



A PUBLICATION OF THE NCJW GREATER LONG BEACH AND WEST ORANGE COUNTY SECTION

In Rememberance of Our Past President, Barbara F. Shipnuck by Linda C. Fox, Immediate Past President

With great sadness NCJW Greater Long Beach and West Orange County is once again grieving the sudden and unexpected loss of its president. In April 2018, we mourned the passing of Linda N. Calderón, establishing the Linda Calderón Memorial Scholarship Fund. In January 2022, much to

our shock and sorrow, we lost Barbara F. Shipnuck. For the members who may not have crossed paths with Barbara in person – especially so because of COVID and our need to be virtual – we are including the beautiful obituary written by her son Alan that highlights Barbara's amazing life.

From an organizational perspective, Barbara led our NCJW Board with the power of knowledge. She motivated us with the best tutelage and helped us move ahead in particularly challenging times. Prior to assuming the role of our president, Barbara was our Co-VP of Advocacy for two years and made significant contributions to enhancing



that vital area of our work. NCJW, Inc. recognized her leadership ability with an invitation to serve on their Section Advisory Council, through which Barbara was able to forge important connections with other sections.

With unending motivation as a leader and human being, Barbara was an inspiration. From milestones and targets, we moved forward successfully amid the need to pivot because of the pandemic; Barbara's term began just months after the first lockdown because of COVID. She stood with us, and her expertise and skills gave us wings. Our Section will honor her legacy in many ways but especially via the newly established Barbara Shipnuck Memorial Fund that will support our advocacy and community service work. We cherish her memory which will surely be a blessing for all of us.



In Rememberance of Our Past President, Barbara F. Shipnuck continued...

The recent, unexpected and untimely passing of Barbara Shipnuck has come as a shock to all of us. Barbara was a strong forward thinking leader who will be greatly missed. As president, she worked hard to increase NCJW's visibility and participation in the Greater Long Beach West Orange County Jewish community. She was interested in bringing the Section up to date and was not afraid of change. The one expression she disliked was "we do it this way because we always have." Barbara did not shy away from new ideas.

Barbara and I became active in NCJW at the same time. We were recently retired and were looking to become involved in an organization that mirrored many of our beliefs. This organization presented us with the opportunity to work with other like minded women to try to make a difference locally, on the state level and nationally. I hope we will continue with her vision. Barbara was my best friend and I will miss her. I can't believe she is gone.

-Sharon Brannon

I remember meeting Barbara for the first time at an Advocacy Committee meeting at Sherri Sobel's home. Those were the early days of the committee, and the discussion was lively and informative. As I started working on projects with Barbara, we discovered that we were both alumnae of Brandeis University, albeit a number of years apart. We bonded quickly over that and over our love of travel, ballet, art, and more.



She was strong in her opinions and just as strong in her caring for her family and friends. Call her if you needed help with something, and she'd be there for you in a fast minute. I was amazed at all she'd accomplished professionally, and yet she never bragged about it. But she was always ready to offer advice and encouragement to



you, grounded in all her years of experience. The pandemic meant we barely saw each other in person these last two years, and that has been really hard. We spoke often and saw each other frequently on Zoom, but virtual hugs just aren't the same as real ones. I miss my friend and NCJW leader every day, and I still can't quite believe that she's gone.

-Cynthia Gordon

Barbara and I met when she attended an advocacy meeting at my home. At the time we were just starting a new advocacy group, and were a bit in disarray. We hit it off immediately, and I knew she would be an assset to the Section, and to my life. And she was. Through the advocacy committee, then as head of advocacy, then as President , she was exactly the star I glimpsed. I love to be right!

We walked together a lot, and were great sounding boards for each other. At dinners, she and my husband talked wine and travel. A welcome respite, which included ballet and theater.

I have no doubt she was being groomed for a National position, and that she raised our entire reputation with other Sections as our representative to an "invitation only" committee. I called her "Ship", in command, in control, and straight ahead. Her consigliere misses her every day.

-Sherri Sobel

OBITUARY FOR BARBARA SHIPNUCK

By her son Alan Shipnuck

A quintessential American life came to an end on January 6th when Barbara Shipnuck died in Long Beach, California, at age 79. This little girl from Brooklyn became a history-making politician, but Barbara will be remembered by those who knew her as a spirited friend, adventuresome travel companion, loving Mom and doting Bubbie to her four grandkids.

Barbara grew up when Brooklyn was the ultimate melting pot. Her parents were second-generation immigrants from Eastern Europe and often engaged Barbara in discussions about politics and her civic duty. Sadly her father died of cancer when Barbara was 15 and her sister Diana was 10.

Barbara was a star high school student and debate champion. She earned a scholarship to Brandeis University and took a history degree, with honors, and then received a Masters from Harvard University. In 1964, Barbara began teaching history at Columbia Preparatory School in New York City.

She spent the summer of '66 exploring San Francisco. Her tour guide was David Shipnuck, who had been raised by left-leaning intellectuals and was part of the nascent Berkeley Free Speech Movement. At summer's end, Dave left to tramp across Europe for 15 months. He and Barbara kept in touch. In the summer of '67, she hopped on a plane to rendezvous with Dave in Paris, the most capricious act of her life. Two months later, when in Rome, they were engaged to be married.

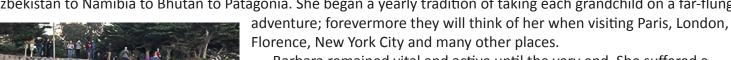
In 1968, Dave took a job teaching economics at Hartnell College and the newlyweds settled in Salinas, Cal where Barbara began teaching social studies. After daughter Louisa and son Alan were born, she became active in local politics, taking a leadership position with the League of Women Voters while pursing postgraduate studies at the Monterey College of Law. In 1978, at the age of 36, Barbara decided to run for Monterey County supervisor

against an entrenched incumbent who had a war-chest funded by real estate and big business interests. Her campaign was run out of the family home and fueled by idealism and passion; Barbara once bragged she went through five pairs of shoes knocking on doors. She won the election in what the Salinas Californian called the "political upset of the year," becoming the first woman elected to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors. She would be reelected three times, devoting 16 years to core issues of health care, childhood education and elder care. She moved easily among her sparkly constituents in Pebble Beach and Carmel but was most fulfilled advocating for working-class families in Salinas. Barbara developed a national profile as the president of the California State Association of Counties and a member of the board of directors of the National Association of Counties.

In 1996, she became Maryland's Deputy Secretary for Health Care Policy, allowing her to be closer to her kids, who were then living on the East Coast. (As all of her friends know, Barbara loved to visit—and talk about—her kids.) Barbara later served as director of public affairs for Kaiser Permanente.



In retirement, Barbara indulged her wanderlust and intellectual curiosity by traveling far and wide, from Iran to Uzbekistan to Namibia to Bhutan to Patagonia. She began a yearly tradition of taking each grandchild on a far-flung



Barbara remained vital and active until the very end. She suffered a stroke on New Year's Eve. At the end, Barbara seemed unusually peaceful and reflective, enjoying many warm and loving conversations with family and friends. On January 6th, Barbara's heart stopped beating.

Barbara is survived by two children and four grandchildren. A private Memorial was held for family and close friends. Donations in her honor may be made to the "Barbara Shipnuck Memorial Fund" at https://ncjwlongbeach.org/tributes.





NCJW sends loving get well wishes to: Barbara Shoag who is now recovering quite well from a medical emergency. Barbara Wolfe; she would welcome any cards.

NCJW sends deepest condolences to the families of:

Barbara Shipnuck our residing president, who died in January 2022, after serving part of her term as president of our section of NCJW.

She had a successful professional life and brought her expertise to our section, helping us grow and prosper. **Dr. Seymour Alban**, who died January 8, husband of Life member Reva Alban and brother-in-law of Life member Dr. Geraldine Landes. Beloved by all in the Jewish community, he served in many leadership capacities, and his generosity was spread throughout the community.

Heidi Blaine, sister of Carrie Tinker, died on January 11. Heidi was president-elect of the Tampa, Fla. Ameet Chapter of Hadassah.



Evelyn Friedman, who died last month, was the mother-in-law of a recently new member, Lauren Friedman.

Mazal tov to Harriette Ellis, who became a great aunt to baby boy Joseph Meyer Gindi in Oakland on Monday, December 23, and in January 2022 she became a great grand aunt to baby boy Shashe Simcha Cantor in Oxnard, CA, born to David Cantor and Dr. Anandhi Narasimhan.

If you know of any of our members who are ill, or have passed away, or know of awards, honors, or special celebrations, please contact info@ncjwlongbeach.org or call (657) 235-2511. NCJW wants to know!

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES By Andrea Friedenthal, VP Community Service

MAKE A DIFFERENCE! Busy but still want to be involved? Want to learn about who's doing what to

help in the community on the front lines?
Join the newly forming Community Service
committee! You don't need to 'lead a
project' or 'be in charge', just come and
throw your ideas in the pot and learn as
we support those organizations on the
front lines. Homelessness your thing? Food
scarcity? Child welfare? Economic injustice?
Domestic Violence? Racial equality?

We help them all! Most meetings will be quick Zoom meetings, and then some hands-on the day of the project you chose. We have lots (but always need!) 'worker bees', so pick your

level of involvement. In addition to our NCJW-initiated projects, we partner with many non-profits in LB and

OC, so come and learn about these organizations first hand! First zoom meeting is the 2nd week of March. Please contact Andrea Friedenthal by leaving message at (657) 235-2511 or emailing communityservice@ncjwlongbeach.org for date and time. Join the excitement!

NCJW WELCOMES IN-PERSON PROJECTS SUPPORTING CHILDREN

By Linda C. Fox. HugPacks Co-Chair and Member.

Plans are for two of our long-time projects to proceed in-person this month, if all goes well: support for young children getting ready for Kindergarten in the Long

Beach Unified School District and later in the month, students initially entering into the LA County foster care system.

While the first Kindergarten Festival in January was canceled and the second was held virtually in February, the third and last Festival for spring 2022 is slated to be in-person on Saturday, March 5, at Burcham Elementary

School, from 8:30 am to noon. If COVID does not change our plans, NCJW will need 10 volunteers between the hours of 8:30 and 11 am in an outdoor space to staff the sign in and information tables as well as provide any additional support needed. Please volunteer to help these little ones and their families get ready for next fall!

> Postponed in January due to the omicron variant surge, our HugPacks project will pack for elementary students taken into foster care on Thursday, March 10, from 6 - 7:30 pm at the Alpert Jewish Community Center Auditorium. Individually wrapped snacks and good will are certain to abound!

> > ADVOCAC

For both events, you must be vaccinated and wear a mask. Contact Linda C. Fox at communityservice@ncjwlongbeach.org or leave a message at (657) 235-2511 to say you'll volunteer. RSVPS are a must, since circumstances have been known to change!



Advocacy for our Section means more than creating educational programs or lobbying our public officials. We also submit letters in support of or opposition to policy and sign on to petitions. Here's what we've done in the last year or so:

- Supported an amendment to the DMV voter registration process which would remove impediments to equitable voter registration (signed by the Governor)
- Asked Governor Newsom to sign Assembly Bill 367, The Menstrual Equity for All Act of 2021, which would increase access to menstrual products in public schools (signed by the Governor)
- Supported President Biden's work to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights
- Joined Jewish congregations and organizations speaking out against use of Title 42 and Migrant Protection Protocols by writing to Dr. Walensky (director of CDC) and Secretary Mayorkas (head of DHS)
- Signed a letter to Pres. Biden in support of passage of Build Back Better's Investments in child care and pre-k
- Ordinances permanent, sent to mayor & councilmembers (approved by the City Council).

Submitted a letter of support urging the Long Beach City Council to make Long Beach Recall/Retention

If you are aware of an issue that you'd like to see the Section support or oppose, contact the Advocacy Committee at advocacy@ncjwlongbeach.org.

Kalela Lancaster is NCJW's new "woman on the ground" in Israel as the new NCJW Israel Director. She is responsible for overseeing our flagship leadership fellowship, Connecting for Impact, managing the Israel Granting Program and relationships with our grantees, and forging new and meaningful opportunities for NCJW leaders and activists to connect and engage with our Israel work

Three amazing NCJW Israel Granting Program grantees for 2022 have been announced and we are invited to make a direct contribution to their work if we choose. Our Section has included money in our budget toward the National program for the past several years.

NCJW's Israel Granting Program seeks to improve the lives of women, children and families throughout Israel. The organizations and projects we fund advance women's empowerment, gender equality, and strengthen Israeli shared society and democracy.

The 2022 grantees and their winning projects are:

- 1. Al-Bagour training Bedouin women of the Negev in early childhood education
- 2. Physicians for Human Rights provision of sexual health and reproductive care to status-less women (primarily asylum seekers) in the Tel Aviv area,
- 3. Isha L'isha training underrepresented women, 50% with disabilities, to run for municipal office in Haifa

Each of the three grantees will receive a base grant from NCJW of \$20,000. National would like to encourage Sections to deepen their engagement with these groups and make additional contributions directly to their programs. That may be something we might consider for the future.

For more information about how NCJW's Israel Grants Program, please see the IGP Boost Information Pack on the National NCJW website.

By Bobbi Horowitz and Tila Carrol, Co-VPs Resource Development



Our beautiful one-of-a-kind "Breaking the Glass Ceiling" pieces of fusion glass art jewelry are still available! Pins and pendants are \$36 (with silver) and \$50 (with gold). Purchases can be made via our NCJW website.

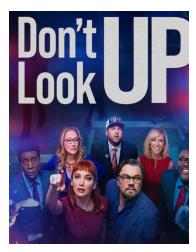
WELCOME CIRCLE By Deb Lelchuk, Co-VP Advocacy

NCJW of Greater Long Beach and West Orange County has applied to HIAS to create a WELCOME CIRCLE to help resettle an Afgan refugee family in our area. We are still waiting for an assignment, but would welcome volunteers who



are interested in assisting when a family is assigned. For more information, please contact Deb Lelchuk or Cynthia Gordon at advocacy@ncjwlongbeach.org.

4th THURSDAY MOVIE NIGHT By Lisa Raufman, Co-VP Programs



DON'T LOOK UP March 24, 2022 at 7pm on Zoom

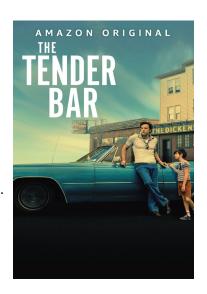
Kate Dibiasky (Jennifer Lawrence), an astronomy grad student, and her professor Dr. Randall Mindy (Leonardo DiCaprio) make an astounding discovery of a comet orbiting within the solar system. The problem - it's on a direct collision course with Earth. The other problem? No one really seems to care. With only six months until the comet makes impact, managing the 24-hour news cycle and gaining the attention of the social media obsessed public before it's too late proves shockingly comical - what will it take to get the world to just look up? Join us to find out!

THE TENDER BAR

April 28, 2022 at 7pm on **Zoom**

J.R. Moehringer grew up captivated by a voice. It was the voice of his father, a New York City disc jockey who vanished before J.R. spoke his first word. Sitting on the stoop, pressing an ear to the radio, J.R. would strain to hear in that plummy baritone the secrets of masculinity and identity. Though J.R.'s mother was his world, his rock, he craved something more, something faintly and hauntingly audible only in The Voice.

At eight years old, suddenly unable to find The Voice on the radio, J.R. turned in desperation to the bar on the corner, where he found a rousing chorus of new voices. The alphas along the bar—including J.R.'s Uncle Charlie, a Humphrey Bogart lookalike; Colt, a Yogi Bear sound-alike; and Joey D, a softhearted brawler—took J.R. to the beach, to ballgames, and ultimately into their circle. They taught J.R., tended him, and provided a kind of fathering-by-committee. Time and again the bar offered shelter from failure, rejection, heartbreak—and eventually from reality.









The premier NCJW experience! The details will be announced soon for requests to attend as a delegate from our Section and qualify for subsidy. You may also contact info@ncjwlongbeach.org for more details.

WHAT YOU MISSED: ECONOMIC JUSTICE WORKSHOP By Lisa Raufman, Co-VP Program; Chair, Advocacy - Economic Justice Committee

On February 17, we co-sponsored with AAUW a hybrid workshop with four speakers who discussed how we can address the needs of working mothers. Two primary issues became apparent: Childcare and the need for a Long Beach Commission on the Status of Women. The pandemic has made visible the need for childcare and also shown that there has not been much public or private funding to make childcare programs available to all who need them.

California funds public childcare programs with tobacco taxes. The agency that was formed to plan and distribute the funds in our area is First 5 L.A. and First 5 Orange County. Our speaker, Tiffany Alva from First 5 Orange County provided us with specifics from the study, 27th Annual Report on the Conditions of Children in Orange County.

The study showed that as a result of fewer people smoking, there has been a reduction in public funds available which highlights the fact that only 5% of children in Orange County have access to childcare. This is especially an issue when 60% of working families need child care in order to keep good jobs. But even worse, very little focus has gone to funding programs serving the night worker. Covid brought to our attention all the "Essential Workers" who work at night.

Possible Advocacy Actions

- 1. A request: talk about child care needs with your employers and share information from First 5's landscape scan with your community.
- 2. An action: Advocate to local, state and federal government to address systemic issues (e.g. reimbursement rate increases for child care providers, additional funding for child care slots to help working families) AAUW and our NCJW Economic Development Committee will work on creating some sample Advocacy Letters and send them to our members via our Advocacy Weekly E-blasts.



In addition to the study, Councilwoman Suzie Price provided us with a timeline for the establishment of a Long Beach Commission on the Status of Women and Girls that included the following by June 2022:

- Partner with community to conduct outreach and engagement
- Plan and prepare for community outreach activities and survey
- Inform community members about the opportunity to become a Commissioner

Possible Advocacy Actions:

- 1. In our Weekly Advocacy Eblasts we will inform our members when the community meetings for input to the creation of the Commission will occur. We will share any surveys with our interested members.
- 2. We will announce when the application for Commissioners becomes available.

The power point presentations from Suzie Price on Long Beach, Herlinda Chico on LBCC resources, Tiffany Alva on First 5 OC and my introduction that includes our planning committee and community resources (websites) will be available on Webinar Archives on the NCJW Website along with a AAUW recording of the event.



We want to welcome the following new members who have joined since the last PILLARS. When we have an opportunity to get together in person, be sure to greet them: **Sandra Friedman and Ellen HopeKearns.**



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TRIBUTES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

by Barbara Millman, Tributes and Corresponding Secretary

We offer a special thank you to the following donors who have made contributions to the programs of NCJW.

To Sharon Brannon: In memory of her aunt From Michelle Sztraicher ISTF

To Deb Lelchuk:
In memory of her mother-in-law
From Michelle Sztraicher GF

From Marilyn Day: In memory of Irvin Raatz GF



Here are the donations received to date for the Barbara Shipnuck Memorial Fund:

Sharon Brannon Mitchell Lawrence
Jessie Butler Susan Lee
Tila Carroll Judith Leff
Renee Cone Joanne Levy
Manda Dagata Deb Lelchuk

Thomas Dunn HOA where Barbara lived

Faith Feuerman Barbara Millman
Mark and Leslie Foladare Maria Osorio

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Audrey Zahler

To make a donation as a Tribute, call or email info@ncjwlongbeach.org or go online to ncjwlongbeach.org/tributes. You can remember or congratulate friends with a Tribute card and support NCJW projects.