



Dear John,



As we step into January, we look forward to *Tu B'Shevat*, the Jewish New Year of the Trees. This is a time that reminds us how meaningful growth begins with small, intentional acts. Just as trees take root and strengthen our world for generations, the commitments we make today help create a vibrant future for our community. This season invites us to reflect on sustainability, renewal and the lasting impact we can create together.

As we care for what has been entrusted to us, many in our community also think about what they hope to leave behind. Legacy giving is less about resources alone and more about responsibility, a way to support the values and institutions that have mattered most over a lifetime. For those who want to learn more, we welcome conversations about how personal values can continue to guide and sustain our community in the years ahead.

The Foundation of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation wishes you a happy and healthy New Year!

Shelly Brodie

Scott Kaplan

The Foundation Chair



Chief Foundation Officer



Coming Attractions!!



The Foundation is proud to sponsor ***Parting the Waters*** in this year's Miami Jewish Film Festival. Please join us on **Thursday, January 15, at 6 PM at the Miami Theater Center**, for the Southeast US Premiere.



Four decades after representing Israel as a young swimmer in the 1980 Olympic team and the 1981 Maccabiah Games, Michele Kupfer embarks on a journey of reunion and rediscovery. In the wake of profound personal loss, Michele seeks to reconnect with her former teammates and return to the pool at the 2022 Maccabiah Games, confronting both the passage of time and the challenges life has placed in her path.

This inspiring film chronicles Michele's evolution from elite athlete to master swimmer, exploring the transformative power of sport and the enduring bonds of friendship forged through shared struggle and triumph. Against the backdrop of Jewish life in the US and Israel, ***Parting the Waters*** illuminates how the Maccabiah Games have historically shaped identity, community and personal growth.

A poignant meditation on perseverance, legacy and the human spirit, *Parting the Waters* celebrates the power of returning to one's passion and embracing life's possibilities—no matter how much time has passed. **This special premiere event will welcome directors Michele Kuvin Kupfer, Marc Levy and Marc Salomon for an introduction and post-film conversation.**

[PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS NOW](#) to join us TOMORROW, on January 15 @ 6:00 PM at Miami Theater Center.



Beginning in 2026, we are excited to introduce ***“Conversations With...”***, a new **virtual** series created to deepen engagement with our Legacy Society members and spotlight the impact of your generosity through authentic, inspiring discussions. We'll kick off the series with an **exclusive conversation with Federation President and CEO Scott Kaufman on Thursday, January 22 at noon.** Scott will share his vision for Federation's future, discuss our priorities for the coming year and answer your questions **live**.

[Click here to register and receive the Zoom link.](#)

Washington News

Tax Filing Season Coming Soon

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) announced that the 2026 filing season will open on January 26, 2026, and encouraged individuals to take steps now to prepare for filing their

2025 federal income tax returns.

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Finances

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Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis was diagnosed with cancer in January 1994. She signed a will in the New York offices of a large law firm on March 22, 1994.

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At what age do most retirees begin taking their Social Security retirement benefits? I am turning 62 later this year and trying to decide when to start taking my benefits.

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DISCLAIMER: *The Foundation of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation does not provide tax advice. Please consult with your professional advisor before taking any action. As with any significant tax and charitable planning, it is advisable to carefully consider potential changes in the context of your complete financial profile.*

For questions about making grants from your Donor-Advised Fund, please email Dyanna Loeb, Donor Services Associate, at dloeb@gmjf.org or call 786.323.7006.

You may also access your fund online through our donor portal at <https://gmjf.donorfirstx.com/>. To learn more about accessing your fund or creating a new fund or legacy gift, contact Scott Kaplan, Chief Foundation Officer, at skaplan@gmjf.org or 786.866.8623 or Miriam Masia, Senior Philanthropic Advisor, at mmasia@gmjf.org or 786.866.8627.

The Foundation of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation, 4200 Biscayne Blvd, Miami, FL 33137

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