

Are you a parent/caregiver of a child with
special needs?

Then look inside and check out...

What's happening in WNY...

Upcoming and Ongoing Events
in the Community

News from the Community...



What:	Educating the child with Autism: Building Bridges through Relationships
When:	June 18 4:45 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.
Where:	Buffalo Hearing & Speech Center, 50 E. North St, Buffalo NY
Why:	A free educational seminar presented by Dr. Carol Markovics, Ph.D., Clinical & Developmental Psychologist & Certified DIR Trainer
Who:	To reserve a seat call Christine 716-885-8319 ext. 319
What:	Wild About Reading....Free Book Giveaway!
When:	June 20 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Where:	Buffalo Zoo
Why:	Enjoy a fun-filled day at the zoo. There will be crafts and local guest readers, see your favorite animal and get wild about reading...receive a free book of your choosing to read over the summer.
Who:	Sponsored by the Niagara Frontier Reading Council
What:	Fantasy Island Day
When:	June 27 11:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Why:	For students who have a documented disability or those "at-risk" in WNY. Cook-out included/bring a dish to pass.
*Cost:	\$8.95 for students who qualify; \$11.95 for other family members
Who:	Buffalo Excels, (716) 510-0317
What:	Lose the Training Wheels – hosted by The Down Syndrome Parent Group
When:	July 13 th – July 17 th
Where:	East Aurora High School, 1003 Center Road, East Aurora, NY
Why:	This program, for children at least 8 yrs. old and less than 250 lbs., uses adapted bikes to teach individuals with disabilities to ride a conventional bicycle without training wheels. There are morning and afternoon sessions each 1.5 hrs. long. Volunteers also needed to serve as spotters to provide physical support and emotional encouragement. Volunteers are requested to commit to one session of each morning or afternoon during the 5 days.
*Cost:	\$100.
Who:	Call Anita Ballow, 741-3848 for more information
What:	danceability, Inc. Summer Dance Program
When:	Summer Registration June 13 th 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Where:	danceability, Inc., 3859 Union Rd., Ste. 400, Cheektowaga, NY
Why:	A dance program for children & adults with special needs and their families. Preregistration for the Fall season will also be accepted.
*Cost:	6 weeks=\$75 + \$20 (annual registration fee)=\$95.
Who:	Call 651-0094 for more information
What:	1-2-3 Magic
Where:	Elmwood-Crane Library, 633 Elmwood Ave. (on bus line), Buffalo, NY
When:	Call for schedule of dates and times
Why:	A simple, precise, and easy to learn method of four sessions that works effectively in disciplining children 2-5 years old. Parents should attend all four sessions to receive the full benefit of the program.
*Cost:	\$35 per four-week session. Call to learn when new session begins.
Who:	Terri Good, LMSW at (716) 871-9883 ext. 603 for more information.
What:	ADDRESS Adult Support Group
Where:	Ascension Lutheran Church, 4640 Main Street, Snyder, NY
When:	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. 2 nd Wednesday of each month
Why:	These meetings are for adults with ADHD or those living with an adult with ADHD.
Who:	(716) 829-2244, ext. 135 or www.addresswny.org for more information

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What:	ADHD Parents Support Group
Where:	Denny's, 4610 Genesee St., Cheektowaga, NY
When:	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. 2 nd Tuesday of each month
Why:	Parents and guardians come ask questions and share information about raising children with ADHD.
Who:	(716) 829-7142 or www.addresswny.org for more information
What:	WNY Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Family Support Group
Where:	1625 Hertel Avenue, Buffalo, NY
When:	3 rd Wednesday of each month 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Why:	Meet with other families, share experiences, ideas and information.
Who:	Helen Weinstein at 831-2298, ext. 19
What:	The Parent Child Connection
Why:	The purpose of this group is to provide parenting enrichment opportunities by offering educational programs for the families of Hamburg and surrounding communities.
Who:	The Family Support Center of Hamburg, (716) 646-9593
What:	Support Groups for Adoptive Parents – Erie County
Where:	Hillside Children's Center, 131 Orchard Park Road, West Seneca, NY
When:	4 th Thursday of every month 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Why:	Meet others who share the daily challenges and rewards of parenting adopted children and teens. Pre- and post-adoptive parents welcome.
Who:	Robin Smith at (716) 848-6412 to register or for more information
What:	Adoptive Parents & Kids Support Groups
Where:	New Directions Youth & Family Services, 1445 Kensington Ave., Buffalo, NY
When:	4 th Wednesday of the month 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Why:	Adoptive parents come together and share common stories while supporting one another; while their adoptive children meet with other adoptive kids to help promote their social skills
Who:	Sylvia Inman at (716) 834-9413 ext. 212
What:	Support Groups for Adoptive Parents – Niagara County
Where:	Niagara Community Center Association, 66 Stevens St., Lockport, NY
When:	2 nd Thursday of every month 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Why:	Meet others who share the daily challenges and rewards of parenting adopted children and teens. Pre- and post-adoptive parents welcome.
Who:	Robin Smith at (716) 848-6412 to register or for more information
What:	Bornhava's Men's Forum
Where:	Bornhava, 25 Chateau Terrace, Amherst, NY
When:	7:30 p.m. one evening per month during school year. Call for dates.
Why:	This forum is open to fathers and male caregivers of children with developmental delays. It is a chance to meet others in a similar situation and share ideas.
Who:	(716) 839-1655 for more information
What:	Connections Parent Support Group for Families of Children with Asperger's Disorder
Where:	Summit Educational Resources, 150 Stahl Rd., Getzville, NY
When:	7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. on the 1 st Monday of each month
Why:	Share ideas, information, treatment options, educational options and advocacy strategies.
Who:	Marlene Mancuso at (716) 629-3400

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What:	Sensory Processing Disorder Support Group
When:	Call for meeting dates, times and location
Why:	Created for parents to provide information, resources and understanding to parents, friends, teachers, relatives, community members, professionals and any one touched by the impact of Sensory Processing Disorder. Meetings feature group discussions, education and guest speakers. <i>Meetings are for adults only.</i>
Who:	Kirsten Seebald (716) 982-1770 or marilynballard@gmail.com
What:	Autism Society of WNY Support /Informational Meetings & Workshops
Where:	St. John Lutheran Church, 3512 Clinton Street, West Seneca, NY
When:	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.; check website for meeting date & topic
Why:	To provide information to families & professionals who work with our children. Parents should call/email for a free book on ASD, and to be added to mailing list. Website lists upcoming workshops of interest in WNY area. www.autismwny.org
Who:	(716) 633-2275 or email info@autismwny.org
What:	Child & Family Support Programs
Where:	ECMC, Room 444, 462 Grider St., Buffalo, NY
When:	2 nd and 4 th Saturday of the month 12:30 p.m. -2:00 p.m.
Where:	Brylin Support Group, 1263 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo NY
When:	1 st and 3 rd Wednesday of the month 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Where:	Boys & Girls Club Southside Clubhouse, 17 Tamarack, Buffalo NY
When:	1 st and 3 rd Friday of the month 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Where:	Harlem Road Community Center, 4255 Harlem Road, Amherst, NY
When:	1 st and 3 rd Wednesday of the month 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Where:	Buffalo Outpatient Center, 575 Alberta Drive, Suite 2, Amherst NY
When:	2 nd and 4 th Thursday of the month 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Where:	Orchard Park Town Hall (Basement), 4295 South Buffalo St., Orchard Park, NY
When:	1 st and 3 rd Thursday of the month 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Why:	Offering support for families raising a child with emotional and/or behavioral problems. Meetings present an opportunity to talk, listen and learn about issues and feelings involved.
Who:	Child & Family Support Program at 886-1242 ext. 318
What:	Families' Child Advocacy Network (CAN) Monthly Roundtable Discussion Group
Where:	The Family Resource Ctr., 347 East Ferry St., Buffalo NY 14208
When:	2 nd Monday of each month 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Why:	Families CAN is family run and family driven for all parents, grandparents, foster parents and caregivers raising a child with social, emotional and/or behavioral disabilities.
Who:	(716) 884-2599 or www.familiescanwny.org for more information.
What:	Short Term Respite Care
Why:	Respite may be provided for eligible families raising a child with mental health and serious emotional/behavior issues.
Who:	Child & Family Support Program (716) 886-1242 ext. 327
What:	GLOW Family Support Program
Where:	Hillside Children's Center, Genesee, Livingston, Orleans and Wyoming Counties
When:	Ongoing support groups and respite care
Why:	GLOW offers support, respite, advocacy, information and referral, newsletters, a library, etc. for families of children birth to age 21 with an emotional and/or behavioral challenge.
Who:	Integration Center at (585) 256-7500 for more information.

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What:	WNY Chapter Families of Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA)
Where:	Airport Millennium Hotel, 2040 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, NY
Why:	Goals of the group include helping families cope with SMA through information and support, to fund research and to raise awareness about Spinal Muscular Atrophy.
Who:	(716) 622-0804 or www.wnyfsma.org for meeting dates, time and more information.
What:	After School Enrichment for School Aged Children with Developmental Disabilities
Where:	Enterprise Charter School, 275 Oak St., Buffalo, NY
When:	Monday – Friday 3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Why:	To provide academic enrichment and a range of cultural and recreational opportunities for children with Developmental Disabilities.
Who:	(716) 874-7200
What:	Southtowns Autism Spectrum Disorder Support Group
Where:	Chapel Park Villa Head Start, 7008 Erie Rd., Derby, NY
When:	6:30 p.m. the 3 rd Wednesday of each month.
Why:	The group offers families of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder a chance to meet, share ideas and find support in the Southtowns area.
Who:	Gayle Duffy at (716) 947-0085 for more information
What:	SMILE Support Groups in Niagara County
Where:	Wheatfield Community Senior Center, 2790 Church Rd., North Tonawanda, NY
When:	2 nd and 4 th Friday each month
Where:	Henrietta G. Lewis Campus School, 6395 Old Niagara Rd., Lockport, NY
When:	2 nd and 4 th Wednesday each month
Why:	To provide support, education and information on topics selected by group members & parent facilitators.
Who:	Marge Wright at (716) 433-4487 to register.
What:	Precious Jewels Day Care Center, Inc.
Where:	390 Emslie Street, Buffalo, NY 14206
When:	Monday – Friday 6:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Why:	A not-for-profit child care center licensed by the NY State Department of Social Services. They offer activities designed to promote the physical, emotional and intellectual needs of each child.
Who:	(716) 604-1514 for more information
What:	Teen Pals Program
Where:	Yad B'Yad, 2640 North Forest Dr., Getzville, NY
When:	Twice per month, once on the weekend, once during the week. Times vary.
Why:	Open to teenagers 13-18 who need help with social skills. Currently accepting names for a waiting list.
Who:	(716) 204-3583 for more information * Cost: \$200 for the year
What:	Heritage Christian Services Club House Adventure
Where:	Day Habilitation Site, 1000 Ellicott Creek Road, Tonawanda, NY
When:	10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. two Saturdays per month
Why:	A respite program for children and young adults with disabilities ages 3-25 who are eligible for services through the Western New York DDSO. Participants must reside in Erie, Orleans, Genesee or Niagara counties. Capacity is limited.
Who:	(716) 743-2020 or scardinal@heritagechristianservices.org for more information
What:	www.buffalodiocese.org/disabilities
Why:	To discover the spiritual resources provided to persons with disabilities in the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo

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What:	The Heart Club
Where:	Grace Baptist Church, 2525 Eggert Road, Tonawanda NY
When:	1 st Monday of the month 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Why:	To provide monthly social and spiritual interaction for developmentally disabled adults. Enjoy crafts, music, devotions and a snack while socializing with other adults 21 yrs. and older.
Who:	Jean Fitzgerald (716) 877-7080 for more information
What:	Friends Program
Where:	Yad B'Yad, 2640 North Forest Dr., Getzville, NY
When:	20 outings per year, each approximately 2 hours long
Why:	Open to young adults age 18-30 with developmental disabilities living at home with family. Participate in age appropriate life activities that address life skill areas. Each participant will be matched with a volunteer.
*Cost:	<i>Need to have Medicaid waiver for funding.</i>
Who:	(716) 204-3583 for more information
What:	Youth Peer Support Groups
Where:	Various locations, days & times
Why:	A youth-run support group for adolescents 12-18 years old. Help plan a monthly activity and meet other youth. Sponsored by Erie County Family Voices Network in collaboration with the Mental Health Association of Erie County, Inc.
Who:	(716) 886-1242 x 327 for more information
What:	Socialization & Recreation Group Program
Where:	Robert Warner Rehabilitation Center, 936 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, NY; various community locations.
When:	Every other Friday evening for 2 hours.
Why:	Teenagers aged 12-15 or 16-19 who have a developmental or medical disability may be eligible. Spaces are limited and are filled on a first-come-first-serve basis.
Who:	Program Coordinator at 878-1260 for an application packet.
What:	Free Adult Tutoring
Where:	Boys & Girls Beecher Clubhouse, 180 10 th Street, Buffalo NY
When:	Mondays & Wednesdays Noon – 2:00 p.m.
Why:	To help you get a job, speak better English, improve your reading and writing, get a GED, or read to your children.
Who:	Literacy Volunteers (716) 876-8991
What:	Aspire Mental Health Clinic
Where:	Aspire, 7 Community Drive, Cheektowaga, NY
Why:	An acute care, crisis prevention and intervention clinic that will provide short-term stabilization and therapy for dually diagnosed individuals with BOTH mental health & developmental disability diagnosis.
Who:	Mary Carol Roberson at (716) 505-5630
What:	Danceability, Inc.
Where:	In the Tops/George Urban Plaza, 3859 Union Rd. Ste. 400, Cheektowaga, NY
When:	Call for schedule
Why:	A dance and creative movement program for children and adults with special needs.
Who:	(716) 651-0094 for summer schedule and fee structure
What:	Graceful & Gifted Special Needs Dance Program
Where:	5000 Saunders Settlement Rd., Bay #3, Niagara Falls, NY
When:	Call for summer schedule
Why:	A ballet/movement program for ambulatory and non-ambulatory individuals from 4 yrs. to adults.
Who:	For information and to register call Susan Farley-Akin, 716-946-7909

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What:	Power Wheelchair Soccer
Where:	Northtowns – Boys & Girls Club of the Northtowns, 325 Franklin St., Tonawanda Southtowns – Elma Boys & Girls Club, 2080 Girdle Rd, Elma
When:	Various dates – Call for schedule.
Why:	Power Wheelchair Soccer - players must be in a power wheelchair and be able to understand the game and safely maneuver the power wheelchair.
*Cost:	\$25 registration fee includes all equipment (can be waived based on ability to pay)
Who:	Chris at (716) 685-3976 or www.TheIndependenceFoundation.org
What:	Saturday Bowling at Kenmore Lanes
Where:	Kenmore Lanes, 1691 Kenmore Ave.
When:	May 2 nd – June 27th 11:00 AM
Why:	For students who have a documented disability
*Cost:	\$6 for 2 games of bowling & shoes
Who:	Buffalo Excels, 510-0317
What:	Sub Zero All Star Flurries-Special Needs Cheerleading Squad
Where:	4 Wendling Court, Lancaster NY
When:	Thursdays 6:15 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Why:	To offer children (aged 5-25 yrs.) with special needs the opportunity to participate in a sport, build teamwork, confidence, commitment, pride, leadership and fitness. Special needs cheerleading teams compete against other special needs teams from around the country.
Who:	Michele Ziegler, 510-5677 or email: info@subzeroallstars.com
What:	Resource Lending Library
Where:	Autistic Services Inc., 4444 Bryant Stratton Way, Williamsville, NY
Why:	A place for the WNY community to turn for information about autism spectrum disorders.
Who:	Call Veronica Federiconi at 716-631-5777 for more information.
What:	Getting There Transportation Program
Where:	The Western New York Independent Living Project, Inc., Erie County
Why:	Provides transportation assistance to and from recreational activities. There are three levels of service, depending upon needs of the individual. Documentation of disability must be provided.
Who:	Ann Palmer at (716) 836-0822, ext. 18
<i>*NOTE: Need volunteer drivers to transport people of all ages with developmental disabilities to various social activities. Must use your own vehicle. For more information, call Cathy at 836-0822, ext. 150</i>	
What:	Paratransit Access Line (PAL)
Where:	Several stops located throughout WNY.
When:	Operates the same hours as Metro Bus & Rail service.
Why:	An accessible bus and rail system for individuals with disabilities. PAL provides curb-to-curb transportation service for various purposes, including social, medical and recreational activities.
Who:	(716) 855-7268 (voice), (716) 855-7377 (TDD), www.NFTA.com for application information. For more information or to register (716) 646-9412
What:	http://sibsny.org
Why:	A website dedicated to the siblings of individuals with developmental disabilities in New York State.
Save the Date!	
What:	Preventing Conflict in the Education of Children with Special Needs: It's All about the Kids!
When:	September 24 th 11:30 a. – 4:00 p.m.
Where:	St. Bonaventure University, Doyle Dining Room
Why:	Dr. Nicholas Martin, M. A., Founder & President of The Center for Accord, Inc., Staff Development & Conflict Resolution Specialist will be the featured speaker.
Who:	Dr. Barbara Trolley, 375-2537, for more information & fee schedule. Registration Deadline 9/17/09

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