

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:	Special Education Parents Advisory Committee (SEPAC)
When:	Wednesday, September 15 9:00 a.m.
Where:	Parent Network of WNY, 1000 Main St, Buffalo, NY
Why:	All meetings are open to parents of children receiving special education services in the Buffalo Public School District.
What:	Kenton SEPTSA
When:	September 23 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Where:	Hoover Middle Faculty Cafeteria
Who:	kentonsepts@gmail.com for more information
What:	14th Annual Down Syndrome Buddy Walk Buffalo & Niagara
Where:	N 4 th & Center Street, Lewiston NY
When:	September 11 th Registration 9:30 AM Walk begins 11:00 AM
Why:	To promote a greater awareness and advocacy for individuals and families of children born with Down syndrome in WNY.
**Cost:	\$5 per person
Who:	Chris, 716-870-4904
What:	Saturday Superstars Bowling League
When:	Saturday, Sept. 11 11:00 a.m. and every Saturday through June 2011
Where:	Kenmore Lanes, 1691 Kenmore Avenue, Buffalo NY
Why:	A recreational group for students who have a documented special need and are “at-risk” in WNY, ages 5-21.
**Cost	\$6.00 per week, includes shoes
Who:	Buffalo Excels, 510-0317/639-1280
What:	Autism Spectrum Disorder Support Group for Families
Where:	EPIC/Parent Network of WNY, 1000 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14202
When:	Wednesday, September 15 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Why:	To provide a welcoming environment for parents and caregivers of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder to meet, share experiences, ask questions and receive support.
Who:	(716) 878-7600 or email: jmertz@kaleidahealth.org
What:	Wheels Around the Park
When:	Saturday, September 25 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Where:	Coca Cola Field (formerly Dunn Tire Park)
Why:	Celebrate National Down Syndrome Awareness Month by walking or wheeling around the field.
Who:	Down Syndrome Parent Group of WNY, 716-832-9334
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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News from the Community...



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:	(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:	Erie County Adoption Resource Ctr. Support Group
Where:	1370 William Street, Buffalo NY
When:	3 rd Wednesday of month 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Who:	Karen Kelley (716) 848-6419
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:	Sandy Cherre (716) 629-3400 x3422
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:	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

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News from the Community...



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:	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.
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:	The Dale Association, 33 Ontario Avenue, Lockport, NY
When:	2 nd and 4 th Tuesday each month 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
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:	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:	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:	Parents-for-Parent Support Group
Where:	The Resource Center Administration Bldg, 200 Dunham Ave., Jamestown NY
When:	1 st Wednesday of the month 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Where:	Gateways Building, 51 E. Third Street, Dunkirk, NY
When:	2 nd Monday of the month 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Why:	A monthly parent/caregiver support group which connects and supports families of individuals with special needs of all ages.
Who:	Tess Kerzner, 716-661-1057 (tess.kerzner@resourcecenter.org) for more information.

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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:	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:	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:	www.buffalodiocese.org/disabilities
Why:	To discover the spiritual resources provided to persons with disabilities in the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo
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:	Adult ADHD of WNY Support Group
Where:	31 Colonial Ave, Lancaster 14086
When:	2 nd Tuesday of month 7:00 p.m.
Who:	716-684-7142 for more information
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:	Socialization & Recreation Group Program
Where:	Robert Warner Rehabilitation Center, 219 Bryant St., 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 filled on a first-come-first-serve basis.
Who:	Program Coordinator at 878-1260 for an application packet.
What:	Friends Program
Where:	Yad B'Yad, 805 Delaware Ave., Buffalo 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) 923-0020 for more information

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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: Fall Registration August 25 & 26 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
Why: A dance and creative movement program for children and adults with special needs.
Who: (716) 651-0094 for schedule and fee structure

What: **Graceful & Gifted Special Needs Dance Program**
Where: 5000 Saunders Settlement Rd., Bay #3, Niagara Falls, NY
When: Call for 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

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: **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

***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

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

Save the Date!

What: **Candidate's Hour**
Where: Southeast Works, 181 Lincoln Street, Depew, NY
When: Friday, October 15 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Why: This is your opportunity to hear what the Candidates have to say about current issues of government policy that may affect you.
Who: JoAnn, 716-683-7100x212 or Wendy, 716-877-7007 for more information

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