

April 21, 2008

Dear Friend of ASO:

NEWS
FROM ASO

Changes coming at Ohio Department of Education?
You may have seen some articles in the newspapers recently regarding changes in leadership at the Ohio Department of Education and that perhaps Ohio Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. Susan Zelman, might be stepping down. There has been no official announcements regarding Dr. Zelman stepping down and someone different replacing her. Also, to make a change from a "Superintendent" of Education and the State Board of Education system that we have now to a Director of the Department of Education as Governor Strickland recently proposed (similar to ODMRDD or ODJFS) would require legislation. We will keep you posted on any new developments.

Also, there has been no official announcement regarding a replacement for the Greg Maloney, the previous Director of the Ohio Department of Education, Office for Exceptional Children, who left at the end of February. ODE has been holding interviews for the position, however. We will make you aware as soon as any announcement is made.

NOW OPEN! – 2008 NATTAP
Conference Registration

The Autism Society of America (ASA) and Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence (OCALI) present the 2nd annual international conference on autism training and technical assistance. The objectives of the conference are to review current systems models for addressing the needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD), promote use of best practice in research and intervention and provide methods for capacity building – all of which contribute to the ultimate goal of improving outcomes for individuals ages 3-21. Join the estimated 1,500-2,000 attendees from across the national and around the globe.

NEW for 2008! Pre-Conference Sessions - November 18, 2008

Pre-Conference sessions are provided by leaders and recognized experts in the field and provide attendees with a valuable opportunity for in-depth discussion and learning.

What: 2008 NATTAP Conference

When: November 19-21, 2008

Where: Greater Columbus Convention Center | Columbus, OH

Early Bird Rate: \$185

Parent/Family Member Rate: \$100

Pre-Conference Session Rate: \$100

Conference registration and information available at: <http://www.nattapconference.org>

The Autism Society of Ohio has provided a grant to OCALI reducing the registration rate for parents from last year's \$185 to \$100 for all three days of the conference! Register NOW!

2008 ASA
National Conference

July 9-12, 2008

Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center

Orlando, Florida

2008
Keynoters:

Temple Grandin, Ph.D., Bob Hendren, D.O., & James Ball, Ph.D., BCBA

The Autism Society of America recognizes that families and individuals living with an autism spectrum disorder have a range of issues and needs. The National Conference of the Autism Society of America is the only conference that addresses the range of issues, including early intervention, education, employment, behavior, communication, social skills, biomedical interventions and others, across the entire lifespan. Bringing together the expertise and experiences of family members, professionals and individuals on the spectrum, attendees are able to learn how to more effectively advocate and obtain supports for the individual with ASD. The ultimate goal is to empower family members, individuals on the spectrum and professionals to make informed decisions.

Registration
& Conference Schedule

Go to www.autism-society.org/conference for the detailed 2008 ASA National Conference schedule. All session descriptions and speakers are now listed online, with over 200 speakers and 150 sessions. Be sure to register for the conference online by May 1, 2008, to take advantage of Early Bird Registration prices (Individuals on the Spectrum: \$150 & Full Conference Attendees: \$220).

Exhibitors

Don't miss your opportunity to exhibit at the largest autism conference in the U.S. this year. Network with professionals, families, service providers and more. For more information, contact Meg Ellacott, 2008 ASA National Conference Exhibit Director, at ellacott@autism-society.org or 302.260.9487. Be sure to secure your spot now.

Respite

Child Care

Bring your entire family. Orlando is a great family vacation location. ASA is partnering with Quest, Inc., to provide

respite care onsite. For more information, contact ASA at conference@autism-society.org.

Continuing

Education Credits

BCBA, ASHA and CME credits are available.

For session information, contact Autism Society of America at conference@autism-society.org.

The Autism Research Institute presents the Defeat Autism Now (DAN!)

Clinician Seminar for professionals on Wednesday, July 9, 2008.

For information about the conference, contact

Autism Society America Conference Department at conference@autism-society.org

or call 301.657.0881, ext. 10.

Upcoming

Events, Resources, etc:

- Central Ohio Autism

Society April Meeting to

feature Sean Barron, Columbus

- Autism Society of

NW Ohio Activities

- SE Ohio ASA and ARC Ohio:

"Planning for your Son/Daughter's Legal and

Financial Future", Athens

- Autism Society of Greater Cleveland

presents "Financial Planning for the Special Needs Family"

-

"What Adults With Disabilities Wish All Parents

Knew", Toledo

-

CRUISE 4 AUTISM

- The Milestones

Organization Autism/Asperger's Conference

- Nisonger

Interviewing individuals with ASD that are successfully employed

- Presentation:

Prosecution of Crimes Against Vulnerable Victims, Lima

- Upcoming Events,

OAR Run, NE Ohio

- BE THE PIECE

College Scholarship Fundraiser, Central Ohio

- Elements of

Applied Behavior Analysis in Educational Settings, NE Ohio

- Autism Open

House at Pump It Up of Medina

- A Day at Cedar Point

- Rock The Puzzle

for Autism, NE Ohio

- New Book from

AAPC by adult with Aspergers

- Audio

Conference: Employer Best Practices: Recruitment and Hiring of People with Disabilities

- DD Quarterly

newsletter now available online

- Children's Buy-In

program will offer health insurance benefits to children with special needs

- Kidslink

Activities, Akron

- Self-Awareness,

Self-Advocacy and Self-Acceptance..... (social skills newsletter)

-

Enjoy a Day of Fishing With Fishing Has No Boundaries - Central Ohio

- Wrestle Against Autism, Central Ohio
- Life Planning Seminars for Families and People with Disabilities,
Cincinnati area
- EMERGENCY RESPONSE GUIDE FOR PERSONS WITH AUTISM OR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE
- AUTISM ONE 2008 CONFERENCE, Chicago
- Resource: Understanding Asperger Syndrome: A Professor's Guide

- MRDD Family Advisory Meeting, Columbus
- Article:
Social-Skills Programs Found to Yield Gains in Academic Subjects

If you are interested in participating in research projects, ASO is now posting all research opportunities on our website. For information on available opportunities, visit our webpage www.autismohio.org, click on "Information" along the left side of the home page and then click on "Studies/Surveys".

Have you purchased your Ohio Autism Awareness License Plate yet? To purchase yours, visit www.oplates.com and click on "Specialty Plates" or visit our website at www.autismohio.org for more information.

Sincerely,

The Autism Society of Ohio

701 S. Main St.

Akron, OH 44311

(330) 376-0211

fax: (330) 376-1226

email: askASO@autismohio.org

web: www.autismohio.org

Please note: This is provided for information purposes only. The ASO does not endorse or recommend any providers, methodologies or services. Providing this information should not be construed as an endorsement by the ASO, either explicit or implied.

Central Ohio Autism
Society April Meeting to feature Sean Barron, Columbus

Our

April meeting will be on Wednesday, April 30, at the Columbus Speech and Hearing Center at North Broadway and Indianola [map at <http://tinyurl.com/3oexad>] in another partnership with the Ohio State University's Nisonger Center and Aspirations. Sean Barron will be coming to speak to young adults on the autism spectrum and their parents for the Aspirations Recap meeting. He will have dinner with the young adults and then speak to everyone from 7:30 to 8:30. Our chapter is helping to financially support his visit. You are invited to hear his presentation to families. Sean is an adult with ASD, an author, and a reporter for the Youngstown Vindicator. Future Horizons published the two the books he co-authored:

<https://www.fhautism.com/cgi-bin/shopper.cgi> For more information visit: <http://www.autism-centralohio.com/>

Please
RSVP at Nancy Beu at nancybeu@aol.com .

Autism Society of
NW Ohio Activities

Mud
Hens
Game

Come join us for an afternoon of fun.

We are

reserving a section of seats at Fifth Third Field behind the Mud Hen's dugout for our families to sit together and enjoy the game. It will be Dora the Explorer Day so kids can meet-n- greet Dora the Explorer. Kids can get autographs from featured Mud Hens players before the game starts and after the game kids can run the bases.

Admission:

Tickets must be purchased in advance from the Autism Society for \$8 per ticket (a one dollar discount per ticket.)

There will be a limited number of seats for families with peanut allergies. Call the office for more information.

When:

Sunday, April 27

Game
starts at 1 PM
Where:
Fifth Third Field
406
Washington
Toledo,
OH

To
purchase tickets: Call the office to arrange a time or buy them on our
website www.asno.org . PLEASE purchase your tickets NO LATER
THAN April 25.

EXTRA:
For every ticket you purchase, your loved one with autism will have a
chance to win the opportunity to throw out the first pitch of the game.

Promising New
Treatments for Patients with Fragile X Syndrome and Autism
Presenter: Dr. Elizabeth Berry-Kravis

RUSH University Medical Center

When: Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Check in and dessert: 6 pm

Presentation: 6:30 - 9 pm

Where: Toledo Hospital Education Center Auditorium

(between the Jobst and McIntosh Towers at Toledo Hospital)

2109 Hughes Drive, Toledo OH

For online directions: Go to promedica.org, highlight
Hospitals, scroll down to The Toledo Hospital, then select Maps and
Directions.

IMPORTANT: There is no charge for this presentation, but
pre-registration by Wednesday, April 24 is required. Please help us
make this a successful event by pre-registering in a timely manner.

To register: Please call 419-578-2766 or email asno.org@bex.net with
the names of the individuals attending and a contact phone number.
Please indicate whether you are a parent or professional and what
county you live in.

“Planning
for your Son/Daughter’s Legal and Financial Future”

Please click the link below to register for the very important training
on Saturday, May 10th in Athens, Ohio:

http://www.thearcofohio.org/index.php?option=com_events&task=view_detail&agid=82&year=2008&month=05&day=10&temid=50

This training is FREE for families and individuals.

Professionals are \$75. ODMR/DD CEU's being offered.

Sponsored in part by the SE Ohio ASA Chapter.

Autism Society of
Greater Cleveland presents "Financial Planning for the Special Needs
Family"

Tuesday, May 6th

"Financial Planning for the Special Needs
Family" on May 6th, at 6:30pm through the ASGC for their monthly
meeting. Joining me for the presentation will be Kerry
M. Agins, Attorney at Law with Siegel and Agins.
Kerry will share her insights about Special Needs planning from a legal
perspective, to include Protecting Assets and Benefit Eligibility.

If you are interested in
attending, below please find a link to the ASGC website, and directions
to the meeting. Also, so that we can plan accordingly, please
email reply to me for headcount purposes. If you are
interested in the topic but can not attend, please let me
know. Please share this with others whom you think might
benefit from attending.

<http://www.asgc.org/>

The
ASGC meets at 6:30 P.M. the first Tuesday of every month at
the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center on 8001 Brecksville Rd. in
Brecksville Ohio.

Directions:

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps/map.adp?city=Brecksville&state=OH&address=8001+Brecksville+Rd&zip=44141-2313&country=us&zoom=7>

“What

Adults With Disabilities Wish All Parents Knew

Based on the book titled

“Reflections from a Different Journey”

By

Stanley Klein, PhD & John Kemp

presented by Northwest Ohio
Center for Families and Children

P.E.E.R.S

People Exemplifying Excellence With Real-Life Stories

We the Northwest Ohio Center
for Families and Children (NCFC) Believe that a
person’s experiences And their
successes Are two of the greatest forms of Education
and encouragement to others;

These people are often identified as P.E.E.R.S. The
NCFC is going to provide an opportunity

For children born with a disability/developmental delay
(DD) Or the parents of a child w/DD to see and hear from these
very people Who have also had to overcome tremendous
fears, barriers and challenges

And who have fought to gain a rightful place in their
community For themselves or their children.

These people are positive role models, advocates, teachers and
leaders Exemplifying the excellence they have fought
to achieve By believing their future is attainable.
We will provide this opportunity in a four part educational
series Focusing on Family Life, Education,
Vocational, and Social/Recreational topics.

Parents and their children will hear from four
panelists Which will consist of parents, consumers
and one local expert, Sharing the wisdom and skills
they have gained From their personal
life’s experience

FORUM DATES:

Session I: Family Life, Sat. May 3, 08 Session II: Education Sat. May
9, 08

Session III: Vocation, Sat. May 17, 08 Session IV: Rec/Social Sat. May
31, 08

ALL SESSIONS WILL BE HELD AT:

The Emergency Management Services (EMS) Building

2127 Jefferson St., Toledo, Ohio 43604

11:00 am. – 1:00 pm.

(Child care & Lunch will be provided for all sessions)

For more information contact:
Deborah
Armstead

Northwest Ohio Center

for

Families and
Children

2238 Jefferson Ave. 2nd Floor

Toledo, Ohio 43604
or call (419) 251-1816 Or
E-mail to debarmstead@yahoo.com

2008
Topics in Child Development Conference:

June 26th and 27th - Kent State University

Topics in Child
Development: Effective Use of Behavioral
Interventions for Individuals With Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Individuals with autism
spectrum disorders (ASD) present with a wide variety of strengths and
needs. Within the context of a behavioral approach to
intervention, parents, educators, and other professionals can develop
and enhance positive academic and behavioral skills while
simultaneously addressing disruptive behaviors. The 2008 Topics in
Child Development Conference will focus on behavioral approaches to
intervention that can assist in enhancing existing skills and building
new skills to promote success across multiple settings. For complete
details, visit: <http://www.ehhs.kent.edu/PDO/conferences.cfm>

For information on the 2008
conference, please contact Kathy Brown at 330.672.0537 or kbrown5@kent.edu

From the
Gray Center: Exiled No More (mp3 presentation download) by Sondra
Williams

Note: Sondra has been a member of the ASO Board.

In September, 2007, Sondra Williams spoke at a church workshop. Her presentation, titled, "Exiled No More," addressed some of her faith journey, her struggles with ASD (an autism spectrum disorder), and issues she faced in becoming a welcomed member of a church community.

Note that this is an mp3 (audio) download which you'll be able to access and listen to after providing payment details.

*NOTE: Through April, 2008, The Gray Center will donate 100% of the proceeds from the sale of this mp3 download to our newly developed Sondra Williams Endowment Fund. Thank you for your support!

Retail Price: \$9.95

Our Price: \$6.95 -
You Save \$3.00!

For more info, click here

The Milestones
Organization Autism/Asperger's Conference

http://www.milestones.org/news_conferences.htm
Annual Conference

2008 Conference

The 6th
Annual Milestones Organization Autism/Asperger's Conference

Life-Long
Strategies for Success: School, Home, Community and Work
Keynote Speaker
Dr. Jed Baker
Monday, June 16, 2008

8:30 a.m. -
4:45 p.m. (7:45 a.m. registration)

At Executive
Caterers at Landerhaven

6111 Landerhaven Drive, Mayfield Heights, Ohio 44124

This
conference is for you
if you are a . . .

special
educator • inclusion teacher • classroom aide
• speech therapist • occupational therapist
• psychologist • social worker • nurse

• music or art therapist • physical therapist
• school counselor • parent or relative of individual
with autism spectrum disorder • behavioral therapist

Schedule
Monday,
June 16, 2008

7:45
a.m.
—; Registration/Continental Breakfast

8:30
a.m.
—; Welcome

8:45
a.m. to 10:15
—; Keynote

10:30
a.m. to 12:00
—; Workshops A

12:00
p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
—; Lunch/Exhibitors —; Award Ceremony

1:30
p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
—; Workshops B

3:15
to 4:45 p.m.
—; Workshops C

Registration
Information
Fees

Professional
Registration Fee (price includes CEUs, continental breakfast, lunch and
binder)

150

Professional
Group Discount per person (4 or more from same organization with single
payment)

-\$20

Family
Member Registration Fee (price includes continental breakfast, lunch
and binder)

115

Family
Group Discount per person (4 or more from same organization with single
payment)

-\$20

Person
with Autism Spectrum Disorder

\$75

Lunch
without Conference Registration

\$45

Binder
without Conference Registration

\$50

Scholarships

A
limited amount of conference scholarship aid is available. To request a
scholarship application, please email infomilestones@yahoo.com
or call 216.371.4765. Download
Scholarship Form

Changes/Cancellations

Cancellations

will be accepted in writing until June 14, 2006, and refunds granted minus 30% of administrative costs. Substitutions for original registrants are acceptable.

Professional Development (CEU's) Offered

6.0 continuing education hours are pending for counselors, educators, nurses, psychologists, physical and occupational therapists and social workers. .6 CEUs for Speech Language Pathologists on various levels: professional and related areas is pending through ASHA. Professional development credit is pending toward a BCBA. General certificates of attendance will also be available.

Workshop Selection

Over the course of the conference, there are three workshop time slots with multiple options per time slot. Please choose one topic for each workshop time slot.

Meals

Registration fees include a continental breakfast and a buffet lunch. The meals include vegetarian options. If you require a kosher meal, indicate your preference on the registration form. It will not be possible to arrange for special meals on-site.

Advertising/Exhibiting/Sponsorship Information

We invite you to promote your organization at the 2008 Conference Life-Long Strategies for Success: School, Home, Community and Work. Opportunities are available to be a conference sponsor, exhibitor at the conference, and advertiser in the conference binder. Your message will reach 400 attendees. Download our advertising, sponsorship, and exhibiting participation letter and form. Contact infomilestones@yahoo.com for further information or to indicate your interest.

Conference Location and Directions

Executive Caterers at Landerhaven

6111 Landerhaven Drive,

Mayfield Heights,
OH 44124
Questions/Special Assistance

Please call Milestones Organization at 216-371-4765 or email at infomilestones@yahoo.com.

Nisonger Center at OSU (in partnership with OCALI) is interested in interviewing individuals with ASD that are

successfully employed

The Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence (OCALI) has partnered with The Ohio State

University Nisonger Center to identify individuals on the Autism Spectrum to participate in a survey

about successful employment outcomes.

We are looking for individuals with ASD who have been

successfully working in the community for 6 months or more and would be willing to be interviewed, as

well as, share their stories with others. Interviews will be with the individual with ASD and/or their

family representative. Interviews will be by phone and should take about 30 minutes to complete. If you

are interested or have questions please contact Rachel Straus at straus.9@osu.edu or 614-292-4185.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter and we really hope you will participate.

Sincerely,

Tom Fish, Ph.D. LISW

Director of Social Work and Family Services

To get the process started please fill out the general information below and e-mail responses back to

Rachel at straus.9@osu.edu

Thanks again!

Individual with ASD

Name, Address, Email, Phone, Length of time employed in current position

Contact person for Interview (if different than the individual with ASD)

Name, Address, Phone, Email

Employer

Company Name, Supervisor/ Manager Name, Address, Phone, Email, Type of Work/Job Responsibilities,

Amount of hours worked per week

The Nisonger Center

A University Center for Excellence

in Developmental Disabilities

257 McCampbell Hall

1581 Dodd Dr.

Columbus, OH 43210

Events,
OAR Run

LOCAL UPCOMING EVENTS

visit www.milestones.org/news_events.htm
for more events

May 4, Friendship Circle Festival, 2:00pm
- 4:00 pm

Preston's Hope, Mandell JCC Campus, Beachwood

Contact Dassi Shtern at 216-377-3000 ext. 1004 or
dassi@friendscleveland.com

[Download Flyer](#)

May 15 (Deadline), Helping Hand Program: Financial Aid for
Autism Families

May 18, OAR Run for Autism (Organization
for Autism Research)

Cleveland, OH. For questions,
please contact the RUN Staff toll free at (866)
366-9710; e-mail: run@researchautism.org.

Sign up now!

BE THE PIECE College Scholarship Fundraiser

Friday, April 25, 2008 7:00 PM

Disability Resource Network Bingo Hall

3080 Westerville Road (intersection of Oakland Park

& Westerville Road)

Ticket Price: \$30 each or \$50.00 for 2 (may be

purchased at the door)

Eat 'til you're stuffed, dance 'til you drop, and make college a reality for young adults on the autism spectrum.?

Music by The Andy Shaw Duo and featuring the legendary blues of RIC BOALS AND THE SOULS

Disability Resource Network is holding a fundraiser to raise money and awareness for The BE THE PIECE College Scholarship Program. This is a unique scholarship being made available for college-bound high school graduates who are on the autism spectrum. It is the first and only college scholarship in Ohio that is specific to these young adults.

The BE THE PIECE Scholarship Program will present a college scholarship award of \$1,000 to one student in each of the following categories: (1) Four-year undergraduate college or university; (2) Two-year undergraduate college; and (3) Trade, technical, or vocational school.

The goal of The BE THE PIECE Program is to provide college capable young adults on the autism spectrum the same opportunities and experiences as their typical developing peers. This opportunity will enable these deserving students achieve all they can.

For more information on the BE THE PIECE College Scholarship fundraiser go to: www.bethepiece.org.

Elements of Applied Behavior Analysis in Educational Settings
Cleveland
State University

EDT 399/599 Section 980—1 Credit

Murray Ridge School, Elyria, Ohio

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

June 11, 12, and 13

Ideal for individuals working with students who function along the Autism spectrum or with limited cognitive abilities.

Topics to be addressed:

- Components of human behavior
- Applied Behavior Analysis and modification techniques
- Data collection and behavior planning systems

Reduced Tuition Rate!

Undergraduates—\$18 0 Graduates—\$220
For
more information, contact:

Lenora Oeftering, M.Ed, Classroom Supervisor

loeftering@loraincountymrdd.org
or 440/329-3760
College
of Education & Human Services 2121 Euclid Avenue RT 1319
Cleveland, OH 44115-2214

Phone: 216.687.4600 Fax: 216.687.5379 www.csuohio.edu/coehs

Autism
Open House at Pump It Up of Medina

Pump it Up of Medina will be hosting a special Autism Open House to raise funds and awareness for the ASA. The next evening (May 1st, 2008 from 5-6 or 6-7) will be a special night for Autistic children and their families to come and use the facility. Both events are free to attend. We are planning on setting up a monthly "Sensory Night" for any families that have children with sensory needs. We would like some feedback to see if any of the Autism support groups in the area would be interested in hosting their meetings at Pump it Up during these special times. Groups rates will be available along with individual rates. I appreciate your time and consideration and look forward to hearing any feedback you may have for us. I have attached a copy of the press release and flier for our Autism event. If you have any questions please call Pump it Up of Medina at 330-598-1627 or visit our website at www.pumpitupparty.com.

Sincerely,

Beth Elchlinger

Michelle Demichow

Pump it Up of Medina

A Day at Cedar Point

Mayfield

Village, Think Computer Foundation, Solon and Independence, in cooperation with The ARC of Ohio Present;
A
Day at Cedar Point For persons with disabilities 13 years and older

Date: Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Time: Bus departs at 8:15 a.m. & returns at 7:30 p.m. (approx.)

*arrive at Cedar Point 9:45 a.m. and depart from Cedar Point at 6:00 p.m.

*park hours are 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

COST PER PARTICIPANT

Option 1: FOR THE FIRST 70 PEOPLE WHO REGISTER, Admission & Lunch are FREE

A: If you want to ride the chartered bus, TOTAL: \$17.00

B: If you want to drive on your own, no additional cost

Option 2: FOR ANYONE AFTER THE FIRST 70 PEOPLE TO REGISTER

A: If you want to ride the chartered bus and get lunch: TOTAL: \$48.00
(admission \$23, lunch \$8, bus \$17)

B: If you want to drive on your own and lunch on your own: TOTAL:
\$23.00 (admission)

IMPORTANT NOTES

• All fees must be paid at the time of registration. No refunds!

• The group will meet at the front entrance of Cedar Point at 10:00 a.m. to distribute tickets. If you

are not there by 10:30 a.m. SHARP, you will lose your tickets (absolutely no exceptions)

DEADLINE

TO REGISTER: FRIDAY, MAY 2, 4:00 P.M.

after registering, you will receive a confirmation notice in the mail, you must bring that notice with you on May 21

For
Complete Details, call 440-461-5163

Rock
The Puzzle for Autism
Saturday April 26th, 2008

House of Blues Cleveland

308 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland OH 44114

7pm - 1am

TICKETS: \$100 each

Includes all entertainment, heavy hors d'oeuvres, two drink tickets and two wine tasting tickets.

Last year's event was completely sold out, so

GET YOUR TICKETS EARLY!

One of Cleveland's hottest parties is back! The evening will again consist of 6 bands and the unveiling of two new wines for autism from Grand River Cellars. Rock The Puzzle is a gala fundraising event that had its first annual debut as Cleveland Rocks Autism in April 2007. The monies raised from 2007 were donated to a national organization for research.

All proceeds from 2008's Rock The Puzzle will stay local to the Northeast Ohio area to help those affected by autism in our own communities through Northeast Ohio Autism Group.

<http://www.rockthepuzzle.com>

New
Book from AAPC

Born on the Wrong
Planet

by Erika Hammerschmidt

Excerpt

Read reviews

\$19.95 April 2008, ISBN 978-1-934575-20-8

Audience (i.e. age, profession)

Adults

Parents

When you don't feel comfortable in your own skin, life can seem strange and foreign-you try to fit in, but with every new day comes a new challenge.

Diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome, author Erica Hammerschmidt can relate. Born on the Wrong Planet is the story of her childhood and

young adulthood coping with the challenges of Asperger Syndrome. The book started as a collection of stories, poems, and essays that Erika penned during high school. After high school as she studied abroad in Germany, Erika compiled them and created the first version of Born on the Wrong Planet.

For more information, [click here](#)

Employer

Best Practices: Recruitment and Hiring of People with Disabilities

May 20th, 2008 »

If you live outside Columbus, OH, anywhere in the U.S., please see the last paragraph of this message for information on how to access the following ADA audio conference series session within your area of the country. The session will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2008, 2-3:30 P.M., EDT, (earlier time of day, depending on time zone) and will be presented by the DBTAC - Great Lakes ADA Center in Chicago, IL, via speaker phone.

This session will highlight the best practices learned by the Walgreen Company and Cincinnati Children's Hospital in regards to the recruitment and hiring of people with disabilities. Participants will learn what it took within these organizations to mobilize administration, management as well as all employees in support of this effort and the benefits that they have realized as a result. Strategies and common sense approaches will be discussed. Both Walgreen's and Cincinnati Children's Hospital have become models in the business community for embracing people with disabilities as part of their diverse workforce.

Speakers:

Deb Russell, Walgreen Company

Erin Riehle, MSN, RN, Director, Project Search, Division of Disability Services, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Time:

2:00-3:30pm EDT (Time may be earlier depending on your time zone)

The cost for the session is \$25 for nonprofits and \$40 for other entities for each location, regardless of the number of participants at each location (multiple people can attend at one location for the same flat fee). There is no charge to participants who come to the following locations in Ohio: Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission in Columbus, OH; Ability Center in Toledo, OH; Linking Employment, Ability & Potential (LEAP) in Cleveland, OH; and Southeastern Ohio Center for Independent Living (SOCIL) in Lancaster, OH. There may be other free locations in the US - please contact Great Lakes at adagreatlakes.org for those locations.

Sessions are 90 minutes in length and delivered via audio conference. Participants are in a "listen-only" mode until the question and answer period. The sessions are offered real-time captioned on the Internet, and a transcript is developed and posted to the Internet following the session. In addition, a digital recording of the session is archived on the DBTAC - Great Lakes ADA Center web site at adagreatlakes.org.

If you wish to come for no charge to RSC in Columbus, OH, please let us know by May 13 by sending an email to adaohio@aol.com. Registration is required to attend the session. Please provide your name, organization, address, email address, and telephone number. Please do not send a check to ADA-OHIO. If you wish to come for no charge to The Ability Center of Greater Toledo, OH, please call 419-885-5733. If you wish to come for no charge to LEAP in Cleveland, OH, please call 216-696-2716, ext. 129, for more information. If you wish to come for no charge to SOCIL in Lancaster, OH, please call 740-689-1494 for more information. If you wish to attend elsewhere, please go to web site ada-audio.org to register.

ADA-OHIO (The Americans with Disabilities Act)

700 Morse Road, Suite 101

Columbus, OH 43214

800-ADA-OHIO (800-232-6446)

800-ADA-ADA1 (800-232-2321) TTY

614-844-5537 FAX

adaohio@aol.com

<http://www.ada-ohio.org/>

ADA-OHIO is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.

DD

Quarterly newsletter now available online

Welcome to the first electronic edition of the DD Quarterly. The current issue is now available online!

DD Quarterly - Spring 2008

News from the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council

Text version: <http://www.olrs.ohio.gov/DDQSpring08.htm>

PDF version: <http://www.olrs.ohio.gov/DDQSpring08.pdf>

In this issue:

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3. Apply Now for Medicaid Buy-In Program
4. The Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence Disabilities Conference
5. Chairman's Message
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8. Ohio Advocates Go to Washington
9. Ohio Disability Vote Coalition Plans Presidential Forum
10. Expanding Early Intervention Outreach in Southwest Ohio
11. Transition to the Community Made Easier for Youth
12. 8th Annual Ohio Adult Sibling Conference
13. ODDC Grantee Provides Accessible Housing
14. You Still Have Time to File for Your 2007 Stimulus Payment
15. Playgrounds for All Kids
16. Law Permits Parents to Nominate Guardians
17. Shari Cooper Crowned Ms. Wheelchair Ohio
18. OLRS Files Briefs in Cases Brought by Parents for Violations of Children's Rights
19. ODDC's 2008 Annual Event

If you have questions or comments about the DD Quarterly newsletter, contact:

Tom Hemmert

Ohio Legal Rights Service

50 W. Broad St., Suite 1400

Columbus, OH 43215

Voice: 614-466-7264 or 800-282-9181

TTY: 614-728-2553 or 800-858-3542

Email: newsletter@olrs.state.oh.us

Children's Buy-In program will offer health insurance benefits to children with special needs
Children with special medical

needs can apply for the Children's Buy-In (CBI) program, a program that offers health insurance benefits to children. An executive order signed on April 2, 2008 created the program for children under the age of 19 in families with incomes up to 300% of the federal poverty level, who have not had any insurance for at least six months, and are not eligible for Medicaid. The child must also meet one of the following: (1) unable to obtain insurance due to a pre-existing condition; (2) lost coverage due to a lifetime benefit limit; (3) only available insurance is at least double the state premium; or (4) is enrolled in a state program for the medically handicapped (Ohio Department of Health - Bureau of Children with Medical Handicaps). Families pay an insurance premium to receive CBI services. The amount of the premium depends on the family's household size and household annual income. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services administers the program. For more information: Children's Buy-In Program

Kidslink Activities

- Friday Nite Fun for teens
next Friday will be at Imagine That pottery studio
- Enrollment is currently open for summer camps
(Autism Buddy Day Camp for 4-6 year olds and Asperger Adventure Camp for 11-15 year olds).

Check out www.kidslinkohio.com
for info on any of these

Self-Awareness, Self-Advocacy and Self-Acceptance.....

Autism awareness isn't just important for adults, nor is it just important for neuro-typical persons. Autism awareness is important for people with autism spectrum disorders. Self-awareness is important for everyone. As kids grow to be adults, they learn more about themselves, discovering what they excel at and where they may have weaknesses. Self-awareness is an ongoing process throughout life.

Many people will ask "when should I tell my child about his autism or Asperger's?". I don't know if experts would agree on a specific age or even a definitive answer to this question. It is important for kids to understand that the areas they struggle with are part of how they are wired. Kids that have a disability should know that they aren't "dumb" because they don't understand certain social situations or have certain behaviors, but that these issues and behaviors stem from a disability that is real and they are not alone.

The ability to advocate for oneself is important in education as it is in life. If someone needs information, assistance, or knowledge they should seek it out. Self-advocacy is often dependent

upon self-awareness. Self-awareness isn't just limited to being aware of one's difficulties, but also acknowledges and embraces one's strengths, talents and interests as well.

Self-awareness, then, for people on the spectrum means that they are aware of their disability and what it means to them. When and how this awareness occurs will differ with each individual. I have heard many stories from adults with Asperger Syndrome that have struggled through school, work and personal relationships. Only after receiving a diagnosis later in adulthood and learning more about Asperger's did they finally understand who they really are and were then able to progress in more self-acceptance.

Here are some resources that may be helpful for individuals on the spectrum as they want to learn more about ASD. This is only a brief list as there are many wonderful materials published. Hopefully I will soon have a link that will lead you to be able to purchase some of the books listed below. If you don't want to wait, I have included the name of the publisher for your information.

"I Have Autism"

A Child's First Look at Autism

Pat Crissy

Published by Super Duper Publications

This book is a 22-page picture book that focuses mainly on the difficulties that kids with autism may face written in the voice of Alex, a young boy with autism. Most appropriate for elementary students.

Asperger's Huh?

A Child's Perspective

Rosina G. Schnurr, PHD

Published by Anisor Publishing

This book is particular to Asperger Syndrome and has several chapters that are complimented by occasional pictures.

This goes into more detail about areas of possible difficulty and may be most appropriate for upper elementary through middle school youth.

What Does it Mean to Me?

A workbook explaining self-awareness and life lessons to the child or youth with high Functioning Autism or Aspergers.

Catherine Faherty

Published by Future Horizons, Inc

This is one of my favorite books. It is actually a work book with many chapters. Each chapter has a section for parents and educators. This is a workbook format and not only does it highlight areas of difficulty, it also helps kids take a look at what they like and what they are good at as well. I have used this book or portions of this book with individuals as young as 8 and as old as 16. This is definitely one of my favorites.

Freeks, Geeks & Asperger Syndrome

A user Guide to Adolescence

Luke Jackson

Published by Jessica Kingsley Publishers

Another one of my favorites! Written by a 13-year old boy with Asperger Syndrome, it gives a first-hand and very positive look at Asperger Syndrome. I have heard many parents read it and consider it "the one book that every educator should read to understand a kid's perspective with AS". I have had children read this from age 10 to age 17 and many are really able to identify with the author.

Asperger Syndrome

An Owner's Manual 2

For Older Adolescents and Adults

What You, Your Parents and Friends, and Your Employer Need to Know

Ellen S. Heller Korin, M.Ed

Published by Autism Asperger Publishing Company

This book is a workbook that looks at many areas that impact teens and young adults with Asperger Syndrome from common characteristics to developing goals and creating plans. It covers many different areas including relationships, living independently, disclosure about disability and more.

April is Autism Awareness Month!

Do your part to spread awareness. Please encourage others who teach, work, live or are friends with a person on the autism spectrum to subscribe to this newsletter so that they may become more aware of ideas to support individuals with social difficulties. (Also for individuals who themselves are working on increasing social abilities.)

Subscribe at www.socialperspectives.com

Enjoy a
Day of Fishing With Fishing Has No Boundaries - Central Ohio

6th Annual Fishing Event

For Persons with Disabilities

Saturday, June 7th, 2008

Hoover Reservoir with

The Buckeye Boat Club

6510 Walnut Valley Drive

Galena, OH 43201-9614

8:00 Registration Begins

8:30 Continental Breakfast

9:00-2:00 Fishing Session

2:00-3:00 Late Lunch

3:00 Awards

\$30.00 FEE PER ANGLER

(\$25 per Participant/\$5 per Assistant)

(fee includes breakfast and lunch for participant and their assistant)

Registration forms available at:

FHNB-Central Ohio Chapter

P.O. Box 15364

Columbus, OH 43215-0364

Phone: (614) 432-4726

E-mail: waddlewemeet@yahoo.com

Registration Deadline:

May 1st, 2008

Headquartered in Hayward, WI, Fishing Has No Boundaries, Inc. (FHNB) is a non-profit organization; dedicated to assisting individuals, with disabilities, to experience the thrill of fishing, while enjoying the quality outdoor recreational experience. FHNB is a non-profit organization, with chapters throughout the United States. For more information, please view the FHNB Inc. website at www.fhnbinc.org

Wrestle
Against Autism

May 17, 2008

For more details & updates please visit:

www.mrwoa.com

www.thebuckeyewrestlingclub.com/

Location:
Ohio State University

French
Field House (some bleacher seating, lawn chairs welcome)

Start
Times:
Saturday May 17th, 2008 @ 10:00

Entry
Fee/Registration:
\$35

Pre-registration w/shirt or \$25 w/o shirt and \$30 Day of weigh-ins. Shirts available for \$15 day of the event. Admission is by donation only.

OSU Wrestlers and Coaching Staff available for autographs and pictures throughout the day
Send Registration (must be postmarked by May 9th)
and Make Check Payable to:

MRWOA 418 West Main St
Saint Paris, OH 43072

Rules/Format:
Bracket Style
Double Elimination Tournament

--
Modified Folkstyle rules (headgear is suggested)

--
Two 2 Minute Periods running time for K-8

--
Two 3 Minute Periods running time for 9- Open

--
Both Periods Start Neutral

--
Out of Bounds Come Back in Neutral

--
All officials are OHSAA or NCAA certified or both

Awards:
Custom Medals for 1st-6th
place

Weigh-Ins:
Friday 5/16--
5:30-9:30 PM

OSU
Wrestling clinic for all paid wrestlers 6:00-8:00 @ OSU
Saturday 5/17
7:30-9:00 Div 1,2,3 (ONLY) & 9:30-11:00 Div 4,5,6 @ OSU

All weigh-ins
at French Field House

Questions:
wrestleagainstautism@mrwoa.com

Life
Planning Seminars for Families and People with Disabilities

PUTTING THE PIECES TOGETHER

BENEFITS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES:

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

An overview of Social Security Administration benefits such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), Medicaid and Medicare benefits for people with disabilities

Speaker: Amy Tuell, Benefits Specialist, Hamilton County Board of MRDD

Amy is extremely knowledgeable in the area of government benefits. She is well

known throughout the region. Her presentations are easily understood by families and staff.

There is no cost. However donations are gladly accepted to help us provide more sessions. Checks may be made out to PLAN of Southwest Ohio and are tax deductible. Sponsored by County MRDDS, Mental Health Boards, NAMIs and ARCs, Non Profit agencies from Clermont, Hamilton, Butler and Warren Counties

All sessions are the same, as they are repeated. Choose the most convenient time and place, then register for the one that is best for you.

Tuesday May 6th 1:00p-3:00p at The Nathaniel Greene Lodge/ Green Township 6394 Wesselman Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45248

Tuesday May 6th 6:30p-8:30p at Butler County Mental Health Board/ 5963 Boymel Dr., Fairfield, OH 45014

Wednesday May 7th 1:00p-3:00p at The Union Township Civic Center/ Clermont County 4350 Aicholtz Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45245

Wednesday May 7th 6:30p-8:30p at Workforce One Building/ Lebanon, Warren County

TO REGISTER: Send or call with your name, address/ phone and the session you wish to attend to:

Kathy Morris, Community Fund Management Foundation, 1520 Madison Road, Cincinnati, OH 45206

cfmfsouthohio@yahoo.com

513-967-5612

Registration deadline: May 2, 2008

EMERGENCY RESPONSE GUIDE FOR PERSONS WITH AUTISM OR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

If a loved one or someone you know has Alzheimer's Disease or suffers from

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), it is important to receive a prompt and proper emergency response in the event of a wandering incident. All wandering incidents should be considered emergencies. The following procedures can help families or caretakers of Alzheimer's patients or those

with ASD deliver the necessary information to 911 call centers and also provide the necessary information to responding law enforcement officers.

CALLING 911

In an emergency, it is important to remain calm when calling 911. If a wandering incident has occurred, it is your responsibility to contact 911

and inform them of the incident before you begin to search. Be prepared to

provide the following information to the operator and or to responding units. This information should already be recorded and located near your telephone.

* Name of the child or adult

* Current photograph and physical description including gender, race, height, weight, eye & hair color, any scars or distinguishing marks

* Names, home, cell & pager numbers, addresses of parents, other caregivers

* Sensory, medical, or dietary issues & requirements if any

- * Inclinations for elopement and any atypical behaviors or characteristics that may attract attention
- * Favorite attractions & locations where the person may be found
- * Likes, dislikes, approach and de-escalation techniques
- * Communication methods, verbal/non-verbal, sign language, picture boards, written word
- * ID wear, jewelry, clothing tags, printed handout card
- * Map and address guide to nearby properties with water sources and dangerous locations highlighted
- * Blueprint or drawing of home, with bedrooms of individual highlighted (debbaudt 2004-07)

IDENTIFICATION OPTIONS

- * Medic alert style bracelet, anklet or necklace
- * Joggers shoe tags
- * Laminated information card hanging from belt loops, information sewn in to clothing
- * Silk screened information on underclothing
- * Non permanent tattoos for persons with sensory issues (www.tattooswithapurpose.com)

For additional information log on to

www.autismriskmanagement.com or www.houstoncit.org

<http://www.houstoncit.org/emergency-response.html>

Understanding Asperger Syndrome: A Professor's Guide

The Organization

for Autism Research (OAR) released Understanding Asperger Syndrome: A Professor's Guide, a 12-minute video for use by college students with Asperger Syndrome as a tool to educate their professors, teaching assistants, and others about the disorder. OAR produced the DVD in cooperation with the Global Regional Asperger Syndrome Project (GRASP) and Pace University in New York thanks to a grant from the Schwallie Family Foundation. The video is available now for viewing and download at no cost on OAR's Web site, www.researchautism.org/resources/AspergerDVDSeries.asp

"The idea behind this series," said Peter Gerhardt, Ed.D., OAR's president, "is to have adults with Asperger Syndrome in effect teach what it means to be an adult with the disorder."

To that end, the video features two people with Asperger Syndrome, Michael John Carley from GRASP and Kiriana Cownesage, a doctoral student at NYU. Dr. Gerhardt also appears, providing information on "reasonable accommodations" in the college classroom. In addition to being posted on OAR's Web site, OAR will post it on YouTube.com and produce DVDs to be available upon request via the Web site by early June.

AUTISM ONE 2008 CONFERENCE

BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH & TREATMENTS TRACK SAMPLER

MAY 21-25, 2008, CHICAGO, IL, www.autismone.org

Family Advisory Meeting

The Family Advisory Council meetings provide an opportunity for family members across Ohio to hear the latest developments from the Ohio Department of MRDD. Director Martin spends an hour of each meeting responding to questions from family members. It is hoped that those who attend will take information back to their counties and share it with members of groups in which they participate.

Please mark your calendars for our next Family Advisory Meeting on Tuesday, June 10th at the Columbus Developmental Center, 1601 W. Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43222 in the Training Room. The agenda will be sent in the near future.

For more
information, contact michele.kanode@dmr.state.oh.us

Article:
Social-Skills Programs Found to Yield Gains in Academic Subjects
Below please find a link to the
"Social-Skills Programs Found to Yield Gains in Academic Subjects"

This work was published by Education Week.

To view this pdf, please visit:

http://www.nattapconference.org/up_doc/SocialSkillsPrograms.pdf