



# Boca Raton Forum

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## ON THE STREET

What are you thankful for this Thanksgiving?



**MARLEEN FORKAS**  
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I'm thankful for my friends and all the people who have supported me since my husband passed away.



**MARGE VUKOVICH,**  
CO-CHAIRWOMAN  
OF PRE-EVENT PARTY

My health and my family. I have eight children, 25 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.



**TOM SMITH**  
CHAIRMAN OF THE  
BOARD

My family, my friends and being involved in The Haven.



**PHIL PROCACCI**  
EVENT SPONSOR

I'm thankful for my family and the opportunity to give back to local charities.

## ON THE SPOT

### MERRYL S. HABER

NEW ADOLPH & ROSE LEVIS  
JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER  
BOARD MEMBER

When attorney Merryll S. Haber joined the Boca Raton office of Lesser, Lesser, Landy & Smith last January, she was asked to do community service. "Gary Lesser said, 'find something that interests you.'" the Whittier Law School grad said about the firm's managing partner.

Haber is active at Addison Mizner Elementary and Omni Middle schools for sons Harrison, 9, and Luke, 12, so she's used to getting involved. She looked into programs at Adolph and Rose Leviss Jewish Community Center in West Boca, where the firm already sponsors the special needs department and its Fit & Fun Sports program to help children and teens with special needs learn the basics of sports.

Haber chose the new Jewish educational outreach initiative, Judaism without Walls, at the recommendation of Rabbi Mike Stern, the program's director, and JCC executive director Marty Schmeer. "It's to bring Judaism into our hearts, our homes and our lives, whether it's getting together for a Shabbat dinner or cultural event," she said. "The thing that attracted me is the wide array of people, from Jewish families that are unaffiliated and people who have drifted away from Judaism, to interfaith families."

#### **You were just named to the JCC board. How do you manage wearing so many hats?**

I'm an associate at a firm with such a tradition of community involvement, so I have the flexibility. I also live and work in Boca, and I have a wonderful family and husband that support me.

#### **Do you have any specific goals as a new board member?**

To support the JCC in general, and especially Judaism without Walls that speaks to me individually.

#### **When did you move into the new office in Boca Raton?**

We moved into 4730 NW Boca Raton Blvd., suite 100, on Oct. 15, but we're having a ribbon cutting in early December. The law firm has just signed on as a sponsor, a spokeswoman for the symphonia said.



## LLL&S, PLLC Associate Merryl Silverman Haber named to Adolph & Rose Levis Jewish Community Center 2010 Board of Directors

kayec.com

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### YourNews

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WEST PALM BEACH — Merryl Silverman Haber, Attorney at West Palm Beach law firm Lesser, Lesser, Landy & Smith, PLLC, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Adolph & Rose Levis Jewish Community Center during the JCC's Annual Meeting to help further the mission and vision of strengthening Jewish continuity. In addition to her involvement in the JCC, Haber has also been active in community service with outreach support of the missions of Homeless Advocacy, Giving Tree, Walk for a Cure, Walk for Autism and Student Advisory Council.

"Merryl is not only an outstanding and skilled attorney who we are proud to have in our firm and on our team, but she also shares the same commitment and belief in the firm's mission of service to the community," notes LLL&S Managing Partner Gary Lesser, Esq. "Merryl is the perfect fit to help guide, lead, and support the Levis JCC, an organization that plays a crucial role by offering opportunities for educational, cultural and social enrichment and promoting the welfare of the Jewish community."

Haber joined Lesser, Lesser, Landy & Smith in January 2010 and brings more than 18 years of legal and trial experience to direct and manage the Firm's Boca office, and represent injured clients and their families in auto negligence (including commercial trucking) and premises liability cases, and related liability injury cases. She is a member of the U.S. District Court, Southern District, Middle District, and Northern District of Florida, making Haber able to handle cases throughout the state of Florida.

She earned her Juris Doctorate in 1992 from Whittier Law School in Los Angeles, California, was admitted to the California Bar in 1992. She received her Bachelor of Arts in 1989 from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. where she majored in Economics and minored in Psychology and studied at Middlesex University in London, England during her junior year.

Haber was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1995 and then moved to Boca Raton, Florida where she has been an active member of the Boca Raton community, including leadership at Omni Middle School and Addison Mizner Elementary, and continuing the LLL&S's strong support for the Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce, the Levis Jewish Community Center, and the ADL. Born in Queens, New York, she grew up on the South Shore of Long Island, is married, has two sons and lives in Boca Raton.

#### About Lesser, Lesser, Landy & Smith, PLLC

Lesser, Lesser, Landy & Smith, PLLC (LLL&S), the third oldest law firm in Palm Beach County, was established in 1927 by Joseph H. Lesser in West Palm Beach, and has been serving clients throughout Florida for more than 80 years focusing on serious personal injury and wrongful death cases. LLL&S enjoys a reputation in the community for superior legal skills, hard work, client service, and high ethical standards. The Firm partners are "AV" rated by Martindale Hubbell, the highest rating in ethics and legal ability. LLL&S is very active in the community, and has donated significant time and financial support to numerous charities. The Firm has obtained significant settlements and verdicts over the years and is well known to insurance companies and insurance defense lawyers as skillful advocates. This experience and reputation allows the Firm to obtain the best possible results for its clients at its West Palm Beach, Stuart and Boca Raton offices. For more information, please call (561) 655-2028 or visit the Firm's website at [www.lesserlawfirm.com](http://www.lesserlawfirm.com).

For more information on the Adolph & Rose Levis Jewish Community Center, go to [www.levisjcc.org](http://www.levisjcc.org).