

# CONNECTIONS

News and information for a Jewish community that includes individuals with disabilities and special needs

Vol. 4, No.3

Pittsburgh, PA

Fall / Winter 2014



## DON'T QUIT, KEEP GOING:

*Soldier to Bring that Message to Pittsburgh Youth*

By Rivkee Rudolph



Izzy Ezagui has a riveting story of perseverance and overcoming life's challenges. He is coming here to share it with an audience of young people Sunday,

October 26 at the Jewish Community Center in Squirrel Hill.

An American-born member of the Israel Defense Forces, Izzy lost his dominant arm in combat on the border of Gaza in 2008 at age 19. After his rehabilitation, he took the unusual step of returning to military combat and went on to become a squad commander. President Shimon Peres honored him in 2011 as an outstanding soldier. Izzy is currently an IDF reservist.

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## New Group Home Memorializes Dr. Solomon and Sarah Goldberg

By Jenny Wolsk Bain



The late Solomon and Sarah Goldberg loved Pittsburgh and, over the course of their lives, contributed to the community in many meaningful ways.

Now, in honor of their memory, a new group home in Squirrel Hill will carry their name. The Solomon and Sarah Goldberg House will celebrate Jewish culture with a Kosher kitchen and Shabbat meals. Three young adults with intellectual disabilities will live there with support from a full-time staff, volunteers and their families. Fully accessible and located in close proximity to the Jewish Community Center and several synagogues as well as the public library and other neighborhood amenities, the home is designed to help residents be engaged in the community.



*A side view of the Solomon and Goldberg House, which sits on a beautiful residential street in the heart of Squirrel Hill.*

The idea of bringing a new group home to Squirrel Hill came from Jane Yahr and Barbara Goldberg, trustees of the Solomon and Sarah Goldberg Memorial Fund at the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, and nieces of Sarah and Solomon Goldberg. They approached Jewish Residential Services (JRS), a nonprofit organization that provides housing and rehabilitative services for adults with special needs in Squirrel Hill, and awarded a grant from their aunt and uncle's memorial fund for research and development. Later, when a suitable property became available for sale, the memorial fund provided additional financial support to help JRS purchase it.

Solomon Goldberg, the oldest of seven children, grew up in the West End where his parents owned a grocery store. He graduated from the University of Pittsburgh Medical School, did his residency in ophthalmology at Washington University in St. Louis, and was stationed at a hospital in New Orleans during World War II before returning to Pittsburgh. He developed a thriving private practice downtown and became a leader in his field, serving as department head at Montefiore Hospital and president of the Pittsburgh Ophthalmologic Society.

"He was a very caring doctor and never rushed his patients," Ms. Yahr says. "He derived tremendous satisfaction from his profession. It was his identity. My siblings and I called him 'Uncle Doc.'"

Mrs. Goldberg, who lived to age 94, was active in Hadassah. She and her husband were founding members of Temple Sinai and supported the United Jewish Federation.

*Continued on pg 6*

## About Connections

**Connections** newsletter is published by a consortium of six agencies with the mission of encouraging, supporting and recognizing the inclusion of individuals with disabilities in all aspects of Jewish life in the Pittsburgh community. **Connections** also provides information about a wide range of resources for individuals with disabilities and their families.

## CONNECTIONS

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## Rabbi's Message: Always Learning

By Rabbi Mordy Rudolph



There is a common lesson from Ethics of the Fathers: I learned much from my teachers, more from my colleagues, but from my students I have learned most of all. This is a wonderful piece and quite thought-provoking, but can basically be translated, in its simplest form, to mean that by teaching others, we ourselves can learn. There is something much deeper

here, however, that speaks to us as a community and serves as a reminder as we begin the new year.

We must always be open to learning. We are never allowed to feel "you can't teach an old dog new tricks." Everything we see, every encounter we have and every person we come into contact with happens for a reason. It does so by Divine Providence so that we can impact it in whatever way possible (act as the teacher) and so we can be

impacted by it too (learning most from the student.) Let's just keep our eyes and minds open. Never close ourselves off to others, or feel that we know all there is to know on a particular subject or situation, but be prepared to learn something new.

And, who knows, maybe we will?

**Best wishes for a happy and healthy 5775.**

*Rabbi Mordy Rudolph is executive director of the Friendship Circle.*

## The JCC: An Inclusive, Accessible Neighborhood Treasure

By Liza Baron

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh welcomes individuals of all abilities! Located in the heart of Squirrel Hill, we offer programs for children and teens with special needs in a facility that's accessible for those with physical disabilities. Three of our core programs are Teen Center, Summer Inclusion Therapeutic Program (STIP) at James & Rachel Levinson Day Camp (J&R) and South Hills Day Camp, and Geshher.

We are very proud of Teen Center, our after school program for teens with special needs. Teen Center is open to JCC members, Monday-Friday, 2:00-6:00 PM. The program focuses on socialization and community with daily trips to the JCC gym, dance studio, swimming pool, local parks, and art studio. It offers young people with special needs, ages 13-21, an opportunity to build relationships with one another in a safe and secure environment.

During the summer, children ages 5-12 can participate in the Summer Therapeutic Inclusion Program at J&R or the South Hills day camps. The JCC partners with the John Merck Clinic at Western Psychiatric Institute & Clinic to bring 54 children with autism to our day camps. Campers approved for the program (through Merck and their school districts) receive support from a therapeutic counselor and are in a group with typical campers.

At Emma Kaufmann Camp, the JCC's overnight camp in Morgantown, West Virginia, we have a program called Geshher (bridge) where teens with special needs can attend camp for three weeks. These campers actually function as their own group with specially trained counselors and staff living with them and leading their daily activities.

The JCC's Squirrel Hill facility offers lots of amenities and services to individuals with special needs and disabilities. Our swimming pool is therapeutic at 90 degrees daily and is equipped with a chair lift for wheelchair accessibility. Our main building on Forbes Avenue has an elevator that goes to all four floors and our shower rooms and family locker room are all wheelchair accessible as well. Therapeutic dogs are welcome in our buildings which are all accessible by ramp. Individuals with special needs can also exercise with personal trainers who have experience adapting exercise programs and routines for individuals with all levels of abilities.

For more information about programs for individuals with special needs, please call (412) 697-3537 or email [LBaron@jccpgh.org](mailto:LBaron@jccpgh.org). To take a tour of the JCC or learn more about membership, please call Sara Rhoades at (412) 339-5431 or email [SRhoades@jccpgh.org](mailto:SRhoades@jccpgh.org). For information about the JCC South Hills, call 412.278.1975 or email [DGarfinkel@jccpgh.org](mailto:DGarfinkel@jccpgh.org).

*Liza Baron is the director of the James and Rachel Levinson Day Camp and the children/teen/family division of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh.*

# Beloved Advocate Dr. Heidi Feldman Returns for Community Event

By Linda Marino

"What parent of a child with disabilities does not remember that first kind medical professional who helped him/her to understand and accept the initial diagnosis and then begin a plan of care? Dr. Heidi Feldman was that hero in our lives," said Nina Butler as she shared



a beautiful memory of her family's experience with Dr. Heidi Feldman. "Although she lit the way for me and my husband, I most appreciate the

relationship she formed with our non-verbal, autistic son." Mrs. Butler, a prominent member of the Jewish community, has been a strong advocate for those with disabilities for many years.

"And when another son was diagnosed," she continued, "she gently guided us while providing superb medical and psychiatric care for our boys. Now, decades later, our son (who is also mentally challenged) says at the mention of her name, 'Dr. Feldman says I have pretty eyes!'

*"We have warm memories and we are grateful."*

Dr. Feldman spent 22 years at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC and the University of Pittsburgh. During this time, she touched the lives of many families. She served as division chief and director of academic pediatrics at the hospital (1993-2001), and as division chief of its child development unit (1984-1993.) With support from parents, she founded the Down Syndrome Center at the hospital. Dr. Feldman currently is an endowed professor at Stanford University's School of Medicine.

In her recent groundbreaking book, "Redesigning Healthcare for Children with Disabilities," Dr. Feldman goes far beyond the traditional model of treating and reducing symptoms. She gives professionals and parents a big-picture blueprint for improving the lives of children with disabilities and enabling them to participate fully in family and community life. One of the key priorities established in the book is to promote collaboration on comprehensive, integrated care plans with parents and professionals. Dr. Feldman stresses that we must implement family- and person-centered care at the clinical, organizational and policy levels. Far from a dry read, Dr. Feldman's book relates powerful stories from her 30-plus years of experience working with children with disabilities and their families.

The best news is that Dr. Feldman is coming to Pittsburgh! She will be the guest speaker at The Institute on Disabilities at Temple University's Mini-Course/Lecture Series on Disabilities October 29 at Rodef Shalom. In addition to discussing her book, Dr. Feldman will be able to reconnect with old friends including former patients and their families.

**Who:**  
*Dr. Heidi Feldman,*  
*guest speaker*

**What:**  
*The Institute on*  
*Disabilities at Temple*  
*University's Mini-*  
*Course/Lecture Series*  
*on Disabilities*

**Where:**  
*Rodef Shalom*

**When:**  
*Wednesday, October 29*  
*at 7 PM*

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

Dr. Feldman's presentation begins at 7 PM. A dessert reception will follow. ACHIEVA, the Peal Center and Jewish Family & Children's Service of Pittsburgh are cosponsors. The Institute on Disabilities is hosting the event, which is free and open to the public. Achieva, the Peal Center and Jewish Family & Children's Service are cosponsors.

*Linda Marino is the critical/special needs coordinator at Jewish Family & Children's Service of Pittsburgh.*

## Pittsburgh Welcomes Back the ReelAbilities Film Festival

By Ilene Rinn

Films about people with disabilities will be showcased at the second annual Pittsburgh ReelAbilities Film Festival October 22, 26 and 30. The festival is dedicated to promoting awareness and appreciation of the lives, stories and artistic expressions of people with different disabilities from a variety of communities.



*A scene from "Stand Clear of the Closing Doors," one of the feature films for Pittsburgh's 2nd annual ReelAbilities Film Festival in October.*

This year's festival features four films from around the world highlighting multiple issues. "CinemAbility" explores the portrayal of disabilities in Hollywood while "Stand Clear of the Closing Doors" tells the story of a Mexican-American teenager with autism who gets lost in the mystical New York City Subway system.

"Touch of the Light," spoken in Mandarin with English subtitles, is a movie about a young and gifted Taiwanese pianist who is blind. The Belgian film "Come As You Are" conveys the universal message that people, no matter their circumstances, want to experience adventure, intimacy and independence.

"All of these films touch our human spirit," says JFilm Executive Director Kathryn Spitz Cohan. For the second year in a row, JFilm is presenting ReelAbilities along with the FISA Foundation. "We had such a successful first year with great feedback that it was a no-brainer to bring the festival back to Pittsburgh," says Spitz Cohan. ReelAbilities started in 2007 in New York City. In its seven year history, the festival has been held in 14 cities around the United States.

The films coming to Pittsburgh this year will be shown at Rodef Shalom Congregation in Shadyside and the Human Engineering Resource Laboratories at Bakery Square in East Liberty. Both locations are handicapped accessible. All the films include supplemental programming ranging from conversations with prominent leaders in the community to musical performances to discussions with the film's actors.

ReelAbilities is proudly sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh.

For more information, or to purchase tickets to any film, please visit [www.JFilmPgh.org](http://www.JFilmPgh.org) or call the JFilm Ticketline at 412-992-5203.

*Ilene Rinn is the senior manager of planning and allocations at the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh.*

# AJL Recognizes Terry Steinberg for Lasting Contributions to Inclusion

By Patti Murphy

Terry Feinberg Steinberg has a reputation for awesomeness, professionally and personally, when it comes to advocating for those with disabilities in the local Jewish community and their families. So much so that her colleagues at the Agency for Jewish Learning decided to pay special tribute to her in June during its annual meeting and awards celebration. The honor, which she did not know about in advance, came as Ms. Steinberg was winding down her years as director of special education services at the agency, a position she held since 2007.

It is a job she loved. The many adapted bar and bat mitzvahs she celebrated with young people with special needs and their families are among her favorite memories. So are the agency's annual Hanukkah celebrations where she loved serving latkes to everyone.

Ed Frim, who as executive director at AJL enjoyed working with Ms. Steinberg "to raise the bar on inclusion in our community" and said he learned a lot from her. He described her efforts as unwavering and dynamic yet unassuming. There seemed just one way to acknowledge them, he said. "She has not sought recognition and I knew we needed to surprise her."

AJL presents its Special Needs Distinguished Service Award each year to a professional for advancing inclusion of people with disabilities in Jewish life, but could not consider Ms. Steinberg for that honor while she worked for the agency. Her preference for keeping a low profile further complicated matters, Frim said, but the lay leaders of AJL's Special Education Advisory Committee and others in the community wanted to publicly thank Ms. Steinberg for the privilege of working with her. She felt moved by their kindness. "I was so touched. It meant a lot to me."



*Terry Feinberg Steinberg*

A Squirrel Hill native and licensed clinical social worker, Ms. Steinberg will now focus on her private therapy practice and remain with AJL as a consultant. She recently took time to tell us about the coincidences that shaped her career. Her love of children highlighted the journey long before she became the mother of three including a son with special needs.

In her Taylor Allderdice High School days and even before, Terry Feinberg kept a full babysitting schedule during the evenings, weekends and summers. She volunteered at The Children's Institute and the Jewish Community Center as a tutor. It was at Emma Kaufmann Summer Camp that she met her future husband Kenny Steinberg when they were 17-year-old counselors-in-training. After high school graduation, she went to Cornell University then moved to Miami where she worked in the juvenile justice system. The next stop, Philadelphia, was "the hotbed of family therapy" at the time, she said. There she earned her MSW at the University of Pennsylvania. Life came full circle in another way when she and Kenny reunited on one of her Pittsburgh visits.

After they married and settled here, Ms. Steinberg worked at the Community Day School, Beth Shalom preschool and Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic.

Life changed for the Steinberg family after the birth of her son, Max, but she made sure that it would not be so different just because he had intellectual challenges and a pervasive developmental disorder diagnosis. Ms. Steinberg is pleased that Max experienced life more fully than many like him who grew up in less inclusive times. Her family shepherded his participation at Beth Shalom, their synagogue, and he is one of the original Friendship Circle members. Now 27, Max reached a new milestone with his recent move from his parents' home to a group residence for adults. He volunteers at the Squirrel Hill Food Pantry and VA Hospital in Oakland while attending a work training program.

Ms. Steinberg wonders at how her personal life has dovetailed with her profession. "I felt lucky, in a way, because I was prepared," she said, "I knew that parenthood wasn't this fantasy." Max's siblings are in Chicago. His older brother, Yoni, 30, lives at a Moishe House, has earned an MBA and works for AT&T in its leadership development program. Their sister, Miriam, 22, works as an aide in the Chicago Public Schools through the City Year AmeriCorps program.

With all of her children on their own and a more flexible work schedule, Ms. Steinberg looks forward to more visits with the whole family as her life turns to a new chapter.

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## Seeking Champions of Inclusion

Do you know a volunteer who promotes inclusion of people of all abilities in the Jewish community? If so, we hope you will consider nominating this individual, on behalf of your congregation, organization, or group, for the Shore-Whitehill Award. Jointly administered by Jewish Residential Services and the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, this award is named after Robert Whitehill and the late Barbara Shore, who co-chaired a task force on special needs in the Jewish community.

Nominations will be reviewed on the basis of two criteria: the value of the nominee's contributions as a champion of inclusion; and the commitment of the nominating congregation, group or organization to publicly honoring the nominee so he/she may serve as a springboard for change and inspire further action by others.

The awardee will receive an original sculpture by the late Sylvia Plutchok, a Pittsburgh-based artist, and recognition in this newsletter. The nominating group or organization will receive a grant of \$1000 to help underwrite the costs of a recognition event and/or inclusion activities.

The deadline for submitting nominations is 12 noon Friday, November 21, 2014.

For more information, visit [www.jrspgh.org/shore-whitehill](http://www.jrspgh.org/shore-whitehill).

## Howard Levin Clubhouse Welcomes New Director

By Patti Murphy



Jill Pawlowski

"I thought it was the coolest thing in the world," she said. Ms. Pawlowski took the helm at the clubhouse last spring, bringing a wealth of supervisory experience in the mental health field and a strong counseling education background to the job. She oversees a staff of four full-time and four part-time employees, as well as the participation of nearly 150 clubhouse members in daily vocational and social activities. Together, they're moving toward fulfillment of two priorities she has set—building community relationships and increasing program membership, particularly attracting more young adults.

Ms. Pawlowski also embraces the less administrative side of her leadership role. The clubhouse model of psychosocial rehabilitation calls for participants and staff to share equally in the events and responsibilities of a work-ordered day. When the clubhouse is open, Ms. Pawlowski is as likely to be serving lunch or sweeping the floors as researching grants or answering questions from referral sources at her desk. Or she may drop in on a yoga class, pet therapy session or informal social gathering. The clubhouse walking program is a personal favorite. One of her wishes is to eventually carve out time to more frequently join members and staff on neighborhood and charity walks. "I like busy," Ms. Pawlowski. "I'm not a sitter."

It seems fitting that Jill Pawlowski is the new director of the Howard Levin Clubhouse, given her first impressions of the program that Jewish Residential Services offers for adults working toward recovery from mental illness.

Similarly, she likes challenge and change. She had a long tenure with Turtle Creek Valley MH/MR Inc. and most recently worked as a supervisor in its mental health and intellectual and developmental disabilities programs. While there, she attended Duquesne University and completed her master's degree in marriage and family therapy. She then felt ready to more closely blend her education and practical experience. "I wanted something that would give me that challenge." Her licensed professional counselor supervisor from graduate school told her about the clubhouse position.

As part of the orientation to the job, Ms. Pawlowski had two weeks of intensive training this summer at Independence Center, a clubhouse program in St. Louis, MO. With the arrival of fall, she hopes to raise the profile of Howard Levin Clubhouse in the local community. She would like to bring in more referrals of 18- to 30-year-olds seeking meaningful support at a stage in life when people tend to experience a number of major transitions.

Whether managing day-to-day details or considering the bigger picture, Ms. Pawlowski wants to learn all she can to run a successful agency. "If I need to know something, I'll go find it," she said. Her empathetic, introverted nature is sure to complement her sense of commitment.

Outside of work, Ms. Pawlowski enjoys spending time with her husband, Drew, son Andrew, 21, and daughter Taylor, 17. You're likely to find her taking a walk, reading for pleasure or cooking an Italian meal for her family. They live in the South Hills with their two dogs—Riley, an English springer spaniel and Chloe, a beabull.

The Howard Levin Clubhouse is open to anyone 18 years of age or older with a mental severe health diagnosis. While it honors Jewish traditions, such as the Shabbat meal hosted on Friday evenings, the program is open to people of all faiths and cultural backgrounds. For information on how to apply for membership, please call (412) 422-1850 or visit [www.jrspgh.org/hlc](http://www.jrspgh.org/hlc).

*Patti Murphy is the editor of Connections.*

The Goldberg House is a partnership between JRS and Verland. The two non-profit agencies worked together to raise money and develop a list of interested parties. As the licensed provider, Verland will handle all staffing and clinical issues. JRS, meanwhile, will facilitate connections with local congregations, neighbors and groups. Several synagogues have already donated Judaica.



*Rabbi Eli Seidman affixing a mezuzah to the front door of Goldberg House during an open house attended by many friends and neighbors.*



*Jane Yahr in front of a plaque at the Goldberg House honoring her aunt and uncle, Solomon and Sarah Goldberg.*

"This groundbreaking project will fulfill an important need in the community," says Barbara Goldberg. "My aunt and uncle would have been proud to be associated with it."

*Jenny Wolsk Bain is a program manager at Jewish Residential Services.*

In an account on his website, Izzy says: "When I speak to groups, I stress that the only thing standing between you and your dream is yourself. If there is one thing I would like to accomplish, it is to serve as proof that anyone can reach even the most unattainable goal if armed with passion and a refusal to take no for an answer.

I could have been dead. I'm not. I could have left the service and the commitment that brought me to Israel. I didn't. Regardless of the severity of a situation, we have options, and often the toughest of them offer the greatest personal growth.

My injury made me a better soldier and an even better man. It taught me what we can accomplish when we believe in a cause and in ourselves. My story is proof that anyone can do the same."

His upcoming presentation promises to be inspiring as well as motivating.

"Don't Quit, Keep Going" begins at 1:30 PM. The teen-led event is brought to you by The Friendship Circle and cosponsored by The Jewish Healthcare Foundation, JCC, J-Site, Diller, and BBYO.

To learn more about Izzy Ezagui, visit [www.izzy-speaks.com](http://www.izzy-speaks.com)

*Rivkee Rudolph is director of the Friendship Circle.*

#### **GOT AN EVENT COMING UP?**

Please send the event name, host organization, date, time, a brief description of the event and contact information (email/phone) to [connections@pittsburgh.org](mailto:connections@pittsburgh.org). Events considered for listing must be pertinent to Pittsburgh's Jewish and disability communities, and will be placed in the newsletter as space allows.

## October 2014

### **Howard Levin Clubhouse's Bowl-a-Rama Sunday, October 19, 10:30 AM-3 PM at Forward Lanes**

Sponsor: Jewish Residential Services  
For more information, email [info@jrspgh.org](mailto:info@jrspgh.org) or call 412.325.0039.

### **Newcomers Shabbat Dinner w/ Repair the World & Moishe House:**

**Friday, October 24 – 7-9:30 PM at Repair  
the World Workshop in East Liberty**

Sponsors: Shalom Pittsburgh, Repair the World  
and Moishe House  
For more information, visit [www.shalompittsburgh.org](http://www.shalompittsburgh.org), email [acohen@jfedpgh.org](mailto:acohen@jfedpgh.org) or call 412.992.5245.

### **North Hills Suburban Outreach Sunday, October 26 – 1-2:30 PM at Sky Zone Indoor Trampoline Park in Leetsdale, PA**

Sponsor: Shalom Pittsburgh  
For more information, visit: [www.shalompittsburgh.org](http://www.shalompittsburgh.org) email [acohen@jfedpgh.org](mailto:acohen@jfedpgh.org) or call 412.992.5245.

### **An Afternoon with Izzy Ezagui Date: Sunday, October 26 – 1:30 PM at The Jewish Community Center/Squirrel Hill (Katz Auditorium)**

Sponsor: Friendship Circle  
RSVP For more information, visit [www.keepgoingzizzy.com](http://www.keepgoingzizzy.com) or email [keepgoing@fcpg.org](mailto:keepgoing@fcpg.org).

### **The Institute on Disabilities at Temple University's Mini-Course/Lecture Series on Disabilities**

Guest speaker: Dr. Heidi Feldman  
**Date: Wednesday, October 29 – 7PM at  
Rodef Shalom Congregation**  
Cosponsors: Jewish Family & Children's Service,  
ACHIEVA and The Peal Center  
Register by October 20, accommodation  
requests due October 13  
For more information, email [guy@temple.edu](mailto:guy@temple.edu)  
or call 724.934.1142

### **Mixer/Symposium Thursday, October 30 – 6-8 PM**

Location TBD  
Sponsors: Shalom Pittsburgh, J'Burgh, Repair  
the World and Moishe House.

For more information,  
visit: [www.shalompittsburgh.org](http://www.shalompittsburgh.org) email  
[acohen@jfedpgh.org](mailto:acohen@jfedpgh.org) or call 412.992.5245.

# Calendar



**ReelAbilities: 2nd Annual Pittsburgh Disabilities Film Festival**  
Films, dates, and locations:

**“Cinemability”**

**Wednesday, October 22 – 7 PM at Rodef Shalom**

**“Touch of the Light”**

**Sunday, October 26 – 1 PM at the University of Pittsburgh’s Human Engineering Research Laboratory, Bakery Square**

**“Come as You Are”**

**Sunday, October 26 – 7:30 PM at Rodef Shalom**

**“Stand Clear of the Closing Doors”**

**Thursday, October 30 – 7 PM at Rodef Shalom**

**Sponsors:**

JFilm (a program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh) and FISA Foundation  
For ticket pricing and more information, visit [JFilmPgh.org](http://JFilmPgh.org), email [Info@JFilmPgh.org](mailto:Info@JFilmPgh.org) or call 412.992.5203. (Please do not call the venues.)

## November 2014

**Party of 8**

**Saturday, November 1 – 7:30 PM**

Locations TBA

Sponsors: Shalom Pittsburgh.

For more information visit:

[www.shalompittsburgh.org](http://www.shalompittsburgh.org)

email [acohen@jfedpgh.org](mailto:acohen@jfedpgh.org) or call

412.992.5245.

**PJ Library’s 2 by 2 at the Zoo**

**Sunday, November 2 – 10-11:30 AM at the Pittsburgh Zoo**

Sponsors: Shalom Pittsburgh, PJ Library, Community Day School and Agency for Jewish Learning For more information visit: [www.shalompittsburgh.org](http://www.shalompittsburgh.org) email [acohen@jfedpgh.org](mailto:acohen@jfedpgh.org) or call 412.992.5245.

**Ladies Night Out**

**Wednesday, November 5 – 7-9 PM at Paint Monkey, Lawrenceville**

Sponsor: Shalom Pittsburgh.

For more information visit: [www.shalompittsburgh.org](http://www.shalompittsburgh.org)

email [acohen@jfedpgh.org](mailto:acohen@jfedpgh.org) or call 412.992.5245.

**Volunteer Opportunity of the Month (VOOM)**

**Sunday, November 9 – 10 AM-12:30 PM at Howard Levin Clubhouse Community Garden, Squirrel Hill**

Come help prepare the garden for winter.

Sponsor: Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh

For more information, email [mcohen@jfedpgh.org](mailto:mcohen@jfedpgh.org)

or call 412.992.5229.

**Shalom Pittsburgh Mixer**

**Thursday, November 13 – 6-8 PM**

Location TBA

Sponsors: Shalom Pittsburgh.

For more information visit: [www.shalompittsburgh.org](http://www.shalompittsburgh.org)

email [acohen@jfedpgh.org](mailto:acohen@jfedpgh.org)

or call 412.992.5245.

**Baby Playgroup**

**Friday, November 14 – 10-11:30 AM at A Family Place in the Jewish Community Center/Squirrel Hill**

Sponsors: Shalom Pittsburgh and PJ Library

For more information, visit [www.shalompittsburgh.org](http://www.shalompittsburgh.org),

email [acohen@jfedpgh.org](mailto:acohen@jfedpgh.org)

or call 412.992.5245.

**Kidz Swap and Shop**

**Sunday, November 16 – 10-11:30 AM at the Jewish Community Center/Squirrel Hill**

Sponsors: Shalom Pittsburgh and the Jewish Community Center

For more information, visit [www.shalompittsburgh.org](http://www.shalompittsburgh.org),

email [acohen@jfedpgh.org](mailto:acohen@jfedpgh.org)

or call 412.992.5245.

**AIM: Support for Families of Individuals with Special Needs educational series**

Topic: Employment for Adults with Disabilities  
**Tuesday, November 18 – 6-8 PM at The Children’s Institute**

Sponsors: Jewish Family & Children’s Service and Jewish Residential Services

Free and open to the public

For more information, email [info@jrspgh.org](mailto:info@jrspgh.org),

or call 412.325.0039.

**From Rights to Action:**

**The Power of Advocacy**

**Thursday, November 20 – 8 AM-3:30 PM at Rodef Shalom**

Sponsor: United Way’s 21&Able initiative

For more information: Visit [www.21andable.org/events/from-rights-to-action](http://www.21andable.org/events/from-rights-to-action) or email

[Mary.Hartley@uwac.org](mailto:Mary.Hartley@uwac.org).

**Shore-Whitehill Award nominations deadline**

**Friday, November 21 at 12 noon**

Sponsors: Jewish Residential Services and the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh

For more information, visit: [www.jrspgh.org/shore-whitehill](http://www.jrspgh.org/shore-whitehill).

## December 2014

**PJ Adventureland**

**Sunday, December 7 – 10-11:30 AM at the Jewish Community Center/Squirrel Hill**

Sponsors: Shalom Pittsburgh, PJ Library, Community Day School and Agency for Jewish Learning

For more information, visit: [www.shalompittsburgh.org](http://www.shalompittsburgh.org)

email [acohen@jfedpgh.org](mailto:acohen@jfedpgh.org)

or call 412.992.5245.

**iVolunteer with JBurgh**

**Sunday, December 7**

Details TBA

Sponsors: Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh and Friendship Circle

For more information, email [mcohen@jfedpgh.org](mailto:mcohen@jfedpgh.org)

or call 412.992.5229.

**9th Annual Mixer**

**Saturday, December 13 – 8 AM-12 midnight**

At IVY in the Strip District

Sponsor: Shalom Pittsburgh

For more information, visit [www.shalompittsburgh.org](http://www.shalompittsburgh.org),

email [acohen@jfedpgh.org](mailto:acohen@jfedpgh.org)

or call 412.992.5245.

**Hanukkah Party**

**Thursday, December 18 – 4:30-7:30 PM at Howard Levin Clubhouse**

Sponsor: Jewish Residential Services

For more information, email [info@jrspgh.org](mailto:info@jrspgh.org)

or call 412.325.0039.

**Mitzvah Day**

**A day of citywide volunteer projects**

**Thursday, December 25 beginning at 8:30 AM**

Sponsor: The Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh

For more information email [mcohen@jfedpgh.org](mailto:mcohen@jfedpgh.org)

or call 412.992.5229.

# CONNECTIONS

*News and information for a Jewish community that includes individuals with disabilities and special needs*



Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh  
234 McKee Place  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213

*"Welcome everyone... with joy."*

— Pirkei Avot 1:15

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