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## Council Matters

April 2019

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# IMMIGRANTS: An Economic Success Story

*Moderated by Mark Hetfield,  
President and CEO of HIAS*

Join us for a special documentary film screening and panel discussion focusing on the economic contributions of immigrants.

**WHEN**  
SUNDAY, APRIL 7  
from 3:00-4:30 PM

**WHERE**  
Baltimore Hebrew  
Congregation  
7401 Park Heights Ave  
Baltimore, MD 21208

**BALTIMORE**  
**JEWISH**  
**COUNCIL** 

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If you have been tuning into WYPR this week, you will know that this year's edition of the Risch Memorial Program on Immigration is fast approaching. Immigrants: An Economic Success Story will feature a documentary screening followed by a panel discussion, moderated by Mark Hetfield of HIAS. The panel will consist of Stephanie Hsu of The Chinatown Collective, Father Joe Muth of the St. Matthew Church, and Anwar Khan of Islamic Relief USA.

[Click here for more information and to register.](#)

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### Legislature Enters Its Final Week

The Maryland General Assembly session is entering its final week of 2019. Many of the Baltimore Jewish Council's top priorities have been approved, or are close to winning final passage from legislators. Governor Hogan and legislators have

approved a range of funds to assist our community with security needs, including \$3 million for houses of worship at risk of hate crimes and \$2 million for schools and day care centers. Other important budget items include \$1 million to support construction of the new Hillel at the University of Maryland, College Park (a total of \$2 million in state support so far), and \$75,000 to help with major maintenance needs at the Edward A. Myerberg Center.



New legislation targeting hate crimes is set to be approved, along with a new grant program we proposed for the Department of Aging to encourage more innovative initiatives to help our seniors age in place. Two other big issues remain unclear going into the final week. The bill proposing mandatory Holocaust education in Maryland's middle and high schools has not received a committee vote, and it seems unlikely to go anywhere this session. And the various legislation that would affect the future Pimlico Race Course is expected to be the subject of intense debate in the last few days of session. Stay tuned for an expanded recap once the General Assembly wraps up its work on April 8.

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## Training Session Held on Suspicious Packages and Mail



More than 50 representatives of synagogues, schools, Associated agencies and other Jewish community institutions joined a March 18<sup>th</sup> training session led by law enforcement, fire and health officials from Baltimore City and Baltimore County. The focus on suspicious mail and packages covered such areas as what to look out for, how to respond, what

to expect from first-responders, and potential health issues. A special thanks to the Baltimore Police Department's and Baltimore County Police Department's Shield Programs for helping to organize the training, to Baltimore Hebrew Congregation for hosting the session and Baltimore County Executive John Olzewski Jr. for stopping by.

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## Lessons of the Shoah Reaches 300 Students

More than 300 students and teachers from 14 schools across the region attended this year's Lessons of the Shoah on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Hosted by The John Carroll School in Bel Air, the full



day experience provided students with the opportunity to learn about the Holocaust from educators, experts and Survivors.

Be sure to mark your calendar for this year's Yom HaShoah community commemoration, set for Sunday, May 5, at 4:30 p.m., at Baltimore Hebrew Congregation. This year's

program – “The 75th Anniversary of the War Refugee Board: Efforts by the United States Government to Save the Jews during the Holocaust” – features Gretchen Skidmore, the Director of Education Initiatives at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

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**Congratulations to our 2018-2019 Social Justice Teen Fellows for creating and facilitating our First Annual Teen Summit at Loyola University! Congressman Cummings delivered an inspiring keynote address before our youth participants attended workshops on social justice issues in our city.**

Thank you to our partners and guest speakers: Rep. Elijah E. Cummings, Councilman Brandon M. Scott, Councilman Zeke Cohen, Loyola University Maryland, Elijah Cummings Youth Program, Samuel I. Rosenberg Endowment Fund, 4Front Baltimore, Black Yield Institute, Community Law in Action, and Health Care for the Homeless!

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## Upcoming Events & Opportunities

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L'Dough V'Dough

Monday, April 9, 6:30 PM, Baltimore Hebrew Congregation

[More information and registration](#)

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**Together We Remember: The Future of Baltimore's Past**

Sunday, April 14, 5:30 - 8:00 PM. The Jewish Museum of Maryland

[More information and registration](#)

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**2019 Yom HaShoah Commemoration**

Sunday, May 5, 4:30 PM. Baltimore Hebrew Congregation

More information and registration coming soon.

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**Israeli Election 101: Post Election Briefing**

Monday, May 6, 7:00 - 8:30 PM, Park Heights JCC Community Room

[More information and registration](#)

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**Stoop Storytelling - Out of Stigma's Shadow**

Monday, May 21, 7:00 - 9:00 PM, Baltimore Hebrew Congregation

[More information and registration](#)

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**Elijah Cummings Youth Program in Israel  
20th Anniversary Celebration**

Sunday, June 2, 5 PM, Reginald F. Lewis Museum

More information and registration coming soon.

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