



THE FLAMIE

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

Spring 2019

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The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland

103rd Annual Convention Thursday, May 23, 2019



*"The empowered woman is powerful
beyond measure..."* Dr. Steve Maraboli

Message from Our President



Time always seems to go so quickly. Purim has come and gone, but its meaning is forever relevant. We read the megillah which tells the story of Esther, a young Jewish woman who is a reluctant heroine. She became queen and kept her Jewish identity secret as instructed by her uncle. Initially, she was very reserved and obedient and did not think she could assume the role. But then, according to the Jewish Women's Archive: "This crisis transforms Esther from a docile girl into a courageous leader. Taking charge of Mordecai's effort to stop Haman, she devises a risky plan that uses her beauty, charm and political astuteness to save her people. In doing so, she reveals her true identity as both a Jew and a woman of action, and shows us how even people on the margins can marshal their talent, strength and wit to change the course of history."

Federation is all about strong Jewish women. We have many diverse groups of women under our umbrella, but our Jewish values and beliefs bind us together. We are involved and interested in the world around us. We want to learn new things and speak out against injustice. We want to give Tzedakah and to repair the world. We want to make new friends and keep old friends. As Jewish women, we care about our world, big and small.

Federation's leadership and Board sponsor programs and promote advocacy that reflect these values. This year our programs presented topics on cyber security, anti-Semitism, BDS movement on college campuses and women's health inequity issues. We went to Annapolis and met our legislators to advocate for our

issues. We learned about the historic women of Maryland.

We look forward to the upcoming 103rd Convention, where the theme is Women's Empowerment: Past Present and Future. This topic reflects several current issues: the addition of many women who were elected to offices this year and who are attempting to make a difference; the recognition of the 100-year anniversary of women getting the right to vote; the Federation members who participated in the suffragist movement. In keeping with the Convention theme, we will welcome to the morning program Patricia Wirth, Executive Director of *The Turning Point Suffragists Memorial Association*. She will highlight some of the courageous women who fought for the right to vote and suffered, including going to jail.

During the afternoon session, the keynote speaker will be Virginia Kase, CEO of The League of Women Voters. Next, Dr. Nancy Aiken will receive the E.B. Hirsh Lifetime Achievement Award. She is a woman who has achieved many things during her tenure as Executive Director of CHANA as well as collaborating with others to help many in our community. Finally, each organization will honor someone with the Women Who Empower Award.

As I read the Megillah during Purim, I thought about the women who are being honored at Convention. These are women leaders who became activists and thus empowered. We can learn something from the story of Purim about finding our inner strength to help ourselves, our families, our communities and our people. This is the legacy of Esther.

103rd Annual Convention



Federation's 103rd Convention is just around the corner. Our theme for the day is Women's Empowerment: Past Present Future. The day includes an enlightening morning program. Our morning speaker is Patricia Wirth, the Executive Director/CEO of The Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association. Following a delicious catered lunch by Yaffa, our keynote speaker Virginia Kase, CEO of the League of Women Voters of the United States, will speak on "The Power of Women." We look forward to presenting the E.B. Hirsh Award to Dr. Nancy Aiken. Culminating our Convention will be the presentation of the *Women Who Empower Award* to our honorees, one deserving woman from each of our constituent organizations. Join women and guests from the 28 participating Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland for an exciting day to learn and mingle and support your honoree.

See you on May 23, 2019 at 9:30 am to 3:00 pm at Temple Oheb Shalom. The cost is \$40.00.

Our Honorees and E.B. Hirsh Award Recipient

- E.B. Hirsh Lifetime Achievement Award– **Dr. Nancy Aiken**
- Adat Chaim Sisterhood– **Toby Essrog**
- AMIT Children– **Nancy Feierstein**
- Associated Women– **Laury Scharff**
- Beth El Congregation Sisterhood– **Judi Snyder**
- Beth Israel Congregation Sisterhood– **Penny Kafka** (in memoriam)
- Beth Tfiloh Congregation Sisterhood– **Ellen Karp**
- Brandeis Nat’l Committee, Baltimore Chapter– **Judy Stein**
- CHANA– **Diane Israel**
- Chizuk Amuno Congregation Sisterhood– **Margie Simon**
- Covenant Guild, Inc.– **Beth Schlein**
- Hadassah of Greater Baltimore– **Barbara Black**
- Israel Bonds Maryland Women’s Division – **Linda Roedel**
- Jewish Caring Network– **Rochel Ziman**
- Jewish Women of Howard County– **Angela Krozy**
- Jewish Women’s International– **Sandra Ehrlich**
- Kappa Guild, Inc.– **Babs Galonoy**
- Levindale Auxiliary, Inc.– **Rozzie Brilliant**
- Miriam Lodge, K.S.B., Inc.– **Nadine Weinstein**
- Moses Montefiore Anshe Emunah Sisterhood– **Marcia Greenfield**
- Ner Tamid Greenspring Valley Synagogue Sisterhood– **Abby Sattell**
- Rodger C. Snyder Memorial, Ladies Auxiliary, JWV– **Helen Davidson**
- Sinai Infinity Mitzvah Foundation– **Feigi Oberstein**
- Support for Families of Nursing Home Residents– **Senator Barbara Robinson, retired**
- Temple Isaiah Sisterhood– **Allison Hoffman**
- Women of Baltimore Hebrew Congregation– **Marcia Bornfriend**
- Women of Har Sinai Congregation– **CeCe Rund**
- Women of Temple Oheb Shalom Congregation– **Gwyn Sirota**

Understanding Maryland Legislation: Can Women’s Healthcare Be More Affordable?

As a woman’s organization, we are concerned about women’s health care in Maryland. On January 24, 2019, we sponsored a breakfast program at Beth Israel that centered around prescription drug affordability. We heard stories about women who juggle paying rent or getting prescriptions they desperately need for themselves or their children. We learned about diabetics who are experiencing serious medical problems because they can no longer pay for their insulin.

Our speaker, Catherine Kirk Robins, Deputy Director for the Maryland Citizen’s Health Initiative (MCHI), concentrates on issues surrounding prescription drug affordability. Ms. Kirk Robins played an integral role in mobilizing a broad coalition to support the passing of Maryland’s 2017 price-gouging law. She worked tirelessly to support MCHI’s goal of solving Maryland’s health care crisis so that all Marylanders can have access to quality and affordable health care. Ms. Kirk Robins told us how we can take an active role in getting our legislators to support and pass legislation to create a board to evaluate high cost drugs and set reasonable rates. Some of the resources: Healthcareforall.com/RxResolution or contact Catherine at catherine@healthcareforall.com.

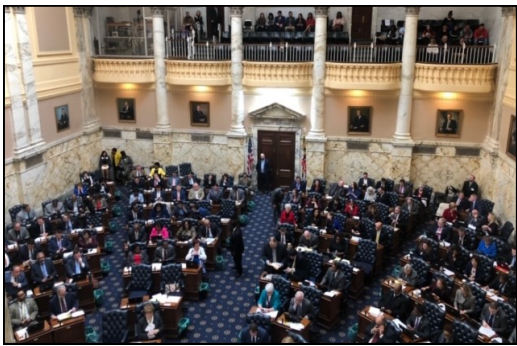


A Trip to Annapolis

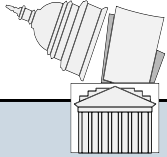
Almost 30 ladies, representing several of our organizations, traveled by bus to Annapolis on March 28, 2019 with the goal of watching our government in action. Arriving in Annapolis we walked to the State House to observe a legislative session where Federation was recognized from the floor by Delegate Shelly Hettleman. After observing a fast-paced session that included bills from the Judicial Committee and the Environmental Committee, we toured the magnificent State House. Our group then visited the Baltimore City Room in the State Delegate Building where we enjoyed a deli lunch while sitting in the chairs and at the tables used by the legislators.

Mistress Pat, dressed in period costume (from Watermark Tours), provided us with an historical perspective on important women in our Maryland history, who changed both government and lives in our state.

Delegates Dana Stein and Jon Cardin dropped in to discuss some of the bills about which we were interested. Representatives from the offices of Mayor Pugh, Senator Ben Cardin and Congressman Andrew Harris also addressed us and answered questions. Delegate Shelly Hettleman caught us walking to the bus. Many of our ladies were able to speak with her. It was a fascinating day with beautiful weather and a comfortable bus ride. If you missed it this year...it is a MUST next time!



Federation—Legislative Update



Legislative
Update by
Jo-Ann Orlinsky

Six days from the end of the legislative session was not the time to predict what would happen to our bills of interest. Many bills would still be voted on until midnight of the last day, Monday April 8. Here is the status of three bills we have

discussed previously or in our meetings.

Prescription Drug Affordability: This legislation, supported by Health Care for All and many other healthcare and community organizations, would establish a Prescription Drug Affordability Board which would ensure that high cost drugs are available for all Marylanders. The bill (HB 768) was amended to set “upper payment levels” and cut the power of the five member Board to reduce prices of drugs purchased *only* by health plans that serve employees of state and county governments. The original bill would have applied to all health plans. Opponents of the bill are calling it price control. The bill passed the House 98-40.

The bill is still in the Senate Finance committee, with six days to go to the end of the session. If the bill passes the Senate, with no further amendments, the Board will have a year to establish itself and could set upper limits by July 1, 2021. The Governor has not

said whether he would sign such a bill. Then the big question becomes could the law survive legal challenges.

The Family Medical and Leave Insurance Program: This bill would have established a short-term disability insurance fund to provide partial wage replacement for employees who take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave to care for a child or family member or their own serious medical condition. Seventy-nine percent of Maryland mothers are in the work force and only 13% have access to maternity leave. Twenty-three percent of new mothers go back to work after two weeks. However, House Bill 341 has not been voted out of committee. Remember that a new bill often takes several years to work through the legislature.

HIV Post-exposure Prophylaxis: Current law provides rape victims with free emergency medical treatment following an assault but does not pay for a preventive drug called n-PEP. Many are covered by health insurance, but co-pays are as high as \$1,000. The drug must be given within 72 hours. Opposition to the bill was based on cost. The bills (HB1249/SB 657) were amended to create a pilot project which will provide data on the cost for possible expansion of the program. The bills passed the House 136-0 and the Senate 47-0.

Supporting Serv-A

The Jewish Welfare Board (JWB) Jewish Chaplains Council fosters and promotes a meaningful Jewish life for Jewish personnel in the U.S. military, their families, veterans and families of the fallen. JWB Chaplains are:

- Commissioned officers in the U.S. Army, Navy or Air Force
- Serving on active duty, reserve duty and in the National Guard
- Stationed throughout the world, on bases and aboard ships
- Offering spiritual, moral and ethical guidance to military leadership as well as service members in their units
- Men and women, across the religious spectrum, from a variety of backgrounds
- Routinely providing pastoral care and counseling to service members and their families
- Leaders of unique and inspiring Jewish communities are interested

Are you interested in becoming a JWB chaplain or speaking with a chaplain about their work?

Contact Rabbi Irv Elson, JWB director, 520 8th Avenue, New York; New York 10018, (212) 532-4949.

Serv-A is the Federation’s project to support the Jewish Chaplains Council.

Help us meet the need...Donate to Serv-A.



Under Our Umbrella

The Flame is happy to highlight your organization's events. Submit your information to Elissa Ness, easelthew@aol.com. Bring your flyers to each meeting so they can be placed on a table.

ADAT CHAIM SISTERHOOD

Monday May 13, 2019, 7:00 pm, celebrating Israel with with a talk given by BZD Shaliach Idan Zriihen and watch some Israeli dancing. No charge, community is invited to 10989 Red Run Blvd, Ste 109, Owings Mills, MD 21117. RSVP or contact info: Harriet Meier, hlmeier@gmail.com. Light Israeli snacks will be served.

ASSOCIATED WOMEN

Thursday, May 30, 2019, 7:00 pm, End of Year Celebration, Gordon Center, 3506 Gwynnbrook Avenue, Owings Mills, MD. Help us celebrate Nina Rosenzwoog's two years as chair of Associated Women and welcome new chair, Jessica Bronfein. Dessert reception and featured keynote speaker, Alina Spaulding, who will share her personal journey from Ukraine to the United States, thanks to support from the Jewish community. Free. Questions? Contact Pamela Martin, 410-369-9201 or pmartin@associated.org.

BETH EL SISTERHOOD

Sunday, May 5, 2019, 10:00 am-5:00 pm, Monday, May 6, 11:00 am-5:00 pm and Tuesday, May 7, 11:00 am-5:00 pm. Please join us for the Beth El Sisterhood's Unique Boutique. Shopping with 40 plus Vendors. Free. Enter to win \$100 cash. You may contact Honey Litman for more information at honey.litman@yahoo.com.

BETH ISRAEL SISTERHOOD

Sunday, May 5, 2019, Beth Israel Sisterhood and Brotherhood are having a plant sale and paper shredding event.

BETH TFILOH SISTERHOOD

Tuesday, May 14, 2019, Day of Games and Lunch 12 pm to 4:00 pm. Salad bar and snacks. Bring your mah jongg, canasta, bridge or whatever you enjoy playing. We have the tables. Cost \$20. Call Ellen Karp 443-660-7690 or email ellenkarp@hotmail.com or Brenda Pariser 410-363-8903 or parisb@juno.com.

Monday, June 3, 2019 Closing meeting. Guest speaker Dr. David Engels. 7:30 pm at Beth Tfiloh.

Thursday, June 20, 2019 Donor dinner honoring Sonia

Maltinsky.

BRANDEIS NATIONAL COMMITTEE, BALTIMORE CHAPTER

Thursday, May 16, 2019, 11:30 am, closing luncheon is at the Suburban Country Club, 7600 Park Heights Ave. Our speaker is Steve Luxenberg, speaking about his new book, *Separate: The Story of Plessy v. Ferguson*, and *America's Journey from Slavery to Segregation*. Mr. Luxenberg has earned numerous national honors, including two Pulitzer Prizes. Cost of luncheon is \$50.00. All are welcome, guests and members! For more information, contact: Deane Sevel, berniesevel@aol.com. (410) 484-0643.

Tuesday, May 21, 2019, 1:00 pm, Jewish Museum of Maryland: "Stitching History from the Holocaust" and "Fashion Statement". Free for museum members; \$5.00 for non-members. 15 Lloyd St, Baltimore 21202. Questions: contact Judy Stein, jjstein6@verizon.net or Rona Greene. ronakg@comcast.net. A docent will take us through the 2 exhibits at 1:00 pm followed by an optional tour of the Lloyd Street Synagogue at 2:00 pm. Check our website for additional info and our Live and Learn Booklet with 30 classes at: blogs.brandeis.edu/bncbaltimore.

All open meetings convene at 1:00 pm in the Hadassah Meeting Room, [3723 Old Court Road, Suite 205](http://3723OldCourtRoad.com). For more information, contact Suzanne Strutt swstrutt@verizon.net.

CHANA

Sunday May 12, 2019, 8:00 am Race Against Abuse 10K and 5K at Goucher College. Register today at <https://www.raceagainstabuse.org/> <https://www.raceagainstabuse.org/>.

COVENANT GUILD

Wednesday, May 15, 2019, 11:00 am, Donor Luncheon Woodholme Country Club. Cost - \$65.00.

Wednesday, July 31, 2019, Crab Feast and Boat Tour, we will be boarding a Superior bus to go across the Bay Bridge to Hurlock MD where we will board the Suicide Bridge riverboat for a crab feast and boat tour of the Choptank River. The cost for this fun day is \$125.00. Call

Bea Yoffe to make your reservation and send a deposit of \$50.00. Her address is 3201 Old Post Drive, #2, Baltimore, MD 21208, phone 410-484-3896. This trip is open to Covenant members first; then we will open it to guests. The menu does include other options beside crabs. Please contact Sharon Stadd shrnspen4271@yahoo.com for more info.

ISRAEL BONDS MARYLAND WOMEN'S DIVISION

Wednesday, May 1, 2019, Israel Bonds Maryland Women's Division Golda Meir Award Dinner honoring Barbara Goldberg at 5:45-9:00 pm. For more information, please contact Hillary Lewis at 443-471-2783 or hillary.lewis@israelbonds.com.

Thursday, November 21, 2019, Rina L. Janet Israel Bonds Maryland Women's Division Fashion Show and Luncheon honoring Amy Harris from 11:00 am-3:00 pm. For more information, please contact Hillary Lewis at 443-471-2783 or hillary.lewis@israelbonds.com.

KAPPA GUILD, INC.

Wednesday, May 8, 2019, Dining-out Fundraiser at Miller's Deli, Greenspring Shopping Center 4:30-7:30 pm.

Sunday, May 5, 2019, Monday, May 6, Wednesday, May 8-Saturday, May 11, Pre-Mother's Day book fair and gift wrapping at Barnes and Noble, Pikesville. Tea tasting and sweets, **Sunday May 5th**, 3:30 pm-5:30 pm.

Wednesday, May 29, 2019, 66th Anniversary Donor Luncheon at Suburban Orthodox Congregation, 11:30 am-3:30 pm.

MIRIAM LODGE, K.S.B, INC.

Sunday, April 28, 2019, trip to see "Comedy of Tenors" at Olney Theatre.

Sunday, May 19, 2019, Join us to see "The 39 Steps," at Horowitz Visual and Performing Arts Center in Howard County.

Wednesday, June 12, 2019, Join us to see "Ovation," at American Music Theatre in Lancaster with lunch at Hershey's. Cost \$125. For information, call Norma Samson, 410-484-3074 for all events.

Wednesday, August 28, 2019, Crab Feast and Boat Tour, we will be boarding a Superior bus to go across the Bay Bridge to Hurlock MD where we will board the Suicide Bridge riverboat for a crab feast and boat tour of the Choptank River. The cost for this fun day is \$125.00. Deposit \$50, must include phone number. Deadline, August 1st. Send checks payable to Miriam

Lodge to Davida Oken, 1 Grismill Court, #508, Baltimore, MD 21208 or call 443-213-8329.

MOSES MONTEFIORE ANSHE EMUNAH SISTERHOOD

Sunday, May 19, 2019, MMAE is having a Flea & Festival Market, We are looking for vendors for this event. It will be held at the shul. For more information please call 410-484-8657.

TEMPLE ISAIAH SISTERHOOD

Tuesday, June 18, 2019, Grand Mah Jongg Tournament from 8:45 pm-4:45 pm at Temple Isaiah, 12200 Scaggsville Road, Fulton, MD 20759. Please contact Doris Geisler, Timahjongtournament@gmail.com for any information.

Matzo orders can be picked up from Temple Isaiah before Passover. Temple Isaiah, 12200 Scaggsville Road, Fulton, MD 20759. For information, contact Vicki Weinstein 908-816-0521.

WOMEN OF BALTIMORE HEBREW CONGREGATION

Sunday, April 28, 2019, Shredding Event, 1:30-3:30 pm in the parking lot of BHC. Boxes: \$5, bags: \$10.

Sunday, June 2, 2019, Closing Luncheon, 11:30 am, cost is \$20. Speaker and installation of officers.

WOMEN OF HAR SINAI CONGREGATION

Sunday, April 28, 2019, 9:30 am, Speaker Series Breakfast featuring County Executive Johnny O. Brotherhood is also invited. At 9:30 an omelet chef will prepare your customized breakfast. At 10:00 am our new County Executive will speak and then take your questions. \$10 per person for Brotherhood or WoHSC members/\$15 for non-temple members. Har Sinai Congregation, 2905 Walnut Avenue, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Sherri Bell, sboxerbell@gmail.com, 410-303-2483.

Federation is Available to Visit You

Each member organization can invite a Federation officer to visit one of your meetings to learn about Federation and what we can do for you. Call Karan Engerman for more information at 443-570-6435.



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Federation Calendar

Save the Dates:

Thursday, May 23, 2019, 103rd Annual Convention

Thursday, June 6, 2019, Presidents' Reception

NOTE: All Federation meetings are held on Thursdays.

Become a Friend of Federation



Send check for \$18 to Ann Fishkin.
Remember to designate "Friend" on your check and complete the form on your right.

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 _____

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Zip code _____ Phone _____

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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

Email: info@jewishwomensfed.org
Phone: Rae Shalowitz: 410-484-7437
Visit us at www.jewishwomensfed.org



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