Yom Yerushalyim, “Jerusalem Day,” is a day that had a tremendous impact on me. You see, this holiday, which commemorates the re-unification of the city of Jerusalem during the Six-Day War of 1967, is the most recent of all Jewish holidays. I remember distinctly that I was in my Senior year at Columbia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary of America at that time. I also was a Hebrew Teacher at the Rochdale Village Jewish Center in Queens, NY. As the faculty arrived at the Talmud Torah on that unforgettable day, the principal of the school, called us into the office. She informed us that Egypt, Syria, and Jordan had just launched a three prong attack on the Jewish State with the intention of “pushing Israel into the Sea.” She asked us to brainstorm and find a way to both inform the students and comfort them in the two hours that we would have them in the classrooms.

I believe that of all the teachers, I was the one most affected by this difficult assignment. Just four years before, I had spent five months in Jerusalem and remembered that at that time I could not visit the Western Wall because it was in Jordanian hands. The early reports were very frightening and we were led to believe that Israel might fall. I suggested that we spend the first hour of class talking about the importance of Israel and have each student in each class write a prayer, a poem, or story about Jerusalem and why it is so significant to us personally. The second hour we should come into the sanctuary and sing Israeli songs, have a prayer service and close with Hatikvah. It was a very emotional day. The rabbi and cantor of the synagogue joined us in the prayer service and we invited the parents who were there to pick up their kids, to come and join us as we all sang the national anthem of Israel together. By the time we met the students again a few days later, the news was apparent, Israel had won a miraculous war and had reunified the city of Jerusalem. Another prayer service took place, but the mood had changed to gratitude and thanksgiving to God and to our brave brothers and sisters in Israel.

This year, Yom Yerushalyim falls on Sunday May 17th, and we have decided to hold our Talmud Torah closing exercises and the final day of Hebrew School to coincide with this holiday. We will celebrate with song and prayers and special foods in honor of this important day on the Jewish calendar. At Congregation B’nai Zion, our wonderful faculty -- Esther Kuchinsky, Nili Arusi, Lisa Mitchell and myself, teach our children in a variety of ways how vital Israel is in our lives and especially how significant the city of Jerusalem is in the history and traditions of our people. Our classes will meet at 9 am and then at 10am we will go to the chapel for the celebration. All parents, grandparents, siblings and friends and the entire congregation are invited to attend.

May all of us pray for the welfare and peace of Jerusalem and may we plan a visit soon to this “City of Peace.” L’shana Haba’ah B’Yerushalyim -- Next year may we all be in Jerusalem and may Jerusalem always remain united, strong, and at peace.

Stephen A. Leon
Rabbi
SYNAGOGUE SERVICES

Daily ~ Monday thru Friday 7:00 am
Monday thru Thursday 6:30 pm
Friday evening 6:15 pm
(unless listed otherwise)
Saturday morning & Holidays 9:30 am
Saturday Mincha ~ please check calendar
(followed by Seudah Shlesheet & Ma’ariv)
Sunday (unless Holiday) 8:30 am & 5:00 pm

B’nai Zion Officers and Staff

Rabbi
Stephen A. Leon

Administrative Director
Annalie Rollins

Program Director
Denise Tolentino

President
Cesar Carrasco

1st Vice President
Alan Cohen

2nd Vice President
David Sabal

3rd Vice President
Shane Lipson

Treasurer
Ernest Eisenberg

Secretary
John Garcia

USY President
Eddy Madero

USY Advisor
Rachel Leon

Messenger Layout & Editor
Joyce Gronich

Candle Lighting Times

Friday
May 1 ~ 7:28 pm
May 8 ~ 7:33 pm
May 15 ~ 7:38 pm
May 22 ~ 7:43 pm
May 29 ~ 7:47 pm

Candle lighting for Shavuot may be found on page 5

IMPORTANT

Congregation B’nai Zion has switched over to our new website, ShulCloud. Through the use of ShulCloud you will be able to view your membership account, upcoming events and pay online. All of our weekly e-blasts will be sent through ShulCloud. The website is mobile friendly. Please call the shul (915-833-2222) to update your email address for the ShulCloud Portal.

For a better explanation of ShulCloud, please read our president’s message on page 3.

The unveiling of the monument of our late beloved member Eileen Licht will take place on Sunday, May 10 at noon at the B’nai Zion Cemetery.

On behalf of the family, we ask that you join them for this solemn occasion.

We are saddened by the passing of our beloved members

Ina Kurland
Salomon Smilovitz

and extend our heartfelt condolences to their families and friends.

May their memory forever be a blessing.

The Messenger is published monthly, except July and August

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE MESSENGER IS May 15

Articles and pictures should be emailed to the synagogue office at bnaizion.congregation1@gmail.com

Congregation B’nai Zion  805 Cherry Hill  El Paso, Texas  79912  915-833-2222

www.congregationbnaizion.org
It is incredible how time travels so fast. This month my two years as president of our Congregation will come to an end, but it feels like yesterday that my term began. It has been a privilege to witness the tremendous commitment from our professional staff, members of the board of directors and from the many other volunteers that offered their time and resources. It has been this commitment and dedication from all of you that has made it possible for Congregation B’nai Zion to continue to be the center of Jewish life for our congregants.

In these two years, your board of directors worked hard to make it possible to not only continue, but also improve the many services that Congregation B’nai Zion provides you. We have made many hard decisions, implemented new processes and policies, created an active calendar of events, made significant improvements in the way we communicate with you and, very importantly, how we manage our finances.

It is on these last two items that I would like to focus. For many years we relied on Constant Contact as our communication tool (e-blast), on the Rakefet computer software to manage all shul operations (including finances), and a separate software to manage payroll. Unfortunately, Rakefet was very outdated, had very limited capabilities and could not be integrated with the other tools. This made it very difficult to efficiently manage the operations of the shul and keep track on a day-to-day basis of the financial situation of our Congregation. To solve these inefficiencies, ShulCloud was implemented integrating communication with our membership, shul operations and payroll through QuickBooks into an online tool. By now you should have had the opportunity to experience ShulCloud by paying and tracking your dues online, receiving our updated e-blast and the capability to directly update your information.

However, the biggest advantage that ShulCloud has brought is that we can now very accurately manage the finances of our Congregation and produce accurate financial reports that give us the necessary decision-making information. In addition to the issues addressed, through implementation of ShulCloud we recognized that a key indicator of the health of our finances was the state of our endowment accounts. Recognizing their vital importance, we made the decision to transfer the management of these accounts to the Jewish Community Foundation of El Paso.

The outcome of the implementation of ShulCloud and the transferring of the endowment funds to the Jewish Community Foundation of El Paso is that we now have in place the necessary infrastructure to better manage the funds that you have entrusted to us. This is a very important and necessary step towards a healthier financial situation that will help us continue providing the services that are so important to our community.

Again, it has been a privilege to serve you as president for these last two years and as the new board of directors is seated, I encourage you to renew your commitment to support Congregation B’nai Zion.

Cesar Carrasco
President, Congregation B’nai Zion
carrasco.cesar2@gmail.com

Congregation B’nai Zion, B’nai Zion Sisterhood and B’nai Zion USY are all beneficiaries of

Susan Eisen Fine Jewelry & Watches
Confidential
Jewelry & Art Consignment & Appraisal
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5857 N. Mesa #19 • El Paso, TX 79912 • 915-584-0022
www.susaneisen.com orders@susaneisen.com
“Honor Thy Mother”
Sponsorships
Mother’s Day Brunch at Congregation B’nai Zion
**May 10, 2015**
Service 8:30 a.m. • Brunch 9:30 -11:30 a.m.

Sponsor the Mother’s Day Brunch in honor of a mother at the following levels:

- **$118 Matriarchs**: receives personalized centerpiece (succulents in pot personalized with mother’s name) to keep as a memento of the first CBZ Mother’s Day Event, 2 brunch tickets, 2 specialty coffee drinks, and 1 raffle ticket for a Home Cappuccino/Latte machine
- **$54 3x L’Chaim – Toast to Mothers, Grandmothers, & Sisters**: receives 2 brunch tickets, 2 specialty coffee drinks, and 1 raffle ticket
- **$36 Lamed Vovnik – 36 Righteous Women**: receives 2 brunch tickets and 1 raffle ticket
- **$18 L’Chaim – Toast to Mothers**: receives 1 raffle ticket

All sponsors and honored mothers will be recognized in the “Honor Thy Mother” program. Recognize another mother in your life for an additional $18.

“Honor thy Mother” sponsors help underwrite the Mother’s Day Brunch, and any additional proceeds will benefit Congregation B’nai Zion’s general fund.

Deadline for sponsors to be recognized in the program is **Thursday, May 7th**.

Questions? Contact Denise Tolentino at 915-833-2222 or bzdtolentino@gmail.com.

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Join Congregation B’nai Zion
for a
**Lag B’Omer Celebration**
**Wednesday, May 6**

The festivities will start at 5:30 pm and will include:
- cook-out dinner
- Upsherin of Emme Layla Paseornek followed by outdoor minyan

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND

Please RSVP to the shul office
833-2222

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Children’s Sabbath

Children's Shabbat Service

ages 4-8
led by Sherry Grinsteiner
10:30 am to noon
May 16

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Misplace your Messenger?

You can always find a color copy on our website:

[www.congregationbnaizion.org](http://www.congregationbnaizion.org)
Sign up for e-blasts!
Don't be left out! Learn about what's going on in our shul through our weekly e-blasts and reminders for upcoming events. We also let you know if a member of our congregation has passed away, and the shiva arrangements.
Call or email the shul with your email address to be added to the list-serve.

bnaizion.congregation1@gmail.com
915-833-2222

BAIL RABBI OUT OF JAIL

Wednesday, May 13
11:00 am till noon
Carino’s
675 Sunland Park Drive
Like other local business and community leaders, Rabbi Leon has agreed to be “arrested” for the Muscular Dystrophy Association Lock-Up.
This unique community-wide event raises funds for Jerry’s kids in our community and around the country.
Contact Rabbi Leon at 833-2222 or rabbisal@aol.com to make a pledge prior to the event, or send a check (payable to MDA) to 805 Cherry Hill Ln, El Paso, TX 79912
Visit the “prisoner” at Carino’s on May 13.

Shavuot Candle Lighting:
Saturday, May 23 – 8:42 pm
Sunday, May 24 – 8:43 pm

Adult
EDUCATION

WITH
RABBI LEON

CRASH COURSE IN READING HEBREW AND SYNAGOGUE SKILLS
Wednesday evenings: 6:45 – 7:45 pm
Dates: May 20, 27
Join us for Minyan first at 6:30 pm

Chaplain’s Catering
Gerry Chaplain
3950 Doniphan, Suite P
El Paso, TX 79922
(915) 585-0595
chaplainscatering@att.net
Honor a Loved One
or
Acknowledge a Special Occasion

Add a leaf to B’nai Zion’s “Tree of Life”
$200 per leaf
$1000 per plaque

October 12 - 21, 2015
GREATER EL PASO COMMUNITY TRIP
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE FEDERATION OFFICE
(915) 842-9554
director@jfedelpaso.org

Congressmen O’Rourke will speak on his trip to Israel
May 11
B’nai Zion

WE NEED YOUR INFORMATION
Please check with the office to make sure we have the correct information for you (address, phone, etc.). If you no longer have your landline, and are using a cell instead, please let us know. The information in our system will be used for the upcoming Sisterhood directory, so we need it to be correct. You will also be getting a form over the summer asking you again for the information that you want published (email address, cell #). It is important that you fill that out and return it.
Thank you so much!

ANUSIM CENTER OF EL PASO OPEN HOUSE
The Anusim Center of El Paso invites you to our Open House,
Sunday, May 3rd, 2:30-5:30 PM.
Come join us for a "Vejita de Al'had," a “Sunday visit.” Enjoy a delightful and informative afternoon of Ladino/ Sephardic food, culture, and music.
This event is free of charge and open to all. See you there!

The Power of Partnership
A Community Wide Pro-Israel Event
Featuring Jonathan Lipton
AIPAC Area Director
Thursday, May 21st, 2015
Program Begins at 7:00 p.m.
Congregation B’nai Zion
805 Cherry Hill Lane • El Paso, TX
For reservations please visit
www.alpca.org/ElPaso or call (832) 630-7708
Space is limited RSVP requested

We need your information
SISTERHOOD

Transfer of Power: Chai Tea Installation of Officers

Sisterhood Chai Tea
Sunday, May 17
11:00 am.

Come "Kick Up Your Heels" and join Sisterhood for their Annual Chai Tea.

There will be delicious FOOD, so bring a friend for a lot of FUN, and enjoy lovely FASHIONS.

Our Sisterhood will be modeling fashions from Dress Barn.

We will be installing our new officers and board of directors.
We will also conduct our membership drive at this gathering. Pay your 2015-2016 dues at the tea and receive a $5.00 discount.
If you are not a current member, please join Sisterhood at this event.

Please make your reservation with Annalie Rollins in the office, 833-2222, no later than Wednesday, May 13.

Cost will be $18.00

B’nai Zion Sisterhood
2015 - 2017

Officers
President – Patty Hutman
VP Membership – Alia Ureste
VP Programming – Annalie Rollins
Marcia Schwartz
Secretary – Elaine Garcia
Treasurer – Rachel Leon
Parliamentarian – Blanca Carrasco

Board Members
Laura Corral
Judy Grodin
Ann Gronich
Karen Kaplowitz
Monica Kupetz
Denise Tolentino
Laura Tolentino

Power of Humor: Jewish Women in Comedy

Sunday, May 31
6:00 p.m.

Join us for this Sisterhood fundraiser showcasing the award winning documentary, Making Trouble.

Film provided by The National Center for Jewish Film, www.jewishfilm.org

The film honors six Jewish entertainers: Molly Picon, Fanny Brice, Sophie Tucker, Joan Rivers, Gilda Radner, and Wendy Wasserstein. These women successfully moved from vaudeville and Yiddish theatre to Broadway, from Ziegfield’s Follies to Saturday Night Live. Get ready to duck when the zingers fly and guffaw at this entertaining, insightful documentary – an exhilarating mix of contemporary performance, interviews, and rare archival footage.

Theater snacks and drinks will be served.

Following the film, Mimi Gladstein will facilitate a discussion of the film.

Advance ticket prices: $10.00 per adult (18 and older), $5.00 per student (14-17)
(film may not be appropriate for children 13 or younger)
Advance tickets will be available at the synagogue office beginning on May 7 – until 4 pm on Thursday, May 28.
Ticket prices at the door: $15.00 per adult (18 and older), $10.00 per student (14-17)

Support this event by becoming an underwriter, benefactor, or patron.
Names of the supporters will be published in the evening’s program and announced in e-blasts.

Underwriter $250 (includes 6 tickets)
Benefactor $118 (includes 4 tickets)
Patron $36 (includes 2 tickets)
May Birthdays

04 Andrew Feinberg
Adam Rosenfield
05 Lois Applebaum
06 Allan Persky
09 Evelyn Goodman
14 Art Corral
16 Tanny Berg
Steve Kaplowitz
Robin Kobren
Lester Rothschild
17 David Goldman
Miriam Rosenbaum
21 Meyer Marcus

23 Jan Duke
Bruce Gronich
Shari Schwartz
25 Elaine Garcia
Stephen Geller
Dr. Harvey Greenberg
27 Ruth Gniazdowitz
Carl Lieb
28 Allen Levine
Jerry Rosenbaum
29 Jeffrey Siegel
30 Gail Slater

The Simcha page this month is sponsored by the Mt. Franklin Insurance Agency. If you would like information on how they can meet your needs, please call Shane Lipson or Bill Carvajal at 915-599-2900.

May Anniversaries

06 Seymour & Joan Becker
13 Daniel & Farrol Eiland
16 Stuart & Nancy Shiloff
24 Robert & Leslie Beckoff
27 Cesar & Blanca Carrasco
29 Mark & Dori Fenenbock
30 Scott & Lynn Kobren

Mazel Tov!

to proud grandparents, Gail Slater and Mario Aranda, on the birth of their granddaughter, Lucia Paz, born on March 21, 2015. Parents are Xandi Aranda and Gabriel Higuera. Equally proud is Lucia’s new aunt, Shoshana Aranda. Lucia and her parents live in Tucson, AZ.

BZUSY News

Vote for the 2015-2016 BZUSY Board

Sunday, May 3rd
12:30 PM
Ardovino’s
865 N. Resler

Lunch will be served.
Hope to see all of you there!

Sunday, May 31st
2:00 - 7:00 pm

All Kadima and USY are invited to go to Western Playland. We will be joining MSTY at this event.

Entrance fee and food costs are covered.

If you have any questions, please contact Rachel at 915-999-3978 or rachel82972@gmail.com
Boy Scout Troop 613 of the Yucca Council appreciates your help and support in promoting scouting.

In 2014 Troop 613 will be posting United States flags in the yards of residents desiring this service. The price is $32.00 with the proceeds going to defray the costs for our scouts with summer camp and other outdoor scouting activities throughout the year.

The flags will be posted in the front yards of participating homeowners on the mornings of the holidays listed below and will be taken down that evening.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Service</th>
<th>Holiday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, May 25</td>
<td>Memorial Day</td>
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<td>Sunday, June 14</td>
<td>Flag Day</td>
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<td>Saturday, July 4</td>
<td>Independence Day</td>
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<td>Monday, September 7</td>
<td>Labor Day</td>
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For further information, call Alan J. Cohen (Scoutmaster)
Phone: Home (915) 249-6505  Mobile (817) 800-0196

Flags and equipment provided by and remain the property of Troop 613
**Building Fund**
yahrzeit for brother, Larry Armour  
  Richard and Eileen Armour  
yahrzeit for father, Sam Zaben  
  Richard and Eileen Armour  

**Cantor David Leon**  
**Biblical Gardens**  
yahrzeit for father, Alfred Gladstein  
  Jay Gladstein  
in memory of Ina Kurland  
  Sam and Lenore Kobren  
  Arlene Ellenburg  

**Cemetery Fund**  
condolences to the family of Annette Goldberg on their loss  
  Dorene Naparstek  
yahrzeit for father-in-law, Benjamin Feinberg  
  Arlene Feinberg  
condolences to the family of Bernie Chasens on their loss  
  Dorene Naparstek  
  Ilisa Naparstek  
in memory of Ina Kurland  
  Dr. Ezra and Ilisa Cappell  
  Marvin and Rhea Dinesman  
  Walter and Theresa Chayes  
  Sarita Heller and Clara Heller  
  Alice Kasner and family  
yahrzeit for father, Irwin Cinofsky  
  Dorene Naparstek  

**David Erlich Tzedakah Fund**  
condolences to Shayla Holland on the loss of her father  
  Ruth Erlich  

**Goodman Family Memorial Fund**  
in memory of Ina Kurland  
  Louise Rice  

**Marla Rae Stein Memorial Fund**  
yahrzeit for father, Hyman Felsen  
  Sharon Stein  
in memory of Ina Kurland  
  Sharon Stein  

**Marvin Nadler USY Room Fund**  
yahrzeit for mother, Alicia Nadler  
  Gary and Lisa Nadler and family  
in memory of Ina Kurland  
  Bob and Carol Teplitz and family  

**Mary and Sol Freed**  
**Lecture Series Fund**  
yahrzeit for father, Sol Freed  
  Beverly Dudley  

**Rabbi’s Fund**
yahrzeit for father, Abner Charbit  
  Rose Pergricht  
yahrzeit for mother-in-law, Belle Goodman  
  Evelyn Goodman  
yahrzeit for father, Bernard Liftin  
  Roni Spetalnick  
speedy recovery to Eileen Armour  
  Dr. Jerry and Marcia Schwartz  
in memory of Ina Kurland  
  Herb and Brenda Ehrlich  
  Jack and Ruja Cohen  
  Leah Chayes  
  Pete Shugart and Judi Lieberman  
yahrzeit for daughter, Jennifer Elizabeth Lupien  
  Neorah Garcia  
  with appreciation to Rabbi Stephen Leon for all he does  
  John and Neorah Garcia  
yahrzeit for father, Samuel Feldman  
  Joseph Feldman  
in memory of husband, Hal, on his birthday  
  Erika La Coste  

**Richard Jaffee Memorial Fund**  
good health to Milton Cherno  
  Joyce Jaffee  

**Siddur Fund**  
in honor of Harold Peitzer on his 92nd birthday  
  Ed and Gloria Madson  
in memory of Ina Kurland  
  Ruth Erlich  
in honor of Rena Marcus on her birthday (Bible)  
  Esther Kishk  

**Talmud Torah Fund**
yahrzeit for mother, Bertha Roberstein  
  Irma Katz  
  happy birthday to our friends, Claire Pulner, Dr. Jerry Schwartz, Elena Goldman, Mike Batkin, Rose Holland and Seymour Becker  
  Louis and Miriam Rosenbaum  
  happy birthday to Louis Rosenbaum  
  Tibor and Ann Schaechner  
  congratulations to Shayna Kurland on being inducted into The Nat’l Society of Collegiate Scholars  
  Irwin, Debra, and Maurice Kurland  

**Torah Fund**  
in memory of Sara Hauptman  
  Felicia Rubin  

**USY Fund**  
condolences to the family of Ina Kurland on their loss  
  David and Myrna Bader  
  Shari Delaney  
  Rhea Dinesman  
  Edward and Lory Oppenheimer  
  Joyce Davidoff  
  Leo R. Schuster, Jr.  
  Richard and Rosalie Kaufman  
  Robin Gold  
  Tibor and Ann Schaechner  
  Maria Elena Grashem  
  Billie K. Jones  

**Teens to Israel Fund**
condolences to Doris Gluck and Judy Weiser on the loss of their niece and cousin, Ann Hanson  
  Charlotte Roth  
yahrzeit for sister  
  Ann Seif  
yahrzeit for father, Gilbert Zlotnick  
  Marlene Levine  
  congratulations to Allan and Amy Goldfarb on the birth of their grand-daughter  
  Sam and Gayle Belford  
c kondolences to the family of Ina Kurland on their loss  
  Albert and Shirleen Askenazi  
  David and Tita Kaplan  
  The Winter Family  
  Donald S. Henderson  
  Allen and Marlene Levine  
  Allison, Bryan, Ian and Ben Goldberg  
  Andrew F. Wahlquist  
  Leo R. Schuster, Jr.  
yahrzeit for husband, Irwin Grodin  
  Dorothy Grodin  
  congratulations to Keith and Becky Myers on the birth of their grandson  
  Sam and Gayle Belford  
yahrzeit for mother, Rosalie Silberg  
  Ann Rothstein  
  Sam and Gayle Belford  
yahrzeit for father-in-law, William Grodin  
  Dorothy Grodin  

**USY Fund**  
condolences to the family of Ina Kurland on their loss  
  David and Myrna Bader  
  Shari Delaney  
  Rhea Dinesman  
  Edward and Lory Oppenheimer  
  Joyce Davidoff  
  Leo R. Schuster, Jr.  
  Richard and Rosalie Kaufman  
  Robin Gold  
  Tibor and Ann Schaechner  
  Maria Elena Grashem  
  Billie K. Jones  

*Donations made after April 15 will appear in the next Messenger*
If you are interested in sponsoring a Friday evening Oneg Shabbat, Saturday morning Kiddush Lunch, Saturday afternoon Seudah Shlesheet, or Sunday morning Bagel Breakfast in honor or in memory of a loved one, please call the Synagogue office for more information or to make arrangements.

We appreciate your support!

~ to Fifi and Dr. Boris Kaim for sponsoring the Oneg Shabbat in memory of his mother, Josefina.
~ to Bertie Siegelman for sponsoring the Bagel Breakfast in memory of her husband, Leon Siegelman, and all family members.
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<td>3</td>
<td>Talmud Torah 9:00 am</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Hebrew High 6:30 pm</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>CBZ Annual Meeting 6:45 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mother’s Day Mother’s Day Brunch 9:30 am Unveiling Eileen Licht 12:00 pm</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Hebrew High 6:30 pm</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Talmud Torah 4:00 pm</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Yom Yerusalyim Talmud Torah closing exercises 9:00 am Sisterhood Chai Tea 11:00 am</td>
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<td>Hebrew High 6:30 pm</td>
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<td>Hebrew High 6:30 pm</td>
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<td>Shavuot</td>
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<td>Shavuot Memorial Day</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Sisterhood “Humor is Power” 6:00 pm</td>
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