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- **David Solomon Memorial Building Fund**
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- **Gilbert Rosenbaum Fund**
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- **Herb Kraus Adult Education Fund**
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- **Mitzvah Kiddish Fund**
Supports Shabbat Kiddish and Kitchen Supplies
- **Marsha Fishman Memorial Education Fund**
Supports Hebrew School & Youth Educational Activities
- **Rabbi Skopitz Fund**
Supports Cultural Events
- **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**
- **Shiva Chevra Fund**
Funds Meals of Consolation, Shiva support
- **Torah Repair Fund**
Supports Maintenance and Repair of Torah Scrolls
- **Soldier's Project**

Temple Office: Susan Sawler 266-3223
Temple Website: <http://www.tbdrochester.org>
Email: office@tbdrochester.org



TEMPLE BETH DAVID

The Bulletin

Rabbi Rachel Smookler
Andrew Berger, President

VOL. 63 Issue 1

January - February 2016

From the Desk of the Rabbi

Rabbi Rachel Smookler

Rachel@smookler.com

I never thought that yesterday would turn out to be like that - like it eventually did. I never thought that a small decision I made would have such a profound impact on me. I don't know, maybe such amazing things HAVE happened to me and I only momentarily forgot...forgot that is, until yesterday reminded me that light always shines in through the cracks. And those cracks - what are those cracks?

San Bernadino, another mass killing. The news reporters running on a combination of excitement and a professional high from their twenty-four hour round the clock coverage. For the last week I had been looking forward to an event, an interfaith rally downtown in front of the Federal Building to support the Rochester Muslim Community. I had been in touch with Dr. Muhammad Shafiq, the Imam emeritus, who is still thoroughly involved in the Islamic Center, and letting him know that for the past few weeks, after the events in Paris, that the Jewish Community is ready to support them through emails and phone calls. After the events in Paris I stopped in to see Dr. Shafiq, but sadly he was off teaching at Nazareth, so I walked in and out of the Islamic Center.

And now a few weeks have past. I was looking forward to the rally all the more so after the events in San Bernadino. My heart literally wrenched for the local

Muslim community, who is certain to face harassment and alienation.

Hours before the rally was to begin, I emailed Dr. Shafiq to see if the rally was still at 2:30. He wrote back, "the rally has been cancelled...the community is just too sad after what has just happened." I wrote him back to let him know that I would still like to be involved in planning something in support of the Islamic Community. I felt absolutely helpless, and I NEVER like to feel helpless.

I got in my car and drove to Maleks, purchased two beautiful round chocolate babkas, and drove to the Islamic Center on Westfall Rd. The parking lot was packed. I wasn't sure if the community was gathering there or what? But then I remembered... it was one of their prayer times. Carrying my two babkas, I went into an office where a few people were congregated. The Center was teeming. I asked someone if Dr. Shafiq was in. At first the woman was a bit hesitant so I explained who I was. Someone led me immediately to a room where Dr. Shafiq was seated with a few other people. He welcomed me warmly and introduced me to everyone, including the President of the Islamic Center. Dr. Shafiq was dressed in a traditional Muslim tunic and traditional looking head covering made of twisted fabrics. I usually see him wearing western clothing so it truly made me see him in a different

(continued on page 2)

Jan.-Feb. Schedule
Shabbat Morning:
Torah Study: 9:00 a.m.
Shabbat Services: 10 a.m.

*Find Temple Events
on our online calendar at
www.tbdrochester.org
and our Facebook page*

**January-February
Office Hours**

**Monday-Friday
10:00am-2:00pm**



*As always, you may also
reach us by calling the office
at 585-266-3223 or email at
office@tbdrochester.org*

*We are handicapped
accessible and equipped
with a hearing loop.*



*The Bulletin is published bi-monthly
by Temple Beth David*

Next Bulletin Deadline: February 12th
Late Submissions Cannot be Accepted.

The mission of Temple Beth David is to provide an environment where the concepts of community prayer, education, and service to the greater Jewish community are provided within the context of Conservative Judaism. We pride ourselves on being a friendly, participatory, egalitarian community, welcoming all to be a part of our synagogue family.

light. Everyone was VERY excited about the babkas which I told them were a gift from Temple Beth David as a gesture of sweetness and support.

And then Dr. Shafiq asked me if I wanted to observe the prayer service. Yes! I couldn't wait. We took our shoes off and our feet padded along a beautiful deep red plush carpet with patterns of mosque architecture. We sat at the back. The Ama, like the shaliach tzibur or the chazzan in a synagogue, chanted in a beautiful voice as over 100 men stood shoulder to shoulder as is the custom. Bowing halfway, then up again, then bowing all the way down. The motions were all swift, all in unison, the devotion witnessed in each man's movements. Dr. Shafiq motioned for me and asked if I would like to go upstairs to the women's section. Once we got upstairs, he told me to go to the front and look over the balcony. "From there...is a good view" he said. And he was right. The fluidity of the prayers, the movement and the call and respond was somehow so much more intensified in my birds eye view. And then I saw something I could never have seen from sitting down in the back on the first floor. A father, while bowing prostrate on the ground on the beautiful burgundy plush carpet, was cradling his young son every bow, and there were many. His son got to feel that extreme closeness to his father, literally enveloped in love. It is how a child first learns, Dr. Shafiq later told me.

After the service, again Dr. Shafiq introduced me to many people. I felt, I can't describe it...really I felt as though at that moment, standing there amongst people I had never met...I felt that everything in the world was right. I felt at peace. At peace with myself and at peace with those around me. That awareness that an outsider would feel

uncomfortable or alien, for me didn't even exist. Not even for a moment.

As we walked down the hallway, men with skullcaps, men with beards, men without, passed by me. It seemed so familiar. I felt that I might have been at another synagogue. And again, I was reminded of the many similarities. Dr. Shafiq took me around their Day School and introduced me to their Director. She told me about the Jewish and Christian teachers they have had working there through the years, and we all agreed that we are all the children of Abraham.

Before I took my leave, Dr. Shafiq and I discussed different ways the Jewish community and the Muslim community can come together. And we came up with many ideas to promote goodwill and friendship between our two communities. It's true, in the beginning of the day I thought "I" would bring a bit of light into the Islamic center with my support and my babkas. A little light shining in through the cracks that keep chiseling away, exploding away, at their lovely community of peace. But from the moment I walked in their beautiful building I realized that "their" light was embracing "me", and it was just pouring in through the cracks revealed in me. Cracks of xenophobia, mistrust, information and fear.

If you have been feeling as helpless as I have, and if you have been wanting to become a part of the solution in our community, and if you want to have this beautiful transformative experience, all you need to do is drive down Westfall Road, turn into the Islamic Center's parking lot and literally walk through their open doors. They are waiting for you to come. They told me. They are waiting for you to just step inside so that we can meet each other.

Sponsored Kiddishes (November-December)

- ◆ **October 31:** Souper Shabbat sponsored by Helen & Howard Kashtan
- ◆ **November 7:** Bat Mitzvah Kiddish sponsored by Linda Phillips and Lee Sigelow in honor of Tali's Bat Mitzvah
 - ◆ **November 14:** Souper Shabbat sponsored by Sylvia Stiller
 - ◆ **November 28:** Cholent sponsored by Maxine Manjos in appreciation of Michelle Gross
 - ◆ **December 5:** Bar Mitzvah Kiddish sponsored by Jay & Liz Wasserman in honor of Adam's Bar Mitzvah
- ◆ **December 19:** Cholent sponsored by Maxine Manjos in appreciation of Dan and Alice Nussbaum.
 - ◆ All additional kiddishes sponsored by Temple

Yahrzeits From February 1 to February 29 (Shevat 22 5776 to Adar-I 20, 5776)

Name	Observed	Jewish	Name	Observed	Jewish
Anna Berkov	February 1	Shevat 22	Reva Moldawsky	February 16	Adar-I 7
Dorothy Silberberg	February 1	Shevat 22	Levison		
Rose Grossman	February 3	Shevat 24	Rose Cohen	February 18	Adar-I 9
Rose Kessler	February 3	Shevat 24	Norman Klein	February 18	Adar-I 9
Edith Kopen	February 3	Shevat 24	Harry Roxin	February 18	Adar-I 9
Florence Levinson	February 3	Shevat 24	Anna Schrier	February 18	Adar-I 9
Evelyn Gan	February 4	Shevat 25	Anna Alent	February 19	Adar-I 10
Gertrude Goldberg	February 4	Shevat 25	Harry Pheterson	February 19	Adar-I 10
Herman Miller	February 5	Shevat 26	Sonya Newman	February 20	Adar-I 11
Harry Sharfstein	February 5	Shevat 26	Rebecca Stone	February 20	Adar-I 11
Minnie Himmelstein	February 8	Shevat 29	Sarah Fleisher	February 21	Adar-I 12
Dr. Sidney Schatz	February 8	Shevat 29	Leah Gastel	February 21	Adar-I 12
Julius Sherman	February 8	Shevat 29	Gary Passer	February 22	Adar-I 13
Sarah Feldman	February 10	Adar-I 1	Rose Robbins	February 22	Adar-I 13
Lea Grunspan	February 10	Adar-I 1	Eugene Schwartz	February 22	Adar-I 13
Sylvia Sharf	February 10	Adar-I 1	Faye Goldin	February 23	Adar-I 14
Frank Sherman	February 10	Adar-I 1	Helmut Markus	February 24	Adar-I 15
Fanny Simon Passer	February 10	Adar-I 1	Gertrude Brotsky	February 27	Adar-I 18
Rose Ambush	February 11	Adar-I 2	Pearl Feldman	February 27	Adar-I 18
David Lustik	February 11	Adar-I 2	Jacob Haymoff	February 27	Adar-I 18
Annie Peskowitz	February 11	Adar-I 2	Julius Berger	February 28	Adar-I 19
Jack Miller	February 13	Adar-I 4	Dorothy Bernberg	February 28	Adar-I 19
Jacob Salkowitz	February 13	Adar-I 4	Annette Harris	February 28	Adar-I 19
Minnie Blumkin	February 14	Adar-I 5	Isadore Robert	February 28	Adar-I 19
Shirley Shapiro	February 14	Adar-I 5	Hoffman		
David Brothman	February 15	Adar-I 6	Saralie Foote	February 29	Adar-I 20
Esther Orlen	February 15	Adar-I 6	Alexander Kopen	February 29	Adar-I 20
Pearl Sosne	February 15	Adar-I 6	Albert Marcusfield	February 29	Adar-I 20

Minimum Donations

Standard Kiddush	\$72.	Greeting Card Mailed Out	\$7.
Extended Kiddush	\$200.	3 Memorial or Greeting Cards	\$18.
Cholent or Soup Sponsor	\$18.	Siddur Lev Shalem	\$36.
Tree of Life Leaf	\$36.	Machzor Lev Shalem	\$54.
Wine Challah Sponsor	\$18.	Etz Hayim	\$75.
Memorial Plaque:		Cemetary Plots in Riverside:	
Member	\$270.	Member	\$600.
Nonmember	\$414.	Nonmember	\$800.

Name	Observed	Jewish	Name	Observed	Jewish
Bessie Berkowitz	January 2	Tevet 21	Louis Egar	January 17	Shevat 7
Phillip Dell	January 2	Tevet 21	Abe A. Hersch	January 17	Shevat 7
Mowey Presberg	January 2	Tevet 21	Hiram L. Moss	January 17	Shevat 7
Eugene Roth	January 2	Tevet 21	Harry Rosenthal	January 17	Shevat 7
Isadore Donsky	January 3	Tevet 22	Sidney Weinstein	January 17	Shevat 7
Milton Lande	January 3	Tevet 22	Arthur Bauman	January 18	Shevat 8
Jacob Rosenbaum	January 3	Tevet 22	Ida Gertzog	January 18	Shevat 8
Sheldon Feuerstein	January 4	Tevet 23	Laurie Feuerstein Walsh	January 18	Shevat 8
Max Grossberg	January 4	Tevet 23	Julius Himmelstein	January 19	Shevat 9
Abraham Prives	January 4	Tevet 23	Max Ostroff	January 19	Shevat 9
Minnie Flaxman	January 5	Tevet 24	Regina Schier	January 19	Shevat 9
Aaron Goldenberg	January 5	Tevet 24	Bertha Dobkin	January 20	Shevat 10
Donna Wexler Larca	January 5	Tevet 24	Samuel Donsky	January 20	Shevat 10
E. Edward Hersch	January 6	Tevet 25	Daniel Hirsch	January 20	Shevat 10
Sheldon Himmelstein	January 6	Tevet 25	Adelaide Kalin	January 20	Shevat 10
Reuben Robbins	January 6	Tevet 25	Minnie Haymoff	January 22	Shevat 12
Esther Prives	January 7	Tevet 26	Judy Crow	January 23	Shevat 13
Betty Rose Altman	January 8	Tevet 27	Paula Hecht	January 23	Shevat 13
Rae Goldman	January 8	Tevet 27	Morris Klein	January 23	Shevat 13
Herbert Kraus	January 8	Tevet 27	George Moidel	January 23	Shevat 13
Anne S. Levin	January 8	Tevet 27	Michael Ruskin	January 23	Shevat 13
Max Schwartz	January 8	Tevet 27	Lee Schwartz	January 23	Shevat 13
Morris Blass	January 9	Tevet 28	Don Vanas	January 23	Shevat 13
George Geiger	January 9	Tevet 28	Dorothy Schwartz	January 24	Shevat 14
Ethel Hersch	January 9	Tevet 28	Ida "Toots" Skopitz	January 25	Shevat 15
Arthur P. Long	January 9	Tevet 28	Charles Jaffey	January 26	Shevat 16
Sarah Safrin	January 9	Tevet 28	Pauline Eve Chait	January 28	Shevat 18
Blanche Levine	January 10	Tevet 29	Jerome Fain	January 28	Shevat 18
Benjamin Rosenbaum	January 10	Tevet 29	Charles Conwell	January 29	Shevat 19
Esther Aroesty	January 11	Shevat 1	Garson Kleinberg	January 29	Shevat 19
Rita Kazdan	January 11	Shevat 1	David Nussbaum	January 29	Shevat 19
Milton Grossman	January 13	Shevat 3	Alfred Stiller	January 29	Shevat 19
Yuda Kinel	January 13	Shevat 3	Max Gordon	January 30	Shevat 20
L. Grant Meeker	January 13	Shevat 3	Thomas Kaufman	January 30	Shevat 20
William Zivan	January 13	Shevat 3	Paul Lunken	January 30	Shevat 20
Isadore Goldberg	January 14	Shevat 4	Harry Sigelow	January 30	Shevat 20
Max Mendel Feldman	January 15	Shevat 5	Miriam Bauman	January 31	Shevat 21
Norman Gilman	January 15	Shevat 5	Samuel Chait	January 31	Shevat 21
Rose Schwartz	January 15	Shevat 5	David Garey	January 31	Shevat 21
Selma Kay	January 16	Shevat 6	Rose Kurlanshik	January 31	Shevat 21
Louis Pulvino	January 16	Shevat 6	Alexander Phillips	January 31	Shevat 21
Ada Rosenthal	January 16	Shevat 6	Rose Shear	January 31	Shevat 21
Abe Rousso	January 16	Shevat 6	Abraham Wasserman	January 31	Shevat 21

News from our New President!

Andrew Berger andrew.berger@rochester.edu

Greetings! With the new calendar year comes a change in presidents. Please join me in saluting Helen Kashtan for her four years of leadership as president of our congregation. And I mean “join me” literally: there will be an extended Kiddish in Helen’s honor on January 16th! Helen would want me to say that she’s “not going anywhere” (other than to Florida for a little while). Trust me, nobody’s more grateful for that than the person who is succeeding her!

And that person would be me, Andrew Berger. Although I have never wanted to be the president of anything, let alone a congregation, I volunteered to succeed Helen a few months ago. I’ve been on the Board for several years, and in particular I’ve participated in multiple projects associated with intersynagogue collaboration. TBD has reached an important point in its history, and I hope that with your help we can continue the smooth sailing that Helen has provided for the past four years.

One reason I was willing to step up as president was that Neal Eckhaus agreed to step up with me. He’s not technically the co-president, but you’ll be seeing both me and Neal at the center of activities as the year progresses. I’m your go-to person at the end of the day, but Neal and I are working as a team and he’ll be the lead on certain items. Please thank Neal when you see him; I wouldn’t have been able to step up without knowing he’d be my partner in this.

Since I’m not a lifelong TBD member, or even a lifelong Rochesterian, let me introduce myself a bit. I grew up in Lexington, MA, where I attended a conservative synagogue (Temple Emunah) and learned to read from the Torah, which I’ve enjoyed doing here as well. I’ve been a member of Temple Beth David since 2000, when my wife Karen and I moved to Rochester. Karen and I have two children, Henry (13) and Marlena (10). Henry recently had his bar mitzvah, and Marlena is part of the TBD Hebrew school class that meets at B’rith Kodesh on Tuesdays with Alice Nussbaum and on Sundays with Rabbi Smookler. We live just a block from the Rabbi, so it’s going to be particularly easy for her and me to get together for meetings!

In my “day job”, I’m a professor in the Optics department at the University of Rochester. My specialty is shining light on biological things and gaining information about them – blood oxygenation in babies’ heads, mechanical strength

of mouse bones, the contents of cancer cells. How this optics knowledge will help our shul is unclear, but at least you know whom to ask about how a ner tamid stays lit all the time. (Actually I have no idea; it’s a miracle, right?)

As Helen has kept you aware, it’s a time of change for our congregation. Even between when I submit this column and when you read it, the process of selling our Irondequoit building may get even closer to being finalized. As 2016 arrives, so does the task of getting ready to move to a new location and getting our beloved building ready for handoff. I will keep you as informed as possible each step of the way, and I’ll make sure that you’re aware of ways to participate. There will be lots to do and lots of decisions to make. If you’ve ever wondered whether you can impact our future with your ideas or your actions, wonder no more—this is a time when there are many new traditions to be established!

As we all know, religion often feels most important during life cycle events. As Temple Beth David itself goes through a life cycle event, I am sure that Jewish traditions and wisdom will provide continuity. There will still be holidays, b’nai mitzvot, religious services, education, volunteering, and other ways to come together, no matter what building we call home.

Although I’ve been a TBD member for 15 years, there are many of you whom I know only by face and not by name. Now that I’m serving as president, I look forward to introducing ourselves to each other, whether for the first time or to get reacquainted.

Welcome to 2016. It will be a big year for us!

B’shalom,
Andrew



All in the Family

January Birthdays

Aaron Zachary Freedman	January 3
Paul Eissenstat	January 8
Bruce Goldin	January 8
Harold Feinberg	January 9
Hannah Eckhaus	January 12
Melissa Meynadasy	January 16
Dorothy Sherr	January 16
Fronie Hoffman	January 17
Irvin Katz	January 17
Benjamin Duchano	January 18
David Langmann	January 18
Dorothy Schiller	January 19
Felice Harris	January 21
Sarah Duchano	January 23
Mindy Zoghlin	January 23
Linda Servetnick	January 25

February Birthdays

Marc Lande	February 2
Bonnie Abrams- Rich	February 3
Marlena Berger	February 10
Millicent Ritz	February 13
Susan Langmann	February 14
Rae Fleisher	February 16
Gabriel Arthur Franklin	February 17
Thomas Wolbert	February 18
Helen Kashtan	February 23
Jennie Papkin	February 25
Michal Spivak	February 25

Sincere Condolences from Temple to:
Rachel Weinstein and Family
on the recent passing of her husband, **Philip**.

Phillip and Sue Lederman on the recent
passing of Phillip’s mother, **Ruth Lederer**.



Happy Anniversary on
January 25th!

Harold & Dolly Fishman

Send a Card to a Friend or Loved One!

Make checks payable to: Temple Beth David, 3200 St. Paul Blvd., Rochester, NY 14617

Date _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____ (minimum donation \$7. or three for \$18.)

Address:

From: _____ To: _____

Card Message: _____

- Fund: ☐ David Solomon Fund ☐ Marsha Fishman Fund ☐ Rabbi Skopitz Fund
☐ Mitzvah Kiddish Fund ☐ Gilbert Rosenbaum Fund ☐ Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund
☐ Torah Repair Fund ☐ Shiva Chevra Fund ☐ Soldier’s Project Fund
☐ Herb Kraus Adult Education Fund

If no fund is specified, David Solomon Building Fund will be named.

Donations

Received October 10th - December 14th December and January donations will be published in the next Bulletin

RABBI’S DISCRETIONARY FUND

General donation:
Lewis Rothberg & Shelby Nelson

In Memory Of:
Philip Weinstein
Myron & Rheva Kleinberg
Lilly Sherman
Roberta Kinel
Debbie Kinel

Nissim Ojalvo
Milt & Dorothy Smith

Nathan Goldwasser
Fay Neuberg

Jay Cohen
Ronald & Nancy Kraus
Joseph & Mildred Levy
Theodore & Shirley Levy

In Appreciation of:
Rabbi Smookler for officiating Tali’s
Bat Mitzvah
Lee Sigelow & Linda Phillips

Rabbi Smookler for her enjoyable
presentation
Church of the Good Sheperd

MARTHA FISHMAN FUND

In Memory Of:
Abraham Fishman
Harold & Dolly Fishman
Esther Lederman
Annette Shapiro
Joseph Klein
Helen Klein & Family
Happy Anniversary:
Dan & Risa Saltzman
Annette Shapiro

RABBI SKOPITZ FUND:

In Memory Of:
Rabbi Skopitz
Linda Roth
Ruth Somers
Annette Shapiro
Jessie Cohen
Eli Rothstein
Jewell Rothstein

DAVID SOLOMON FUND

General Donation:
Lilly Sherman
Mike & Toby Berke

In Memory of:
Michael Simon
Sam Cohen
Sandra Cohen
Donald Gallant
Elaine Gallant
Belle & Jack Kessler
Irving Kessler
Selma Bachman
Robert Kessler

Max Gross
Stan & Michelle Gross
Abraham Lutzky and Dora Lutzky
Phillip & Susan Lederer

In Appreciation of:
Helen’s service as Temple
President
Robert Kessler

TEMPLE RESIDENCE FUND:

General Donation:
Sharon Brodsky

MITZVAH/KIDDISH FUND:

General donation:
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Marsha Greenberg

Julius Stiller
Sylvia Stiller

Marie Goldwasser
Fay Neuberg

Ruth Lederer
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Get Well Wishes:
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General donation:
Mike & Toby Berke
Pam Rosen & Gary Cohen

SOLDIERS PROJECT

In Memory of:
Fannie Rosen
Pam Rosen & Gary Cohen

