

SH'VAT/ADAR 5784

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2024

# THE JEWISH VOICE

Informing and Connecting Jews in El Paso & Las Cruces



[WWW.JFEDEPLC.ORG](http://WWW.JFEDEPLC.ORG)

# The Jewish Voice

*is a publication of the*  **Jewish Federation**  
of El Paso & Las Cruces

**The Jewish Voice**, published six times a year, is dedicated to informing, educating, and uniting the Jewish community by providing news items of local, national, Israeli and international concern. The Jewish Voice will consider for publication any materials submitted that support the mission of Jewish Federation of El Paso & Las Cruces and have relevance and appeal our Jewish community. Articles are subject to editing at the editor's discretion and are subject to space limitations. Letters cannot be longer than 150 words and articles must be kept to a maximum of 400 words.

Please email to [thevoice@jfedepc.org](mailto:thevoice@jfedepc.org).

Opinions are those of individual writers and not necessarily those of Jewish Federation of El Paso & Las Cruces. The Jewish Voice is not responsible for the kashrut of any product or eating establishment advertised herein.

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors. They do not purport to reflect the opinions or views of Jewish Federation of El Paso & Las Cruces.

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SAVE THE DATE

# PACE*setters*

**March 3, 2024**

**Luncheon at 12:30 PM**

**Hal Marcus Gallery & Sunset Parlor**

**minimum donations of \$1800**

TEMPLE BETH-EL INVITES YOU TO

# GAME NIGHT

after family Shabbat services

**February 9th, 2024**  
**5:45 - 8:00 PM**

**Temple Beth El: 290**  
**Sonoma Springs, Las Cruces**

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6:30 PM Family-Friendly Service  
7:00 PM Desserts & Games

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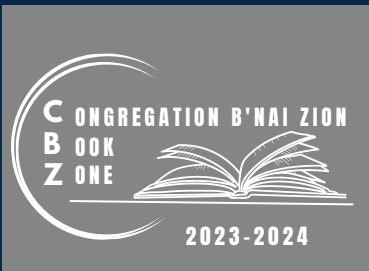
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**5 P.M**

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# Faris Cassell

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8,  
2024 7:00 PM**

EL PASO HOLOCAUST MUSEUM  
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Funded by a grant from  
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of El Paso & Las Cruces



## It's PJ Library's 18th Birthday!

Our simple birthday  
wish is for our  
community to grow.

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[pjlibrary.org/pj18](http://pjlibrary.org/pj18)



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Win Prizes



Already a subscriber? This February, earn \$5 and \$10 Amazon gift cards

(plus entries to win one of several grand prizes) each time a friend or relative signs up kids for PJ Library using your referral link. Check your email for details or learn more at [pjlibrary.org/raf](http://pjlibrary.org/raf).





# Letter from the Director

*By Marla Cohen, Executive Director*  
Jewish Federation of El Paso & Las Cruces

I am grateful to all our donors who contributed so generously in 2023. Not only did we invest in our own community, but donors gave more than \$80K to the JFNA Israel Relief Campaign, which, to date, has raised over \$760M.

The monthly Café Europa programs continue to be well attended and not only create a friendly environment where El Paso and Las Cruces members can share a meal, but also enjoy a learning environment with local rabbis celebrating the holidays, and visits to White Sands Missile Museum and the El Paso History Museum.

PJ Library membership continues to grow, including military and unaffiliated families not connected to the Jewish community. We continue to connect these families with partner agencies, offering a rich array of Jewish programs.

In 2023, your dollars enabled us to support our partner agencies with \$347,800 in grants. The August 2023 digital version of the Jewish Voice lists the transformative programs produced with your help.

This year's campaign launches with a phone-athon on Sunday, February 4th. Please answer your phones when we call and share with us what makes you proud of our community!

Please save the date for the Pacesetters' event, Sunday, March 3 at 12:30 PM at the Hal Marcus Gallery and Sunset Parlor.

Our 2024 campaign will provide the necessary funding to support future grants and Federation programs, which focus on adult and youth education, camp scholarships, cultural arts, and celebrating Jewish Life.

The Jewish Federation is planning an extended Jewish Film Festival in both El Paso and Las Cruces, showing award-winning films. We will also bring our community the rich Ladino musical heritage of Flory Jagoda played by from Trio Sefardi (see page 17).

The horror of October 7 diverted staff time to organizing major community gatherings to fight anti-semitism and anti-Israel rhetoric. While no credible threats have impacted El Paso and Las Cruces, we continue to monitor and respond to the wave of anti-semitism making its way through the country including on our college campuses. We continue to work with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies and our partner agencies to enhance security.

Your generous response to our 2024 campaign will enable us to continue to invest in our community. Working with our partner agencies, staff, and volunteers will continue to produce vibrant educational and cultural programs that enrich our lives in El Paso, Las Cruces, and beyond.



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**NOW**  
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**Jewish Community Foundation of El Paso** is seeking an individual who has time for a part-time position with the Foundation. Duties will mainly be clerical, updating the website and Facebook page, attending board and committee meetings, taking notes, mailing out tax contribution letters, etc. \$20,000 in contractor pay per year for the position.

**Send a resume or email describing your background to [info@jcfep.org](mailto:info@jcfep.org). On request a more complete job duties outline will be sent to you.**

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**Upcoming Order Deadlines:** March  
13, 2024

# Professor David Varela to teach OLLI Courses for Adults



Hello, my name is David Varela and I am a city historian and professor at the University of Texas at El Paso via the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), where I share my knowledge and passion for local history, culture, and heritage. Moreover, I am deeply committed to educating individuals about the diverse and vibrant El Paso community by also offering historic tours. My lectures and tours go beyond mere dates and facts, as I commit to exploring the rich tapestry of culture and diversity that has shaped our region. A key focus of my lectures is

highlighting the significant contributions of the Jewish community to our city's history over the years; being part of this community, I feel it is vital to share this valuable knowledge. OLLI classes are free for those age 50 and up and class visits are always encouraged for anyone who would like to join. The Spring II semester will begin March 18th through April 26th. My class will be called "The Study of Us" and will take place at 1:30-2:45 PM every Friday in Miners Hall. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.





# 3rd Annual Caregiver Conference

 **Saturday, February 17, 2024**

 **8:00am-2:00pm**

 **9050 Viscount, Building A**

This FREE conference will provide education from expert speakers to support those who care for a loved one that has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's or Dementia and is open to ALL. Topics include: responding to dementia related behaviors, guardianship & probate matters, fostering a safe environment for you and your loved one, and caregiver self care.

Complimentary breakfast & lunch, Spanish interpretation will be provided, 35+ exhibitors will be providing information & resources, door prize drawings, and much more!

**Our Speakers:**



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For questions contact Maria Llamas  
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mglamas@alz.org/(915)257-0246

SCAN ME!



## West Texas Caregiver Conference: Virtual Series

**Speakers:**

**Dr. Eldaah Chacon-Boggs, DNP, APRN, FNC-BC**



Nurse Practitioner and Sub-Investigator, Advanced Neurology, Epilepsy and Sleep Center (ANESC)

**Jonathan Singer, PhD**



Assistant Professor at Texas Tech University in Lubbock

**Ms. Yvette Lugo, LMSW**



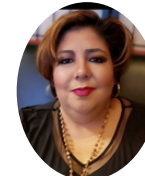
Director for Rio Grande Area Agency on Aging

**Dr. Jeanne Lee, MD**



Clinical Medical Director of University Medical Center's (UMC) Palliative Care Program

**Elizabeth Robles, MSMHC, LPC, FT,EOLD**



Private practice as a psychotherapist & Clinical Director of the MyC Institute of Integrative Health.

**Monday February 19**  
12:00pm-1:00pm  
MST 1:00pm-2:00pm  
CST

**Topics:** Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease: Testing and Treatment Options

**Tuesday February 20**  
12:00pm-1:00pm  
MST 1:00pm-2:00pm  
CST

Understanding Family Caregivers of Persons with Alzheimer's Disease Burden, Stress, and Pre-death grief

**Wednesday February 21**  
12:00pm-1:00pm  
MST 1:00pm-2:00pm  
CST

Supportive Services for Caregivers

**Thursday February 22**  
12:00pm-1:00pm  
MST 1:00pm-2:00pm  
CST

Palliative Care versus Hospice? How Do I Know It's the "Right Time" for Either?

**Friday February 23**  
12:00pm-1:00pm  
MST 1:00pm-2:00pm  
CST

Dealing with Grief

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**REGISTER ONCE ATTEND ALL SAME LINK/PHONE NUMBER**



# Melton School Partners with Congregation B'nai Zion

## Bringing Adult Learning to Our Jewish Community

*Written by: Elisa Blank, The Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning*

In a significant stride towards building Jewish community, collaboration, and engagement, The Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning proudly announces an exciting extension of its partnership with Congregation B'nai Zion Community in El Paso, Texas.

With gratitude to the Jewish Federation of El Paso & Las Cruces, which offered the grants to initiate this partnership, Melton has been able to offer two signature courses. The first was held from September to November 2022 on Jewish Humor and the second course "Members of the Tribe" began in January 2024. For more information on Melton courses visit [meltonschool.org/courses](https://meltonschool.org/courses). In January 2024, Melton offered another course with funding that B'nai Zion secured through a special sponsorship from the Jewish Community Foundation of El Paso entitled "Beyond Borders, Part I." This additional course was offered in a timely response to educate its learners about the current conflict in Israel. All of these courses are open to everyone in the Jewish Community to participate at a significantly discounted registration fee.

B'nai Zion is a Conservative congregation founded in 1900, which focuses on creating opportunities for worship, education, and fellowship for its congregants. According to Melton's Director of Community Partnerships, Elisa Blank, "This partnership represents our shared commitment to adult Jewish learning – combining the expertise of Melton's educational programs with the rich history and vibrant community of B'nai Zion to create an environment where learning, community, and connection flourish. We are so excited to engage the Jewish community in the El Paso/Las Cruces area and to reach even more learners across the country and the world who are empowered to enrich Jewish life."

Melton is the largest pluralistic adult Jewish education network in the world, with community partners throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, Europe and South Africa. More than 50,000 learners have experienced Melton's professionally developed curriculum and lively interactive classes.

# Celebrating our Volunteers; Temple Beth El honors dedicated members

Temple Beth El of Las Cruces, New Mexico has a small but thriving congregation. Our new-ish Rabbi, Evette Lutman, has helped create an atmosphere filled with Jewish learning, energy, caring, activity and celebration. Friday, January 12, was no exception. The Sisterhood of TBE, in conjunction with the Mensch Club (Brotherhood) and the Board of Directors put together a Shabbat evening celebration in honor of a couple who has gone above and beyond in their service to the Synagogue.

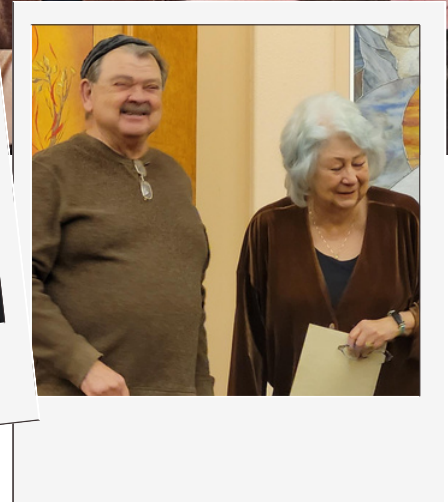
Introduce David and Cheryl Decker. Brought together by friends, they have been married for 33 years, and have a blended family of two sons and two daughters, who have blessed them with eight grandchildren and four great grandchildren. They have a tight-knit family, enjoy spending time together and are currently planning a family trip to Greece. Before arriving in Las Cruces, they grew up, met, and lived in the cold winter climates of Indiana and Ohio. They chose New Mexico after an illness that forced David to retire early. Because one of their sons was living in Albuquerque, they felt very familiar with the state. They have enjoyed mountain hikes, horseback riding, snow and water skiing, and "New Mexico has it all."

Together, David and Cheryl have always loved the Friday night tradition of candle lighting. Cheryl enjoys making matzah ball soup, kugel, and challah. She has been an active and contributing member of the Sisterhood and we just couldn't "do it" without her. David has also made himself available to help congregants with "honey-do" projects and this has kept him quite busy as well!

David has been part of Building and Grounds services at Temple Beth El. He can be found at the synagogue several times a week repairing, replacing, and cleaning throughout the building. Always a smile on his face, always ready to help out, and truly an all-around Mensch. Cheryl stepped up when we didn't have an office secretary and offered to help out a few

days a week in the office. Cheryl too, is a sweet, friendly and welcoming face in the building. Two or more days a week, she takes care of all the details of phones, helps out the rabbi, mailings, whatever is required to keep the office humming.

With a light dinner, a special Shabbat service and a sweet Oneg dessert, we honored David and Cheryl Decker for their service and commitment to the congregation, presented them with a brick in our Biblical Garden, a relaxing Spa Weekend in Santa Fe, and wish them many happy years together as they embark on a new chapter of life, half time in the Midwest and half time here in Las Cruces.



# Faces & Places



## Mazel Tov!

Mazel Tov on the Jan. 1, 2024 Baltimore wedding of Judah Lesser (son of Larry Lesser & Lauren Davis) to Deena Postol (daughter of Michael & Nadine Postol of Silver Spring, MD).

## Tu Bi'Shvat Family Learning Day

Sunday, January 21, the Floyd S. Fierman Religious School at Temple Mount Sinai hosted a family learning day to celebrate Tu Bi'Shvat. This year, the school brought in various El Paso community organizations to teach our students about water conservation, recycling, composting, microscopic animals, and more! The guests included: The Insights Museum, Tech2O (the educational outreach division of El Paso Water), OneGrubCommunity Kitchen, a group from the UTEP Environmental Studies Department, and PJ Library. Families also took part in a Tu Bi'Shvat seder learning the purpose behind the seder and trying new and favorite fruits and nuts.

The next family learning day will be Sunday April 21 for Passover. All families in the community are welcome and encouraged to join.

Want to help contribute? Have ideas? Please contact Mindy Escobar-Leanse [mescobar-lease@templemountsinai.com](mailto:mescobar-lease@templemountsinai.com)





# Up Close: Patrick Gabaldon

*Written by: Rebecca Mendez*  
Program & Engagement Coordinator  
Jewish Federation of El Paso  
& Las Cruces

*Rebecca Mendez (left) with Patrick Gabaldon (middle) and his wife Monica Avillar (right) with presented Hanukkah shirts at Gabaldon Art & Studio Gallery the at 1311 Kansas St.*

Patrick Gabaldon entered the art scene in 2013 with his first Instagram post, a painting of the El Paso County Courthouse. Over time, his art grew in popularity. By the late 2010s, his art gained a following as he showcased his distinct and new perspective on the El Paso and West Texas landscape, iconic architecture, local and national leaders, desert plants, his beautiful wife Monica, and their pups. Patrick is now in the company of great El Paso artists, including Tom Lea, E.L. Boone, Hal Marcus, Marcus Sanchez, and Paola Martinez.

I first met Patrick in December 2016 at the El Paso Chamber Gala. One of his paintings of the Star on the Franklin Mountains against the majestic colorful sky was part of the Breakthrough Leaders award (of which he was a recipient). His gracious, friendly, and outgoing demeanor is palpable and inviting and is felt in his art. I'm happy to

have known him over the past six years and always enjoy seeing each new piece of art he produces.

One such piece was posted on December 22, 2022, "Happy Hanukkah!", one day after our previously titled "Celebrate Chanukah" event. I was so sad that we had not collaborated sooner, but I reached out to Patrick in mid-2023 to set up a meeting. By fall 2023, Patrick agreed to collaborate with our office and license his beautiful "Happy Hanukkah" art for our now-re-named "Hanukkah@ San Jacinto Plaza" t-shirts. Read our interview for more of Patrick's story and how he came to draw the Chanukah.

## **What inspired you to start painting?**

I've always been inspired by colorful, bold artwork. When I was much younger, that inspiration came from comic books and video games. Now, I find my inspiration

from the beautiful El Paso desert. I started painting on a whim after attending a "paint and wine" event at a local business. The teacher was excited by what I did and recommended that I keep painting. It's been a whirlwind ever since, and I'm so glad I picked up a paintbrush.

## **What inspired you to draw the Menorah (Chanukah)? Will we see a dreidel?**

Dreidel...who knows! The Menorah was something I had wanted to work on for a while. I love creating digitally because it allows for fun projects and illustrations like the Menorah Ocotillo. I drew up the Menorah because I wanted an illustration to show some love to my Jewish friends during the holiday season. I had plenty of Christmas images but none celebrating Hanukkah. The strong and resilient Ocotillo was a perfect fit for my desert menorah.

**Who are your favorite artists?**

I have SO many favorite artists! I love the work by locals Christin Apodaca, Zeke Pena, Jason Lucero, Juan Ornelas, and Eugenia “AO” Carmona. I also find tons of inspiration from artist Jivan Lee of Taos who paints beautiful textured landscapes out in the NM wilderness. Be sure to check out Lalo Alcaraz, Andy J Pizza, and Gemma Correll who are some of my favorite illustrators and cartoonists. Last but not least... I love the work of Texan Cruz Ortiz. His is probably the work I most admire.

**What has been your favorite piece?**

This is a tough one! Usually, my favorite piece is my most recent work, but these days, I really love a piece of mine titled “Guitarron,” which is of my wife. She's facing away from the viewer which is meant to show how she's always leading us in the right direction. She's playing the guitarron which is the bass guitar in a Mariachi group signifying how she is my anchor. It's currently hanging in my studio/gallery.

**What’s the best thing about being part of the El Paso community?**

The best thing about the community and El Paso is the people. The support and encouragement I’ve been blessed to experience from those in the art community has been incredible. We are all creating such unique work and it’s an incredible time to be an artist and supporter of the arts in El Paso.

**How many community collaborations have you had? What have been your top five favorites?**

This is a tough one! We make it our goal each year to give back and support local charities. The best way for us to do that is through art, and 2023 was another year of giving and support. My top five experiences so far have been with El Pasoans Fighting Hunger, El Paso Children's Hospital, Animal Rescue League of El Paso, El Paso Electric, and with Mountain Star Sports ( El Paso Locomotive FC).

**What collaborations should we expect from you in 2024?**

Well... that’s also a hard one! I only have a few things cooking at the moment, but none are close to the finish line, so I best not jinx it! One project I just got done was an illustration to support World Down Syndrome Day in 2024. They should have some fun shirts and items showing support and bringing awareness for World Down Syndrome Day with an El Paso flair.

**What message would you think your art conveys to the community today?**

My goal through art, at its most basic level, is to bring joy to others through color. If my work is able to make others feel that same joy I feel, then it's a success. I hope that joy and warmth continues to be conveyed through each and every painting.


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# Finding the Anusim Center

*Written By Chelsea Swartz*

From 1478-1834, Jewish people in what is now modern-day Spain and Portugal were under attack. In an effort to fight “heresy,” many people of opposing religious views were brutally attacked and the Jewish citizens were the main target. Forced to flee, convert, or be murdered by means of torture, those lucky enough to survive would abandon their Jewish heritage leaving their descendants with very little knowledge about where they come from and who they truly are. Over the years more and more of these people have made their way back to Judaism. Some convert back to Judaism and others just want to learn about the culture that was taken from their families. Today, there is the Society for Crypto-Judaic Studies and in El Paso, we have our own branch called The Anusim Center. Bringing the Jews of El Paso and the Jews of Mexico together to share a common link, our religion, but also educate everyone on what it means to be Jewish and what it means to be Anusim.



Halakha is the transliteration of a Hebrew word that means “Jewish Law.” According to Jewish Law, the word “Anusim” which is also a transliteration of a Hebrew word, refers to someone who was forced to abandon Judaism and convert to another religion. What happened to Jewish people during the Spanish Inquisition is, unfortunately, not an isolated incident so the word Anusim does not only refer to the descendants of the Jewish people from this time.

Throughout a lifetime, many traditions and customs are passed down. There are things we do every day, every week, yearly, that become routine. Most people, however, know why we do these things and why they were passed down to us. Lighting Shabbat candles and saying a prayer, covering the mirrors when in mourning, or the proper way to slaughter an animal are all Jewish traditions and as Jewish people, we understand the importance of these practices. There are people out there who practice these things, and more, with no understanding of why. Upon questioning these “strange” traditions many learn that these customs come from Judaism. “Why? Why am I doing this? Why was this passed down to me?” The Anusim Center of El Paso provides a great outlet and learning tool for people who are coming back to Judaism or just want the “Why?” answered.



## 16 | FEBRUARY/MARCH

Those who were fortunate enough to survive were forced to flee their homes and many ended up in Mexico. While there are many centers like the Anusim Center throughout the nation, The Anusim Center of El Paso has a unique advantage being so close to Mexico. People from Mexico now have a very close outlet to learn and express themselves with people they don't know personally or haven't known for very long but are like their neighbors. Being in El Paso, many Jewish people are of Mexican descent, and most have grown up around the culture so now, the Crypto-Jews of Mexico share more than just a religious background. Every service is conducted in English and Spanish. During the average Holiday or Shabbat service at most Synagogues, a sermon and page numbers are the most to be said in between the prayers but at the Anusim Center the time is taken to explain not only what these prayers mean and why they are said but what the Jewish people of Spain and Portugal had to go through and what it means to be Jewish. This is done in English by the Rabbi and then translated into Spanish. The prayers are in Hebrew, as is traditionally done during Jewish prayer, but also in Ladino. Ladino is a language spoken by Sephardic Jews and it is a mixture of Spanish and Hebrew. Sephardim are Jewish people of Spanish or Portuguese descent. Together, we learn, pray, share our differences

and similarities with one another, but mostly, we're there for each other. This congregation provides vital support to those who, for so long, were left out in the dark.

This community is very important not only for those coming back to the Judaism but also for those of us who didn't have our religion stolen from us to learn about the struggles of our fellow Jews. We all grew up learning about this and now we have the opportunity to see the aftermath firsthand. It is our duty as Jewish people to welcome these people back with open arms. I feel so honored and privileged to be part of the Jewish community of El Paso. This extends to all the synagogues including the Anusim Center. I have been volunteering here since June and have planned many events with them. My best friend and I volunteered at the recent conference that was held here and had the opportunity to meet people from all over the country as well as Mexico. There were dancers, Ladino singers, speakers, and most importantly, community. The Anusim Center serves many purposes such as bringing people together and providing learning resources. It also shows us that it's never too late to come back to your roots. It's never too late to find out who you are and come home again.

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of El Paso & Las Cruces

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# Happy Birthday!

From all of us at the Jewish Federation of El Paso & Las Cruces,  
we wish everyone a joyful birthday!

## FEBRUARY

Raphael Herman	Eitan Lavi	Jeffrey Weislow	Bill Carvajal
David Metrikin	Jorge Perez	Dori Fenenbock	Margaret Negrete
Joyce Jaffee	Loretta Fertel	Anthony Gronich	Wendy Rothschild
Gary Nadler	Samuel Ellowitz	Leslie Glater	Jennifer Ehrlich
Jane Warach	Harriet Roth	Jeff Roth	Sara Gaono
Leslie Grodin	Lynette Brown	Greg Rubin	Charles Kovan
Susan Eisen	Nina Hirsh	Sara Politi	

## MARCH

Patricia Silos	Libi Lanski	Tibor Schaechner	Judy Weiser
Rebecca Glaser	Randee Mansfield	Joyce Post	Jonathan Evans
Kyta Levitt	Samantha Pittle Briseno	Soheil Nazarian	Mark Heins
Ellyce Kimmelman	Sylvia Svarzbein	Moshe Yardeni	Herbert Ehrlich
Alex Jaffee	Gary and Judy Weiser	Bonnie Colton	Michelle Blumenfeld
Gabe Koshinsky	Rachelle Nedow	Holli Berry	Tony Mullen
Jeff Katz	Donald Scharf	Anthony Furman	Robert Beckoff
Ira Horowitz	Joyce Davidoff	Dr. David Mansfield	Harold Peitzer
Scott Walker	Alan Ames	Fifi Heller-Kaim	Jeff Brown
Shane Lipson	Marc Zuckerman	Judith Lieberman	Max Grossman
Marcia Schwartz	Melinda Marcus	Louise Rice	Michael Kuchinsky
Marc Ellman	Greg Hartley	Dr. Ophra Leyser-Whalen	James McCarthy
Noel R. Rosenbaum	Judy Sloane	Jim Levy	Sofi Kaplan
Patricia Marcus	Allen Green	Simon Bir	Cathy Glen Puschet
Carla Gasway	Jane Snow	Sandy Grodin	Gilbert Ureste
		Ernest Eisenberg	Jon Purvin

Save the Date! A Musical weekend with

# TRIO SEFARDI

Enjoy Ladino music that includes liturgical and holiday melodies from the Balkans to the Mediterranean.



**Friday, April 5 | 6:00 PM**

**Community-wide free Shabbat Concert - more details to come!**

**Saturday, April 6 | 8:30 PM**

**Roots and Branches Concert by Trio Sefardi**

\$35/person (General seating) in El Paso, TX

**Sunday, April 7- "La Nona Kantana" | 11:00 AM**

**Mesilla Fountain Theater, Mesilla, NM**

\$25 General Seating

A celebration of 95-year-old National Heritage Award-winning Sephardic singer and composer Flory Jagoda, in her own words, with live music by Trio Sefardi.

Enjoy a special VIP brunch with Trio musicians Howard Bass, Tina Chancey, and Susan Gaeta and support the Federation Campaign by Paying a \$500 or more pledge.

# THANK YOU *to our donors*

**Community Campaign 2023** Donations to the Jewish Federation of El Paso & Las Cruces from November 15, 2023 to end of Campaign.

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## Jewish Teen Philanthropy Program Launch

*Written by: Alyssa Goldman, Program Coordinator*

*Jewish Federation of El Paso & Las Cruces*

We are excited to launch our Jewish Teen Philanthropy Program this Spring! The program, presented by the Jewish Community Foundation of El Paso (JCFEP) and made possible by the Joyce Jaffee Teen Philanthropy Fund, is open to all post-B'nai mitzvah teens in El Paso and Las Cruces.

To participate, students contribute \$250 of their B'nai Mitzvah money, which is then matched by their Rabbis. This total is further matched by the Joyce Jaffee Teen Philanthropy Fund.

This year, students not only establish individual funds with the JCFEP, but also get the chance to be part of a group of teen philanthropists deciding on the recipient(s) of an additional \$5,000 in grant money.

Throughout the program, we'll explore the essence of philanthropy, what makes it uniquely Jewish, delve into Jewish values and justice issues, and learn the basics of nonprofits and grantmaking. Through first-hand experience of tzedakah, young people put their values into action and model a foundational practice of the Jewish people. They become sophisticated philanthropists in their own right, acquiring leadership skills that equip them to be agents of civic and social change.

To learn more about the curriculum, please go to [www.honeycomb.org](http://www.honeycomb.org).

To sign up for the inaugural Jewish Teen Philanthropy class, please go to [www.jfedepc.org/teenphilanthropy](http://www.jfedepc.org/teenphilanthropy) or email Alyssa at [agoldman@jfedepc.org](mailto:agoldman@jfedepc.org).



**Congregation B'Nai Zion**  
presents

# FOOD FOR FRIENDS

Providing delicious, nutritious, weekly kosher meals.  
Available for pick up or delivery. Open to all members of the community.

## HOW TO ORDER

- Order by 4:30 PM Thursday for the following week's menu
- Curbside pick up weekly from 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Wednesday
- Delivery available for those without transportation for a fee of \$5 in zip codes 79902, 79912, 79922 and 79932.
- Funding is available on an "as needed" basis. Requests will remain confidential.

## PRICES

- \$11 each meal. Includes all listed items.
- \$12 quarts of soup.
- \$5 delivery fee per address.

Funded by a grant from



The Jewish Community  
**FOUNDATION**  
of El Paso

## MENU

### LUNCH SIZE PORTIONS

01/03

Tortilla Soup (M)  
Chicken Salpicon with Tortilla (M)  
Black bean and corn salad (P)

01/10

Minestrone Soup (P)  
Vegetable Lasagna (D)  
Garlic Bread (P)

01/17

Butternut Squash Soup (P)  
Chicken Soft Tacos (M)  
Israeli Salad (P)

01/24

Carrot & Potato Soup (P)  
Beef Stuffed Bell Pepper (M)  
7 Species Muffin (P)

01/31

Tortilla Soup (M)  
Chicken Flautas (M)  
Peanut Butter/Banana Chocolate  
Chip Muffin(P)

02/07

Pumpkin Soup (P)  
Vegetable Enchiladas (D)  
Cornbread Muffin (D)

02/14

Tomato Basil Soup (P)  
BBQ Chicken (M)  
Roll (P)

02/21

Split Pea Soup (P)  
Beef Sloppy Joes with Roll (M)  
Roasted Vegetables (P)

02/28

Chicken Noodle Soup (M)  
Chicken Salpicon with Tortilla (M)  
Pumpkin Muffin (P)

03/06

Butternut Squash Soup (P)  
Pasta with Pesto and Peas (D)  
Zucchini Muffin (D)

03/13

Vegetable Eggroll (P)  
Ramen Noodle Soup with Chicken (M)  
Steamed Edamame (P)

03/20

Tortilla Soup (M)  
Beef Salpicon with Tortilla (M)  
Blueberry Muffin (P)

03/27

Vegetable Soup (P)  
Chicken Burrito (M)  
Mexican Rice (P)

(P) Parve

(M) Beef, Poultry

(D) Dairy

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the power of women who **DO**

*Please join us for*

## Hadassah Shabbat Zachor

March 22, 2024

Temple Mount Sinai

Oneg begins at **5:30 PM**  
in Zielonka Hall

Service starts at **6:15 PM**  
in the Chapel

Our annual Hadassah Shabbat Zachor is held on the Shabbat preceding Purim. It holds particular importance as Hadassah was founded during Purim and was Esther's Hebrew name.



***Celebrates***

**With Our “Every Breath We Take” Program**

For more information contact us

Hadassah.elpaso@gmail.com

#Hadassah # HeartHealth # February



**Jewish Federation**  
of El Paso & Las Cruces

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915.842.9554

[www.jfedeplc.org](http://www.jfedeplc.org)

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