



THE FLAME

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

Winter 2024

IN THIS ISSUE

- ◆ President's Message
- ◆ Legislative Update
- ◆ 108th Annual Convention
- ◆ Opening Meeting Review
- ◆ Dr. Dan Morhaim Review
- ◆ Under the Umbrella
- ◆ Meeting Calendar
- ◆ Friend of Federation

OFFICERS 2024

President

CeCe Rund

First Vice President

Shulamit Finkelstein

Vice President

Edie Meyers

Corresponding Secretary

Rochelle Bohrer

Corresponding Secretary

Ferne Rogow

Recording Secretary

CeCe Rund (acting)

Treasurer

Ann Fishkin

Auditor

Rosalind Asch

Community Representative

Marcia Bornfriend, P.P.

FLAME EDITORS:

Eve Vogelstein, mothraeve@gmail.com,
Marcia Bornfriend,
mbornfriend410@gmail.com
Sheila Mentz, morahsheila@aol.com



The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland

CRACKING THE CODE :

Demystifying Younger Generations



*How Baby Boomers and Traditionalists can
understand and communicate with the younger generation.*

Speaker: Rekha C. Gibbons,

Chief Optimism Officer at Raare Solutions, NYC.,
Generational Guru, advisor to Fortune 500 companies.

Thursday, January 25, 2024

9:30 am on Zoom

RSVP by Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Register on our website at jewishwomensfed.org.

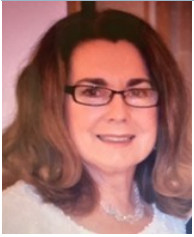
Questions, contact Shulamit Finkelstein:
shulamitf44@gmail.com or 410-905-5563.

Social Action Project: Since the Reisterstown Crisis Center still has a great need for cake, brownie and cookie mixes as well as icings, puddings and Jell-O boxes, the Federation is continuing to collect these donations for our Zoom January meeting. Drop off your donation items or send monetary contributions to Linda Roedel at 113 Old House Court, Pikesville, MD 21208. Deadline is February 15th.

Remember to "Be a Friend of Federation"

Visit us on our Facebook page, just search our name! ▪ jewishwomensfed.org

Message from Our President CeCe Rund



We said goodbye to a beautiful fall and hello to a fast-incoming winter. By the time you read this, Chanukah will have occurred. I sincerely hope that you were able to see some new light during these dark times of war and suffering. We have a continued hope of peace for our people, for Israel and, certainly, for this world!

A new secular year is here, and The Federation is ready. When I took office as President of The Federation, we were coming off the COVID shut down. I discovered that it takes a year to reorganize and organize again, and we are doing this with vigor. So, what's happening within The Federation? Julie Bernstein was appointed as our Representative Liaison and has been working with our constituent organization representatives to strengthen our bonds and better understand your needs. We met one of those requested needs by sponsoring a President-Representative Forum last year and had Annette Saxon and her panel present on how to promote our organizations. Another project that I am doing is highlighting individual member organizations in our Flame and on our web site. We also organized a Think Tank and as you have heard from the chair, Helene Waranch, we are doing an introspective review of our committees and chair descriptions, bylaws, policy revisions and more. When we discussed this committee and Helene suggested that the committee be called, Think Tank, I envisioned this working group to be the heartbeat of The Federation for some time. And it is! All organizations need an introspective review, remodel if needed and a thorough update.

The Executive Board voted to continue to provide a yearly updated Directory to all members and Friends. The Board also voted to keep the cost of our very reasonable dues at \$50 per member organization.

I began working on a March trip to Annapolis to meet with our legislators over lunch and to observe our legislators at work. However, due to major ongoing construction within the government complex, this trip must be postponed to 2025. At present, we keep an eye on women's legislative issues through MLAW and

have representatives attending the MLAW meetings.

The Federation is also initiating a Lilith Salon. The first Salon was held at the home of Helene Waranch on December 3rd at 3 pm. The only prerequisite is that you subscribe to Lilith Magazine as the salons discuss various articles within each edition.

Please contact me if you are interested in serving on any of our committees which include Friends of Federation, the annual Convention, Legislative, Resolutions, Community (new Membership), Directory, Social Action, Tech Committee and "The Flame." Call me, CeCe Rund at 410-429-5411, or email me at crrund@yahoo.com. We welcome new ideas and your input.

This coming convention in May 2024 will usher in many new officers. Shula Finkelstein will become our new President and I have been mentoring her so that she will have no surprises. We will be in good hands.

Even though we are looking inward and re-evaluating our organization as an umbrella to all Jewish Women's organizations and synagogues, The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland continues to uphold our mission of leadership training, support of the Jewish Community and advocacy of issues of major concern, while upholding our Jewish values.

I look forward to hearing from you at any time. I also hope to see you on zoom at our January program.

**Respectfully,
CeCe Rund**

President of The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland (2022-2024)



Federation Legislative Update—2023

Attorney General, Anthony Brown, Suspends CAIR Director From the Hate Crimes Commission Source: rising in resistance, and called babies that were murdered in the Hamas attack on Israel as “Forty Fake Israeli Babies.”
December 1, 2023. Jewish Times

Zainab Chaudry, Director of the Maryland Office of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), has been suspended from the Maryland Commission on Hate Crimes, Response and Prevention. Many social media posts by Chaudry compared the Israeli government to the Nazis. She also described actions by Hamas as freedom fighters



Legislative Update
by
Karan Engerman

Attorney General Brown said in a statement: “The commission is facing its first test. How we respond has deep implications. I take this very seriously and I will do everything possible to bring people together to move forward the critical work of this commission”.

Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW) Updates

All of the following bills passed (more bills listed under the MLAW 2003 Legislative Agenda Final Report). These are four of the seven bills listed on the website:

(HB705/SB798) Declaration of Rights-Rights to Reproductive Freedom

Ensures the right to reproductive freedom in our Maryland Constitution including decisions related to preventing, continuing or terminating a pregnancy.

(HB808/SB589) Reproductive Health Protection Act

Protection for pregnant individuals seeking abortion care as well as health care providers, support organizations and volunteers from civil, criminal and administrative liability.

(HB4/SB129) Criminal Law-Sexual Crimes-Repeal of Spousal Defense

Repeals the current statute that makes marriage a defense to some sex crimes. Marriage will no longer be a defense against rape or sexual crimes.

(HB297/SB292) Criminal Law-Victims of Child Sex Trafficking and Human Trafficking-Safe Harbor and Service Response

Provides a safe harbor for child victims of sex trafficking and prevents prosecution for acts committed as a result of their trafficking, including prostitution and other related offenses. Prevents criminalization of children and divert youth into services (now available statewide).

Our Federation Constituent Organization Highlights

CHANA— Founded in 1995, they serve Jewish victims of intimate partner violence. In 2009, CHANA expanded its mission to provide victims and survivors of childhood abuse with trauma informed, community oriented and mental health services. In 2013, CHANA initiated its elder abuse program. CHANA offers a Jewish response to the needs of people who experience abuse in Northwest Baltimore City and County. CHANA provides crisis intervention, education and consultation and advocates for community awareness. Services include trauma informed supportive counseling, crisis intervention, legal advocacy, shelter, support groups and prevention education. —“Everyone deserves to feel safe.” Please contact CHANA at **410-234-0030** if you experience domestic violence, elder abuse, sexual trauma or teen dating violence.

HADASSAH— An international organization, Hadassah focuses on advancing health care and medicine, connecting to Israel and Zionism and advocating for change. Every day, Hadassah brings healing to the people who need it the most. Local chapters host health and wellness events in hundreds of communities. The USA Hadassah sponsored programs advance a deeper understanding and connection to Israel. Hadassah’s advocacy supports Israel’s security and a strong US-Israel relationship. Hadassah also believes that empowering women can heal the world and their representatives speak out on multiple issues that concern women; advancing women’s health and economic security and fighting antisemitism and hate. Hadassah also supports cutting edge medical technology like stem cell research. Locally, Hadassah has a resale store in Pikesville.



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR 108TH ANNUAL CONVENTION



On **May 16, 2024**, The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland will hold our Annual 108th Convention at Har Sinai-Oheb Shalom Congregation. The Chairs for this event are **Janet Livingston and Julie Bernsetein**. Our keynote speaker will be **Meredith Weisel**, Regional Director for the Antidefamation League (ADL).

This years convention theme is "**Breaking Down Barriers To Combat Hate** " and the honoree award is titled: "**A Woman Who Builds Bridges for a Better Future.**"

Keep an eye open for details on our website jewishwomensfed.org. This promises to be a most important, timely and interesting presentation!

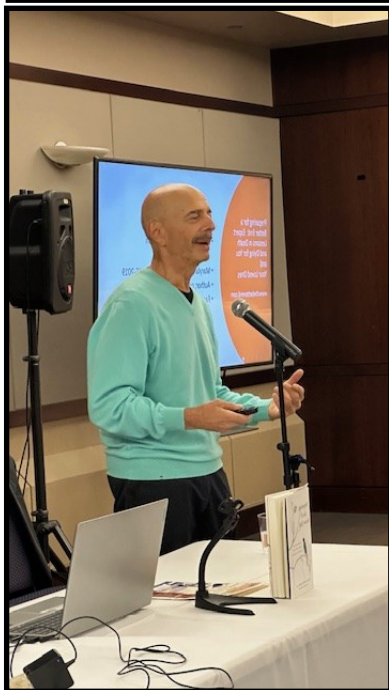
SEPTEMBER 21, OPENING MEETING REVIEW

On September 21, 2023, The Federation sponsored its opening meeting at North Oaks Independent Living Community in Pikesville, MD. Close to 70 ladies came to hear Dr. Robert Freedman, a political scientist for Baltimore Hebrew University and John Hopkins University address; **The Crisis In Israel: How It Happened And How It May Be Resolved.**

Following a sumptuous breakfast, CeCe Rund, President of The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland opened the short business meeting with the singing of Hatikvah. Following this meeting, Dr. Freedman provided us with an intense insight on Israeli politics and history. The Netanyahu government was discussed and then Dr. Freedman gave us his thoughts on some resolutions regarding Israeli government controversies. Many engaged in a Q & A session following the presentation. A most interesting presentation!

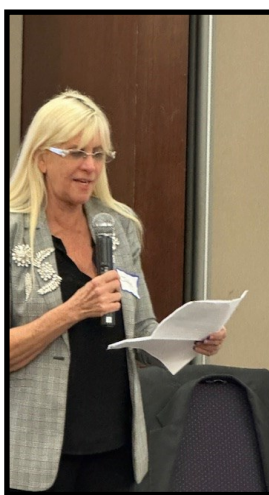
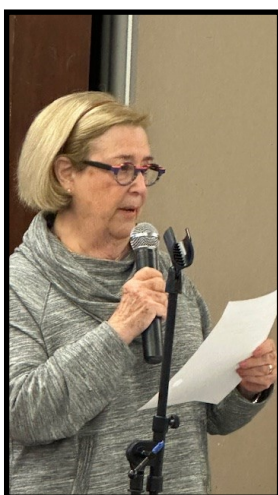
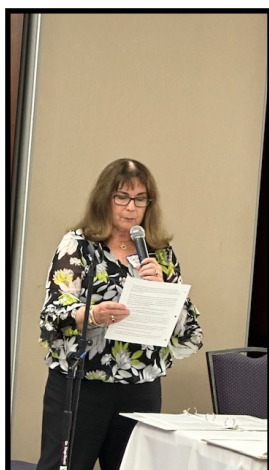
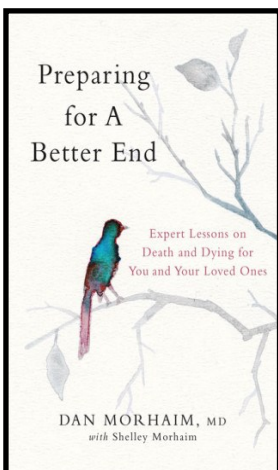


November Dinner Meeting with Dr. Dan Morhaim



Dr. Dan Morhaim was our guest speaker for the fall dinner program held at Har Sinai-Oheb Shalom Congregation on November 16, 2023. Dr. Morhaim was a member of the Maryland House of Delegates representing northwest Baltimore County from 1995-2019 and is known for sponsoring legislation concerning important healthcare issues, environmental concerns and streamlining governmental operations. Dr. Morhaim has authored several articles for medical publications. More recently, Dr. Morhaim authored a book, **Preparing For a Better End**.

After enjoying a delicious dinner catered by Milk & Honey, we held a brief business meeting to update our members on The Federation's activities. Dr. Morhaim then presented, **Preparing for a Better End**, and concentrated on the importance of having Advanced Directives. He explained how completing this document can make end of life much more comfortable for the patient as well as for the family and caregivers. Dr. Morhaim provided us with resources for Advanced Directives as well as resources for a newer Maryland concept, green burials. You may find them at [Green Burial Association of MD](https://www.greenburial.org/).





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.

ADAT CHAIM SISTERHOOD

Saturday January 27, 2024 7-10 PM. Adat Chaim Sisterhood is sponsoring a Coffee House at Adat Chaim Synagogue 11421 Cronhill Drive, Ste. H, Owings Mills, Md 21117. Featuring: TwoBeat Jazz Duo. \$25 per person. We will start with a Havdalah Service. Then an evening of Jazz music, hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Please RSVP to acsisterhood18@gmail.com.

BETH EL SISTERHOOD

Feb. 22, Mar 21, 2024 7:30 PM. Meet the Author Series. Your chance to get 'up close and personal' with some best-selling authors. This is not a book review but rather a one-hour virtual conversation with each author in a Q&A format – why and how they became authors, obstacles they overcame, life anecdotes and how they develop their stories. This series will be held via ZOOM. Cost - Beth El Sisterhood member \$40/Series subscription (4 programs) or \$12/program. Beth El Congregation member (non-Sisterhood member) \$55/Series subscription (4 programs) or \$15/program. Non-member of Beth El Sisterhood or Congregation \$65/Series subscription (4 programs) or \$18/program. Contact: Robin Kleiman, robin.kleiman@gmail.com.

Wednesday, March 20, 2024 12 noon – 3:30 PM. Spring Afternoon of Games. A fun afternoon of mah jongg, canasta, bridge or board games with your friends. Luncheon from 12-1. Cost - \$40 per person. This event will be held at Beth El Congregation. Sharon Gross bubbygross.gross@gmail.com.

Sunday April 7 and Monday April 8 10-5. Unique Boutique - A two-day boutique with a large group of vendors (crafts, jewelry, wearables, flowers, ceramics) as well as an ongoing auction of select items. No entry cost. This event will be held at Beth El Congregation, 8101 Park Heights Avenue, Baltimore 21208. Contact: Ilene Merenbloom, ilene@merenbloom.com.

BETH ISRAEL SISTERHOOD

Sunday, January 28, 2024 Time to be determined. Zentangle Matzah Cover. It will be held at Beth Israel Congregation, 3706 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills, Md. 21117. The cost to be determined. Please contact Suzanne Kiewe 410-294-8411 Suzkiewe@gmail.com.

Wednesday, February 14, 2024. Time will be determined. Croonings of Steve Earle. Listen to delightful songs and join in at Beth Israel Congregation, 3706 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills, Md. 21117. The cost will be determined. Please contact Suzanne Kiewe 410-294-8411 Suzkiewe@gmail.com.

Sunday, March 3, 2024. Time will be determined.

Hamantaschen Bake. Let's make and bake hamantaschen at Beth Israel Congregation, 3706 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills, Md. 21117. Contact Suzanne Kiewe 410-294-8411 Suzkiewe@gmail.com.

Saturday, March 16, 2024 9:30 AM. Beth Israel Sisterhood Shabbat at Beth Israel Congregation, 3706 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills, Md. 21117. This is a free event. ASL interpreter throughout the service. Service dedicated to welcoming and supporting ALL sisters. Please contact Suzanne Kiewe 410-294-8411 Suzkiewe@gmail.com.

Sunday April 7, 2024. Time to be determined. Challah Bake - Learn the art of challah, make and bake. Cost to be determined. It will be held at Beth Israel Congregation, 3706 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills, Md. 21117. Please contact Suzanne Kiewe 410-294-8411 Suzkiewe@gmail.com.

Wednesday, April 17, 2024. Time to be determined. Chocolate Seder. Come and enjoy a sweet seder at Beth Israel Congregation, 3706 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills, Md. 21117. Cost will be determined. Please contact Suzanne Kiewe 410-294-8411 Suzkiewe@gmail.com.

BETH TFILOH SISTERHOOD

Wednesday, January 17, 2024- Luncheon and General Meeting. Catered by David Chu's China Bistro.

Thursday, March 14, 2024- 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.

COVENANT GUILD

Sunday, March 3, 2024 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM. Covenant Guild Mah Jongg Tournament. This event will be held at Har Sinai - Oheb Shalom Congregation, 7310 Park Heights Avenue. The Cost is \$65 includes lunch, dessert and cash prizes - payment must be made by February 15, 2024. Please Contact Janet Moss tonimoss@aol.com or 410-371-0921 to get a registration form.

HADASSAH GREATER BALTIMORE

February 6, 2024 7:00 PM on Zoom. Join us to discuss The Bird Hotel with author, Joyce Maynard. The cost is \$18. Registration link to be sent in January. Please contact: esizemore@hadassah.org or kschuster@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...

February 10, 2024 7:30 PM on Zoom. Join Hadassah Greater Baltimore in a community-wide celebration of Repro Shabbat. Learn about local and state-wide efforts to ensure reproductive freedom in Maryland and the upcoming Maryland referendum to include reproductive choice in the Maryland constitution. This event is FREE. To register: <https://hadassah-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcruCurTojHNc1vvGPU-hr8zZt5-ilkzxm>.

March 17-18, 2024. Haddasah Mid-Atlantic Retreat - Explore With Us: The Power of Women Who Do. This event will be in Wilmington, Delaware. Save the dates! The cost will be determined soon. Please contact nbraverman@hadasah.org for more information.

Israel Bonds Maryland Women's Division

Wednesday, January 31, 2024 7PM. Combined Installation of General Campaign & Women's Division Chairs. Location to be determined. Join us as we install, Linda S. Elman & Beth Sellman as General Campaign Chair & Vice Chair and Elissa Ness & Vered Taylor as Women's Division Chair & Deputy Chair. We will also recognize and thank our outgoing General Campaign Chair & Vice Chair David Katz & Aaron Margolies and outgoing Women's Division Chair, Wendy Drazin. For more information, please contact Hillary Lewis – 443-471-2783 hillary.lewis@israelbonds.com.

KAPPA GUILD, INC.

Friday, April 12, 2024- Shabbat To Go. Catering by Shula. Pick up at Beth Tfiloh Congregation in front of the main entrance 11:00 AM -12:00 PM. For more information, contact Sheila Mentz at 410-484-8215 or morahsheila@aol.com.

MOSES MONTEFIORE ANSHE EMUNAH SISTERHOOD

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 11:30 PM Songs from Broadway by Vocalist Gil Polt. Price TBD Dessert meeting at synagogue. Contact: Marilyn Sherr at 410-484-5720.

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 11:30 PM Paula Gallagher from Baltimore County Library will review new books we will find enjoyable. No charge. Guests welcome to meeting at MMAE. For more information, call Marilyn Sherr at 410-484-5729.

TEMPLE ISAIAH SISTERHOOD

March 3, 2024. Time to be determined. Bingo Tournament - Get ready for a bingo tournament with Temple Isaiah Sisterhood! More details about cost and time to come! It will be held at Temple Isaiah 12200 Scaggsville Rd, Fulton, MD.

Friday Mornings throughout the Spring 10 AM-1 PM. Mah Jongg - Players of ALL levels are welcome to drop in for an opportunity to make new friends, play Mah Jongg and have a fun time. We will be offering lessons to anyone interested in learning. Please contact Susie Golkow susiereads@aol.com for any questions. For Fridays before Jan 1, sign up here: <https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/10C0E48A9A72FA4FFC16-45561695-friday> (New signup genius for Spring dates to come). Event will be held at Temple Isaiah 12200 Scaggsville Rd, Fulton, MD. .

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

Sponsoring these events from January through April of 2024.

January 17, 2024 Registration, 5:00, games from 5:30-8:30 PM.

Family Fun Bingo Night at HSOSC, 7310 Park Heights Ave, Pikesville. Cost \$15 for adults, \$10 for children. Snacks available for cash. Prizes for all games. Open to the public.

January 28, 2024 10 AM. Breakfast Speakers Series with Dana Stein at HSOSC, 7310 Park Heights Ave. Pikesville. Cost \$18. RSVP SBoxerBell@gmail.com. Open to the public.

February 23, 2024 at 6:15 PM During Shabbat Service-Gold-Szold Leadership Award presentation. Open to the public.

March 10, 2024 10 AM. Breakfast Speaker Series with Chana Representative Lauren Shavitz at HSOSC 7310 Park Heights Ave, Pikesville. Cost \$18. RSVP sboxerbell@gmail.com. Open to the Public.

WOMEN OF BALTIMORE HEBREW CONGREGATION

Wednesday, January 3, 10, 17 and 24 at 7:30 PM on Zoom.

There will be a course of study on Jewish Folklore presented by Charles Hanna.

Monday, January 22nd at 12:00 PM Book Circle at The Gourmet Girls. We will be discussing As Close To Us As Breathing by Elizabeth Poliner. Email Gail Dezube, gail.dezube@gmail.com if you are interested in sharing views on books.

Wednesday February 6th at 7:30 PM on Zoom. Wednesdays with WBHC, Cantor Karen Webber will present a program on two Jewish Comediennes: Sophie Tucker and Joan Rivers. For more information on all programs, email Women of BHC at WomenofBHC@gmail.com.

Federation Calendar (meetings are held on Thursdays)

Meetings Held Either Virtually or in Person

2024

Mid-Winter Conference—January 25, 2024

Spring Fling—March 28, 2024

108th Annual Convention—May 16, 2024



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: Cece Rund Crrund@yahoo.com or 410-429-5411

SAVE THE DATE:
108TH ANNUAL CONVENTION—MAY 16, 2024

THE FLAME
The Federation of Jewish Women's
Organizations of Maryland
P.O. Box 29, Stevenson, MD 21153-0059

