

October 2022
Tishri/Cheshvan 5783

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THE SCHRIER

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

Important Message

IT'S ELECTION TIME

Your Election Board is presenting the slate of officers and board members to the general membership **IN LIEU OF THE OCTOBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**. If you are interested in running for a position please contact Eileen Hochstadt by October 12th.

The positions for which we will vote in November are (the current office holders have stated a willingness to run again for the same position):

President
1st Vice President/House Chairman
2nd Vice President
Treasurer
2+ Board members

If you are interested in becoming more active in the day-to-day operations of your JCC and would like to know the responsibilities of these positions, please contact Eileen Hochstadt.

If no one else runs for these positions, the current office holder will be automatically reelected and there will be no elections in November.



OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

- * Page 6 for remaining schedule of High Holy Day services
- * Monday, 10/10 7 pm
JCC Board Meeting
- * Tuesday-
Wednesday, 10/25-
10/26 Rosh Chodesh

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*

Did you know.....

The incredible story of Princess Alice of Battenberg

Prince Philip, the husband of Britain's Queen Elizabeth, may G-d rest their souls was also descended from a different kind of nobility: his mother saved Jews during the Holocaust and has been honored as "Righteous Among the Nations" by Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust Remembrance Center.

Incredibly, Prince Philip's mother, Princess Alice of Battenberg, managed to rescue a Jewish family despite her own royal family's ties to the highest levels of the Nazi party.

Princess Alice rescued a Jewish family despite her own royal family's ties to the Nazi party.

Princess Alice was born in Britain in 1885, the great-granddaughter of Queen Victoria. Her father was a German prince and her mother a British princess; Alice was related to most royal families in Europe. She was also unusual. Diagnosed with deafness at the age of eight, Alice learned to lip-read. Later on, some of her relatives speculated that her deafness rendered Alice more sensitive to others' difficulties and more sympathetic to those who found themselves outside the mainstream.

Alice fell in love with then-Prince Andrew of Greece at the coronation of her cousin King Edward VII in London in 1902. The two were married the following year. The royal couple had one son, Philip, and four daughters. During this time, Princess Alice and Prince Andrew became close friends with Haimaki ("Chaim") Cohen, a distinguished Jewish member of the Greek Parliament, his wife Rachel, and their family. Sensing the increasing anti-Semitism in Europe, the royal family pledged to help the Cohens if ever they needed aid. This peaceful period ended in 1921 when the Greek Revolution forced the royal family into exile in Paris.

In Paris, Prince Andrew effectively abandoned his wife and drifted into a playboy existence. Alice fell into despair and was even hospitalized for mental illness for two years in the 1930s. After her release, she returned alone to Athens. Her son Philip was sent to live with various relatives. One cousin later recalled that when he visited them for Christmas and signed the family guestbook, he wrote his address as "no fixed abode". Alice's four daughters all married German aristocrats.

When World War II broke out, Prince Philip volunteered with the British navy where he saw action and served with distinction. Princess Alice's daughters' lives took a markedly different path: all four princesses' husbands assumed high-level positions in the Nazi Government. One daughter, Princess Margarita, and her husband, Prince Gottfried of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, turned against Hitler. Prince Gottfried plotted to kill Hitler in 1944 but was discovered before he could complete his plan. Alice's other three daughters became passionate Nazis. One even named her son Karl Adolf after Adolf Hitler.

With war underway, Haimaki Cohen and his family were in danger. When Germany invaded Greece in 1941, the Cohens fled to Athens which was then under Italian rule and safer than German-held areas for Jews. That changed in September 1943, when Germany took control of Athens and started hunting for Jews to deport. By 1943, Haimaki Cohen had died and his family was desperately trying to find a way out of Greece. One son travelled to Cairo to join the Greek government in exile there; the rest of the family remained in Athens.

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25 YEARS OF PACK CAMP

By Barry Cohen

This summer Paula and I celebrated the 25th anniversary of PACK (Pasco Association for Challenged Kids) Camp. PACK Camp is a three-week summer day camp for special kids with disabilities. Summers were a challenge for our then nine-year-old Autistic son, Gregory. Without the daily routine of school, Gregory had nothing to do. The school district would not provide all year-round services for Gregory. "Normal" day camps were not set up to work with kids with disabilities. So, we decided to start something on our own. Well, we did have a lot of help. With the help of then state representative Mike Fasano, we started PACK, a non-profit corporation. Once we had an organization to run the camp, Mike was able to secure state funding for PACK. Our largest expense is staff and liability insurance. We had 16 counselors and a nurse. Since Mike left the legislature 10 years ago, state Senator Wilton Simpson has picked up where Mike left off.

This year camp was a little different. PACK Camp has moved several times over the years. This was our first year at Pepin Academies in New Port Richey. Camp ran for three weeks. We had 35 campers. Many were on the Autism Spectrum. We also had campers with Cerebral Palsy and Down Syndrome. With our campers it's easier to bring activities to the camp and we had something going on every day. Pasco County Fire Rescue came out to camp. We had a magician, a balloon guy and the arts and crafts library lady. Sheriff Nocco always sends the Marine Unit and the Posse (horses) out to PACK Camp. On Water Day we set up several wading pools and everybody gets wet! We had a special celebration for our 25th anniversary and of course we had our last day pizza party.

Paula and I are proud of what we have accomplished. It's great seeing these special kids having fun at PACK Camp. Here's to the next 25 years!

Visit us at: www.pascopack.org for more information and camp photos.

A Message from Ron Becker

We begin the month of October (6 Tishrei 5783) with a celebration in the midst of our preparing for Yom Kippur, the most solemn day of our calendar year. October 1st (Shabbat Shuva) marks the 3rd anniversary of our four most recent adult B'nai Mitzvot: Ana Calderon, Barbara D. Johnson, Barbara E. Johnson, and Art Simon. And we will celebrate that most wonderful milestone with their chanting the Haftorah of the Prophets Hosea, Micah, and Joel once again. Sharing all lifecycle occasions whether happy, sad, or bittersweet is what we are all about at the JCC. We encourage all to attend our Shabbat service that morning and share in the accomplishments of those who have continued their study and their commitment to Judaism both in prayer and deed, and to share your own events with your synagogue family. Don't let your involvement at the synagogue end with the Neila service on Yom Kippur. We are here throughout the year and of course, we are always here for you in good times as well as bad.

We have a host of activities coming up and are always looking for volunteers to help out and enhance all that we do. On Sunday morning October 9th (erev Sukkot), we will have our annual Sukkah decorating party. Please join us and bring your family (especially children and grandchildren) for this happy occasion. We have lots of material to hang in the Sukkah and of course, you are welcome to bring your own as well. On that morning, we will unpack our Lulav/Etrog sets and make the final preparation for this most joyous of festivals. We will have services on that evening and the next morning and continue with a Hoshana Rabba service on Sunday morning October 16th when we truly end the High Holy Days with the scattering of the willow leaves from their branches to symbolize the casting away of our transgressions which began on the first afternoon of Rosh Hashanah at our Tashlich event on the Cotee River.

We conclude the holiday season with Shmini Atzeret services Monday morning October 17th at which time we chant the Yizkor memorial prayer for the last time until Passover and we chant the haunting prayer for critical lifesaving rainfall for the first time: *Mashiv Ha'Ruach U'Morid Ha'Geshem* "You are Adonai who causes the wind to blow and the rain to fall".

Remember Abraham, his heart poured out to You like water. You blessed him as a tree planted near water; You saved him as he went through fire and water. For Abraham's sake, do not withhold water.

Remember Isaac, his birth foretold while angels drank cool water. At Moriah his blood was almost spilled like water; In the desert, he dug deep to find springs of water. For Isaac's sake, grant the gift of water.

Remember Jacob, who with his staff, forded Jordan's water. Gallantly, he showed his love beside a well of water; He struggled, victoriously, with a creature of fire and water. For Jacob's sake, do not withhold water.

Remember Moses, whose basket rocked in reeds and water. In Midian, he gave his sheep ample grass and water. He struck the rock; then the people drank sweet water. For Moses' sake, grant the gift of water.

Remember Aaron, the priest who immersed himself in water. On Yom Kippur, he kept the rites with water; He read from the Torah and bathed himself in water. For Aaron's sake, do not withhold water.

Remember Israel's tribes; You brought them through water. Brackish marsh became, for their sake, sweet water. Their descendants' blood was spilled like water. For all Israel's sake, grant the gift of water.

Water is such a critical need for us to survive that this becomes one of the signature prayers in our liturgy. Its importance is magnified in that the service leader dons the kittel (the white robe worn on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur) as the above prayers are chanted.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

10/1	Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm	10/15	Bingo 5 pm
10/3	Bingo 11 am	10/16	Hoshanah Rabbah 9:30 am
10/4	Erev Yom Kippur Services 6:30 pm	10/17	Shemini Atzeret & Yizkor 9:30 am Bingo 11 am Simchat Torah Ice Cream Social 5:30 pm Simchat Torah Services 6:30p
10/5	Yom Kippur Services 9:30am Mincha/Yizkor/Neilah 5:15pm/6:00pm/6:45pm	10/21	Religious Services 7:30 pm
10/7	Religious Services 7:30 pm	10/22	Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm
10/8	Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm	10/24	Bingo 11 am
10/9	Sukkot decoration 10:00 am Erev Sukkot Services 6:30pm	10/25	Rosh Chodesh
10/10	Sukkot Services 9:30 am Bingo 11 am JCC Board Meeting 7 pm	10/16	Rosh Chodesh
10/14	Religious Services 7:30 pm	10/28	Religious Services 7:30 pm
10/15	Religious Services 9:30 am	10/29	Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm
		10/31	Trick or Treat!

Candle Lighting Times



October 7	6:52 p.m.
October 14	6:44 p.m.
October 21	6:37 p.m.
October 28	6:31 p.m.

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME

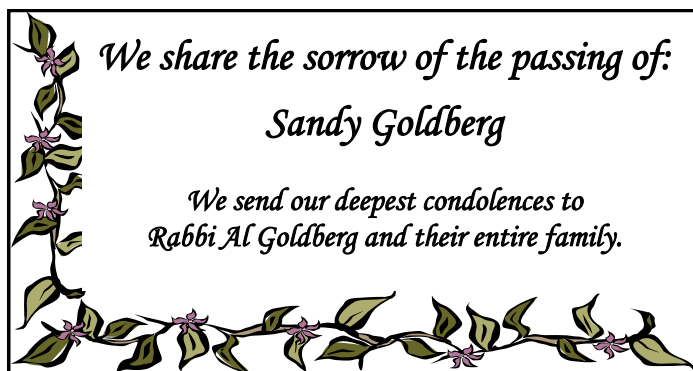
On August 14th, many JCC members and friends had a front row seat as the Tampa Bay Rays' Drew Rasmussen pitched a perfect game through eight innings. The Rays were victorious over the Baltimore Orioles by a score of 4 to 1.

A good time was had by all!

Thank you to Ron Becker who spear-headed this outing and Barbara D. Johnson who was responsible for handling the tickets and Eileen and Jeff Hochstadt who coordinated the transportation to the Trop. You all hit it out of the ballpark!

Photos by Barbara D. Johnson





SANDRA GOLDBERG z"l

Last month, we lost our beloved Rebbetzin and friend Sandra Goldberg z"l. Sandy was a companion to so many in our congregation, a companion to share life's joys and shoulder to cry on when experiencing troubles or a loss. We mourn her death as we celebrate a life so well lived. She touched the lives of so many of our congregants over more than two decades. She was a "sounding board" for all of us. She had a *listening ear*, a *sympathetic heart* and a *sweet neshama* (soul).

We came to her when experiencing problems in our own lives or with our families and friends. You name it! Sandy was always there at any time night or day. She was the proverbial shoulder to cry upon when things weren't going smoothly and the first to celebrate when they improved often as a result of her counseling. And with all she did for others, she never complained. You would never know if she was bothered, or sad, or angry. She was always just helpful and loving. I and my family have firsthand knowledge as we have known Sandy and Rabbi Al for over 20 years. She has counseled our children and more recently, our grandchildren. We will always cherish our Sunday afternoon visits where we came to her home, talked all afternoon while the boys swam in her pool and then ate pizza and Sandy's delicious cookies. It was a weekly ritual that we looked forward to with anticipation every day. When she was able, Sandy hosted Rosh Hashanah and other festival dinners, Pesach seders and Thanksgiving. There was always a boisterous crowd at the table with delicious food and great conversation.

The last few years were not kind to Sandy. She was tethered to her oxygen tank and suffered wounds and infections that just would not heal. Life became very painful, but she never ever complained. The weekly trips to the wound center became a difficult and sometimes excruciating experience for her and yet she persevered through it. She was more worried about taking advantage of some of our time than with her own pain.

Sandy was as dedicated as a wife could be to her beloved husband Rabbi Al. It is no easy task to be a Rebbetzin and experience the toll that it takes on a daily basis. A Rabbi and Rebbetzin are *on duty* at all hours, day and night whenever a congregant or a member of the Jewish community needs them. Even in her final days and hours, Sandy worried that Rabbi Al be safe and taken care of after she was gone and wanted assurances from us that we would do all we can to help just as she did all she could for us over so many years! Her anxieties were not about her pain (which by now was excruciating) and the prospect of her life coming to an end, but as usual only about others. It was only at the hospice facility when she was assured that we and Rabbi Al would all be ok, that she finally relaxed and knew that she could peacefully depart from us. Sandy was truly an *Eshet Chayil* (a woman of valor) whose memory will be cherished by us forever. May she rest in peace and her family know no more sorrow.

Ron Becker, Spiritual Leader



A Message from Ron Becker

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We follow Shmini Atzeret on that same evening with what I consider to be the happiest evening of the year as we celebrate Simchat Torah. Following our social hour, we will remove the Torahs from the Ark, and sing and dance with them as we mark the end of the reading with the last words of Devorim (Deuteronomy) and then start all over again with Bereshit (Genesis). It is a spectacle not to be missed. In the coming year, we will read the first triennial of each portion between this Simchat Torah and the next. May we all gain new insights from our reading and understanding of its powerful message and enjoy a happy and healthy year participating in whatever the year brings to us as a caring and holy community. May you be inscribed and sealed for blessing in the Book of Life!

Ron Becker, Spiritual Leader

Laura Bernas has graciously volunteered to take over the job of gardener at our JCC. She will maintain the landscaping, keeping our JCC looking good. Thank you, Laura!

Two (green) thumbs up to you!



High Holy Days Services 2022 (5783)

Shabbat Shuva	Saturday, October 1	9:30 AM
Yom Kippur		
Kol Nidre	Tuesday, October 4	6:30 PM
Ma'Ariv	Tuesday, October 4	7:00 PM
Yom Kippur	Wednesday, October 5	9:30 AM
Mincha	Wednesday, October 5	5:15 PM
Yizkor	Wednesday, October 5	6:00 PM
Neilah	Wednesday, October 5	6:45 PM
Sukkot		
Sukkah Decoration	Sunday, October 9	10:00 AM
Erev Sukkot	Sunday, October 9	6:30 PM
Sukkot	Monday, October 10	9:30 AM
Hoshanah Rabbah	Sunday, October 16	9:30 AM
Shemini Atzeret/Yizkor	Monday, October 17	9:30 AM
Simchat Torah	Monday, October 17	Ice Cream Social 5:30 PM Services 6:30 PM

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Continued from page 2

Hearing of their plight, Alice sent word to Haimaki's widow Rachel that she would hide the family. Rachel and her daughter Tilde moved in; they were later joined by another son, Michel. Alice had recently moved out of her modest apartment, into a larger building that belonged to her brother-in-law in order to be a caretaker. This large building afforded Alice the space to shelter a family in comfort, but there was a big drawback: the building was merely yards from the Gestapo's headquarters in Athens. At times, the Gestapo became suspicious of the former Queen and brought her in for questioning. At those times, Alice would pretend to not understand their questions because of her deafness.

Alice's trusted friend Demosthene Pouris later recalled those wartime years: "The Princess put a small two-room apartment on the third floor at the disposal of Mrs. Cohen and her daughter (and later son)... Having been the only one who was authorized by the Princess to visit the Cohen family and with only a very limited circle of the Princess who were loyal to her, we were the only ones who knew the secret. During the long and difficult years of the occupation I would visit Mrs. Cohen and her children in the apartment, help them maintain contact with the outside world, run errands for them and keep up their spirits."

Alice's brother Lord Montbatten of Britain managed to have some food parcels sent to Alice during those difficult years. When she received these packages, Alice gave them away to the needy.

Alice never spoke of her wartime heroism to her family who wouldn't learn of her actions until long after her death. Four years after the War, in 1949, Alice founded an order of nursing nuns and moved to a convent on the Greek island of Tinos, withdrawing from the world. It seems that she wished to follow in the footsteps of her aunt, the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Fyodorovna, who became a nun later in life. (Grand Duchess Elizabeth was killed during the Russian Revolution and was buried in Jerusalem.)

In 1993, Yad Vashem designated Princess Alice "Righteous Among the Nations" for sheltering and saving the Cohen family.

After the 1967 coup d'état in Greece, Alice returned to her birthplace, London, and moved into Buckingham Palace. Shortly before her death in 1969 at the age of 84, Alice requested to be buried in Jerusalem near her Aunt Elizabeth. At first her wishes were ignored, and Alice was given a royal burial in Britain. But in 1988, Princess Alice's remains were transferred to the family crypt on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem.

In 1993, Yad Vashem designated Princess Alice "Righteous Among the Nations" for sheltering and saving the Cohen family. Even though the British royal family has never made an official state visit to the Jewish state, Prince Philip, along with his sister Margarita, travelled to Israel for the ceremony honoring his mother. Prince Philip planted a tree to memorialize his mother, and delivered a moving speech:

"The Holocaust was the most horrific event in all Jewish history and it will remain in the memory of all future generations. It is, therefore, a very generous gesture that also remembered here are the many millions of non-Jews, like my mother, who shared in your pain and anguish and did what they could in small ways to alleviate the horror. I suspect that it never occurred to her that her action was in any way special," Prince Philip noted. "She would have considered it to be a perfectly natural human reaction to fellow beings in distress."

October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Vayelevkh</i> Bingo 5 pm
2 	3 Bingo 11 am	4 הה 6:55 pm Kol Nidre 6:30 pm	5 Yom Kippur Services 9:30 am Mincha/Yizkor/ Neilah 5:15 pm	6 	7 הה 6:52 pm Religious Services 7:30 pm	8 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Ha'azinu</i> Bingo 5 pm
9 הה 6:50 pm Decorate Sukkah 10 am Sukkot Services 6:30 pm	10 הה after 7:41pm Sukkot Services 9:30 am Bingo 11 am JCC Board Mtg 7pm Sukkot	11 Erev Yom Kippur	12 Yom Kippur	13 	14 הה 6:44 pm Religious Services 7:30 pm	15 Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm
16 הה 6:42 pm Hoshanah Rabbah Services 9:30 am	17 הה after 7:34 pm Shemini Atzeret Services 9:30 am Simchat Torah 5:30 Social 6:30 Serv Bingo 11 am	18 Simchat Torah	19 	20 	21 הה 6:37 pm Religious Services 7:30 pm	22 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Bereshit</i> Bingo 5 pm
23 	24 הה 11 am 	25 Rosh Chodesh	26 Rosh Chodesh	27 	28 הה 6:31 pm Religious Services 7:30 pm	29 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Noah</i> Bingo 5 pm
30 	31 הה 11 am 