



May-June 2024  
Nisan/Iyar/Sivan 5784

# THE SCHRIER

**THE JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF WEST PASCO**  
**Home of Congregation Beth Tefillah**

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## Yom HaShoah

**Please join us on Sunday, May 5 at 1:00 pm for a Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) commemorative service. The film "Jack and Sam" will be shown followed by a brief memorial service. A synopsis of this film can be found in Ron's Message on page 3.**

**Refreshments will be served.**

**And please join us at the New Port Richey City Hall on May 7th at 7:00 pm where a Yom HaShoah proclamation will be read by Mayor Chopper Davis.**



### MAY-JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

- \* Monday, 5/6 Yom HaShoah
- \* Sunday, 5/12 Mother's Day
- \* Monday, 5/13 7pm JCC Board Mtg
- \* Monday, 5/13 Yom Hazikkaron
- \* Tuesday, 5/14 Yom Ha'atsma'ut
- \* Sunday 5/29 Lag Ba'Omer
- \* Monday, 5/27 Memorial Day
- \* Wednesday 6/5 Yom Yerushalayim
- \* Monday, 6/10 7pm JCC Board Mtg
- \* Wednesday-Thursday 6/12-6/13 Shavuot
- \* Sunday, 6/16 Father's Day

**SHABBAT SERVICES**  
**CONDUCTED BY RON BECKER, PERRY WERBEL**  
**and ELLIOT SHAPIRO**

**EVERY FRIDAY EVENING AT 7:30 PM**  
**EVERY SATURDAY MORNING AT 9:30 AM**

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** - by Eileen Hochstadt

Shabbat HaChodesh – the Last Sabbath before the Month of Nisan we read from the book of Leviticus, Parshat Sh'mini.

In reading this portion I learned that we as Jews are not meant to accept rules blindly, we are reminded to commit ourselves to living out our ideals in ways we find meaningful. Let us all continue to thoroughly challenge the accepted norms.

There is a human responsibility for the Jewish Calendar, and perhaps we are reminded of that, beginning with each new month but especially Rosh Chodesh, Nisan, to make a greater commitment to the observance of the calendar. We cannot always wait for G-d to act. G-d is waiting for our human initiative. Recommit ourselves to living, not just for the eight days of Pesach, but for the whole year, a whole year full of profound messages which can so impact our personal lives and our world.

Respectfully submitted , Eileen Hochstadt, President

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**The next JEWISH COMMUNITY DAY  
WITH THE RAYS baseball game against  
the Baltimore Orioles will be  
August 11, 2024.**

**Look for more information in the  
next edition of *The Schrier*  
or via email.**



## A Message From Ron Becker

Dear friends, after celebrating the two very active months of Adar with religious services and services to our community, we prepared for Passover and for the first time since before the pandemic struck us in 2020, we held a community Passover Seder in the synagogue. Thanks to all those who attended our interfaith activities, especially the one we hosted to celebrate the Bahai' new year, and to those who have volunteered with Metropolitan Ministries on Purim morning at Hudson High School and throughout the year, monthly at their headquarters in Holiday. We look forward to continued and increased activities throughout the two months ahead.

On Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> we will mark the end of Passover with a Yom Tov service that will include the Yizkor Memorial Service.

On Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, we will gather at the synagogue to observe Yom HaShoah by lighting candles and viewing the uplifting short film *Jack and Sam*, a poignant film about two Holocaust survivors who were miraculously reunited after 80 years, and are now spending the precious time they have left rekindling their friendship and teaching others about the dangers of hatred. Mixing documentary, archival, and breathtaking animation, this heartwarming story explores the enduring power of connection and the resilience of the human spirit in the face of unimaginable adversity.

Then on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, we will gather once again at New Port Richey City Hall at 5919 Main Street to hear the Yom HaShoah proclamation from the city's Council and Mayor and read by Mayor Chopper Davis.

On Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, a Shabbat luncheon immediately following services will honor our beloved Barbara E. Johnson as she begins a new chapter in her life, relocating to Woodbridge, Virginia.

On Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the festival of Shavuot with Yom Tov services including the Yizkor Memorial Service (last chance for Yizkor until Yom Kippur) followed by some holiday dairy treats.

While we are celebrating landmarks and holidays, let us keep in mind and pray for the release of the hostages and for the health and safety for all in harm's way throughout the world and continue to do all we can to set an example of tolerance, understanding, and respect in our own community.

Chris and I look forward to spending this wonderful season with you.

Ron Becker, Spiritual Leader

## DATES TO REMEMBER

<p>5/3 Religious Services 7:30 pm 5/4 Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm 5/5 Yom HaShoah memorial Services 1:00 pm 5/5 Bingo 1:30 pm 5/6 Yom HaShoah 5/6 Bingo 11 am 5/7 Yom HaShoah resolution NPR City Hall 7:00 pm 5/10 Religious Services 7:30 pm 5/11 Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm 5/12 Mother's Day 5/12 Bingo 1:30 pm 5/13 Yom Hazikkaron 5/13 Bingo 11 am 5/13 JCC Board Meeting 7 pm 5/14 Yom Ha'atma'ut 5/17 Religious Services 7:30 pm 5/18 Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm 5/19 Bingo 1:30 pm 5/20 Bingo 11 am 5/24 Religious Services 7:30 pm 5/25 Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm 5/26 Lag Ba'omer 5/26 Bingo 1:30 pm 5/27 Memorial Day 5/27 Bingo 11 am</p>	<p>5/31 Religious Services 7:30 pm 6/1 Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm 6/2 Bingo 1:30 pm 6/3 Bingo 11 am 6/5 Yom Yerushalayim 6/7 Religious Services 7:30 pm 6/8 Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm 6/9 Bingo 1:30 pm 6/10 Bingo 11 am 6/10 JCC Board Meeting 7 pm 6/11 Erev Shavuot 6/12 Shavuot Day 1 &amp; Yizkor Services 9:30 am 6/13 Shavuot Day 2 6/14 Religious Services 7:30 pm 6/15 Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm 6/16 Father's Day 6/16 Bingo 1:30 pm 6/17 Bingo 11 am 6/21 Religious Services 7:30 pm 6/22 Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm 6/23 Bingo 1:30 pm 6/24 Bingo 11 am 6/28 Religious Services 7:30 pm 6/29 Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm 6/30 Bingo 1:30 pm</p>
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## Candle Lighting Times



May 3	7:49 pm
May 10	7:53 pm
May 17	7:58 pm
May 24	8:02 pm
May 31	8:05 pm
June 7	8:09 pm
June 14	8:11 pm
June 21	8:13 pm
June 28	8:14 pm

Please visit the JCC's web page at:

[jccwestpasco.com](http://jccwestpasco.com)

(our easy-to-remember site!)

Find us on Facebook, too  
(and don't forget to 'like us').

Visit Our  
Website

**2024-2025 Dues Statements  
will be going out in the mail  
in the very near future.  
Look for them in your  
mailbox!**



**On February 17th we were treated to a special Kiddush luncheon  
in honor of Ron and Chris Becker's birthdays and the  
anniversary of Ron Becker's Bar Mitzvah. Congratulations, Ron and Chris!**

Photos by Laura Bernas



### SHABBAT KIDDUSH LUNCHEON

On May 25<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate our longtime member and dear friend, Barbara E Johnson who will soon be relocating to Woodbridge, Virginia to be closer to her family. Barbara and Bill Johnson, her late husband of blessed memory first attended our gala Purim party and Passover Seder in 1994 and became regulars ever since. They hailed from Suffolk County, Long Island, New York where they raised their five children. Barbara worked for the Town of Brookhaven and as a teacher in New York before relocating to Timber Oaks in Port Richey. She was our congregation's "Woman of the Year" in 1994 and served as president of Hadasah. We will be honoring Barbara with a Shabbat luncheon after services on May 25<sup>th</sup> and look forward to giving her a memorable and warm sendoff. She might be in Virginia and we will miss her wonderful presence, but she will still be with us virtually on Zoom! Barbara, may you have many happy and healthy years ahead in your new home!





Left to right: Laura Bernas, Melissa Finelli, Debbie Robinson, Chris Becker, Ron Becker, Janet Applefield pose in front of the vital food supplies distributed to over 200 families on Purim morning, March 24th.

On Purim morning, a large contingent of JCCers volunteered at the Metropolitan Ministries food distribution event at Hudson High School fulfilling the important Purim mitzvah of feeding the hungry at this special time of year and always. Participating in this very successful effort were Janet Applefield, Chris and Ron Becker, Laura Bernas, Ana Calderon, Melissa Finelli, Eileen Hochstadt, Patrice Platteis, and Debbie Robinson. All are encouraged to join us in our monthly volunteering at Metropolitan Ministries. It's simple to sign up for a 2-1/2-hour shift to help at the kitchen, or food/clothing distribution site at the Holiday, FL site across from Sun Toyota on Route 19. Just follow this link: <http://jcc.metromin.volunteerhub.com/>

**On March 1st, a roomful of friends and family gathered to remember and celebrate the life of Mary Gaines. After Shabbat services, Joel and Marla Gartner, Mary's son and daughter-in-law, treated everyone to a delicious meal as stories of Mary were told by all who knew her.**

**May her memory be for a blessing.**



**WE'VE GOT MAIL**

**An open letter for Joel Gartner.**

**Thank you for the wonderful remembrance of Mary with a delicious dinner. What a blessing for us to see so many familiar faces of congregants sharing in her remembrance.**

**Best wishes,  
The Corby's**

Photos by Barbara D. Johnson

## Interfaith celebration

Photo by PAT MORRIS/Suncoast News  
Mar 25, 2024

Reprinted with permission from Suncoast News

Ron Becker, right, spiritual leader of the Jewish Community Center/ Congregation Beth Tefillah, welcomed Tony Quinoñes and the Bahai's of West Pasco County to the JCC on March 19. The JCC hosted a music, food and fellowship-filled celebration of Naw-Ruz, the Bahai' New Year, which follows a 19-day fasting period. "It was wonderful to host this uplifting celebration of the Baha'i faith and bring so many in our community together," Becker told the Suncoast News. "It was an inspirational experience and to me, it showed how much more we all have in common than we have differences regardless of our ethnicity and religious backgrounds." Quinoñes praised the hospitality of the JCC congregation and noted that there were people of the Catholic, LDS and other faiths there as well. He and Becker are both members of the Interfaith Council, which holds meetings as well as public events to promote better understanding. The essential unity of all religions and all humanity is a principal tenet of Baha'i. "It is important to have interfaith relationship because how (else) to bring unity to the world?" Quinoñes said. "If religions cannot maintain unity with other religions, we have failed. So we have to work hard at maintaining unity between religions, between cultures, between ethnic groups, between social economic statuses."



We received the following Thank You card from  
the Baha'i:

"The West Pasco Baha'i Community thanks the Jewish Community and Ron and all those who helped (which were many) with our Naw Ruz celebration. We were honored to have the event in your facility and it is so nice. The occasion tuned out so well and we all made new friends. Many, many thanks!"



### PURIM 5784

Zoey, great-granddaughter of Renir and Mark Silveira, reading from the Book of Esther on Purim afternoon. Renir and Mark also baked dozens of Hamantaschen for the occasion enjoyed by all who attended.







# MAY 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 88 Religious Services 7:30 pm	4 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Aharei mot</i>  Bingo 5 pm
5 Yom HaShoah Memorial Service 1:00 pm  Show Me the Money Bingo 1:30 pm	6 Bingo 11am  Yom HaShoah	7 Yom HaShoah Proclamation at NPR City Hall 7pm	8	9	10 88 Religious Services 7:30 pm	11 Religious Services 9:30 am  <i>Kedoshim</i>  Bingo 5 pm
12 Show Me the Money Bingo 1:30 pm  Mother's Day 	13 Bingo 11am JCC Board Mtg. 7 pm  Yom Hazikkaron	14	15	16	17 88 Religious Services 7:30 pm	18 Religious Services 9:30 am  <i>Emor</i>  Bingo 5 pm
19 Show Me the Money Bingo 1:30 pm	20 Bingo 11am	21	22	23	24 88 Religious Services 7:30 pm	25 Religious Services 9:30 am & Luncheon <i>Behar</i> Bingo 5 pm
26 Show Me the Money Bingo 1:30 pm  Lag Ba'omer	27 Bingo 11am  Memorial Day	28	29	30	31 88 Religious Services 7:30 pm	

# JUNE 2024

# HAPPY FATHERS DAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Behukkotai</i>  Bingo 5 pm
2 Show Me the Money Bingo 1:30 pm	3 Bingo 11am	4	5  Yom Yerushalayim	6	7 8:09 pm Religious Services 7:30 pm  Rosh Chodesh	8 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Bemidbar</i>  Bingo 5 pm
9 Show Me the Money Bingo 1:30 pm	10 Bingo 11am  JCC Board Mtg. 7 pm	11 8:10 pm  Erev Shavuot	12 after 9:09pm  Shavuot Services and Yizkor 9:30 am Shavuot Day 1	13  Shavuot Day 2	14 8:11 pm Religious Services 7:30 pm  Flag Day	15 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Naso</i>  Bingo 5 pm
16 Show Me the Money Bingo 1:30 pm  Father's Day 	17 Bingo 11am	18	19	20  First day of Summer	21 8:13 pm Religious Services 7:30 pm	22 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Beha 'alotekha</i>  Bingo 5 pm
23 Show Me the Money Bingo 1:30pm	24 Bingo 11am	25	26	27	28 8:14 pm Religious Services 7:30 pm	29 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Shelah lekha</i>  Bingo 5 pm
30 Show Me the Money Bingo 1:30pm						