



# Congregation Ahavath Sholom

The Creative Spirit Dwells Here

## THE CAS NEWSLETTER

April 2019

### Upcoming services and events

**Saturday, April 6, 10:00 am:** Shabbat Morning Service followed by coffee, tea, pastry and conversation.

**Sunday, April 7, 2:00 pm:** *Acting Workshop* with Linda Josepfs. Class size limited. Reservations required. \$10 workshop fee. Contact CASoffice15@gmail to reserve a space.

**Monday, April 8, 6:00 pm:** CAS Board Meeting.

**Sunday, April 14, 10:00:** Study Session in preparation for Pesach. Location to be determined.

**Saturday, April 20, 5:30 pm:** **CAS Second Night Community Seder** at the Apple Tree Inn in Lenox.

**Saturday, April 27, 10:00 am:** Shabbat Morning Service with Yizkor for the conclusion of Pesach. Service followed by coffee, tea, pastry and conversation.

**Sunday, April 28, 2:00 pm:** Book Group: *Rise and Kill First* by Ronen Bergman. Please contact Diana Richter at drpajama1@gmail.com for location of the meeting. [Postponed to Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>].

### This month's newsletter features:

- **Creative Arts Series: Painting and Wine**
- **Creative Arts Series: This room...**
- **Creative Arts Series: *Acting Workshop* with Linda Josepfs**
- **CAS Second Night Community Seder**
- **Milchidika with Marty: *Some Intelligent Bumper Stickers***
- **Quilts of Valor**
- **Call to Artists: *The Language of Color***
- **Keep Smiling! More photo memories by Don Victor**
- **CAS Book Group**
- **April Yahrzeits**
- **April Donations**
- **From Federation: *Who will write our history?* and *Super Sunday***

## Creative Arts Series: “Still Life Sunday” with Ilene Spiewak

### Painting and Wine



We all had a terrific time at Ilene's "Still Life Sunday". She and Brenda transformed our old familiar meeting room into a new creative space with a beautifully arranged still life of flowers, fruit, and pottery in the center of the big table. We had everything we needed—paints, palettes, canvases, and art books for reference. Jazz played in the background. Food (of course) and wine for our painting breaks. The two hours flew by.

*Barbara Janoff*





## Creative Arts Series: *Poetry Workshop with Barbara Janoff*

### This room...



A group of twelve enthusiastic participants gathered at the synagogue on Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> to attend Barbara Janoff's Poetry Workshop. Writing, almost continuously for two hours, and following given prompts, all had a wonderful time composing and reading the many short poems and writings that they produced.

We were situated in the CAS upstairs reception/gallery space, and one of the prompts that held special meaning to many individuals in the group was one that started with the phrase "This room...". Here are some of the responses:

**This room** now busy with people madly writing their poems  
This room vibrating with the memory of so many deep discussions  
This room filled with books and art  
This room holding the holy and unholy together in perfect peace.

This room feels like home-away-from-home  
I've studied here, eaten here, met here, received tragic news here,  
Enjoyed time here, laughed here and cried here.  
It feels comfortable, like old slippers.  
Is it the room or something else?

This room reminds me  
How fortunate we are  
To be surrounded by loving  
And creative people  
Who feed our souls.

### *This Room*

Is full of love

Warm, care

Color. So much more than four walls and a table and chairs.

Those who are here are vibrant, alive,

With beautiful souls and beating hearts

Creativity

Giving, caring, generosity

This room displays art with splashes of color and light

It is a sanctuary for those who come to learn

The activities include drawing, writing, eating, talking and learning

It transforms those who enter and partake

The people gather and their minds expand with the knowledge taught

And their soul's journey continues

## **Creative Arts Series: *"I've Always Wanted to Act!"* with Linda Josephs**

On April 7<sup>th</sup>, Linda Josephs, actor, theatre director and producer, writer of plays and screenplays, will offer, "I've Always Wanted to Act!"

"If you always wondered what it was like being an actor here is your opportunity and it doesn't have to take years. In this two-hour workshop through stimulating fun and friendly exercises you will experience what it's like to be an actor. No preparation and no memorization required. Comfortable clothes recommended." Workshop fee of \$10. Contact [CASoffice15@gmail.com](mailto:CASoffice15@gmail.com) to reserve a space or call 914-319-1621.

Linda Josephs has been involved in theatre her entire life. After moving to the Berkshires in 1988 she joined Mixed Company as their set designer. She studied improvisation with Alan Arkin, method acting with Kay Michael and film acting with Irene Stone. She appeared in "Night of the Iguana," "Fool for Love," "Dear Liar," "George Washington Slept Here," and others. In 2004 she and her husband Tom opened the Workshop Playhouse, a black box theatre in Great Barrington. There she established a theatre company, directed and produced many successful plays. While acting as artistic director she developed a number of six-week workshops and weekly acting classes that continued after the theatre closed. Linda is currently busy writing plays and screenplays. Her play "Man's Best Friend, A Dog Park Story," was produced in 2016 at Mixed Company in Great Barrington, and can be seen on YouTube.





## CAS Community Second Night Seder

Continuing its long tradition of hosting a community Seder on the second night of Passover, Congregation Ahavath Sholom warmly invites you, your family and your friends to join us this year on Saturday evening April 20 at the Apple Tree Inn. Our festivities will begin at 5:30 p.m. The Apple Tree Inn is located at 10 Richmond Mountain Road, Lenox. Driving directions are available at <http://www.appletree-inn.com>.

Rabbi Cohen will lead the Seder using the "Night of Questions" Haggadah. As we celebrate this beloved ritual, along with the return of spring to the Berkshires, we look forward to coming together with you as a community for songs, thoughts, great food and blessings.

We will enjoy a delicious meal with traditional dishes and wine. You'll have the choice of two different main courses: grilled salmon with potatoes and vegetables or a vegetarian mezze plate. The cost of this multi-course meal is \$48 for adults and \$24 for children under twelve.

Please go to the CAS website front page for a link to the registration form and further information.







## Milchidika with Marty: *Some Intelligent Bumper Stickers*

1. Eschew Obfuscation
2. Make America Think Again
3. This Above All Else: To Thine Own Self Be True
4. The Earth is Flat
5. Don't Blame Me, I Didn't Vote For Him
6. Sona Si Latine Loqueris (Honk if You Read Latin)
7. Classic Not Plastic
8. The More People I Meet, The More I like My Cat
9. Disc Brakes Are For Cowards
10. If You Don't Succeed The First Time, Then Sky Diving Is Not For You.
11. Unsend
12. If You Can Read This, I'm Not Impressed. Most of Us Can Read.
13. Be Nice to Your Kids. They Will Choose Your Nursing Home.
14. I'll Believe Corporations Are People When Texas Executes One.
15. If The Words On This Sticker Are Getting Larger-Hit The Brakes.
16. If You Realize That You Have Enough, You Are Truly Rich.
17. I Was An Honor Student, I Don't Know What Happened.
18. We Hang The Petty Thieves and Appoint The Great Ones to Public Office-Aesop

## Quilts of Valor

United Way of Broward County's MISSION UNITED, in partnership with the south Florida Coalition of Quilts of Valor Quilters, sponsored a community ceremony on March 21<sup>st</sup> at the Pompano Beach Cultural Center in Florida. Handmade quilts were presented to military service members who have served during a wartime theatre deployment.

..  
The mission of the national Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor.

"I am proud to be part of presenting quilts to veterans."

CAS member Barbara Barron (pictured below, left)

**THE JOURNEY HOME CEREMONY & QUILTS OF VALOR PRESENTATION**  
Presented by United Way of Broward County's MISSION UNITED in partnership with the South Florida Coalition of Quilts of Valor Quilters

**MARCH 21, 2019 | 3 PM TO 5 PM**  
**Pompano Beach Cultural Center**  
50 West Atlantic Blvd., Pompano Beach, FL 33060

Veterans, family, friends and community supporters are invited to attend this free event.  
*The journey home starts with our community supporting our veterans.  
Join us as we celebrate their service and welcome them home.*

To apply for a quilt and for more information, please visit:  
**UnitedWayBroward.org/qov2019**

United Way of Broward County | MISSION UNITED Proudly Serving Those Who Have Served | United States Coast Guard Chapter 133 | Quilts of Valor



## Call to Artists: *The Language of Color*

Because it's time for spring, let's push the boundaries of color with a vibrant *group* exhibition. Upstairs at CAS. Let the language of color recharge our energy and lift our mood. Color. Be bold.



The exhibit, to be installed by the end of April, will run from May through early June in the Upstairs Art Gallery at the synagogue.

Please submit all 2-D work: painting, drawing, photography to: [ilenespiewak@gmail.com](mailto:ilenespiewak@gmail.com).

You may submit up to three pieces.  
Include the title, size, and price if applicable.  
Please have your artwork ready to hang.  
Delivery date to CAS tba.

## Keep Smiling! More photo memories by Don Victor



2001



2019

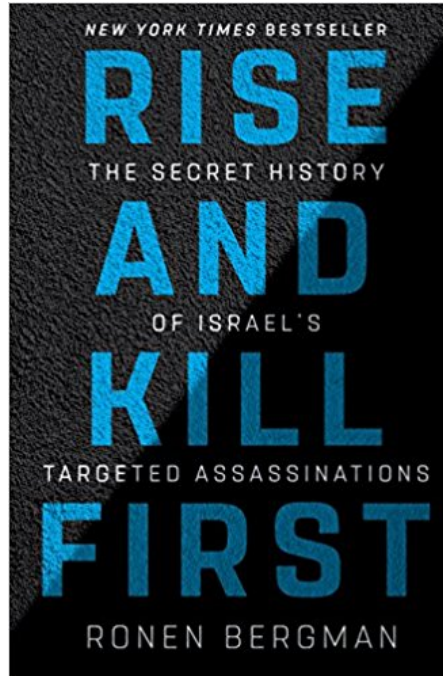
Tree planted in memory of Irma Waller, Helen Radin's mother



## CAS Book Group

The CAS Book Group will meet on Sunday, May 5th at 10:15 a.m. to discuss *Rise and Kill First: The Secret History of Israel's Targeted Assassinations* by Ronen Bergman. This first definitive history of the Mossad, Shin Bet, and the IDF's targeted killing programs, was hailed by The New York Times as "an exceptional work, a humane book about an incendiary subject." It was the winner of the National Jewish Book Award in History in 2018.

**Paul Graubard will lead the discussion. Please contact Diana at drpajama1@gmail for further information and location of this meeting.**



## April Yahrzeits

“Much of our experience of divine goodness, grace and love has come to us through those whose lives have touched our own.”

### Kol Haneshamah

Oscar Slote	Adar2 25 5727	4/1
Nehama Nager	Adar2 29 5706	4/5
Kenneth Kaplan	Nisan 01 5772	4/6
Lena Bissel	Nisan 04 5712	4/9
Raye Steiner Pozefsky	Nisan 4 5734	4/9
Wendy Shifriin	Nisan 5 5775	4/10
John Gellert	Nisan 06 5726	4/11
John P. Hammond	Nisan 06 5763	4/11
Sidney Ungar	Nisan 11 5734	4/16
Edward Alec Weiner	Nisan 12 5766	4/17
Mary Swigost	Nisan 16 5724	4/21
Goldy Uslan	Nisan 16 5751	4/21
Jacob Uslan	Nisan 17 5754	4/22
Gordon Scales	Nisan 17 5772	4/22
Ruth Oloff	Nisan 18 5765	4/23
Dora Soloveychik Felber	Nisan 19 5772	4/24
Samuel Nager	Nisan 20 5695	4/25
Sarah Victor	Nisan 20 5731	4/25
Joseph Soloveichik	Nisan 22 5693	4/27
Irma Waller	Nisan 23 5761	4/28

## April Donations

**In memory of her father, Benjamin Letofsky, and grandmother, Sarah Angert**

Barbara Janoff

**In memory of Elaine Adams**

Alison Adams-Weinberg

**In honor of John Gellert**

George and Barbara Gellert

**In honor of Barbara Janoff**

Linda Josephs

**In honor of Arthur and Louise Hillman**

Linda Josephs

### Passover donations

Lisa and Eric Chamberlain

William and Sandra Flannery

Joy Robin Dronge

Arthur and Louise Hillman

Carol Killian

Donna Lefkowitz

Estelle Miller

Harold Rudin

### Other donations

From the family of Rabbi Axelrod

Barbara Janoff

Ilene Spiewak

## Who will write our history?

### Film Screening In Honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day



## Who Will Write Our History

**They defied their enemy with the ultimate weapon - the truth!**

Days after the Nazis sealed 450,000 Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto, a secret band of journalists, scholars and community leaders, known by the code name *Oyneg Shabes*, vowed to defeat Nazi lies and propaganda not with guns or fists but with pen and paper. Now, for the first time, their story is told as a feature documentary. Executive producer Nancy Spielberg transports us inside the Ghetto and the lives of these courageous resistance fighters who risked everything so that the truth would survive, even if they did not.

**Sunday, May 5, 2019 | 2 pm**

**Berkshire Museum, 39 South St., Pittsfield**

**After the Film:** Join us for a candle lighting, prayers and a moment of reflection in memory of those murdered in the Holocaust.

**This event is free and open to the public.**

Sponsored by



**Jewish Federation  
OF THE BERKSHIRES**



## Super Sunday

### **CBI Volunteers needed! Sunday, May 19**

We will come together with members of the entire Berkshire Jewish Community to raise money for the Jewish Federation's Annual Campaign. Together, we can build, strengthen and care for our Jewish community across the Berkshires, in Israel and around the world.



#### **MAKE THE CALL**

Two convenient phone-a-thon locations.  
Food, fun and training provided!

**Jewish Federation of the Berkshires**  
196 South Street, Pittsfield  
9 am-12:30 pm

**Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center**  
Administrative Office  
244 Main St. Suite #3, Great Barrington  
9 am-12:30 pm

**Follow up phone-a-thons also need volunteers!**  
Tues, May 28, 3-5 pm or 6-7:30 pm at Federation  
Mon, June 3, 3-6 pm at Hevreh  
Thurs, June 13, 3-5 pm or 6-8 pm at Federation

RSVP: 413-442-4360, ext 10  
or online at [jewishberkshires.org](http://jewishberkshires.org)

#### **ANSWER THE CALL**

If your phone rings on Super Sunday, answer it. Your contribution to the Federation's 2019 Annual Campaign -- whatever it is you can give -- will help feed the hungry, comfort the elderly and care for Jews in need here at home, in Israel and around the world. It will also help connect our young people to their Jewish identity, build community and help sustain Jewish life in the Berkshires, today and for future generations.

Congregation Beth Israel is a proud affiliate and beneficiary of the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires



Special thanks to the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center and the Berkshire United Way