

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

A place to connect and belong

Friendship Circle is a program the Jewish Community Center, Sonoma County

It is officially the Jewish new year of 5787, Autumn is here, and somehow, we're already looking ahead to December. We had a lovely summer at Friendship Circle with a trip to San Francisco and meals with good company all over Sonoma County. We miss Sandy Andresen's leadership and beautiful singing voice, but the strength of the Friendship Circle Advisory Committee has kept us on course!

At the JCC we're in the process of interviewing to add a new staff member. This is a first step towards building a support team for Friendship Circle. Myself and the Advisory Committee make a pretty dynamic team, but we're excited for this program to grow!

Sincerely, Heather Muntzer, JCC SoCo Executive Director

Mark your calendars!



OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	R	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Shemini Atzeret & Simchat Torah: Oct 2 - 4

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	R	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	R	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Chanukah: Dec 4 - 12

Oct 13 - Film Festival PG 2

Oct 14 & 28 - Mahjong PG 6

Oct 23 - Out to Eat / Bdays PG 3

Oct 25 - Holechim Walking Club PG 6

Oct 26 - FAMSF Art Zoom PG 4

Oct 27 - Advisory Committee Meeting

Nov 11 & 25 - Mahjong PG 6

Nov 13 - Out to Eat / Bdays PG 3

Nov 17 - Film Festival PG 2

Nov 22 - Play @ 6th St PG 5

Oct 29 - Holechim Walking Club PG 6

Nov 24 - Advisory Committee Meeting

Dec 7 - Hanukkah Party PG 1

Dec 9 & 23 - Mahjong PG 6

Dec 13 - Film Festival PG 2

Dec 18 - Out to Eat / Bdays PG 3

Oct 27 - Holechim Walking Club PG 6

Dec 22 - Advisory Committee Meeting

HANUKKAH PARTY!

Save the Date

12 / 7



*If you'd like to party-plan with us
contact friendshipcirlcel@jccsoco.org*

Monday, Dec 7th

There will be latkes!

We are looking forward to celebrating Hanukkah together this year. Note Monday, the 7th of December on your calendar!

More details about the nosh, the fun and location will become available soon!

FC'S OUTREACH PROGRAM

This year I was blessed to join **Norman Eisley** and two of Friendship Circle's High Holy Days Outreach events at **Brookdale Paulin Creek** and **Oakmont Gardens**. This is a long standing partnership and program where residents sign up to join us thoughtfully combined Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur service, followed by a beautiful meal.

I can't tell you how lucky I felt to attend, and how meaningful I found both the service and conversations that followed.

Everyone at our tables had such distinctly different paths that had led them there.

No two similar. You never would have guessed it though from the collective, reverential song of prayer you'd have heard walking by.



ABOVE: Norman Eisley leading service at Brookdale Paulin Creek this September with his mother and Advisory Committee member Naomi Eisley to his right.

Thank you to Brookdale Paulin Creek for your partnership, delicious meal and all the individually-sized round challahs!

THANK YOU

to those who built, sustained, partnered with and attended this outreach program.

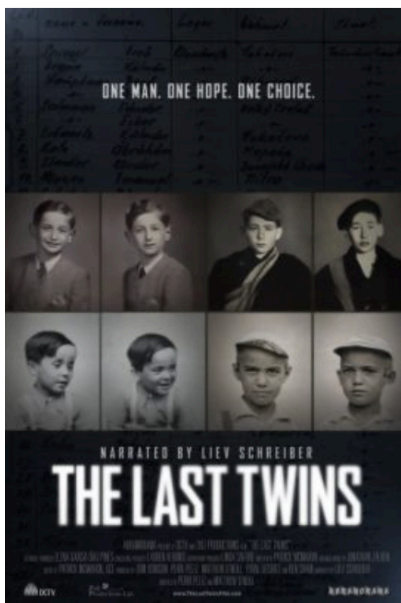
JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

For nearly 30 years the Rialto Cinemas has partnered with JCC SoCo to present film series showcasing a diverse selection of films that celebrate Jewish heritage, culture, and identity.

We hope to see you at the final showings of this year's festival!

Tuesday, Oct 13
1 & 6:30 PM

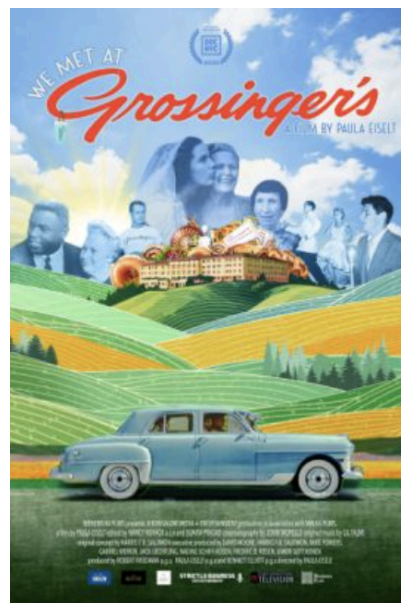
The Last Twins



The Last Twins is a 2025 documentary about Erno "Zvi" Spiegel, a Holocaust hero who used his position inside Auschwitz to save dozens of young twin boys.

Tuesday, Nov 17
1 & 6:30 PM

We Met at Gossinger's



We Met at Grossinger's is an immersive journey through the Jewish Catskills (once known as the Borscht Belt) reviving the iconic resort that inspired *Dirty Dancing* and defined an era of Jewish American life.

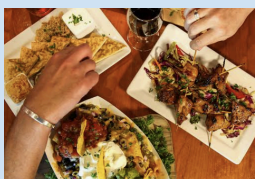
Sunday, Dec 13
1 & 6:30 PM

"Fiddler on the Roof"
SING-ALONG!



Fiddler on the Roof sing-along is an interactive screening of the 1971 classic film where audiences are invited to sing along to Fiddler's beloved musical numbers together.

CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS, TRAILERS & MORE INFORMATION



LUNCH & A MOVIE?

Come early to the Rialto Cinemas for the Oct 13th and/or Nov 17th matinee and grab pre-film lunch!

[RIALTO CAFE MENU](#)



Once Monthly: Fridays @ 11:30 AM

OUT TO EAT

With Friendship Circle

Shabbat & Birthday Celebrations

There will be cake!

Friday, October 23rd
October Birthday Celebrations!



MEZZELUNA
Savor Greece in Every Bite

Mezzoluna
8099 La Plaza Suite A, Cotati CA

[MENU](#) • [RSVP](#)



Friday, November 13th
November Birthday Celebrations!

TOMATINA
fresh italian

TOMATINA
2323 Sonoma Ave. Santa Rosa, CA

[MENU](#) • [RSVP](#)



Friday, December 18th
December Birthday Celebrations!

MARY'S
pizza shack est. 1959

Mary's Pizza Shack
432 McDowell Blvd. Petaluma, CA

[MENU](#) • [RSVP](#)



ARTFUL DISCOVERIES ON ZOOM

With the Fine Arts Museums of SF



de Young \
Legion of Honor
museums



If you haven't considered logging on for a quick trip to the museum with us, you should before this special program takes a break in Nov & Dec.

This is a wonderful partnership where two knowledgeable guides curate an artful experience that connects us not only with our incredible Fine Arts Museums in the city, but with history, wonder and each other as well.

Monday, Oct 26th
10:30 AM - 12 PM

THEME: Something Fishy is Going on Here!

GUIDES: Joy Bullen & Shelley Ford

Fish have swum throughout the human imagination and made their way into great art for centuries appearing in such diverse forms as ancient Roman mosaics, 18th century Chinese porcelain and 19th century paintings of American sport fishing. Fish have symbolized fertility, abundance, and prosperity. However we also appreciate fish for their endless variety, brilliant colors, and for their value as a culinary delight. Please join us for this captivating presentation that will surely get you hooked, and, if you like, share your best fishing tale with us.



[CLICK HERE TO RSVP & RECEIVE A ZOOM LINK](#)

NEED ZOOM SUPPORT?

Contact Randi Hulce (206) 499 - 5422, randihulce@comcast.net
the Sunday before the program.

MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS

Presented by 6th St Playhouse

Sunday, Nov 22st • 2 PM Matinee

Meet Me in St. Louis is a heartwarming, nostalgic musical that brings the charm and excitement of turn-of-the-century America to life. Set in 1904 on the eve of the St. Louis World's Fair, the story follows the Smith family through a year of romance, humor, and unexpected change.



At its center is the spirited and lovestruck Esther Smith, whose blossoming romance unfolds alongside her sisters' own adventures and the family's hopes for the future. Featuring beloved songs like "The Trolley Song," "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," and "The Boy Next Door," this classic musical overflows with warmth, wit, and unforgettable melodies.

Rich with period detail, lively ensemble numbers, and tender family moments, *Meet Me in St. Louis* celebrates community, resilience, and the enduring power of home.

Audiences will be swept up in its colorful seasonal settings—from summer dances to a magical Christmas Eve—culminating in the dazzling anticipation of the World's Fair. Perfect for theatregoers of all ages, this timeless musical offers romance, laughter, and a joyful reminder that even in times of change, love and family light the way forward



Stage Photos: Above: The Muny Theater, Missouri
Left: Riverside Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia

Tickets \$55

[CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS & RESERVATIONS](#)



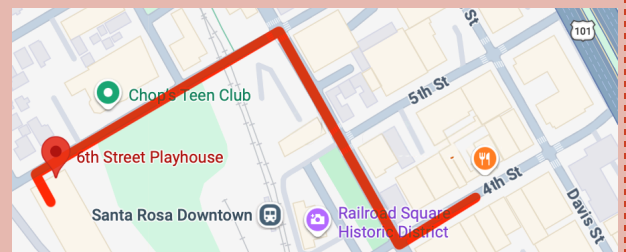
MENU

MAKE A DAY OF IT!

Join us before the play for an optional, no-host lunch @ 12pm



PARADISE SUSHI & GRILL
(Railroad Square)
119 4th St, Santa Rosa



If you register for lunch (in addition to the play) we will connect you with other lunch-goers to coordinate parking and carpooling between the play and lunch.



Twice Monthly: 2nd & 4th Weds @ 1 -3 PM

MAHJONG

Beginners & seasoned players are all welcome!

Whether you're new to Mah Jongg or have been playing for years, we hope you'll consider joining us at our **drop-ins welcome** Mahjong.

Twice a month you can find **Leslie Kline**, **Deborah Greenfield** and **Jeri Field** leading tables of Mah Jongg at the:
Rincon Valley Manufactured Homes Club House in Santa Rosa.



4671 Circle Drive,
Santa Rosa CA

(Near Highway 12
& Mission Blvd in
Rincon Valley)

FREE

FIRST TIME PLAYING WITH US? WANT MORE INFO? CALL LESLIE KLINE (559) 273 - 7826

PRESCHOOL "BUBBE HOUR"

*Fridays
11:30 - 12:30 pm*

Do you have experience in Early Childhood Education, preschools or with little children? Do you enjoy reading children's books?

SIGN UP TO READ STORIES DURING OUR PRESCHOOL'S "BUBBE HOUR"

Every Friday JCC SoCo Preschool welcomes Shabbat with school-made challah, song and prayer.

To help us prepare for our community Shabbat visitors can sign up ahead of time to read stories to preschoolers (11:30 - 12). Visitors are then encouraged to stay for our Shabbat celebration (12-12:30)

CONTACT SARAH WELTON
JCC SoCo Preschool Director
(708) 528 - 4272
sarahgrace@jccsoco.org

HOLECHIM SONOMA WALKING CLUB

*Last Sunday
of the Month*



Join us now once a month for our walking group through the stunning trails of Sonoma County.

Whether you are a seasoned trekker or just starting out.



Redwood forests



Coastal bluffs



Vineyard lined paths



Hidden waterfalls

We stick to relatively flat routes so everyone can enjoy the scenery at their own pace.



We meet at a central location, share snacks and enjoy the beauty of the North Bay together.

Just bring sturdy shoes, water and a smile.



[CLICK TO RSVP](#)

MORE INFO: NorthBayShalom@gmail.com

TEXT (707) 968 - 7375

THANK YOU

to everyone who made Friendship Circle possible in 2026

We are a program *by* our community, *for* our community, and are so very grateful to all those who gave their time, skills and financial support this year.

2026 DONORS

Anonymous
Carol Frances Newman
Donna Hedley
Edith Sternfield-Squires
Eleanor Cohen
Elisabeth Van Nuys
Elizabeth Hagen
Evelyn Gurevitch
Geoff & Deborah Perel
Leslie Kline
Linda O'Neill
Louise Munoz-Flores
Lisa Munoz-Flores
Marsha E Sendar
Randi Hulce
Ray Kaufman
Sandra Sidorsky
Sandy Andresen by
Sheila Hirsch
Sherree Fogel
Sid (z'l) & Gerry Lipton
Susan Richter
Susan White
Theresia Marie Whitney-Thone
Yarrow Rubin

If you donated to Friendship Circle in 2026 and don't see your name, please contact Heather Muntzer.

Are you remembering someone, or wishing to celebrate? Donate to FC and make an impactful gift in someone's honor.

DONATE

PLANNED GIVING

GENERATIONS FUND

Join a group of strategic impact-makers by giving to the JCC's Generations Fund to ensure both the short, and long term success of our organization.

CONTACT

Barry Sovel bsovel@sonic.net

Thank you to those who have remembered Friendship Circle & the JCC SoCo in your

LEGACY PLANNING

Please know your gift will make a difference, and we're honored.

SPECIAL THANKS

The Friendship Circle Advisory Committee for dedication and commitment to the FC

Carol Jarvis
Edee Sternfield-Squires
Ethel Snarski
Jim Snarski
Evelyn Howard

Ilene Moran
Judy Miller
Karen Palmiotti
Leslie Kline
Liz Hagen
Naomi Eisley

Randi Hulce
Rozalia Dague
Ruth Levy
Shirley Schwartz
Vicki Kalish

Sandy Andresen

for 5 full years of Friendship Circle leadership. This 40 yr old program came out of COVID and through to 2026 because of your dedication and care.

Shelley Bauer

for piloting our Preschool's "Bubbe Hour" and reading stories to the children..

Norman Eisley

for Lay Leading Passover, High Holidays and Hanukkah events

Leslie Kline, Edee Sternfield-Squires, Sheila Hirsch & Rincon Valley Manufactured Homes *for hosting Mahjong*

Adrea Moss

for her event support as both FC member and JCC SoCo Board Member

Barry Sovel

for his support of FC as a JCC SoCo Board Member, especially his dedication to FC's strong and vibrant future.

SPONSORSHIP

LOCAL BUSINESSES & CORPORATIONS WELCOME!

Know a business that values community and would like recognition for their support of our programming?

CONTACT

(369) 444- 0971
heather@jccsoco.org

MEMBERSHIP

DON'T MISS OUT!

Members receive discounts on big ticket events, receive monthly digital news blasts, and/or quarterly printed newsletter in the mail and become an always-included part of the FC community.

\$65 /year - Individual
\$95 /year - Two Individuals

**APPLY
ONLINE
HERE**

CONTACT

(369) 444- 0971
heather@jccsoco.org

TRANSPORTATION RESOURCES

Available in Sonoma County!

GoGoGrandparent



Our mission is to make on-demand services accessible and reliable so we can thrive independently and confidently at home and in the community as we age.

MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTION INCLUDES

- ✓ Request A Ride With Just A Phone Call
- ✓ No smartphone needed
- ✓ 24/7 customer service and operators
- ✓ On-demand rides that arrive in 15 minutes or less
- ✓ Custom Pick Ups - Add more locations to your touch tone menu
- ✓ Family Notifications - Get by-the-minute updates texted to your loved ones

1 (855) 955-2318 ext 16774
gogograndparent.com

RIDE UNITED



Transportation is vital for accessing essential services. United Way's Ride United program ensures equitable access through innovative solutions.



2-1-1 Sonoma County

[LEARN MORE ONLINE](#)

CALL 211 or (800) 325 - 9604
TEXT your zip code to 898-211

COMMUNITY & HEALTH RESOURCES



JEWISH FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES SONOMA COUNTY

2200 Range Ave. Suite 102
Santa Rosa, CA

(707) 303-1500 Main Number
(707) 303-1530 Seniors At Home



COUNCIL ON AGING

30 Kawana Springs Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
707-525-0143

info@councilonaging.com
<https://www.councilonaging.com/>



JEWISH COMMUNITY FREE CLINIC

Drawing on Jewish traditions of tzedakah (charity) and tikkun olam (repairing the world) we offer free health care services to anyone in need, without regard to religion. We offer an atmosphere of respect, empowerment, and partnership with our patients, and strive to assist them in attaining full health and well-being.

50 Montgomery Drive Santa Rosa, CA
Tel: 707-585-7780 Fac: 707-585-7784