



THE FLAMIE

*The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland
Lighting the Way for Jewish Women Leaders • Established 1916*

Fall 2024

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The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland

2024 Opening Meeting

"Stories of Survival"

Speaker: Lola Hahn

"After reading a book review in the NY Times as an adult, a child of Holocaust survivors learns of her mother and her mother's two sisters' survival story."



Thursday, September 19, 2024

9:30 AM, Check-in • 10:00 AM, Program

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

Lite Breakfast

(Dietary Laws Observed)

**RSVP by contacting Julie Bernstein,
301-706-6086 or 36juliebernstein@gmail.com.**

Deadline Monday, September 9, 2024.

Social Action Project: Social Action Project—We are happy to partner with Kappa Guild to collect art & school supplies, etc. for the patients at Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital. 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 Ct., Pikesville, MD. 21208. Deadline is Oct. 18.

Remember to "Be a Friend of Federation"

Visit our Website at jewishwomensfed.org

Message from Our President



*Dear Federation Members,
Friends and Officers,*

As the new president of the Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations, I am honored to be serving you for the next two years. I hope your summer gave you the opportunity and time to unwind, spend time with loved ones and friends, and peruse activities that your regular busy schedule has kept you from doing.

But unlike many prior summer breaks in the past, we cannot escape reflecting on the perilous global challenges that face the Jewish people. Our Federation's wise founders over 108 years ago understood that by uniting Jewish women from all sectors of our community, we exponentially increase our power to address adversity, strengthen our community and fortify our resilience. To these ends, the Federation officers have been scrutinizing our mission and structure to serve as a resource and a voice for our member organizations. Thus far we have reviewed, clarified and streamlined our bylaws and policies, for which we received your approval at our convention in May.

We will continue to find ways to strengthen communication between Federation and our organizations and members by retaining our liaison representative program. In addition, we will be piloting an "eUpdates" project which will make it easier for our organizations and members to post and access information in a timely manner. More information on this project will be announced in the fall.

We continue to hold Think Tank sessions to explore ways to improve and grow as an organization. Your feedback and ideas are always welcome.

Via MLAW and other resources, we continue to monitor and keep you abreast of current legislative initiatives that impact our communities. We continue to develop resolutions which we forward to our elected officials, following your approval. These have impact because our legislators know that we vote in elections! We are also working on resuming our traditional spring trip to Annapolis to meet with our legislators.

Our distinguished Vice Presidents team of Julie Bernstein, Edie Meyers and Nina Rosenzweg have been planning a highly informative and timely series of speakers for our general meetings scheduled for September, November and January. Please look for "save the date" announcements and invitations.

On June 27, 2024, past and current Federation officers and committee chairs sponsored a reception for the officers and representatives of our constituent organizations. We enjoyed connecting and sharing ideas and lessons with each other. We look forward to a productive year! Please feel free to contact me via email or phone whenever you need.

**Respectfully,
Shulamit Finkelstein**



*"The beauty of empowering others is that your own power is not diminished in the process."
...Barbara Colorose*

Federation Legislative Update—2024

Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW) Seven bills passed Maryland legislation in 2024.

HB 496/SB 758: Sexual Crimes-Definition of Consent and Repeal of Force:

Sex without consent is not enough to prove rape under Maryland law. This bill proposes a definition of “consent” under sex crimes laws and would strike “force or threat of force” as an element of second-degree rape.

HB 99-SB 113: Criminal Law-Sexual Solicitation of a Minor Through Child Pornography-Prohibition:

Expands sexual solicitation of a minor to include production of child pornography.

HJ 1/SJ 1: Affirming the Federal Equal Rights Amendment:

This joint resolution expresses the sense of the Maryland Legislature that the federal article of the amendment commonly known as “The Equal Rights Amendment” has met all Article V requirement for an amendment to the Constitution of The United States and is valid as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution of The United States and urges the President and Congress of the United States to affirm the validity of the Equal Rights Amendment and direct the Archivist of the United States to certify and publish the Equal Rights Amendment as the 28th Amendment without delay.

HB 39/SB 197: Residential Services Agencies- Reimbursement-Personal Assistance Services (Homecare Worker Rights Act of 2024):

This bill will ensure that home care workers (84% of home care workers are women) who work for agencies that receive Medicaid reimbursements are not misclassified as independent contractors and therefore are entitled to overtime, sick and safe leave, unemployment insurance and worker’s compensation.

HB 1091/SB 975: Public Safety-Reproductive Health Care Clinic Security Grant Program. (Abortion Care Access Grant Program and Fund)

HB 649/SB 525: Labor and Employment- Equal Pay for Equal Work. Wage Range Transparency:

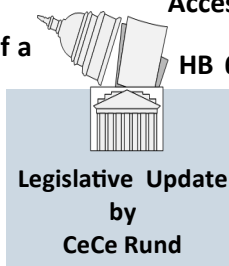
This bill creates wage transparency by requiring employers to include pay ranges and a general description of benefits and other compensation in job postings, helping Maryland businesses attract and retain talent, save time and resources, and address the gender and racial/ethnic pay gap.

HB 691/SB 119: Legally protected Health Care-Gender-Affirming Treatment:

Extend current shielding protections that protect reproductive health care to cover gender affirming care.

Vote YES to Question 1

Maryland voters will have the opportunity to cast their ballot on The Reproductive Freedom referendum on **Tuesday, November 5th**. A **YES** vote to Question 1 will amend Maryland’s Constitution to ensure that everyone has the fundamental right to reproductive freedom, including the right to abortion access and birth control.



NOVEMBER MEETING WITH AIPAC



The Annual Federation's Fall Dinner Meeting looks to be a very special event this year. It will take place on the evening of **Thursday, November 14, 2024, at Har Sinai Oheb Shalom Congregation**. We are very excited to have as our guest speaker **Stephen Knable**, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Political Director of AIPAC.

As you may know, AIPAC, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, is a bipartisan, pro-Israel political action committee, the largest pro-Israel PAC in America. Mr. Knable will brief us on how AIPAC will be working with our newly elected government officials following the November 2024 elections, in light of the turbulent times in the U.S. and the middle east.



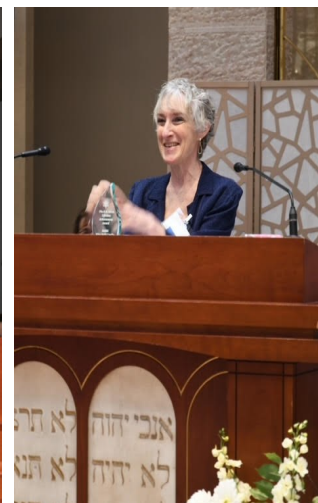
108TH ANNUAL CONVENTION REVIEW



The 108th Annual Convention was held on May 16th at Har Sinai-Oheb Shalom Congregation with close to 300 attendees representing Jewish women's organizations from the Baltimore and Howard County areas. This is the highlight of The Federation's activities each year. The theme was: ***Breaking Down Barriers to Combat Hate***. How pertinent and timely as we witness increasing antisemitic activities and crimes, and antisemitic propaganda across the globe. Our keynote speaker, **Meredith Weisel**, Regional Director for the Anti-Defamation League, provided a most interesting, informative and enlightening presentation. Our business meeting included the release of outgoing officers and the induction of the new officers. We thank all our dedicated women who have served as past officers and welcome our new officers.

Helene Waranch reviewed our revised bylaws which were approved by the membership. Sheila Derman and Jo-Ann Orlinsky reviewed our 2024 resolutions; *New Issues in Women's Health, Antisemitism and Hate Activities, and Stand with Israel*. These were also approved by our membership. CeCe Rund gave her outgoing President's report and ushered in our new President, Shulamit Finkelstein. The coveted E.B. Hirsh Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to **Rabbi Nina Beth Cardin** by our co-chairs, Elissa Ness and Marcia Bornfriend. Rabbi Cardin is a community Rabbi who currently works at the Intersection of Faith and Sustainability and is President of The Baltimore Board of Rabbis as well as co-chair of the Jewish community's Baltimore Sustainability Network. Yaffa catered the lunch and we heard greetings from several of our state legislators during the meal. Thank you to our legislators who take time from their busy schedules to greet us and to learn more about our Federation.

The convention concluded with the special recognition of ***A Woman Who Builds Bridges for a Better Community*** Award to our honorees from each constituent organization. Rochelle Bohrer orchestrated this segment along with Eve Vogelstein and Marcia Bornfriend. We watched a lovely video as each lady received her award, provided a short speech and was presented with a certificate and a rose. The Federation thanks the convention co-chairs; Janet Livingston and Julie Bernstein as well as the entire committee for another exciting convention.



Top picture—Federation Board:
From left—right, Edie Meyers, Ann Fishkin, Nina Rosenzweg, Rosalind Asch, Shulamit Finkelstein, Julie Bernstein, Lois Balsler, CeCe Rund, Ferne Rogow, Rochelle Bohrer.

Left— Keynote speaker, Meredith Weisel.

Center—President, Shulamit Finkelstein.

Right—E.B. Hirsh Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient, Rabbi Nina Beth Cardin.

Photos by Larry Scheinin

108th ANNUAL CONVENTION AWARD HONOREES



Row 1, L to R: Shelly Malis, Associated Women; Rochelle Bohrer, The Federation Honoree Chair, CeCe Rund, The Federation President; Rabbi Nina Beth Cardin, E.B. Hirsh Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient; Jennifer Erez, Levindale Auxiliary, Inc.; Rona Blumenthal, Covenant Guild, Inc.; Row 2, L to R: Carol Wynne, Hadassah Greater Baltimore; Marcia Leavey, Beth Tfiloh Sisterhood; Kathy Pollack, Jewish Caring Network; Roz Kurman, Beth El Sisterhood; Dr. Sheryl Jacobs, The Women's Club of Har Sinai-Oheb Shalom; Row 3, L to R: Susan Summers, Rodger C. Snyder Memorial Ladies Auxiliary 117 of the Jewish War Veterans; Gail Lebowitz, Moses Montefiore Anshe Emunah Sisterhood; Stephanie Kronthal, Israel Bonds Maryland, Women's Division; Melissa Cohen, CHANA; Roslyn Caplan, Kappa Guild, Inc.; Adrienne Frager, Adat Chaim Sisterhood; Row 4, L to R: Chava Abrams, Support for Families of Nursing Home Residents; Janis Wasser, Temple Isaiah Sisterhood; Sondra Sobkov, Beth Israel Sisterhood; Donna Friedman, Chizuk Amuno Sisterhood; Ayala Pensak, Ner Tamid Greenspring Valley Sisterhood; Lisa Jablon, Women of Baltimore Hebrew Congregation.



Under Our Umbrella

Upcoming Events by our Organizations

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

BETH EL SISTERHOOD

Sunday, October 27, 2024 10:00 AM to Noon – Shredding – bring all those boxes and 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.

Wednesday, October 30, 2024 12:00 PM – 3:30 PM. – Game Day! Bring your group to play Mah Jongg, Canasta, Bridge or Board games and enjoy a delicious lunch! \$40 pp, For more info, contact Esta Schein eschein@comcast.net.

BETH ISRAEL SISTERHOOD

Sunday September 22, 2024 12:00 noon. Challah Braiding for the Holidays. David Rothenberg will teach us the art of challah braiding. Pizza lunch by pre-order only. 11:30 AM. Cost: \$15.00 per person, \$8.00 per child. Must pre-register & pay in advance for dough. The event will be held at Beth Israel Congregation, 3706 Crondall Lane, Owings Mill, Md. 21117. For more information, please contact Suzanne Kiewe 410-294-8411 SuzKiewe@gmail.com.

Sunday, October 22, 2024 7:00 - 9:00 PM. Karaoke in the Succah with Snacks & Wine. Free, donation appreciated. For more information, please contact Suzanne Kiewe 410-294-8411 SuzKiewe@gmail.com.

Sunday, November 10 12:00 noon - Synagogue Stories - Immigration to Baltimore - A Jewish Museum of Maryland Virtual Tour and Personalized Family Names Scrabble Tile Art Project. Cost: TBD (Registration coming soon!). This event will be held at Beth Israel Congregation 3706 Crondall Lane Owings Mills, Md. 21117. For more information, please contact Suzanne Kiewe 410-294-8411 SuzKiewe@gmail.com.

BETH TFILOH SISTERHOOD

September 12, 2024- Thursday, 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.

CHANA

November 6, 2024 6:00 PM CHANA's 6th annual fundraising and outreach event in recognition of Domestic Violence

Awareness Month, VOICES: Finding Your Path Forward featuring Britt Frank, LSCS, SEP. author of **The Science of Stuck**. Event will be held at Beth Tfiloh Congregation, 3300 Old Court Road, 21208. Cost: \$118 and \$54 for guests under the age of 30. Sponsorship opportunities available. For more information, please contact Dayna Leder, dleder@associated.org, 410-234-0030.

COVENANT GUILD

Wednesday, September 18, 2024 All Day - 11 AM - 10 PM Dine-A-Round - California Pizza Kitchen - Hunt Valley Eat in or Carry Out 118 Shawan Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030. For more information, please contact Beth Schlein, President, 410-530-2055, or 410-785-3336 bethschlein.covenantguild@gmail.com. Please mention Covenant Guild and our Philanthropic Committee will receive a % of sales for the day.

November - date TBD - Covenant Guild's Card Party/Day of Games. More information to come.

Sunday, December 22, 2024. Covenant Guild will be going to Toby's Dinner Theatre, Brunch Matinee. More information to come.

HADASSAH GREATER BALTIMORE

September 12, 2024 at 7 PM Awareness Starts with Us: Breaking the Cycle of Harmful Relationships featuring Jackie Schroeder, Director of Elder Abuse Services at Jewish Community Services. This event is on Zoom. No charge On Zoom. For more information, contact Shirley Blumenfeld at shirley.blume@comcast.net.

September 17, 2024 at 6 PM Hadassah Major Gifts Event. This event will be at a private home. Hadassah stands by Israel in times of war and times of peace. Your generous gifts of \$1000 and above will be recognized. For additional information and how to attend, contact: Jackie Cohen, Baltimore Chair Major Gifts, jackieco1414@gmail.com.

November 24, 2024 at 5 PM HGB Fall Meeting and 2025 Officer Installation at Chizuk Amuno Congregation. More information to come.



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.

KAPPA GUILD, INC.

September 22, 2024- 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 \$47 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 by September 17 to Mrs. Miriam Stern 2525 Pot Spring Road #L- 422 Timonium, Md. 21093. Include names of guests and phone numbers.

November 1, 2024- Shabbat To Go. CateringbyShula. 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.

January 5, 2025- Sunday, Chinese To Go Lunch Fundraiser. David Chu's China Bistro. 7103 Reisterstown Road. Pick up 1 PM- 2 PM.

JUNE 18, 2025 11:30 AM -3:00 PM.- 52nd Annual Donor Luncheon. CateringbyShula. Owings Mills Synagogue. 2905 Walnut Avenue, Owings Mills, Md. 21117. For more information call Sheila Mentz at 410-484-8215 or email morahsheila@aol.com or Miriam Stern at 410-299-0498 or email bubbysternmail@aol.com.

THE WOMEN'S CLUB OF HAR SINAI-OHEB SHALOM CONGREGATION

Sunday, November 17 at 6:00 PM. BINGO for whole congregation. For more info, please contact Sherri Bell at sboxerbell@gmail.com.

Sunday, December 15 at 12:30 PM. Talent Show for whole congregation. For more info, please contact Sherri Bell at sboxerbell@gmail.com.

WOMEN OF BALTIMORE HEBREW CONGREGATION

Sunday, September 15th at 12:30 PM Opening Meeting in-person at BHC. Sandy Livingston will present: Judy Garland: The Lady and her Legacy. For more information call 410-764-1587 ext. 272.

Sunday, October 20, 2024 from 1 PM to 4 PM. The Community Shred Event. For more information, please contact Barbara Sindler at bsindler46@gmail.com.

Sunday, November 10, 2024 from 10 AM to 5 PM and Monday, November 11, 2024 from 11 AM to 3 PM. Holiday Boutique. For more information, please contact Barbara Sindler at bsindler46@gmail.com.

INTRODUCING FEDERATION BI-MONTHLY E-UPDATES

What you will see:

Welcome to our inaugural issue of the Federation eUpdates. Your window into what is currently happening within our community of organizations and the Federation.



Federation eUpdates

1. Federation reminders with the most up to date information about upcoming events or meetings from Federation. With one click, you will be able to go to the Federation website and sign up for an event or find out who to contact.
2. Receive important advocacy notices.
3. Get updated "Under the Umbrella" information which is current. With one click, you can go to the Federation website and see what's happening with our many organizations. If you submit your information using this email: info@jewishwomensfed.org by the October 14 deadline for October/November issues it will appear on the website.
4. If you want to "Become A Friend," click to join or get a form.
5. If you would like to honor or remember someone and support active duty Jewish servicemen or women through the Jewish Welfare Board, Chaplains Council, you will be able to click on a link to get the form.

The goal of our bimonthly **e-Updates** is to use this online capability to improve communication with our constituent organizations as well as learn about upcoming activities by our member organizations. This will help to make the broader community "Under the Umbrella" of Federation aware of all our exciting programs and events.

Federation Calendar
(meetings are held on Thursdays)

Meetings Held Either Virtually or in Person

2024—2025

Opening Meeting—September 19, 2024

Dinner Meeting—November 14, 2024

Mid-Winter Conference—January 23, 2025

General Meeting—March 20, 2025

109th Annual Convention—May 15, 2025



Visit our website for more information at

jewishwomensfed.org



BECOME A FRIEND OF FEDERATION

FRIEND OF FEDERATION FORM

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 _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip code _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Organization _____

Make your check payable to:

The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland

Please mail check to:

Ann Fishkin, Treasurer, 6501 Trotwood Court,
Baltimore, Maryland 21209

Info: Ann at annfishkin5@gmail.com or 410-429-5411

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