

• **TOMORROW, JANUARY 25** Join us at **RSNS at 7pm** for a **discussion of the book Becoming Nicole - The Transformation of an American Family**. Our congregant, Michele Lipson, Director at Plainedge Public Library, will lead us in a discussion of this book about one family's acceptance of a transgender child.

• **SUNDAY, JANUARY 28** Get to know **Bend the Arc, Nassau County House Party!** **When: 2 pm** **Where:** An RSNS member's home — address provided upon RSVP. [RSVP here](#)

• **SUNDAY, JANUARY 28** When children enter foster care they are usually given two trash bags. The **Sweet Case program** provides duffel bags and basic necessities to help this problem. Each Sweet Case includes a duffel bag, teddy bear, blanket, coloring book, crayons, and a hygiene kit. **Please join RSNS and Muslims for Progress in this joint program to package the items during this Sweet Case Packing Party. Bring the kids!** All are welcome to help assemble sweet cases, especially kids since we will be decorating them to provide an individualized look to each case. **3-5PM, Jamaica Muslim Center (85-37 168th St, Jamaica, New York)**. Please RSVP at the Facebook page link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/912327665600480/>

• **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7** **Beyond the Headlines: An Introduction to the Global Refugee Crisis through a Jewish Lens, 7:30pm, TBI in Port Washington.** Because of our history and our values, the Jewish people have a unique connection to these most vulnerable people, made all the more critical by the recent Executive Orders. In this **interactive workshop, led by an expert from HIAS, and co-sponsored by RSNS, TBI Port Jewish and Community Synagogue**, we'll ground ourselves in a shared understanding of this crisis, explore the Jewish values that command us to welcome the stranger, and **learn how to take action** in support of refugees worldwide.

• **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7** **Songs of Protest: Reframing the Conversation About Race in America, 7 PM at the Landmark on Main Street, Port Washington.** How do we talk about race in America? How do the protest songs of our times reflect the evolution of this conversation? Our own Solomon Hoffman, along with Olivia Harris, Brinae Ali, & friends perform the music of Nina Simone, Sam Cooke and Stevie Wonder alongside songs by contemporary black songwriters. Join the conversation. A panel of musicians, educators and activists will engage with the audience to explore the historical background of these songs and their implications for today and the future. Panelists include moderator Shanequa Levin, musician and educator Napoleon Revels-Bey and Elaine Gross, President of ERASE Racism.

• **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15** RSNS is a partner, through the Port clergy association, of a community-wide effort called **Laundry Love**. Each month, volunteers from each church and synagogue assist low-income residents in a **free night of laundry at PW Super Laundromat (4 Manorhaven Boulevard), from 5:30 to 8:30pm**. If you'd like to volunteer at the next session, please email the coordinator, Maureen Peraza ([MPeraza@optonline.net](mailto:MPeraza@optonline.net)) and **indicate whether you would prefer to work from 5:30 – 7:00 (arriving by 5:15 please) or from 7:00 – to 8:30 (arriving by 6:55 please)**.

• **TEENS: LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER: FRIDAY-SUNDAY, MARCH 2-4**

Keshet Teen LGBTQ/Ally Shabbaton Registration is now open! [The LGBTQ and Ally Teen Shabbaton](#) is a peer-led weekend of learning, Jewish ritual, and community building and is open to LGBTQ and ally Jewish teens in grades 8-12. Event is in Waynesboro, PA. Spaces fill quickly. Register here. Questions? Contact Justin Rosen Smolen ([justin@keshetonline.org](mailto:justin@keshetonline.org)) for more information.

• **TUESDAY, MARCH 13 Planned Parenthood Day of Action in Albany:** Lobby with us on our Annual Day of Action in Albany. Planned Parenthood supporters from all over NY State will meet with elected officials to tell them why they need to stand with Planned Parenthood. Transportation, food and training provided. Register [here](#). If there's interest in an RSNS contingent traveling together, please email Robin Sigman ([rsigman1@verizon.net](mailto:rsigman1@verizon.net))

• **SATURDAY, MARCH 17 Plant A Row for the Hungry** is co-sponsoring with the Port Washington Library a renewal of the very successful program we offered last March. Please see attached below our flyer which details the content of our program at the **PW Library at 2:00PM**. We will discuss the art of Square Foot Vegetable Gardening as well as how to create compost right from your homes!

• **DON'T EAT THOSE TIDE PODS - DONATE THEM!** A TANS (Tikkun Alliance of the North Shore) project: **Pack It Up for Hatzilu: Please drop off 32 oz. of DETERGENT - liquid or pods in the RSNS lobby all month long this February.** The Hatzilu Rescue Organization is a non-profit offering support & sending volunteers with food and supplies to the homes of needy Jewish clients in Nassau County. For more information, please contact Susan Miller, our RSNS TANS liaison: 516-581-1847, [SJMesq1954@aol.com](mailto:SJMesq1954@aol.com)

• **TOILETRY DRIVE FOR THE INN:** The Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom is collecting travel-sized toiletries to assemble into toiletry kits for the INN. If you have toiletries to donate, please leave them in the collection box in our lobby.

• **BIRTHDAY IN A BOX!** Jessica Clateman is once again organizing "Birthday in a Box" for the residents of the Terrace. The Terrace is a home for autistic children and young adults which is located in a house behind the RSNS parking lot. The idea behind this initiative is for a volunteer to create a mini birthday party for a resident, that can fit inside a decorated box! The box should be dropped off at the Terrace at a mutually agreed upon date and time. **If you'd like to be added to the sign-up email list to pick a date, please email Jessica ([jessprince66@gmail.com](mailto:jessprince66@gmail.com))**

• **TELL CONGRESS TO LET THEM IN!** The courts have repeatedly blocked the Muslim and refugee bans, but the current Administration continues to do everything it can to stop (heavily-vetted) refugees from finding safety in this country. As the Administration tries to implement harsh policies that slam the door on refugees, immigrants and asylum seekers, we must continue to show our support and do what we can to protect and welcome them. **Congress has the authority to maintain the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program** at a level proportionate to the global crisis and in line with our capacity, history and values. Please [take action today](#) and tell your representatives to **protect the refugee resettlement program.**

• **STOP THE HORRIFIC PERSECUTION OF THE ROHINGYA** Since the intensification of the ethnic cleansing in August, the American Jewish World Service has been providing humanitarian assistance for the Rohingya who are fleeing violent persecution. The Senate [introduced a bill](#) to provide humanitarian aid and re-establish sanctions against the Burmese military. We now need all Senators to come out in support of human rights and humanitarian assistance for the Rohingya people. You can [use this link](#) to **urge your Senators to support the Burma Human Rights and Freedom Act of 2017**. And if you have a moment, calling your Senator's office can be even more impactful. The passage of this bill will only strengthen AJWS's efforts to combat the suffering of the Rohingya.

• **PUERTO RICO STILL NEEDS OUR HELP!** An easy, effective way to help those devastated by Hurricane Maria is to donate via the [Greater Miami Jewish Federation Disaster Relief Portal](#). You can also donate to El Puente a widely-regarded state-side organization with strong ties to the local population, who are providing desperately-needed electricity via emergency solar power. Also, [use this link](#) to call on your members of Congress to **pass a comprehensive emergency relief package NOW!**