



THE JEWISH VOICE

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FEATURING JEWISH NEWS AND EVENTS

VOL. 15 NO. 6

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JUNE 2025

Federation Celebrates Leadership, Resilience, and Vision at Annual Meeting

To mark a year of extraordinary impact, leadership, and growth for Jewish Palm Beach, 250 guests gathered at Arthur I. Meyer Jewish Preparatory School for Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County’s 2025 Annual Meeting.

The event, chaired by Scott H. Holtz and Lauren Stuhmer, honored outstanding volunteers, donors, professionals, and corporate members; welcomed new Board of Directors members; and recognized three graduating cohorts from Mandel Center for Leadership Development programs.

The evening also spotlighted the achievements of Federation’s partner organizations, which launched exciting initiatives and helped thousands of people within the community. Highlights include:

- 7,000 hours of mental health sessions provided by Alpert Jewish Family Service
- 2,500 healthy, kosher High Holiday and Passover meals packed and delivered in partnership with Kramer Senior Services
- 82 percent increase in enrollment at Meyer Prep, the Palm Beaches’ only Jewish day school, over the last seven years
- Thousands of teens engaged through the new JTeen program at Mandel JCC



Brian Seymour, Marilyn Comiter, Ronda Starr, Barry S. Berg

This growth comes from an intentional investment in Jewish Palm Beach, which Federation has been committed to sustaining through the Palm Beach Movement to Activate Jewish Life.



Event chairs Scott H. Holtz and Lauren Stuhmer

Federation Celebrates Leadership on page 2

Wheelchairs 4 Kids Receives Grant to Help Children with Physical Disabilities

Wheelchairs 4 Kids has received a \$7,500 grant from the Admirals Cove Foundation to support its flagship Let’s Roll Program, which provides wheelchairs, home and vehicle modifications, and other essential assistive equipment to children with physical disabilities under the age of 21, all at no charge to their families. This grant is specifically designated to serve families in the Northern Palm Beach area.

Founded in 2011 in Tarpon Springs, Wheelchairs 4 Kids is a nonprofit organization committed to improving the quality of life and increasing mobility for physically disabled children. Since its inception, the organization has helped over 1,800 children nationwide live fuller, safer, and more independent lives through the gift of mobility and accessibility.

“We are incredibly grateful to the Admirals Cove Foundation for their generous support,” said Madeline Robinson, Executive Director of Wheelchairs 4 Kids. “This grant allows us to directly impact families in Northern Palm Beach who are facing immense financial and emotional challenges. With this funding, we will be able to provide life-changing equipment that many children would otherwise go without.”

The Admirals Cove Foundation, based in Jupiter, supports nonprofit organizations that enhance lives and strengthen communities in Palm Beach County through grants and



scholarships. Their support will help Wheelchairs 4 Kids continue to provide safe and customized solutions for children in need, right in their own backyard.

Wheelchairs 4 Kids’ Let’s Roll Program remains central to its mission, ensuring that no child goes without necessary mobility or accessibility equipment due to financial hardship. In addition, the organization runs a social inclusion program,

Wheely Fun Days, offering children the opportunity to participate in exciting community outings and connect with their peers.

To learn more about Wheelchairs 4 Kids or to get involved, please visit Wheelchairs4kids.org or call 727-946-0963.



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Federation Celebrates Leadership from page 1

Launched December 2024 at Celebrating Philanthropy, this initiative focuses on meeting people where they are – by age, stage, and neighborhood – engaging them in meaningful Jewish life.

The movement is setting an example for Jewish communities across the nation through initiatives like Jewish Palm Beach’s first cohort of Family and Community Connectors, an inaugural Community-Wide Pride Shabbat in April, and ongoing investments in welcoming programs that unite our community.

This momentum will be further amplified by The Exter Center, a planned state-of-the-art, multi-use space currently in design to be a vibrant hub for Jewish life on the Meyer Prep and Mandel JCC campus in Palm Beach Gardens.

Beyond Jewish Palm Beach, Federation extends its impact to Israel and other Jewish communities in need across the world through the Stacey & Mark Levy Center for Israel & Overseas. Some key achievements include:

- Two dozen graduates of the Mandel Center leadership programs traveled to Cuba, delivering 5,000 pounds of food and medical supplies to an impoverished yet thriving Jewish community.
- Federation celebrated a 30-year milestone with the JCC in Budapest, strengthening ties between Hungary, Ukraine, and Jewish Palm Beach.
- Federation proudly assisted former hostages, supported the rebuilding of 1,000 homes in the Gaza envelope, and continued our 30-year partnership with the TZAHAR (Tzfat, Hatzor HaGlilit, and Rosh Pina) region of Israel.
- Through generous grants to The Jewish Agency for Israel and the Joint Distribution Committee, Federation continues to support vital programs that strengthen Israel, reflecting an unwavering commitment to safeguarding the people of Israel, especially during these challenging times.

Jewish Palm Beach’s global connection continues this summer as 13 local teens join Israeli and European teens at Camp Szarvas in Hungary. In October, a community mission to Israel, chaired by Betsy and Richard Sheerr, will further strengthen the community’s bonds and commitment to the people of Israel.

In other news, Federation shared that Palm Beach County leads the state in antisemitic incidents, underscoring the urgent need for its Palm Beach Center to Combat Antisemitism & Hatred. This year, the center led Community Leaders Study Tours to Israel, fostering allyship across Palm Beach communities. Next month, in partnership with the Palm Beach County School District, the center’s March of the Educators Fellows – local school principals and regional superintendents – will travel to Poland and Israel to prepare them to address antisemitism in their schools.

All of Federation’s work is made possible by passionate community members whose generosity makes Jewish Palm Beach a leading Jewish community in North America.

Thousands of donors are driving meaningful change through Federation’s 2025 Campaign, which ends on June 30. Thanks to nearly 300 volunteer ambassadors and led by Development & Campaign Chair Ronda Starr, \$20.5 million has already been donated (as of May 15) to the annual campaign, building strong momentum toward the nonprofit’s \$21 million goal. Nearly half comes from Women’s Philanthropy, thanks to the generosity of countless women and the leadership of Marilyn Comiter and Patti Lehrhoff.

Awards and Milestones

This year, Nancy Beren received the Hope Silverman Campaigner of the Year Award, honoring her leadership, philanthropy, and dedication to Federation’s mission. A long-



Community leaders Andrew Alminana and Jillian Benson, recipients of the Robert S. and Ceil N. Levy Young Leadership Award



Federation’s Shinshinim, cultural emissaries from Israel, Yannay Nevo and Shani Lubelski



Vivian Lieberman and Hope Silverman at Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County’s 2025 Annual Meeting

time BallenIsles leader, Nancy co-chairs the community’s Federation Committee, serves on the Women’s Philanthropy Board of Directors, and helped inspire more than 115 donor commitments.

Community leaders Andrew Alminana and Jillian Benson received the Robert S. and Ceil N. Levy Young Leadership Award, honoring outstanding individuals under 45 for their service to our community. Andrew is a graduate of the Emerging Leadership Program (ELP) Cohort 7, Mandel Leadership Institute Cohort 3, and is the incoming Business and Professionals Chair. Jillian, also a graduate of ELP Cohort 7, was recognized for her roles as a Women’s Philanthropy Executive Committee member, Jewish Federations’ National



Hope Silverman presents Nancy Beren with the annual Hope Silverman Campaigner of the Year Award.



Debbi Roshfeld presents Rande Schneider, Federation’s senior director of campaign strategy and operations, with the annual Debbi Roshfeld Professional Leadership Award.



More than 250 guests gather to celebrate Jewish Palm Beach at Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County’s annual meeting.

Young Leadership Cabinet member, and co-chair of the Ben-Gurion Society.

During the evening, Jewish Palm Beach honored the legacies of two instrumental leaders who passed away this year: Alan L. Shulman z”l and Judith A. Levy z”l. Both served as Federation Board chairs and led with vision and conviction, leaving a lasting impact that continues to inspire.

The evening concluded with a presentation of the prestigious Debbi Roshfeld Professional Leadership Award to Rande Schneider, Federation’s senior director of campaign strategy and operations. The award recognizes outstanding professional leadership and commitment to enhancing the Jewish community.



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FROM THE RABBI

Statement Regarding the Election of Pope Leo XIV

By Rabbi Alan Bell

With great reverence, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost on his election as 267th pope of the Catholic Church, taking on the name Pope Leo XIV. As the first American-born pontiff, his election marks a historic moment in the church's journey.

Pope Leo's commitment to social justice, compassion, and unity reflects the values of Torah and needs of our current world situation.

May Pope Leo XIV's leadership inspire us all to be messengers of peace, justice, and love throughout the world.

Rabbi Alan Bell is spiritual leader of Temple Beth El in West Palm Beach.

Happiness Starts When You Stop Comparing Yourself with Others

By Rabbi Dovid Vigler

One of the more uncomfortable truths about antisemitism is that it often stems from jealousy. The brilliant Professor Thomas Sowell was once asked how to put an end to antisemitism. His answer? Just one word: "Fail." He explained that antisemitism, like other hatreds, often emerges not because we're doing something wrong, but because we're succeeding.



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Now imagine a world where people didn't measure themselves against others, but only against who they were yesterday. What if we stopped comparing our journey to someone else's and focused instead on running our own race? As Hillel so powerfully said in Pirkei Avos (1:14), "If I am not for myself, who will be for me?" In other words, if I spend my life trying to be someone else, who will be me?

Innovate. Don't imitate.

This idea plays out beautifully in a surprising teaching from Pirkei Avos (2:9), where Rabban Yochanan ben Zakai praises the unique strengths of his five greatest students. At first glance, it sounds like he's ranking them. But the Rebbe explained something radically different. Rabban Yochanan wasn't creating competition — he was encouraging individuality. He saw the divine spark in each soul and brought it to light.

He described Rabbi Eliezer ben Hurkanus as a "sealed cistern that never lost a drop" — his memory was so flawless that not a single word of Torah ever slipped his mind. Rabbi Yehoshua ben Chananya was praised with, "Fortunate is she who bore him," because of his loving kindness, diplomatic nature, and wisdom that lifted everyone around him. Rabbi Yosei the Kohen was a chasid, a pious soul who radiated warmth and served Hashem with joy and devotion. Rabbi Shimon ben Netanel feared sin and lived with an awe of Heaven that made him a model of integrity and ethical refinement. And Rabbi Elazar ben Arach was called a "wellspring that increases in strength" — an innovator and deep thinker who brought forth new insights with brilliance and clarity.

So why did Rabban Yochanan praise them all differently? Because each one was unique. By highlighting their individual strengths, he gave each student permission to become exactly who they were meant to be. Rabbi Eliezer became the "librarian" of Torah, the guardian of memory. Rabbi Elazar focused on depth and discovery, breaking new ground in Torah thinking. Rabbi Yehoshua took his warmth and wisdom to the highest courts of Athens and Rome, becoming our people's diplomatic representative. Rabbi Yosei served through mitzvah observance with meticulous care. Rabbi Shimon became the model for self-discipline and ethical living.

No two faces are alike. No two souls are the same. You were created with a combination of talents, experiences, and perspectives that this world has never seen before — and never will again. You are, by design, irreplaceable.

There's a reason the sun and the moon shine at different times. They're not here to compete. They're here to fulfill their unique mission.

Life becomes lighter when you stop watching what everyone else is doing. True confidence doesn't come from thinking you're better than others — it comes from knowing there's no one else like you.

Let me tell you about Yosef Bau, a talented artist born in Krakow in 1920. When the Nazis invaded Poland, they forced him to work in the printing shop of the Krakow Ghetto. He risked his life forging documents to help hundreds escape. Later deported to the Plaszow concentration camp under the brutal Amon Göth, he continued lifting spirits — using cartoons and humor to spread hope. He even married his beloved Rivka secretly in the camp — a moment immortalized in Schindler's List. When asked why he didn't forge papers for himself, Bau answered simply: "If I had escaped, who would have saved the others?"

Each of us has our own mission. Your life, your talents, your passions, your struggles — they are part of a divine equation. What are your gifts? Maybe you're a natural listener, a creative soul, an inspiring teacher, a joyful hostess, or a loyal friend. The people who love you probably already know. The real question is — do you? And how far will you let yourself shine?

In 1798, the Alter Rebbe, Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi, founder of the Chabad movement, was imprisoned by the Czar for spreading the revolutionary teachings of Chasidus. During an interrogation, a learned minister asked the Rebbe to explain G-d's question to Adam after the sin: "Ayeka? Where are you?"

"Surely," said the minister, "G-d knew where Adam was!"

The Rebbe responded, "Do you believe the Torah is eternal, that every word applies to every person at every time?"

"Yes," said the minister.

"Then," said the Rebbe, "'Ayeka — Where are you?' is not just a question to Adam. It's G-d's call to every soul, in every generation: Where are you in your life? What have you done with the days you've been given? Are you becoming who you were meant to be?"

Ask yourself: Where am I? Am I imitating someone else's journey — or am I living my own truth?

Rabbi Dovid Vigler is the spiritual leader at Chabad of Palm Beach Gardens and host of the Jewish Schmooze Radio Show. Email him at rabbi@jewishgardens.com

LOCAL HAPPENINGS

Runway Event Showcases Fashion Designs by Adults with Disabilities

Melvin J. & Claire Levine Jewish Residential & Family Service partnered with aZul Fashion, Art & Design, Inc., to launch the FashionAble Program — an exciting initiative for adults with disabilities in Palm Beach County.

The FashionAble Program empowers participants through fashion, art, and design. Beginning in March 2025, aZul facilitated the program with 10 Levine JRFS clients who learned valuable fashion design techniques and skills, ranging



from piecing to applique, to help support future career opportunities in the creative industries.

Ten “new designers” showed off their creations and walked the runway in front of a loud, cheering crowd in Palm Beach Gardens last month.

“For people with mental illnesses or developmental disabilities or whatever type of neurodiversity somebody deals with, it is often so challenging to look at yourself in the mirror, to stand in front of an audience,

Local Happenings on page 6



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to model, to move your body, to be able to be that confident to let other people see you in terms of your unique ability,” said Dr. Elaine Rotenberg, chief clinical and impact officer at Alpert Jewish Family Service. “And that’s what this program and partnership with aZul is all about.”



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Lunch and Learn Focuses on the Amidah

Last month’s Lunch and Learn session with Rebbetzin Chana, part of the Rosh Chodesh Society course on The Power of Prayer, focused on the Amidah — the silent devotion at the heart of Jewish prayer — and brought new depth and clarity to a prayer many recite daily.

Rebbetzin Chana guided the group through the Amidah, helping participants to not only understand its structure, but also connect with its spiritual essence. She brought the prayer to life, revealing its relevance and power in everyday life.

For those who have said the Amidah for years, this class opened a new dimension — we were reminded that every request we make in prayer is worthy and purposeful, because our deepest desires can become vessels for divine service.

Rebbetzin Chana also addressed a powerful truth: While we naturally pray for ease and smoothness in life, it is often in the moments that go off course — especially in those moments — that our connection to G-d can grow even stronger. Challenges are not setbacks; they are opportunities for spiritual elevation and a deeper bond with the Divine.



Federation Announces New Board Appointments, Leadership Roles

Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County announced 10 new additions to its Board of Directors for the 2025-2026 term, along with several new key leadership positions within the organization.

Recognized as the “city hall” of Jewish Palm Beach, Federation focuses on creating a vibrant Jewish community by caring for people in need, combating antisemitism and hatred, activating Jewish life, and safeguarding the people of Israel.

The appointments were announced in front of 250 community members during Federation’s annual meeting last month at Meyer Preparatory School in Palm Beach Gardens.

The following leaders will serve three-year terms on Federation’s Board of Directors:

Marc Abramowitz
Andrew Alminana, who will also serve as chair of Federation’s Business and Professionals
Julie Fisher Cummings, who will also serve as vice chair of the Executive Committee
Matt Feuer
Bob Herzog
Marshall Jones
Jeffrey Keswin
Jennifer Lesser, representing Alpert Jewish Family Service as its Board chair
Michael Margolis

Addie Zubatkin, who will also serve as chair of Federation’s Kohl Jewish Volunteer Center

Federation also announced that several members of its Board have accepted key leadership positions:

Brian M. Seymour: Board chair elect
Beth Wayne: chair, Israel and Overseas Committee
Richard B. Comiter: vice chair, Executive Committee
Juliana Gendelman: chair, Human Resources and Leadership Development Committee
Gary S. Lesser: chair, Community Relations Council
Vivian F. Lieberman: representing Mandel JCC as its Board chair

“Thank you to our leaders, Board members, and hundreds of committee members for their unwavering commitment to ensure we are fulfilling the mission of Federation to positively impact the lives of Jewish people here, in Israel, and around the world,” shared Michael Hoffman, president and CEO, Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County. “It is this leadership that makes us one of the strongest and most vibrant Jewish communities in North America.”

Beth David Men’s Club Holds Spring Barbecue

Members of the Temple Beth David Men’s Club recently came together for a spring barbecue, where they enjoyed delicious barbecue, great fun, and a presentation by Men’s Club member Steven Hein, JD, MBA, CPA, LLM, CFP, PFS. Steve, who has over 20 years of experience as a wealth manager in Palm Beach Gardens, discussed the impact of tariff and immigration policies and potential tax legislation on the economy and stock markets.



Legacy of Impact Honors Holocaust Survivors, Educators, and Students

inSIGHT Through Education recently hosted Legacy of Impact, a powerful celebration honoring Holocaust survivors, dedicated educators, and the next generation of student leaders. The event recognized over 100 students from 12 Palm Beach County schools as inaugural Goldsmith Student Scholars of the



Betsy Joseph, Kelly Warsaw, Carole Newman

Local Happenings on page 7

THERE’S A NEW DERMATOLOGIST IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

Samantha Fisher, M.D., F.A.A.D., sees patients of all ages at the Dermatology Associates in the Palm Beach Gardens office after more than 13 years of experience practicing medical, cosmetic dermatology and Mohs surgery for skin cancer treatment.

Dr. Fisher received her Medical and Bachelor of Science degrees with honors from the University of Florida, where she completed her post-graduate training, including serving as Chief Resident in Dermatology.

Her past professional experience includes providing Dermatology services to patients in Stuart , FL from 2013-2024, Naples, FL from 2012-2013, and as Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Florida Department of Dermatology in Gainesville, FL from 2011-2012.

Dr. Fisher looks forward to providing you with excellent dermatology care.



Dermatology Associates of the Palm Beaches is a group practice of board-certified dermatologists and fellowship-trained Mohs surgeons providing general dermatology, surgical dermatology, and cosmetic dermatology services. These physicians trained at some of America’s great medical institutions and conduct research into the most advanced treatments. Our physicians are also recognized leaders in the diagnosis and treatment of skin cancer.

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Make an appointment to see Dr. Fisher in Palm Beach Gardens at 10355 N. Military Trail, Suite A, by calling (561) 622-6976. www.greatderms.com

Local Happenings from page 6

Holocaust. The celebration united past, present, and future voices in a shared commitment to remembrance, truth, and standing against hate.

As a Jewish Foundation for the Righteous (JFR) Center of Excellence, inSIGHT facilitated this partnership to pilot the How Was It Possible? A Holocaust Curriculum For and By Teachers online curriculum — an innovative teacher-driven program. With nearly 500 students completing this prestigious program, the district continues to set the standard for Holocaust education nationwide.

The event was attended by local Holocaust survivors, students, their families, JFR Executive Vice President Stanlee Stahl, educators, district administrators, and inSIGHT board members. Guests were seated side by side — students with survivors and teachers — sharing stories and forging intergenerational connections. A solemn candle-lighting ceremony marked Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day.



Holocaust survivor Zenia Roth



Herman Haller, 100-year-old Auschwitz survivor



School board member Matthew Lane



Spanish River Community High School student Sophia Lieberman

“inSIGHT’s vision is to reach every student, every year,” said Kelly Warsaw, inSIGHT president and CEO, “with lessons that open hearts, challenge minds, and strengthen our community.”

inSIGHT Through Education thanks its season sponsors — Morgan Stanley, Palm Beach Daily News, Palm Beach Post, and The Palm Beach Center to Combat Antisemitism & Hatred at the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County — and exclusive AV sponsor Ascension Audio for helping bring this event to life.



Stanlee Stahl and student Analise Amaro

Special honors were presented to Julie Gates, recipient of the Naftaly Award for Excellence in Holocaust Education, and Randi Posner, recipient of the Salton Spirit of Service Award. Chaired by Betsy Joseph and Carole Newman, Legacy of Impact celebrated the power of memory and education to inspire empathy, critical thinking, and action against hate.



Randi Posner, Kelly Warsaw, Julie Gates

Stump the Rabbi Yields Inspiring Discussions

Last month, Chabad of Palm Beach Gardens Men’s Club hosted a farbrengen (gathering of souls). Over 40 men came together for this monthly tradition that balanced spiritual growth with community celebration.

The evening centered around honoring May birthday celebrants, but what unfolded was much more than a birthday party — it was a deeply meaningful experience filled with inspirational stories, soul-stirring songs, and heartfelt toasts that strengthened both faith and friendship.



Annabel Rodriguez, Sophia Unser, Ansleigh Humphrey



Kelly Warsaw, Holocaust survivor Zelda Fuksman, Kim Coombs



Lawrence Marcus, Angelina Marcus, Stacey Marcus

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Local Happenings from page 7

Through a poignant story, Rabbi Vigler illustrated the importance of each individual in G-d’s eyes, explaining that a birthday is essentially G-d’s way of saying the world cannot continue without you.

The highlight of the evening was the Stump the Rabbi segment, which sparked a question about why Abraham didn’t protest when G-d asked him to bind Isaac to the altar. Rabbi Vigler responded by asking the men if they trusted their wives with their lives — drawing a parallel to Abraham’s complete trust in G-d’s benevolence and plan. When one participant followed up by asking why Abraham protested the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah but not his son’s potential sacrifice, the rabbi explained the crucial distinction: “That was an act of G-d punishing those people, and when it came to punishment Abraham stood up to defend his fellow human beings, but when it came to his son he knew from G-d’s choice of words that it was a test, not a punishment.”

The Pet Cottage

Forever Promises: How Love Lives On

When Mister and Beary’s mom passed away from cancer in the fall of 2024, her love didn’t end — it simply took a new shape.

She had made provisions in her estate to ensure her cherished 10-year-old bonded dogs would never be without care. Because of her thoughtfulness, Mister and Beary became part of our pack in November, joining The Pet Cottage’s Lifelong Guardianship Program.

They arrived grieving, confused, and with medical needs. Both had developed painful bladder stones, but thanks to prescription food and close veterinary care we’ve been able to dissolve the stones — avoiding surgery altogether. However, Mister later developed a tumor on his eyelid. On May 13, he underwent successful surgery and is now recovering comfortably beside Beary, his tail thumping in rhythm with hers.

Mister and Beary are a reminder of why we exist: to keep pets safe and loved when their humans can no longer be there. Older, bonded dogs with medical needs are often overlooked. But not here. At The Pet Cottage, they are promised forever.

To keep that promise, we need to plan ahead — just like their mom did.

This month, we invite you to join our Legacy Circle — a growing group of compassionate souls who have included The Pet Cottage in their estate plans. Legacy gifts are one of the most powerful ways you can help ensure we’ll always be here for pets like Mister and Beary.



Mister and Beary



Cookie and Kevin

Whether you leave a gift in your will, designate The Pet Cottage as a beneficiary, or consider leaving land or property that could serve as a permanent Sanctuary, your legacy becomes a lifeline.

We are currently operating our Sanctuary on leased land, and it’s working — for now. But our dream is to own a property outright, ensuring we can provide forever homes for pets who are simply too fragile to be placed elsewhere. Pets like bonded pairs, seniors with chronic conditions, or those who just need time to heal.

Your love can live on. It can offer comfort, safety, and healing to pets who have lost everything — and help us keep our Forever Promise.

If you’d like to learn more about joining our Legacy Circle, please reach out to us at info@thepetcottage.org or visit thepetcottage.org/legacy.

To include The Pet Cottage in your will, your attorney may use the following sample language:

“I give and bequeath to The Pet Cottage, Inc., a nonprofit organization located at 17049 Thunder Road, Jupiter, FL 33478, Tax ID #47- 4011633, the sum of \$ _____ (or ____% of my estate) to be used to further its mission of providing lifelong guardianship for pets whose humans can no longer care for them due to death, disability, or deployment.”

To schedule a visit or for more information about becoming a Forever Guardian, call 561.818.5025.



Michelle and Sally



Mister with a cone



Holocaust Remembrance Day Vigil at Temple Beth David: “Remember the Survivors”

An event unique to this area was recently held at Temple Beth David of Palm Beach Gardens. This was its 13th Annual Yom HaShoah/Holocaust Remembrance Day Vigil of Remembrance with a special theme: Remember the Survivors.

During the 12-hour period from 9:45 a.m. to 9:45 p.m., congregants, their families, and members of other communities of faith came together to read aloud names of Jewish martyrs who perished in the Holocaust, as well as those of the Righteous Among the Nations, non-Jews who risked their lives to aid and shelter Jews during that dark period in the world’s history.

The Vigil began as it customarily has, with the chanting of prayers and a talk by Beth David’s spiritual leader, Rabbi Danielle Bensimhon. In addition, moving and inspirational words were delivered by Scholar-in-Residence Rabbi Debra Eisenman, as well as by Pastor Michael Zdorow of The Gathering Place. This was followed by the lighting of seven memorial candles: six in memory of the six million slaughtered during the Shoah and a seventh in memory of those murdered in the massacre of October 7. This was followed by a screening of the 1995 Academy Award-winning documentary short film *One Survivor Remembers*, in which the horrors of the Shoah are recounted through the words and story of Gerda Weissman, a woman who lived through it and survived. Individuals and families then began to read



the names of Jewish victims of the Nazis and their cohorts. Art created by Jewish children martyred in the Holocaust as well as photos of Jewish partisan groups were on display in the temple sanctuary, and images of pre-war Jewish life in Europe were projected on the walls while ambient music provided a counterpoint to the ongoing recitation of names.

Temple Beth David’s Rescued Holocaust Torah Scroll, saved and preserved from wartime destruction and recovered from a destroyed Czech synagogue, bore silent witness during the Vigil, as a living symbol of the connection between our community and the now departed congregations that once read and learned from scrolls like this so many decades ago.

Local Happenings on page 9

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CHABAD Palm Beach Gardens

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JUNE 1 Trampoline Park

JUNE 29 Bowling

JULY 6 Private Ranch

JULY 13 Pottery Painting

JULY 20 Fun Depot

JULY 27 Mini Golf

AUG 10 The Amazing Race

AUG 17 Ice Skating

AUG 24 Hebrew School Open House

FOR PRICING & MORE INFORMATION

JEWISHGARDENS.COM/SUMMER



Local Happenings from page 8

Members of area churches including The Gathering Place of Palm Beach Gardens, which holds its services at Temple Beth David, and the Church of St. Paul of the Cross of North Palm Beach participated in this ceremony of remembrance by reading the names of the Righteous Among the Nations.

Each participant lit an individual memorial candle that, as the day lengthened and darkened, provided ever-increasing numbers of flickering flames, and more and more light. Each reader and listener signed a large placard attesting to their status as witnesses to this solemn ceremony of memory and resolve.

Temple Beth David’s Yom HaShoah/Holocaust Remembrance Day Vigil was a unique and moving experience – and never more so than this year, as the theme Remember the Survivors was both communal and yet highly personal — a remembrance of horror and loss and yet an affirmation of survival and life, a harkening to a darker time in history and yet enforcing the resolve of never again and an ongoing plea for justice and tolerance.

Unity Seder Welcomed Non-Jewish, Jewish Professionals

As antisemitic and hate acts continue to rise, a sold-out crowd of nearly 200 non-Jewish and Jewish attorneys, judges, and elected officials joined together for a heart-felt and inspiring Unity Seder, honoring the traditional Jewish holiday of Passover and its unifying values of justice and freedom. Held at Temple Israel in West Palm Beach, the inspiring and educational evening was hosted by 11 diverse community voluntary bar associations. The event was emceed by event co-chair Heather Greenhill Stohlman; Scott Perry and Staci Burton Fishman served as fellow event co-chairs.

For the second year, guests participated in a traditional seder meal with a service jointly led by Temple Israel’s Rabbi Carlie Daniels and Historic Tabernacle Baptist Church Reverend Gerald D. Kisner. Temple Beth Am Cantorial Soloist Marcy Morris and Ebony Choir Soloist Flora Jackson



Magistrate Diane Kirigin and Miriam Acosta Castriz



Judge Alan Forst, Judge Cymonie Rowe, and Michael Gelfand



Judge Cymonie Rowe, Judge Alan Forst, Wilnar Julmiste

added music and spiritual connection to the evening, which honors the Jewish holiday of Passover, the story of the ancient Hebrews’ exodus from slavery in Egypt. The evening began with opening remarks by Gary Lesser, Managing Partner of Lesser, Landy, Smith & Siegel in West Palm Beach and president of the Jewish Lawyers Association, along with lead event sponsor Alex Lewy, director of community relations for The Palm Beach Center to Combat Antisemitism & Hatred.

“In these uncertain times, both here at home and across the globe, allyship is more essential than ever — not only for the Jewish people, but for all people,” shared Stohlman, event co-chair and attorney at Greenhill Stohlman. “It was

incredibly inspiring to see such strong representation across 11 Palm Beach County voluntary bar associations, embracing our differences while recognizing our shared humanity as we came together as one.”

The event, which started more than a decade ago but had been on a hiatus, was brought back in 2024 based on resounding consensus of a need for unity, particularly since the war in Israel began on Oct. 7, 2023.

The Bar Associations that partnered for this evening included F. Malcolm Cunningham Sr. Bar Association, The Greenberg Gamot Family Law American Inns of Court, Guild of Catholic Lawyers of the Diocese of Palm Beach County, Jewish Lawyers Association of Palm Beach County, Palm Beach County Bar Association, Florida Association for Women Lawyers Palm Beach County Chapter, Palm Beach County Hispanic Bar Association, Palm Beach County Sheree Davis Cunningham Black Women Lawyers Association, South Palm Beach County Bar Association, Florida Association for Women Lawyers South Palm Beach County Chapter, and the Palm Beach County Justice Association.

“What a tremendous, inspiring evening to have so many extraordinary leaders join together to celebrate our Jewish culture and history and stand as allies in our mission to continue the fight against antisemitism and all forms of hate,” shared Josephine Gon, executive director of the Palm Beach Center to Combat Antisemitism & Hatred.

Photo credit: Tracey Benson Photography



Heather and Matthew Stohlman



Palm Beach County Mayor Maria Marino and Sarah Cohen



Cantorial Soloist Marcy Morris, Reverend Gerald Kisner, Ebony Choir Soloist Flora Jackson, and Rabbi Carlie Daniels



Gary Lesser, Alexcia Cox, J. Samantha Vacciana, and Alex Lewy

Chabad Screens Tragic Awakening Film

Chabad of Palm Beach Gardens recently screened the premiere viewing of the film *Tragic Awakening* with Producer and Director Wayne Kopping. Unlike countless other films that document antisemitism, this movie is an analysis of the reasons that motivate antisemitism. The arguments are clear, concise, and compelling, exhibiting out-of-the-box thinking that is both refreshing and empowering.



The main character of the documentary is 42-year-old Rawan Osman, a Syrian-born German activist who advocates for the normalization of relations between Middle Eastern Arab states and Israel. Born into a radically antisemitic culture, she found the courage to break free from the brainwashed society of her youth, in which the highest achievement was the murder of Jews.

In the film, she asks rabbis, thinkers, and historians why the Jews are so reviled. Eventually she discovers that the hatred is actually far less about the Jews and more about Judaism. Adolph Hitler believed that human beings, like animals, are subject to the rule of survival of the fittest. Only the toughest will survive — hence the Jew, who value kindness, compassion, moral conscience, and mutual responsibility — needed to be eradicated. This drove him to attempt genocide on the Jews, to free the world of their values.

Rawan discovers that the Talmud points to Mount Sinai as the source of antisemitism, observing that the word sinai in Hebrew also means “hate.”

The film left viewers with a question that Rabbi Vigler highlighted in his Q&A with Kopping: “They know what they’re fighting for — the question is whether we do?”

Local Happenings on page 10



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ALL ABOUT KIDS

The Thrill of Being Jewish

By Andy Greenberg

Don't you just love being Jewish? Whether it is an interruption in your life or a daily fixture, being part of the Jewish religion, culture, race, ethnicity, and heritage is just an absolute thrill.

This sounds antithetical to the well-known Jewish trait of kvetching — complaining about everything — yet in the most

Local Happenings from page 9

Federation Launches Summer of Community, Connection, Impact

This summer, Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County is offering a vibrant lineup of events for Jewish Palm Beach that caters to everyone – from professionals looking to expand their networks to families eager to give back and newcomers interested in exploring Jewish life in the area.



These events are part of Federation's ongoing mission to foster meaningful connections, support local needs, and strengthen Jewish community life across generations.

A complete listing of events in Jewish Palm Beach is available at jewishpb.org. Highlights this summer include:

B & P Networking Event

Wednesday, June 11, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Connect with professionals from various industries at Jewish Federation's B & P Summer Networking Event at Garden District Taproom in West Palm Beach. This event is an excellent opportunity to expand your network, exchange ideas, and elevate your career or business. Enjoy self-pour craft drinks while networking. Learn more and register at jewishpb.org/upcoming.

Kohl Jewish Volunteer Center Back-to-School Backpack Build Initiative

Tuesday, July 15, 2-4 p.m.

Monday, August 4, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Kohl JVC, in partnership with the Education Foundation of Palm Beach County, is seeking volunteers of all ages to help assemble backpacks filled with new school supplies for students at Title 1 schools throughout Palm Beach County, where many families face economic challenges. This marks the sixth year of this meaningful back-to-school initiative, which will take place at Red Apple Supplies in Lake Worth. More details forthcoming at jewishpb.org.

Jewbilee

Sunday, August 17, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Jewbilee is a new Jewish community resource fair showcasing what the Jewish Palm Beach community has to offer. Whether newcomers to the area are seeking community or simply wish to get more involved, Jewbilee provides a joyful, one-stop opportunity to explore Jewish life and build meaningful connections. You can look forward to a resource fair with booths as well as fun activities for children and families at Mandel JCC Boynton Beach.



recent study of happiness by religion conducted by the Pew Research Center, it was revealed that Jews are the happiest people in America!

What is so thrilling?

Some of the most basic needs of living a fulfilling and enjoyable life are covered in Judaism. This includes a sense of belonging, a rich heritage, multiple family events, and a history of not only survival against all odds, but growth. We have amazing contributions in the fields of academics, medicine, science, communication, entertainment, environment, agriculture, math, comedy, human relations, social justice and reform, and a host of others.

Sure, we are burdened with so many laws of eating, praying, resting, attire, procedures, rituals, and holidays that are not understood and can wear a person down to a point of abandonment.

It has been shown that the key to secular success is based on self-discipline, the resistance of temptation, structure, time management, the establishment of priorities, integrity, education, creativity, and life balance of work, family, and play.

Miraculously, all these are built into our Jewish DNA. For those who follow, meeting with 10 other Jews three times a day for prayer provides a great lesson in time management and social skills. The lifestyle decision to following the Jewish dietary laws does a superb job in self-discipline and the resistance of temptation. The weekly Torah lesson from a rabbi on Shabbat is not only focused on ancient commentators and texts, but reveals how we can use these in our daily lives. The establishment of priorities is easily recognizable when we choose to observe certain holidays and are still able to excel in our contributions to the world.

The study of Talmud is perhaps the best example of creativity, as we discuss how one line or perhaps even one word or letter creates a whole new opportunity for discussion, exploration, conclusion, and a creative approach to problem solving.

The book of Proverbs as well as the Mishna Torah written by Maimonides — the basis for today's so-called modern theories of motivation — are extensions of practices Jews have known for years and have contributed to our survival and growth.

The Friday night Shabbat dinner, where people actually talk to each other because cellphones are forbidden, creates a family dynamic and bond. Each week couples exchange words of love and appreciation and then recognize the achievements of their children through their blessings.

The celebration of Passover tells the story of our freedom and heritage — as compared to the American holiday of July Fourth, when you have a festive meal but rarely show appreciation, knowledge, or discussion of how we got to be free in the first place.

On Sukkot we not only recognize how we lived during our 40-year travels through the desert, but if done properly we recognize how an unbelievable number of people in this world would love to upgrade their living conditions to that of a sukkah.

What about the terror of spending so much time in the synagogue during the High Holy Days? Just like the new television season, a new car, the start of the new year in classrooms, it gives us a sense of renewal, our own personal review, an opportunity to relieve ourselves of guilt by asking those around us for forgiveness, in a heightened sense of gratitude not only for the life we've lived but for the one we're able to shape in the coming year.

It is interesting to note that the United States recently placed 24th on the list of happy countries in the world, while Israel — with all its turmoil and trouble — is number 8!

And of course we have the Torah. If one believes the Torah is entirely God's thoughts, one can suggest that it contains two of the following five themes: the history of the creation of the world and its population and how to get along with God; for those who believe it was written by humans or a combination, it contains how to get along with ourselves, others, and planet earth.

The Torah is a manual of maintenance and growth and long life, just like a car manual and all its maintenance requirements.

For those who follow the owner's manual, they simply tend to get more out of life with fewer problems.

Ask most 12 or 13 year olds how much they are looking forward to their bar mitzvah, and they will finally stop texting and give you every reason why this is a major burden in their life. Yet, at a very young age, they learn public speaking skills, time management, and how to balance all their other requirements and still achieve this major accomplishment. When it's over they get congratulations from at times up to 300 people, most of them of whom they never met before, which gives them a fantastic sense of acceptance. They experience a superb sense of accomplishment and achievement, which heightens their self-esteem and self-confidence.

I will never forget what occurred many years ago in a seventh grade Hebrew school class I was teaching. One of the students who was about to complete her bat mitzvah approached me and said she was seriously thinking about stopping her Jewish education and asked what advice I you give her.

I simply stated that it is her prerogative, but I explained what she would be missing and how she would be able to use that knowledge not only in her teenage life but also further out in her adult life. I added that the only person she can rely on for success is herself.

She listened intently and made the decision to continue with her education in Hebrew high school.

And I might add, she was thrilled to be Jewish!

Andy Greenberg is a 25-year Conservative Jewish educator of grades 3-12 and a lecturer for adults of all ages.

Young Families Celebrate Shabbos Together

Young families from the Chabad of Palm Beach Gardens community and Hebrew School recently got together for the seventh Young Families First Fridays Shabbos dinner of the season.

The evening started with a Mexican taco piñata and Shabbos services, then families gathered for a Shabbos dinner with Mexican-style food, replete with guacamole and tortilla chips, a taco bar, and churros for dessert.

The highlight of the dinner was celebrating the JewQ champions! Participants enjoyed an interactive game show and sharing the Shabbaton experience with everyone in attendance.

Another memorable feature of the dinner was a Q&A session with Rabbi Yisroel and Raizy, as well as Raizy's father, Rabbi Lew. With prizes, games, good conversation, and songs, the meal was an uplifting and enjoyable experience for kids and parents. The parents enjoyed socializing near the children as they played on the shul's playground and under the floodlights on the soccer field.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Chabad of Palm Beach Gardens

**6100 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens
624.2223, www.jewishgardens.com**
Morning Services
Sundays, 9 a.m.
Monday to Friday, 7:30 a.m.
Evening Services
Monday to Thursday, 7 p.m.
Sundays
10 a.m., JKidz Summer Sundays
Mondays
8:30 a.m., Worldwide Wisdom
Tuesdays
8:30 a.m., Worldwide Wisdom
11 a.m., Hebrew Literature
1 p.m., Ladies Mahjongg & Cards
6 p.m., CTeen
Wednesdays
8:30 a.m., Worldwide Wisdom
1:45 p.m., Ladies’ Torah Study
Thursdays
8:30 a.m., Worldwide Wisdom
Fridays
8:30 a.m., Jewish Values Video
6:15 p.m., Friday Night Services w. Beer & Biltong (7 p.m. Starting July)
Shabbos
9:30 a.m., Shabbos Service
11:15 a.m., Children’s Program
11:30 a.m., Rabbi Vigler’s Weekly Sermon
12:15 p.m., Community Kiddush Luncheon
June
Shavuos Ted Talks
Sunday, June 1
Powerful Torah Ideas in under ten minutes
G-d gave us the Torah on Mount Sinai, but have we received it? In celebration of this life-changing event, members of Chabad of Palm Beach Gardens will present TED Talks on how Torah has changed their lives.
Ten Commandments & Ice Cream Party
Monday, June 2
Deluxe Dairy Delights
Channel powerful blessings as you hear the Ten Commandments read from the Torah, just as heard them the first time at Mount Sinai. Traditional dairy and fun holiday activities especially for the kids!
Shavuos Yizkor Memorial Service
Tuesday, June 3
Connecting with the Souls of the Deceased
Honor your loved ones who have already passed in this spiritually uplifting memorial service, recited just four times each year.
Shavuos Soiree Farbrengen
Tuesday, June 3
CTeen Regional Trip—Busch Gardens
Sunday, June 8
Round Table Discussion
Monday, June 9, 1 p.m.
Everything you’ve ever wanted to ask a rabbi and didn’t know who to turn to. We encourage you to ask tough questions as long as you are ready for tough answers. No topic is off the table.
JKidz Summer Sundays
Sundays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Interactive Jewish educational activities and mega outings every week. Make the summer a time for your children to love and learn about their Jewish heritage!
Bereavement Group
Wednesday, June 11 & 25, 3:15 p.m.
Sadly, death is a part of life that we cannot ignore. As a community, we are grateful to have each other for support during difficult times. Led by experienced psychotherapist Dr. Sandi Reiken together with Rabbi Dovid Vigler, our bereavement group is a safe and intimate setting to share your story with other like-minded individuals or just to listen and observe if that is more comfortable for you.
Wednesday: Men’s Club Farbrengen
Wednesday, June 18, 7 p.m.
Anything You’ve Ever Wanted to Ask a Rabbi
No Holds Barred—Nothing is off the table, and what happens at Men’s Club stays at Men’s Club as we celebrate our members’ birthdays in the month of June.
July
Round Table Discussion
Monday, July 7, 1 p.m.
Everything you’ve ever wanted to ask a rabbi and didn’t know who to turn to. We encourage you to ask tough questions as long as you are ready for tough answers. No topic is off the table.
Bereavement Group
Wednesday, July 9 & 23, 3:15 p.m.
Sadly, death is a part of life that we cannot ignore. As a community, we are grateful to have each other for support during difficult times. Led by experienced psychotherapist Dr. Sandi Reiken together with Rabbi Dovid Vigler, our bereavement group is a safe and intimate setting to share your story with other like-minded individuals or just to listen and observe if that is more comfortable for you.
Women’s Tehillim Group
Shabbos, July 19 after Kiddush Luncheon
The power of women’s prayer is legendary in our tradition, particularly when they recite the Psalms of King David on the last Shabbos of the Jewish Month.
JKidz Summer Sundays
Sundays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Interactive Jewish educational activities and mega outings every week. Make the summer a time for your children to love and learn about their Jewish heritage!

Temple Beth Am

**2250 Central Blvd., Jupiter
747.1109, www.templebetham.com**
Tuesday, June 17
Yoga with Yael (virtual and in-person). Cost is \$12/class or \$100/10 class card. All ages and abilities welcome. In person and Zoom option available. For more information or to register contact Yael at ylawrence@templebetham.com.
Wednesday, June 18
1 p.m., Mah Jongg
Enjoy an afternoon of play and light refreshments. Everyone welcome. No cost but donation appreciated. Mah Jongg set provided. Cards available for purchase. For information, contact tba@templebetham.com or 561.747.1109.
Thursday, June 19
1 p.m., Canasta
Bring your own cards, trays, score pads, and shufflers if you have them. Lessons available during regular meetings. No cost. Donations appreciated. For information, contact tba@templebetham.com or 561.747.1109.
Friday, June 20
6 p.m., Shabbat Service
Join Rabbi Alon and Cantor Marcy, for an uplifting service to usher us into Shabbat, followed by a dessert oneg. Also streaming live: https://vimeo.com/event/4897136
Wednesday, June 25
1 p.m., Mah Jongg
Enjoy an afternoon of play and light refreshments. Everyone welcome. No cost but donation appreciated. Mah Jongg set provided. Cards available for purchase. For information, contact tba@templebetham.com or 561.747.1109.
Thursday, June 26
1 p.m., Canasta
Bring your own cards, trays, score pads, and shufflers if you have them. Lessons available during regular meetings. No cost. Donations appreciated. For information, contact tba@templebetham.com or 561.747.1109.
Friday, June 27
6:30 p.m., Shabbat Service
Join Rabbi Alon and Cantor Marcy, for an uplifting service to usher us into Shabbat, followed by a dessert oneg. Also streaming live: https://vimeo.com/event/4897136
Wednesday, July 2
1 p.m., Mah Jongg
Enjoy an afternoon of play and light refreshments. Everyone welcome. No cost but donation appreciated. Mah Jongg set provided. Cards available for purchase. For information, contact tba@templebetham.com or 561.747.1109.
Thursday, July 3
1 p.m., Canasta
Bring your own cards, trays, score pads, and shufflers if you have them. Lessons available during regular meetings. No cost. Donations appreciated. For information, contact tba@templebetham.com or 561.747.1109.
Friday, July 4
5:30 p.m., Red, White, & Blue Shabbat & BBQ
Wear your red, white, and blue, and join us for an early service and All American BBQ dinner featuring bbq chicken, baked beans, coleslaw, chips, and flag cake! No cost for dinner but please RSVP to the Temple Office.
Tuesday, July 8
Yoga with Yael (virtual and in-person). Cost is \$12/class or \$100/10 class card. All ages and abilities welcome. In person and Zoom option available. For more information or to register contact Yael at ylawrence@templebetham.com.
Wednesday, July 9
1 p.m., Mah Jongg
Enjoy an afternoon of play and light refreshments. Everyone welcome. No cost but donation appreciated. Mah Jongg set provided. Cards available for purchase. For information, contact tba@templebetham.com or 561.747.1109.
Thursday, July 10
1 p.m., Canasta
Bring your own cards, trays, score pads, and shufflers if you have them. Lessons available during regular meetings. No cost. Donations appreciated. For information, contact tba@templebetham.com or 561.747.1109.
Friday, July 11
6:30 p.m., Tableside Shabbat Service
Join Rabbi Alon for an uplifting service to usher us into Shabbat, followed by an ice cream oneg. Also streaming live: https://vimeo.com/event/4897136
Monday, July 14
10:30 a.m., Book Club: The Rose Code
Written by Kate Quinn, the story follows three female codebreakers, Osla, Mab, and Beth, as they navigate the challenges of secrecy, friendship, and betrayal during wartime. The narrative intertwines their experiences during the war with their reunion in 1947, where they must crack a final code to uncover a traitor and prevent a possible catastrophe. For more information or to RSVP, contact Edie at ediewolf@gmail.com.
Tuesday, July 15
Yoga with Yael (virtual and in-person). Cost is \$12/class or \$100/10 class card. All ages and abilities welcome. In person and Zoom option available. For more information or to register contact Yael at ylawrence@templebetham.com.
Tuesday, July 15
12 p.m., Sisterhood Lunch Out with Carole
While helping others is important, so is having fun—and for that, we thank Carole Levine. For years, she’s organized the Sisterhood’s Tuesday Lunch Outs, finding great restaurants and creating lasting memories for our members. This lunch out will be at the Gallery Grille, 383 Tequesta Drive. Ste c, Tequesta, FL 33469. RSVP to tbasisterhoodrsvp@gmail.com. Separate checks will be available. For information about Temple Beth Am’s Sisterhood, email sisterhoodoftemplebetham@gmail.com.
Wednesday, July 16
1 p.m., Mah Jongg

Enjoy an afternoon of play and light refreshments. Everyone welcome. No cost but donation appreciated. Mah Jongg set provided. Cards available for purchase. For information, contact tba@templebetham.com or 561.747.1109.
Thursday, July 17
1 p.m., Canasta
Bring your own cards, trays, score pads, and shufflers if you have them. Lessons available during regular meetings. No cost. Donations appreciated. For information, contact tba@templebetham.com or 561.747.1109.
Friday, July 18
6:30 p.m., Shabbat Service
Join Rabbi Alon and Cantor Marcy, for an uplifting service to usher us into Shabbat, followed by a dessert oneg. Also streaming live: https://vimeo.com/event/4897136
Tuesday, July 22
Yoga with Yael (virtual and in-person). Cost is \$12/class or \$100/10 class card. All ages and abilities welcome. In person and Zoom option available. For more information or to register contact Yael at ylawrence@templebetham.com.
Wednesday, July 23
1 p.m., Mah Jongg
Enjoy an afternoon of play and light refreshments. Everyone welcome. No cost but donation appreciated. Mah Jongg set provided. Cards available for purchase. For information, contact tba@templebetham.com or 561.747.1109.
Thursday, July 24
1 p.m., Canasta
Bring your own cards, trays, score pads, and shufflers if you have them. Lessons available during regular meetings. No cost. Donations appreciated. For information, contact tba@templebetham.com or 561.747.1109.
Friday, July 25
6:30 p.m., Shabbat Service
Join Rabbi Alon and Cantor Marcy, for an uplifting service to usher us into Shabbat, followed by a dessert oneg. Also streaming live: https://vimeo.com/event/4897136
Tuesday, July 29
Yoga with Yael (virtual and in-person). Cost is \$12/class or \$100/10 class card. All ages and abilities welcome. In person and Zoom option available. For more information or to register contact Yael at ylawrence@templebetham.com.
Wednesday, July 30
1 p.m., Mah Jongg
Enjoy an afternoon of play and light refreshments. Everyone welcome. No cost but donation appreciated. Mah Jongg set provided. Cards available for purchase. For information, contact tba@templebetham.com or 561.747.1109.
Thursday, July 31
1 p.m., Canasta
Bring your own cards, trays, score pads, and shufflers if you have them. Lessons available during regular meetings. No cost. Donations appreciated. For information, contact tba@templebetham.com or 561.747.1109.
Temple Beth David
**4657 Hood Road, Palm Beach Gardens
694.2350, www.templebethdavidfl.org**
Daily Minyan Services, Monday to Thursday, 6:30 p.m. & Sunday, 9 a.m. via Zoom.
Shabbat Services are offered in-person and virtually. Please visit our website for more information.
Saturday, June 14, 9:15 a.m., Shabbat Services
12:15 p.m., Parshat of the Week Discussion with Rabbi Debra Eisenman
Tuesday, June 17, 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Canasta;
All levels welcome. RSVP Required.
Thursday, June 19, 10:00 a.m., Sisterhood Book Club
Friday, June 20, 6:30 p.m., Shabbat Minyan via Zoom
Saturday, June 21, 9:15 a.m., Shabbat Services
Tuesday, June 24, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., Canasta;
All levels welcome. RSVP Required.
Friday, June 27, 6:30 p.m., Shabbat Services
Saturday, June 28, 9:15 a.m., Shabbat Services
Tuesday, July 1, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., Canasta;
All levels welcome. RSVP Required.
Friday, July 4, 5:30 p.m., BBQ Dinner;
Registration Required
6:30 p.m., Shabbat Minyan via Zoom
Saturday, July 5, 9:15 a.m., Shabbat Services
Tuesday, July 8, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., Canasta;
All levels welcome. RSVP Required.
Friday, July 11, 6:30 p.m., Beach Shabbat Services
Saturday, July 12, 9:15 a.m., Shabbat Services
Tuesday, July 15, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., Canasta;
All levels welcome. RSVP Required.
Friday, July 18, 6:30 p.m., Shabbat Services
Saturday, July 19, 9:15 a.m., Shabbat Services
Tuesday, July 22, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., Canasta;
All levels welcome. RSVP Required.
Friday, July 25, 6:30 p.m., Beach Shabbat Services
Saturday, July 26, 9:15 a.m., Shabbat Services

Community Calendar on page 12

Captain's Airport.

Seaport. & Car Service



Captain's was established in 1980 servicing Palm Beach County and is a privately owned and managed company. Captain's is committed to providing dependable, reliable and professional ground transportation to and from all South Florida Airports and Seaports.

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561-798-2180 or 800-634-7890 www.captainsairport.com





LIFESTYLES

See Vision Eye Institute Celebrates New Location

See Vision Eye Institute announces the opening of a state-of-the-art 15,000-square-foot facility in Wellington. The expansive location features 14 advanced exam lanes, a cutting-edge laser suite, two office-based surgical suites, and a full-service optical department. More than just a new

Community Calendar from page 11

Temple Beth El

**2815 N. Flagler Dr., West Palm Beach
833.0339, office@bethelwpb.com**
Temple Beth El Women’s League Book Club Planning Meeting
Wednesday, June 18, 2 to 4 p.m.
Contact: sisterhood@bethelwpb.com
Relax and Rejuvenate: Health-Enhancing Massage Routines
Sunday, June 22, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Registration Link: www.bethelwpb.com/event/massage
YjPN Wine and Wisdom with Rabbi Alan Bell
Thursday, June 26, 7 to 9 p.m.
Registration Link: www.bethelwpb.com/form/wine-wisdom
Beach Shabbat with Temple Israel
Friday, June 27, 7 to 9 p.m.
Registration Link: www.bethelwpb.com/form/beach
YjPN Dance Class
Sunday, June 29, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Contact: yjpn@bethelwpb.com
Shabbat Dinner and Services at Temple Beth El
Friday, July 11, 6 to 8:30 p.m.
Registration Link: www.bethelwpb.com/form/fridaynight
YjPN Shabbat Dinner
Friday, July 18, 8 to 10:30 p.m.
Contact: yjpn@bethelwpb.com
YjPN Shabbat at Temple Beth El
Saturday, July 19, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Contact: yjpn@bethelwpb.com
YjPN Havdalah at the Beach
Saturday, July 19, 8 to 10 p.m.
Contact: yjpn@bethelwpb.com
YjPN Wine and Wisdom with Rabbi Alan Bell
Tuesday, July 22, 7 to 9 p.m.
Registration Link: www.bethelwpb.com/form/wine-wisdom
Shabbat Dinner and Services at Temple Beth El
Friday, July 25, 6 to 8:30 p.m.
Registration Link: www.bethelwpb.com/form/fridaynight
YjPN Beach BBQ
Sunday, July 27, 2 to 5 p.m.
Contact: yjpn@bethelwpb.com

Temple Emanu-El of Palm Beach

**190 North County Road, Palm Beach
832.0804, officesec@tepb.org**
Friday Night Services at 6:30 p.m. followed by a Shabbat Oneg, Shabbat Bar or Shabbat Dinner
Saturday Morning services at 9:30 a.m. followed by a Kiddush Luncheon
Services are led by Rabbi Michael Resnick and Cantor Meir Finkelstein, accompanied by Claudio Waisgluss. All are welcome to experience the sanctity of our services with their inspirational music, and a time for reflection and strengthening of spiritual connections.
Minyan
Mondays & Thursdays at 8:45 a.m. followed by a Complimentary Breakfast. All are welcome.
Rabbi’s Round Table
Monday mornings at 11 a.m. via Zoom. Join the rabbi for a spirited and informational class about the teachings of the Torah.
Support Groups
For more information, please call the Temple Office at 561.832.0804
Caregivers Support Group via Zoom
10 a.m. on 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month
Bereavement Support Group via Zoom
1 p.m. on 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month
Wednesday, June 25, 9 a.m.
Kind Kitchen (located in North Palm Beach)
Each month our Social Action Committee brings volunteers to the Kind Kitchen to help pack and prepare meals for our neighbors going through challenging situations such as illness, financial hardship, and more. To donate food or volunteer to assist, please call 561-832-0804.
Wednesday, July 30, 9 a.m.
Kind Kitchen (located in North Palm Beach)
Each month our Social Action Committee brings volunteers to the Kind Kitchen to help pack and prepare meals for our neighbors going through challenging situations such as illness, financial hardship, and more. To donate food or volunteer to assist, please call 561-832-0804.

Temple Judea

**4311 Hood Road, Palm Beach Gardens
624.4633, www.gotj.org**
Kindly contact the temple for a listing of worship, study, and social events.



See Vision Eye Institute new location

building, this facility represents a renewed commitment to delivering world-class eyecare to the community.

“This practice began as a vision — my dream to create a space where patients could access the most advanced eye surgery in a setting that reflects precision, efficiency, and care. With the opening of our new building and the upcoming launch of our surgery center, that dream is now a reality. We’re proud to support the residents of this community with the sophisticated care they deserve — and we’re just getting started,” said founder and owner Jason Gorscak, MD.

Dr. Gorscak’s training includes undergraduate studies at Johns Hopkins University, medical school at the University of Miami School of Medicine, and residency at the University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey. While in South Florida, he fell in love with the area and the people and decided to bring his vision of offering cutting-edge cataract care and next-gen technology to fruition by creating See Vision Eye Institute. Dr. Gorscak achieves remarkable outcomes by combining his exceptional surgical expertise with an emphasis on creating strong patient-doctor relationships.



Jason Gorscak, MD



See Vision Institute team

At See Vision Eye Institute, the team is committed to delivering the most advanced vision correction available today. The new facility and surgery center will feature the latest in cataract surgery technology, including image-guided systems and femtosecond laser-assisted techniques for unmatched precision and safety. They offer a full range of premium intraocular lenses — including toric, multifocal, and light-adjustable options — allowing patients to reduce dependence on glasses and achieve customized visual outcomes. For those seeking an alternative to LASIK, they specialize in refractive lens exchange and the implantation of collamer lenses, which provide a safe, effective solution for patients with high refractive errors or thin corneas. Every technology is chosen with one goal: to help patients live better by seeing better.

“Opening our new facility — and soon, our surgery center — is more than just growth; it’s the realization of our purpose. From cataract surgery to refractive lens exchange, we deliver solutions that empower people to live their best lives. As we expand, we remain deeply committed to becoming an employer of choice — investing in great people, great outcomes, and a facility where excellence is the standard. This expansion reflects our long-term vision for leading ophthalmic care in Palm Beach County,” said CEO Myra Cherchio.

The See Vision Eye Institute team is ready to welcome patients into a space that reflects the way they care — clearly, intentionally, and without compromise.

To learn more about the practice or to schedule an appointment, please visit www.SeeVisionEye.com or call 561.621.2020.; Homeland Plaza, 5165 S State Road 7, Lake Worth, FL 33449.

Photos provided by See Vision Eye Institute

Financial Focus

Carefully Consider Social Security Decisions

By Sally Sima Stahl

Your Social Security benefits can be an important part of your retirement income — but when should you start collecting them? It’s a big decision, so you’ll want to consider your options carefully.



Essentially, you’ll need to decide whether you’re going to take your benefits as early as possible — age 62 — or if you should wait until your “full retirement age” or even longer. If you begin accepting benefits at 62, they’ll be about 30 percent lower than if you wait until your full retirement age, which is 67 if you were born in 1960 or later. And if you wait until 70, your benefits will be about 24 percent higher than at your full retirement age.

In deciding when to claim benefits, you’ll want to weigh these factors:

- **Income needs:** If you need the money to help meet your daily cost of living, then you may not feel you have much choice about when to take Social Security. However, if you have sufficient income from other sources, such as your 401(k) or other retirement accounts, you may be able to delay taking benefits until they’re much larger.
- **Employment:** If you’re still working and you haven’t reached your full retirement age yet, it might be a good idea to wait before claiming Social Security because your benefits will be reduced by \$1 for every \$2 earned above \$23,400. In the year in which you reach your full retirement age, your benefits will be reduced by \$1 for every \$3 earned above \$62,160. (But once you reach your full retirement age, Social Security will adjust your payments to credit you for the months during which your benefits were lowered because of your income.)
- **Life expectancy:** None of us can say for certain how long we’ll live — but you may have some hints. For example, if you have a family history of longevity, and you’re in good health, you might decide it makes sense to delay taking Social Security until your full retirement age, or even later, as you could potentially have more years of receiving larger checks.
- **Spouse:** If you’re married, decisions about when to claim benefits could affect you or your spouse. The spouse with lower Social Security payments may be eligible to receive spousal benefits, which, when combined with their own benefits, can reach up to 50 percent of the higher-benefit spouse’s payment at their full retirement age. To qualify, the lower-benefit spouse’s benefit at their full retirement age must be less than half of the other spouse’s full-retirement-age benefit. But if the lower-benefit spouse claims their benefits before their full retirement age, their own retirement benefit and the spousal benefit will be reduced. Also, the lower-benefit spouse reaches their maximum benefit amount at their full retirement age — they won’t receive additional benefits even if they or the higher-benefit spouse delays taking benefits past their respective full retirement ages.

One other point to keep in mind: If the higher-benefit spouse claims early, the survivor benefit to the other spouse is reduced, but if the higher-benefit spouse delays their benefit beyond their full retirement age, the survivor benefit is increased.

By making the appropriate choices, you can help maximize your Social Security benefits — and possibly enjoy a more comfortable retirement.

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Contact us at (561) 748-7600, Sally Sima Stahl, CFP®, AAMS™, 1851 W. Indiantown Road, Ste. 106, Jupiter, FL 33458.

Lifestyles on page 13

Lifestyles from page 12

Have a Harmonious Family that Does Not Fight? Still Need an Estate Plan!

By Ann  Desormier-Cartwright, Esq.

In many families, everyone gets along, happily gathering for the holidays, sharing laughs, telling stories, and enjoying each other’s company. Then, the matriarch or patriarch dies. Suddenly, years of pent-up resentment and hurt feelings surface, and the once-happy family is now embroiled in litigation over the head of the family’s money and property.



Having an Estate Plan Is Crucial to Your Family’s Success

When everyone is alive and happy, it is easy to think that nothing will break a family apart. Many people think that, since everyone gets along, estate planning is unnecessary because everyone will look out for one another and do only what is fair. However, having a properly prepared estate plan is crucial. Failing to plan not only takes all the control out of your hands but can also leave hurt feelings and possible confusion over your true wishes. This confusion may force family members to pursue the only source available to resolve the misunderstanding: probate court.

Not Just Any Estate Plan Will Do

While a lack of planning can lead to disastrous consequences, poor planning can be just as harmful. Documents that are outdated, vague, or improperly prepared can lead family members to challenge them. Family members may have differing opinions about your intentions if your documents are unclear. This is especially unfortunate if you have a trust: One of the primary reasons to prepare a trust is to avoid court involvement. A trust contest, however, places your loved ones and the provisions in your trust under court scrutiny.

Contest Clauses

No-contest clauses are not enforceable in Florida. A common situation where contests can arise is when someone is left out of the will or trust. If you want to disinherit a family member intentionally, consider leaving them a nominal amount at your death or identifying them and saying they have been provided for otherwise.

You Can Protect an Inheritance with Proper Planning

Alternatively, if you are concerned about a beneficiary receiving money outright because of creditor issues, spending habits, etc., you need not disinherit or leave them out of your estate plan. Leaving money to a family member does not have to be an all-or-nothing decision. By utilizing a discretionary trust, you can set aside money for the individual to be distributed by a trustee when and how the trustee deems appropriate. If you do not want to put such tight restrictions on a beneficiary’s inheritance but still want a level of protection, you can have a beneficiary’s inheritance held in a trust and distributed to them at specific ages or when they reach certain milestones. You do not have to leave your loved one an inheritance outright without any requirements or stipulations.

A Proper Estate Plan Can Help Avoid Contests

Having a well-drafted, up-to-date estate plan is crucial regardless of your family situation. Will or trust contests can be costly and quickly drain what you want to leave behind for your loved ones. We can assist you in creating an estate plan that will ensure that your wishes are carried out and that harmony can be maintained within your family after you are gone. Call us today to schedule an appointment.

If you have questions about your estate plan and what documents you should have in place to plan your estate, schedule a free consultation today by calling our office at 561.694.7827, Ann  Desormier-Cartwright, Esq., Elder and Estate Planning Attorneys PA, 480 Maplewood Drive, Suite 3, Jupiter, FL 33458.

The content of this article is general and should not be relied upon without reviewing your specific circumstances by competent legal counsel. Reliance on the information herein is at your own risk, as it expresses no opinion by the firm on your specific circumstances or legal needs. An attorney client relationship is not created through the information provided.

The Singles Scene Column 

No Tariffs on Love

By Kelly Leary, M.S. & Miranda Capparelli

“This unique engine (the heart in love) has always captivated humanity. Indeed, we have often believed that everything is under its command.”~Pierre Berville

Summer is upon us, and it will go quickly, so let’s consider some fun facts about the allure of June. Welcome to extra sunshine, beach days, nostalgic rock music, and nights that don’t start until 9:00 p.m. Summer romances can last forever, so swipe left on the fling because we are here for the real thing. Tan lines will fade, but real love will not. Yet, many singles get weighed down by emotional overload, economic woes, and fear of rejection. Singles wonder: *Are relationships still worth the cost?* At Revolution Dating, our answer is simple: **Yes. Because in our community, there are no tariffs on love, only massive returns.**

Real love is not subject to market fluctuations. Unlike the swipe-happy online dating addicts, our confidential matchmaking service offers something truly recession-proof~**a priceless genuine connection.** A dynamic duo will always live better than a single person. Finding (the right) love interest is and will always be your wisest and most significant investment. You have a financial advisor. Factor in a love advisor and thank us later.

Caveat: Remember to share this with someone you care about, and know that this information suits the SINGLE and the TAKEN, ages 20 to 80.

The Cost of the Modern Dating Dilemma: High Risk. Low Reward.

With 34 years of experience, let us share the hardcore facts. Using online dating apps or rolling the dice in the bar may appear “free” on the surface, but the hidden costs are steep. Take notes on this and bring it up at your next dinner party.

• **Time wasted** messaging incompatible matches or attempting to vet each candidate with your limited free time.



Lifestyles on page 14

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www.SouthFloridaJewishCemetery.org

As a non-profit, all proceeds beyond operating costs go towards Jewish education and burial for those who cannot afford it.

Lifestyles from page 13

• **Emotional burnout** from ghosting, catfishing, or worse ... someone in another country trying to gain access to your bank account information. It happens more often than you think but no one will tell you.

• **Safety concerns exist, especially for high-net worth professionals and upscale retirees.** Do not post your photos on a public forum for all to envy. This can lead to identity theft, fake profiles, or an awkward encounter in your social circle. Many have seen their clients or neighbors on these sites, making both parties incredibly uncomfortable.

• **The Inevitable Dating App Fatigue** that drains confidence and hope. With social media alone, self-esteem is at an all-time low, so why bother? Technology is for work. Not for love. Nothing beats traditional and old-fashioned introductions.

Online dating platforms can feel like a clearance rack in the back of the store ... i.e., the unwanted and out of style. Discerning singles, C-Suite executives, and entrepreneurs must step it up to meet a good partner. Matchmaking is in, and online dating is out, and this phenomenon has been escalating dramatically over the last ten years. Real people with real success do not use online dating forums.

Enter: Matchmaking Skills.

At Revolution Dating, we know you’ve worked hard to build a quality life, and your love life should mirror your high standards. Modern dating should not feel like a gamble. **Curated, confidential connections** tailored to your lifestyle, values, and goals trump stranger danger every night of summer. So, quit while you are ahead and focus on your day job while we focus on your love life and coaching (you may need). Chemistry is found in real-life connections. *Unlike online platforms that profit from your endless swiping to KEEP YOU SINGLE, we succeed when you stop looking and pair off. This is why we offer unlimited introductions all summer long.* We do not want to keep you dating. That is more work for us. We love a one-and-done.

Insurance Policy on Romance?

Get real. Dating is expensive—not just in dollars but in emotional wear and tear. Bad dates, dashed hopes, and wasted weekends add up. Our talent, vast connections, and skillset protect your most valuable assets: **your time, energy, money, and heart.** Unlike the digital Wild West of online dating, our process is built for discretion. If you are a public figure, C-suite genius, or someone who values privacy, our matchmaking ensures your personal life stays private.

Jet-Set Sans Jet-Lag.

Why does *summer lovin’ happen so fast*? In a nutshell, people are more open, spontaneous, and relaxed. This is the only time of year that single parents of school-age children get a life, too. CONGRATS, SINGLE PARENTS! Energy is lighter and more playful, making summer the ideal condition for escalating a meaningful relationship. Your summer love story does not require a plane ticket, but an open mindset is mandatory. You can vacation in your backyard with your plus-one by your side. Just remember, our flights book quickly, so don’t delay or you may get stranded.

In our 34 years of specializing in representing clients who navigate the entire northeast coast, we have capitalized on our investment in the love movement. When you succeed, we succeed. Whether you are newly single, divorced, or widowed, let this summer bring the change you seek. Now is the perfect time to discover what’s possible when love is handled professionally, not casually. Your new summer hobby awaits. ...

Book your initial interview with us today before we book solid. Clients are pre-booking weeks in advance. Don’t let summer love pass you by. Simply scan the QR code and fill out the form or give us a jingle. LIVE Matchmakers are standing by.

XOXO - Kelly & Miranda
#SummerLove25 #LiveOffline #ScreenFreeSummer #DiveIn #TellYourFriends #MatchmakingRoyalty

*Kelly Leary, M.S.© is CEO and Founder of Revolution Dating which she launched in 2014. Kelly has 34 years in the dating industry and a master’s degree in clinical psychology. She has been written about in Modern Luxury Magazine Palm Beach and Modern Luxury Manhattan, The Palm Beach Post, The Shiny Sheet, Stuart News, Jupiter Magazine, and many more. Revolution Dating clients are pre-screened in person, including background checks and ID verification. Professional photos are taken by the staff. Revolution Dating is NOT online dating or blind dating. In addition to providing matchmaking services that make singles “UN-single” through their exclusive club memberships, Kelly and Miranda also provide feedback from dates when appropriate. Mock Dates are available by request. Single Coaching Sessions and Evaluations are also available by request for non-members or as an add-on to some memberships. *All inquiries are confidential *Specializing in representing jet-setting clients with a second home in the Northeast Area. Do call the central hotline at 561-630-9696 (XOXO) or scan the QR code below to hold your place in the club. Why wait? Just Date!*



Behind the Scenes: Sunshine, Sparks, and Soulmates

Successful single, divorced, and widowed clients are ready to live and love offline. Revolution Dating is a full-service matchmaking firm specializing in screening and representing clients from the Northeast to Palm Beach for decades, with a corporate brick-and-mortar office in your backyard in the exclusive PGA Commons business neighborhood. Last month, the team celebrated many of their new success stories that have gone public! Thankfully, they chose to share their love with the community outside of the office and downstairs at Rocco’s Tacos on PGA Boulevard. Revolution Dating invites you to embrace love with them this summer. You belong here. #TellYourFriends #SummerLovin



Meet New Client, Austin!
#TallHunkAlert



Revolution Dating Receives BEST OF 2025 from Florida Weekly!
#AwardWinningMatchmakers



Dale & Donna Share an Intimate Moment.
#SrSuccessStory



Eleven Years and Rising!
#MatchmakingRoyalty



Bruce & Brenda thank Kelly and Miranda with Beautiful Bouquets. #SpreadTheLove

Tampa General: Florida’s Provider of Choice for Complex Care

As Florida’s leading academic health system for more than 50 years, Tampa General Hospital and the USF Health Morsani College of Medicine combine education, research, and clinical care that leverages cutting-edge technologies.

As a result, the hospital deploys next-generation therapies and treatment that drive advances in complex care. The academic health system has also established strategic partnerships with the state’s best physicians and practices, expanding local communities’ access to academic medicine. Together, these elements converge to make Tampa General the provider of choice for patients needing complex care throughout Florida.

Physicians in the Palm Beaches and on the Treasure Coast join Tampa General and USF Health as a reflection of their commitment to advance research, innovation, and technology to transform health care for their patients. Currently, the Tampa General network has more than 75 providers and 300 staff members in 13 medical specialties, practicing in 20 locations on Florida’s East Coast.



Dr. David Amrose, nephrologist with TGH Advanced Kidney Care, and Dr. Kiran Dhanireddy, vice president and chief of the TGH Transplant Institute

If patients in the Palm Beaches need to transfer to Tampa General for complex care, their trusted local physician can make the transition seamless, providing presurgical and postsurgical care. The most common treatments for which East Coast patients typically transfer to Tampa General are oncology, hematology, oncologic surgeries, complex neurosurgeries, and organ transplants.

Tampa General recently ranked No. 1 in the nation for transplants by volume, according to data from the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network. With 889 transplants completed in 2024, the academic health system also set a new national record for transplant procedures in one year.

Organ Perfusion Technology Enhances Quality Transplant Outcomes

One of the reasons Tampa General ranks high for transplants is its utilization of organ perfusion technology. This game-changing approach allows donor organs to function outside the body in a machine while continuously supplied with oxygen and nutrients. Organ perfusion offers several advantages, including the ability to:

- Preserve organs for longer periods
- Retrieve organs from a wider geographical area
- Expand access to lifesaving transplants
- Take on more complex cases
- Enhance quality transplant outcomes

Historically, Tampa General has some of the most efficient transplant timelines in the country and in Florida, according to the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients. On any given day, there are 150 to 180 transplant patients in the hospital.

In the Palm Beaches, practices such as TGH Advanced Kidney Care and TGH Digestive Health Center often refer patients to Tampa General for transplants. In addition, TGH Digestive Health Center’s Dr. Sonja K. Olsen is Palm Beach and Martin counties’ only transplant hepatologist.

Robotic-Assisted Technology Addresses Microsurgeries

Beyond transplants, another major advance at the hospital occurred in late 2024, when Tampa General became the first hospital in the southeast to acquire the Symani Surgical System. This robotic-assisted technology addresses the scale and complexity of microsurgeries.

The system features incredibly small robotic components coupled with enhanced controls, allowing surgeons to make ultraprecise sutures on tiny blood and lymphatic vessels, as well as nerves—even those as small as 2 millimeters. In addition, the Symani Surgical System features tremor-reducing and motion-scaling technology for the ultimate in precision and control. The system is currently being used at TGH in delicate surgery to correct lymphedema, a troubling side effect of cancer treatment in many women. This groundbreaking technology increases quality of life for those battling or recovering from cancer.

Strategic Collaborations Define the Future of Medicine

Through collaboration with USF Health and, most recently, its alliance with Mass General Brigham, Tampa General is defining the future of medicine.

The hospital draws upon and utilizes the expertise of USF Health’s faculty, graduates, residents, interns, and current students. These individuals challenge boundaries and strive for innovative solutions to medically complex issues. This potent mix produces high-caliber research and development that gives rise to cutting-edge drugs, surgical techniques, and treatment paradigms that enhance patient care.

Tampa General’s partnership with Mass General Brigham further augments the academic health system’s expertise. The two hospitals’ first joint venture in Palm Beach County is to create a 20,000-square-foot radiation oncology center at Legacy Place in Palm Beach Gardens. Together, TGH and Mass General Brigham will create a robust, integrated team of experts. All team members will cross-collaborate, share, and support one other to deliver high-quality, responsive, and customized care for each patient.

For more information about the complex care backed by academic medicine that Tampa General provides to the Palm Beaches and on the Treasure Coast, visit TGH.org/ ThePalmBeaches.



Tampa General was the first hospital in the southeast to acquire the Symani Surgical System, a robotic-assisted technology that addresses the scale and complexity of microsurgeries.

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2025 HEADLINER
CHRIS YOUNG



Sept. 19



Sept. 28

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2025 HEADLINER
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Feel the rhythm of Fort Myers during one of USA Today's top 4 music fests. Come for live, intimate performances from some of BMI's best singer-songwriters — and stay for tropical settings and laid-back vibes. Grammy-nominated Chris Young will headline on Saturday, Sept. 28 at Pink Shell Beach Resort & Marina.

Follow the music to intimate island and beachside venues across Captiva Island, Fort Myers Beach, downtown Fort Myers, and Cape Coral. Between shows, slow down and enjoy the moment on white-sand beaches, in nature preserves and on the water. Let your favorite songs be the soundtrack to your relaxing getaway.

Find deals and start planning at
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Download the Island Hopper mobile app for the latest and schedules, tickets and more!



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