



THE FLAME

Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland

Lighting the Way for Jewish Women Leaders • Established 1916

Fall 2026

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Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland

Antisemitism: National and Local State of Affairs

Speakers:



Allison Kahn-Pauli, JD,
Senior Associate
Regional Director for ADL
Washington, DC



Emily Goodman, BS,
Director of Holocaust and
Countering Antisemitism
Programs for the BJC

Thursday, September 24, 2026

9:30 AM, Check-in • 10:00 AM, Program

North Oaks, 725 Mt. Wilson Lane, Pikesville, MD 21208

Breakfast

(Dietary Laws Observed)

Questions and RSVP by contacting Sherri Bell,
sboxerbell@gmail.com

Deadline Monday, September 21, 2026.

Social Action Project: Federation is happy to partner with Women of Baltimore Hebrew Congregation to collect needed school supplies for the Wellwood International School on Smith Avenue. See our website for a list of needed items. Please bring donations to our meeting or drop them off to Linda Roedel at 113 Old House Court, Pikesville, MD, 21208.
Deadline for this project is October 22nd.

Message from Our Co-Presidents Shulamit Finkelstein and CeCe Rund



Greetings to all of our valuable constituent organizations from Shula and CeCe!

Summer has been a very busy time for many of you. Our Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland will kick off this year with our opening meeting at North Oaks on Mt. Wilson Lane on Thursday, September 24. This will be a breakfast program so come hungry. Two talented speakers will address antisemitism locally as well as nationally. Come listen to what our ADL and BJC are doing to combat antisemitism and gain knowledge about many useful resources and actions that you can utilize.

Remember The Flame and our website, Jewishwomensfed.org, contain all dates of our programs.

Please review our Directory for all member contact information, dates of programs, Jewish holidays, organization officers information and more. It is hard to believe that our High Holidays are around the corner. May each of you be blessed with good health. May we, as Jews, once again feel safe.



L'Shana Tova! Shana Tovah u'metukah
from your Co- Presidents, Shula and CeCe

110TH ANNUAL CONVENTION REVIEW



Our 110th Annual Convention held at Ateres Elka in Owings Mills attracted almost 250 people. The theme was "Women's Healthcare: Expectations, Challenges and Changes."

Following our business meeting where we inducted our new 2026-2028 officers, the E.B. Hirsh Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Lee M. Hendler. She gave a memorable address and spoke of her family members who encouraged and supported her as she grew to become a community leader.

A delicious kosher lunch was catered by Shula. During lunch, Sheila Mentz introduced several of our state legislators who attended, bearing lovely citations for Federation. The legislators mentioned that they pay attention to our resolutions.

Federation was fortunate to have Leslie Simmons, RN, FACHE, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for LifeBridge Health present, "**Women's Healthcare: What We Can Expect and What Needs to be Changed.**" Leslie presented some interesting state statistics and gave us a glimpse of what is changing in our healthcare system for women.

The day culminated in the Honoree Program directed by Rochelle Bohrer and videotaped and created by our past presidents, Marcia Bornfriend and Eve Vogelstein. A representative from each constituent organization was honored with the **A Woman Who Promotes Well-being** award. We listened to their acceptance speeches and felt very proud to have such giving and caring women as members of our Federation.

MAZEL TOV TO ALL OUR HONOREES

Federation Legislative Update—2026

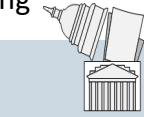
What is The Women's Law Center of Maryland (WLC)?

The Women's Law Center of Maryland's mission is "to implement systemic change by influencing the passage of laws that impact women and their families in Maryland." This organization monitors proposed legislation, identifies relevant bills and testifies for or against these bills as needed. During the last Maryland General Assembly (MDGA), WLC monitored 187 pieces of legislation, provided testimony on 71 bills and sent out several alerts and action items for 46 bills. Of the bills that were supported, 47% passed.

Some of the bills that passed included a bill to expand temporary protective order terms from 7 to 14 days which will enable more time for survivors of abuse and their attorneys to prepare

their cases. Another success was a bill that prohibits school resource officers from engaging in sexual activity with students at the schools wherein they work. Another bill strengthened the penalties for using Deepfake technology against survivors of abuse. Deepfake technology steals identities, fabricates harmful images and spreads harmful or false content via social media. Another bill that passed makes more trauma-informed human trafficking trainings available for survivor service providers and more.

The Women's Law Center continues to advocate for women's issues of major concern. Even when bills do not pass, they continue to meet with legislators, present arguments for the betterment of women's safety and for physical and mental health.



Legislative Update
by CeCe Rund

110TH ANNUAL CONVENTION HONOREES "A WOMAN WHO PROMOTES WELL-BEING " Award CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THESE WONDERFUL WOMEN



Top row (Left to Right): Leslie Glickman, Women of Baltimore Hebrew Congregation, Linda Boteach, Adat Chaim Sisterhood, Jodi Moskowitz, Associated Women, Carol Wynne, Hadassah Greater Baltimore, Sharon Zuckerbrod, Israel Bonds MD, Women's Division, Marcia Markowitz, Kappa Guild, Inc., Jayne Gerson, Chizuk Amuno Congregation Sisterhood
Middle row (Left to Right): Doris Geisler, Women of Temple Isaiah, Rivka Bogart, Jewish Caring Network, Rochelle Bohrer, Federation Honoree Chair, Shulamit Finkelstein, Federation President, Lee M. Hendler, 2026 E.B. Life-time Achievement Recipient, Shelly Kaye, Beth Tfiloh Congregation Sisterhood, Rosalind Asch, MMAE Sisterhood
Bottom row (Left to Right): Suzanne Kiewe, Beth Israel Congregation, Gail Kandel, CHANA, Harriet Weiner, Beth El Congregation Sisterhood, Bluma Jed, Covenant Guild, Inc., Sandra Fisher, Rodger C. Snyder Memorial, Ladies Auxiliary #117, JWV, Dr. Ellen Taylor, Women's Club of Har Sinai/Oheb Shalom, Marcy Wesalo, Levindale Auxiliary, Inc.



**MAZEL
Tov!**

NOVEMBER 19, 2026 LUNCHEON MEETING

We will meet on November 19, 2026 for a delicious kosher lunch at Temple Isaiah located at 12200 Scaggsville Rd, Fulton, MD 20759 . Our program will be, **"Trusting Judaism"** presented by senior Rabbi Craig Axler. We will have more information and registration closer to the date. We hope you all can join us!

PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION JUNE 25, 2026 REVIEW

Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland has had a wonderful tradition for many years. Every June we hold a president's reception. Our Board of Directors hosts a luncheon for all of the officers and liaisons of each of the member organizations under the Jewish Women's Federation umbrella. This event is entirely sponsored by the members of our Board of Directors, our past presidents, and our committee chairs.

The purpose of the event is four-fold. We welcome and celebrate the newly elected officers of each of our organizations. We also celebrate the current officers who have continued to volunteer and carry out the important missions of their organizations. Additionally, we use the luncheon as an opportunity for networking and sharing among the talented volunteer leaders of our organizations. And finally, each year we have a special guest who provides us with a meaningful lesson in leadership that we can carry back to each of our organizations. Most often our guest presenters tie their lesson to our sacred Jewish texts and traditions.

For the sharing activity at this year's President's Reception, we asked each of our guests to peer seven years into the future to envision and describe what their organization would look like if all of their goals were reached. We heard many inspirational visions.

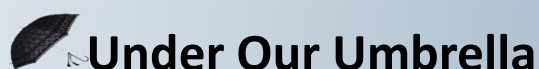
Our guest presenter this year was Susanna Garfein, Executive Director of Na'aleh: The Hub for Leadership Learning. Her lesson was entitled "Conversations – Civil and Uncivil." In her lesson, Dr. Garfein referenced many sacred Jewish texts that addressed dealing with conflict. We learned, among other things, that respect and humility are prerequisites for wisdom. We were left with the admonition from our sages to "make yourself a heart of many rooms."

Many thanks to our hosts, Baltimore Hebrew Congregation and Women of Baltimore Hebrew Congregation. Kudos to Julie Bernstein, Board member of Jewish Women's Federation, who organized the delicious lunch and table decorations. We wish all of our dedicated organization officers and liaisons a successful year!



PICTURES FROM OUR 110TH ANNUAL CONVENTION!





Upcoming Events by our Organizations

The Flame is happy to highlight your organization's events.
Submit your information to Elissa Ness, easelthew@aol.com

ADAT CHAIM SISTERHOOD

Sunday, August 30, 2026 3:00 PM-7:00 PM. Community Picnic Fundraiser at 11421 Cronhill Dr., Suite H, Owings Mills, NMD. Cost, \$18 per person, \$10 children under 12, \$40 family. Admission ticket includes box dinner with drink and entry to games. Adult games including Jewish trivia and Bingo with prizes. For more information, call Joyce at 717-818-9034 or joyceclark@yahoo.com.

Wednesday, October 21, 2026 8:00 AM - 11:00 PM. Shop at Boscov's - FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS. One day only! 25% OFF Shopping Pass. \$5 Donation per pass. For details visit boscovs.com/category/friends-helping-friends-event. Valid Wednesday, October 21, 2026 only.

BETH EL SISTERHOOD

Wednesday, October 14, 2026 12:30 PM -1:30 pm at Beth El, 8101 Park Heights Ave. Biblio: Hear Paula Gallagher, Baltimore County Public Library, speak about her recommendations for fall reading. No fee. For more information, contact Patty Levin at plevin56@gmail.com.

Sunday, October 18, 2026 10:00 AM to Noon – Shredding Day: Bring all those bags of personal papers that need to be shredded! Back parking lot of Beth El, 8101 Park Heights Avenue. \$15 / 1-3 bags | \$25 / 4-5 bags | \$5 / each additional bag. Payment by cash or check payable to Beth El Sisterhood. For more information, contact Patty Levin at plevin56@gmail.com.

Wednesday, October 28, 2026 12:00 – 3:30 PM. Fall Game Day: Bring your group to play Mah Jongg, Canasta, Bridge or Board games and enjoy a delicious lunch! \$45 per person at Beth El, 8101 Park Heights Ave. For more info, contact Esta Schein eschein@comcast.net.

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 12:30 PM- at Beth El, 8101 Park Heights Ave. Rabbi's Book Review with Rabbi Steve Schwartz, Beth El's rabbi. No fee. For more information, contact Patty Levin at plevin56@gmail.com.

Wednesday, December 16, 2026 12:30 PM at Beth El, 8101 Park Heights Ave. - Biblio; Nina Rosenzweig will facilitate a discussion of **The Only Woman in the Room** by Marie Benedict. This book is a historical fiction novel that tells the story of Hedy Lamar, the Austrian born actress who was also a brilliant inventor. No fee. For more information, contact Patty Levin at plevin56@gmail.com.

BETH ISRAEL SISTERHOOD

Wednesday, September 29, 2026, 7:00 - 9:30 PM. Karoke in the Sukkah. Singing to your favorite songs. Snacks, soda and water provided. It will be held at Beth Israel Congregation, 3706 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills, Md. 21117. The cost for the event is \$5.00 upon arrival. Please contact Sandy Kirsh at C: 443-416-8104, H: 4410-484-6192.

BETH TFILOH SISTERHOOD

Thursday, October 8, 2026 Noon - 4 PM. Afternoon of Fun and Games. Enjoy soup, rolls, salad bar, dessert, snacks and beverages. Reserve your table for games of your choice: Mah Jongg, Bridge, Canasta, Scrabble. We provide the tables, you bring your games. \$28 per person. For questions and reservations, contact Ellen Karp 443-660-7690 or Brenda Pariser 410-363-8903.

Sunday, October 18, 2026, from 10:00 AM-4:00 PM. Beth Tfiloh Shop 'Til You Drop Boutique will be held at Beth Tfiloh. Lots of wonderful vendors, free balloon animals for kids, food, and a silent auction. More details to follow.

COVENANT GUILD

Sunday, November 1, 2026, 10:30 AM. The Donna Summer Musical at the Toby's Dinner Theatre, Columbia, Maryland. The cost is \$100.00 per person. Please contact Vicky Pressman, 410-825-2117, wjpressman@gmail.com. We are SOLD OUT, but accepting a waiting list.

Tuesday, November 10, 2026, 10:30 AM - 3:30 PM, Play & Lunch begins at 11:30 AM. Card Party/Day of Games at Har Sinai-Oheb Shalom Congregation, 7310 Park Heights Avenue, 21208. The cost is \$50.00 per person. Play your favorite games and enjoy a delicious lunch (by Graul's.) Shop the vendor tables throughout the day. Registration deadline is October 28, 2026. Money will not be accepted at the door. Proceeds benefit Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital. Contact Terry Lafferman, 410-294-9325, terrylaff@comcast.net.

HADASSAH GREATER BALTIMORE

Ongoing from Fall 2026 to Spring 2027 Lunch and Learn Series **Mondays 11 am to 12 pm.** Series of one-hour presentations. Click registration link to see all speakers, dates and topics. The cost for the series is \$90. All meetings on Zoom. To register: <https://mid-a.hadassah.org/event/hadassah-lunch-and-learn/e815898>. For more information, contact: Nancy Braverman at nbraverman@hadassah.org.



Under Our Umbrella

Upcoming Events by our Organizations Continued...

The Flame is happy to highlight your organization's events.

Submit your information to Elissa Ness, easelthew@aol.com.

HADASSAH GREATER BALTIMORE continued...

Wednesday, October 7, 2026, 7 PM. Hadassah Greater Baltimore Major Gifts/Keepers of the Gate Event. These gifts enable Hadassah to continue supporting lifesaving research, advancing critical healthcare initiatives and maintaining a state of preparedness to respond to all eventualities. The location is at a private home in Reisterstown to be disclosed upon registration. The cost is a minimum \$1,000 donation to Hadassah. For information contact Nancy Braverman at nbraverman@hadassah.org.

Wednesday, November 4, 2026, 6 PM. Hadassah Greater Baltimore Fall Dinner Meeting. This dinner event will feature best-selling Israeli author and screenwriter, Noa Yedlin, who will be interviewed by Sandee Brawarsky, an award-winning journalist. The cost of this meeting is \$60/ members; \$72/non members. Local Synagogue to be disclosed upon registration. Please contact Barbara Deitch at bdeitch@hadassah.org.

Sunday, November 15, 2026, 1 PM. Hadassah Greater Baltimore Trivia Event. The cost tbd. The location to be disclosed upon registration. Registration information coming soon. For more information, contact: Nancy Braverman at nbraverman@hadassah.org.

ISRAEL BONDS MARYLAND WOMEN'S DIVISION

Thursday, November 19, 2026, 5:45 PM. Join us for a special evening honoring Clara Klein at our Golda Meir Award Dinner 2026. The cost— TBA. This event is in person. Venue: TBA. For more information, please contact Hillary Lewis, Registered Representative , 443-471-2783 or hillary.lewis@israelbonds.com.

KAPPA GUILD, INC.

October 9, 2026 - Shabbat To Go. Catering by Shula. Friday, Pick up at Beth Tfiloh Congregation in front of the main entrance 12-1:00 pm. Choice of three entrees. All entrees come with chicken matzah ball soup, three sides, challah roll and dessert. Price TBD. For more information, contact Sheila Mentz at 410-484-8215 or morahsheila@aol.com.

November 1, 2026- Kappa Guild, Inc. Fashion Show, "Fall in Love with Fashion." Fashion Show and Luncheon Zamoiski Auditorium at Sinai Hospital, 2401 W. Belvedere Avenue. Catering by Sinai Hospital. Kosher dietary laws observed. Fashions by Taylor Marie. Doors open at 11:30 for preview shopping, 12 noon buffet lunch, 12:45 fashion show followed by shopping. Cost is \$50 per person. Your check is your reservation. For more information, contact Miriam Stern 410-299-0498 or email

bubbysternmail@aol.com or Sheila Mentz 410-484-8215 or email morahsheila@aol.com. Make checks payable to Kappa Guild and send to Mrs. Miriam Stern 2525 Pot Spring Road #L-422 Timonium, Md. 21093. Include names of guests and phone numbers. Reservations due by October 20, 2026.

WOMEN OF BALTIMORE HEBREW CONGREGATION

General Programs and Events: In-person at BHC, 7401 Park Heights Avenue, 21208. For more information on most programs contact the womenofbhc@gmail.com.

Sunday, October 11, 2026 from 1:00 4:00 PM. Community Shred Event: paper and electronics. For more information contact Marcia Gampel, mathmij@gmail.com.

Sunday, October 18, 2026, 12:00 PM. Opening Program: with lunch. Program: "From the Front Porch: Old Time. Music" featuring Cantor Karen Webber and James Wilson.

Sunday, November 15, 2026, 1:00 PM "A Storyteller: Adam Booth", with Lunch. More info is coming soon.

Sundays, Sept 27, Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 13 and 20, 2026 from 10 PM to 12 PM - WBHC Crafters: All meetings in-person on at BHC. Interested knitters, crocheters, needlepointers, quilters, embroiderers and card makers are welcome. Enjoy creating together! More information contact Joy Katzenberg, joykatzenberg@gmail.com. Free.

Thursday September 17 and November 19, 2026 from 7:30 PM via Zoom: Grandparent Schmooze: We connect grandparents with each other, share joys and oys of grandparenting and support each other with issues such as interfaith grandparenting, Jewish holidays and values plus lots more. For more information contact, Marla Lipman, cloudshl@aol.com.

Mondays October 5, December 7, 2026 from 7:30-8:30 PM via Zoom: Book Circle: We discuss single book titles, study authors, explore genres and share books we have been reading. For more information contact Marla Lipman, cloudshl@aol.com.

Tuesdays September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8, 2026 from 5:00-8:00 PM. Games Galore: Bring your friends to play Mah Jong, Bridge, Canasta or just enjoy pop-up games. Come and have fun! Feel free to bring supper. WBHC will provide snacks and drinks. For more information contact: Linda Schwartz, laschwartz@aol.com.

**Federation Calendar
(meetings are held on Thursdays)**

**Meetings Held Either Virtually or in Person
2026-2027**



September 24, 2026—Opening Meeting

November 19, 2026—Lunch Meeting

January 21, 2027—Mid-Winter Conference

March 18, 2027—March Meeting

May 20, 2027—111th Annual Convention

Visit our website for more information at
jewishwomensfed.org



BECOME A FRIEND OF FEDERATION

FRIEND OF FEDERATION FORM

July 1, 2026- June 30, 2027

Your contribution of \$18 a year allows you to receive all Flames, the annual directory and all mailings. You also help to underwrite Federation's meetings. Thank you for becoming a Friend of Federation.

Name _____

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City _____ State _____

Zip code _____ Phone _____

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Organization _____

Make your check payable to:

Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland

Please mail check to:

Janis Wasser, Friend Chair

7517 Red Cravat Court ~ Columbia, Maryland 21046

Info: Janis Wasser, divajan17@gmail.com or 443-562-0888 (c)

THE FLAME

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