

THE SENIOR SPOT

WO Health Dept. urges residents to return surveys

West Orange has opened an online Senior Citizen Needs Assessment Survey and has also distributed approximately 1,000 printed surveys in English and Spanish. This needs assessment is provided through the West Orange Health Department, mainly funded by a grant from The Partners for Health Foundation located in Montclair. The survey was developed in conjunction with Montclair State University Center for Research and Evaluation on Education and Human Services or CREEHS and the results will be evaluated by the MSU team.

This survey will be online at www.westorange.org/seniorsurvey until Oct. 31. Now that a large quantity of the surveys have been distributed, the West Orange Health Department urges residents 55 years and older to complete the surveys and return them to Town Hall in Rooms 203 and 207 at the Health Department Offices, at the Mayor's Office or in the dropbox at the rear entrance to Town Hall. Surveys may also be returned to the library, recreation department or to the health department's senior bus/West Orange jitney. The health department will collect completed printed surveys at the senior houses from the managers so they will also be included in the final results. The answers in the printed surveys will be



Photo Courtesy of Renee Glick

DEDICATION — Daughters of Israel held a dedication ceremony for the newly renovated Laurie Pavilion Auxiliary Dining Room on Sept. 19. Underwritten by the Gary Aidekman Family Foundation, the renovation was dedicated in memory of past DOI President Howard Rich. The newly designed space provides a country-style buffet kitchen and a relaxing area for residents to dine and socialize.

table discussion on Saturday, Oct. 14, with industry providers, LGBT community stakeholders and advocacy leaders on the needs and desires of the elder LGBT community in continuum of care services and senior living.

Partnering with Garden State Equality and SAGEUSA, Green Hill is leading the

Green Hill on its mission to serve our diverse community was specialized training to provide a welcoming home and person directed life and health care for our growing LGBT elder community," Green Hill Executive Director and President Donna Lazartic said in a press release. "Now it is time to

American ages 60 and over are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender."

"LGBT older adults paved the way for the freedoms that younger generations enjoy today. Historically they faced greater prejudice and stigma, and greater disruptions to their lives," Aaron Potenza, director of programs and policy for Garden State Equality, said in the release. "As recent research shows, they face greater barriers to financial security, lack of access to culturally competent health care, and less robust social supports and community engagement. They can feel unwelcome in the general aging population. What is unique and exciting about the Green Hill roundtable is that it is a community conversation, with providers, advocates and LGBT elders all coming together to engage in meaningful dialogue about creating programs to reduce those barriers and create welcoming living environments for the elder LGBT community. Garden State Equality is proud to be participating in this conversation and this effort."

For more information, visit www.greenhill.com.

Social Security made easy

Join Charles Ziss, a Social Security assistant district manager, at the Linda & Rudy Slucker NCJW/Essex Center for Women on Thursday, Oct. 26, from 10 a.m. to noon, when he will be speaking and discussing