

# **Council Matters**

# September 2020

#### Have You Made A Plan To Vote Yet?



The BJC is joining with The Associated to encourage everyone to request their mail-in ballot right now, ahead of the November 3rd General Election. No excuse is needed to vote by mail in Maryland, and it is not too early to request a ballot, which can be done directly online. Voting by mail is safe and secure, and in addition to returning it through the mail, voters have the option of turning in their ballots at designated drop boxes in their county. Check with your local board of elections to find a drop box near you.

While online to request your ballot, be sure to also complete your 2020 census. The deadline to be counted is **September 30.** An accurate census count is imperative to so much, from redistricting our state and federal legislative districts to the distribution of billions of dollars in federal funds for social services that we all use on a daily basis. So make sure you and your family are counted, completing the census is simple, and takes only a few minuets.

### Latest Edition Of Social Justice Teen Fellowship Cohort Set To Convene

Comprised of 26 high school students, the Social Justice Teen Fellowship is set to kick off this month with a brand new cohort. The program pairs students from the Elijah Cummings Youth Program with their Jewish peers to learn more about how to grow their shared passion for social justice, and to



turn it into change for their community.

The fellowship, which runs the length of the school year, will give each student the opportunity to create their own podcast about a social justice related topic or issue of their choice. The fellows will be learning from WYPR's Aaron Henkin, who produces the acclaimed program *Out Of The Blocks*.

## Recruitment Underway For Leadership Development Program



Aimed at cultivating the next generation of Jewish leaders, the Leadership Development Program is currently recruiting for the next cohort of participants. The program kicks off next month and cohort members will develop an understanding of all aspects of Jewish community relations. From government relations to community security and everything in between, participants will be exposed to each program area of the BJC, and upon completion of LDP will be equipped to take an increased role in the community.

Those interested must be under 40 years age, and can learn more about LDP and apply at: <a href="mailto:baltjc.org/leadership-development">baltjc.org/leadership-development</a>. The deadline to apply is September 30.

### **BJC and JMM Host First Ever Entirely Virtual Summer Teachers Institute**



Attracting educators from across the United States and around the globe, including as far as Australia, this year's edition of the Summer Teachers Institute was presented in an all virtual format. The annual, three-day, Summer Teachers Institute provided teachers with the tools to teach and inspire their

students to be an Upstander: a person who stands up, speaks out, and refuses to let injustice go unchecked—the opposite of a Bystander.

The new format not only allowed for global participants, but also allowed participants to hear from several Holocaust survivors, who due to the pandemic have not been able to share their stories as widely as in the past. Survivor Peter Feigl who was one of the Jewish children hidden in Le Chambon-sur-Lignon, was even able to join as a surprise guest. We are appreciative of our co-hosts at the Jewish Museum of Maryland, Maryland State Department of Education and the Macks Center for Jewish Education, along with each of our excellent presenters, who helped to make this such a successful program.

### **Contribute To The Labyrinth Road Rebuilding Fund**

The blast that took two lives, injured over 20, and rocked the Fallstaff community will have lasting impacts. The process of rebuilding for the residents who were affected will take time and money.

The Associated is working directly with CHAI and has established an emergency fund to support the rebuilding efforts. 100% of all funds raised will be directly used by



CHAI to offer home repair, supplies and services to those in need of support, neighborhood clean-up and other resources as determined. Please join us and show your support for our Park Heights neighbors as they recover from this tragic accident.

Please give generously

## **Upcoming Events & Opportunities**



## **Register Now!**

### **Connecting Generations: Difficult Conversations About Race**

Final Session: Tuesday, September 15, 12:00 PM

**Space Is Limited, Register Now!** 

## Israeli Politics and the Pandemic with Gil and Mayaan Hoffman

Monday, September 21, 12:00 PM

**Register Now and submit your questions** 

# SAVE THE DATE: Back To School During COVID-19 With State Superintendent Dr. Karen Salmon

Wednesday, September 23, 12:00 PM

Register and submit your questions

# SAVE THE DATE: Remembering the Life and Legacy of Congressman Elijah Cummings

Wednesday, October 14

More information and registration coming soon

Baltimore Jewish Council | baltjc.org

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