

JUNE 2022  
*Sivan/Tammuz 5782*

Phone: 727 847-3814

E-mail:  
jccwestpasco@aim.com

# THE SCHRIER

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

## SHAVUOT 5782

Please join us on Sunday, June 5th  
for Shavuot services at 9:30am.  
Yizkor services will be included.

After services, join us for a dairy luncheon  
which will include at least one 'new fruit'  
to celebrate the holiday.

On Monday, June 6th we will have a community  
volunteer day at Metropolitan Ministries where we  
will help with food and clothing distribution to  
those in need. If you have not yet volunteered  
with this organization, you must first register on  
their website. Please contact Ron or  
Eileen for information about registration.



### JUNE

### HIGHLIGHTS

- \* Saturday, 6/4 Erev Shavuot
- \* Sunday/Monday, 6/5-6/6 Shavuot
- \* Monday, 6/13 7 pm JCC Board Mtg.
- \* Tuesday, 6/14 Flag Day
- \* Sunday, 6/19 Father's Day
- \* Tuesday, 6/21 First Day of Summer
- \* Wednesday/Thursday 6/29-6/30 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

The President of the Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelensky joins a long list of amazing Ukrainian Jews who have made the world a better place.

In the months since Russia invaded Ukraine, sparking untold suffering and destruction and causing the largest refugee crisis since World War II, Ukraine's Jewish President, Volodymyr Zelensky has emerged as a hero. Zelensky has rallied nations and individuals across the world and he's been open about his Jewish background, explaining to journalists that he is the grandson of Holocaust survivors and grew up in "an ordinary Soviet Jewish family."

Zelensky isn't the only Ukrainian Jew to inspire people around the world and change history. I was very interested to find out that the following well-known individuals were from the Ukraine.

### **Golda Meir**

Was born in 1898 in Kyiv. Israel's 4<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister becoming one of the architects of the Zionist Movement. She was one of the signatories of Israel's Declaration of Independence on May 14, 1948 and served as Israel's ambassador to Russia, as Israel's Foreign Minister (she was the world's only female foreign minister at the time), and in 1969 became Israel's Prime Minister serving until 1974.

### **Otto Preminger**

The groundbreaking film noir director was born in 1905 in Vyzhnytsia, Ukraine. He started his career as a theater director, and later became one of the most famous movie directors in the world. In his long movie career, he directed over 40 films, including *Laura*, *Carmen Jones*, *The Man With the Golden Arm*, *Boulevard Tristesse*, *Porgy and Bess*, *Anatomy of a Murder*, *Exodus* and *Tell Me You Love Me Junie Moon*.

### **Natan Sharansky**

The famous former Soviet refusenik and Israeli politician was born in Donetsk, Ukraine in 1948. As a young man he worked as an interpreter for the Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov. As Natan explored his Jewish identity, he became a spokesman for the Soviet Jewry dissident movement. He became a refusenik in 1973 after his application to emigrate to Israel was denied, and was arrested on trumped-up charges of treason and spying in 1977.

Sentenced to 13 years in a labor camp in Siberia, Natan coped with his imprisonment by focusing on his Jewish life. He later observed that in prison, as he embraced his Jewish identity, he found himself feeling like a free man.

Natan Sharansky was finally allowed to emigrate in 1986. He moved to Israel and later served as President of the Zionist Forum and editor of the *Jerusalem Report*. He formed a new political party in 1995, and was elected to Israel's Knesset, eventually serving in various ministerial roles and as Deputy Prime Minister from 2001 to 2003. He served as Chairman of the Executive for the Jewish Agency from June 2009 to August 2018.

### **Simon Wiesenthal**

The famed Nazi hunter was born in 1908 in Buchach, Ukraine. During the Holocaust he was imprisoned in five Nazi concentration camps. After surviving the Holocaust, he dedicated his life to bringing Nazi criminals to justice and to educating future generations about the Holocaust.

In the days after his liberation from Mauthausen concentration camp, Wiesenthal handed American prosecutors a list of Nazis and offered his personal testimony to their crimes. In 1960 Wiesenthal, his wife Cyla, and their daughter Paulinka set up the Jewish Documentation Center in Vienna. Working out of a tiny office with little help, they scoured telephone directories to locate Nazi war criminals. Their efforts led to the 1963 arrest of Karl Silberbauer, who helped arrest Anne Frank and her family, Franz Stangl, the commandant of Treblinka and Sobibor death camps, and many others. In 1977, the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles carried forward his vision; it is a global Jewish human rights center that researches the Holocaust and educates people about its horrors.

### **Vladimir Horowitz**

One of the greatest pianists of the 20th century, Vladimir Horowitz was born in 1903 in Kyiv. He redefined many of the most famous pieces of classical music, interpreting standards by Chopin, Brahms, Liszt, Rachmaninoff and Tchaikovsky using his prodigious talent and flamboyant style. Horowitz used to say he wanted to continually evolve as an artist, and "grow until I die."

### **Sholom Aleichem**

Sholom Aleichem (which means the traditional Hebrew greeting "Peace to you") was the pen name of Sholom Rabinovitch. He was born in 1859 in the Ukrainian town of Pereyaslav-Khmelnytsky. Though he originally wrote in Hebrew and Russian, Sholom Aleichem later began to write exclusively in Yiddish.

His first Yiddish story appeared in 1883, and he went on to publish more than 40 Yiddish books, including plays, short stories and full-length novels. His stories of Tevya the milkman formed the basis of the 1964 musical *Fiddler on the Roof*. A wealthy man, Sholom Aleichem used his personal fortune to underwrite Yiddish publishing and support struggling Yiddish authors

## A Message From Ron Becker

Dear friends,

The spring season is flying by and before we know it, summer will be here! But first things first! On the Shabbat of Memorial Day weekend, we celebrate Yom Yerushalayim, our newest holiday and one with great significance as it marks the reunification of the city of Jerusalem in 1967 for the first time in many generations. Who can forget the riveting scenes on our television screens of the Israeli soldiers approaching and then praying before the remnants of the Western Wall of the Holy Temple near the end of the Six Day War? And for those of us who have traveled to Jerusalem, we recall the incredible emotion of seeing the old city for the first time. We will chant appropriate prayers and sing this song of rejoicing, Sisu et Yerushalayim:

Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her,  
be glad for her all you who love her  
Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her,  
be glad for her all you who love her

Do not be afraid and do not be discouraged, Jacob my servant,  
for those who hate you will be scattered before you  
Do not be afraid and do not be discouraged, Jacob my servant,  
for those who hate you will be scattered before you

Rejoice with Jerusalem...

On your walls, city of David, I have posted watchmen  
all day and all night  
On your walls, city of David, I have posted watchmen  
all day and all night

Rejoice with Jerusalem...

Lift up your eyes [Jerusalem] and look around, see how all your children  
gathered and came to you  
Lift up your eyes [Jerusalem] and look around, see how all your children  
gathered and came to you

Rejoice with Jerusalem...

Continued on page 4

## DATES TO REMEMBER

6/3	Religious Services 7:30 pm
6/4	Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm Erev Shavuot
6/5	Shavuot Day 1 Religious Services with Yizkor 9:30 am followed by luncheon
6/6	Shavuot Day 2
6/6	Bingo 11 am
6/10	Religious Services 7:30 pm
6/11	Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm
6/13	Bingo 11 am

6/13	JCC Board Meeting 7 pm
6/14	Flag Day
6/17	Religious Services 7:30 pm
6/18	Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm
6/19	Father's Day
6/20	Bingo 11 am
6/21	First day of summer
6/24	Religious Services 7:30 pm
6/25	Religious Services 9:30 am Bingo 5 pm
6/27	Bingo 11 am
6/29	Rosh Chodesh
6/30	Rosh Chodesh

## Candle Lighting Times



<b>June 3</b>	<b>8:07 p.m.</b>
<b>June 10</b>	<b>8:10 p.m.</b>
<b>June 17</b>	<b>8:12 p.m.</b>
<b>June 24</b>	<b>8:13 p.m.</b>

## A Message From Ron Becker

Continued from page 3

We are on the brink of one of the most meaningful and wonderful festivals of the year—that of Shavuot. This holiday is the second of the three major pilgrimage festivals, following Passover and preceding Sukkot. Because we have counted the days (counting the Omer) every night for the seven weeks following Passover and leading up to Shavuot, it has become one of our most anticipated holidays as well. It is both an agricultural festival marking the beginning of the wheat harvest and the bringing of first fruits to market (and why we have a custom of eating a fruit or vegetable or new dairy item that we have not yet tasted this season) and more importantly, a religious holiday marking the receiving of the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. This year, we celebrate Shavuot on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. On the previous Shabbat evening, we will read excerpts from the powerful Book of Ruth.

Ruth is one of our greatest heroines on a par with Queen Esther and all of our matriarchs. She is a Moabite woman who refuses to abandon her mother-in-law Naomi when their spouses die and stays by her side when they travel to Naomi's homeland in Israel. Ruth displays the highest loyalty by marrying a redeeming kinsman and ultimately, she becomes the great grandmother of King David. Ruth teaches us that people can naturally find love and family connections wherever they are, irrespective of the ethnicity and faith of the people they fall in love with.

We will mark Shavuot day with services in the morning which will include the reading of Akdamut (אקדמות), a poem that begins with the greatness of G-d, which exceeds all ability to describe it and then the myriads of various kinds of angels created by G-d and attending G-d. The various angels praise G-d according to their categories, some praise G-d unceasingly, some at recurring times, some only once. The nations of the earth seek to acquire Israel to add to their own greatness but Israel replies that its loyalty is only to G-d, and this is the source of Israel's attributes and strength.

The narration concludes with a benediction and wish that the hearer might be privileged to attend a banquet for the righteous, and assures the audience that this will be so, if only they hearken to the words of the Torah. As long as Covid doesn't interfere, we will conclude our service with a dairy luncheon including at least one "new fruit" (and possibly some traditional cheesecake) to celebrate the holiday!

We will mark the second day of Shavuot (Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup>) by volunteering at Metropolitan Ministries where we have been helping with food and clothing distributions for those in need. I cannot think of a worthier way to spend the second day of this important festival and encourage others to participate. If you could volunteer for just a couple hours of your time each month and/or donate funds or packaged food, it will bolster your spirits with the thought of performing important mitzvot during Shavuot and always.

חג שבועות שמח

(Chag Shavuot Sameach)!

Ron Becker, Spiritual Leader

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

**2022-2023 Dues Statements  
will be going out in the mail  
in the very near future.  
Look for them in your  
mailbox!**





On April 19, the city of New Port Richey proclaimed the week of April 24 to May 1, 2022 as Days of Remembrance in recognition of Yom HaShoah and presented the proclamation to our Jewish Community Center in a moving ceremony which preceded the City Council meeting. The full text of the proclamation is as follows:

WHEREAS, the Holocaust, also known as Shoah, was the state-sponsored, systemic persecution and annihilation of 6 million European Jews alongside more than 5 million other innocent victims – Roma and Sinti, Slavs, disabled persons, LGBTQ+ individuals, political dissidents and others by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945; and

WHEREAS, we the people of the city of New Port Richey, Florida should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny. We honor the precious lives lost, contemplate the incomprehensible wound to our humanity, mourn for the communities and families broken and scattered, and embrace those who survived the Holocaust. It is painful to remember, and human nature to leave the past behind, but in order to prevent future atrocities from happening again we must share the truth of this dark period in history; and

WHEREAS, we the people of the City of New Port Richey should actively rededicate ourselves to the principles of individual freedom in a just society; and

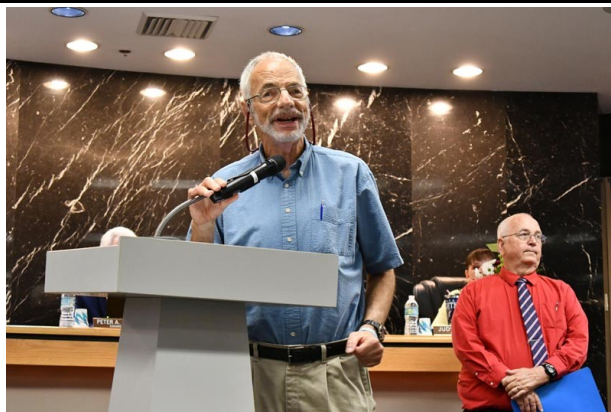
WHEREAS, the Days of Remembrance have been set aside for the people of New Port Richey to remember the victims of the Holocaust as well as to reflect on the need for respect of all peoples; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to an Act of Congress (Public Law 96-388, October 7, 1980), the United States Holocaust Memorial Council designates the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust to be Sunday, April 24, to May 1, 2022 including Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom HaShoah, being Thursday April 28, 2022;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rob Marlowe, Mayor of the City of New Port Richey, do hereby proclaim the week of Sunday April 24, through Sunday, May 1, 2022, as Days of Remembrance in memory of the victims of the Holocaust and in honor of the survivors as well as the rescuers and liberators, and further proclaim that we, as citizens of the City of New Port Richey, should work to promote human dignity and confront hate whenever and wherever it occurs.







Ron Becker  
receiving the  
Proclamation  
recognizing  
Yom HaShoah  
from New Port  
Richey mayor  
Rob  
Marlowe



(Left to right)  
Mickey White, Paul Land, Rita White, Art Simon, Eileen  
Hochstadt, Ron Becker and Barbara Johnson at the New  
Port Richey City Council meeting on April 19<sup>th</sup> after the  
presentation of the Resolution. Seated above them (left to  
right) are New Port Richey City Manager Debbie Manns;  
Deputy Mayor Mike Peters; City Councilmen Peter Alt-  
man and Matt Murphy; and City Councilwoman Kelly  
Mothershead (off camera)

# JUNE 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 88 Religious Services 7:30 pm	4 88 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Bemidbar</i> Erev Shavuot Bingo 5 pm
5 88 Shavuot/Yizkor Services 9:30 am Followed by luncheon Shavuot Day 1	6 BINGO 11 am  Shavuot Day 2	7	8	9	10 88 Religious Services 7:30 pm	11 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Naso</i>  Bingo 5 pm
12	13 BINGO 11 am  JCC Board Mtg. 7 pm	14  Flag Day	15	16	17 88 Religious Services 7:30 pm	18 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Beha'alotekha</i>  Bingo 5 pm
19 Father's Day 	20 BINGO 11 am	21  First Day of Summer	22 	23	24 88 Religious Services 7:30 pm	25 Religious Services 9:30 am <i>Shelah lekha</i>  Bingo 5 pm
26	27 BINGO 11 am	28	29	30		
			Rosh Chodesh	Rosh Chodesh		