

Community Stars Shine Bright at First Annual Dancing with the Stars Event: Jacobsons and Travers/Weikert Crowned the Winner



The Harrisburg JCC was at its best on Saturday night November 17 when 7 couples took to the JCC stage to showcase their skills in the first annual Dancing with the Stars fundraiser. With about 300 adoring fans in attendance, the dancers showed what months of hard work can produce. "Each couple had 6 lessons with a professional over the past few months; but they spent countless hours practicing on

their own," stated JCC Program Director and event organizer Andrea Weikert.

The night began with heavy appetizers and drinks available as the guests mingled and had a chance to catch up with friends. Much of the food and desserts were prepared by Terry Fisher. As people took to their seats, eyes were drawn to the beautiful table centerpieces provided from Alli's Everlasting Arrangements. Centerpieces were offered for sale with the profits from them going to the Alli Heyden Passion for Fashion Scholarship Fund. ABC 27's Alicia Richards was the master of ceremonies, and the judges for the night were Lauren Ramos, Kelley Delaney, who both teach dance locally, and rounding out the panel was dance expert Rabbi Ron Muroff.

The couples each had their own dance style, and the personalities of the dancers became apparent

as each group took to the stage. The couples to compete were Ron and Barbara Plesco (Hip Hop); JCC Senior Adult Coordinator Cheryl Yablon and JCC Fitness Manager Jeremy Kreiser (Tango); Bert and Myrna Rubin (Fox Trot with a twist); Debbie and Arthur Kravitz (Cha Cha); Jewish Federation's Director of Community Outreach Leslie Wiener and Ross Wiener (Hustle); Scott and Renee Jacobson (Country Swing); and SFR Director Terri Travers and JCC Basketball player/ JCC Maccabi Athlete Eli Weikert (Hip Hop).

"The night was great, and all the couples did amazingly well. When I agreed to dance, I never realized I would have to do it on crutches. It was just one of the fun twists of the night," commented Leslie Wiener. Leslie had sustained an ankle injury about a week before the event and agreed to still dance in order to help the competition go on without a hitch. After all 7 couples performed their dance,

a brief intermission was held while the judges tabulated the results. After much calculation, it was determined that the winners of the judges' votes was Scott and Renee Jacobson from Mechanicsburg. The popular vote winners were Terri Travers and Eli Weikert.

Travers commented, "I couldn't believe I agreed to participate, as I have no dance ability, but we had so much fun. Eli was amazing and kept me laughing, and we were so fortunate to have so many people support us at the event. I think all of my current and former players really enjoyed getting to laugh at me."

The entire evening brought together so many people from the community, from children to senior citizens, having something for everybody. The money raised from the event will benefit JCC programming and scholarships.

Turn to page 11 for more photos from the event!



Your Annual Campaign Gifts at Work: Words from a Community Teen

By Sophia K. Fox

My Reasons for Loving the JCC...

My reasons for loving the JCC can be summed up by one day in November when I got on a bus at 5 a.m. and traveled to Staten Island. The bus left the JCC filled with volunteers of all ages wanting to help Hurricane Sandy victims. My sister and I went along, and I spent the day working at the flood-damaged home of a Jewish family that still had no power or heat. It is that kind of community spirit and feeling of tikkun olam (repairing the world) that I have thanks to the JCC.

I spent much of my childhood and now my teen years at the JCC. Since as far back as I can remember,

I have been at the Center. I have played basketball there since I was 5 years old. Now I am a senior on the high school team. Some of my closest friends are on the team, and playing basketball has been an important part of my life, just as it was for my father when he played basketball at the Center during his high school years. Terri Travers, the basketball coach, is awesome and it is competitive but not in a too-intense way.

There have always been opportunities to be involved in great activities at the JCC. There were days when I went to school at the Silver Academy, then went straight to basketball practice, got a quick dinner and then attended musical practice for a show the

Center was about to put on.

I was involved with Junior Maccabi and when I got older, the Maccabi Games. I also had an incredible experience traveling to Maccabi Artsfest in different parts of the country to study musical theater. Last year the Maccabi Games and Artsfest were held jointly in Israel. I studied photography for a week, and then we all traveled around the country. I will never forget that trip.

All of this has shaped me into the person I am today and was only possible because of my involvement with the JCC.

Sophia K. Fox is the daughter of Barry Fox (of blessed memory) and Jeanette Krebs

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Thank you for your support and generosity.

WHY WE BELONG HERE: THE COOPER FAMILY



The Jewish Community Center is a staple in the Harrisburg area. The JCC has been a way of life for families and has been passed down to the next generation to keep the JCC spirit alive. The JCC has remained a constant and has been a place where Jews in Harrisburg feel welcome, whether it is through the youth sports programs (basketball and swim team), summer day camp, the Early Learning Center or the Fitness Center; people come

here for the camaraderie.

In 1996, Scott and Barbara Cooper needed a place that would meet all of their needs, since they were expecting their first child. They moved to the Harrisburg area a few years earlier in order for Scott to attend Widener Law School. The Coopers remember from their childhood how important a JCC community can be. They attended an open house and took a tour of the Early Learning Center and knew, from that point on, that this was the place where they belong - and they've been members ever since. Today, the Cooper family includes, Scott, Barbara, Leah (15 years old) and Sami (10 years old).

The Cooper girls both attended the Brenner Family Early Learning Center and went to The Silver Academy for Kindergarten. How-

ever, their favorite thing about the JCC is Summer Camp at Green Hills. Leah has completed her 10th consecutive year at camp, and this summer marked her second year as a CIT. Sami enjoyed the perks of Travel Camp.

Both girls enjoy the camp finale because it's a chance for them to show off their musical talents. Besides summer camp, the JCC has offered other programs for the girls. Leah participated in the swim team and basketball in elementary school. Currently, she is involved in Hebrew High, Rosh Chodesh (it's a Girls Thing) and BBYO. You can find Sami on the basketball court working on her lay-up shot, once the season starts this year with the Iddy Biddy Basketball program.

Scott and Barbara are active in the JCC. You can find Scott in the

Fitness Center on the EFX equipment, sweating it out on a bike taking Arthur Kravitz's Spin class or training for the JCC's annual 5K race; and Barbara is involved with the Task Force and the Teen/Tween committee, to keep the JCC spirit alive. "The JCC has been a huge part of our lives," said Barbara Cooper. "I feel it's important to give back to the JCC and to make sure it's a viable part of the community."

In 2009, Barbara's parents moved to the Harrisburg area to enjoy retirement and needed a place to socialize. That's when Mel and Roberta Krieger found the Senior Adult Club and the SilverSneakers program at the JCC. You can find them here almost every day, either taking Cheryl Yablon's SilverSneakers classes followed by the JCC Senior Adult Club luncheon programs on Tuesdays and Thursdays or in the indoor swimming pool on Mondays and Wednesdays taking Diana Budd's SilverSplash water classes. "The members of the Seniors group welcomed us with open arms," said Roberta Krieger.

Mel and Roberta enjoyed the recent JCC Adult bus trips to Chicago and Canada; and they are looking forward to traveling with the group to Savannah in the spring. Also, Roberta recently took on the role as the co-director of the JCC Senior Adult Club Talent Show in May. The show affords the Club's members a chance to show off their hidden talents.

The Coopers are looking forward to Dancing with the Community Stars and Hairspray this fall. The JCC is where they have created friendships and memories to last a lifetime.

That is why the Cooper and Krieger families belong to the JCC.

○ Chanukah ○ Chanukah, Come light the menorah
Let's have a party, we'll all dance the hora

Gather round the table, we'll give you a treat
Dreidels to play with and latkes to eat

And while we are playing,
the candles are burning low

One for each night, they shed a sweet light
to remind us of days long ago

Happy Chanukah
from the Board of Trustees and
the Staff
of the Jewish Federation of Greater Harrisburg

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**Mission Statement of
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Inform readers about local,
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Promote Jewish values,
Jewish identity and a
sense of Jewish community
in central Pennsylvania.

The opinions expressed in the *Community Review* do not necessarily reflect the position of the Jewish Federation of Greater Harrisburg. *The Federation does not endorse any candidate or political party for any elected office.*

From the Foundation: Year-end Tax Planning: 2012

As the end of the year approaches, financial and tax planning remains complex. Both tax and interest rates remain at historical lows and opportunities for income and estate tax planning remain plentiful, even in an uncertain economy and with the prospects of increased taxes due to the approaching so-called "fiscal cliff." You should use these last few weeks of 2012 to review your financial picture and consider strategies to maximize your financial picture. As with all tax strategies, it is essential to engage a tax professional before taking final action.

Impact of the election: With the close November election and the continuation of divided government, prospects for comprehensive tax reform, and even more limited tax legislation before the end of 2012 remain unclear. Congress needs to address certain issues, such as the "Alternative Minimum Tax Patch" (discussed below), before year-end to prevent a chaotic 2012 tax filing season. Other tax provisions, including the extension of the so-called "Bush Tax Cuts" and payroll tax relief will expire as of December 31, 2012 and it remains to be seen whether a Republican-controlled House of Representatives, a Democratic-controlled Senate and the Obama Administration can reach agreement on these issues.

Shift income and deductions where possible: does this make sense this year? Tried and true year-end tax strategies generally revolve around shifting some tax burden to next year. Deferring receipt of a bonus payment to 2013 or accelerating deductions into 2012 through prepaying a deductible expense or making larger charitable gifts can lower this year's bill, leaving those saved tax dollars in your pocket rather than the government's. For 2012 there are several complicating factors that must be considered as you discuss potential year-end moves with your tax advisor including:

- Because the Bush Tax Cuts expire at the end of the year, all tax rates revert back to their pre-2001 and 2003 levels, resulting in higher taxes in 2013, including a top tax rate of 39.6 percent. (The Obama Administration has pledged to retain the existing lower tax rates for those with adjusted gross income under \$200,000 and married couples with adjusted gross income under \$250,000). Also, provisions that would limit the value of personal exemptions and a percentage of itemized deductions return to the tax code. Again, the Obama Administration would only apply these increases to those with incomes over the \$200,000 and \$250,000 levels. Higher tax rates in 2013 must be considered.

- Second, income tax planning should take into account the impact of the Alternative Minimum Tax ("AMT") The so-called AMT Patch, that increases the amount of income exempt from the AMT, expired at the end of 2011 and needs to be re-enacted before the end of 2012 if Congress wants to lower the AMT tax bills of many taxpayers as well as prevent almost 30 million new taxpayers from paying the AMT tax for the first time. Remember that those with large state tax deductions, long-term capital gains, a large number of dependents, or exercised stock options are among those most prone to AMT exposure. This is an area where skilled tax advice is absolutely essential.

- Third, "high-income taxpayers," defined again as those with adjusted gross income in excess of \$200,000 (single) and \$250,000 (married), face two new taxes in 2013 enacted to help pay for the Affordable Care Act ("ObamaCare"). In general, an additional 3.8 percent Medicare tax will be imposed on investment income, such as capital gains, in excess of these threshold amounts (\$200,000/\$250,000) starting in 2013. Further, an additional 0.9 percent tax will be imposed on wage income above these thresholds. This will be in addition to the existing 1.45 percent Medicare tax currently in the law. Because of the increasing complexity caused by the combination of all of these changes, it is vital to figure both your regular and AMT tax before executing any year-end tax strategies.

Impact of proposed legislation and capital gains: If the Bush Tax Cuts are not extended, the top tax rate for long-term capital gains increases from 15 percent to 23.8 percent (20 percent statutory rate and the additional Medicare tax) and the top tax rate for dividends increases from 15 percent to 43.4 percent. It is probably safe to say that the top rates for investment income will never be lower than 2012 rates. You may not have much control regarding the timing of when you receive dividends, but you may want to cash-in long-term gains such as stocks or other assets whose value has increased over the last several years. There may be other strategies to consider including gifting of appreciated assets such as stock to charities in order to maximize tax savings and the impact of your charitable gift. Remember: "the tax tail should not wag the investment dog," and you need to discuss any transactions with your financial advisor or broker.

Estate and Gift Strategies to Consider: Another portion of the tax code expiring at the end of the year is the current estate and gift tax regime that provides a \$5.12 million exemption from transfer tax and would return to \$1 million. In some circumstances, you may want to consider making large gifts or transferring appreciated property to intended beneficiaries

TAX PLANNING continued on page 10

The Community Investor

By Howard Ross | Executive Director

Jewish Community Foundation of Central Pennsylvania



As you can see from above, the new headline, "The Community Investor" is a change from "The Foundation of the Foundation" (OK, some wanted me to change the picture, but... Why the change?

Last edition I shared my experience at the General Assembly of the Jewish Federations of North America and my reflections on the changing face of funding our Jewish agencies and synagogues.

While thinking about what it is that we actually do, I realized that everything at the Foundation

is investing for the benefit of the community. The Foundation does no programming; we do not offer spiritual guidance or a gym in which to work out. Yet, without the Foundation and the endowed investments (and the investing which we do to grow those investments), our synagogues might not be able to maintain the availability of spiritual guidance, the JCC would not be able to offer fitness classes and the Silver Academy would either raise its tuition substantially or shut its doors. Every Jewish agency and charity which the Foundation supports would be facing financial tzoris without the annual grants supported by your Foundation.

So, we are the "community investor". We are investing in the community's programmatic and future existence as well as investing the community's savings for maximum growth.

INVESTOR continued on page 11

Dave Bright

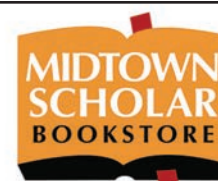
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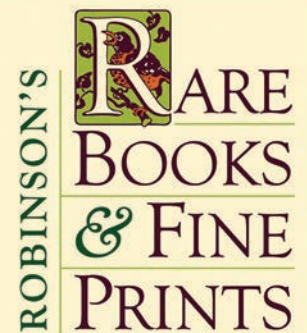
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Tip Off To the 2012-2013 Season JCC Basketball Season Preview

If you are a JCC sports fan, you know that December means one thing, the start of another basketball season is here. The 2012-2013 season will feature many returning players as well as newcomers; and another new team has been formed to help meet the demand of the community. Read below to get your scoop on the upcoming season.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS

This season marks the end of a long basketball journey and career for a core group of seniors who started their competitive JCC basketball career as 5th graders. In a rare year when the JCC was short on middle school players, Annie Doctrow, Rachel Glick, Sophie C. Fox, Sophie K. Fox and Emily Wolf were called up as 5th graders to play middle school basketball. Now this group of girls, joined by fellow seniors and JCC veterans Lila Portman, Jocelyn Green and Anya Chuyko as well as returning players LeeTal Shefet and Zoe Krevsky, look to make their mark. The group will be helped by the addition of four new players that include freshmen Laura Reback and Aryn Yancey and sophomores Hannah Spitz and Mara Myers. The team has grown up together and has the benefit of knowing how each other plays.

Thoughts on the season:

Senior Guard, Rachel Glick, "This is going to be a really good year. We are a faster and stronger team than in the past, and I am looking forward to my last year with the girls. I have been playing basketball with them for my entire life. They are my family."

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS VARSITY

The 2011-2012 year was a season where dreams came true. The boys won the JCC Tip-Off Tournament and the St. Francis Post Season Tournament and went 23-1 over the course of the season. With the graduation of 6 seniors last year, the 2012-2013 team enters the season with many question marks. Returning players from last season's varsity team include seniors Jake DeBroff, Ethan DeBroff, Jon Wishnow, Anthony Townsend, Jered Green and Sophomore Josh Adler. Sam Shaffer, Zach Abel and David Green, all juniors from last year's JV squad, earned a spot on Varsity this year. The group is rounded out by first-time JCC players Joey Good, Lance Moody and Alex Malinoski. The group knows that they are a bit undersized but feel confident in the considerable amount of speed on this year's team. Based on the winning season last year, this team knows they have a target on their back; but they feel they are up for the challenge and are willing to put in the hard work.

Thoughts on the season:

Senior Guard, Ethan DeBroff, "The team only returns a few players, and we are a different team than last year. However, we have many of the pieces in place to accomplish great success this season. I can't wait to get started to prove that we are up to the challenge."

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS JV

This season will mark the second year of an independent JV team for the high school boys at the JCC. In previous years, some JV games were played, but all players practiced together. Due to the overwhelming growth in the program, the JV team provides a competitive playing environment to 15 JCC teens. The JV team is composed of many players who were part of the undefeated middle school run from 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 seasons. The team will find leadership from Juniors Ryan Plesco and Dustin Henken and Sophomore Wesley Bobb. Point production is expected to come from Sophomores Aidan Henken, Sam Rosen, Max Hess and Aaron Gold. Sophomore Adam Mitrani should allow the JCC to be very strong on the boards. Five solid freshmen players will make their high school debut this season, and expectations are high for the immediate impact they should be able to make. They include Eli Weikert, Eric Baseman, Jason Shaffer, Noah Woolf and Devin Rosenberger. Rounding out the team are two new players for the high school boys, Jacob Schulder and Nathaniel Pinskey.

Thoughts on the season:

Freshman Guard Jason Shaffer, "We are a team of players who has grown accustomed to winning. We plan to work hard and keep the winning tradition going this season."

MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS

After several seasons of being young and inexperienced, the girls are back and ready to take on the competition. The team looks to be the most aggressive and naturally gifted group of players that has come together in years for the middle school program. Led by third-year players Lexi Weikert, Madison Schwab and Victoria Abel, the level of improvement is considerable. The veteran players are being pushed by a very talented 6th grade class that includes Alexa Schwab, Skyler Oken, Jenna Shoop, Becca Smith, Alexa Romanchock, Nina Brodsky and Batsheva Gewirtz. Added to the aggressive play of the newcomers is the experience and basketball smarts of 7th and 8th graders Yael Muroff, Kennedy Jackson, Anya Fox, Deborah, Rebekah and Sarah Guida.

Thoughts on the season:

7th Grade Guard Lexi Weikert said, "I think that we will have a banner on the wall of the gym at the end of this season. We have faith in our team, and we have a good group of girls playing this season. We will work hard and have the expectation of winning. We won't stop 'til we get the job done."

MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS

Rebuilding years are unavoidable, and the middle school boys look to rebuild with a much younger team this season. With only four players returning to the team from last year's undefeated season, this group knows it has its work cut out for them. Returning players Ian Rosen, Matthew Plesco, Nathan Adler and Hallel Cheskis will get key help from new 8th graders Ethan Augustine, Kwame McCray, Isaiah Owens and Lincoln Weinstock. Key minutes will also be coming from 7th graders Ethan Buskirk, Max Kasian and Julian Sherr. Rounding out the team are five 6th graders who are learning the ropes and hope to become the building blocks for the future success of the program. These players include Ryan Jacobs, Aaron Bobb, Max Shore, Henry Gold and Sam Goldberg.

Thoughts on the season:

8th Grade Guard Ian Rosen, "We are going to really have to try hard and put in the work. If we do that, we should have a good team and really improve over the season."

3RD-5TH GRADE GIRLS

In its third year of existence, the 3rd-5th grade girls team provides an introduction to game play for girls. The program features two practices a week with the plan of about 8 to 10 games this season. The girls are focusing on learning the fundamentals of the game as well as developing an understanding of the rules of the game. The team will be led by returning players Maddie Cohen, Lily Woolf, Taryn Yancey and Madyson Smith. The girls are joined by first-year players Sami Cooper, Hannah Alder, Erin Brodsky, Sophia Shienvold, Eliora Tickner and Elisa Mathias.

Thoughts on the season:

5th Grade Guard/Forward Lily Woolf, "This is my third and final year on this team, and I am really excited for the games to start. We have great coaches and a fun team."

4TH-6TH GRADE BOYS

This newly developed team was brought about by the popular demand for a competitive team for this age group of boys. Parents asked and the Sports and Fitness Department is proud to be able to answer the request to provide a team focused on developing team and individual skill work. Many of the boys have played basketball in some capacity, but this is their first exposure to the team concept and higher level skills development. The goal is to have this team play a 10-game schedule over the course of the season in order to allow them to put their hard work and practice to use. The team is composed of the following players: Sammy Schwab, Drew Augustine, William Halbert, Owen Wiener, Alex Weinstock, Joseph Caplan, Matthew Yoffe, Eli Adler, Jata Shoop, Ryan Smith, Shane Grove, and Sam Welks.

Thoughts on the season:

4th Grade Guard Sammy Schwab, "Our team is so much fun. We play hard and are getting better. I can't wait for our first game."

ChanuConcert

A COMMUNITY CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

Sunday, December 16, 2012

9:30 am – noon | Mary Sachs Auditorium, JCC

9:30 – 11:00 am

Activities for children in kindergarten – 7th grades

9:30 – 11:00 am

PJ Library Program – adult supervision is required for this program

9:30 – 11:00 am

Parent Schmooze – enjoy friendly conversation, coffee & a donut

11:00 am

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Kvell and Kvetch!!

Yiddish words meaning "to be delighted with" (kvell) and "one who complains" (kvetch).

Please...let us know how we're doing! You can let the JCC staff know how we are meeting your needs by writing your comments on a "Kvell And Kvetch" sheet and inserting it into the suggestion box, located in the Atrium. Tell us about a positive experience you had in a program, a staff member who went out of his or her way for you, a program idea, or something that we can improve upon. If you'd like to chat, you are welcome to give Andrea Weikert, Program Director, a call at 236-9555, ext. 3108 or a.weikert@jewishfedhbg.org. We really appreciate your input – this is one more way that the JCC staff is striving to make sure you have the best possible experience every time you're here.

Youth Thanksgiving Traditions Continue at the JCC



Thanksgiving can mean a variety of different things to people, but when you ask the JCC programming department heads what they think of when hearing it is Thanksgiving, you are likely to hear about three youth activities.

Thanksgiving at the JCC kicked off on Tuesday, November 20th when the Early Childhood Department celebrated its annual Thanksgiving Feast. ECD Director Angie Stoll said, "This is one of my favorite events of the year, as the kids really enjoy the day." Each classroom made a dish or snack to share with the other classrooms, and each class dressed up for the morning activities as either Native Americans or Pilgrims. Many parents joined the celebration, adding to the festivities that included corn bowling and pin the feather on the turkey.

On Wednesday, the traditions continued with the Thanksgiving Eve Bowl-a-Palooza youth bowling and ice cream trip. This year, 31 youth from kindergarten to 7th grade took part in the fun night. The bus loaded up at the JCC and the kids, along with Andrea Weikert, Terry Fisher and Terri Travers, traveled across the river to bowl. After working up an appetite, it was back on the bus to head to Friendly's for ice cream. "I love getting to go bowling with my brother and sister and cousins as well as some of my good friends. We had so much fun," stated annual participant Madison Schwab.

Thanksgiving Day is a chance to eat and spend time with family and friends. For the past several years, it has also meant that it is time for Turkey Day Hoops. The program allows children to run around and burn off some energy before sitting down with family. The event, broken into three age categories, featured basketball games and competitions. The younger children's activities were led by JCC high school players as well as former players home on break. High School Senior

THANKSGIVING continued on page 10

Bikur Cholim conference inspiring, in face of Hurricane Sandy



Some people came to the conference with their power still off, "courtesy" of Hurricane Sandy. But there was a warm glow inside the UJA-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York building on Sunday, November 11th, where dozens of individuals gathered for a conference devoted to bikur cholim.

This was the silver anniversary of the conference, sponsored annually by the Rabbi Isaac N. Trainin Bikur Cholim Coordinating Council. The Council was established by the late rabbi in 1986 and is now part of the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services, a UJA-Federation beneficiary.

Keynote speaker was Rabbi Benjamin Blech, who was the scholar-in-residence during a summer Shabbaton at Congregation Keshar Israel. Diagnosed two-and-a-half years ago with cardiac amyloidosis, a fatal disease, Blech spoke about bikur cholim from both a personal and rabbinic perspective.

"Bikur cholim gives us an appreciation for what we have,"

said Blech, a widely published author and Talmud professor at Yeshiva University.

With a theme of "Face-to-Face Meets Facebook: Paths to One Purpose in Bikur Cholim," the conference addressed the contributions

of technology but also such basics as compassion and good listening skills.

Marilyn Klein, co-founder with her late husband, Joel, of the Josh Klein Bikkur Cholim Society, named for their third son, has attended the conferences for many years; she and Joel were honored by the Coordinating Council. This year she had an expanded role—participating in a plenary session on transformative personal stories by those whose lives were touched by tragedy but enriched by bikur cholim.

Klein then led a breakout session about setting up a grassroots bikur cholim group. "It's very special to tell one's story," she says. "I was honored to do it."

Other workshops included the "wounded visitor," telephone visiting, visiting with those at the end of life, essential visiting skills, and the use of social media.

"It's good for people to know more about bikur cholim and to be inspired," says Klein, whose son passed away in 1999 while

awaiting organ transplants. "I always get so rejuvenated at the conference, being with like-minded people."

Accompanying her was Brooke Kibler, a junior at Lock Haven University.

"Every time I attend the conference I get butterflies," Kibler says. "I am surrounded by people who bring joy into other people's lives for the single reason that they enjoy doing it. They make me believe that there truly are beautiful people in this sometimes scary world."

Klein and Kibler attended a workshop presented by

Chaplain Aaron Magill, about visiting seniors with dementia and memory loss. "We learned different methods to use to brighten people's days," Kibler says. These lessons will help me greatly in my daily life and also when I visit the Jewish Home."

Also attending were Harrisburg residents Marcy Flicker, Beth Voystock, and Barbara Trainin Blank, who delivered a brief tribute to her father.

"I asked Marilyn to put me on the list of bikur cholim volunteers," Voystock says. "Before that, I was on my own, going to visit friends at the

Home."

Voystock also expressed an interest in receiving training. "The program was so inspiring and wonderful," she says, "seeing people come from so far away. I couldn't sleep that night, playing back so many mentally stimulating parts."

Although Flicker was an "official" volunteer, this was her first conference "It was a good refresher for me," she says. "I also learned some new techniques to help me when visiting people."

And, she adds, it was an "honor" to hear words from and be associated with Marilyn.



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Penn State Hillel honored with Philip H. Cohen and Susan Rudd Cohen Campus of Excellence Award

Baltimore, MD – November 12, 2012: At a ceremony during the 2012 Jewish Federations of North America General Assembly, Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life announced the winners of its 2012 Philip H. and Susan Rudd Cohen Student Exemplar of Excellence and Campus of Excellence Awards. Five students and two Hillels from around the world have been recognized with the Awards.

The Campus of Excellence Awards honors local Hillels and their achievements in empowering student leadership, engagement, and education. One award is given to a small campus and one to a large campus.

The Pennsylvania State University Hillel has won this

year's large campus award for having shown a commitment to engaging students on every level while also deepening their student leadership. Penn State Hillel has shown unique leadership during times of challenge and adversity and proven success earning them this award for 2012.

Chair of the Penn State Hillel Board of Directors, Elliott Weinstein, is thrilled to see his organization awarded in this way. "The hard work of our students and staff has now been nationally recognized. The entire Board of Directors, including myself, is so proud of the work these students and professionals do every day and we congratulate everyone involved."

"It is always a wonderful

opportunity to grant these awards to deserving students and campuses, and to be able to celebrate, with hundreds of students in attendance, the amazing work happening at Hillels around the world," said Debra Geiger, a Director at Hillel's Charles and Lynn Schusterman International Center and coordinator of the Cohen Award submissions.

About Hillel

Hillel is the largest Jewish campus organization in the world; engaging with students at more than 550 universities across the globe. Our students, professionals and volunteer leaders are passionate about creating a welcoming environment for Jewish students of all backgrounds;

fostering a personal connection to Jewish life, learning and Israel; and cultivating a sense of responsibility for the Jewish people and the world.

Hillel creates lasting connections with students, inspiring and training many of them to become leaders and guiding all of them to build community at every opportunity. Hillel lights a spark in these emerging leaders, and helps them spread that spark to their networks of friends,

activities, and adventures, during the college years and beyond.

Headquartered in Washington, DC at the Charles and Lynn Schusterman International Center, Hillel kindles a fiery thread of Jewish values, connections, and an enduring commitment to meaningful Jewish experiences through students' individual journeys - from college and beyond.

TAX PLANNING continued from page 3

before year-end. Other gifting and estate planning strategies to consider include gifts in trust, and other more complex transfer transactions such as use of life insurance trusts, grantor retained annuity trusts among others. Both your tax advisor and planned giving professional can help here.

Charitable Giving at Year-end: Accelerating or increasing charitable contributions at year-end is among the most effective planning strategy to reduce your tax liability and get needed financial support into the hands of your favorite charity sooner. Some year-end points to remember: (1) gifts by check are considered complete this year as long as dated and mailed by December 31, even if the charity doesn't cash the check until January, 2013; (2) pledges and other obligations cannot be deducted unless actually satisfied by December 31; and (3) gifts of appreciated property that would produce long-term capital gains directly to a charity generally provide a bigger tax savings than selling the asset. However, in cases where the value of the stock remains below your cost basis, it most likely makes sense to sell the stock first, recognizing the tax loss, and then gift the proceeds to charity.

Giving Techniques and Interest Rates: A number of other techniques deserve special consideration as interest rates remain low. A charitable lead trust, a planning vehicle where the trust pays income to a charity for a period of years and subsequently transfers the trust property to other including family members, can provide a current charitable gift as well as reduced federal transfer tax. Grantor retained annuity trusts should also be considered to shift appreciating assets to others free of gift tax. Intra-family loans to children or family members can also be attractive when IRS interest rates are likely to be lower than commercial interest rates.

IRA Charitable Rollover Not Yet Available for 2012: Over the past six years, many individuals over age 70 ½ have utilized the IRA charitable rollover to transfer funds from their retirement accounts directly to public charities. Unfortunately, as this is being written, the IRA charitable rollover is not available for 2012.

The Foundation can help you maximize your gift to the Jewish people: We are available to work with your tax advisors to maximize the benefits of these and other tax planning strategies for you. In turn, you and your tax advisor can work with the Foundation to maximize your gift to the Jewish community. Call Howard at the Foundation (236-9555 Ext 3202) if we can be of service.

THANKSGIVING continued from page 8

and JCC basketball player Jake DeBroff commented, "It has become part of our Thanksgiving tradition. We come down in the morning, help out and then get to play some basketball with our friends. It's a nice excuse

to get out of the house and get in some exercise before having a big dinner with my family."

The winter programming at the JCC is officially under way, and many great things are coming up in the next

two months. Check out www.jewishharrisburg.org for more information or stop by the JCC and check out the information on the bulletin board on the first floor or on the monitor in the lobby.

Happy Hanukkah

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Keshar Israel Congregation puts the "Thanks" in Thanksgiving

By Rabbi Akiva Males

For the eleventh year in a row, Keshar Israel Congregation prepared and served a full Thanksgiving meal to Harrisburg's on-duty firefighters. In 2010, this program was expanded to include Harrisburg's on-duty police officers as well. Rather than spending Thanksgiving at home with family and friends, these hard-working local heroes were on call keeping our neighborhoods safe. Sharing a full Thanksgiving feast with them is KI's annual way of expressing its appreciation for their efforts on our behalf.

KI began this Thanksgiving program at the suggestion of Rabbi Chaim Schertz and Mark Powers in 2001. This effort followed the devastating attacks of 9-11 that occurred just months before. The loss of so many heroic firefighters that day caused the nation to realize how much those previously unsung heroes were willing to sacrifice for the public's sake.

KI's Thanksgiving program has attracted much attention outside of Harrisburg. Many other congregations and Jewish organizations have contacted KI to learn how they could bring this project to their own communities. In fact, this year, the Orthodox Union encouraged all its affiliated synagogues to emulate KI's Thanksgiving tradition.

As in past years, this heart-warming program was made possible by many volunteers and sponsors who generously gave of their time and resources -- most notably, our friendly Linglestown Rd. Giant which donated seven frozen Empire turkeys.

Preparing and serving a full Thanksgiving feast to 70 plus appreciative local heroes took a lot of work, and KI thanks everyone who joined in making this program possible.

Keshar Israel Congregation's Rabbi Akiva Males can be reached at rabbimales@yahoo.com



INVESTOR continued from page 3

At the General Assembly we examined statistics; what percentage of the dollars needed by our organizations and congregations are coming from Foundation dollars? Across the board, we are approaching 50% of Jewish institutional budgets stemming from Foundation dollars, either in philanthropic funds or endowed bequests. And the projection is that this percentage will only increase into the next decade.

Note that I stated that these statistics were gathered at the General Assembly, the gathering of all Jewish leadership from North America. They offer guidance for us in Central Pennsylvania.

Are we on track to provide for the future of our agencies? Are YOU on track to provide for the future of our agencies? In some ways, yes we are, and in some ways, no. Our donor advised fund pool is very actively funding; our endowment pool is lagging behind.

So, in what does our community need investment? We need bequests. Only through your testamentary bequests (good estate planning) can we fulfill the mandate of the future.

What is good estate planning? It refers to taking advantage of tax laws to your maximum advantage; it means planning to assure that the assets of your estate go to your family and your charitable institutions instead of to the government.

Do you have a good estate plan or is your estate going to miss out on available tax advantages? Will your legacy be with your congregation or favorite charity or will it be with the tax man?

Will you be a "community investor"?

Community Stars Shine Bright at First Annual Dancing with the Stars Event



WRAPPING YOURSELF IN A TALLIT



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**A Hands-on Exploration of the
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Is a tallit "one size fits all"?

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How to measure and construct a tallit

Sunday • January 6, 2013

9:30 am – 12:30 pm

RSVP appreciated to:

Ivy Levine at

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mikaian@aol.com

Jewish Community Center of Harrisburg

Light snacks provided

Entire Community Invited

Bring your Daughters and Mothers

Shirley Waxman will share with us the history of women wearing tallitot. As a Judaic folklorist, Shirley will weave the history and tradition surrounding women and the tallit as well as explore the kavannah (spirit) of this mitzvah and how women who choose can create their own tallitot.

Ms. Waxman creates wearable art and functional ceremonial objects for synagogue and home. Her Judaic collection includes pieced and painted challah covers, wall hangings, kippot, tallitot, chuppot and Torah mantles.

Her work has been exhibited at the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia PA, the Washington National Cathedral, the Goldman Gallery of Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington and the Baltimore Jewish Community Center.

Women of Chisuk Emuna will hold follow-up sessions during which women may make their own tallit under the able instruction of Susan Leviton and Cory Schneider.



Women and Tallitot: History, Tradition, Kavannah, and Creativity

Presented by Shirley Waxman, Fiber artist extraordinaire

On Sunday, January 6th, from 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM at the JCC, Women of Chisuk Emuna will host this informative and provocative session led by Shirley Waxman, an accomplished needlewoman and Judaic folklorist. The entire community is invited.

As a Judaic folklorist, Shirley will weave the history (women have been wearing tallitot since the beginning of the 10th century) and traditions surrounding women and the tallit. She will explore the kavannah (spirit) of this mitzvah and how women who choose can create their own tallit.

Ms. Waxman creates wearable art and functional ceremonial objects for the synagogue and home. Her Judaic collection includes pieced and painted challah covers, wall hangings, kippot, tallitot, chuppot and Torah mantles. She will bring some of her extraordinary work for display and purchase.

Her work has been exhibited at the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia PA, the Washington National Cathedral, the Goldman Gallery of Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington and the Baltimore Jewish Community Center.

Women of Chisuk Emuna will hold follow-up sessions during which women may make their own tallit under the able instruction of Susan Leviton and Cory Schneider.

A light snack will be served. An RSVP would be appreciated to Ivy Levine at 717-652-4906 or mikaiian@aol.com.

CHISUK EMUNA BROTHERHOOD HOSTS DECEMBER 24TH SPAGHETTI DINNER

Join Chisuk Emuna at the JCC on December 24th at 6:30 p.m. for unlimited pasta and exciting entertainment. Cost is \$10/adult; \$30/family. Please RSVP to Michael Levine at mikemlevi@aol.com. Checks made payable to Chisuk Emuna Brotherhood may be sent to Mike at 1413 Pelham Road, Harrisburg, PA 17110.

GAME NIGHT AT BETH EL TEMPLE DECEMBER 24

A congregational family social event will take place at Beth El Temple on Monday night, December 24. The Beth El Chaverim, who represent our younger families within the synagogue, are organizing a Game Night for the entire congregation. Festivities get underway at 5:45 p.m. in Arthur and Pearl Anne Rosen Sisterhood Hall. For adults, children, young and old and young at heart, Beth El Temple is the place to be on December 24!

"Game Night" is the theme. Game tables will be set up, so bring your favorite board game—mah jongg, monopoly, scrabble, rummy cube, cards, whatever you want to play. A buffet supper featuring "Deli from Baltimore" will be served. There will be music, schmooze and fun for all, along with movie videos for youngsters.

The cost of the evening is \$18 per adult, \$10 per child with a \$50 cap per family. RSVP to the Beth El Temple Office at 232-0556 by December 19.

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community calendar

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

Sports Night Live, 7 p.m., JCC

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

Chanukah Concert, 9:30 a.m.-Noon, JCC

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Senior Adult Program – 10 a.m., JCC

Program: “Dancing With the Community Stars”

Video, 12:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19

Red Cross Blood Drive, 1-6 p.m., JCC

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20

Senior Adult Lunch Program – 10 a.m., JCC

Program “The Jewish Perspective” with Bob Axelrod,

12:30 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

Beth El Game Night, 5:45 p.m., Beth El

JCC CLOSING AT 7 P.M.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25

Fitness Center Open 7 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Pool Open 7 a.m. - Noon

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27

Senior Adult Lunch Program: New Year's Luncheon/Party,

12 Noon, Entertainment by DJ Bill Barton

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

synagogue life

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232-0556 | www.betheltemplehbg.org

Minyan 7 a.m. daily and 5:30 p.m. Sunday morning at 9 a.m.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

CHISUK EMUNA CONGREGATION

232-4851 | www.chisukemuna.org | chisukemuna@comcast.net

Minyan times: Monday, Thursday mornings, 6:50 a.m.

Sunday through Thursday evenings, 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, 7 a.m.

Friday evening services at 7 p.m., Saturday evening at same time as Friday evening candle-lighting time. Saturday morning services at 9:15 a.m.

For more information about Chisuk Emuna programs and services, please call our office at 232-4851.

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

Lebanon | 273-2669

Visit the Congregation Beth Israel Web Site at www.congregation-beth-israel.org

All are welcome to our egalitarian services: Sundays at 9 a.m., Mondays and Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. Our Shabbat services, lead by Rabbi Paula Reimers, are at 8 p.m. on Friday evenings and on Shabbat morning at 9:30 a.m. followed by Kiddush.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

CONGREGATION BETH TIKVAH

Carlisle | 245-2811 | www.bethtikvah.org

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

HISTORIC B'NAI JACOB

Middletown | 319-3014

Historic B'nai Jacob Synagogue, Water and Nissley Streets in Middletown, will conduct Shabbat services on Friday, January 4, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

We are a Community Shul - all are welcome.

Visit Web Site for more information or call our Voice Mail at 717-319-3014

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

KESHER ISRAEL CONGREGATION

238-0763 | www.kesherisrael.org

Participate in our daily Minyanim. Mornings: Sundays and Federal holidays at 8 a.m., Monday through Friday at 6:45 a.m. Rosh Chodesh and fast days at 6:30 a.m. Evening services begin at 20 minutes before sunset.

Please join us for our 9 a.m. Shabbat morning services - followed by kiddush

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

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697-2662 | www.tbshalom.org

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

TEMPLE OHEV SHOLOM

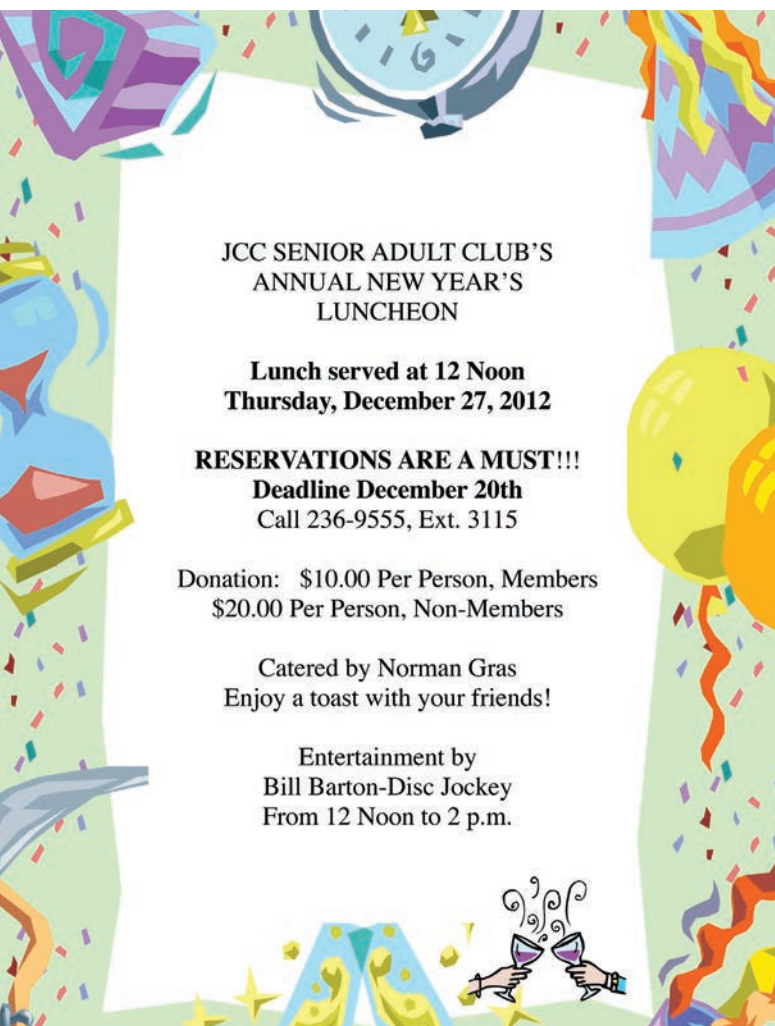
233-6459

Friday, December 14: Hanukkah Shabbat Service, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Saturday, December 15: Tot Shabbat, 10:30 a.m., Lehrman Chapel

Friday, December 21: Shabbat Service, 6 p.m., with Beth El Temple, at Lehrman Chapel

Friday, December 28: Shabbat Service, 5:45 p.m., with Beth El Temple, at Beth El



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SHERRIE CALEY-SEIG

Sherrie Caley-Seig, age 50, of Carlisle, passed away Sunday, November 11, 2012 at her home. Born July 29, 1962 in Harrisburg, she was a daughter of Beverly (Fleagle) Caley of Mechanicsburg and the late Edwin Caley. Sherrie was a graduate of Cumberland Valley High School, Class of 1980. She attended First United Methodist Church in Mechanicsburg, was active in the Adopt-a-Soldier and Adopt-a-Platoon programs, and in past years was a youth soccer coach. Sherrie loved the outdoors, including hiking and wildlife photography, especially on trips to the country's national parks such as Yellowstone, the Grand Tetons, and Glacier National Park. Surviving is her husband, Scott A. Seig and her daughter, Dani M. Seig. Memorial services were held on Friday, November 16th at First United Methodist Church, Mechanicsburg. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Central PA, 1320 Linglestown Road, Harrisburg, PA 17110, the Hershey Cancer Institute at www.pennstatehershey.org/cancer, or to First United Methodist Church, 135 W. Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055. To sign the online guest book, please visit www.malpezzifuneralhome.com.

SAMUEL HEYMAN

Samuel Heyman, 83, of Brooklyn, NY, passed away Monday, November 19, 2012, at the Middletown Nursing Home, NY. He was born in Steelton, PA

on March 9, 1929 to the late Jacob and Jenny (Lipshitz) Heyman. Samuel was a retired real estate broker and a Korean War Navy veteran. He was a former officer of the Fleet Reserve Association and a leader of the Sea Cadets. During his military services, he was a writer for the Military Magazine and Trade Winds. He was preceded in death by his two daughters, Arlene and Margaret Heyman. Surviving are his two daughters, Patricia Bushman of Pine Island, NY, Karen Reese of FL; sister, Sylvia Morgan of CA; three grandsons, Antone Bratichak, Sean Garcia, Joshua Reese; two granddaughters, Virginia Heyman and Michelle Payton. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, November 21st at the Chisuk Emuna Cemetery Chapel, Harrisburg, with Rabbi Ron Muroff officiating. Burial was held in the Chisuk Emuna Cemetery. Arrangements were handled by the Hetrick-Bitner Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to any veterans' organization of your choice.

RICHARD PAUL MARKOWITZ

Richard Paul Markowitz, age 75, of NE Philadelphia, son of the late Dr. and Mrs. Louis Markowitz of Pottstown, passed

away November 17, 2012. He was the beloved husband of Marlene (Gottfried) Markowitz; father of Dr. Howard Markowitz (Julia) and Steven Markowitz (Dena); "Zayda" of Olivia, Samantha, Morgan, Lacey and Spencer. Richard was Vice President of Congregations of Shaare Shamayim, religious chairman, in charge of the conservative services. He was caring and personally reached out to each congregant. He additionally read Haftorah on High Holidays. He as well enjoyed traveling around the world with his wife. His children enjoyed his wonderful sense of adventure. He taught them to downhill ski and fish, as well past along his fabulous carpentry skills.

Funeral services were held on Monday, November 19th precisely Goldsteins' Rosenberg's Raphael Sacks Suburban North, Southampton. Interment was in Shalom Memorial Park. Contributions in Richard's memory may be made to Congregations of Shaare Shamayim, 9768 Verree Road, Philadelphia, PA 19115.

HESHY ZAFRAN

Heshy Zafraan, a son of the late Rabbi Berel Dov and Freda Zafraan, z"l, passed away on Sunday, November 25, 2012 at the Manor Care facility in Carlisle, PA.

*Happy
Hanukkah*

**Marty & Steve
Lamonoff**

*A Joyous
Chanukah to all*

**Ruth & Chuck
Kline
and family**

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CANDLELIGHTING

December 14.... 4:24 p.m.

December 21.... 4:27 p.m.

December 28.... 4:31 p.m.



Must be at least 21 years of age

Enjoy a fabulous night!

Wear your favorite sports team jersey!

DJ Frank • Games

Heavy Appetizers & Adult Beverages

And Lots More!

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To register please contact the JCC at 236-9555, ext. 0 or www.jewishharrisburg.org

This program is sponsored by the Jewish Community Center and Capital Area Soccer Association (CASA).