



Newsletter November – December 2025

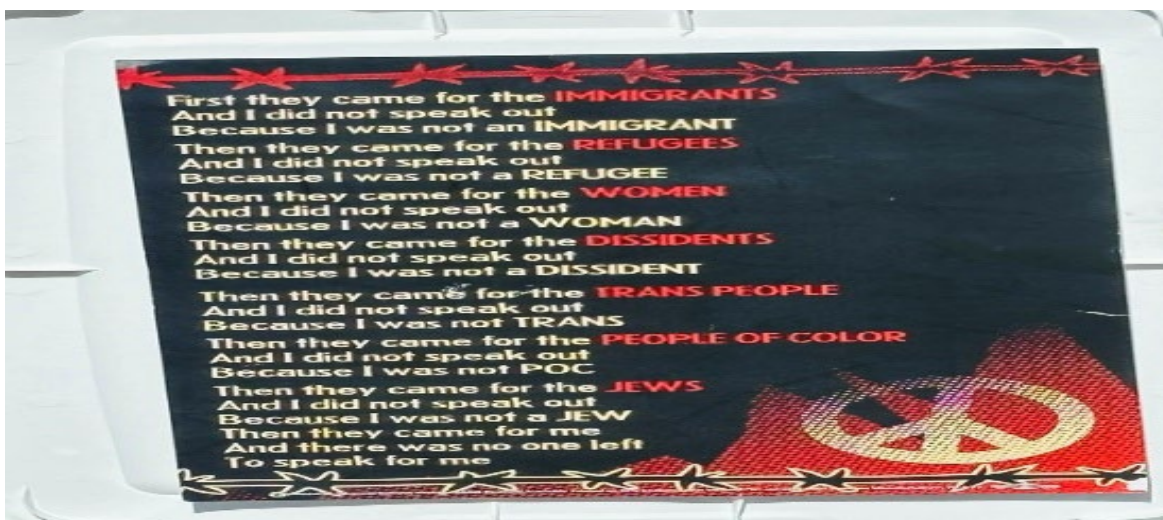
*Happy Thanksgiving and Joyful Hanukkah
to all our Family and Friends!*

What's coming up?

The next few months will be very busy for the Alliance. Below is a snapshot of events the Alliance has planned. However, planning with our programming collaborators fills our calendar even more. We are deeply involved with developing community events sponsored by the Sarasota Ministerial Association, and the Unitarian Universalists' Social Justice and Immigration Committees to be sure that our Jewish voices are included. Of course, our collaborations with area Jewish groups are ongoing. If your group would welcome a visit or , let us know!

Are you interested in learning more about the Alliance, representing us at meetings and getting involved with our growing number of activities? Visit our website, suncoastjewishalliance.org, to see the events that are happening each week. You can also email us at suncoastjewishalliance1@gmail.com for the latest details.

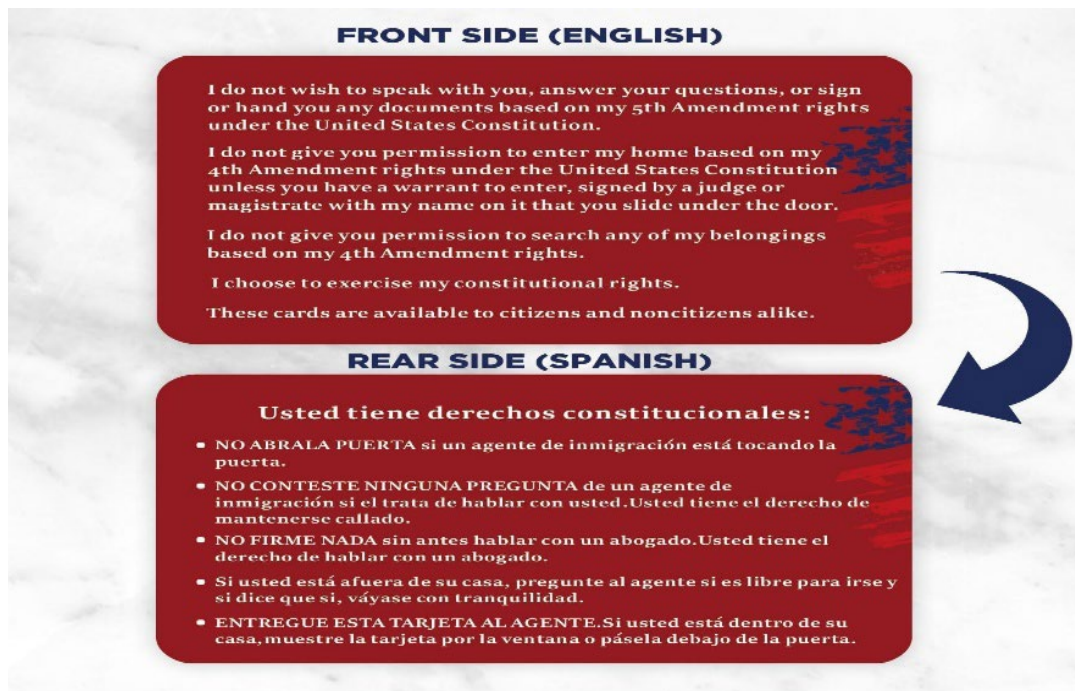
November 9	Presentation at Temple Beth Shalom Education Committee & Men's Club
November 16	Presentation at the Cascades Jewish Club
November 17	Alliance Board meeting
December 7	Living Room Conversation with Florida Anti-Defamation League leadership
December	Alliance Board meeting (date to be determined)
January 25	Annual Membership Meeting of the Suncoast Jewish Alliance





Immigration Justice Coalition of Southwest Florida Protest at Big Cypress

Alliance President, Norman Olshansky, was one of the featured speakers at the November 8th demonstration in the Everglades Big Cypress ICE Detention Center. The protest was organized by one of our planning collaborators, the Immigration Justice Coalition of Southwest Florida. Many local churches are hold vigils on Sunday evenings in Sarasota. From our area alone, close to 70 individuals attended. We have asked for another stack of Tarjetas Rojas/Red Cards to give to local people who may be especially vulnerable to ICE arrests.



2026 Membership Renewals in January

We are quickly approaching the end of the Alliance fiscal year. All membership renewals are due in January 2026. If you submit your dues earlier and contribute more than the basic \$18 per person annual payment, you'll provide matching funds (see below) from one of our donors and give yourself and nice tax deduction.

Please talk with your friends and neighbors about the Alliance. We are growing because of you!

It is Bylaws Revision Time

The Alliance Board will distribute the draft of the revised by In December for members' input. At the January 25th Annual Membership Meeting, paid-up members will asked be asked to approve.

Now is the time to self-nominate or nominate another Alliance member to a leadership position as we enter our second full year!

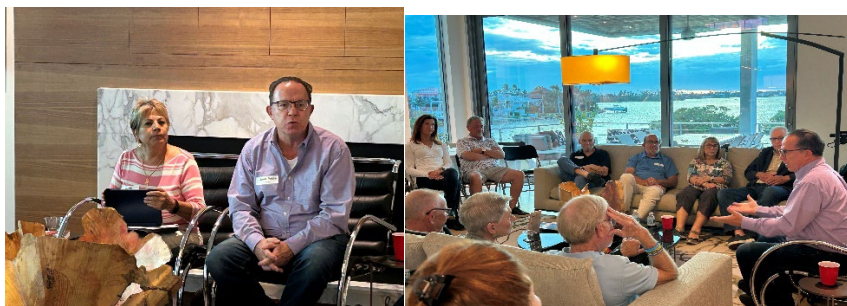
Upcoming December 7th Living Room Conversation

Alliance members were emailed an invitation to attend our next living room conversation. Please RSVP quickly since we expect our Anti-Defamation speakers to draw a large group of interested members. If you did not receive this invitation, please email suncoastjewishalliance1@gmail.com so we can check that we have your correct information.



Recap November 2nd Living Room Conversation

Maria Robayo and Juan Pablo Salas from the Immigration Justice Coalition of Southwest Florida, were the presenters at our November Living Room Conversation on the topic of Immigration issues locally and what Alliance members can do to help. The Alliance has requested a supply of "red cards" which contain vital information for our neighbors who may be detained and are most directly impacted by immigration concerns.





Israeli Hostage Release Celebratory Evening at the Ora

The Alliance was the Co-Sponsor of the October 27th large event at the ORA featuring former Israeli hostage Omer Shem Tov. In addition to our gratitude for Omer's release we thank Gisele Pintchuck and her hard-working committee for organizing this remarkable program. Fittingly, the evening ended with dancing with Omer!



Sarasota County Legislative Delegation Meeting

Come have your voice heard on November 13, 2025, 9am-12pm, at the Robert L Anderson Administration Center, 4000 Tamiami Trail, Venice, FL.

Speak before the state and local legislators who serve Sarasota County. Our state leaders provide an opportunity for their constituents to share their voices without having to go to Tallahassee. Share your concerns about the proposed "Schools of Hope" law. If you wish to speak, you must register ahead of time: [Delegation Form \(Click Here\)](#)



Florida Driver License Changes: What you need to Know

Supervisors of Election are warning that legal changes to Florida driver licenses will impact the ability to get a vote-by-mail ballot. If you got a new Florida driver license after July 31, 2024 and did not update your voter record at that time, it is **strongly recommended** that you do so now. Visit our website, suncoastjewishalliance.org, click on the Resources tab, then scroll down to Voting for a list of options.



Gratitude to Ed Olshansky!

We are delighted to announce that the first challenge match we received from philanthropist Ed Olshansky has been met! Thank you to Ed, and thanks to our generous members! These kinds of donations enable us to better plan for Alliance future events.



Editorial on the Assassination of Charlie Kirk and Turning Point USA

Charlie Kirk was the victim of a political assassination that we all need to condemn. Our polarized society needs to heed Kirk's desire that we talk to each other.

There is another side of Charlie Kirk that needs attention. Before making Kirk into a martyr, naming streets and monuments, we should know more about him and the student organization that he created in 2012; Turning Point USA. TPUSA has drawn both conservative mainstream as well as extremist elements from the far right. It has promulgated conspiracy theories about covid and election fraud. Kirk has promoted Christian nationalism and the idea that Christians should dominate the government and other areas of life in the U.S. TPUSA has ties to right wing extremists who advocate for white supremacy, anti-Muslim and anti-immigrant positions. TPUSA has said that they reject white supremacist ideology even though they continue to attract racist groups and several of its leaders are known to make bigoted remarks about minority groups.

TPUSA states that they have a presence in thousands of schools, and social media is flooded with their members advocating for TPUSA groups to be established in all high schools. TPAUSA clubs are now in each of our area high schools. Kirk suggested that Republican states should authorize raids against Black Lives Matter and Planned Parenthood. After a white supremacist attacked Nancy Pelosi's husband, he asked for a "hero" to bail out the attacker.

Some will ask why we would write this when Kirk was such a strong supporter of Israel. The reality is, we are not a single-issue people. We also have called out dangerous organizations and individuals on the far left. We condemn the assassination of Kirk, appreciate his support of Israel but are concerned about how TPUSA is a danger to democratic values and the tradition of acceptance of religious and individual diversity in the United States.

Norman Olshansky, President, Suncoast Jewish Alliance