppstein, Miss Edith Mozorosky, Mrs. Jonah B. Wise, Master Norman Mendelsohn, Miss Celene Lauterstein, Mrs. Fred Rothchild, Mrs. Laurence Selling, Mrs. Mason Ehrman, Miss Martha Levitt, Mr. Alvin Binswanger and Mrs. Roy Marx.** No doubt some of these folks may be relatives of our current members.

There were "Council-Grams" listed that must have been put there for fun...especially this one from Detroit Michigan: "Sorry I can't accept invitation to Silver Anniversary. Attending to business too religiously. Press of same has made traveling impossible. Expect all that is coming to me soon.....signed, Henry Ford

How about this one from Washington D.C.: *Attention Nominating Committee: Understand you are having difficulties. I have thousands of female patriots eager to fill office. May I supply you? Signed Warren G. Harding*

The flowery way of writing back then is evident by the Whittier verse on the back cover:

*Our lives are albums written thru,  
With good or ill, or false or true,  
And as the blessed angels turn  
The pages of our years,  
God grant they read the good with smiles  
And blot the ill with tears.*

My, my how times have changed!!

# Tributes

## MINNIE F. EHRMAN FUND

*For Medical-Dental care*

**BIRTHDAYS:** Gerry Jackson, Naomi Strauss, Eloise Spiegel, Gloria Bacharach, Carol Chestler, Jackie Barthold, Bev Contorer, Gillian Casson

## JEAN RUSTIN FUND

*For Children and Youth*

**BIRTHDAYS:** Sue Overbeck, Rosemarie Rosenfeld, Marjorie Saltzman, Linda Nelson

## MARION QUINT ROSE FUND

*For Widow/Widower Support Services*

**BIRTHDAYS:** Edythe Steinbock, Inga Hamburger

## GENERAL FUND

**BIRTHDAYS:** Bernice Feibleman

**GET WELL:** Joyce Singer from Eve and Alan Rosenfeld

**IN HONOR OF:** Sharon Tarlow's Special Birthday from Nicole Gullish

The Children's Community Clinic will be this year's recipient of our **Minnie F. Erhman Tribute fund** and our **Jean Rustin Tribute Fund**. Tribute donations from the 2007-08 club year to these funds came to \$1867. The Children's Community Clinic provides pediatric health care regardless of ability to pay, their focus is on wellness for children of undeserved families. If you have an interest in joining a work party in the spring to spruce up their waiting/reception room, please call Linda in the office. Some painting and stenciling may be involved. Thanks to **Susie Ail** for researching agencies for the Tribute Funds.

### Tribute Funds

**Simchas as well as Yahrtzeits are a time to donate in honor of your loved ones to one of our Tribute Funds or to one of our great programs such as the Showers for Shelters or the Food Box Project.**

**Your donations to our Section enable us to continue with our much needed programs of Community Service and Advocacy.**

Your gift to one of our special Tribute Funds ensures the continuation of Portland Section's vital programs. Please mail your contribution to:

NCJW, Portland Section  
P.O. Box 69333  
Portland, OR 97239

**(\$18.00 minimum, please)**

Here is my contribution for the:

- Dorothy Asher Memorial Fund
- Minnie F. Ehrman Fund
- Jean Rustin Fund
- Marion Quint Rose Fund

**For:**

Birthday: Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

General Contribution

Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Donor's Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

National Council of Jewish Women  
Portland Section  
P.O. Box 69333  
Portland, OR 97239

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NCJW<sup>SM</sup>

National Council of Jewish Women



Have a Wonderful  
Thanksgiving



And a Happy  
Chanukah



MISSION STATEMENT

NCJW is a volunteer organization, inspired by Jewish values, that works to improve the quality of life for women, children, and families and to ensure individual rights and freedoms for all through its network of 90,000 members, supporters, and volunteers nationwide.

Calendar

November

- 13 Book Club, "Map of Love"
- 24 Executive Board Meeting
- 27 THANKSGIVING

December

- 2 Board of Directors, 7pm Havurah Shalom
- 11 Book Club, "Blood of Flowers"
- 14 Community Warehouse Donation Lunch
- 21 CHANUKAH begins at sundown
- 29 Executive Board Meeting

January

- 6 Board of Directors 7 pm Havurah Shalom
- 28 Executive Board Meeting
- 31 Community Havdalah 6:30 pm, Rose Schnitzer

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