

March 2020
Adar / Nissan 5780

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THE SCHRIER

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

Purim Celebration

Please join us on Monday, March 9, 2020 at 6:30 pm where we will start the evening with an ICE CREAM SOCIAL.

Enjoy multiple flavors and all the 'fixins'.

Once we have had our fill, we will enter the Sanctuary to hear the Reading of the Megillah. Prepare to stomp your feet, whistle or yell to drown out the vile name of you-know-who.

All are welcome. Costumes are encouraged.



MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

- * Sunday 3/8 Start of Daylight Savings Time
- * Monday 3/9 6:30 pm Ice Cream Social and Megillah reading
- * Sunday 3/15 5 pm Dine Out Club
- * Monday 3/16 7pm JCC Board Meeting
- * Thursday 3/19 First day of Spring
- * Sunday 3/29 2:30 pm Spring Fling Concert

Shabbat Services
Conducted by Ron Becker and Elliot Shapiro

EVERY FRIDAY EVENING AT 7:30 PM

EVERY SATURDAY MORNING AT 9:30 AM

Alan Goldberg, Rabbi Emeritus

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE-by *Eileen Hochstadt*

On Saturday night February 15th, we had a joyous wedding ceremony here at our Congregation Beth Tefillah. Below are the remarks I made at this happy time.

Welcome to the newlyweds, Stephanie and Estaban. Guests, family members and congregants, my name is Eileen Hochstadt and I am the President of the Board of Directors of this Jewish Community Center. I wish to welcome you to our synagogue.

We have been part of the Port Richey community for over 40 years and hope and pray to be here for another 40 years. Growth in any religion requires the input of an entire village. A village of young adults with families just starting out, as Stephanie and Estaban have today, embarking on life's journey together. Mazel tov and thank you for allowing us to share in this most joyous occasion.

Let me offer some funny advice for both the bride and groom—the happiest people don't have the best of everything, they just make the best of everything!

As Ruth said to Naomi in the Torah, "Ask that I not leave thee or return from following after thee: For wither thou goest, I will go. And where thou lodgest, I will lodge. Thy people shall be my people and thy G-d, my G-d. Where thou diest, will I die and there will I be buried. The Lord do so to me and more also, if ought but death part thee and me."

In the Zohar, book of Jewish mysticism, each soul and spirit, prior to its entering into this world, consists of male and female united into one being. When it descends on this earth the two parts separate and animate two different bodies. At the time of marriage, the Holy One, blessed be He, Who knows all souls and spirits, unites them again as they were before and they again constitute one body and one soul forming as it were the right and left of one individual.

The singer Frank Sinatra sang, "The Best Is Yet To Come" in his 1964 album. Although Sinatra made this song popular, the song was written originally for and introduced by Tony Bennet. Difficult roads often lead to beautiful destinations.

Rejoice in the love and the life you have chosen together. Cherish the moments—all of them. May it be filled with much love and laughter.

**Welcome the New Season with a
SPRING FLING CONCERT**

**Please join us on Sunday
March 29, 2020 at 2:30 pm
in the Pines Auditorium of the
Jewish Community Center
for an afternoon of music.**

Tickets sold at the door.

**Food (limited menu) will be
available.**



A Message from Ron Becker

Dear friends,

After an ongoing schedule of enjoyable and meaningful activities in February, we continue to have much to be thankful for and much to anticipate in the coming months. Our Tu B'Shevat themed community Shabbat dinner on February 7th, was a time to celebrate the environment in Israel and throughout the world and think about how we might as individuals and a community help to protect our earth as we are commanded to in the second paragraph of the Shema prayer and throughout our Torah. Then for the first time in years, our synagogue hosted a wedding on the night of February 15th. We filled the Sanctuary and the Spigelman Room with the joy of marriage in a fully decorated facility. We hope and will strive to make this the first of many wonderful Simchas in our religious home so that we can hear and see the joy of our spiritual family fully realized. It was an especially wonderful time for me as I was officiating at a wedding ceremony for the first time. What a great 70th birthday present! Mazel Tov to Stephanie and Esteban and their proud parents, siblings, and other family members. That same weekend in February also included the commemoration of President's Day where we remember how freedom is built into our country's founding and its constitution and laws, many of which are based on the Commandments (Mitzvot) found in our scripture.

Speaking of those Mitzvot, our Sunday morning classes have continued unabated. We have now studied, discussed, and dissected, 277 of the 613 Mitzvot including those relating to G-d; Torah; Signs and Symbols; Prayers and Blessings; Love and Brotherhood; Treatment of Gentiles; Marriage, Divorce and Family; The Poor and Unfortunate; Times and Seasons; Forbidden Sexual Relations; Dietary Laws; Employees and Servants; Business Practices; The Court and Judicial Procedures; Vows, Oaths, and Swearing; The Sabbatical and Jubilee Years; Injuries and Damages; and Property and Property Rights. Still to come to be studied between now and Shavuot are those Mitzvot relating to Criminal Laws; Punishment and Restitution; Prophecy; Idolatry, Idolaters, and Idolatrous Practices; Agriculture and Animal Husbandry; Clothing; The First Born; Kohanim and Levites; Tithes and Taxes; The Temple, the Sanctuary, and Sacred Objects; Sacrifices and Offerings; Ritual Purity and Impurity; Wars; and Secular Leaders. Much of what we are discussing is how many of the Mitzvot are applicable for all times from the time they were given in the Torah to the present day. So please consider joining our class which meets on Sundays at 11 am. There is no charge and you're certain to come away with some new perspectives about our faith and how it relates to nearly every aspect of our lives.

We closed the month of February by inaugurating the new Hebrew month of Adar, the month of the holiday of Purim and the month in which we are commanded to "increase our joy" as we enter the season of Spring. We will celebrate another milestone birthday of our beloved matriarch Mary Gaines and we will remember the rescue of the Hebrew people by our heroine Esther. Of course, we will be celebrating this holiday with much fanfare, noise, laughter, and our traditional ice cream social and hamantaschen followed by the reading of the Book of Esther to mark the occasion of our rescue from evil forces that would destroy us. Purim also reminds us that Passover is just a month away!

As we increase our joy, however, we remember those who we have lost recently. We remember Sandra Applefield who together with her late husband Larry were pioneers of our congregation and loved by all. Sandy also served the community at large as several term member and chair of the very important Pasco County Mosquito Control Commission and was active in Hadassah and many other organizations. We were also saddened to learn of the recent death of our member Herb Sandler. Herb attended Shabbat and Yom Tov services regularly and ALWAYS had a big smile on his face! We wish the Applefield and Sandler families our sincere condolences. May they always be blessed with their memories and may they know no more sorrow.

(Continued on page 4)

DATES TO REMEMBER

3/1	Adult Education 11 am
3/5	Bingo 5 pm
3/6	Religious Services 7:30 pm
3/7	Religious Services 9:30 am
	Bingo 5 pm
3/8	Religious School 10 am
	Boutique 10 am - 12 nn
	Adult Education 11 am - 12 nn
	Daylight Saving Time begins
3/9	Purim Ice Cream Social at 6:30 pm followed by Megillah Reading
3/12	Bingo 10 am
3/13	Religious Services 7:30 pm
3/14	Religious Services 9:30 am
	Bingo 5 pm
3/15	Adult Education 11 am - 12 nn
	Dine Out Club 5 pm

3/16	JCC Board Meeting 7 pm
3/19	Bingo 10 am
3/20	Religious Services 7:30 pm
3/21	Religious Services 9:30 am
	Bingo 5 pm
3/22	Religious School 10 am
	Boutique 10 am - 12 nn
	Adult Education 11 am - 12 nn
3/26	Bingo 10 am
	Rosh Chodesh
3/27	Religious Services 7:30 pm
3/28	Religious Services 9:30 am
	Bingo 5 pm
3/29	Adult Education 11 am - 12 nn
	Spring Fling Concert 2:30 pm

Candle Lighting Times



March 6	6:16 pm
March 13	7:21 pm
March 20	7:25 pm
March 27	7:28 pm

A Message from Ron Becker (continued from page 3)

Looking ahead just a little further, I am happy to announce that Barbara D. Johnson will be honored as the JCC's Woman of Distinction by the Jewish Federation at its annual event on Sunday, May 3rd in Clearwater together with the others honored by synagogues and Jewish organizations throughout the region. Barbara serves with distinction as our Recording Secretary and as Webmaster, has reinvigorated our website and literally put us on the "cyberspace map". Previous honorees of the JCC include Eileen Hochstadt, Esther Brother, Pearl Kluger, Natalie Cohen, Kay Jacobs, Elly Doff, Edith Patten Landsberg, Francine Spencely, Beverly Heider, Ellie Geier, Ilene Betman, Barbara E. Johnson, and Amy Cohen. Please mark that day and plan to attend and cheer loudly for Barbara as she receives her award on this Chai (18th) year of the event.

Ron Becker, Spiritual Leader

DINE OUT CLUB

On February 16th, the Dine Out group had dinner at Koizi's Japanese Restaurant which was an entertaining eating experience. The chef prepared our food on a grill while tossing eggs and playing with knives and setting fires. Fourteen attended, but some forgot to come or let me know they weren't. Twenty dollars will be donated to the JCC by the diners.

Next month on Sunday afternoon, **March 15th**, the group will meet at the "Inn On The Gulf" in Hudson at **5pm**. I will set the time for later since we will be on Daylight Savings Time. I'm hopeful that people who thought we were meeting too early will find this to their liking. Please let me know if you would like to be part of the group that day. If so, put it on your calendar so my count will be more accurate. We will not meet in April since we will be observing Passover.

Don't forget to RSVP to Barbara J!

PASSOVER SEDER

**Please join us on Thursday,
April 9, 2020 at 6:30 pm for the annual
JCC SECOND SEDER.**

**Our Spiritual Leader, Ron Becker will
conduct the service.**

**The cost for this traditional and
delicious meal and service is:**

Members:

**Adults (13 years & older): \$36.00
Children (12 years & under): Free**

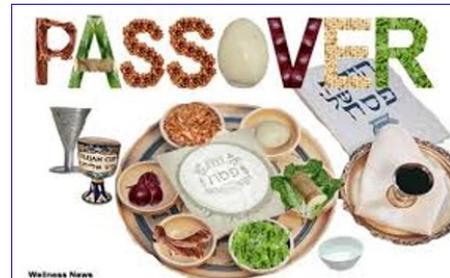
Non-Members

**Adults (13 years & older): \$50.00
Children (12 years & under): Free**

**We MUST have your reservations and
money into the office by March 26.**

**No reservations will be accepted after
March 26.**

**Don't delay...get your
reservations in today.**



March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Adult Education 11 am	2	3	4	5 10 AM BINGO	6 88 Religious Services 7:30 pm Mary's 102nd birthday!	7 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Tetzaveh</i> Bingo 5 pm
8 Religious School 10a Boutique 10a-12nn Adult Education 11 am DST Begins	9 Ice Cream Social 6:30 pm followed by Reading of the Megillah Fast of Esther	10 Purim	11 Shushan Purim	12 10 AM BINGO	13 88 Religious Services 7:30 pm	14 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Ki Tisa</i> Bing 5 pm
15 Adult Education 11 am Dine Out Club 5 pm	16 JCC Board Meeting 7 pm	17	18	19 10 AM BINGO  1st day of Spring	20 88 Religious Services 7:30 pm	21 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Vayakheil-Pekudei</i> Bingo 5pm
22 Religious School 10a Boutique 10a-12nn Adult Education 11 am	23	24	25	26 10 AM BINGO	27 88 Religious Services 7:30 pm	28 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Vayikra</i> Bingo 5 pm
29 Adult Education 11 am Spring Fling Concert 2:30 pm	30 	31				