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**OVER 40 WAYS TO STAY WARM THIS JANUARY!
And a tip on how to beat the winter time boredom.**

January 8, 2016 – Mechanicsburg, PA - There are three things we all know that come with the month of January; the end of the holiday season, cold winter and with a lack of events, it brings general boredom. And while we can't bring the holiday season back, we can help with the cold and boredom. Imagine coming in from the brisk cold outdoors of Pennsylvania and grabbing a hot bowl of your favorite soup. Now imagine you have over 40 soups already made for you to try!

Here is how you can fight the winter time boredom and join us for the biggest event in January! Come to The annual Soup Cook Off! Taste over 40 soups prepared by both professional and amateur chefs giving it their best!

"It's not just Soup..." says Gwen Forlizzi, event director, "It's an experience!"

Now in its sixth year, this event has become the largest of its type in Central Pennsylvania. This year's event will feature acoustic music throughout the afternoon by teachers, students and friends of the Keystone Musical Arts Center. Water, tea and sodas will be available at no extra charge, and a cash bar will be open for those seeking wine and other beverages.

Tickets for this event are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door with free parking. Proceeds will benefit the Keystone Musical Arts Center, a non-profit organization. Prizes and cash money will be award to the first, second and third place winners in both the Professional and Amateur category. "The best part of this event is that the winners are not picked by a panel of judges, but by you, the soup taster!" says Gwen. This is event is for the entire family and children under 5 years of age are admitted free.

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About The Soup Cook Off

The Soup Cook Off is now in its sixth year and has become the largest event of its kind in central Pennsylvania. Prior to 2015, the cook-offs were held the first weekend in March at the Park Inn, and benefited the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. As the popularity grew, The Soup Cook Off creator, Gwen Forlizzi, found it necessary to move the event to a new location and change the date. She explains, "We had a big snow and ice storm on the day of our cook-off last March. We still had over 450 people attend,

which was fantastic! However, it was clear that we were going to need a larger venue and a different time of year. So we moved The Annual Cystic Fibrosis Soup Cook Off to The Best Western Premier Hotel in Harrisburg and it proved to be a huge success! In the future, we will continue to hold our Soup Cook Off to benefit The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation at this new and larger location. With the success of this event, we welcomed other charities to contact us and request a soup cook-off to benefit them. We are pleased to announce our inaugural KMAC Soup Cook Off to benefit the Keystone Musical Arts Center located in Mechanicsburg.”

About The Keystone Musical Arts Center

The Keystone Musical Arts Center is raising funds to build out a space in the Hampden Center shopping plaza. When complete, all teaching and performance rooms will be sound-proofed and geared toward providing a first-class learning environment. It will also allow the school to expand its offerings considerably and become the community partner it strives to be. KMAC’s instructors are currently teaching private music lessons in temporary locations in and around Mechanicsburg. The new facility will make possible the addition of group classes and ensembles, plus music therapy and homeschool programs that are greatly needed in the area. Although KMAC is new, the teachers have many years of experience, both in and out of the classroom. The school has already received recognition in the form of a project stream grant from the Pennsylvania Counsel on the Arts. Early donations and commitments have come in from businesses such as the Freedom Auto Group, Bortek Industries and Custom Maintenance. The Foundation for Enhancing Communities helped KMAC get off the ground last year by acting as their fiscal sponsor. The school received their own tax exempt status in November, allowing them to begin 2016 as an official 501(c)(3) organization.