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**\*\*\*MEDIA ALERT\*\*\*MEDIA ALERT\*\*\*MEDIA ALERT\*\*\*MEDIA ALERT\*\*\***

**History Center to Host Ninth Annual Bocce Tournament & Festival**

***-Admission is FREE for spectators and includes live entertainment and more-***

***-Event proceeds benefit the History Center's Italian American Program-***

**WHAT:** Come throw out the pallino and throw down for a worthy cause at the Senator John Heinz History Center's Ninth Annual Bocce Tournament & Festival on **Saturday, Aug. 11**, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., located under the Veterans Bridge overpass, adjacent to the History Center.

More than 40 four-person bocce teams will compete for first place while visitors enjoy Italian food, beverages, music, and more.

Admission is FREE for spectators and includes live music by The Jaggerz, Pure Gold, and Shari Richards & the Rhythm Aces.

Visitors can purchase delicious Italian fare from The Common Plea, including Italian beef sandwiches, pasta, pizza (made on site), beans & greens, eggplant parmigiana, gelato, and much more.

Organized by Jack Mascaro of the **Mascaro Construction Company**, proceeds from the Bocce Tournament & Festival benefit the History Center's Italian American Program, which is dedicated to preserving the history and culture of Italian Americans in Western Pennsylvania.

Founded in 1990, the Italian American Program's collection is one of the largest in the country and home to artifacts, archival materials, and oral histories that document the pivotal role Italian Americans play in shaping our region.

**WHY:** A bowling sport of precision and accuracy, bocce was popularized in Pittsburgh by Italian American immigrants who settled in the region at the turn of the 20th century. By providing a venue for socialization, bocce helped immigrants preserve the language and customs of the Old World and provided an important link for young Italian Americans to learn more about their past.

**WHEN:** **Saturday, Aug. 11**  
**11 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

Live entertainment schedule:

- Noon – The Jaggerz
- 2 p.m. – Pure Gold
- 4 p.m. – Shari Richards & the Rhythm Aces

**WHERE:** Parking lot under the Veterans Bridge overpass, adjacent to the History Center  
13<sup>th</sup> and Smallman Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

\*\*For more information, please visit [www.heinzhistorycenter.org](http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org)\*\*



At the Heinz History Center's ninth annual Bocce Tournament & Festival on Saturday, Aug. 11, spectators can watch 40+ bocce teams compete for first place and enjoy live music by The Jaggerz, Pure Gold (pictured above), and Shari Richards & the Rhythm Aces.



The ninth annual Bocce Tournament & Festival on Saturday, Aug. 11 will include live entertainment, activities, and Italian cuisine to benefit the Heinz History Center's Italian American Program.

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