

Adelante!

A Monthly Publication for Temple Beth-El,
Las Cruces, New Mexico

APRIL 2026 (NISAN - IYAR 5786)

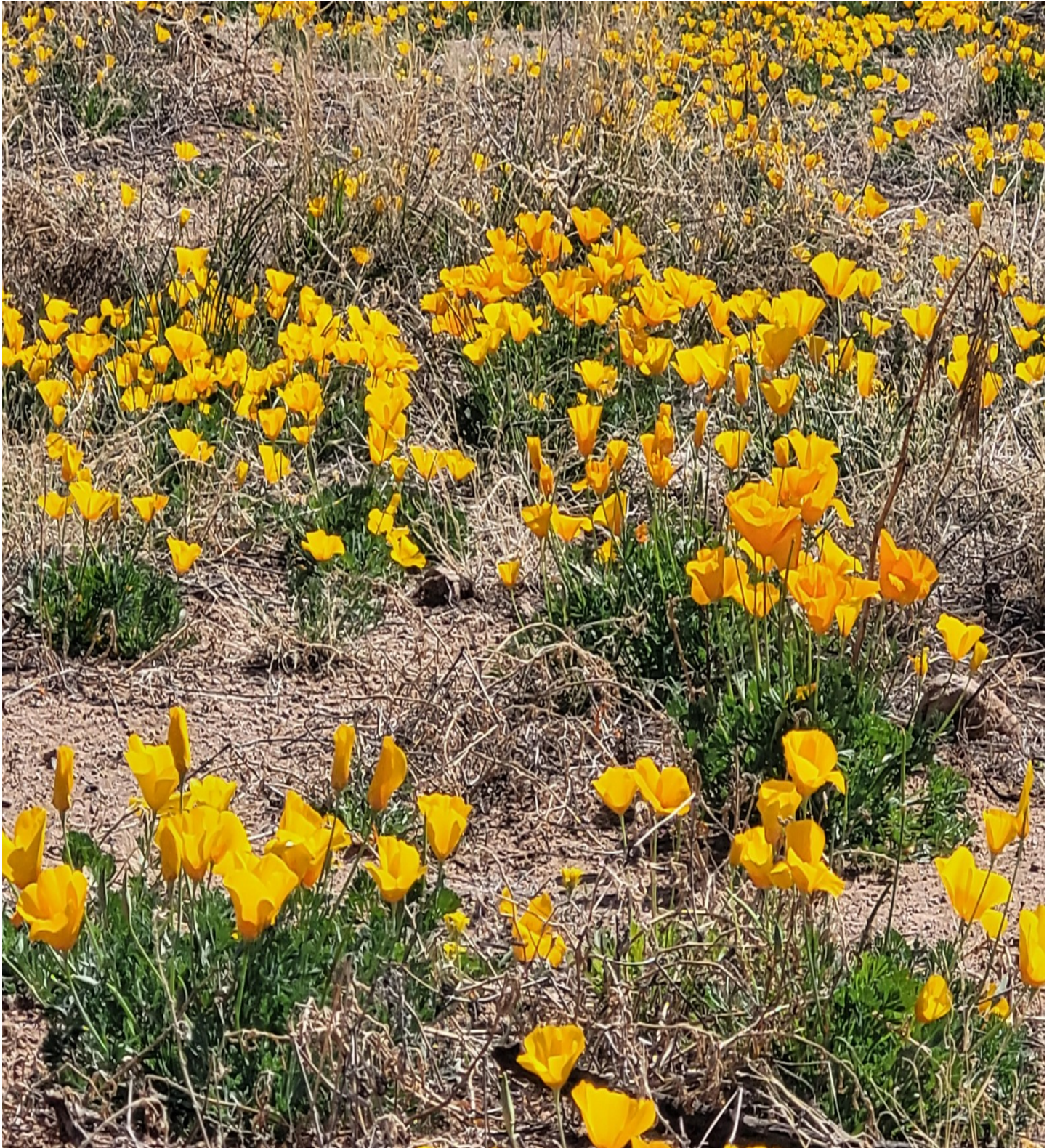


Photo By Stefani Singer

General Worship Schedule

Can't come in person? Then join us on Zoom or Facebook Live.

You can watch on Facebook using this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Synagogue/Temple-Beth-El-115816285166004/>

Zoom invites for all services, and any text to follow, will be sent out weekly.

If you do not have a siddur at home, you can purchase a print copy or an e-book, (less expensive option) which can be viewed on any device using the free Kindle App. These can be bought from the Central Conference of American Rabbis at this link

<https://www.ccarnet.org/publications/mishkan-tfilah-for-Shabbat/>

Kabbalat Shabbat Services:

Friday, 6:30 pm

Saturday Morning Services:

10:30 am

Times will occasionally vary.

See calendar for current schedule.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2025-2026

President-Deb Leyndyke

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Daniel Azizian Gilan Jeff Lewis Joel Siegel

Kimmi Cravens – Sisterhood Rep

Bill Stein—Mensch Club Rep

Classes/ Adult Education

Tai Chi- Tuesdays at 10:00 am

Led by Steve Haydu

(Donations support TBE)

Talmud Study– Saturdays at 9:00 am

Lay led by Bryan McCuller.

Short Story Group– Every other Tuesday at 11:30 am via Zoom

This is a discussion group led by former congregant Jim Rosenthal. Jim e-mails stories by Jewish authors to participants each week.

To join, contact Jim at jar529@gmail.com.

Adelante Submissions:

I need your help! This newsletter is so much better when it has many voices (that and I am horrible at remembering to take pictures). Send me your pictures of family Shabbat or Temple events, book recommendations, commentary, recipes, illustrations, etc. I will share as many as space allows in each month's Adelante. Please send pictures in JPG and files in .doc format.

The deadline for turning in articles, items and photos is the 20th of each month (unless otherwise stated). Late items may not be included. Please keep to that schedule to facilitate a timely completion of the Adelante! All content can be e-mailed to me, Beth Tierney at cambrien73@gmail.com

Donations through March 20, 2025

General Fund:

Henri and Debra Brown, in memory of George Brown
Michael White and Joyce Davidoff, in memory of Bea Klein
Mike and Joyce Butlien, in appreciation for your hospitality
during our Feb 20 visit

Tai Chi participants

Ann Berkson, in memory of Arthur Stern

Barbara Berger, in memory of Sideny and Estelle Berger

Jeffrey Marquez, in memory of Frima Marquez

Martha Roditti, in honor of IQA Seaman Ruth Ginsburg,
Jerome Ginsburg

Dan and Simy Allan, in honor of Cantor Sweenie

Brenda Petty-Parish, in memory of Terry Petty

Bryan and Lisa McCuller, in memory of James McCuller

Temple Beth-El Youth Fund:

Terri Sugarman, Purim

Bill Stein, Purim

Daniel Azizian-Gilan, Purim

Henri and Debra Brown, Purim

Jeff Brown and Cherri-Hudson Brown, Purim

Ann Berkson, in memory of Faye Berkson

Gerie Muchnikoff

Joanne Turnbull, in honor of Linda Matorin Sweenie

Rabbi Discretionary Fund:

Susan Fitzgerald, in memory of Leonard Hurwitz

Ann Berkson, in honor of Cantor Linda Sweenie

Arlon and Brenda Parish, in memory of Wade W. Gardner

Temple Beth-El Religious School Fund:

Sally Alkon, thanks for Purim

Dan and Simy Allan, in honor of Religious school, thank
you for the treats

Social Action Fund:

Frances Williams Library Fund:

Frances Williams, in memory of Michael Resnick

Irving Batkin Memorial Scholarship Fund

Allen and Michele Blum, in memory of Sima Tashlick

Biblical Garden Fund:

Jeffrey Marquez, in memory of Harriet Krasner-Silver

Jeffrey Marquez, in memory of Claire Krasner

Temple Funds

Donations are gratefully accepted for the following:

General Operating Fund—For the day-to-day operation of TBE.

Biblical Garden Fund—To provide the infrastructure for biblical plants and trees, and bricks in the fountain meditation area and on the brick walkway.

Rabbi Larry and Rhonda Karol Campership Fund—Providing scholarships for Temple students to attend Jewish summer camp programs.

The Mitzvah Team Fund— to assist this voluntary team of Temple Beth-El members that, upon request and dependent upon availability, will provide non emergency support service to members of the temple.

Social Action Fund—For projects that benefit our community and Las Cruces and Southern New Mexico.

Irving Batkin Memorial Scholarship Fund—To broadly support Jewish education, based on merit or need, through participation in the TBE Religious School, camperships, and/or pursuit of Jewish collegiate studies or rabbinical studies.

Frances Williams Library Fund—To provide books and infrastructure for the TBE library.

Rabbi Gerald M. Kane Fund—Provides funds to help further adult education and cultural programming at TBE.

Temple Beth-El Religious School Fund—Supports the regular and special programming planned by faculty, students and the Religious School Committee.

Temple Beth-El Youth Fund—Support for Youth activities at TBE.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund—Used to meet a variety of philanthropic requests as well as to supplement TBE programs.

Ritual Items Fund— For repair and maintenance of ritual items used during services such as Torahs, Tallitot and the like.

Periodically the temple may list short-term projects or needs. Contributions that do not specify a project or fund will be added to the General Operating Fund. If you have a question or wish to contribute to a project not listed here, please contact our Temple Beth-El Treasurer, Susan Weissmann.

Yahrzeits– April 3- May 2, 2026

Listings include the name of the loved one on the yahrzeit list and (in parentheses) the name of the congregant or congregants remembering that loved one - asterisks indicate loved ones remembered with memorial plaques.

Read On April 3 & 4, 2026

Mona Forman Bloch (Fern Forman)
 Dvora Alkon (Sally Alkon)
 Estella Levy-Dean (Tom and Deborah Levy)
 Ida Seaman (Martha Roditti)
 Paul Arnold Feil (Paul Feil)
 Abe Rayblatt (Rose Jacobs)
 Michael Resnick (Frances F. Williams)
 Maxine Markson (Linda M. Kruger)
 Leonard Hurwitz (Susan Fitzgerald)
 Norma Klein (Tom and Deborah Levy)
 Harold Mann (Alison Mann)
 Daniel Seton Barber (Julie Seton and Bob Sanderson)
 James McCuller (Bryan and Lisa McCuller)

Read On April 9 & 10, 2026

Marvin Siegel (Robert M. and Carla Libby)
 Margaret Smith (David Newman and Jon Bairnsfather)
 Alfred Philips (Linda Matorin Sweeney and Glenn Philips)
 Shirley Muffs* (Marvin and Carol Bernstein)
 Blanche Blum (Allen and Michele Blum)
 Yoliya Altit (Roi Altit and Chaney Stewman)

Read On April 17 & 18, 2026

Norma Dorfman* (Sharon and Peter Dorfman)
 Jacob Mazer* (Norman and Suzanne Mazer)
 Alice Mazer* (Norman and Suzanne Mazer)
 Nathan Weissman (Susan and Howard Weissman)
 Karen Hutchison (Steven Haydu)
 Max Bruder* (Pearie and Ron Bruder)
 Norris Weinberg (Rob Goldsteen and Anne Weinberg)
 Gavriel Cohen (Sally Alkon)
 Byron Saltman (Mark and Aggie Saltman)
 Ida Bass* (Harry and Diane Bass)
 Zachery Shporer (Terri Sugarman)
 Henry Frank* (Lester and Renee Frank)

Read On April 24 & 25, 2026

Rufus Griffin (Nicole and Jermel Griffin)
 Saul Blum (Allen and Michele Blum)
 Albert Orel (Sheri Spiegel and John Ragosta)
 Sallie Mae Pettigrew (Nicole and Jermel Griffin)

Read On May 1 & 2, 2026

Michael P. Shikora (Lenore Hindin)
 Zvi Zeitlin (Stuart Kelter and Leora Zeitlin)
 Jay Daniels* (Ronald Pierce and Karen Ford-Pierce)
 Lew Kruger (Linda M. Kruger)
 Andrew Williamson (Michael and Barbara Mandel)
 Sadie Sugarman (Terri Sugarman)
 Sheldon Breskow (Debbie and Steve Leyndyke)
 Robert Stein (Susan Michelson and Bill Stein)
 Jack Kelter* (Stuart Kelter and Leora Zeitlin)
 Rabbi Mordechai Langner (Bernice Langner)
 Mary Y. Root (Jeffrey & Tamar Myers)
 Dora Kirschner (Bob and Judy Kirschner)
 Ruth Karol (Rhonda Karol)
 Shirley Greenberg (Cyrille S. Kane)

*In order to ensure that the name of your loved one will be recited during services, we have instituted the following practices:
 The Hebrew dates for each week's Yahrzeits are listed in each Adelante.
 Names are read on the Shabbat **following** the Yahrzeit, or on the day, if it falls on that Shabbat.
 Hebrew vs. conventional (Gregorian) calendar:
 The temple's tradition is to base the Yahrzeits list on the Hebrew calendar. Those who wish to have a name read on a Friday night close to the conventional (Gregorian) calendar date are asked to please email admin@tbelc.org or call the Temple office.
 *Asterisks indicate that a loved one has been permanently memorialized with a plaque in the Temple sanctuary. If you are interested in acquiring a plaque for your loved one, contact the Temple office. Current TBE members may purchase a plaque for \$360.
 Non TBE members may purchase a plaque for \$660.*

New Member Spotlight:

Each month we will introduce one of our new member/families of Temple Beth-El.



Melvyn Gelb and his wife Mary Ann Finn moved to Las Cruces Village about a year and a half ago from Silver City, NM where they had lived for 25 years. They felt it was a prudent decision to be move closer to improved medical care options. They are both retired RN's who worked in Public Health.

Melvyn was born and raised in New York City but left at the age of 18. Mary Ann is also a New Yorker born in Brooklyn. They met in 1985 in Chimney, Arizona which is in the canyon northeast of the Navajo nation.

Since moving to Las Cruces Village, they both enjoy attending the programs brought to the retirement community. Melvyn says he especially enjoys special speakers. He also reported that the food

is pretty good and it certainly beats having to cook for themselves all the time. They take advantage of the musical programs at NMSU particularly The Las Cruces Symphony concerts.

Melvyn has attended several of the Mensch Club breakfasts which has been a good opportunity to meet members. He and Mary Ann attended our new member Shabbat in February. They plan to attend the Congregational Seder for the second night of Passover, so look for them to offer a personal welcome to Temple Beth-El.

Submitted by Donna Popky, New Member chair

President's Message

"The Source", by James Michener is a book that had a profound impact on me. As a work of historical fiction, it traces the history of the Jewish people from the origins of Judaism.

When I read it in the 1980s, one of my lasting reflections was how fortunate I was to be living as a Jew in the United States.

Regrettably, that sense of security is being challenged. Following the March 13 attack on a synagogue in West Bloomfield, I attended a webinar hosted by the Secure Community Network (SCN), the official safety and security organization for the Jewish community. Presenters included the President of the North American Reform Federation, the CEO of SCN, and an FBI cyberthreat expert, addressing more than 2,600 participants nationwide. The information shared was important and relevant to our community.

Since the start of the war in Iran, threats in the United States have reportedly increased by 6,000 percent, with the FBI investigating approximately 8,000 threats every five days. Antisemitism was described as being at its highest level in U.S. history.

Preparation is essential. We are requesting an additional security assessment at TBE and encouraging congregants to remain alert and report concerns. In the recent Michigan incident, staff at Temple Israel recognized warning signs in advance and were prepared through established protocols and regular drills. I want to commend Jeff Lewis and the Security Team for their continued efforts to keep our community safe, and I thank those who have contributed specifically to security funding. While some question the need for professional security or believe New Mexico offers insulation from these risks, ongoing training and expert support are critical. Encouragingly, SCN leadership will meet with Congress on May 18–19 to request \$1 billion in additional funding for synagogue security, which would significantly benefit smaller congregations. TBE will host an antisemitism workshop with the Anti Defamation League (ADL) on April 19, featuring a presentation followed by a question-and-answer session. This report is intended to inform, not alarm. We will continue our regular temple activities while prioritizing the safety of our congregants. I ask everyone to remain vigilant and to speak up if something seems concerning. If you see something, say something.

Wishing you a peaceful and happy Passover,

Debbie Leyndyke
TBE President

Seeds in the Ashes

A year in allegory by Meir Ashan, art by Robert Kitcey

Beneath the palace walls, lies a village where ordinary lives are made from extraordinary moments. Farmers, merchants, shepherds, and watchmen write their lives among the fields and rows. These are their stories — tales woven of soil, silence, and song, within each season is sown a hidden truth for any with the eyes to see.

For Nisan: The Narrow Path



The rains had passed, leaving the air fragrant with anemones and cyclamen. Barley bent heavy in the fields, and almond blossoms drifted white as snow across the riverbanks. Yet the winter's floods had swollen the river far beyond its bed. What was once a crossing of stones between the village and the fields now surged with runoff, swift and silver, cutting the village from the fields that beckoned with spring rebirth and sustenance.

The people gathered at the edge; their hearts pulled between promise and fear.

Yaron, the farmer—his name meant to sing—wrung his hands into his hair. He saw the shoots that needed tending, but the torrent's roar filled him with dread. "The season is precious, yet the waters are too fierce," he said. "Let us wait until they subside."

Shimon, the watchman—his name meant one who hears—planted his spear upright and shook his head. "The season will not wait. To delay is to lose. We must fight forward, no matter the peril."

The crowd wavered, their voices rising into the spray.

Then three of the younger villagers spoke:

The first was Chacham—his name meant wise. His eyes were clear, his tone measured. "The path is hidden, yet there is order even in the torrent if we can map the way. If we find the stones, we will find footing."

The second was Tam—his name meant simple, whole.

He stepped forward shyly, his words plain. "If we walk, will the water not swallow us? How can one cross without drowning?"

The third was Rivkah—her name meant to bind. Her brow furrowed, her tone sharp. "Why risk our lives for fields? Better to remain where we are. Hunger is safer than death."

The people listened, their fear mirrored in the river's rush.

Just then, the King appeared through the gate left open. He came without crown or guard, his robes dusty from travel. He looked upon the water, then upon the villagers. Without a word, he stepped onto the nearest stone, the current lashing his ankles. His stride was steady, as though he walked not upon chaos but upon a path unseen.

"Walk with me," he said without looking back to see if they followed.

Shimon grasped Yaron's arm firmly. "Come. Fear roots us. Courage must walk."

Chacham followed quickly, eyes bright and fixed on the King's steps, murmuring the rhythm of each stone. Tam trailed behind, whispering his question again and again: "How can we cross?"

Yet his feet still moved, as if the asking itself propelled him.

Rivkah lingered on the shore, arms crossed. "This is folly," she muttered. "You will be swept away."

But her eyes betrayed a longing that her words denied. She feared being left behind more than being swept away by the angry waters.

The current struck hard. Yaron stumbled, crying out as water surged to his chest. Panic seized him. But Shimon's grip tightened. "Stand! Fear is deep, but we follow the King's steps."

Chacham called back, "Step where the King steps!" Tam whispered with each move, "This stone... then that," his simple cadence steadying those behind him.

The King continued, his gaze quiet but unwavering. His silence steadied them more than any command.

At last, soaked and gasping, they reached the far bank. Many collapsed on the grass, barley bending in the breeze above them, the fragrance of blossoms filling their lungs.

Yaron lifted his head, wonder in his eyes. "I thought the waters would surely drown us."

Shimon leaned on his spear, dripping with spray. "Fear is deep, but courage walks."

Chacham smiled faintly. "The stones were hidden, but not absent."

Tam's face was open with joy. "I did not understand, yet I crossed."

"Seeds in the Ashes"- continued from previous page

Even Rivkah had followed at last, though she said nothing. She stood apart, her garments soaked, her arms no longer crossed. She looked back at the torrent with awe, as though it had unbound her own silence.

Orli, the child—her name meant *my light*—ran barefoot and giggling loudly through the wet grass, scattering wildflowers she had plucked along the bank and butterflies. "The river sang," she shouted, "and we sang with it!" The King stood slightly apart, gazing at the waters. His presence spoke what no words could: that freedom is not won by avoiding the path, nor by turning back, but by action, including walking together through what terrifies us, one step at a time.

The villagers looked at one another. They knew that each had crossed in their own way: Yaron trembling, Shimon steady, Chacham discerning, Tam questioning, Rivkah resisting, Orli laughing. They had crossed together what seemed impossible alone.

The barley fields rippled before them, green with hope. The path behind still roared with water, but their feet were planted now on soil ready for tending – enjoying the freedom that is seldom – if possibly even never – free.

And so, the village remembered, and the fields sustained them.

Celebrating our Simchas

Best wishes to these members celebrating birthdays this month:

Wendee Lorbeer

Best wishes to these members celebrating anniversaries this month:

None Known

If you would like to have us acknowledge you in the future, please send birth month, and anniversary month, to cambrien73@gmail.com (This is especially relevant as I have lost the file which had the updates for the past two years –Beth) I would also love to include other special events and achievements as they occur.

There's Nothing Like Spring (in the Tundra)

There's nothing like spring in the Tundra, that's right

In fact, there's nothing called Spring, just a long winter night

The sun doesn't rise there for week after week

And winter lasts eight months, now isn't that bleak?

And then if you're lucky, there's a brief summer craze

That comes and then goes in about sixty days

You can't quite plant flowers, potatoes or corn

There's something called permafrost morn after morn

The land there is barren and frozen, remote

Survival requires a thick and warm coat

In addition, one needs thermal boots, gloves and hat

I'm freezing just thinking of living with that

The few summer days bring out the bright sun

But never the warmth of a tropical one

Yet still in that summer, perennials appear

Four hundred varieties grow year after year

The harsh Tundra winds cause the temps to go down

Explorers and scientists are the only ones around

The white arctic fox, arctic tern but no trees

Can live, even thrive in severe arctic freeze

And polar bears love the ice cold in the north

They hunt and have babies and swim and so forth

We likely won't visit this vast frozen place

Where icicles grow from your hair and your face

So, friends, in the Tundra, I'm sorry to say

There will never be spring, not even one day

Stefani Singer, November 6, 2019

Correction:

Our oneg coordinator is Fern Forman (her last name had been misspelled as Foreman) and her correct email address is fern.r.forman@ gmail.com. Please contact her to host an oneg or two.




**The Mensch Club
Presents:
Lunch at Sparky's in Hatch**

- Join us Sunday, April 12, 2026 @ 12:30ish
- Open to all members, family and friends for lunch.
- Check out the menu online.
Call ahead, about 20 minutes to avoid waiting in line. 575-267-4222
- Music inside, eat inside or out
- Questions? Text Art 716-908-7885 or Elliot 617-759-1887





Tai Chi
Tuesday
mornings at 10:00

Led by Steve Haydu
Donations to the Temple accepted as payment for classes.

TBE Sisterhood & Mensch Club present
the return of the

BUCK-A-ROO BBQ!

FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2026

5:45 pm Kosher-style BBQ dinner
6:30 pm Shabbat Service




Sisterhood Report

Shalom to you Young Ladies and you Ladies who are Young-at-Heart,

It is April and Spring is in the air. Also, the Mexican Poppies are experiencing a "super bloom" this year at Baylor Canyon and around Brahma Road south of Highway 70. Hurry over for a look-see before they are gone! The last "super-bloom" occurred just as the Pandemic shut down the world, in March of 2020. If you haven't seen this, you MUST. You don't even have to get out of your car.

And now, we look forward to seeing many, many of you on April 2nd for the Community Second Seder, sponsored by your Sisterhood and lay-led by Steven Haydu. We will have all the traditional items that you expect as well as your choice of 3 delicious entrees expertly prepared by Cravings Caterers. (Thank your server!)

As you probably are aware, the First Friday Fiesta Service has been on hiatus. But, Sisterhood and the Mensch Club are bringing it back on May 1st with a whoop, a holler and a yippee-kai-ay!!! We are reviving the historic

Buck-a-roo BBQ and outdoor service (weather permitting). Bring the kids and bring your wild west appetite! I think we are having Apple Pie for dessert!!!

As for future First Friday Dinner Services, they will be occurring every 3 to 4 months. If you have a theme idea and would like to sponsor a future First Friday, contact your Sisterhood Council members. To keep costs under control, you might team up with one or two other couples/families and we will help you get it all together.

Purim was delightful this year! The Religious School presented the Megillah, the TBE dramatists presented an entertaining Shpiel and your Sisterhood made sure there were basket-loads of Hamentaschen with flavors galore, as well as sugar-free and gluten-free. No one should have been left out who wanted a Hamentaschen!

Your Sisterhood Council is pleased to welcome new member, Cindy Shonk. Cindy is a fairly new addition to our TBE family and we are so excited to include her in our planning meetings and fabulous events.

Vroom! Vroom! Zoom on out to Baylor Canyon!!

Shalom v'ahava

Your hard-at-work Sisterhood Council

Purim Pics!





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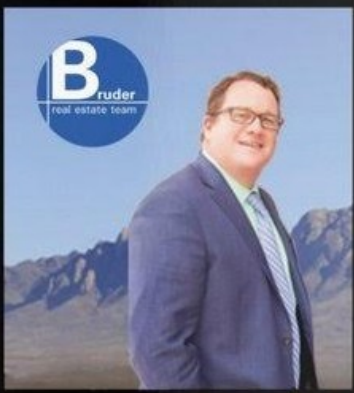
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ronbrudertopproducer@gmail.com

Cell: 575-312-7330
Office: 575-522-3698



**Erich Zameret, B.S.,
M.S., M.A.**

Will tutor:

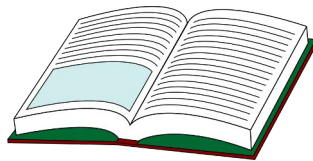
Hebrew- reading and
conversational,

High School Math.

Privately or in small group

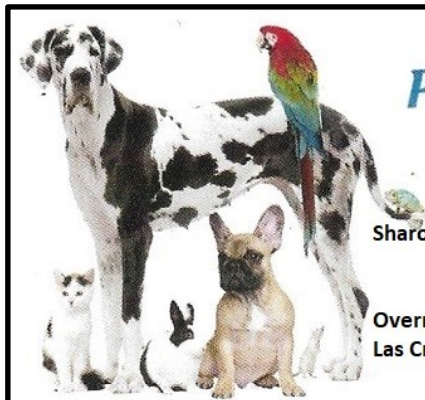
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Overnights/Drop Ins, Housesitting
Las Cruces & Surrounding Areas

**Bricks for the Biblical Garden
and Brick Walkway**

Please consider ordering one to mark that special occasion of your own or a loved one. Call Alison Mann and she will send you the form and even help you design the brick, if you wish. And take a few minutes to sit in the meditation area of the walkway...it's a lovely spot!



Honor the memory of loved ones with a memorial plaque and mark celebrations and milestones (and also the memory of friends and family) by adding leaves to our Tree of Life.



April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 14 Nisan <i>Erev Pesach</i>	2 15 Nisan Community Seder 5:30 PM	3 16 Nisan Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6:30 pm	4 17 Nisan Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Service 10:30 am
5 18 Nisan NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	6 19 Nisan	7 20 Nisan Tai Chi 10:00 am	8 21 Nisan	9 22 Nisan Sisterhood Council Meeting 5:00 pm <i>eighth day of Pesach</i>	10 23 Nisan Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6:30 pm	11 24 Nisan Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Service 10:30 am
12 25 Nisan Religious School 10:00am-12:00 pm Mench club lunch @ Sparky's 12:00pm	13 26 Nisan	14 27 Nisan Tai Chi 10:00 am	15 28 Nisan Wednesday Morning Breakfast 8:30 am	16 29 Nisan TBE Board Meeting 6:00 pm	17 30 Nisan Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6:30 pm	18 1 Iyar Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Service 10:30 am
19 2 Iyar Religious School 10:00am-12:00 pm	20 3 Iyar	21 4 Iyar Tai Chi 10:00 am	22 5 Iyar	23 6 Iyar	24 7 Iyar Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6:30 pm	25 8 Iyar Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Service 10:30 am
26 9 Iyar Religious School 10:00am-12:00 pm	27 10 Iyar	28 11 Iyar Tai Chi 10:00 am	29 12 Iyar	30 13 Iyar		

Temple Beth-El, Las Cruces, New Mexico

APRIL 2026 (NISAN - IYAR 5786)

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President-Deb Leyndyke

The Temple Beth-El Newsletter is produced regularly at Las Cruces, New Mexico. Editor: Beth Tierney. Copy Editors: Aggie Saltman, Steven Haydu. Linda Sweenie, Ellen Torres and Alison Mann. We welcome Adelante sponsorships by or for Temple members and non-members. Sponsorships can be mailed to the Temple; receipts are provided upon request. We reserve the right to edit all sponsorships. Non-member sponsorships (with no ad) are \$25/year. Annual sponsorship rates are as follows: 2x3 business card \$150 (free for members); Quarter page \$300; Half page \$600. For information about sponsorships, please contact the Temple Office.

**Temple Beth-El and “Adelante” are on the web at
www.tbelc.org**

**The temple also has a Facebook Page:
Temple Beth-El Las Cruces**

April 2026



**Temple Beth-El
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