



COBYS Connection

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Motivated by Christian faith, COBYS Family Services educates, supports, and empowers children and adults to reach their full potential.

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COBYS Connection is an occasional e-newsletter of COBYS Family Services. Tell us what you think, let us know if you experienced technical difficulties, or unsubscribe by e-mailing [Don Fitzkee](#).

Shop for COBYS at Park City on April 26

If you have some shopping to do, Saturday, April 26, would be a good day to do it. COBYS Family Services is participating in the Shop for a Cause Expo at Park City Center in Lancaster from 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. that day.

The event is sponsored by the Lancaster Hempfield Rotary Club, which will be providing prize money.

Here's how it works: For every dollar you spend at a Park City Center retailer or restaurant on April 26, you can assign one point to the non-profit of your choice.

Of course, we hope that you will choose COBYS. Awards of \$3,000, \$2,500, \$2,000, and \$1,500 will be presented to the four organizations with the highest number of points. (Thirty-eight organizations are participating.)



When you are done shopping or having lunch or dinner at one of the mall restaurants, simply bring receipts from all of your purchases to the Lancaster Hempfield Rotary Club Information Booth in the center of the mall and designate your points for COBYS. While you are at the Rotary booth, you can earn 100 additional points by donating groceries worth \$5 or more or by making a \$5 donation to the Hempfield Food Pantry.

If you visit 10 or more booths, you earn an additional 100 points and also make yourself eligible to win one of two Kindle Fire tablet computers and other prizes. (Pick up a card at the Rotary booth to document booths visited.) We hope one of the booths you visit will be ours. We'll be located in the Bon Ton wing.



Peter Becker to Host 20th Annual Family Fun Walk



COBYS Family Services will host the 20th annual Family Fun Walk on Sunday, May 4, at Peter Becker Community, 800 Maple Ave., Harleysville. The walk begins at 4 p.m., with registration beginning at 3:15.

The event consists of a three-mile walk, followed by ice cream, refreshments, and awarding of door prizes. Walkers donate, enlist sponsors to benefit COBYS ministries to children and families, or both.

(continued)



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Recycling Tech Trash Earns COBYS Cash

You can support COBYS ministries by donating used printer cartridges, cell phones, and electronic devices and by buying refurbished cartridges through [Planet Green](#). To ship 20 items or more directly to the recycling center, print UPS labels at [Planet Green](#). Or drop off any number of items at a COBYS office, and we'll take care of it for you.

Please Smile If You Shop at Amazon.com

If you shop at Amazon.com, you can support COBYS ministries while you do it.

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon. When you shop on [AmazonSmile](#), the AmazonSmile Foundation donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization you select.

Just visit AmazonSmile to select COBYS as your organization and your preference will be registered as part of your Amazon profile.

Top fundraisers can choose between grand prizes of a rocking chair donated by Cracker Barrel Old Country Store & Restaurant or two tickets to Noah, donated by Sight & Sound Theatres, Lancaster.

In honor of the event's 20th anniversary, we'll also give away a second rocker as a door prize. All participants receive a free t-shirt, ice cream and refreshments, and a chance to win door prizes.

Costs of the event are partially underwritten by [Bauman Family Fruit Butters and Cider](#), Sassamansville. The event will be held rain or shine.



Visit our [News & Events page](#) for more information, including a [brochure](#). Or contact [Don Fitzkee](#) at 800-452-6517.

COBYS held its first "Family Fun Walk" in September 1994 in Ephrata. The Harleysville walk began the following spring. For a time, COBYS hosted three annual Family Fun Walks in the three geographic sections of the Atlantic Northeast District of the Church of the Brethren. The Lancaster County walk evolved into today's Bike & Hike, held each September in Lititz. The event at Peter Becker continued as the sole Family Fun Walk.

'News Banquet' Program Available Online

If you missed the March 6 COBYS Nightly News Banquet, all is not lost. You still can view the entire program on our [website](#) or the snippets that interest you on [YouTube](#). (As far as that goes, you can still send in a donation, too!) In addition, photos from the event can be viewed on



[Facebook](#).

The banquet, which was structured as a light-hearted evening newscast, established a new attendance record and shattered last year's giving record. Donations exceeded \$51,500, up from \$44,100 in 2013. Attendance was

[558](#), up from 549 in 2013.

For the first time, we maxed out the Middle Creek COB fellowship hall and had to turn some people away.

Take a few minutes to check out the [gathering music](#) provided by the King's Strings, the feature on respite parents [Dave & Marj Stoddard](#), the live tour of our new [Family Life Center](#), a feature on [resource parent training](#), and of course ham loaf commercial [one](#) and [two](#).