



THE FLAMIE

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

Winter 2020

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Mid-Winter Conference

Who Will Remember? Holocaust Education in Schools



Moderator: Jo-Ann Orlinsky, *Federation Legislative Chair*

Discussion Panelists: Bruce Lesh,
Maryland Department of Education, Curriculum Director and
Rachel Glaser and Margie Simon,
Baltimore Jewish Council Holocaust Commission

Thursday, January 23, 2020

9:30 am — 11:30 am

Continental Breakfast
(Dietary Laws Observed)

Beth Israel Congregation
3706 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills, Maryland

Message from Our President



As I am writing this message, 2020 is around the corner. A new decade in the secular calendar is beginning and for me, this is the time to reflect on the past and think about long-term planning.

Federation is celebrating its 104th year and remains the only women's federation in the country. With pride, we have always been attuned to what is going on in the community and have responded to the changes around us. The ability to adapt and respond is what keeps this organization a vibrant entity.

As the year begins, we focus our attention on the country's upswing in anti-Semitism and the denial of the Holocaust experience. To combat this scourge, Federation and the Baltimore Jewish Council will present a program on Holocaust education. A panel will address how the Maryland State Department of Education will implement this new curriculum on Holocaust education in the public schools and how we can help to facilitate this in our local schools. This program will also have a review of resources in the community and take a broader look nationally on what is being done in the area of Holocaust education programming. Join us on Thursday, January 23rd at Beth Israel Congregation. We thank the Sisterhood for hosting this event.

I often peruse the Federation's website, and sometimes I like to look at the summary of our history. What I see is that each decade has presented new challenges, and the women leaders of our Federation have educated our members on issues, provided resources and developed strategies to solve problems. Members have advocated on important women's issues. The women of Federation were involved in the suffrage movement back in 1918 and this year, 2020, we celebrate the

100th year anniversary of women getting the right to vote.

As we enter 2020, there is an awareness among us of some of the challenges facing the Jewish community and women's groups. There have been changes in how Jewish life is structured for many people and changes in family dynamics. Many established Jewish organizations have to examine their missions and how to stay relevant.

There are the other challenges, such as the rise of anti-Semitism, how divided our Jewish community has become on Israel and many other issues. That is why Federation is so important. We need to hear all the voices of our women. We represent a broad spectrum of orthodox, conservative and reform groups and many service groups, as well as the women who are part of the national Zionist organizations. We hope to continue the needed conversations over the next year and beyond on these and other relevant issues. Federation will continue to get speakers and sponsor programs that help educate us, as well as have action plans to make a difference when we can.

One issue Federation decided to address this year is how to help combat anti-Semitism. Education is the key to understanding how the Holocaust could have happened and how to prevent other genocides from happening. This must be part of the way we try to combat anti-Semitism. Recent studies show that many people have very little knowledge of what really happened during the Holocaust and what led to this atrocity. As anti-Semitism rises in the US, the importance of understanding what happened during the Holocaust is essential. Federation is partnering with the Baltimore Jewish Council which provides many resources for the community on Holocaust education and helps advocate to have increased Holocaust education in the public schools.



Federation Mid-Winter Conference



January 23, 2020 -- 9:30 am – Beth Israel Congregation
Program: Who Will Remember? Holocaust Education in Schools
Continental Breakfast Provided (dietary laws observed)
Collection of Sanitary Products for Immigrants
Reservations by Monday, January 13, 2020 call CeCe Rund @ 410-429-5411

Federation's Mid-Winter Conference, hosted generously by Beth Israel Sisterhood and co-sponsored by the Baltimore Jewish Council, is a very important program. Many are aware of the recent rise in anti-Semitic acts and other hate crimes in the U.S. It is imperative to be educated about the Holocaust and what led up to it in order to prevent this from happening again. Therefore, Federation will sponsor a panel presentation on Holocaust Education in Schools featuring a representative from the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and two representatives from the Holocaust Remembrance Commission.

Recently the (MSDE) issued an announcement that they would be enhancing the curriculum of Holocaust Education in Public Schools through the social studies department. Dr. Salmon, State Superintendent, announced the changes in response to concerns about Maryland's Holocaust education requirements raised earlier this year by members of the General Assembly, the Baltimore Jewish Council and the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington.

Bruce Lesh, Director of Social Studies, Science, STEM, Environmental Literacy, and Disciplinary Literacy, will represent MSDE and discuss how this program will be implemented throughout the state. Rachel Glaser and Margie Simon from the Baltimore Jewish Council Holocaust Commission will discuss the resources on Holocaust education available to all community members and why it is so important that Holocaust education is implemented. The moderator of our discussion will be Jo-Ann Orlinsky.

Supporting Serv-A

**Some interesting current projects of the Jewish Chaplains Council,
 Jewish Welfare Board (JWB)**

1. "Birthright"- partnering with another group called Israel Outdoors, to provide a free trip to Israel for future Jewish officers of the US armed forces.
2. "Jewish Education and Experience"- so that Jewish children of active duty military personnel can receive high quality Jewish education and experiences, and not be limited by their parents' military services.
3. "Chaplain Recruitment"- a new marketing campaign has been launched based on a recently completed 2019 study, which will aim to add many more needed JWB chaplains serving in the US military.



Your Serv-A donations, through the Federation, which go directly to the Jewish Chaplains Council, are supporting these important projects.

September and November Meetings—Revisited

Future and Challenges of Policing on September 19, 2019

We welcomed over 60 persons from 19 organizations to our 2019 opening breakfast meeting held at North Oaks in Pikesville on September 19th. Our featured speaker was Chief Melissa Hyatt, Baltimore County Police Chief. Chief Hyatt provided us with insight into becoming the first woman to hold this position. Chief Hyatt also spent time with us describing what the Baltimore County Police are currently doing to protect our neighborhoods and how she sees the future of our Baltimore County Police Department, as well as describing challenges of policing. Chief Hyatt graciously opened the session for questions and answers. The Federation sent in a donation to the Baltimore County Police Department Fund in her honor.



Dinner program on November 7, 2019

On November 7, 2019, over 70 ladies arrived at Har Sinai-Oheb Shalom Congregation on Park Heights Avenue to enjoy a lovely dinner catered by Market Maven and to hear a special presentation regarding fake news. Fake News: Separating Fact from Fiction was presented by Joyce Garczynski, Communications & Development Librarian at Towson University's Albert S. Cook Library.

Joyce Garczynski, our speaker, said: "In a world where information flies at the speed of social media and opinions masquerade as evidence, how can someone separate fact from fiction? It is most difficult to do. A recent multinational survey found that almost 60% of respondents said that they have a difficult time determining whether news was true or not true." She took us through the history of misinformation by providing examples of fascinating, historical fake news from famous persons. She then explained some of the efforts to stop the spread of this fake news, but also reminded us that once a story is out, it can be believed regardless of proof to the contrary. Fake news is misinformation. Joyce provided us with some advice as to how we can check on news stories as we need to do our own research to discover the real news and truth.

The Federation also welcomed Rachel Katzenberg, who is working toward her Girl Scout Gold Award. She is working with an organization called Days for Girls that are assembling personal hygienic packs for impoverished women in Thailand. This worthy cause helps hundreds of women to care for their personal needs and enables them to stay active within their community. Otherwise, they would be condemned to stay away from the public during their menstrual cycle. If you are interested in more information on this project, please contact Rachel at 410-456-4506.



Federation—Legislative Update—August 2, 2019

It is highly unusual for the leaders of both houses of the General Assembly to be replaced at the same time. Both Adrienne Jones and Bill Ferguson have named some of their leadership team, but it remains to be seen how the committees will look in their final configurations. It is, however, a boost to the Baltimore region to have both leaders familiar with the region's assets and problems.

As we look forward to the January 8th opening of the 2020 session of the legislature, we look back at legislation which did not pass last year which we will continue to support in conjunction with the Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW) and other coalition organizations.

The Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program, would set up an insurance fund to provide partial wage replacement for employees who take leave to care for a new child, a family member with a serious health condition, their own medical condition or a family member's military deployment. (Paid Family Leave). Only 17% of U.S. employees have access to unpaid leave under the Federal Family Leave Act. Legislation passed in 2018 in Maryland provides state employees with a parental leave benefit. A portion of wage replacement would be drawn from a fund pool into which employees and employers contribute, based on the employee's wages. In Maryland, 79% of

mothers are in the workplace. Nearly 25% of women take ten or fewer days of parental leave, potentially putting themselves and their children at risk.

Expansion of Maryland's Vacatur Law for Survivors of Human Trafficking. Maryland law already permits survivors of Human Trafficking to vacate, or set aside, convictions for prostitution as forced by their human traffickers. However, they are still subject to serving sentences for other convictions arising from their being trafficked, such as trespassing, stealing or drug possession. This bill would expand Maryland's current vacating convictions law to apply explicitly to survivors of human trafficking. Ninety-one percent of survivors have nine or more different arrests. Their criminal records prevent them from getting jobs or finding housing which traps them in poverty.

Family Law- Marriage -Age Requirements. Currently in Maryland, the age at which a young person can be married is 15. Maryland has the lowest age floor in our surrounding states. This is the fifth year this bill is being introduced. This bill would raise the age to 17, although 18 is preferred. It would also provide judicial oversight. Between 2000 and 2017, 3400 minors were married in Maryland. It puts young women in a place to be susceptible to verbal and physical abuse. In addition, minors can't file for divorce until they are 18.

We will keep you up-to-date on these and other items as the session progresses.

104th Federation Convention



We are very excited about the Federation's 104th Annual Convention, which will take place on Thursday, May 21, 2020, at the Baltimore Hebrew Congregation, beginning at 9:30 a.m. The theme for the convention is "Welcoming the Stranger," which will be explored from the perspectives of Jewish history and values. Please be sure to mark the date on your calendar! We will also be celebrating outstanding women at the convention who have been recognized as "Welcoming Women" by their organizations and in their communities. These special women embody the highest levels of compassion and conduct toward the stranger as set forth in our Jewish traditions. You won't want to miss honoring these very special ladies, as well as learning what actions we might be able to take as "welcoming women." The cost for the convention is \$45 per convention attendee. Yaffa caterers will be providing a delicious Kosher lunch for us.



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.

BETH EL SISTERHOOD

Saturday, February 29, 2020 at 9 am. Sisterhood Shabbat – Speaker is Margie Miller, International President, Women's League of Conservative Judaism.

Thursday, March 12, 2020, 9:15 am to 4:30 pm. Trip to the Maryland Historical Society and the Enoch Pratt Library. Sold out. Wait list only.

Wednesday, March 18, 2020, 12 noon. Rabbi Dana Saroken's Book Review and Luncheon. Rabbi Saroken will review "Eternal Life" by Dara Horn. The story follows Rachel through more than 2,000 years of her many lives. \$20 check for lunch made payable to Beth El Sisterhood, 8101 Park Heights Ave., Baltimore, MD 21208. Attn: Frida Fraiman.

Saturday, March 21, 2020, 10 am to 12 noon. Sisterhood Shabbat -- Sisterhood members participate as rabbis and cantors as well as in all other roles of the service. Please join us in the Berman Rubin Sanctuary as women handle all aspects of this Shabbat service.

BETH ISRAEL SISTERHOOD

Thursday, April 23, 2020, 6 pm. Joint Sisterhood at Beth El Congregation.

Sunday, May 3, 2020. Penny's Plant Sale- Sisterhood in conjunction with Brotherhood shredding event.

BETH TFILOH SISTERHOOD

Tuesday, January 28, 2020, noon to 4 pm. Beth Tfiloh Sisterhood's Day of Games. Cost \$20 for lunch and snacks. Bring your friends for mahjongg, canasta, bridge, scrabble or whatever you play. We have the tables. For information call Ellen Karp: 443-660-7690 or email ellenkarp@hotmail.com or Brenda Pariser: 410-363-8903. Deadline is January 21, 2020. SNOW DATE: February 4, 2020.

BRANDEIS NATIONAL COMMITTEE, BALTIMORE CHAPTER

Thursday, January 16, 2020, 1 pm.- Annual Book Discussion in the Hadassah Office meeting room on Old Court Road. All are welcome. The book to be discussed is "Swing Time" by Zadie Smith, a finalist for the National Book Critic's Circle Award, and long-listed for

the Man Booker Prize. The author's talk on campus with Brandeis students was recorded, and we will watch and listen as Zadie Smith discusses her book with them. 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 p.m. in the Hadassah Meeting Room, 3723 Old Court Road, Suite 205.

CHIZUK AMUNO SISTERHOOD

Tuesday, January 14, 2020, 6:45 to 9 pm. Meditative Dot Painting Program, Stulman Auditorium, "Add Colorful Calm to Your Home" and enjoy creativity and relaxation with a unique art workshop using dot painting. Be sure to check out sherylbergerdesigns.com for more information on this special art. Everyone will take home their own completed piece of artwork! Snacks and drinks will be provided. \$36 for Sisterhood members and \$40 for non-members. Participants must register in advance - please RSVP by January 7, 2020. For registration or questions, please contact Sisterhood@chizukamuno.org.

Wednesday, January 29, 2020, 7 to 8:30 pm. An Evening of Mitzvot - Last year's program was a great success - so we're bringing it back! Please join us for an evening of camaraderie and Gemilut Hasadim (Acts of Loving Kindness). We will work on a variety of service projects for the benefit of clients of local agencies serving those in need. A donation of \$18 is requested to defray the cost of supplies. This program is sponsored in part by Chizuk Amuno's Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Gemilut Hasadim Initiative. Please RSVP with your check made out to Chizuk Amuno Sisterhood by January 20. Contact Donna Friedman at donnagfried@comcast.net for more information.

Sunday, March 8, 2020, 12 pm. Sisterhood's Askin Book Review. Please save the date for Krieger Schechter's own Steve Gordon as he discusses the books he has written. Brunch will be served and a question and answer session will follow the presentation. Please contact sisterhood@chizukamuno.org with any questions.

COVENANT GUILD

Sunday March 22, 2020, 9 am. Temple Oheb Shalom - MAH JONGG TOURNAMENT

Wednesday, May 20, 2020, 11 am. Venue to be determined - 68TH DONOR

HADASSAH GREATER BALTIMORE

Tuesday, February 18, 2020. Trip to Hershey Spa. \$60 for members until February 4, \$70 non-members and members after February 4. Bus leaves Greenspring Shopping Center 8 am SHARP. 10:30-2:30 pm- Spa treatments and lunch. 4 pm SHARP bus leaves Hershey Spa. 6 pm bus arrives back at Greenspring Shopping Center parking lot. For more information and reservations call the Hadassah office at 410-484-9590 or email baltimore.chapter@hadassah.org.

Wednesday, March 11, 2020. Day Trip to Annapolis to the Maryland Legislature. Call the Hadassah office for more information, 410-484-9590.

KAPPA GUILD INC

Wednesday, June 17, 2020- Trip to the American Music Theater and lunch at Miller's Smorgasbord in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Cost is \$115 and includes bus, orchestra seats for the theater, lunch, driver's gratuity and snacks on the way home. Leaves Greenspring Shopping Center parking lot at 10:30 am and returns around 7:00 pm. **To make your reservation, send a \$50 deposit payable to Kappa Guild, Inc. with your name, address, phone number and email address to Phyl Cherry at 7205 Verbena Road; Baltimore, Md. 21209. Deposit is due by March 1, 2020 and balance due by May 1, 2020.** For any questions contact Phyl Cherry at 410-868-4492 or email at cherrymom@comcast.net.

LEVINDALE AUXILIARY

Sunday March 22, 2020, from 2 to 3:30 pm. Come join us at our Annual Face to Face multi-generational event. It is a fun time for all Auxiliary families and friends to celebrate with the residents. Refreshments served. This is a free event. More info to follow. For information, contact Faye at fbrand@lifebridgehealth.org.

MOSES MONTEFIORE ANSHE EMUNAH SISTERHOOD

Tuesday, January 28, 2020, 1 pm. Please join us for a Tu B'shvat Seder with Rabbi Shapiro, "Birthday of the Trees" 7000 Rockland Hills Drive. Special foods are involved and discussion of the symbols and events and ideas related to ecological concerns. Members: \$5

Guests: \$8. Make out check to MMAE Sisterhood & send to Hinda Sokolow, 3306 Greenvale Road, Baltimore, MD, 21208.

April 28, 2020, 12 noon. LUNCHEON BINGO - 7000 Rockland Hills Drive. Cash Prizes! 1st card free. Members: \$18 Guests: \$20. Your check is your reservation. Make check out to MMAE Sisterhood. Send by April 20th to: Hinda Sokolow, 3306 Greenvale Road, Baltimore., MD 21208.

NER TAMID GREENSPRING VALLEY SYNAGOGUE

Friday, January 31, 2020, 6 pm - Friday Night Live Dinner & Oneg - join us for Shabbat dinner followed by an oneg with desserts and songs.

Sunday, February 23, 2020, 7:30 pm. Paint & Sip Night - Led by Ruby Lasker, have fun creating a work of art!

Sunday, May 3, 2020, tbd - Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf Event. For more information, please contact Abby Sattell at abbysattell@gmail.com.

WOMEN OF BALTIMORE HEBREW CONGREGATION

Monday, March 16, 2020, 9:30 am to 2 pm. 60th Interfaith Institute. The vital topic is "Understanding Contemporary Anti-Semitism." Our Keynote speaker is Doron Ezickson Regional Director of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) of Washington, D.C. ADL, founded in 1913, is the world's leading organization fighting anti-Semitism through programs and services that counteract hatred, prejudice, and bigotry. Responders of different races and religions will take part! The cost of the event is \$18 (includes lunch). For further information or to register call 410-764-1587, ext. 270 or email chair carolcica@comcast.net.

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:

Mid-Winter Conference: Thursday, January 23, 2020

School for a Day: Thursday, March 26, 2020

104th Convention: Thursday, May 21, 2020

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 _____

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

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



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