



News & Views

December 2025

Kislev-Tevat 5786

Hanukkah Shabbat Dinner



“Look at how a single candle can both defy and define the darkness.”
–Anne Frank

Friday December 12th

5:45 pm

Early Bird - Register by December 1
Adult Temple Members \$15

As of December 2nd
Adult Temple Members \$18

Children Under 13 FREE
Guest Adults \$20



SCAN TO
REGISTER BY 12/1



Menu:

Fried Chicken
Latkes
Salad

Temple Shaarei Shalom
and the
Tendrigh Center for Lifelong Learning
A Reform Congregation

9085 Hagen Ranch Road • Boynton Beach, FL 33472
Published Ten Times Per Year
www.templeshaareishalom.com
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Tel: 561-364-9054 • Fax: 561-364-1506

Anthony Fratello, MAHL, DD, Rabbi
Carrie Barry, MSM, Cantor
Caryn Feldman, MPH, Executive Director
Nancy Bossov, RJE, Director of Congregational Learning

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News & Views is Edited by Wendy Alfarone, Susan Brust, and Caryn Feldman

2025-2026 Pillars of TSS

Help us fulfill our commitment to support
Temple Shaarei Shalom.
Become a TSS Pillar and share in the
fulfillment of a mitzvah.

Thank you to our current PILLARS

<p>Rebecca & Bryan Aling</p> <p>Gerness Alpert</p> <p>Roberta Alter</p> <p>Maxine & Dennis Baker</p> <p>Harold Baumritter</p> <p>Judith Beiner</p> <p>Carol Bell</p> <p>Lisa Bell</p> <p>Linda Birnbaum</p> <p>Lizabeth Bowers</p> <p>Melissa Bowers</p> <p>Holly & Matthew Bromer</p> <p>Deborah Chasin</p> <p>Ron & Pam Cohen</p> <p>Elana & Aaron Deutsch</p> <p>Rona Eagle & Bruce Leeb</p> <p>Martin Eisenberg</p> <p>Stacey & Steven Ellison</p> <p>Lucille Epstein II</p> <p>Marilyn Ernsteen</p> <p>Mara & Matthew Garaway</p> <p>Toby Gluckstern</p> <p>Natalie & Richard Goldhaber</p> <p>Anne Gorenstein</p> <p>Rhoda Gottlieb</p> <p>Diane Grimm</p> <p>Ellen & Stan Hulkower</p> <p>Sheila Hyman</p> <p>Renee & Lawrence Lerner</p> <p>Karen & Corey Levine</p> <p>Stephanie & Jay Levine</p> <p>Shelley Lomove</p>	<p>Carole & Aaron Mall</p> <p>Sandy & Wally Markowitz</p> <p>Barbara & Don Metsky</p> <p>Joan Milowe</p> <p>Rose Moskowitz</p> <p>Eileen & Steve Olitsky</p> <p>Martha & Martin Padersky</p> <p>Marilyn & Edwin Pincus</p> <p>Deborah & Stuart Reiter</p> <p>Alan Ross</p> <p>Lisa Polakoff-Rubin & Jeffrey Rubin</p> <p>Eileen & Ron Saltzman</p> <p>Margaret Schenberg & Sy Rifkin</p> <p>Liz Schmier</p> <p>Estelle & Ronald Schoenfeld</p> <p>Martin Schwartzberg</p> <p>Millie Seader</p> <p>Gerri Seinerberg</p> <p>Marsha Shalloway</p> <p>Addie & Neil Shyman</p> <p>Susan & Andrew Wakshul</p> <p>Jim Walzer</p> <p>Harriet & Irwin Wecker</p> <p>Phyllis Weinstein</p> <p>Barbara Weiss & Stephen Katz</p> <p>Randy & Fred Wilner</p> <p>Ruth & Herb Zaritsky</p> <p>Heidi Freed-Zirulnick & Jeffrey Zirulnick</p>
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RABBI'S FORUM

Rabbi Anthony Fratello, MAHL, DD

Except for Pesakh, Hanukkah is probably the most widely celebrated of all Jewish Holidays. Even those among our people who are not in any other way observant of Jewish Customs or rituals, will take a moment out to spin a light a Hanukkiah, nosh a latke, and maybe even give a gift or two. The reasons why are perfectly understandable: We Jews often feel left out of the Holiday Celebrations this time of year. With all the lights and music and hubbub. For those of you who are old enough to remember, there was a time when we had to fight just to get “I had a little dreidel” included in the Holiday Concert!

In the midst of this, we tend to forget that the Holiday actually means something. Hanukkah represents a time 2,000+ years ago when our people had to fight for their own identity. The Greeks wanted us to forget God, to forget the Covenant, and they actively working to make that happen. When Judah and his band struck back, it was as much about reasserting our own unique Jewish heritage, as it was fighting for Independence. When the Temple in Jerusalem was rededicated, when our people could go back to studying Torah and keeping the ancient ways, we won for ourselves the right to continue as we always had been.

Some of this should sound familiar. We are again living in a time when there are forces arrayed against us who would like nothing more than for us to forget our Covenant, forget God, and to allow our uniqueness to melt into the vast morass of modern culture. Or, worse yet, there are those who want to deny us outright the freedom to be who we have always been. Some of these forces come from without, but some, tragically, come from within. We all know Jews who care nothing for our history and our traditions.

Into this time of challenge comes a powerful reminder. Into this season of darkness comes the light by which our people have always found their way. When we light the candles, we commune across the generations with the myriads of our people who have stood in the same place. They faced challenges, they faced losses, they faced the specter of hatred and violence. And yet, in kindling those lights they were reminded not only of the Covenant, but how God has always been at our sides. This time is no different, but then again, maybe we need it now more than ever.

As you step into this Holiday Season, I pray that you will find joy and happiness in your observances. I pray that you will feel the connection across the generations. But, most of all, I hope and pray that you feel the loving hand of God guiding and sustaining you in times to come.

Hag Urim Sameakh!

**SAVE the DATE:
Komen Race for
the CURE!**



**Saturday, 1/31/26
Minyan with
Rabbi Fratello
&
Cantor Barry
@ 8:00 AM
ALL WELCOME!!
(Flagler Dr @ Datura/Clematis)
Race @ 9:00 AM**





Cantor's Corner

Cantor Carrie Barry, MSM



**Adult Learning
&
Edutainment
2025-2026**

Cantor Barry

Teaches:

“Portraits of Biblical Women”



SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER

Wednesday December 10, 2025 @ 11:00 AM





Director of Congregational Learning

Nancy Bossov, RJE

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL – SECOND GRADE

The second grade is a wonderful group of students under the loving arms of their teacher Arlene Isserles. These children are becoming “whole,” *shlaymoot*. Complete human beings with ideas, opinions, and lots of character!

Their curriculum provides many different Jewish experiences. Their first unit was a look into the Torah. It’s five books and their major themes were reviewed. The most interesting parts for the kids are the characters and their stories. Adam & Eve, Abraham, Moses were and will continue to be the main characters in the stories. Their concentration is Exodus, so Moses has the starring role!

Each week the children created a piece of parchment paper, printing the name of one of the 6 books, in Hebrew. Over several weeks and in time for Simkhat Torah, each child’s “Torah” was complete, velvet dresses and all!

Once their personal Torah was created, they could move on to “Who are the People in my Synagogue?” Each week the children went to a different place in the temple. They explored the sanctuary, the lobby, the offices, the custodial office, the social hall, and kitchen...they even found the ritual closet. When they explored WHO was in the synagogue, they met ready with questions and notebooks. The small group interviewed Rabbi Fratello, Cantor Barry, Caryn Feldman, Nancy Bossov, Teddy & Damian and wrote up their answers for the culminating event, a tour of the synagogue. They wanted to know where everybody grew up, if they have siblings, what their favorite part of their job is!

On November 16th, parents and grandparents and siblings joined for snacks and each child in the class became an official docent and independently took their family around the temple, reading their prepared explanation at every spot! The big finale was a series of songs with Cantor Barry – hits like “What Does a Rabbi Do?” “Listen to the Cantor Singing,” “The Bema,” The Kipah,” “A Mezuzah,” and “The Synagogue.” It was memorable.





From our President

Dr. Melissa Bowers

December invites us to look for light, and not just the kind that glows from candles or shines from decorations. It is a month filled with many kinds of illumination. Hanukkah reminds us that even when oil was meant to last one day, it continued for eight. But that story is not only about ancient history; it is about what happens when we refuse to believe that the light will go out.

In our world today, light can feel hard to find. News headlines often highlight division, loss, or uncertainty. Yet within our own community, miracles still happen, not in grand, cinematic ways, but in quiet, persistent ones. A congregant who checks in on an elderly neighbor. A volunteer who gives time to help a child learn Hebrew. A group that shows up early to set tables for oneg or stays late to clean up after a program. These moments may not make front-page news, but they are our modern miracles: small acts of courage, compassion, and commitment that keep our spiritual flame alive.

Each of us holds a bit of that light. When we come together as a congregation, those small sparks combine into something powerful. The miracle of Hanukkah was not just that oil burned longer than expected; it was that people chose to light the menorah in the first place, even when logic said it was not worth trying. That same courage to hope, to act, and to illuminate is what sustains Temple Shaarei Shalom.

So this December, as we light our menorahs, may we also rededicate ourselves to bringing light where it is needed most: in our homes, our community, our synagogue and our world. Whether it is through a smile, a prayer, or a simple gesture of kindness, every flame counts.

Celebrating our December Bar Mitzvah

Ethan Scott Markovitz

Becomes a Bar Mitzvah
On December 20, 2025

Parent (s) Names: Mindi & Craig Markovitz

Grandparents: Denise Wagenheim and Sandy & Harvey Markovitz

Siblings: Ryan Markovitz & Jordan Markovitz

Sports: Baseball & Tennis

Academic Interests: English

Special Interests: Cooking, Video Games & Learning about
Forex Trading

Torah Portion: *Mikkets*

My Bar Mitzvah project: For my Bar Mitzvah project, I volunteered with the Challenger Baseball League in West Boynton, an adaptive program where kids and teens with disabilities can enjoy baseball in a fun, supportive setting. As a buddy, I helped players bat, run, and field. Being part of the team was meaningful—I loved seeing everyone’s smiles, and I’m proud that my project made a difference. It taught me a lot about kindness, patience, and teamwork.





We're raising dough!

TEMPLE SHAAREI SHALOM

25%

OF NET SALES
WILL BE
DONATED*

**December 3, 2025
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

8784 Boynton Beach Blvd, Boynton Beach, FL

Use code FUND4U at panerabread.com, in the Panera App,
or at the kiosk in-cafe.

Online orders placed all day at your event cafe will count toward your total sales.

Bring this flyer or show a digital copy to your cashier when ordering at the cafe to ensure your organization gets a portion of the net sales.

Panera
FUNDRAISING

*20% fundraiser: Up to 20% of net sales from your designated and registered fundraising event will be donated to your approved organization. Minimum sales of \$100 on the specified date, time and location required to receive 20% donation. 25% fundraiser: Up to 25% of net sales from your designated and registered fundraising event will be donated to your approved organization. Minimum sales of \$150 on the specified date, time and location required to receive 25% donation. General terms: Details on percentage of net sales to be donated and the minimum sales requirement will be provided during the event registration process. Fundraising events available only at participating US bakery-cafes. Fundraising event details and available dates and times for fundraising events will vary by bakery-cafe. Gift card purchases, catering orders, and orders placed on third party delivery sites are excluded and will not count towards the total net sales from your designated fundraising event. This offer will be void if flyer is distributed in or near the participating bakery-cafe on the night of the event. Fundraising events may be cancelled without notice due to abuse, error, fraud, computer error, electronic or technical malfunctions, or other unforeseen or unintended circumstances. Other restrictions may apply. For more information on how our fundraising events work, please visit: <https://fundraising.panerabread.com/faq>.

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Religious School

**3rd Grade
Making Pita**



**4th Grade
Made Borekas**



**Kindergarten-1st Grade
Making Challah**



5-6-7th Grades



Kristallnacht Art Project

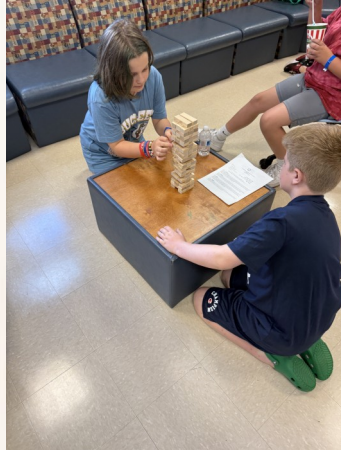


Museum of Tolerance



Visit with Holocaust Survivor Kurt Leucheter

Board Game Tournament



Blessing of the Animals





**TSSRS PTO PRESENTS
HANUKKAH FAMILY BINGO**

SATURDAY DECEMBER 6th 2025 @ 5PM

CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER FREE
(THANKS TO A VERY GENEROUS DONATION BY SHTULMAN FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC)

ADULTS 13 AND UP \$5

PRICE INCLUDES BINGO CARDS, PIZZA, SALAD, SNACKS,
DRINKS, DESSERT, AND PRIZES!

IS THERE A SPECIAL SOMEONE THAT YOU WANT TO GIVE A
HANUKKAH SHOUT OUT TO?
HOW ABOUT A LATKE LOVE LIFT?
DREIDEL DROP OF GRATITUDE?
HANUKKAH HIGH FIVE?
A BAD DAD JOKE?

BUY A BINGO (MATZO) BALL AND MAKE SOMEONE'S NIGHT!
IT'S ONLY 10 BUCKS A BALL!!!

EVERYTIME THAT BINGO BALL GETS CALLED OUR BINGO
ANNOUNCER WILL SHARE YOUR SPECIAL MESSAGE OUT LOUD
FOR ALL TO HEAR!

TO REGISTER SCAN QR CODE

9085 Hagen Ranch Road
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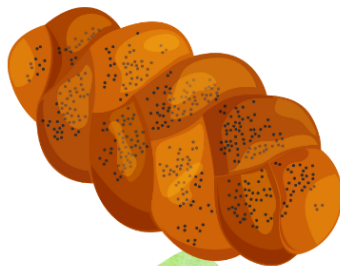


DISCOVER SHABBAT!

Join our
5th-6th-7th Grade Families
as we take them on a
guided tour through the
Shabbat Morning Service

OPEN TO THE TEMPLE SHAAREI SHALOM COMMUNITY

SATURDAY DECEMBER 6TH
10:30AM



SCAN TO REGISTER

שבת
שלום

New TSS Social Havurah



Tequila Tasting @ Total Wine



Interested in a Social Havurah
that meets monthly?
Contact Myra E for more information
Mobile: 954-304-2631

Wine & Cheese New Member Open House





STARY 8TH-10TH GRADE SHABBATCHI

FRIDAY DECEMBER 5TH, 2025

9:00PM - 11:00PM

**PICKUP & DROPOFF AT
KIMURA JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE
545 N CONGRESS AVE
BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33426**

**JOIN FRIENDS AT A HIBACHI
DINNER EXPERIENCE.
SOUP, SALAD, ENTREE, DRINK INCLUDED**

**CONTACT YOUTH
ADVISOR
TAYLOR AT
561-578-9307
WITH ANY
QUESTIONS**

**\$35 FOR TEMPLE MEMBERS
\$40 FOR GUESTS
*BRING A GUEST & GET \$10 BACK**

**RSVP
BY 12/3/25**



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561.364-9054 EXT 214 www.templeshaareishalom.com



STARY
2ND-7TH GRADE

HANUKKAH CELEBRATION



COST: \$10

SUNDAY 12/7/25
12:00PM - 1:30PM
IN THE SOCIAL HALL

ENJOY OUR LATKE BAR
WATCH RUGRATS' HANUKKAH EPISODE
JOIN OUR DREIDEL COMPETITION
AND MORE!

RSVP BY 12/5

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ISRAEL MATTERS

On November 2, a group of more than 50 TSS members and guests gathered to hear STORIES FROM THE HEART: first hand testimonials from volunteers who traveled to Israel for the Feed the Soldiers program sponsored by our Israel Committee through Volunteers for Israel (www.vfi-usa.org). The audience was also treated to videos and photos highlighting the volunteers' experiences.

If you were unable to attend, here are just a few excerpts from their presentations.

ROZ APPELL:

This was my second trip to Israel. The first, ten years before, was with my congregation in Cherry Hill, NJ. But my recent trip felt quite different. I was there, with seventeen others, to volunteer to feed the Israeli soldiers, learn more about Israel, talk to other volunteer groups and to make a difference to this heartbroken nation.

When the army bus picked us up at our hotel in Tel Aviv, our mission began. We went to four bases, staying on a fifth, and every morning we would prepare food for these beautiful young people! Salads, sandwiches, chicken, and kebobs were served to smiling, friendly soldiers who so appreciated that we Americans had come to support them.

After work, we visited museums that explained the history of the tank units and the airplanes used by Israel to fight wars. We saw the bullet factory, and with much heartache, the Nova Festival Memorial Site and Hostage Square. But most of all, we felt love for Israel and Israelis and felt safe and at home. All the VFI and EVP personnel who helped us were kind, gracious and highly informative. This journey is one I will never forget.

CAROL AND HERMAN GRAFF:

We began our "Volunteers for Israel" (VFI) mission to "Feed the Soldiers" in early September with some touring in Tel Aviv and Jaffa and then arrival at our home base, Anatot.

We were then transported to bases around the country, preparing for and serving lunch to the troops--groups ranging from 150 to 600 soldiers. We sliced and diced more tomatoes, onions, cucumbers, peppers, mangoes, and watermelon than we would see over the next ten years. We prepared schnitzel and pastries and grilled more hamburgers, kabobs, and chicken than we can count.

The soldiers we served were all so young! The military consists mostly of 18- to 22-year-olds, both men and women, orthodox and secular, native Israelis and those who recently arrived in Israel. The soldiers we talked to were amazed that Americans would actually come over and pay to prepare and serve meals for them. Each day after we completed our work, we were taken by the IDF to see areas that the standard tour groups don't always get to see. We went to the Nova Festival site where Hamas attacked on October 7; it has now been transformed into an emotional memorial to those who were murdered that day. Other afternoons were spent at the Shuk (Old Market) in Jerusalem, the Israeli Air Force Museum in Hatzetim, and the Israel Museum in Jerusalem.

After our commitment to the IDF was completed, we were returned to the VFI group tour guide for our final days of touring. We visited "Hostage Square" in Tel Aviv, the Armored Corps Museum in Latrun, the Bullet Factory near Rehovet, and the Machal Memorial. After returning to a comfortable hotel in Jerusalem, we spent our final day on a walking tour (it was Saturday) of Jerusalem ending with a visit to the Kotel before our final dinner at a restaurant on Mt. Scopus, overlooking the Old City.

It was an amazing adventure. Meeting IDF soldiers and experiencing their joy for life while serving their country was eye-opening. It makes a difference when you are fighting for the survival of your home.

BEV COHEN:

A young soldier said to us, "When we saw you coming, it brought smiles to our faces." Then I knew I had made the right decision to come on this amazing program." It was an honor to serve in this way.

LISA BELL:

For me, having the opportunity to give back to the soldiers who sacrifice so much for Israel and the rest of the world was incredibly fulfilling. Seeing the Nova site and Hostage Square were emotional experiences that helped me understand what Israelis live with on a daily basis. The resilience and strength of the Israeli people is inspiring. They are full of life and hope!

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Bev Cohen vfibevy@gmail.com.

If you would like to be added to the Israel Committee's mailing list, please contact Michael Gottlieb gottlieb12330@gmail.com.





Temple
Shaarei
Shalom

Your Jewish Connection

2026 Hebrew Class Options:

Taught by Judy Rosmarin

TSS Members - Free

Community Guests - \$150

INTERMEDIATE HEBREW

Tuesdays 10-11am

January 13, 20, 27
February 3, 10, 17, 24
March 3, 10, 17, 24
April 7, 14, 21, 28
May 5, 12, 19, 26

CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW

Thursdays 10-11am

January 15, 22, 29
February 5, 12, 19, 26
March 5, 12, 19, 26
April 16, 23, 30
May 7, 14, 21, 28

**Adult Learning
&
Edutainment
2025-2026**



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COLD CREMATORIUM: THE "LOST" HOLOCAUST MASTERPIECE



**MONDAY
DECEMBER 1ST, 2025
3:00PM**

Alex Bruner, the author's nephew and a child of Holocaust survivors, will discuss the historical and family context for his uncle's deportation to Auschwitz and describe the author's hellish journey through multiple slave labor camps. Bruner will review why his uncle wrote the book, how it was initially received, the reasons it was not translated into a world language until now, and the lessons one can draw from the work.

SCAN TO REGISTER



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2025-2026**

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TROPICAL NOSH: SOUTH FLORIDA JEWISH HISTORY



South Florida has one of the largest Jewish populations in the United States. It began with European immigrants viewing the area as the new Promised Land. Hear how transportation, economy and world events shaped the growth of the Jewish community, and how its members have made contributions far beyond local shores.

**THURSDAY DECEMBER 4TH
7:00PM**

SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER



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Edutainment
2025-2026**

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Come & Play or Learn & Play this delightful game which began in Communist Romania, then evolved in Israel. It's a worldwide favorite that really makes your brain work hard but so much fun!

from 6-7pm

December 8

**DATE ADDED BY
POPULAR DEMAND!**

January 29

February 26

March 26

April 30

May 28

No Previous Experience Necessary
No Fee
No Registration

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&
Edutainment
2025-2026**

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Current Supreme Court Cases Worth Watching



An overview of significant Supreme Court cases that will soon be decided, and what they will likely mean for American law and government. The talk will also address some recently decided cases of importance to the law – beyond the news headlines and talking points of politicians.

MONDAY DECEMBER 15TH 7:00PM

SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER



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2025-2026**

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Adult Learning & Edutainment 2025-2026

Rabbi Fratello Meditation Walks

Green Cay Preserve
12800 Hagen Ranch Road

Wednesday December 17th 9:00am
Friday February 13th 9:00am
Tuesday March 24th 9:00am



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Adult Learning & Edutainment 2025-2026

Jewish Ghouls, Demons, & Magical Things that Go Bump in the Night

January 8, 2026
4:00pm

Peter Eckstein



Yes, witches, demons, and magicians are part of Jewish history. In this session, we'll explore the Jewish supernatural, and by the end, you'll have the skills to summon a demon yourself (if you dare)!

PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE



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Adult Learning & Edutainment 2025-2026

Experience Shabbat in a New Way

Shabbat Yoga with Holly Bromer



January 10th
10:30am

Wear comfortable clothing
Bring a Yoga Mat
Experience Shabbat in a new way!
No Previous Experience Necessary

PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE



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Adult Learning & Edutainment 2025-2026

Feisty, Fabulous Females of Florida



Discover and rediscover some of the remarkable women who grew and shaped the state that we live in. Stories of strong, courageous women like Julia Tuttle, known as the Mother of Miami, or Mary McCloud Bethune, daughter of enslaved parents who went on to become an advisor to several US Presidents, and other women who influenced and impacted their communities, the State of Florida and our nation.

Thursday January 29 2026
5:00pm

SCAN TO REGISTER



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Mah Jongg Cards for Sale



Sisterhood is selling 2026 Mah Jongg Cards

TSS receives \$3.00 for each card purchased

Regular Size: \$14.00

Large Size: \$15.00

You can order your new cards through January 15, 2026

Complete Form below

****Reminder: I check per completed form*****

Make checks payable to TSS Sisterhood
and send to:

Temple Shaarei Shalom
9085 Hagen Ranch Rd
Boynton Beach, FL 33472

***2026 Mah Jongg Cards will be mailed directly to you
based upon the singular address on the form.***

For additional information or questions: call Rose Moskowitz at 845-820-0990

Sisterhood Mah Jongg Card Order Form

Name: _____

Mailing Address (cards will be mailed to this address **only** in April):

#L ___ #S ___ cards @ \$ _____ = total **check** enclosed \$ _____ (payable to TSS Sisterhood)



TSS Sisterhood
Presents
Joyce Saltman
A humorous look at
sex and aging

Joyce Saltman, PhD is Professor Emeritus of Special Education at Southern Connecticut State University. She holds four graduate degrees in the fields of special education and counseling and chose to receive her doctoral degree at Columbia: Humor in Adult Learning. Her innovative teaching style led to the development of a graduate course entitled "The Enhancement of Learning Through Humor," as well as a summer institute, Healing Education Laughter and Play (HELP).

Thursday, December 11, 2025
11:30 am

please note this is the second Thursday in December

Catering by Nicole with Special Hanukkah Latkes
\$18.00 Sisterhood Member/ \$20.00 Non-Member

To register
Scan QR code or call
561-364-9054



DOORPRIZES

Fashion Show



Thank you to all of our Boutique Volunteers

Rebecca Aling

Brian Aling

Marcia Arena

Sal Arena

Lisa Bell

Judith Beiner

Cheri Cantor

Deborah Chasin

Sima Cooper

Erin Conway

Benjamin Elbaz

Nicole Elliot

Lauren Epstein

Stacey Epstein

Debbie Gambarrotti

Hector Gambarrotti

Reggie Myers

Sari Myers

Bonnie Osowsky

Jeff Rubin

Rona Tata

Lisa Tenenbaum

Joanna Tract

Sara Wane



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placed online by 12/12/25.
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