

From the Rabbi's Desk

Rabbi Rachel Smookler

Rachel@Smookler.com



Rabbi Smookler recently contributed an essay to the Jewish Ledger. It's reprinted below.

Now that we have successfully sold our beloved building on St. Paul Blvd and have been welcomed and embraced by the Temple Brith Kodesh community, it has

forced me to look through different lenses at the question "why is synagogue membership important?"

I would like to share with you an incredible ritual that took place on the morning of our last Shabbat that we celebrated in our beloved sanctuary.

At the end of the Torah service, before putting the Torah scroll in the ark, I asked everyone to stand up and create a circle around the entire sanctuary. There wasn't an empty space. As members young and old, long-time members and newly affiliated members stood side by side, tears stained our faces as we watched the Torah and all of her crowns being passed from congregant to congregant as we sang *niggunim*. And then something spontaneous happened.

I saw how strongly identified we all were with our building, our sacred space. And it was right then that I asked that everyone take a step away from the walls of the sanctuary. "This is Temple Beth David," I said. "We, are Beth David, *Congregation* Beth David. We are still standing." All of us understood, at that very

moment, the importance of what it means to be strengthened by community and belonging.

In my role as Rabbi, I am constantly blown away by the support that our members give to one another.

Through all of life's challenges, I have learned that it isn't only the Rabbi that is there for congregants.

Belonging to a synagogue, in my experience, means that your community is surrounding you, to uphold you in times of need, to celebrate joyous moments with you and to engage deeply in topics about God and about the meaning of life.

Our community, in it's transition, has had a really extraordinary opportunity to collaborate with other Temple communities. These collaborations have not only made us stronger, but we now have an even wider network of support as we have been given the gift of being able to meet and get to know Rabbis and members of other synagogues, here, in Rochester.

As a Rabbi, each day, I have the opportunity, the gift, to see the power of belonging to a synagogue community. Whether I am walking through the door of the Jewish home to visit a congregant, and I notice that other congregants are there, helping and volunteering, or tutoring a b'nei mitzvah student, I always see that mystical connection that pulses from one Jew to the next. An invisible thread that pulls at us and encourages us to be there for another in joy and sadness. In health and illness. When you are a member of synagogue, all of these things are possible!

Shana Tovah u'Metukah! May you have a healthy and sweet year and may you feel the support and embrace of your community.

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.



TEMPLE BETH DAVID

AGENDA FOR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2016 — 2:00 PM

TEMPLE B'RITH KODESH ATRIUM

AGENDA:

President's Welcome

Budget Presentation & Vote

Nominating Committee Presentation & Vote

Open Forum

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NOMINEES TO THE BOARD*

TERM ENDING 12/31/2019

Phil Katzman

Susan Lederer

Stephen Papkin

Keith Freeman

*Requiring election by the congregation.

***Thank you to Dan Saltzman and Maxine Manjos
for their service to the Temple Beth David Board of Trustees.***

From the President's Desk

Andrew Berger

Andrew.Berger@rochester.edu



For me, the true end of the High Holidays this year wasn't the shofar blast, nor the break-fast meal, but the thud of the last box of prayer books landing on the floor of our storeroom. Such is the viewpoint of a president, I guess. But what a High Holidays it was! (I think that's proper Jewish grammar.) Services in three different locations (including the Shabbat between the holidays),

Torahs traveling all over the place, and somehow everything turned out okay. Huge thanks in particular go to Jerry Elman, Sinai's executive director, and Suzanne Clark, B'rith Kodesh's assistant executive director, who worked tirelessly along with us to figure out all of the logistics. From within TBD, I give special thanks to our dynamic duo of Gary Cohen and Pam Rosen for all of their organization of services and honors, to Helen Kashtan for putting together the Book of Remembrance, and to Rebecca Weber for working so carefully on ticket distribution. And of course we thank Rabbi Smookler, Cantor Graber, and shofar-blower Yaron Adar for leading us so well.

This year we had several new faces at our High Holiday services. Our newcomers ranged from people who were previous members of the congregation to a young doctor who was doing a 3-month rotation in Rochester and just needed a welcoming place to spend Yom Kippur. Some of you may even be reading this Bulletin! We hope that this season was just the beginning.

Since this is my first year as president, the buildup to the High Holidays also gave me a chance to connect with several members of the congregation for the first time. I am glad to have gotten to know more about your history with TBD and what it means to you.

Moving beyond the High Holidays, here are a few updates since the last Bulletin:

- ◆ Now that the TBK elevator is operational, we have started to use our second-floor space for kiddush and Torah study. It is a glimpse of what it will feel like to have the whole space functional.
- ◆ The first Friday Night Fresh event, on September 23, was well-attended and successful. Keep an eye out for the next one, which we'll schedule once the renovations are wrapping up.
- ◆ Renovation update: construction is truly just around the corner. We are negotiating the final terms of a contract; it will probably be signed by the time you are reading this. Renovation is expected to last 6-8 weeks. With enough luck, we will hold a Chanukah party in our completed space. (You knew that was why it comes so late this year, right??)
- ◆ Don't forget about our annual Congregational Meeting. It is at 2 PM on Sunday, November 6, in the Temple B'rith Kodesh Atrium. Enter the building from the main (rear) parking lot, go straight through the lobby and down the long hallway, and you'll find the Atrium on your right.
- ◆ Most of all, we look forward to Leo Katzman's bar mitzvah coming up on October 29!
- ◆ And finally... If you're a member, you've received a Kol Nidrei appeal in the mail. If you do not already realize this, the dues we pay do not cover our rental costs and the salaries of the wonderful people we employ. When you contribute, through your time or your donations, you perform the essential work of keeping Temple Beth David running. Thank you, as always, for your support.

Our website has a new look and updated information about Temple Beth David!

www.tbdrochester.org

All in the Family

November Birthdays

Maureen Rosenbaum	Nov. 21
Cynthia Halpern	Nov. 22
Scott Franklin	Nov. 26
Talia Phillips	Nov. 27
Harry Gan	Nov. 28
Matthew Molis	Nov. 28
Linda Raphael	Nov. 28
Edward Drexler	Nov. 29

**Belated birthday
wishes to Max Franklin!**

November Anniversaries

Daniel & Risa Slatzman	Nov. 3
Ira & Sherry M. Goldman	Nov. 4
Howard & Helen Kashtan	Nov. 29

December Birthdays

Annette Strassman	Dec. 1
Lori Davis	Dec. 2
Adele Gan	Dec. 4
Stephen Papkin	Dec. 5
Rebecca Erlichman	Dec. 8
Gary Cohen	Dec. 8
Leigh Evans	Dec. 9
Phillip Katzman	Dec. 11
Sharon Alva	Dec. 12
Shirley Grossman	Dec. 22
Susan Drexler	Dec. 27
Neil Hyman	Dec. 27
Alex Cohen	Dec. 29
Jordan Cohen	Dec. 29
Scott Davis	Dec. 29
Rabbi Aviva Berg	Dec. 30
Jinay Reitze	Dec. 30
Merrie Franklin	Dec. 31
Hanah Goldin	Dec. 31

Thank You

Thank you to **Leon and Sarisa Zoghlin** for sponsoring a kiddish.

Thank you to **Joanne and Phil Katzman** for sponsoring a kiddish in honor of Leo becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Thank you to
Cantorial Soloist
Rachel Graber for
being with our
congregation again
on Rosh Hashanah
and Yom Kippor.
Her beautiful voice
and inspiring chanting is much
appreciated.



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Address: _____

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Card Message:

- ☐ Get Well Wishes
- ☐ In Honor
- ☐ In Appreciation

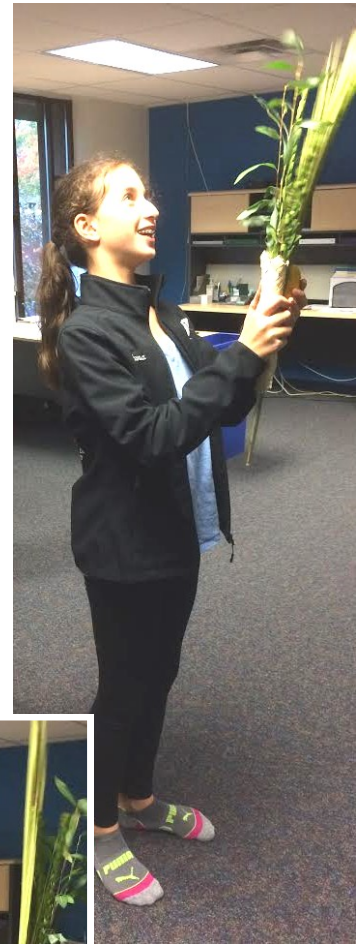
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- ☐ In Honor
- ☐ Congratulations on _____

Note: _____

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Herb Kraus Adult Education Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Torah Repair Fund |

Learning to Shake Things Up (...Down, Left and Right)



Morah Alice
Nussbaum taught
Religious School
students the way to
shake the Lulav and
Etrog in celebration
of Sukkot!



Books & Brunch



**Join us for a discussion of
Jewish-themed books over brunch.**

Hosted by: Ellen Gertzog

Sundays @ 10 a.m. – noon

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Open to the community!

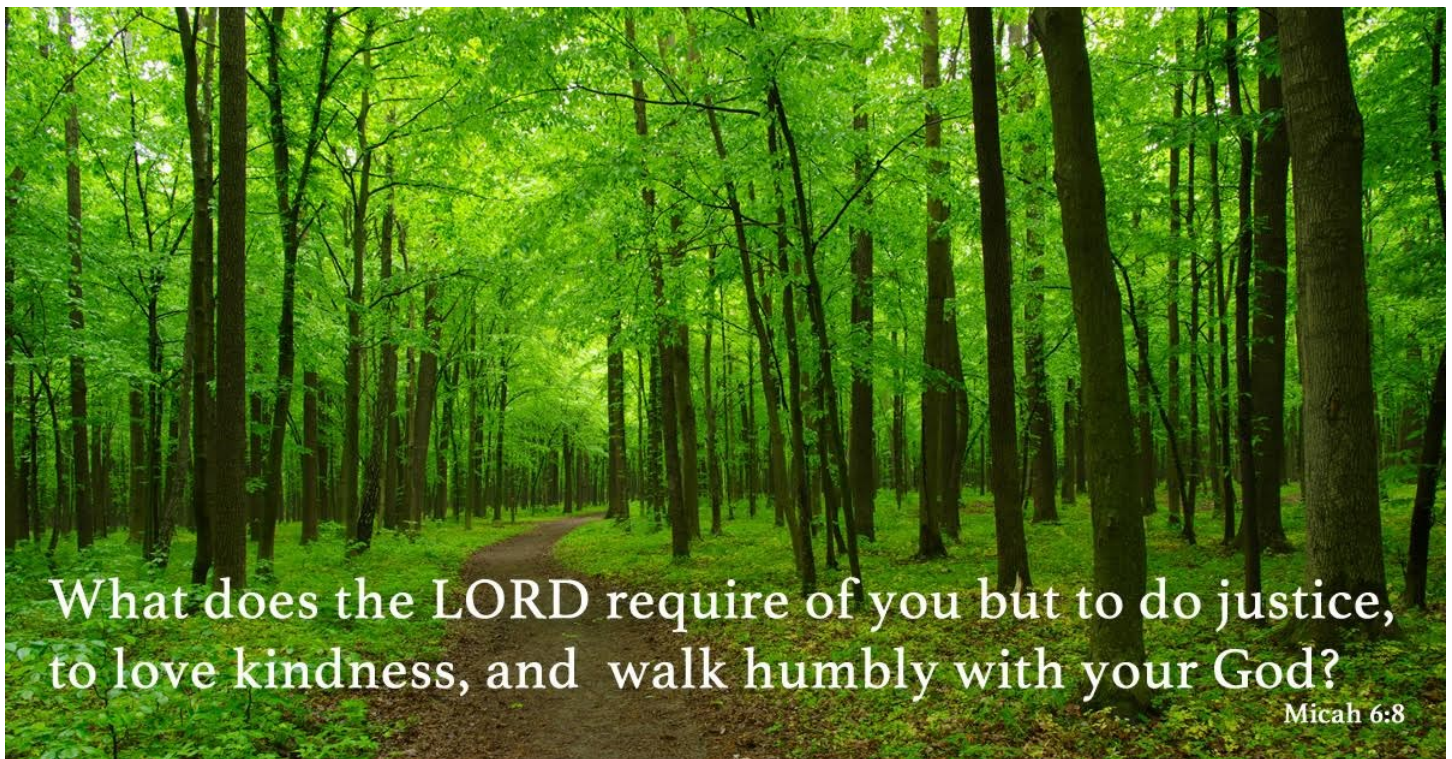
Dec. 11: **Natasha and Other Stories**
by David Bezmozgis (*short stories*)

Jan. 15: **Stir: My Broken Brain and
the Meals that Brought Me Home**
by Jessica Fechter (*biography*)

March 5: **Adolfo Kaminsky: A Forger's Life**
by Sarah Kaminsky (*biography*)

May 7: **Second Person Singular**
by Sayed Kashua (*fiction*)

You may RSVP for one, some or all of these to
Ellen at egertzog@gmail.com (please put Books
and Brunch in the subject line) or 461-4336.



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Lilly Sherman
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Rose Gordon

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Gladys Garey

Sylvia Roth

Eric Levy

Carl & Judith Levy

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Barbara London & Steve Presser

Isadore Gan

Harry & Adele Gan

Arnold Fleisher

Rae Fleisher

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Myron Kleinberg

Marilyn Segelin

James Parkman

Jean Brandwein

Michelle Steinberg

Karen Berger

Eric Foote

Lewis Rothberg

Anita Bauman

Stan Gross

Marv Raphael

Dan Saltzman

Pam Rosen & Gary Cohen

Carl Levy

Pam Rosen, Gary, Alex & Jordan Cohen

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Kevin & Judy Flessig

Gary Cohen & Pam Rosen

CONGRATULATIONS

Rabbi Smookler, President of the Board of Rabbis

Howard & Helen Kashtan

Harriet Driss

Ronald Bolton

MITZVAH KIDDISH FUND

IN MEMORY OF

Sylvia Roth

Ester Zohar

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Rose Applebaum

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Seymour Stiller

Miss Sylvia Stiller

Barbara Gravite's brother, Samuel

Miss Sylvia Stiller

Pearl Gallant

Annette Applebaum

GET WELL WISHES

Harold Feinberg

Lilly Sherman

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Noah Meyer

Henry Berger

Toby Berke

Ari Kramer

Marvin Davis

Kari Abramson

Eva Abrams

Stacey Berke

Florence Phillips

Max Franklin

Carl Levy

Pam Rosen, Gary, Alex & Jordan Cohen

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Jonathan Feldman & Alison Helms

Harriet Driss & Kevin McTighe

Rabbi Aviva Berg & Arthur Bernberg

Scott & Lori Davis

Pam Rosen, Gary, Alex, Jordan Cohen

MAZEL TOV

Milt & Dorothy Smith on your new home

Gary Cohen & Pam Rosen

IN APPRECIATION OF

Andrew Berger

Jonathan Rich & Bonnie Abrams-Rich

FRIDAY NIGHT FRESH

Alice and Daniel Nussbaum

Lilly Sherman

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

IN MEMORY OF

Isadore Babin, beloved father of Sharon Cohen

Sharon Cohen

Sumner Shechet

Kevin & Judy Fleissig

Sylvia Roth

Ira & Sherry Goldman

Lilly Sherman

Selma Guttman

Debbie Phillips & Jerome Weiss

Beatrice Goldman

Arthur Goldman

Ira & Sherry Goldman

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Fay Neuberg

IN APPRECIATION FROM

Lewis Rothberg & Shelby Nelson

Marvin & Zipporah Kleinberg

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MARSHA FISHMAN EDUCATION FUND IN MEMORY OF

Beloved Marsha

Harold & Dolly Fishman

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Arlene Pollan

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Judy Eissenstat

Pam Rosen, Gary, Alex & Jordan

WELL WISHES

Rhea Feinberg

William & Ethel Farash

TORAH FUND

IN MEMORY OF

Meyer & Chana Neuberg

Fay Neuberg

ROSENBAUM FUND

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Morris Lovinger

Pam Rosen & Gary Cohen

SOLDIERS FUND

IN MEMORY OF

Ester Zohar

Karen & Ronald Newman

Al Zack

Marsha Greenberg

IMO Sylvia Roth

Harriet Driss

**A special note of thanks to those congregants
who donated to provide the beautiful flowers
for the bimah during the High Holy Days.**

Andrew & Karen Berger

Michael & Tobey Berke

Howard Brill & Barbara Grosh

Gary Cohen & Pam Rosen

Scott & Lori Davis

Ed & Sue Drexler

Scott & Merrie Franklin

Bill & Ellen Gertzog

Cindy Halpern

Phil & Joanne Katzman

Marc Lande & Linda Servetnick

Phil & Susan Lederer

Maxine Manjos

Dan & Alice Nussbaum

Joan & Jonathan Papkin

Jonathan Rich & Bonnie Abrams-Rich

Lewis Rothberg & Shelby Nelson

Dan & Risa Saltzman

Yahrzeits

Date Observed

11/1/2016

Harry Cherry
Ceil Harris
Martin Shilman

11/2/16

Herbert Hirsch
Meyer Lubitow
Sol Sharf

11/3/2016

Harry Blass
Nathan Sanow

11/4/2016

Dory Driss
Lesser Raphael
Mickey Schrier
Evalyn Stoler

11/5/2016

Golde Millstone Hersch
Esther Schwartz

11/6/2016

Bennie Cohen
Sonia Lutzky

11/7/2016

Ethel Stamler

11/11/2016

Ruth Becker
Essie Schwatz

11/12/2016

Louis Gertzberg

11/13/2016

Rose Babin

11/14/2016

Joseph W. Phillips

11/15/2016

Irwin Halpern
Louis Leitman
Jacob Rubin

11/16/2016

Helen Bolton
Marge Panitch

11/17/2016

Max Raphael
Phillip Weinstein

11/18/2016

Henry Toole
Ruth Wolinsky

11/19/2016

Ruth Kaplan
Irving Roth

11/20/2016

Jesse Berkov
Helen Fineberg
Harold Gertzog
William Isaacson

11/21/2016

Jeanette Sherman

11/23/2016

Virginia Erlichman
Sylvia Moss

11/24/2016

Esther Conwell Rothberg
Anne Owerbach
Ruth Shechet

11/25/2016

James Alva

11/26/2016

Claire Engel

11/27/2016

Donald Gallant
Joseph Klein
Belle Kleinberg

11/28/2016

Molly Cherry
Robert Newman

11/30/2016

Leon Alent
Joseph Levy

12/11/2016

Helen Forchheimer
Micheal Simon

12/2/2016

David Candles

12/4/2016

Evelyn Lovinger

12/5/2016

Ray Schatz

12/6/2016

Minnie Gan Kotzin
Benjamin Markowitz
Barnet Rothstein

12/7/2016

Abe Fishman
Phillip Melin

12/8/2016

Myron Grashow
Pauline Markowitz

12/9/2016

Howard Goldenberg
Ruth Goldstein
Ethel Tishoff

12/10/2016

Jessie Cohen
Belle Fogelman

12/11/2016

Bany Cohen
Lois Schwartz

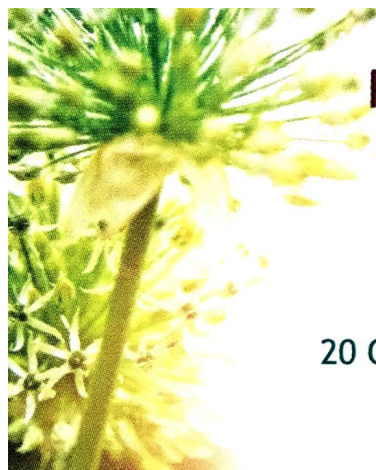
12/12/2016

Abe Aroesty
Mildred Levy

12/13/2016

Max Robbins
Julius Rosen
Eli Rothstein
Shirley Schnidman

We've changed the format for publishing yahrzeit dates. The date that appears above is the date of observance using the secular calendar. These dates match those of the Hebrew calendar for the actual date of death.



Psychotherapy Services

Lisa A. Fogel, LCSW-R

Tobey Village Corporate Center
20 Office Park Way, Pittsford NY 14534

Phone: 585 (474-0356)

Yahrzeits

Date Observed

12/14/2016

Ida Goldstein

12/15/2016

Esther Lederman

12/16/2016

Ruth Lederer

12/17/2016

Herbert Goldberg
Leonard Kaufman
Jacob Kreag

12/18/2016

Max Roth
Harry Stein

12/19/2016

Marie Goldwasser
Max Rosenthal
Arnold Shapiro

12/20/2016

Michael Greenberg

12/21/2016

Abraham Berkowitz
Sara Gorelick

12/22/2016

Elsie Grashow
Ira Kinel

12/23/2016

Leonard Gordon

12/24/2016

Max Ambush

12/25/2016

Sylvia Berger
Abraham Berkov
Max Berson
Rosalie Bloom
Gay Hersch
Laurence Skopitz

12/26/2016

Edward Driss
Nathan Goldwasser
Donald Millstone

12/27/2016

Tibey Porrath
Abe Testa

12/28/2016

Anna Fain
Muriel Katz
Dora Lutsky

12/29/2016

Lillian Bridge
Louis Levin
Maurice Nobel
Julia Stiller

12/30/2016

Rebecca Germanow
Sheldon Harris
Samuel Herman
Edith Levy
Paul Vanas

12/31/2016

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community information.**

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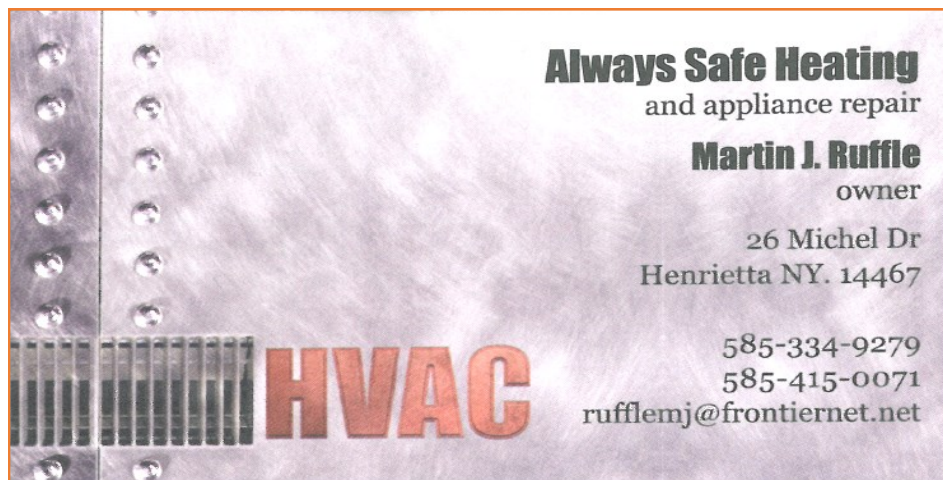
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