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Split Level Concerts at the JCC of Central New Jersey is back with Americana Duo, Rod Picott and Amanda Shires

Scotch Plains -- Split Level Concerts, a new intimate music venue at the JCC of Central Jersey's Fusion Café, will present Yankee singer/songwriter Rod Picott and Texas fiddler and songwriter Amanda Shires on Sunday, July 26 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

These two acclaimed artists met at the Folk Alliance Conference in Austin, Texas in 2006 and immediately formed a musical bond. They toured together throughout the U.S. and Europe for two years before co-writing their debut duo project, "Sew Your Heart with Wires." The recording has garnered rave reviews throughout the music industry.

"An absolutely marvelous acoustic duo album...their duet singing is so damned gorgeous..."
- John Conquest, *3rd Coast Music*

"...flows like honey"
- Arthur Wood, *Folkwax*

"This one just flows with an ambience and charm that is hard to resist."
- Bill Lavery, *Village Records*

Founded by Mark and Arlene Klemow of Scotch Plains, Split Level Concerts at the JCC offers music lovers throughout Central New Jersey the chance to get up close and personal with first-rate singer/songwriters. Upcoming concerts include Jill Sobule on October 17 and Graham Parker on November 21.

The July 26 concert with Rod Picott and Amanda Shires will include a pre-concert reception in the café's outdoor courtyard. Beer, wine, soft drinks and snacks will be available.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m., and the concert begins at 7:00 p.m. Seating is limited, so advance ticket purchase is recommended. Purchase tickets on line at www.jccnj.org or contact Simone Klein at 908 889-8800 ext. 214 or sklein@jccnj.org.

For more information about the artists, visit www.rodpicott.com, www.amandashires.net, or www.myspace.com/rodpicottandamandashires.

The JCC of Central New Jersey is located at 1391 Martine Avenue in Scotch Plains. The JCC of Central New Jersey is a constituent agency of the United Way and the Jewish Federation of Central New Jersey. Financial assistance is available for membership and various programs.

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