

## Upcoming services and events

**Sunday, September 9, 7:00 pm:** Erev Rosh Hashanah Services at Berkshire South Regional Community Center, Great Barrington\*

**Monday, September 10, 10:00 am:** Rosh Hashanah Service, followed by Tashlich - Day 1\*

**Tuesday, September 11, 10:00 am:** Rosh Hashanah Service, - Day 2\*

**Saturday, Saturday, September 15, 10:00 am:** Shabbat Shuvah Service, held at CAS.

**Sunday, September 16, 10:15 am:** Book Group, "The Mind Body Problem" by Rebecca Goldstein led by Robin Berson. Please contact Diana Richter at drpajama1@gmail.com for location of this meeting. Check for changes as this group occasionally changes the date or time.

**Tuesday, September 18.** Yom Kippur - Kol Nidre Service. Doors open at **6:30 pm**, then close at 7 pm for Kol Nidre chanting\*

**Wednesday, September 19, 10:00 am:** Yom Kippur Service, including Yizkor. Neilah: 5:00 pm, followed by Vegetarian Potluck Break Fast

**Friday, September 21, 4:00 pm:** Sukkah decorating with Kiddush and Motzi. Come and help us dress the sukkah for the holiday! Rain date: Sunday, September 23, 2 pm. For more info, contact John Slote at johnslote@gmail.com

**Sunday, September 23, 2:00 pm:** Rain date for Sukkah decorating.

**Friday, September 28, 5:30 pm:** Special Erev Shabbat service and dinner. The dinner is sponsored by Ilene Spiewak and Brenda Butler) in honor of the conversions to Judaism of Brenda Butler and Freke Vuijst. For more information, contact Rabbi Barbara Cohen info@ahavathsholom.com

**Monday, October 1, 10:00 am:** Yizkor for Shemini Atzeret.

\*Starred services are held at Berkshire South Community Center, 15 Crissey Road, Great Barrington, MA

## Articles/Information

- *Elul in the Pool*
- *The High Holy Days*
- *Kol Nidre: A Musical Inspiration*
- *Milchidika with Marty: Some Yiddish Wisdom*
- *The 5th Season of B'Shalom Chorale*
- *Upcoming Special Event: The Concert, a new one-act play by Linda Josephs*
- *CAS Book Group*
- *Keep Smiling! More photo memories by Don Victor*
- *September Yahrzeits*
- *September Donations*

## Elul in the Pool

Congregation members Sandra and Bill Flannery hosted the annual "Elul in the Pool" event on Saturday, August 11. The poolside ritual, and optional swim was preceded by a Shabbat service and a vegetarian pot luck brunch. All in attendance received a warm blessing by Rabbi Barbara.





## The High Holy Days at CAS

### The High Holy Days at CAS

We welcome you to join the Ahavath Sholom community as we worship during the High Holy Days.

Our services are warm and inclusive, encouraging participation for all who wish, and present a chance for self-examination, meditation and spiritual renewal. Poetry and contemplative silence are interspersed with traditional melodies and familiar prayer, all in a welcoming environment.

Services are held at Berkshire South Regional Community Center at 15 Crissey Road in Great Barrington.

The 2018 High Holy Days Service Schedule is posted on our website. If you would like to become a member of the synagogue (which includes High Holy Day seats), download our membership application form.

If you are not a congregation member OR are bringing guests, please fill out our HHD reservation form and follow the instructions on the form; the Yizkor form is also included online.

If you have questions, please leave a message for our rabbi, Barbara Cohen, at 413-528-4197 and she will respond. If you need financial assistance in order to attend, do not hesitate to contact Barbara.





## Kol Nidre: A Musical Inspiration

The Kol Nidre melody, stirring the hearts of Jews for a thousand years, is recited at the beginning of the evening service of Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. It is such an inextricable part of this service that many call the whole service Kol Nidre. The name Kol Nidre is taken from the prayer's first words, "All vows." The melody is so beautifully haunting that it has also become an inspiration outside the synagogue. In the first talking film, "The Jazz Singer," Al Jolson sang Kol Nidre. Neil Diamond, with his own rendition, followed years later in the remake. Jewish opera singers such as Richard Tucker and Jan Peerce recorded Kol Nidre. Perry Como, a Christian, sang it annually on the High Holy Days in solidarity with his Jewish friends. Johnny Mathis chose Kol Nidre for his album "I Believe." The sixth movement of Beethoven's String Quartet appears to be based on the melody and Max Bruch's 1880 cello concerto is entitled Kol Nidre. In 1968, the rock band Electric Prunes produced "Release and Oath," subtitled Kol Nidre.



What makes this music so fascinating and engaging? Rabbi Barbara Cohen has been singing Kol Nidre during High Holy Day services for the last 23 years. She says, "Singing Kol Nidre is not only a vocal and artistic challenge. It is a spiritual challenge, year after year, to infuse the text with emotional authenticity. Standing at the front of the congregation, I am spiritually supported in a holy space created by two congregants each holding a Torah scroll. Singing the text three times with varying style and tone requires understanding of the origins of the text and a profound belief in the power of words and promises. It is a time of awe and I take the sacred responsibility very seriously. I encourage anyone, Jewish or not, to find the opportunity to hear this powerful blending of music and prayer."

*Linda Josephs*

## Milchidika with Marty: *Some Yiddish Wisdom*

I found these wise words while scrolling through the internet. Since I don't really speak Yiddish, these are the English translations:

1. God made man because he loves stories.
2. Everyone is kneaded from the same dough, but not baked in the same oven.
3. If you want your dreams to come true, don't sleep.
4. Life is the best bargain, we get it for nothing.
5. If you need a helping hand, you'll find it at the end of your arm.
6. The girl who can't dance, says the band can't play.
7. If you have nothing to lose, you can try everything.
8. Prayers go up and blessings come down.
9. You cannot hold your head up high if your hand is held out.

10. Cancer-schmancer as long as you're healthy.
11. Dear God: you do such wonderful things for strangers-why not me?
12. Sleep faster, we need the pillows.
13. When one must, one can.
14. If you have money, you are wise and good looking and can sing well too.
15. Tsuris is what you get from children. Nachas is what you get from grandchildren.
16. Troubles are easier to take with soup, than without.
17. One should not send a cat to deliver cream.
18. Everything happens for the better, but there are exceptions.
19. A bad peace is better than a good war.

## The 5<sup>th</sup> Season of B'Shalom Chorale

The 5th season of the B'Shalom Chorale, the Berkshires' only chorale showcasing Jewish music, featured two concerts. The group performed at Knesset Israel in Pittsfield on Tuesday evening, August 14, and again on Wednesday evening, August 15 at Hevreh of Southern Berkshire in Great Barrington. CAS members Irene Goldman-Price and Dan and Joan Burkhard are members of the chorale.



Photograph by Sandra Flannery

The concerts included music of various eras and genres from nigguns to lullabies and featured music in honor of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Leonard Bernstein. Special guest clarinetist Paul Green performed several selections. The B'Shalom Chorale is conducted by Jack Brown, who is also artistic director of [Berkshire Lyric](#) and choral director at [Bard College at Simon's Rock](#) and the [Hotchkiss School](#). The accompanist is Joe Rose. The chorale was founded by Cantor Emily Sleeper Mekler.

B'Shalom Chorale is sponsored in part by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

**Upcoming Event: *The Concert*, a one-act play by Linda Josephs**

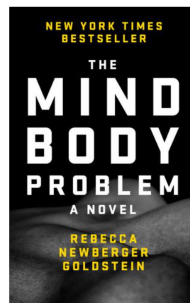


As Ann and Beth go through their recently deceased parents belongings, a 25-year-old secret is revealed, one that could change their lives forever. *The Concert* is a short play based on two true stories. There will be a talk back with the actors and playwright following the reading.

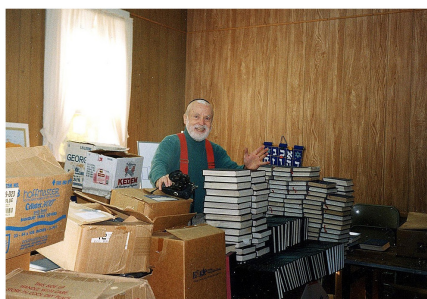
## CAS Book Group

The CAS Book Group will discuss *The Mind Body Problem*. This first novel by MacArthur "Genius" Fellow Rebecca Goldstein has been described as a wonderful and rare thing—a novel of ideas that also happens to be hilarious. Robin Berson will lead the discussion.

Please contact Diana Richter at [drpajama1@gmail.com](mailto:drpajama1@gmail.com) for location of this meeting. Check for changes as this group occasionally changes the date or time.



## Keep Smiling! More Memories from the Don Victor Photo Archives



# September 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

Lilly Brill Elul 23	9/3	Abraham Weinstein Tishrei 06 5741	9/15
Abraham Goodman Elul 23 5722	9/3	Elayne Polly Bernstein Tishrei 7 5772	9/16
Aranka Gellert Elul 24 5740	9/4	Rose Steinberg Tishrei 08 5726	9/17
Samuel Ketay Elul 26 5706	9/6	Benjamin Shusterman Tishrei 10 5747	9/19
Kenneth Swigost Elul 27 5729	9/7	Martin Fink Tishrei 10 5743	9/19
Tillie Kaplan Elul 28 5694	9/8	Esther B. Cutler Tishrei 10 5773	9/19
Susan Moskowitz Grand Elul 28 5743	9/8	Ethel Broverman Tishrei 13 5729	9/22
David Liss Elul 29 5719	9/9	Herman Felber Tishrei 14 5747	9/23
Joseph Kaplan Elul 29 5740	9/9	Arthur Stavisky Tishrei 14 5764	9/23
Sam Linder Tishrei 01 5759	9/10	Mildred Steinberg Tishrei 14 5765	9/23
Masato Mitsuda Tishrei 01 5768	9/10	Seymour Isserson Tishrei 18 5747	9/27
Diana Fisher Berkowitz Tishrei 03 5778	9/12	Mark Cohen Tishrei 20 5778	9/29
Albert Chesanow Tishrei 03 5661	9/12	Goldie Goodman Tishrei 20 5733	9/29
Charlotte Shusterman Tishrei 03 5688	9/12	Rudi Grosser Tishrei 20 5750	9/29
Matilda Radin Tishrei 03 5754	9/12		

## September Donations

### In honor of Barbara Cohen becoming a Rabbi

Michael and Rachel Silverstein

### In honor of Barbara's ordination

Ilene Spiewak  
Diane Weinstein

### In honor and celebration of Sandra Flannery's birthday

With love, Alden, Sienna, Dan and Meredith Flannery

### Other donations

David Birch  
Stuart Greenberg  
Dona Kahn