



December 2020
Happy Hanukkah!



1301 Farmers Lane, Suite C103
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
(707) 528-4222
www.jccsoco.org

Friendship Circle

A program for adults 55+

Jalena Mays, Program Director
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Carol King, Program Assistant
(707) 528-1182, carolk@jccsoco.org

Friendship Circle is a Program of the Jewish Community Center Sonoma County

Monday Mornings 10:30 AM - Noon



IMPORTANT:
designate your donation
to "Friendship Circle"

Zoom All programs are offered using **Zoom**. (We will send you the link to join once we have received your reservation.) If you are not familiar with Zoom and would like support, please contact our dedicated volunteer: Randi Hulce (206) 499-5422, randihulce@comcast.net.

RSVP By the Sunday prior to the program by 12 PM. Contact Carol King: carolk@jccsoco.org, (707) 528-1182

Cost: **Monday Morning Programs are FREE.** Please consider making a donation to help Friendship Circle programs remain accessible to all. We welcome donations made in any denomination.



Monday, December 7: Friendship Circle Hanukkah Party! **FREE! Suggested Donation: \$36**

Underwritten by the generous support of Friendship Circle members Ruth Levy & Liisa Karjalainen

Let's Celebrate the Festival of Lights! Music, Friends, Prizes and more!

Guest musician and Jewish Educator, **Rivka Amado, PhD**, will tell the story of Hanukkah and delight us with traditional and festive songs. Come prepared with your menorah (including matches or lighter and two candles) and join us as we light the Hanukkah candles together. As our guest, you will be entered to win one of many

valuable door prizes such as gift cards to local restaurants and grocery stores. Rivka Amado, PhD, is a lecturer, musician, and yoga teacher who specialized in Judeo-Spanish music, culture and history. She focuses on Sephardic women's songs and spiritual expression.

RSVP by 12/6 @ noon.



Monday, December 21: **A Winter Solstice with Pianist Ian Scarfe** **FREE! Suggested Donation: \$18**

Underwritten by the generous support of Friendship Circle member Lolaine Ravensunbird

Ian Scarfe takes us on a journey through classical music with his signature style blending exquisite performance with thoughtful and enlightening discussion. His "Music of the Night" will guide us into the depth of winter solstice. Scarfe will present a variety of classical works that evoke the meditative atmosphere of the night time, including selections of Chopin's Nocturnes, and music by Franz Schubert, Benjamin Britten, and Edward Grieg.

RSVP by 12/20 @ noon.

Please Note:

**Due to the holidays, there will be no
Monday Morning Programs held on 12/14 or 12/28.
Thank you—we will resume our regular schedule in January.**

Save The Date



- Monday, December 7 Hanukkah Party featuring music by Rivka Amado
- Thursday-Friday, December 10-18 Friendship Circle Hanukkah Outreach
- Dec 15 - Jan 8 Jalena on Vacation
- Monday, Dec 21 *A Winter Solstice* with Pianist Ian Scarfe
- Friday, Dec 25 JCC Closed
- Friday, Jan 1 JCC Closed for New Years Day
- Monday, Jan 11 *Classical Elegance for the New Year* with Pianist Ian Scarfe
- Monday, Jan 18 JCC Closed for MLK Day
- Thursday, Jan 21 Thursday Afternoon Special: *Connections with Dr. Jim Kohn*
- Monday, Jan 25 Monday Morning Coffee Klatch



Friendship Circle Hanukkah Outreach December 2020

Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, begins at sundown Thursday, December 10, and is celebrated through Friday evening, December 17. Thanks to the generous support of the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties, as well as the many donations that continue to come in from our community, Friendship Circle is supporting residential living communities in an effort to help their Jewish residents celebrate Hanukkah.

While we cannot visit everyone in person this year, we are offering a FREE Friendship Circle Hanukkah Party on Zoom December 7 (see page 1 of this newsletter). In addition to our own programming, many area synagogues are also offering Zoom Hanukkah Programs.

Please visit our [Friendship Circle Hanukkah Outreach Page](#) for updated event information and links. For more information, to RSVP for a Friendship Circle Monday Morning Zoom program, or to request information on how to celebrate Hanukkah, please contact Carol King at carolk@jccsoco.org or (707) 528-1182.

Help keep our programming accessible to all! Become a Sponsor

Friendship Circle is seeking underwriters for our *Monday Morning* programs. Donate a minimum of \$280 or share the cost with your friends, and become a *Monday Morning* Sponsor. You will help seniors maintain access to community as well as educational and entertaining programming.

We appreciate your support.



FREE Medical Equipment Recycling Program

256 Sutton Place, Suite 104, Santa Rosa 95407
Drop off / Pick up

Wednesdays 11am-2pm ONLY

(707) 360-2498

A volunteer project of the Sonoma County Section on Aging



SeniorsAtHome

Better Care Starts Here



Home Care, Care Management,
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Call 707-303-1530

www.SeniorsAtHome.org

A DIVISION OF JEWISH FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Sending Good Wishes to our members with December Birthdays



Berni Baxter
Eleanor Cohen
Eleanor Goldman
Gordon Freedman
Harriet Palk
Iris Nadel
Jerry Berkowitz
Jill Morgenstein
Leslie Kline
Linnea Tennison
Marilyn Sommer
Randi Hulce
Ronald Shelan
Sara Geber

Thank you **Janine Bamberger** for volunteering to mail birthday cards and **Joy Lovinger** for calling our members on their birthday in celebration of their special day.

Please contact our office to let us know your birthday so we can celebrate YOU!
carolk@jccsoco.org; (707) 528-1182

*We couldn't do it without you!
We appreciate your generous donations.*

Thank You



Adele Pickar
Carla Quinones
Deborah Greenfield
Evelyn Gurevitch
Evelyn Howard
Howard Balfour
Jeffrey Sheff
Joy Lovinger
Leslie Kline
Malka Osserman
Mary Valentine
Pamela Letourneau
Rosemary Chambers
Shelley Bauer
Shari Woogen

*If you are remembering someone you hold dear, or would like to celebrate a friend or family member, please consider making a **donation to Friendship Circle** in their honor.*

Thank you **Randi Hulce** for your countless hours of volunteer work in helping our seniors connect to Zoom!



NEW Friendship Circle Member

Marcia Connell



Friendship Circle has been delivering iPads and tablets to seniors in need so they can connect with friends, family, and participate in our Zoom activities.

To donate an iPad, tablet, camera, or microphone, please contact Carol King: carolk@jccsoco.org, (707) 528-1182

Join Friendship Circle Today!

Click to Become a [Friendship Circle Member](#) or [Renew Your Membership](#)

Membership is good for 365 days from the day of activation. By becoming a member you help Friendship Circle continue to serve adults in our community by providing enriching, educational and entertaining programming for all.

Three ways you can become a Friendship Circle Member:

- Go to our website to sign up online and [pay using a credit card](#)
- Call Friendship Circle Program Assistant Carol King if you wish to pay **using a credit card over the phone:** (707) 528-1182.
- [Print the Membership Form](#) if you wish to pay by check.



December Spotlight Member

Meet Friendship Circle Member and Volunteer Randi Hulce



Randi Hulce, the middle sister of three girls, was born in the University Heights neighborhood of Cleveland. Her older sister Leslie Kline volunteers as a Friendship Circle Advisory Committee member. Randi says being a middle child helped develop her diplomacy skills and her patience. At the age of six, her parents decided to move the Jacobson family west and Randi became a “California

Girl.” She spent her school years in Long Beach, California where her days were filled with music, glee club, school musicals, playing guitar and singing, always singing

Although Randi’s family was Jewish, they were never very religious. Traditions and a connection to the Jewish community remained an important thread throughout her life. She did not attend Hebrew school, but was confirmed, and was also involved with her JCC as a youth group leader and camp counselor.

In the 70s Randi college-hopped, first attending the University of Arizona where she joined a Jewish sorority. Then she attended Cal State Northridge, where her mother hoped she would find a “nice Jewish boy”. Her final move was Cal State Long Beach where she graduated with a BA in Speech and Communications.

After college Randi moved to West LA where she job-hopped, from working in Human Resources at Coca Cola, to working as a law librarian for an entertainment law firm in Century City. In West LA she was on the board of a group of young, professional, Jewish women who raised money for Cedar Sinai Medical Center. The “Sunshine Girls”, made money by organizing huge quarterly dance socials. Randi says they owned the best mailing list of eligible young single Jewish men in LA!

Although Randi gravitated to a circle of Jewish friends, she was destined to be Chava, not Tzeitel (Fiddler on the Roof). She met and later married her husband Ron, on April 17, 1978, 42 years ago. The next chapter was in Seattle, where Ron owned a commercial design firm that specialized in bank interiors. In addition, they both dabbled in real estate by buying and fixing up homes and “flipping” them.

Her work career in Seattle encompassed 40 years in Human Resources including Kelly Services, where she set up training programs; Panasonic, as a corporate training manager, and a Seattle credit union, where she managed

employee development and recruitment.

While living in Seattle, her parents passed away (on the same day); she grew sentimental re her Jewish background. Feeling isolated and distanced from her Jewish roots, she decided to go to a Friday night service at the local temple. It was there she connected with individuals involved in Hadassah—which was just what she needed. She became a “Lifetime Member”, joined the board and helped with training.

After she and Ron retired, they searched the entire West Coast for a sunny location with a retirement community. Her sister Leslie was also interested in the same type of living. Long story short....they decided to move to Oakmont in 2016. Their younger sister, Jeri Phillips, joined them a year later. Randi feels especially lucky and grateful to have her two sisters living right in her Oakmont neighborhood.

Randi, Leslie, and Jeri joined Friendship Circle when the group went to see Hamilton, and have been involved ever since. Randi currently volunteers by helping members with Zoom, connecting iPads, and assisting with basic computer skills. Randi says, “I know just enough about computers to be dangerous!”

Influenced by her mother who owned an art gallery in Los Alamitos, and her husband Ron, with an eye for interior design, Randi became a lover of art, which is abundantly displayed in her home. She loves to read and is active in the Oakmont Book Club. She also enjoys teaching classes for the OTLC (Oakmont Technology Learning Center). The second love of her life is her Havanese, Mojo, who led her to other dog lovers and her place on the board of the Oakmont Canine Club.

Randi is a giver, a planner, and a hard worker, who will talk your ear off if you let her! And she hopes to meet you at an upcoming Friendship Circle program.



One Year Ago

Friendship Circle Program Director, Jalena Mays with Advisory Committee Member and Chair, Ray Kaplan at the Friendship Circle Hanukkah Party on December 16, 2019.

