

'A bigger slice' for UJF Women?

Susan Weikers, member of the Million Dollar Roundtable in the insurance industry and former board member of the First Women's Bank of Baltimore, will speak about "A Bigger Slice of the Pie" at a community-wide meeting of professional and volunteer women in Jewish communal life on Wednesday, April 22, 5:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. at Rodef Shalom Congregation, Fifth and Morewood Avenues. She will explore the position of women in the Jewish community.



SUSAN WEIKERS

Position changing.

The meeting is under the auspices of The Pittsburgh Jewish Women's Forum, a coalition designed for professionals and volunteers to examine concerns of women involved in Jewish community service. The primary goals are to exchange views, to share interests and to provide a network among committed Jewish women.

Members of the Forum, now in formation, include representatives from the American Jewish Committee, Hadassah, National Council of Jewish Women, Women's Division of the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh and the Zionist Organization of America.

According to media reports, the position and status of American women have been subtly changing in recent years. Women may now aspire to the top of almost any career field or volunteer endeavors they choose. But is this really the case?

Volunteer professional Eileen Lane points out that "the harsh reality is that inequities continue to exist not only within the business world but much closer to

home, within our own Jewish community where women work both professionally and as volunteers.

"Five years ago the American Jewish Committee and the National Council of Jewish Women examined the status of women as lay leaders and as professionals within Jewish communal organizations. It is now time," she said, "to reexamine the standing of Jewish women in the community to see whether we have achieved a bigger slice of the pie.

"Women are under-represented and under-utilized in all positions of lay leadership," said Lane. "Boards and officers. At the same time, Jewish women communal workers for the most part are lower paid, lower ranking.

"We need to educate each other," she said, "to raise consciousness, to network and be advocates for one another. Now we have a forum where women can feel comfortable, where women can talk about frustrations as well as successes. Too many women don't feel like fighting for what they deserve."

Speaker Susan Weikers, a

graduate of the University of Baltimore, worked as assistant hospital administrator at Sinai Hospital for 10 years in Baltimore. There she had an Israeli import shop called "Jaffa Gate."

She has been involved with the UJA Young Leadership Cabinet and the Baltimore Jewish Council with the Big Brother/Big Sister

program. Weikers is the first working woman ever to be a national chairman of the Women's Division of the State of Israel Bond Organization.

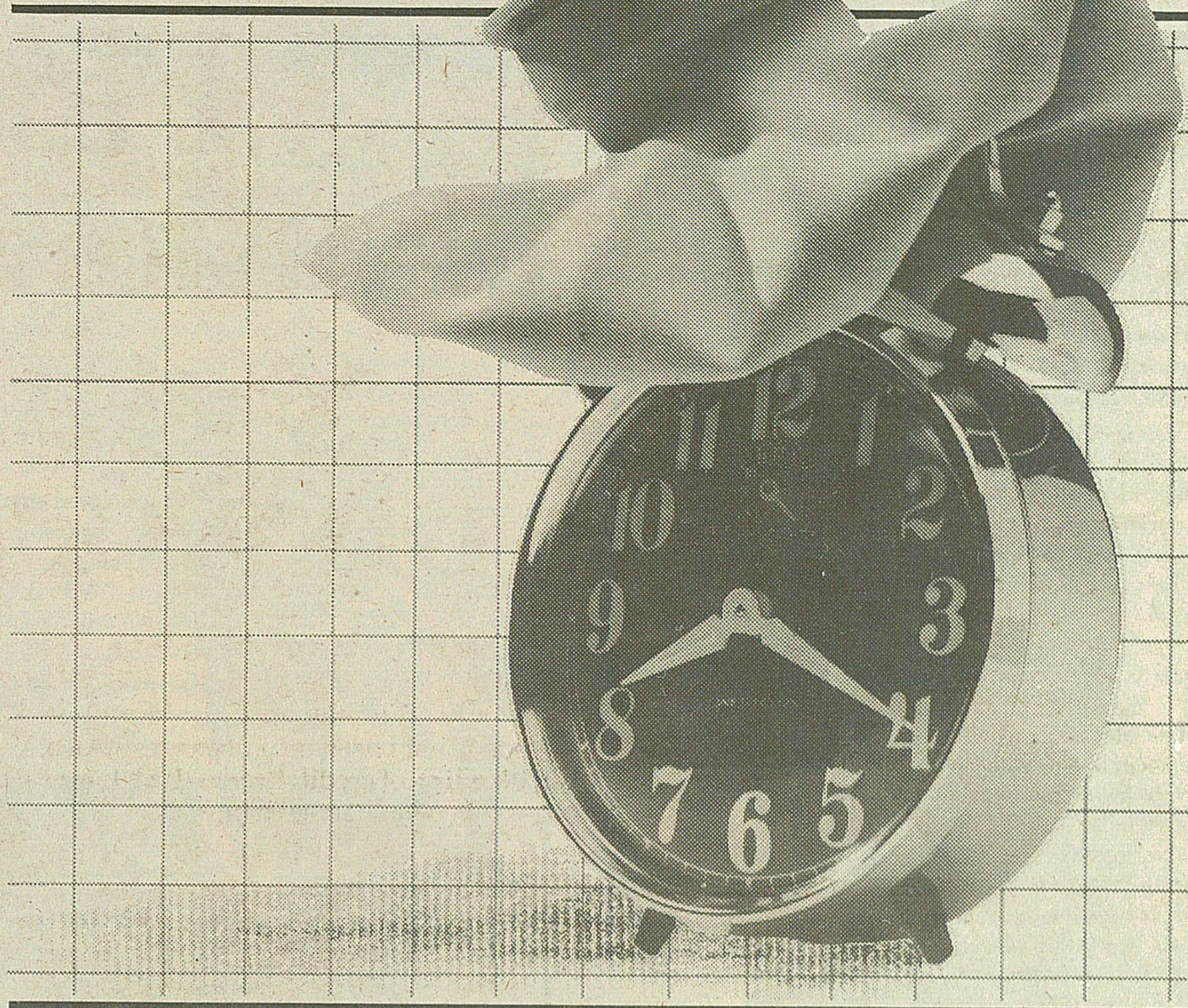
Now living in Philadelphia, she belongs to the National Association of Life Underwriters.

All interested women are invited to attend the Pitts-

burgh Jewish Women's Forum. Following the keynote address and AJC/NCJW update on the status of women in the Jewish community, there will be a series of small, interactive workshops. The cost of the box dinner is \$10. Kosher meals are available. For information or reservations, call 683-7927.

Members of the Jewish Women's Forum, a committee in formation, are: Barbara Aaron, Annette Kolski-Andreaco, Barbara Burstin, Corinne Krause, Eileen Lane, Shirley Lavine, Bernice Meyers, Judy Palkovitz, Judy Roscow, Connie Schwartz, Frieda Shapira, Barbara Shore, Carol Williams and Florence Zeve.

It's about time.



When you don't feel well, time is important.