

# Save the Date - PrideFest is BACK!



When: Sunday, June 26 | 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM CT Where: 10th and Market, Downton St. Louis (exact start location TBD)

After a two year hiatus due to the pandemic, NCJWSTL is once again proud to help spearhead the Jewish Community contingent in the annual St. Louis Pride Parade!

This year, the Arch will once again provide the backdrop for the parade on Market Street, and the parade will run along the face of the festival.

Jewish Community Pride T-shirts will be available for purchase soon. Please join us for this fantastic opportunity to show our Jewish Community support for the LGBTQ+ community. Nobody who goes to the Pride Parade has a bad time - it's one of the most fun events of the year!

More details will be released soon. If you are interested in marching in the Pride Parade with us, please contact Jen Bernstein at **jbernstein@ncjwstl.org**.

## **Urge Governor Parson to Veto HB 1878 and Protect Elections** in Missouri

Although we were pleased that the Senate infighting during the recent legislative session preventing several damaging bills from passing, one did sneak through - **HB 1878**.

Among other things, HB 1878 would implement strict photo ID requirements to vote, eliminating forms of ID Missourians rely upon to identify themselves at the polls, limitations that the Missouri Supreme Court has previously found violate Missourians' right to vote. It also includes two weeks of no-



excuse absentee voting, which is eliminated if the photo ID provision is struck down.

The ability of all Missourians across the political spectrum to cast a ballot lies at the heart of a functioning democracy. We should be working to reduce barriers to participation, not make voting harder.

Please <u>click here</u> to tell Governor Parson to veto HB 1878.

## **Volunteer for the St. Francis Xavier College Church Photo ID Program**



**When:** Tuesdays from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM (*multiple shifts available*)

Where: St. Francis Xavier College Church SFX Ballroom | 3628 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108 Click here to sign up to volunteer

NCJWSTL has been working in coalition with St. Francis Xavier College Church for several years as an advocacy partner fighting repressive voter ID laws in Missouri. While we focus on the legislative work, they provide assistance

with Missouri State ID cards and birth certificates from any state to people with low incomes and limited resources.

There are gaps in social services as well as systemic disparities in the St. Louis area. St. Francis partners with our outreach programs to fill these gaps and moderate the effects of systemic disparities. Many individuals experiencing homelessness and being released from prison must first overcome the obstacle of not having a state ID or Birth Certificate in order to take steps to be independent and selfsufficient.

If you are looking for a rewarding volunteer opportunity that will truly make a difference, this just might be the one for you.

*Please <u>click here</u> to sign up to volunteer. <u>Click here</u> to watch their training video. For more information about the program, please <u>click here</u>.* 

# **Rock the Vote: Voter Registration, Election Info & More With Denise Lieberman**



#### When: Thursday, June 8 | 10:00 AM CT Where: Zoom Register Here

Your vote impacts issues directly affecting your well-being such as reproductive justice and housing. Now is the time to prepare to vote in the August 2nd primary elections. This election will determine the candidates appearing in the November general elections for seats in the U.S. House, Senate, and the state legislature. Changes will be coming, so join this discussion about the election process - voter registration, critical deadlines, ID requirements, accommodations for disabilities, in-person voting, and absentee voting.

Speaker Denise Lieberman is a nationally-recognized voter rights lawyer, the director and general counsel for Missouri Voter Protection Coalition (MOVPC), the Washington University faculty director of the Voter Access and Engagement Initiative, and an adjunct professor of law and political science. Get ready to rock the vote in 2022 and make your voice heard!

*Please <u>click here</u> to register. This program is co-sponsored by the National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis, Jewish Community Relations Council of St. Louis, Women's Voices Raised for Social Justice, and the Mirowitz Center.* 

## June Lunch & Learn: LGBTQ+ Inclusion Matters



When: Thursday, June 16 | 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM CT Where: Zoom RSVP Here

June is LGBTQ+ Pride Month, in commemoration of the Stonewall Uprising. It may feel to many like equality and inclusion for the LGBTQ+ community is a non-issue in this day and age, but if this year's Missouri legislative session taught us anything, this is not the case. The conservative caucus made it their mission to target trans youth in Missouri, and only due to the hard work of our coalition partners like Missouri's LGBTQ+ advocacy group PROMO (and the Senate infighting) did these bills go nowhere.

In honor of Pride Month, we are excited to welcome PROMO's Executive Director, Katy Erker-Lynch, who will guide us on how to help build a truly inclusive community. Like so many young, queer Missourians, Katy left the state at 18 and headed west for school, in search of a vibrant queer community. Returning to Missouri as an adult, Katy envisions a Missouri where all community members are valued, have the tools to thrive, and are given a seat and voice at the tables where decisions are made – a Missouri with thriving, vibrant queer communities.

#### We will also have an opportunity to hear from representatives from Metro Trans Umbrella Group and the local peer support hotline for LGBTQ+ youth, SQSH.

*Please <u>click here</u> to register for the June Lunch and Learn. Questions? Email Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org* or call (314) 993.5181

# **Take Action & Join the A-List**

Now more than ever you will want to make sure that your name is on NCJWSTL's A-List for 2022! Join us as we stand together and speak out about the issues that matter most.

Together we can make a difference!



A-List sponsorship ads sustain our collaborative efforts to educate the community and elected officials about issues integral to our mission. The full-page ads will run in the St. Louis Jewish Light during 2022.

**\$18** includes your name in the ad.

**\$54** makes you an Advocate Plus with your name in bold.**\$72** makes you a sponsor with your name distinguished in color

<u>Click here</u> to see the A-List flyer. <u>Click here</u> to see the latest A-List Ad. Join the A-list <u>here</u>.

# **Interesting Reading**



For nearly 50 years, Roe v. Wade has guaranteed that abortion is legal throughout the U.S., but individual state policies have determined whether abortion care is in fact accessible or difficult, affordable or expensive, stigmatized or not. Looking ahead, individual state laws will be paramount to securing abortion rights and ensuring abortion access in the U.S.

<u>Click here</u> to read Elizabeth Smith's article from Ms. Magazine entitled "How States Can and Should Protect Abortion Rights and Access."

