Celebrate Israel May 5: Page 4 • Federation Annual Meeting May 20: Page 4 • Good times at Good Deeds Day: Pages 6-7
Hundreds turn out for “Hatikvah: Hope Reborn”

On Sunday, March 31, more than 340 members of El Paso’s Jewish community and others with a deep love of Israel enjoyed “Hatikvah: Hope Reborn” award-winning Tel Aviv pianist Astrith Baltzan. One of Israel’s most popular productions, the show brings to life on stage Israel’s national anthem, “Hatikvah” (“Hope” in English). The musician has presented the program more than 400 times around the world.

Baltzan, an accomplished concert pianist and music professor who holds a doctorate in music, shares her research into the roots of the anthem and her deep feeling for its meaning through song, slides, and an engaging narrative. The packed crowd in UTEP’s Fox Fine Arts Hall remained spellbound throughout the program, which was sponsored by Stanley and Jerry Rubin and Dana and Adam Frank and their families.
“Israel is the only true democracy in the Middle East, surrounded by the most hostile environment and still shines in almost every aspect.”

We are the children and descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah. King David ruled us, Deborah judged us, and the Maccabees saved us. We have been the owners and dwellers of the land of Israel for over 3000 years. Just as you cannot be considered an occupier in your own home, so too, we, the Jewish people cannot be an occupier in our own land. Saying this out loud is our sword of truth and our proclamation to the world. Our home is not only our physical boundaries but the source of our inspiration that has in turn become a light unto the nations.

Israel’s narrative is that never in history has there been a more sincere and ethical nation. From the time we were given the Torah, its laws of conduct and morality have been the candle at our feet. Not only being considerate to those less fortunate, but even in the face of our enemies, we are commanded to act in a humane manner. Israel is the only true democracy in the Middle East, surrounded by the most hostile environment and still shines in almost every aspect.

In conclusion; Yes, we have the history of the land, Yes, we have the love for our parents instilled in us for the State of Israel, and Yes, we have the high moral ground of our existence as the people of Israel. And today, we also have the obligation to lead the struggle to change the world for our children.

Od lo avdah tikvateynu. “Our hope is not yet lost.” Simple words from Israel’s national anthem. We must hope that we will and can overcome these difficult times for a better future. We must be agents of change. We need to be determined to take action, to be more educated, to learn and share Israel’s true narrative and to support her every however and wherever we can.

The Jewish Voice
Café Europa

Todah Rabah! Thank You To Our Volunteers

Good Deeds Day 2019
David Kern, Chair
Jean Brown
Darren Brown
Leah Chayes
Debbie Cohen
Emily Heydenmann
Charlie Isachi
Debra Kanoff
Beth Kurland
Neal Rosendorf
Eddie Trevizo
Alison Westermann
Cindy Graff Cohen
Robin Furman
Loren Furman
Debra Kanoff
Mitch Puschett

Federation Board Campaign Callers
Cindy Graff Cohen
Robin Furman
Loren Furman
Debra Kanoff
Mitch Puschett
Dan Sonnen
Bill Stein
Scott Stevens
Peter Svartzbein
Janet Wechter

Café Europa
Rabbi Levi Greenberg
To get involved with Jewish Federation activities or volunteer, please email tkendal@jfedelpaso.org

Slated Board of Directors
Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso
To be presented at the Annual Meeting May 20
President
Janet Wechter
VP Governance
Scott Stevens
VP Campaign
Leslie Beckoff
Secretary
Ophra Levyser-Whalen
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Hal Ettinger
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Directors - 1 Year Term to be Elected
Shari Ehrlich

Board of Directors - 1 Year Continuing
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Robert French
Executive Director
Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso
Jewish Community Foundation of El Paso

There’s an African proverb that says, “If You Want to Go Fast, Go Alone. If You Want to Go Far, Go Together.” Tell me who you stand together with, and I will begin to tell you who you are!

Robert French
May 5: Israel @71

This year, celebrate Yom Ha’Atzmaut, Israel’s Independence Day, in “Israel!” A busy and very creative committee will be transforming the Botanical Gardens at Keystone Heritage Park into an interactive map of Israel with a variety of attractions, activities, and entertainments.

From noon to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 5, all roads lead to fun and celebration of the Jewish homeland at the Federation’s annual festivities. The afternoon lets you remember or discover representative areas of Israel, from the sea to the mountains and the desert to the farmlands.

• Visit Golan Heights, the country’s center for wineries, to enjoy the fruits of the vine
• Stop in Caesarea for Israeli dancing, folk tunes, and rock music. Catch performances by Rabbi Larry Karel and Temple Mount Sinai’s Kosher Cowboys
• Take the kids to Jerusalem for an archaeological dig to find buried artifacts—and shekels
• Make sand art bracelets and take part in a drum circle in Tzfat, home to many artisans
• Head to Tel Aviv for delicious Israel food for only $4
• Meet new animal friends at the Kibbutz petting zoo
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Don’t miss this afternoon designed for people of all ages, from kids to grandparents, in a beautiful shady garden that showcases El Paso’s beauty—and Israel’s vibrant history. The event will be at 4200 Doniphan Drive; reservations are appreciated at jewishepaso.org/israel71

Israel@71 Committee

Chairs:
Blanca Carrasco
Ellen Goodman
Monika Kimball

Members:
Rinat Adi
Itamar Bastekar
Mindy Dember
Naomi Estrada
Neorah Garcia
Audrey Lavi
Mitch Puschett
Dora Roe
Noel Hollowell Smart
Denise Tolentino
Lisa-Anne Rany Waldock

In addition, numerous volunteers will be on hand that day to help out.
See the June issue for a complete list.

82nd Federation Annual Meeting

Monday, May 20, 7:00 p.m.

Please Be Our Guest: Noshes, Spirits & Music
Whole Foods Upstairs

Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso

• Celebrate our Jewish community!
• Catch up with old friends and make new ones
• Congratulate Lauren Eisenberg and Adam Rosenfield, Bernard and Florence Schoichet Leadership Award
• Meet the new and returning members of the Federation Board of Directors
• See a lively video summary of the past year’s Federation grants and programming
• No outside speaker; no solicitation, but plenty of food and fun in a casual setting

Israel@71 Committee Members:

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Blanca Carrasco
Ellen Goodman
Monika Kimball

Members:
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Itamar Bastekar
Mindy Dember
Naomi Estrada
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See the June issue for a complete list.

These We Honor With Tributes

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER EL PASO

To: Mort Naiman in Memory of his Beloved Wife Micki
From: Janet and Randy Wechter

To: Lauren Eisenberg and Adam Rosenfield on being selected for the Schoichet Leadership Award
From: Robin and Tony Furman

Bea Weisz Memorial Scholarship Fund

Applications are being accepted for the Bea Weisz Memorial Scholarship Fund. It was the wish of Ms. Weisz that proceeds from the fund would be given to a needy and worthy Jewish college student(s) in El Paso to enable him or her to pursue his or her studies. The scholarship was established in 2001. Applications must be received on or before May 15, 2019 for distribution by August 1, 2019. Applications are available online at www.jewishepaso.org
Governor Greg Abbott and the Texas Legislature proclaimed April 16 “Education and Sharing Day” in Texas as a day of increased focus on morals and ethics-based education. On Tuesday, April 9, thirteen Chabad Lubavitch Rabbis from across the state were on hand at the Capitol for the official recognition of the day as resolutions were presented and unanimously adopted in the Senate and House chambers.

El Paso Senator José Rodríguez co-authored the resolution (SR557) together with Senator José Menéndez of San Antonio in the Texas senate. El Paso District 78 Rep. Joe Moody, Speaker Pro Tempore of the Texas House of Representatives, authored the resolution (HR 1002) in the House of Representatives. Through the resolutions, the Texas Legislature recognized the influence of Rebbe Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, known as the Lubavitcher Rebbe, in bringing education and morality to the forefront of public discourse during the week of what would have been Rebbe’s 117th birthday.

Rebbe became the leader of the Chabad Lubavitch movement in 1950. While he is most recognized for his efforts on rebuilding and energizing the global Jewish community after the devastation of the Holocaust, he paid great attention to the needs of all humanity.

Rep. Moody, surrounded by fellow lawmakers, explained that the Rebbe taught that education, in general, should not be limited to the acquisition of knowledge and preparation for a career. Instead, the educational system must pay more attention — indeed the main attention — to the building of character, with emphasis on moral and ethical values.

“In 1974, the Rebbe introduced the ‘charity campaign’ — a grassroots campaign to train us all to become ‘givers,’” Moody said. “The idea is simple. Place a box, like this one” (Moody held up a charity box and placed a dollar inside) “in your home or in your office and start the day by setting aside a small amount to charity. Including our children in this practice encourages them and will help educate them to have empathy for our fellow human beings.”

He elaborated on the goals of the Rebbe’s charity campaign. “The hope was that adults and children alike could move beyond the value of accumulating charity money and transform their hands into ‘giving hands.’ Goodness and kindness would become a part of life.”

“[We are] calling upon all Texans to reflect on our collective obligation to take concrete action to bring more goodness and kindness into our world, with children at the center of our attention,” Sen. Rodríguez said.

Over the last four decades, the US Congress has set aside “Education and Sharing Day,” and it is proclaimed annually by presiding US presidents from both parties on the Rebbe’s birthday which is four days before the Jewish festival of Passover, in tribute to his commitment to teaching the next generation of Americans the values that make our country strong.

In keeping with the Rebbe’s lifetime goals and teachings, local, state, and federal governments are issuing proclamations recognizing the need to teach moral and ethical values to our youth.
The Jewish Federation’s Fourth Annual Good Deeds Day (GDD) brought out people of all ages all day on Sunday, April 7, for a record number of projects. It was part of the annual worldwide mitzvah day in 108 countries that involved 3.9 million volunteers donating 7.8 hours of service. Here in El Paso, more than 200 volunteers put into practice the simple idea that every person can do something good, be it large or small, to improve the lives of others and positively change the world.

The Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater El Paso (JCRC) wishes to sincerely thank all of the Project Coordinators and the many GDD-19 participants who believe in the value of Tikkun Olam and gave freely of their time for the good of our community. We could not have done it without each and every one of you!

Below is a summary of our mitzvah day projects with websites for ongoing volunteer opportunities.

**Anunciation House Needs Drive**
Coordinator: Neal Rosendorf

Our GDD-19 volunteers gathered clothing and food items for donation and delivery to Annunciation House, which provides shelter, sustenance, transportation and counsel to refugees from persecution, violence and poverty who are seeking a safe haven in the United States. annunciationhouse.org

**Children’s Projects**
Coordinator: Iran Brown

Temple Mount Sinai was the site of several coordinated social action projects for young children which included a clothing drive for the Reynolds Home. Volunteers prepared birthday bags to donate to Kelby Memorial Food Pantry, comfort kits to donate to the Salvation Army of El Paso County, and school backpacks to donate to the Center Against Sexual & Family Violence.

**Glove Donation Project**
Coordinator: Charlie Istehi

For the second year in a row Nova Safety Products, Inc., donated an abundant supply of work gloves for GDD-19 volunteers working on outdoor projects at Jardine de Milagros and Keystone Heritage Park. Some of the gloves were used by the GDD-19 participants and many more were donated to Jardine and Keystone for their future use with other volunteers. novasafety.com

**Hospice El Paso Sewing Project**
Coordinator: Marcia Schwartz

Our skilled volunteers once again met at Jewish Federation of El Paso headquarters and sewed and assembled blankets to donate to Hospice El Paso (HEP), the city’s only nonprofit hospice. hospiceelpaso.org

**Humane Society Pet Adoption Program**
Coordinators: Eddie Trevizo and Emily Heydemann

GDD has been looking for an animal welfare project for the last several years and this year the Temple Mount Sinai Bnai Mitzvah class answered the call by organizing a Humane Society Pet Adoption program. As a result of this wonderful program and all the publicity and social media attention surrounding it, eight dogs were adopted into forever homes filled with love and affection. hselpaso.org

IT ALL STARTS WITH YOU  You make everything we do possible
Good Deeds Day

and the many GDD-19 participants who believe in the value of Tikkun Olam and gave freely of their time for the good of our community. We could not have done it without each and every one of you!

Below is a summary of our mitzvah day projects with websites for ongoing volunteer opportunities.

David L. Kern
Chair, Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater El Paso

PS. Good Deeds Day 2020 will take place on Sunday, March 29, 2020. Please mark your calendars now and plan to participate!

Jardin de Milagros
Coordinator: David Kern

For the fourth year running, our hard-working GDD volunteers gathered at Jardin de Milagros in Anthony, New Mexico, to harvest organic vegetables for the Kelly Memorial Food Pantry and other local food banks. GDD-19 volunteers harvested about 800 pounds of lettuce, chard, bok choi, spinach and kale. Farm owners Jerry and Susie Hobson made the experience not only a mitzvah, but educational by working alongside our volunteers and providing guidance in growing vegetables.

kellymemorialfoodpantry.com/jardin

Keystone Heritage Park
Coordinator: Leah Chayes

For the second year in a row, a robust crew of outdoor volunteers worked at Keystone Heritage Park to clean up and beautify the park’s archeological site, wildlife refuge, wetlands, and botanical garden. They built trails, cleaned the koi pond, weeded and mulched, planted and pruned, and even moved rocks.

keystoneheritagepark.com

Shoe Donation Project
Coordinator: Darren Brown

Temple Mount Sinai hosted a shoe drive for GDD-19 and obtained new shoes and socks to donate to EPISD at-risk children, the Reynolds Home, and the El Paso Center for Children. The shoes will go to kids of all ages from toddlers to teenagers.

Shop ‘N Stock – Borderland Rainbow Center
Coordinator: Alison Westermann

The Borderland Rainbow Center (BRC) project, a first for GDD-19, was designed for families with young children. The volunteers met and shopped for items for the BRC food pantry. After delivering the food, they participated in a Drag Queen Story Hour including story reading and associated craft activities.

borderlandrainbow.org

Villa Maria Dinner Project
Coordinators: Debbie Cohen, Debra Kanof, Beth Kurland

Some of our dedicated GDD-19 volunteers gathered again at Villa Maria, a shelter for women and homeless people. Volunteers planned and purchased all food, desserts, drinks, and dinner supplies and then prepared, served and shared dinner with Villa Maria’s residents.
The 2019 AIPAC Policy Conference, “Connected for Good,” was the most successful ever for the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, bringing together a diverse audience of over 18,000 bipartisan, pro-Israel activists from around the world. The conference was attended by presidents, prime ministers, members of Congress on both sides of the aisle, members of the administration, and other world leaders who came to show their support for Israel.

Many El Pasoans and former El Pasoans attended the conference, including Madison Bendalin, U.S. Representative Veronica Escobar, Norman and Cheryl Gordon, Brenda Hamitcha, Channah Kimmelman, Ellyce Kimmelman, Rachelle Nedow, Steve Rudner, Ricky and Debbie Rudy, Rose and David Schecter, Shari and Stuart Schwartz, and Janet and Randy Wechter. They listened to dozens of speakers, including rabbis, educational leaders, corporate CEOs, and US Ambassador David Friedman, who gave us a reality check with his remarks on the need to put aside differences among Jews and focus on supporting Israel.

The conference concluded with thousands of pro-Israel Americans descending on Capitol Hill to exercise their right to lobby their government to continue support for a strong US-Israel relationship. We hope to see you at the next AIPAC Policy Conference March 1-3, 2020!

“Americans see in Israel a young nation, a nation that believes its best days are ahead of it. Americans see in Israel a nation always striving to be better, more just, and true to the vision of its founders. A nation of laws and free elections, vigorous debate and a free press. A nation dedicated to freedom of religion for people of all faiths. A nation that is not content to focus only on its own well-being, but rather seeks to contribute its gifts to the entire world whether in medicine, or water technologies, or the digital economy. Israel is a nation that sends its own sons and daughters across the globe to people devastated by natural disasters so they can assist, heal and provide comfort. That’s why Americans love Israel.

There are millions and millions of pro-Israel Americans who are not yet involved. We need them. We need their voices. We need their investment. We need their energy.

For many, it will be the first time they will go from caring about an issue to doing something about it. And so, with great appreciation for what each of you already does, it needs to be said that all of us, all of us, have more to do.”

Howard Kohr
AIPAC CEO

Jewish food, folks, and fun

Temple Beth-El’s annual Jewish Folk and Food Festival was a success on all counts. More than 1,300 people of all ages attended the five-hour festival on Sunday, April 7. They feasted on a variety of Jewish treats, including traditional baked goods at “Bubby’s Bakery.” The entertainment included Temple’s singers performing “Hava Nagila” while members of the Mesilla Valley International Folk Dancers led the crowd in a hora.
The inspiring prayer for the State of Israel was set to music by Cantor Sol Zim on the occasion of Israel’s 25th birthday. It was a gift to the Jewish State from the talented composer and one of the most popular and respected Cantors in the world. In fact Sol, who is a close friend of mine, has chanted that beautiful melody on more than one occasion here in El Paso at the numerous concerts he has presented to our community over the years.

Next to the Hatikvah, the words of the prayer performed to Cantor Zim’s melody are the most well-known and recorded piece associated with Medinat Yisrael. I myself have chanted that stirring refrain at services and at Yom Atzmaut celebrations in our community. While the melody is inspiring and unforgettable, the words are significant and important.

It begins by referring to God as “Avinu Shebashamayim, Tzur Yisrael V’Goalo. Heavenly Father, Heavenly Parent, Rock and Redeemer of the people Israel.” This means that the Lord is the source of strength and redemption for the State of Israel. It goes on to say, “Bless the State of Israel with its promise of redemption, shield it with Your love and spread over it Your shelter of peace.” In other words God’s relation to Israel is one of love and protection. It continues, “Guide its leaders and advisors with Your light and truth and help them with Your good counsel.” We beseech Hashem to bring wisdom and honesty and inspiration to the leaders of the country. “Strengthen the hands of those who defend our Holy Land, deliver them, and crown their efforts with triumph.”

The prayer also asks for God’s giving strength, courage and victory to the Israeli Defense Force which has the awesome responsibility of defending our Holy Land from our enemies. “Bless the land with peace and its inhabitants with lasting joy, and let us say, Amen.” The conclusion of the prayer is how we end all of our services in all of our synagogues by asking God to give us, all people, the State of Israel and all its citizens, joy and above all, Shalom.

As we celebrate the 71st birthday of the State of Israel, let all of us truly appreciate the message of this Prayer for the State of Israel. Our support for Israel by making plans to visit Israel this year, next year and in the years to come will pay off in many other fields should be promoted and advertised by each and every one of us. Israel should be applauded for its contributions to the world instead of it being the victim of constant criticism and condemnation. Sure, Israel is not perfect, but neither is any other nation. But in its short 71-year-old history, this tiny nation through its determination, education, heart and faith, has made this world a much better place.

May we celebrate with our community, our families, and the entire world the incredible, marvelous, and beautiful 71st birthday of the State of Israel.

Rabbi Stephen A. Leon
Congregation B’nai Zion

"Israel should be applauded for its contributions to the world instead of it being the victim of constant criticism and condemnation.”
May 5, Sunday, 12 noon to 3 p.m.
Celebrate Israel at 71
Yom Ha’atzmaut
Botanical Gardens at Keystone
4200 Doniphan
RSVP: jewiselpaso.org/israel71

May 9, Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Women’s Campaign Road Trip
Meet at Congregation B’nai Zion
RSVP: jewiselpaso.org/pinkstore

May 16, Thursday, 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.
Breakfast for Israel
Jewish National Fund
Speaker: Gil Hoffman, Jerusalem Post
Congregation B’nai Zion
RSVP: jnf.org/elpaso

May 20, Monday, 7:00 p.m.
Federation Annual Meeting
Whole Foods Store
Upstairs Community Room

Every Other Wednesday: Café Europa
The Jewish Federation invites older members of the Jewish community to Borderland’s Café Europa for a Kosher/vegetarian lunch and learning at the Federation’s offices from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. every other Wednesday. Come join the fun!

May 1 - Etamar Bhatstekar, UTEP track star from Israel, Yom Hazikaron/Yom Ha’atzmaut
May 15 - Celebrating Birthdays
May 29 - Lowry Martin, professor of languages
June 12 - Shavuot and Celebrating Birthdays
June 26 - Dragonfly Songs with Alison Westermann, accompanied by Emil Chaparro

Join us to welcome
Jewish singer/songwriter/recording artist
Julie Silver

Concert at Temple Beth-El Las Cruces
Wednesday, May 15, 7:00 p.m.

Julie will present her original Jewish music, which has become familiar to Jews around the world over the last 25 years.

Admission: $10; children 12 and under, free

Your check sent to Temple at 3900 Sonoma Springs Avenue with “Julie Silver” in the memo is your reservation.
Tickets are also available at the door.
This event is supported by generous grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso.

Graduating?
Send in high school and college graduation announcements for the June Jewish Voice!
Email to thevoice@jfedelpaso.org no later than Monday, May 13.

Include a high quality, high resolution headshot and 100 words or less about the graduate.

Chaplain’s Catering
Gerry Chaplain
3950 Doniphan, Suite P
El Paso, Texas 79922
(915) 585-0595
goodfood@whc.net
TMS teenagers take action in DC

As Jewish people who live in America, our tradition inevitably impacts how we think about modern issues. Biennially, North American congregations get together under the umbrella of the Union for Reform Judaism to speak loudly about issues of social justice that violate our sense of what is right. Often these resolutions which are passed are very broad, such as a desire to see a world which is less violent and destructive. The Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC) takes its cues from those statements to lobby for changes that would make a difference in our shared effort to bring about a world of peace.

With great thanks to the generosity of the Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso, and to the Lauterbach Fund at Temple Mount Sinai (each of which sponsored half of the group), ten students traveled to Washington, DC, the weekend of March 15-18 to serve as, in a sense, interns on behalf of the larger Reform movement under the auspices of the RAC. As a part of the L’Taken program, they were taught how to advocate effectively (whether to government officials, school administrators, or parents!), and were educated on a number of issues that are of concern in upcoming legislation in the near future.

The RAC is currently working on thirteen issues from immigration reform to violence prevention to education for those who are disabled and more. The students were given the choice of which of these issues to lobby our state elected officials for and prepared advocacy speeches to share with the offices of Senator Ted Cruz, Senator John Cornyn and Representative Veronica Escobar.

Our students chose to focus on either immigration reform, criminal justice reform, or climate change. Then on Monday, March 18, they and 250 other Reform Jewish teens descended on Capitol Hill to share what they had learned. As they reflected on the experience, some drew great excitement from learning how to advocate, others from the opportunity to advocate, still others from div-}

Participants:
Mia Briseno
Andrew Cabrera
Patrick Farley
Abigail Frierson
Marcy Gluck
Samuel Kligman
Riley Miner
Tryston Obevoen
Ariana Romaner
Aaron Rosendorf

Rabbi Ben Zeidman
Temple Mount Sinai

Calling all campers ages 1 to 11!
JOIN US FOR A SUMMER OF FUN!

AMAZING WORLD ADVENTURES
JUNE 3 THROUGH JULY 26

Weekly sessions Monday through Friday, June 3 through July 26 at The JC/Center for Early Learning, 4406 N. Stanton Street.
9 am - Noon ages 1 and 2 ($25/week)
9 am - 3 pm ages 3 through 11 ($150/week)
Childcare available from 7 am to 6 pm.
To learn more, call 915-534-9234, or register at thejelpaso.curacubby.com/fst/campshamayim

SAVE $15 IF YOU REGISTER BY MAY 15!

COURAGE CLIMB!
SUNDAY, JUNE 2
12PM - 2PM
Calling all PJ Library kids age 6-8 and their siblings! Come test your courage at indoor cave climbing! Read books about courage, climbing mountains, and the Jewish holiday of Shavuot!

Snacks and drinks will be provided to help celebrate (Think: cheesecake)! Please bring a lunch with you!
Cave Climbing at Executive Center Blvd, El Paso Texas
Spots are limited. RSVP today! www.jewishelpaso.org/pj-library

Call 915-842-9554 | www.jewishelpaso.org
Wearing one of these instantly identifies you as a proud Jew.

With your support, future generations will be afforded the same privilege.

Start with as little as $1000 and your contribution to the Jewish Community Foundation will contribute to helping our community grow and prosper. Like most of the amazing things in our world, it’s that simple.

For information on how you can start your own fund with us, please contact Robert French at 915-842-9554.